



# Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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## They have Contact!



TAKING a breather from their time in the sun at the 15th annual First Contact Sports and Cultural Festival in Brisbane last Friday were One Force Under 18s team members, from left, Brent Boyd, Junior Crawford and Waylan Law. Families were out in full force on day one of the Coorparoo festival which saw 32 school teams from throughout Queensland as well as New Zealand compete in touch football. Plenty of culture was served up to the audience of around 18,000 people too, with traditional and contemporary dancing and music performances.

● See page 87 of this edition for photos from day one, and our next edition for a full wrap of the three-day carnival.



Photo by MAHALA STROHFELDT

# COAG praised

By KIRSTIE PARKER



LEADING health, human rights and Aboriginal organisations have applauded the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) for the biggest-ever single injection of new government money to improve Indigenous health.

The Close the Gap Coalition described the \$1.6 billion allocated on Saturday for Indigenous health over four years as 'an investment in human dignity and in social justice'.

The funds will complement a further \$1.94 billion allocated to

remote Indigenous housing over ten years, seen as a vital determinant of people's health, and more funds for education, early childhood development, economic participation and remote service delivery.

Chair of the Close the Gap steering committee and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma said the health funding would 'more than dent the surface' in the chronic disease crisis dogging Indigenous communities.

"Never have we seen such concentrated and determined effort from all governments working together," said Mr Calma, whose 2005 Social Justice Report laid



MICK ADAMS



TOM CALMA

the groundwork for the Close the Gap campaign.

"It is an investment in human dignity and in social justice," he said.

Dr Mick Adams, Chair of NACCHO, the peak body for Aboriginal health services

described the COAG package for Aboriginal health as a huge step forward.

He said NACCHO's members 'on the front line' would work collaboratively with governments to implement 'this awesome package' over the next four years.

"We would now like to sit down with government and work out how to get the best value from the funds committed so far, and to develop a long-term comprehensive strategic plan that covers all areas of closing the gap," Dr Adams said.

Oxfam Australia's Director of Policy, James Ensor, said the commitment was an encouraging sign that the Rudd Government

was taking Indigenous health seriously.

"This is a great down payment for an urgent nation-building effort in closing the gap in Indigenous health," he said.

"Further funding will be required in the coming years."

The National Director of Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation (ANTaR), David Cooper, also welcomed the COAG commitment to expand primary care, particularly around chronic disease management and prevention.

● Full details of COAG's commitment to Indigenous reform, page 5

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Koori Mail

## Inside your next Koori Mail

Don't miss our next edition, out on 17 December!  
Inside you'll find the 2009 Koori Mail wall calendar.  
It's our Christmas present to you.

CALENDAR



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# My FAMILY

Richard 'Dickie' Burgess, Tasmania and Wagga Wagga



**T**HIS photo was taken last month at my 80th birthday. I'm sitting on the chair in the middle, surrounded by my Tassie family and my Wagga (NSW) family. It was an emotional day – the first time the two families came together.

I've got four daughters and five sons and 26 grandchildren. There are lots of great-grandchildren, and with a bit of luck I might get some great-great-grandchildren too.

My Wagga family are my twin brother Allen's sons and daughters. There are eight children and 16 grandchildren. They travelled from Perth, Canberra, but mainly Wagga Wagga including my old mate Phillip (Flip), and my son Richard travelled from Melbourne to be at my 80th. I was so proud. My daughter Emily and granddaughter Tina organised it all.

My family story is one of sadness and happiness.

My mother, Emily Maynard, died during childbirth. It was dangerous having twins back in those days.

We were sent back home to Cape Barren Island by boat. Allen and me were separated and I went to my



Richard Burgess and his twin Allen after they met in 1975, 30 years after they were separated.

Uncle Herbert, and Allen went to Uncle George. Dad stayed in Launceston and remarried. I've got a step-brother, Ronnie, who I still visit in Launceston today.

Anyway, when we were teenagers my twin Allen left the island, moved to the mainland, got married and started his own family. We didn't see each other again for over 30 years.

I married Shirley Mansell-Johnson. We started our own family and settled back home on Cape Barren Island. I loved

my life over there. My daughter Emily still talks about the fishing and hunting and the school being closed for mutton bird season.

Then in the 60s, Welfare came to the island and sent us to Cygnet (in southern Tasmania). The children were still very young. They sent the Aboriginal families from Cape Barren all over Tasmania. They seemed to think we weren't going to find each other.

Then Welfare came back. Mr Hill – I'll never forget his name – came to Cygnet and took four of my children. Karen managed to hide.

My family has had some sad times, it's hard to talk about. We're a close family now. I see my sons and daughters all the time now. They look after me, and my Wagga family ring all the time.

In 1975, I was in Launceston at the National Aboriginal Football Championships watching my son-in-law play. One of the players from the NSW team spotted me and said 'you look exactly like my Dad'. That's how me and my twin brother Allen met up again, after 30 years. I gave up my job and house a few months later and

moved up to Wagga with him. I lived over there until he died in 1985.

My 80th birthday was the first time my families came together. I sometimes think of moving back over there. They'd growl down here, though.

After coming down for my 80th, my Wagga family want to visit Cape Barren to see where their father came from. Our father, Allen Montgomery Burgess, fought in World War I, and his name is on the memorial stand.

— As told to Jillian Mundy by Richard Burgess, Emily Burgess, Karen Burgess and Tina Goodwin.

## 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 [myfamily@koomail.com](mailto:myfamily@koomail.com) along with a full caption (always reading from left to right) and between 350 and 400 words about your family. Tell us who is in your family, what you like to do as a family, your traditions and achievements, and what is important to you.

# OUR CHILDREN



Jaynaya, Jirrah, Gemma and Marni Morgan were keen helpers at this year's Tarere Festival in western Victoria. See pages 30-31 for details.

## Koori Mail

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# Focus on wide brown land



## Rolf Harris race row



**ENTERTAINER**  
Rolf Harris has issued an extraordinary spray against Aboriginal people.

telling journalists that he has little sympathy for some people who 'need to get off their arses' and blaming traditional culture for current day disadvantage.

"You sit at home watching the television and you think to yourself, 'Get up off your arse and clean up the streets your bloody self, and why would you expect somebody to come in and clean up your garbage, which you've dumped everywhere', but then you have to think to yourself that it's a different attitude to life," Harris was reported as saying, in Friday's online versions of Fairfax newspapers *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*.

The septuagenarian singer and songwriter, largely resident in England for decades, was back in the country of his birth to spruik a new children's book version of his 1960s wobbleboard hit *Tie Me Kangaroo Down*.

Speaking in Melbourne late last week, Harris is quoted as saying that Aboriginal children were never disciplined or expected to adhere to rules until adulthood. "Til then, they have a totally carefree life to do what they want, and that quite often involves smashing everything that they have," he said.

And then: "The attitude is that in their original way of life they would really wreck the surrounding countryside that they lived in and they would

### Bugger off...

Some Koori Mail readers were quick to express their disgust at Rolf Harris. One reader, Robert MacGregor of Sydney, devised the following words to the tune of Harris's signature song *Tie Me Kangaroo Down*:

Bugger off with Rolf, Johnny  
Bugger off with Rolf,  
Mumble racist crap playing  
golf, Johnny  
Bugger off with Rolf  
All together now!

Don't tie the Koori down, Mate  
Don't tie the Koori down  
Don't tie the Koori down, Mate  
Don't tie the Koori down

Join the queue with Pauline,  
Rolf  
Join the queue with Pauline  
Your attitude is quite obscene,  
Rolf

So join the queue with Pauline  
All together now!

(Chorus)

Take the bigot back, Britain  
Take the bigot back  
Humanity, tact and craic is  
what he lacks, Mac  
So, take the bigot back  
All together now!

leave all the garbage and they would go walkabout to the next place. The traditional attitude is still there, and I wish there was a simple solution but I'm not certain."

Harris's remarks could – certainly for Aboriginal people – take some shine off Baz Luhrmann's epic new film *Australia*, which features Harris's

trademark wobbleboarding in its soundtrack.

"It was absolutely thrilling to be contacted by Baz Luhrmann. I'm dying to see the movie," Harris told the *SMH* and *The Age*. "I'm just so proud to be Australian, and my whole approach to life is based on that fact."

Luhrmann is heavily supportive of Aboriginal people, with his blockbuster considered to be the first big-audience film to tackle comprehensively the issue of the Stolen Generations.

However, it is not known what the award-winning director thinks of Harris's comments. *The Koori Mail* attempted unsuccessfully to contact him on Friday while he undertook a whirl of international engagements promoting the film.

In the same interview, Harris said he regretted a slur against Aboriginal people contained in the original lyrics of *Tie Me Kangaroo Down*, which he said he had tried to erase from recordings over the years.

Those lyrics read 'Let me Abos go loose, Lou. Let me Abos go loose. They're of no further use, Lou, so let me Abos go loose. Altogether now!'

Written by Harris in 1957, the song was number one in Australia for about four weeks in 1960, before being re-recorded in England in 1962. The 'Abo' verse led to the song being banned in Singapore.

"It was a mark of the times, done totally innocently with no realisation that you would offend at all," Harris was quoted as saying. Attempts to contact Harris through his website proved unsuccessful.

**STARS** of the new film *Australia* Brandon Walters and David Gulpilil pictured on set with Director Baz Luhrmann. The film opened around Australia and the globe last week and is expected to take the story of Australia's Stolen Generations to the masses as never before. Believed to be the most expensive film ever made in Australia, *Australia* was shot in Kununurra in Western Australia, Bowen in Queensland, Darwin and Sydney, with considerable input from Indigenous communities. It took about \$1 million at the box office on its first day in Australian cinemas.

● See pages 12-13 for *The Koori Mail's* take on this epic film.



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# White ribbons to tackle violence



EVENTS have been held around the country to promote White Ribbon Day, which calls for the elimination of violence against women.

White Ribbon Day was created in Canada in 1991 to mark one man's massacre of 14 women in Montreal.

The handful of men who initiated the day called on other men to speak out against violence against women.

Across Australia, they did just that. Performer Mark Bin Baker, of the Stolen Generations Alliance, linked the day with the suffering endured by women during the Stolen Generations.

"If one removes race and creed out of the equation, the Stolen Generation issue was about the abuse of women," the statement began.

"Historically, due to the vulnerability of Aboriginal women in a period where they had no rights or limited rights as members of our Australian community (with some being classified as flora and fauna and not even human), they were exposed to exploitation by the habits and nature of non-Aboriginal men in isolation, with the power of the law, the gun and authority.

"They felt that they had the right to exploit, rape, manipulate and seduce (with the illusion for a better life) for their own use and with no considerations for the rights of the woman and the right of the mother's rights to develop a relationship with their child or children.

Mr Bin Baker told *The Koori Mail* the abuse of women had continued, despite women having more rights and power today.

He said White Ribbon Day was not about "kicking men in the guts" but celebrating and

recognising those women who had suffered.

He described as "very powerful" the apology given by more than 400 Aboriginal men earlier this year, at a gathering near Alice Springs in July.

"It goes to show there are many sincere men out there who respect their wives, their grandmothers, their daughters," Mr Bin Baker said.

Meanwhile, in South Australia, a vigil was held outside Parliament House in memory of women killed as a result of domestic violence.

Khatija Thomas, a solicitor with the Women's Legal Service of South Australia, told *The Koori Mail* the vigil was held to highlight the ongoing plight of many Aboriginal women.

## Speak out

"It was a great opportunity to speak out against violence against Aboriginal women in communities," she said.

In Victoria, the East Gippsland Indigenous Family Violence Regional Action Group, a partnership of 24 agencies and networks, held a series of walks.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma, who was a White Ribbon Day ambassador, said people in all communities needed to stop and think about their behaviour.

"If we are growing up in a society where one in three boys think that it is okay to hit a girl, we as parents and guardians have to wake up and take responsibility for ensuring our male children grow up learning – at home, at school, in the sporting field and in all other activities they undertake – that violence against women is most assuredly not acceptable in our society," Mr Calma said. – By DARREN COYNE



White Ribbon Ambassador and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma at University of South Australia in Adelaide.

NewsPix image by Andrea Laube.

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# Larrakia split over Darwin Harbour plan

By DARREN COYNE



THE LARRAKIA Nation believes a proposed \$12 billion gas plant for Darwin Harbour is being pushed through by the Northern Territory Government despite widespread opposition to the project. But its own business arm, the Larrakia Development Corporation (LDC), is backing the project, saying it will create jobs and business opportunities for local Aboriginal people.

The Japanese energy company Inpex wants to build its processing plant on Blaydin Point in Darwin Harbour after efforts to find an appropriate site in Western Australian were unsuccessful.

The company held a series of consultations last week, but a spokesperson for the Larrakia Nation group, which has a membership of more than 400 people representing

eight family groups, said the group was unlikely to be swayed in its opposition to the project.

Larrakia Nation Director of Natural Cultural Resources Donna Jackson said the project would result in the environmental destruction of the pristine Darwin Harbour, and lead to further unwanted development.

Ms Jackson said Larrakia Nation's governing committee had said no to the project, but its business arm, the LDC, was ignoring that position and spurning the benefits of the development.

LDC Chief Executive Officer Greg Constantine rejected the claim, saying a lot of the concerns of opponents would 'evaporate' once environmental impact studies were completed.

Mr Constantine said the project had the capacity to deliver huge benefits for the Larrakia people in terms of jobs and contracts for local Indigenous businesses.

Traditional Owner Tibby Quall, who has a native title claim over the site, said the NT Government was bending over backwards to accommodate the gas giant, rather than listening to local Aboriginal people.

"How they treat Aboriginal people here (in the NT) is disgusting. We're still in the dark ages. They've shown that with the intervention," he said.

Inpex General Manager External Affairs Sean Kildare said keeping the community informed about the company's progress was a top priority.

"We want to strengthen our relationship with the local community," he said.

The Ichthys Project involves a plan to build an 850km pipeline from the Browse Basin, off the Kimberley coast in WA, to transport gas for processing at the facility on Blaydin Point.

The joint venture project is expected to deliver significant economic benefits to the NT and Australia.



# COAG agreement on more funding

**\$2 billion earmarked for reform**

By KIRSTIE PARKER

 THE Commonwealth Government has agreed to give the States and Territories nearly \$2 billion over the next five years to reform Indigenous health, housing, economic development and remote service delivery. And the States and Territories say they'll contribute more funds themselves, following a meeting of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) in Canberra on Saturday.

A communiqué from the meeting said the funds were a 'down payment' on the significant investment needed by both levels of government to close the unacceptable gap in health and other outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Under a new National Indigenous Reform Agreement (NIRA), governments will work with Indigenous people to develop implementation plans, and will be held publicly accountable for their performances in improving outcomes in key areas.

The Commonwealth funds flesh out Indigenous targets agreed by COAG at a meeting in Perth in October, including closing the life-expectancy gap within a generation, halving the gap in child-mortality rates within a decade, and major improvements to education and employment outcomes.

They form part of a broader \$15.1 billion national package nifted out on the weekend, encompassing new partnership agreements on health care, education, productivity, workforce skills development, disability services and housing.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd is hoping the package will create 133,000 jobs – 13,000 of them for Indigenous Australians – to stimulate the economy and drive the national reform agenda despite the current global financial crisis.

He described the package, in the wake of the Government's \$10.4 billion economic stimulus package in October, as 'a solid, responsible outcome for the nation'.

Under a new Federal financial framework to begin on 1 January, the number of Commonwealth Special Purpose Payments (SPPs) to States will be reduced from 96 to just five – covering health care, schools, skills and workforce development, disability services and housing.

National Partnership (NP) payments will



Prime Minister Kevin Rudd (centre) with Premiers and Chief Ministers at the COAG press conference in Canberra on Saturday. The Commonwealth has agreed to give the States and Territories \$2 billion for Indigenous reforms over five years. AAP Image

fund specific projects and facilitate and/or reward States that deliver on nationally-significant reforms.

The Commonwealth says it will provide the following:

- \$805.5 for Indigenous health (plus \$772 million from the States)
- \$834.6 million for Indigenous housing (or \$1.94 billion over 10 years)
- \$172.7 million for Indigenous economic participation (plus \$56.2 million from the States)
- \$154 million for Indigenous remote service delivery.

These will all be covered by separate NPs and, along with another from COAG's October meeting that committed \$564 million to Indigenous early childhood development, will be measured under the new NIRA.

The National Education Agreement also focuses on outcomes for Indigenous students, specifically improved literacy and numeracy and Year 12 or equivalent attainment, and building professional pathways for Indigenous people and Indigenous education workers who want to progress to teaching.

"These new agreements represent a fundamental response to COAG's commitment to closing the gap," the weekend communiqué said.

"Sustained improvement in outcomes for Indigenous people can only be achieved by

systemic change. Through these agreements, all governments will be held publicly accountable for their performance in improving outcomes in these key areas."

The NIRA will provide an overarching summary of action being taken against the closing the gap targets as well as the operation of mainstream national agreements in health, schools, VET, disability services and housing and several NPs.

"The NIRA will be a living document, refined over time based on the effectiveness of reforms in closing the gap on Indigenous disadvantage," the communiqué said.

## Vulnerable

Queensland Premier Anna Bligh said at a media conference following the meeting that allocations for Indigenous and disability reforms looked after 'the people who are the most vulnerable in our community'.

"We welcome the fact that the Commonwealth has been able to invest in these areas, despite the financial constraints that we are all operating under," she said.

COAG has agreed to convene a dedicated Closing the Gap meeting next year. It has asked for advice on how the NPs and national agreements will collectively lead to closing of the gap and what further reforms are needed.

The council also agreed to a new framework to align the Overcoming

Indigenous Disadvantage Report, published every two years, with the closing the gap targets.

The NP for Indigenous health will cover expanded primary health care and targeted prevention activities such as reducing the rate of smoking among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to reduce the burden of chronic disease.

The remote Indigenous housing NP will provide for up to 4200 new houses in remote Indigenous communities and upgrades to about 4800 existing houses, with a program of major repairs starting in 2008-09.

The five-year NP on Indigenous economic participation aims to assist up to 13,000 Indigenous Australians into employment, including in areas of government service delivery that have previously relied on subsidies through the Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) program, as well as the public sector.

The new NP on Indigenous remote service delivery aims to improve the delivery of health, education, employment and other services in 26 remote Indigenous locations; 15 communities in the NT, four in the Cape York and Gulf regions in Qld, three in WA including at least two in the Kimberley region, two in SA's Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands and two in the Murdi Paaki region of western NSW.

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# New adoption laws for New South Wales



**COUPLES** planning to adopt children will face less red tape following new

legislation that was passed in the NSW Parliament last Thursday, 27 November. Community Services Minister Linda Burney said the adoption process had now been simplified for step-parents,

relatives or those who want to adopt a child from overseas.

"The interests of the child are our priority. The changes to the Adoption Act will ensure their rights are protected," Ms Burney said. "The changes will also ensure that foster carers who adopt a child who has been part of their family for at least two years will continue to receive the same

financial assistance they received while fostering.

"This will remove any financial hurdle for families who may otherwise not be able to adopt."

Ms Burney said there had been a marked increase in the number of foster carers inquiring about the adoption process since she announced the proposed changes to the legislation in September.

She said changes to the Act ensured greater involvement of local Aboriginal communities and agencies in the adoption of Aboriginal children.

Also on Thursday, Ms Burney announced that her department had recruited its 1000th new caseworker, delivering on a Government commitment five years ago to boost the 'front line'

staff helping vulnerable children and families.

The Minister said the latest recruitment doubled the department's caseworker numbers, bringing them to 2202 caseworkers across NSW.

"These thousand additional caseworkers are employed in early intervention, child protection and out-of-home care," she said.

# Report leads to child protection overhaul

By DARREN COYNE and AAP



A 'BLUEPRINT' for the future of child protection and a 'catalyst for change'. That's how the NSW Government responded to the findings of a watershed investigation into the State's Department of Community Services (DoCS), released last week.

According to the Special Commission of Inquiry into DoCS, which was headed by retired Supreme Court judge James Wood, a third of children removed from their homes by DoCS in the past year were from Aboriginal families.

As of March there were 4458 Aboriginal children in out-of-home care, equivalent to four times the number of Aboriginal children who were in foster homes, institutions and missions in 1969, during the Stolen Generations.

Between 2001-02 and 2007-08, the number of reports to DoCS involving Aboriginal children also tripled, from 18,348 to 55,303.

The inquiry spent a year investigating the troubled department after the deaths of young people, known to DoCS, in tragic circumstances.

Community Services Minister Linda Burney says the Government will spend the next three months nutting out an action plan and legislation for the first session of Parliament.

The final report calls for a strengthening of the capacity of Aboriginal families to take on foster-caring roles to deal with the over-representation of Aboriginal children in system. Mr Wood also called on the NSW Government to consider ways to reduce the sale, delivery and use of alcohol in Aboriginal communities.

He found DoCS was swamped by reports that did not warrant time and effort because of the mandatory reporting system, and called for changes so DoCS was notified of cases only where a child was at risk of significant harm.

Under his proposed plan, less serious cases would be dealt with by the Department's early intervention program, Brighter Futures, or referred to a newly-created non-government organisation, Regional Intake and Referral Service.

That service would take responsibility for linking families with the most appropriate organisations dealing with housing, education or childcare.

A new unit would also be established to advise key agencies, including NSW Police and the Education Department, as to whether a report should be made to DoCS.

The report also calls for the quarantining of welfare and other government payments for all families - not just of an Aboriginal background - who have serious and persistent child-protection problems. It argues that this would ensure the money was spent in the interests of the safety, welfare and well-being of the child.



Aboriginal toddler Dean Shillingsworth, whose death was amongst a handful of particularly tragic cases which sparked the special commission of inquiry.

Mr Wood said measures like the provision of transport and meals should be examined to help boost school attendance.

Greater use of night patrols in smaller and remote communities should also be introduced to ensure children were not wandering streets late at night.

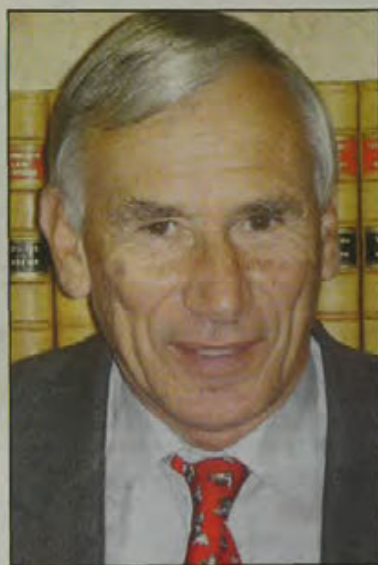
Minister Burney acknowledged the inquiry had been initiated following the deaths of young children, including Dean Shillingsworth, an Aboriginal toddler whose body was found in a suitcase in a pond last year. His mother, who was known to the department, has been charged with his murder.

"We will never forget the suffering of these children," Ms Burney said.

"Their deaths prompted a thorough re-examination of our practices and how we as a community address child protection."

Ms Burney said that, like other developed countries, NSW was dealing with complex underlying issues such as mental illness, substance abuse and domestic violence.

"These have become inter-generational problems. We are seeing parents who



Commissioner James Wood

themselves received inadequate parenting and we are encountering communities where isolation and disadvantage are entrenched," she said. "We have also seen a dramatic growth in reports about children at risk.

There were 303,121 reports to the Helpline in 2007/08 - that's more than one and a half times the number of reports in 03/04."

Ms Burney said the report was comprehensive, extensive and far-reaching and provided a 'blueprint' for the future of child protection in NSW.

She said the fact that improvements were needed should not overshadow the progress that had been made over the past five years.

"Justice Wood acknowledged in his report that the reform package put in place by the Government was a 'comprehensive and smart package', which 'made enormous gains in the face of an increasingly complex client base

and spiralling reports', she said. Ms Burney said the number of caseworkers had increased, and an early intervention program had been established to help more families with young children.

"We have also improved staff training and



NSW Community Services Minister Linda Burney

upgraded offices and IT systems," she said. "Despite this progress, the system is under enormous pressure and change is needed."

The Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) welcomed the report. Executive Officer Julian Pocock said SNAICC supported the central recommendation to have only issues of significant harm referred to the Department of Community Services.

"We have to support all non-government and government agencies that work with children to act earlier and support vulnerable families to minimise the harm to children and end the flood of child protection notifications to DoCS," he said.

Bill Pritchard, CEO of AbSECC (the Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Care State Secretariat) said Indigenous children in NSW had an absolute right to a safe, happy and fulfilling childhood.

"Making sure this happens will require a complete overhaul of our approach to supporting families and protecting children," he said. "Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in NSW should be able to look to a future where a knock on the door from child protection is a welcomed sign of support rather than the feared start of a process to remove their kids."

Premier Nathan Rees said the report provided a new direction for how Government and the community could work together to protect children and help families in need of support.

"This report is the catalyst for change," he said. The Premier has established a specialist unit in the Department of Premier and Cabinet to develop and co-ordinate a detailed Government response and action plan by no later than March.

## AT A GLANCE

Findings of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services:

- In 2007-08, DoCS received 303,121 child protection reports, an increase of 90 per cent on those received in 2001-02.
- 13 per cent of reports to DoCS in 2007-08 were classified as no risk of harm and should have been handled by another department.
- 21 per cent of reports were assessed by the Helpline as requiring further assessment from DoCS, but received none.
- 33 per cent of reports received some attention which fell short of a face-to-face visit.
- Only 13 per cent of reports resulted in a home visit from a DoCS caseworker.
- The remaining reports mainly concerned children already under DoCS assessment.
- Between 2001-02 and 2007-08 the number of reports to DoCS involving Aboriginal children also tripled from 18,348 to 55,303.
- 14,667 children were living in out-of-home care as of June 30, 2008, including 4458 Aboriginal children.



# Anger at bail for accused Islander



MEMBERS of Queensland's Aboriginal community say they're appalled at a judge's decision to grant bail to one of nine young Pacific Islanders

charged with bashing rugby league star Johnathan Thurston's uncle to death. Speaking on behalf of the late Richard Saunders' immediate family on Friday, Townsville community leader Gracelyn Smallwood said they wanted the Immigration Department to send illegal Pacific Islander immigrants back to their country as a means of reducing violence between them and Aboriginal Queenslanders.

Two days earlier in the Brisbane Supreme Court, Justice Ann Lyons granted 17-year-old Vaai Saau Emelio bail after hearing he had played only a limited role in the incident and had tried to convince others to stop the attack.

Defence barrister John Jacob said his client had not been involved in the attack on Mr Saunders but had assaulted one of the other men, and had only become involved in the fight to protect his friends.

"It is in no way suggested that Emelio was walking around looking for a fight," he said.

The court heard that the Pacific Islander men were taking revenge for an earlier attack, and that they armed themselves with hammers, spanners and fence palings before arriving at a park at Woodridge, south of Brisbane, early on 25 October.

They were there to take revenge on a group of Aboriginal men who had allegedly attacked some Pacific Islander youths earlier that evening, the court heard.

Justice Lyons said many of the Aboriginal males ran away when confronted by the Islanders but three,

including Richard Saunders, were separated from the group.

She said the Islander males allegedly repeatedly assaulted the men, who offered no resistance, while some even moved between victims, assaulting each of the three.

Mr Saunders was rushed to the Logan Hospital but died a short time later, while the other victims suffered injuries including fractured arms, cuts and bruises, and a brain haemorrhage. The Islanders, aged 15 to 24, have been charged with murder, grievous bodily harm and assault occasioning bodily harm whilst armed and in company.

The incident sparked outrage in

the Aboriginal community and resulted in angry scenes outside Beenleigh Magistrates Court when the group first appeared last month.

Describing the decision to grant Emelio bail as 'a travesty of justice', Ms Smallwood said it was unusual for anyone who had been charged with such a serious crime to be given bail.

"Emelio admitted in court he struck one of the men with a fence paling, using such force that the paling broke," she said. "In the

early 1980s when groups of immigrant Pacific Islanders were beating up on Aboriginal people, the Aboriginal Legal Service called upon the Immigration Department, and assisted with the Federal Police to investigate their immigration status.

"The illegal immigrants were sent back to their country and the violence ceased on our mob. We are now calling on Immigration to intervene in the same way.

"While Emelio will be spending Christmas with his family, our brother Richard will never have a Christmas with his family and children."

— Kirstie Parker with AAP



Australian rugby league player Johnathan Thurston weeps at the funeral of his uncle Richard Saunders in Brisbane on 3 November. Mr Saunders was bashed to death in a park. Nine young Pacific Islanders have been charged over the death. AAP Image



The IBIS supermarket on Thursday Island.

## TSl grocery price survey questioned

By ALF WILSON



THE head of a body responsible for providing goods and services to Torres Strait communities at the lowest possible prices has disputed the accuracy of a supermarket survey, which found sky-high grocery prices in the region.

But Islanders Board of Industry and Service (IBIS) CEO Richard Bowler concedes that Torres Strait grocery prices are too high for low-income families and he wants politicians to help fix the situation.

The *Koori Mail* reported last month that many Thursday Island (TI) residents were angry and worried about the price of groceries, with a three-litre bottle of milk at one shop selling for \$9.

Long-time resident Robert Sagigi said there was invisible poverty because food costs were much higher than other areas, even when normal freight costs were taken into account.

His comments were echoed by Elder Karem Binawel and 25-year-old Francis Bon and many other people.

IBIS CEO Richard Bowler told *The Koori Mail* he welcomed interest from Federal Member for Leichhardt Jim Turnour, who launched the Pricewatch monitoring scheme which found that Torres Strait residents paid a lot more for groceries than people in places like Cairns — possibly the highest prices in Australia.

Mr Bowler said the retail price of food was a reflection of the high cost of doing business in the area, and

called on the elected representatives to work with IBIS to find ways to reduce these costs.

IBIS, a Qld Government statutory board and registered charity that reports to the Minister, runs a major supermarket on TI and the outer islands.

Mr Bowler said IBIS was required to use any profit generated for the betterment of the people of the Torres Strait.

"The profit cannot be held by the Government in consolidated revenue, nor can the IIB (Information Industries Board) or IBIS provide any sort of dividend," he said.

"Accordingly, there is no motive for IBIS to charge more than it costs to provide its services to the people of the Torres Strait.

### Hard work

"For many years, IBIS operated in an environment of financial instability due to bad management and very poor governance. This meant that IBIS did not have the money necessary to maintain its stores. It took five years of hard work for IBIS to make its first profit last year."

Mr Bowler said IBIS had improved its financial position to a point where it could now use the profit it was generating to make much-needed maintenance, repairs, upgrades and refurbishments to its stores.

Any profit that was generated by IBIS was being reinvested into the business to correct this previous neglect, he said.

"There is no doubt that generally the prices in Cairns are cheaper than they are in The Torres Strait," Mr Bowler said.

"A significant amount of this

difference is due to the cost of freighting the goods the 1000km from Cairns by ship to Horn Island and the additional charges of shipping goods up to a further 200km by barge to the outer islands.

Mr Bowler said IBIS regularly monitored the difference in prices between the IBIS stores and the stores in Cairns and other retailers in the Torres Strait, and its own surveys differed significantly to the Pricewatch scheme.

"Queensland Health has asked IBIS to work with them on strategies to improve the health of the community of the Torres Strait," he said.

"(It) informed IBIS that a large proportion of the health issues of the community are dietary related."

Mr Bowler said IBIS stores often sold fresh fruit and vegetables at prices well below the major supermarkets in Cairns.

IBIS was making healthy food available at affordable prices as an investment in the well-being and future of Torres Strait Islanders, he said.

"We pro-actively demonstrate this commitment through our pricing policy — it costs IBIS 95c a kilogram to freight fresh fruit and vegetables to the outer islands of the Torres Strait," he said.

Referring to IBIS's own price comparisons, Mr Bowler said IBIS ran weekly specials on its fresh fruit and vegetable and grocery range, and was losing money on every kilogram of some products sold.

He said despite the fact IBIS disputed the accuracy of the Pricewatch survey, it did concede that the prices of groceries in the Torres Strait were far too high for the people on low incomes and people with large families.



# Indigenous Australians in line for top honours



DAVID WIRRPANDA



LORRAINE PEETERS

By MAHALA STROHFELDT



THE big announcements are still nearly two months off, but Indigenous Australians are having a good crack at the 2009 national Australia Day honours.

In the past week, some of our most inspirational community members have been named winners of State and Territory awards.

Last Monday in Darwin, ARIA Award-winning Yolngu singer Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu was named the Northern Territory Australian of the Year.

The news topped off an already stellar year for the multi-ARIA award-winner following the debut release of his solo album *Gurrumul*.

Across the border, on 22 November, 2008 Sydney Peace Prize winner Patrick Dodson was named West Australian Senior Australian of the Year, and footballer and Indigenous role model David Wirrpanda was named the WA Young Australian of the Year.

The pair received their awards from WA Governor Ken Michael.

Mr Dodson is widely recognisable with his signature beard and Akubra hat, and is a commanding

presence in Indigenous and human rights issues.

The first Aboriginal man to be ordained as a Catholic priest more than 30 years ago, Mr Dodson went on to become the founding Chairman of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, which brought together a wide group of Aboriginal, mining, religious, pastoral and cultural leaders.

David Wirrpanda has also had other accolades this year, being named the ninth most influential Indigenous Australian by *The Bulletin* magazine.

## Successes

Not yet 30, Mr Wirrpanda has used his successes on the field to engage with young people, and in 2005 launched a foundation in his name to support underprivileged young people through education, promoting healthy lifestyles and strong role models.

Stolen Generations campaigner Lorraine Peeters was named NSW Senior Australian of the Year, receiving her award from National Australia Day Council Chairman Adam Gilchrist last Thursday.

Mrs Peeters was forcibly removed from her family when she was just four and placed in a home.

She realised early on how

important the healing journey was, and set about trying to help others experiencing the same trauma.

She played an important role in the Prime Minister's apology to the Stolen Generations in February. She has brought many programs and workshops to those Aboriginal people who lived through that era.

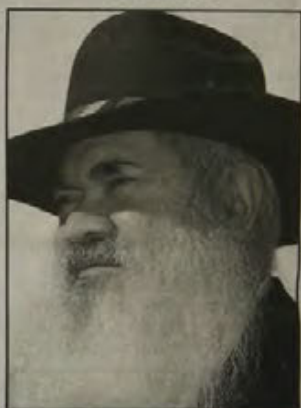
There was a swag of other Indigenous finalists in various States including Victorian Indigenous Leader Paul Briggs, Ngaree Ah Kit for NT Young Australian of the Year and Elcho Island carer Basma Ganalarritj for NT Local Hero. WA Indigenous war veteran advocate John Schaars was a finalist for Senior Australian of the Year, Aunty Phyllis Pitchford was a finalist for Tasmanian Senior Australian of the Year, and Craig Ashby was a finalist for NSW Young Australian of the Year.

State and Territory winners will now be considered for the national Australian of the Year awards on 25 January next year.

In our last edition, we reported that Pat Dodson's brother, rights campaigner Professor Mick Dodson was named ACT Australian of the Year and reconciliation champion Ivan Copley was named SA Australian of the Year.



GEOFFREY GURRUMUL YUNUPINGU



PATRICK DODSON

# More CDEP rallies

## Illawarra leaders speak out

By DARREN COYNE



ABORIGINAL people from across New South Wales have rallied in Canberra against plans to abolish the Community Development and Employment Projects (CDEP) scheme.

The Federal Government wants to restrict CDEPs to remote communities, leaving other communities to receive assistance as part of the Indigenous Employment Program (IEP).

Illawarra Aboriginal Lands Council Chairman Roy Kennedy said NSW Aboriginal communities relied on CDEPs.

Mr Kennedy said that in the Illawarra region alone more than

120 families would face unemployment if CDEP was scrapped.

"With the loss of CDEPs, it's putting more Aboriginal people in the unemployment line and there's no real guarantee we're going to get jobs," he said.

Scrapping CDEPs would remove a sense of autonomy in Aboriginal communities taking part in the schemes, Mr Kennedy said.

"We've been able to self-sustain ourselves with some of these programs, and I find it absolutely hypocritical to take that away," he said.

"We need CDEP to operate important training and support services, to promote community cohesion and culturally appropriate employment.

"There was no appropriate consultation in this decision to remove CDEP. We are calling on the Government to retain CDEP, sign the UN Declaration on Rights for Indigenous Peoples and use

its principles to guide Indigenous policy development."

Illawarra Aboriginal Land Council CEO Sharralyn Robinson told *The Koori Mail* the Illawarra was being 'thrown in the basket' along with all CDEPs, despite it having a very successful program.

She said a delegation had met with an advisor to Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin,

**'I feel this is the arm of the intervention spreading across our land, and at the end of the day we'll find this is all about welfare quarantining' – Sharralyn Robinson**

and gave a presentation to be forwarded to the minister, but was still awaiting a response.

"Our CDEP functions and works really well. It's not just employment for this community, it's the heart and soul of the community," she said.

"It's squeaky clean and we need to retain it."

Ms Robinson said she had

requested information on what evaluation process had been followed, and any reports justifying the scrapping of CDEP, but had received nothing from the Government.

"We had a representative from Eden at the meeting and heard that the 78 people who were on CDEP there were now unemployed," she said.

"Under the new proposal they want to put people through the job network system but that is already failing our people."

"I feel this is the arm of the intervention spreading

across our land, and at the end of the day we'll find this is all about welfare quarantining."

Ms Robinson said another rally would be held in Canberra in the New Year.

Meanwhile, Monique Wiseman, from the Stop the Intervention Collective in Sydney, said the scrapping of CDEP would disempower communities.

"As seen with the NT Intervention when CDEP was scrapped, thousands of Aboriginal people will be forced onto welfare," she said.

"With welfare quarantining set to spread across the country, this is a blatant political weapon to disempower people and their communities."

"Removing CDEP is a direct attack on Indigenous self-determination and dismantles important community networks."

● In our story 'Warning on CDEP changes', *The Koori Mail*, 19 November, we stated 'Prof Altman said rather than treat CDEP as employment and participants as wage earners, the Government should treat it as welfare so as to allow administration, and possibly quarantining, by Centrelink'. There was a mistake in this sentence. Professor Jon Altman highlights in his submission that the Government proposes to treat CDEP as welfare so as to allow administration, and possibly quarantining, by Centrelink. As was evident in the rest of the article, he is clearly opposed to such change to the CDEP program.



# Formal they'll never forget



IT was a financial stretch, but the parents of this year's Year 12 Menindee Central School graduates have ensured their kids had a formal they'll never forget.

As *The Koori Mail* reported last month, the parents and residents in the far western NSW town were flat out fundraising for the \$5300 to hire a stretched Hummer to take the nine graduates – seven of them Aboriginal – to their formal in the town hall.

Fundraising organiser and proud parent Debra King could not have been happier. And neither could the kids.

"People really came on board to make sure the kids' dream of having the Hummer was achieved," she said.

"In fact we raised more than we needed so we were able to spend more on hall decorations. It was a fantastic night, for us as well as the kids. "Menindee's never

seen a vehicle like it. I reckon all the town turned out to have a look and congratulate the kids.

"The formal and the after-party were everything we'd hoped for. Nyampa Housing did the catering, and local Aboriginal band Born Rattlers turned on the music. We had a ball."

The black stretched 'gangsta ride' came up from Adelaide, six hours' drive away, for the event.

Ms King said the 2008 formal was special for Menindee.

"It's the most Year 12 graduates we've had at the school, and seven of them were Aboriginal," she said.

"The school staff have been fantastic with the kids.

"This year is a turning point for the town and the Aboriginal community.

"There'll be more Aboriginal Year 12 students next year. The future is looking good for us here."



The Menindee Year 12 graduates, back from left, Shiralee Sutter, Codi King, Lawrence Philp, Jordi Fusi, Sam Coombe and Aimee Williams and, front, Adam Gray and Zada Johnstone. Taya Thomas (inset) was absent.

● Top: Aimee Williams with the stretched Hummer.

# Rocky start for Qld fund



A file photo of ATSI Partnerships Minister Lindy Nelson-Carr (right) and stolen wages campaigner Gracelyn Smallwood at a rally in Townsville earlier this year. Photo by ALF WILSON

By KIRSTIE PARKER



THE Queensland Government has launched a new multi-million-dollar fund aimed at 'raising the educational bar' for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

But things haven't gotten off to the best start.

The new Qld Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF) is controversial because it will draw \$10.8 million from the former Aborigines Welfare Fund and \$15 million from unspent funds from Qld's \$55 million Indigenous Wages and Savings Reparations Scheme (IWSR), set up in 2001 to compensate Indigenous Queenslanders for stolen wages.

There have been vocal protests against the source of the funds, with stolen wages campaigners declaring the move 'disgusting', 'an insult' and 'another theft' of their hard-earned wages.

They maintain the plan shifts the Government's responsibility for education, and puts young people who might be in receipt of scholarships in an unfair position.

But the Government has steadfastly refused to budge, saying in the week before the foundation's launch last Tuesday that it had nothing to do with stolen wages reparations.

SBS Radio had reported that the Governor of Papua New Guinea's Western Province, Dr Bob Danaya, had threatened to make access to the scholarships a diplomatic issue, if the more than 300 PNG stolen wages claimants and their descendants were denied access.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Youth Minister Lindy Nelson-Carr launched the foundation and announced its advisory board at Parliament House in Brisbane last Tuesday.

## Scholarships

"The new Qld Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation will support up to 100 scholarships a year valued at up to \$20,000 per student," she said.

"With start-up funding of close to \$26 million, it represents a real opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth to close the educational gap on their non-Indigenous peers."

Minister Nelson-Carr said the

foundation's advisory board had significant Indigenous representation and high-level skills and expertise.

The seven Queenslanders appointed to the board are: Chairwoman Cindy Shannon, Leann Wilson, Sione Fa'Aoso, Kerrin Anderson, John Goddard, Nerida White and Thelma Gertz.

Stolen wages campaigners had called for community members to boycott the fund and its advisory board.

The foundation's funds are expected to be distributed in partnership with organisations already managing successful Indigenous educational initiatives.

The identity of those organisations is not yet confirmed, but some Indigenous organisations identified earlier this year as possible recipients distanced themselves from the foundation.

Ms Nelson-Carr said schools and universities would be asked to recruit and select the scholarship students, and the Government would seek to boost available funds through private and corporate sponsorship.

She acknowledged 'the previous generations of Indigenous Queenslanders who laboured under past control laws and

policies, too often under-paid and unfairly dealt with'.

"This foundation is built on their efforts," she said. "It will help deal with some of the negative legacies of the past and will undoubtedly create a positive legacy for the future by creating better opportunities for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders."

Qld Greens spokesperson Libby Connors said it was 'distressing that a Labor government is being so cavalier about the issue of wage justice'.

"Lindy Nelson-Carr looked appropriately uncomfortable at the launch of the Queensland Indigenous Education Fund on Tuesday," Ms Connors said.

"It is time the Queensland Government took the term 'partnership' more seriously and truly listened to Aboriginal Elders who have continuously objected to the unfairness of diverting their stolen wages reparations funds into an education pool."

It has been estimated that thousands of Indigenous Queenslanders are collectively owed up to \$500 million in stolen wages, which were controlled in government trusts. Some of those trusts are believed to have been mismanaged or defrauded.



# Hagan sues paper

BY MAHALA STROHFELDT



ACADEMIC and filmmaker Stephen Hagan has found himself on the other side of the news, suing his local Toowoomba newspaper for \$750,000. Mr Hagan said the *Toowoomba Chronicle* had perpetuated a prolonged and public discussion against him after he had 'dared to challenge the status quo on race issues'.

This followed a nine-year battle in which Mr Hagan successfully campaigned to have a sign bearing the word 'nigger' removed from the ES 'Nigger' Brown stand at the town's athletics oval.

"I don't mind people having a go at me," Mr Hagan said, but added that the *Chronicle's* requests to its readers to air their views in the paper had led to an avalanche of racially offensive messages directed at him and his family.

"I'm appalled at the level of negative reaction to the campaign," he said of the local community's response.

Mr Hagan's lawsuit alleges that SMS text messages and emails from readers and published in the *Chronicle* between 25 September and 20 October 'recklessly and negligently created a forum and published matters that were unwarranted' towards the 2006 NAIDOC Person of the Year.

## Message

Mr Hagan said the overall message to him had been to 'keep your mouth shut and mind your Ps and Qs'.

"I'm only one little blackfella but I'm not frightened of anybody," he said defiantly.

Mr Hagan spoke to *The Koori Mail* after filing his action in the Queensland Supreme Court last Monday, saying the final straw had come after he had received 'disturbing' messages on his answering machine, and after his family and friends had been put under 'enormous pressure'.

Mr Hagan said some people in the community would inevitably reach a conclusion that his claim for damages was a disguise for personal gain. But he said the real effects could be seen in the changes he had had to make because of the messages and ongoing hostility.

"I wait until a movie has started before I enter the cinema, I wait until the last half hour before close before going into a supermarket and I rarely take my family out in public to restaurants these days," he said. "My real goal is to try to send a clear message out to other editors."

"I'm ready, I'm not making a frivolous application."

A man appeared in court last week charged with leaving threatening messages on Mr Hagan's answering machine.

The *Toowoomba Chronicle* declined to comment last week.

# New Batchelor Institute centre to help close gaps

By KIRSTIE PARKER



BATCHELOR Institute's new \$2.86 million E-Learning and Research Centre will help close the gaps in Indigenous education and better connect its students across the nation and the globe.

The upgraded facility at the Institute's Batchelor campus, an hour's drive south of Darwin, was officially opened by Deputy Prime Minister and Federal Education Minister Julia Gillard on 19 November.

Present at the opening was NT Administrator Tom Pauling, NT Education and Training Minister Marion Scrymgour, other MPs and dignitaries, and about 100 students and staff.

The Federal Government funded the upgrade, which included installation of audiovisual and computer-based teaching aids designed to facilitate contact between students and enhance the collaborative relationship with academic staff.

The centre also houses modern video conference teaching capabilities, which will allow it to further support education for students in remote areas.

After a welcome to Kungarakana country by Traditional Owner Lenore Demski, Batchelor Vice-Chancellor Professor Jeannie Herbert told guests the new building positioned the Institute well to better connect with national directions for E-Learning.

"Particularly for our remote and regional students of VET and Higher Education, the new building offers more flexible learning options," she said.

"...These modern communication tools will greatly assist the exchange of knowledge and assist students to become job-ready when they graduate and encounter this new technology in work places including hospitals, clinics, classrooms and offices."

Minister Gillard said Batchelor would play an important role in helping to 'close the gap in



Deputy Prime Minister and Federal Education Minister Julia Gillard addresses media at the E-Learning and Research Centre opening. With her are Federal Member for Solomon Damien Hale, and NT Education Minister Marion Scrymgour.

Indigenous disadvantage in education in the future'.

"We talk about closing the gap because it's so important for us to have a dedicated focus on making sure we're giving Indigenous Australians the opportunities they want and so richly deserve," she said.

The new centre would help Batchelor stay better connected across the breadth of communities it served, the nation and globally, Ms Gillard said. She also paid tribute to the attitude of staff and students.

"New buildings, new facilities, new technologies – they're all good things – but the things that bring them to life are the spirit of the people who teach within them and the spirit of the people who learn within them," she said.

Batchelor Institute is Australia's only dedicated Indigenous dual sector tertiary education provider. As well as its main campuses at Batchelor and Alice Springs, it has study annexes in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy and study centres in seven remote NT communities.

# State Govt urged to reform policy

By DARREN COYNE



THE Queensland Government must undertake a statewide reform of Indigenous policy, and create an action plan to effectively

deliver services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

That's according to a submission from the Queensland Council of Social Services, detailing what should be included in the next budget.

In the face of the global economic crisis, QCOSS argues that Government spending stimulates the economy best by going to people who need it the most.

QCOSS Director Jill Lang said money spent in community services assisted the increasing number of struggling people.

In its submission, QCOSS says the failure of government

policy-making processes and inadequate funding of services had led to significant disadvantage in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

"Much of the failure of service delivery to Indigenous people and communities, and the lack of sustainable outcomes, is a direct result of the failure to engage appropriately with Indigenous people and the failure to support and build the capacity of Indigenous communities," it says.

## Network

QCOSS has recommended the Government work with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Human Services Coalition to invest in the growth and capacity building of all Indigenous organisations to create a strong service delivery network.

It said there should also be strategic investment in programs at an appropriate level to tangibly 'close the gap' in disadvantage

between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

"In particular significant investment is required for programs that focus on prevention and early intervention," the submission says. "Priority areas include early education, family support, child protection, housing and addressing the levels of violence and substance misuse in communities."

Ms Lang said the evidence nationally and internationally suggested programs and initiatives that worked well were those that built on community strengths, acknowledged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of doing things, involved shared responsibility and incorporated culture into governance.

"Investment in community services will quickly help fight an economic recession and help Queensland's most disadvantaged people," she said.

"This increased investment must be included in the next State

budget as well as other initiatives during the year."

QCOSS President Karyn Walsh said the best way to weather the storm of uncertain economic times was to improve resilience.

"Ten percent of Queenslanders already live below the poverty line. QCOSS is gravely concerned that disadvantaged people are strongly affected when the economy fluctuates," she said.

"They miss out in prosperous times when rents skyrocket and they miss out in tough times when more marginal employment opportunities are lost. The coming months and years will see an explosion in people knocking on the door of charities, shelters and support services. It is vital that immediate and flexible funds with no red tape are made available so services can help people."

The mid-year review of the budget was due to be handed down on 2 December, with the next budget due in June next year.



# Guide sparks calls for return of Tassie bay

By Tasmanian Correspondent  
JILLIAN MUNDY



TASMANIAN Aboriginal leaders have called for the return of their homelands after the Lonely Planet travel guide named the area as a top international holiday destination for 2009.

While Tourism Tasmania are over the moon about the listing of pristine Bay of Fires on Tasmania's upper East Coast, other Tasmanians are wary of the area now being swamped with tourists and the area's preservation has become a hot topic.

The local mayor has indicated that he would like it to become a national park and Aboriginal leaders have renewed their calls for the area to be returned.

"The Bay of Fires and surrounding region of the whole north-east is clan country to the majority of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community," said Jim Everett, Manager of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (TLASC).

"Our ancestors are buried there, and our cultural-heritage places are enhanced by the pristine nature of the Bay of Fires."

"The whole area should be acknowledged as native title, it holds the inner-most connection for our community and identity, a major 'library' of what our country history means and who we are."

Mr Everett said the Aboriginal community was worried that the Bay of Fires would now be 'frittered away like so many other tourism destinations in Tasmania, and be trashed because it isn't managed properly'.

"Here lies a great opportunity for all Tasmania, to progress its already



The beauty of the Bay of Fires on Tasmania's upper East Coast is no revelation to Tasmanian Aborigines. It is their ancestral homelands and they want it back.

leading-light in Aboriginal land hand-backs across Australia, and now to develop a true acknowledgement of Tasmanian Aboriginal cultural-heritage for Tasmanians and world visitors to enjoy and respect," he concluded.

Michael Mansell, Legal Director of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre agreed.

"The best way to conserve the Bay of Fires is to hand ownership of our



Jim Everett

traditional lands to Aboriginal people," Mr Mansell told *The Koori Mail*. "Listing our land for tourists without even talking to us is a bit rich."

He said that the claim for land rights in the area would include the whole of the north east of Tasmania minus all private property, leaving only a small portion claimable under native title or land rights legislation.

"While Aboriginal people have opposed any conditions of land handbacks, our people would be happy to regain ownership of our ancestral lands," he said.

"We could set up an arrangement with the Break O Day Council, locals and environmentalists to ensure the preservation of the pristine nature of the region."

"It could be a national park or an

Aboriginal Indigenous Protected Area which also is based on preserving the character and beauty of our lands," he said.

The area has been the subject of land claims for many years and Mr Mansell believes it is a matter of negotiating when and how.

He said the Tasmanian cabinet supported the return of Mt William National Park in principle, which also falls within the area, when other areas of land were returned in 2005.

Tasmanian Greens Leader Nick McKim also spoke out in support of the land being returned to the Aboriginal community.

The Bay of Fires was so named by a European explorer after spotting fires lit by Aboriginal people all along the bay when he visited in 1773.

# Tough times warning



INDIGENOUS businesses need to be open about looking to new opportunities and new ways of working in the current economic climate, according to Indigenous Business Australia Acting Chairman Bob Blair. Mr Blair was speaking at a gathering of Indigenous business people from across the country, in Sydney on Tuesday.

Experts from across the financial sector briefed the representatives of Indigenous businesses on the emerging

pressures in the global economy.

"These discussions are not about talking down the economy, but an important step in sharing our experiences on the effects of the global crisis and exploring ways we can support each other," Mr Blair said.

"Indigenous organisations need to be open about looking to new opportunities and new ways of working in the current economic climate."

However, Mr Blair warned the audience of business people of difficult times ahead.

"Regardless of how well we

may look after our own businesses and organisations in the face of a changed economic climate, we need to expect that things may not be as good as they have been in recent years."

"Indigenous businesses which may have taken years to become established, may find it harder to compete, harder to get loans from banks, more difficult to grow and to develop."

Attendees at the event heard about the impact of the crisis on Australian business from major banks, including Westpac and UBS.

Included in the discussions was a session by fund managers who are looking at opportunities where Indigenous organisations may be able to invest while parts of the economy are slowing.

Mr Blair identified the need for Indigenous organisations to be wary about opportunities which seem too good to be true.

"We need to be open to opportunities and new ways of doing things, but at the same time, need to understand the risks that these new opportunities may bring."

Opportunities for Indigenous

organisations may include the purchase of distressed assets, joint venture partnerships and looking at new ways of investing income streams that Indigenous organisations have from mining royalties and settlements.

The IBA Business Briefing was organised by Indigenous Business Australia as part of a series of forums involving high profile Indigenous business people, mainstream corporations and government.

Delegates came from around Australia as well as New Zealand.

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Bev Greet Program Manager Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health at Marie Stopes Australia on (03) 9658 7509





# Australia – an epic film with a storyline



Aboriginal boy Nullah is played by outstanding young newcomer Brandon Walters while Ursula Yovich plays Daisy, Nullah's mother (inset).

## Big story has

**D**IRECTOR Baz Luhrmann's *Australia* is like one of the best novels you have ever read, the kind that compels you to pick it up before you get out of bed in the morning, and continue reading until well into the early hours.

Then, when it is finally over, it leaves you sad that you will have to end your love affair of sorts with its characters, knowing you might not find a story this good for a very long time. It is beautiful and heart-wrenching and funny, and everything grand that you'd expect and would have read about the two-hour and 40-minute film, reportedly the most expensive ever made in Australia.

Nicole Kidman plays 1940s Englishwoman Lady Sarah Ashley who inherits a cattle ranch from her late husband, then falls for the drover (Hugh Jackman) who helps her herd the cattle to market just as the Japanese are set to bomb Darwin.

Along the way she encounters a host of Aboriginal people, most notably a young boy Nullah, played by newcomer Brandon Walters, his mother Daisy, played by Ursula Yovich, and his grandfather 'King George', played by David Gulpillil. Nullah is orphaned after Daisy

Baz Luhrmann's epic film *Australia*, starring a large Aboriginal ensemble as well as Nicole Kidman, Hugh Jackman and other leading Aussie actors, opened around the country last week. Reviews varied widely, with some critics put off by the hype surrounding the film and others marvelling that Luhrmann had managed to disguise a story predominantly about the Stolen Generations as a romance weepie. The film was one of the most outstanding international promotions for Australia ever made, some critics said, while others felt it was full of clichés. *The Koori Mail's* MAHALA STROHFELDT went along to the cinema and came out impressed. She loved the film, and doesn't care who knows it...

suffers a tragic accident and Lady Ashley, whom Nullah comes to call Mrs Boss, reluctantly, but eventually wholeheartedly, steps in to mother him.

The storyline is strongly informed by the experiences of the Stolen Generations.

*Australia* is a big story with a big heart. It has definite goodies and definite baddies, but more on that later.

As Jackman's character Drovers says: 'You can't possess anything, especially not people, and at the end of your life, all you own is your story'.

This idea of owning and telling your story is something that

director Luhrmann is passionate about.

The acclaimed director, whose other credits include *Moulin Rouge* (2001) and *Strictly Ballroom* (1992), left his home shores last week to attend the film's New York premiere.

Before then, however, talk-show queen Oprah Winfrey and her audience had received a special viewing and went wild about it. Members of her studio audience members raved about Hugh Jackman and a scene where he lathers his buff shirtless chest in the moonlight. (Sigh)

Although Nicole Kidman is not everyone's cup of tea, it is a real



joy to watch her change from an icy English aristocrat to a woman who allows herself to get dirty, literally, and crack a whip with the best of them.

Her uptight antics are genuinely funny, but the best we see in her is when she finally allows herself to become vulnerable, and therefore more human.

There are all the other usual suspects of great Australian film. David Wenham plays the ruthless and scheming villain Neil Fletcher, and you want him to get what's coming to him. Other iconic cast members include Jack Thompson, Bryan Brown, Max Cullen and Ben Mendelsohn.

For me, though, it wasn't the Hollywood stars who had me mesmerised. Or even the stunning landscape of our country that Luhrmann seemed to capture so well.

It was seeing great Indigenous Australian actors up there on the big screen and finally, seeing in a movie something that you recognise about yourself and your country.

Other great films before it have tackled the issue of the Stolen Generations, most notably *Rabbit Proof Fence*, based on Doris Pilkington's incredible book.

But this is a story that has the capacity to reach a far larger audience, and has already started a dialogue of sorts between people who might not otherwise have had access to that kind of information.

*Good Morning America* host Diane Sawyer was keenly interested in those traditional spiritual aspects of Aboriginal culture when she spoke to Luhrmann about the movie some weeks ago. David Gulpillil, as the mysterious tribal magic man 'King George', is, as always, a commanding presence on screen.

Lillian Crombie plays Bandy Legs and Angus Pilakui is Goolaj.

● Continued facing page



# informed by Stolen Generations people

David Ngoombujarra plays Magarri, with Nicole Kidman in the background as Lady Sarah Ashley.



## a big heart!

### ● From facing page

one of Drover's trusted Aboriginal stockmen. Both bring humour and humanity into their roles.

David Ngoombujarra gives a standout performance as Drover's 'brother' Magarri. Ursula Yovich, known mostly as a stage actor with a huge voice, is achingly beautiful as Nullah's protective and loving mother.

And then there is Nullah himself. You will simply fall in love with him, as Nicole Kidman did while filming this movie.

Discovered in his home town of Broome at a public swimming pool, Brandon Walters is the heart and soul of the movie.

And while he shares the screen with so many talented Aboriginal actors, Nullah's spirit will stay with you long after the movie has ended.

Many of the extras on set were Stolen Generations members, and Luhrmann portrays the devastating removal policies sensitively but with an unusual twist which has drawn some criticism. I'll leave that to readers to form their own opinions.

Luhrmann and the film's on-set Indigenous advisor, Steven McGregor, spoke to *The Koori Mail* the day before the world premiere in Sydney on 18 November.

McGregor said that throughout the filming process in Kununurra, Western Australia, Bowen in Queensland, Darwin and Sydney there was a deep level of respect for Traditional Owners, and a lot of effort to ensure that cultural protocols were met.



Veteran actor David Gulpilil and Australia Director Baz Luhrmann.

He said that when discrepancies occurred in the script, Luhrmann was always open to doing the scene in a different way to maintain cultural integrity.

Luhrmann maintains that while the movie was an 'enriching adventure' for him, it was also a deeply moving and personal

experience. He sat down with tribal Elders and listened to their story, and travelled to Bathurst and Melville Islands to speak to men and women who had been mission children.

He said some of these moments were among the most poignant he experienced

throughout the entire production. Part of the fulfilment of working with the local Indigenous communities, he said, was coming to a deeper understanding of the meaning of land and the landscape to the people.

"Throughout storytelling, knowledge and wisdom and tradition is passed on," said Luhrmann.

"I just want a country where we're all together in this. We talk about the synchronicity of this film, and the world it will be released into.

"After all, this is the year of the apology and of the Obama election.

"Maybe, we say, the world is ready to finally hear this story. The story told so long and by so many others, and now again through the eyes of this whitefella Luhrmann, who followed their footsteps into the desert for a while, and just sat, and listened."

Luhrmann's mantra is a life lived in fear is a life half lived. This is the place from where he starts and finishes everything.

I am unashamedly in love with this film and, okay, maybe just a little bit with Hugh. I know it's a bit of a fairytale, but sometimes you need that.

Go and see it yourself and tell me I'm wrong. I believe you too, will come out wiping away tears, thinking about all those brave and strong Aboriginal men, women and children who had to endure so much pain and suffering, but also smiling for the beauty and adventure that is still out there.



# Open letter to Indigenous Australians

On 1 December 2008, NAB launched its first Reconciliation Action Plan.

This Action Plan stems from our belief in the potential of all Australians and all Australian communities.

It sets out objectives and measurable outcomes for NAB's engagement with Indigenous Australians – Australia's First Peoples and our most disadvantaged community.

## Closing the Gap

At the heart of any Reconciliation Action Plan is the need to:

- Close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, particularly the gap in life expectancy; and
- Address the issues and questions which confront the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

It is hard to think of two more noble aspirations for our nation.

## Delivering in key areas

NAB's commitment to Indigenous Australia is three-fold:

- Access to valuable, long-lasting and meaningful employment opportunities;
- Improved access to financial products and services to promote financial inclusion; and
- Building greater organisational understanding of and respect for Indigenous Australians, their culture and aspirations.

The challenge of Indigenous disadvantage is a daunting one. We recognise that we don't have all the answers and that we will make some mistakes.

But this has not stopped us from thinking ambitiously about what we can do to make a difference for Indigenous Australians.

## Backing Indigenous Australians

This year NAB celebrated its 150th anniversary. We've commemorated the past, but more importantly in these turbulent times, we've renewed our commitment to our customers and to Australian communities.

Our Reconciliation Action Plan is part of that commitment. It is one that we have not undertaken lightly.

It represents a long-term sustainable plan to back Indigenous Australians and do what we can, as a leading financial services organisation, to address Indigenous disadvantage and build stronger, more inclusive and sustainable Australian communities.

We look forward to sharing our experience along the way.



**Ahmed Fahour**  
Executive Director and CEO Australia

For a copy of NAB's Reconciliation Action please visit [www.nab.com.au/Indigenous](http://www.nab.com.au/Indigenous)





CSIRO is working with partners in the Daly River region of the NT to describe in detail how Indigenous people value water and water resources.

# Water use is study focus



INDIGENOUS people's relationship to rivers and bush-tucker resources is to be the focus of a new study. The CSIRO study aims to transform water

management in northern Australia by taking into account Indigenous water use.

"Indigenous people in the north have a large stake in water resource planning and management based on their distinct cultures, ways of life and substantial land holdings," CSIRO researcher Dr Sue Jackson said.

"Yet their interests and values in water are poorly understood by decision makers.

"Our research will increase understanding of the importance of river systems to Indigenous people and help water planners and managers take Indigenous people's water needs into consideration.

"Indigenous people will be able to sit at the table with other water users such as farmers and irrigators and have their water requirements factored into planning."

The research will focus on two catchments – the Daly River in the Northern Territory and the Fitzroy River in the Kimberley region of Western Australia.

For Malak Malak Traditional Owner Biddy Lindsay, the study can't come soon enough.

Mrs Lindsay is concerned about the impact of people on the Daly River and billabongs.

She said some of the billabongs on her traditional country had changed substantially over the past five to 10 years.

"Pigs, horses and cattle have stirred

**'Our research will increase understanding of the importance of river systems to Indigenous people and help water planners and managers take Indigenous people's water needs into consideration'**

up the edges of some billabongs. We go to catch fish and turtle there but we don't catch much anymore," Mrs Lindsay says.

She is also concerned about the effects of groundwater extraction on the Daly River.

"All that water taken out used to mix in with the river water and make it good; not cloudy, not mud," she said.

"Now that water in the river is not good; cloudy. It's not healthy that river anymore."

The TRaCK (Tropical Rivers and Coastal Knowledge) research will record Indigenous people's social and cultural knowledge relating to water and will survey them to quantify the economic benefit households derive from their use of aquatic plants and animals.

Indigenous people will also be employed in the survey and monitoring components of the research and as advisors on river health.

"Our survey will involve asking Indigenous people questions such as how many fish they've caught or bush cucumbers they've collected over the past few weeks and we'll compare the cost of purchasing the same amount of food from the community store," Dr Jackson says.

"In what is 'a first' for this kind of study, we'll also be looking at what effect different water levels, or flow regimes, have on the patterns of resource use by Indigenous people."

TRaCK receives major funding for its research through the Australian Government's Commonwealth Environment Research Facilities initiative; the Australian Government's Raising National Water Standards Program; Land and Water Australia and the Queensland Government's Smart State Innovation Fund.

## CMC receives Palm Island police report



QUEENSLAND's Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) has received the report from a Qld Police Ethical Standards

Command investigation into the response to the death in custody of Mulrunji Doomadgee.

However, it could be months before the CMC decides what, if any, further action should be taken as a result of the investigation.

Riots erupted on Palm Island on 26 November 2004, after the release of findings of a post-mortem examination on the body of 36-year-old Mr Doomadgee, an Aboriginal man who died in police custody a week earlier.

Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson said on 18 November that the investigation report ran over more than 250 pages and includes 500 pages of transcripts.

There had been criticism about the length of time taken to conclude the investigation.

"This investigation into the criticisms by the Deputy State Coroner of police actions following the death of Mr Doomadgee has been unavoidably drawn out by a range of factors, including court matters," Mr Atkinson said before the report was handed over.

"This is a complex matter and, as indicated, involves a significant amount of material. It is essential that it be fairly, thoroughly and competently managed."

Palm Island man Lex Wotton was last month sentenced to six years' jail for his part in the riot violence. — AAP

## Governments urged to help protect areas



WORLD Wildlife Fund (WWF) Australia, on behalf of Indigenous Forum attendees at last week's Australian Protected Areas Congress (APAC), has

called on all levels of Australian government to recognise and support Indigenous Protected Areas.

"There are currently 25 declared Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) and 37 emerging IPAs in Australia, but Indigenous communities are frustrated that not all governments recognise, respect and support their protected areas as valid," said David Claudie, from the Kaanju Ngaachi IPA on Cape York in a statement on Friday.

Girringun Aboriginal Corporation CEO Phil Rist said that in a time of rapid climate change, the need for developing new partnerships for biodiversity conservation had never been more urgent. "A key focus of the congress discussions has been the valuable contribution that Indigenous people are making in supporting Australia's highly-prized protected area network with its unique biodiversity and cultural values," he said.

An IPA is where Indigenous people voluntarily declare and manage a protected area over their own country – land and/or sea covering more than 20 million hectares.

WWF Australia said it was increasingly clear that in addition to providing real training and employment opportunities, supporting Indigenous people to look after their country using the best scientific and traditional ecological knowledge had a clear benefit to the health and well-being of whole communities.



# Council Co-chairs elected



RENEE Williamson, of Sydney, was last month elected as the Indigenous Co-chair of the New South Wales Reconciliation Council. And David Crew, from Deniliquin, was elected as the non-Indigenous Co-chair.

The NSW Reconciliation Council is the peak body for reconciliation in the State, representing more than 50 groups working at a local and regional

level. Fifty per cent of the elected councillors are Indigenous and 50 per cent are non-Indigenous.

Moree resident Glen Crump, who was elected as the New England Regional Representative, said the council supported Indigenous and non-Indigenous volunteers to run projects 'that make a real difference at the grassroots level'.

"And I believe that is where change must occur," he said.



## An invitation to all Darug

to attend the next

### Darug Peoples Advisory Committee Meeting

**WHEN:** Saturday 6th December 2008

**TIME:** 12 Noon - 3:00 pm

**WHERE:** Parramatta Park, Ranger Cottage, Dairy Precinct

**PLEASE NOTE:** DECC and DPAC will be seeking nominations for vacant positions on the Committee at this meeting.

**For more information and to register your interest in attending, please contact:**

Den Barber (Aboriginal Co-management Officer)

02) 4784-7309 or 0439 493 116

dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au

by Wednesday 3rd December 2008.

Department of Environment & Climate Change NSW



### ADVERTORIAL

## CARING FOR COUNTRY Chrissy Grant



Chrissy Grant,  
Deputy Chair of the IAC.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, country is not something that can be bought or sold.

We have an intrinsic relationship with land and sea. When we are caring for country, we carry out our responsibilities to manage the land and sea, to protect biodiversity and conserve the environment, our traditional knowledge and cultural values.

Many Indigenous communities across Australia access funds from a diversity of government program areas and other stakeholders to care for their country.

Yet, with this diversity comes inconsistency - inconsistency in the levels of support given to communities, the differing stakeholder approaches or when communities want to develop effective partnerships.

To help overcome these inconsistencies, members of the Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC) developed a *National Caring for Country Strategy* discussion paper for all Indigenous Australians to comment on.

The IAC is established under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, to advise the Hon. Peter Garrett, MP, Minister for Environment, Heritage and the Arts, on environmental and heritage matters affecting Indigenous Australians. The IAC wants the *National Caring for Country Strategy* to articulate Indigenous aspirations and complement existing land and sea management plans.

The strategy will also make recommendations and inform private enterprise, industry, non-government organisations and all levels of Government when working on their own policy and programs.

The IAC invite you to read the discussion paper and give us your comments on the *National Caring for Country Strategy*.

We really value any ideas that will help provide consistency and direction to Indigenous communities and stakeholders.

You can download a copy of the *National Caring for Country Strategy* discussion paper at <http://www.environment.gov.au/indigenous/committees/iac.html> and email your feedback to [iac@environment.gov.au](mailto:iac@environment.gov.au) by 6 February 2009.



## Damages bid over \$50 note image



AN Aboriginal activist has demanded the Reserve Bank of Australia pay damages to his family for using his great-uncle's image on the \$50 note (see above) without permission. Allan 'Chirpy' Campbell, the great-nephew of David Unaipon, met with the Reserve Bank in Sydney last Thursday morning, claiming permission to use the Indigenous inventor and author's image was given by someone posing as a relative.

"She is not the daughter of my uncle, and they won't delete her from their files," he said.

The 61-year-old from Murray Bridge, in South Australia, said the Reserve Bank never consulted with the real family and he had proof the woman was not a relative.

"They've got to renegotiate this time a proper settlement, not a tea leaf, sugar and flour syndrome, you know," he said. "They've got no proof, no papers to show she is his daughter."

Mr Campbell said as well as seeking a 'fair dinkum settlement' he put a further three demands to the Reserve Bank.

### Damages

"My lawyer has got to be paid for ten years' work," he said. "I want them to pay for the damages for what they put upon us and we want a re-enactment of the celebration of the \$50 note ... in Adelaide."

"If they had got the Mundine family or Cathy Freeman ... they would have also had to be forking out an arm and a leg for them, therefore this has got to be renegotiated."

"And then we'll give them permission for him to remain on the \$50 note."

The Reserve Bank on Thursday evening confirmed they had held talks with Mr Campbell, but would not give further details about the meeting.

John Campbell said he fully supported his older brother's plight.

"Chirpy called and said the bank said they would give the family nothing, no compensation," he said.

"He's going to talk to his lawyer."

A life-long campaigner for Aboriginal rights, Mr Campbell says he was instrumental in the 1972 Tent Embassy built on the lawns of Parliament House, Canberra, and earlier this year he also built a smaller version of the symbolic event in Adelaide's western parklands area. - AAP

## No sign of NITV report



THE Board of National Indigenous Television (NITV) is still waiting for the report from an independent investigation into allegations by a former staff member of high-level mismanagement and misuse of public funds.

Neville Perkins was the organisation's company secretary, business development manager and corporate services manager until March this year.

He wrote to Federal Environment, Heritage and Arts Minister Peter Garrett about his concerns in July, after first



LARISSA BEHRENDT

raising them with the NITV Board.

NITV Chairperson Larissa Behrendt said in early September that the NITV Board

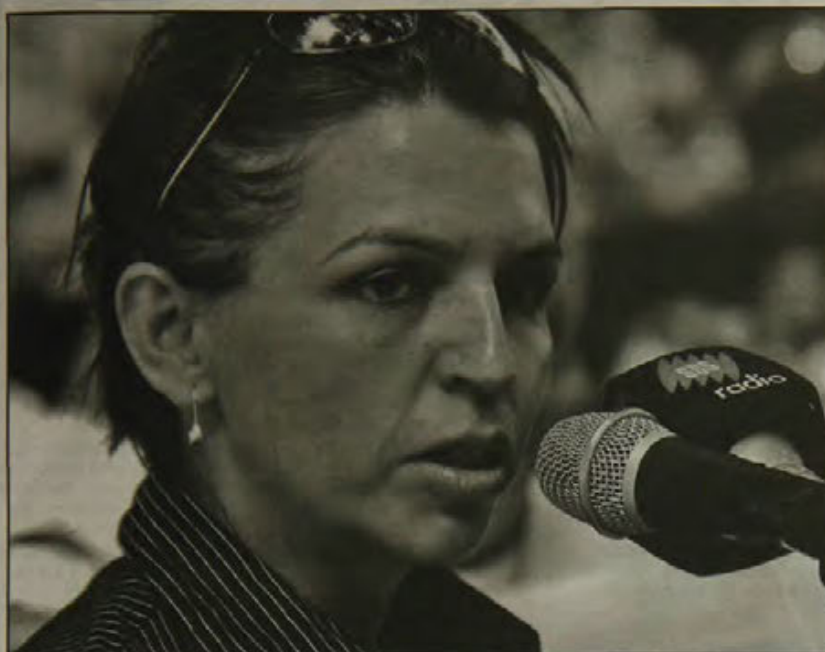
became aware of Mr Perkins' claims in June and 'promptly' instituted an independent investigation into the allegations.

The investigation was expected to take just a few weeks, but a spokesperson for NITV told *The Koori Mail* on Friday that the Board had yet to receive the report.

He could shed no light on the reason for the delay.

NITV has a budget of just under \$50 million over four years to buy, commission and broadcast Indigenous programming. Its partnerships with Pay TV giants Foxtel and Austar make it accessible to up to six million Australians.





Nyoongar Human Rights lawyer Hannah McGlade.

# Women push for WA kids' commissioner

By Perth correspondent KEN BOASE



AN Aboriginal women's group in Perth has called for the appointment of an Indigenous Children's Commissioner as a matter of urgency to fully uphold the recommendations of the 2002 Gordon Inquiry into domestic violence.

The group, headed by Nyoongar human rights lawyer Hannah McGlade, wants amendments to legislation to allow for the appointment, which was a key recommendation from the inquiry report.

The WA Government appointed Michelle Scott to the office of Children's Commissioner last October for a five-year term, but there has been no move to appoint a deputy who would also fill the role of Indigenous Children's Commissioner.

"It appears that the Commissioner does not recognise the importance of Aboriginal women's representation and Aboriginal women's knowledge of the issues at hand," Ms McGlade said.

"If we look back at why the Gordon Inquiry came about, it was a response to the very tragic death of a young Nyoongar girl, Susan Taylor, and the sort of abuse that she suffered and that so many young Nyoongar children, particularly young Nyoongar girls, suffer.

"That's why we have a Children's Commission and to now see it being set up as a body that does not reflect the needs of Aboriginal people let alone even include

Aboriginal people is highly disappointing and I think it's absolutely unacceptable."

Ms McGlade said that the Government had let the WA Aboriginal community down by ignoring the need for such an appointment, and also for ignoring the 'substantive equality' agreement with the WA Government signed in 2004.

## Specific needs

"Aboriginal children have their own specific needs and as Aboriginal people we have our own knowledge and understanding about the directions that are required to improve the safety for Aboriginal children.

"There was not proper consultation on that issue."

The Aboriginal Legal Service in WA (ALSWA) is considering a statement of support for an Indigenous Children's Commissioner.

CEO Dennis Eggington said the matter would be discussed at an executive meeting early this month.

He said the Commission had made some movement towards Aboriginal involvement with the appointment of a legal and policy advisor, giving three Aboriginal people employment out of a total staff of 18, and he had also been advised that it would be appointing an advisory board of Aboriginal young people to alert Commission authorities of the needs and priorities of Indigenous children.

The Commission for Children and Young People is an independent body that reports directly to the WA Parliament.

other Indigenous people throughout Australia.

Department of Veterans' Affairs Indigenous Liaison Officer Bob Noble said the event would let communities know what other Aboriginal people were doing to 'honour their warriors' who served in the forces in defence of their country. Immediately before the opening, a ceremony will be held at the Len Waters memorial in nearby Boggabilla, to honour the World War II RAAF pilot.

## Toomelah memorial will be first



THE first memorial dedicated to Australian Indigenous war veterans in Australia will be officially unveiled in Toomelah in far northern New South Wales

early next year.

Toomelah Elder and Vice President of the Moree National Service Association, Uncle Les Lang, says the opening on Friday, 20 February, will be a significant event for Toomelah and all

## Safe House – Palm Island

The Department of Child Safety has grant funding available for non-government organisations to provide placement and support services in the Indigenous community of Palm Island.

The purpose of this grant funding is to deliver a supervised residential care service, for six children or young people, and a related family intervention service. This service will provide safe places for children and young people who have entered the statutory child protection system, so that they are able to safely remain in their community while their longer-term needs are being assessed.

The functions required of the organisation, together with eligibility and assessment criteria, are set out in the Palm Island Safe House Grant Funding Information Paper, which can be accessed via the Department's website at

[www.childsafety.qld.gov.au/funding/calendar/index.html](http://www.childsafety.qld.gov.au/funding/calendar/index.html) or by telephone (07) 3224 4546.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Patricia Walsh, Manager Community Support Team, Northern Zone on (07) 4799 7943 for further information.

Funding submissions must be lodged by Monday 23 February 2009.



Queensland Government  
Department of Child Safety



Australian Government

Department of Families, Housing,  
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

## Request for Tender – Indigenous Leadership

Tender for Panel of Contractors to provide facilitation, delivery and development of course material for the Indigenous Leadership Program.

TENDER NO. FAHCSIA/08/RFT642

The Australian Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) invites suitably qualified organisations to tender for the provision of facilitation services to assist in delivering and developing information to Indigenous participants of the Indigenous Leadership Program and other Indigenous forums as a member of a Leadership Consultant Panel.

Tenderers will be required to supply facilitation and delivery services; and/or facilitation, delivery and development of training course material for the Indigenous Leadership Program.

Tenderers are able to apply to be appointed to one or both levels of the Panel. Panel levels are one (1) Facilitation and delivery and/or two (2) Facilitation, delivery and development of curriculum modules and lesson plans that meet the Indigenous Leadership Program's aims.

Organisations tendering for the Leadership Consultant Panel must have relevant training and facilitation qualifications and have experience in working with Indigenous audiences.

The time frame for the delivery of the above services will be for two years, with the option to extend for another year. The expected contract period will commence from February, 2009.

Tender documentation is available from the AusTender website at [www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au).

Tenderers should direct any questions regarding this RFT to:

Name: Leesa Burgess  
Title: A/g Assistant Director  
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs  
Box 7788 Canberra Mail Centre (Or relevant for STO's)  
Canberra ACT 2600

Tenders close at 2:00 pm Canberra local time (or relevant for STO's) on 22 December 2008.

### AUSTENDER

Address for lodgement of tender: Tender Box  
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs  
Module B Reception  
Tuggeranong Office Park  
Athlton Drive  
Tuggeranong ACT 2900

Location of work: All States and Territories



# Desert spirit in capital



THE spirit of the Northern Territory's Tanami Desert has been

brought to Canberra through artworks by Paddy Stewart Japaljarri now on exhibition in the national capital.

In opening the *Wati Jarra Jukurrpa* exhibition last week, Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin said the artworks formed a visual connection between other artworks in Canberra's Reconciliation Place.

"And it's a link between our landmark institutions – the High Court, Old Parliament House, the new National Portrait Gallery," she said.

"Over the years, artists,

designers and builders have made Reconciliation Place a site of cultural significance.

"So too, in the way he has lived his life and the art he has created, Paddy has contributed so much to the preservation and celebration of his culture.

"He comes from near Yuendumu, in the Tanami Desert. He is Chairman of the Warlukurlangu Artists Aboriginal Corporation, which is an internationally recognised art centre."

Ms Macklin said Mr Japaljarri was also a dedicated community man, teaching Aboriginal and 'kardiya' children, traditional skills including painting, jukurrpa (dreaming), tracking and

dancing at the Yuendumu school.

"These wonderful artworks are vivid evidence of Australia's great and ancient cultures – something all Australians should be proud of," she said.

At another function in Canberra the same day, Ms Macklin also launched *Written in the Land: the Life of Queenie McKenzie*, by Jennifer Joi Field.

The Minister acknowledged the contribution made by Argyle Diamonds – 'the first major company to make Aboriginal employment a priority' and a supporter of the book.

Ms Macklin also acknowledged the senior

women from Warmun, especially Peggy Patrick and Shirley Purdie.

"This book is a significant accomplishment," she said.

"It is not only a tribute to Queenie McKenzie – to Queenie as a painter, as a traditional Law woman and as a custodian of the Barramundi Dreaming site.

"It is also a celebration of the people and culture of the Kimberley, particularly the Warmun community.

"It is an oral history – in a beautifully printed format – of the love of country, the loss of land, and the rebuilding of culture. It celebrates the magnificence of the landscape and the unfolding of a major Aboriginal artist."



Aboriginal Elder Kevin Buzzacott.

Photo by Jessie Boylan

## Elder takes on mining heavyweight over water



AN Aboriginal Elder has taken on the big guns at BHP's annual general meeting to urge the mining giant to abandon plans to expand its Olympic Dam mine because it was taking 'sacred

water'. Kevin Buzzacott patiently waited for almost three hours for question time at BHP Billiton's AGM in Melbourne last Thursday when he stood up to the microphone and read out a prepared speech.

He politely addressed the board of the world's biggest miner, asking them to stop the planned expansion of the copper, gold and uranium mine in South Australia.

"Do not expand this mine. We do not want an open-cut mine; we do not want any more water taken out of the Great Artesian Basin; we want that to stop," Mr Buzzacott said.

He was supported by about 100 protesters who gathered on the Melbourne Park lawn outside the venue to oppose the expansion, which would make Olympic Dam one of the largest mines in the world.

### Negotiations

BHP Chief Executive Marcus Kloppers told Mr Buzzacott the company had been in negotiations for the past three years with Indigenous communities in the area.

"We have an agreement with main Aboriginal groups affected by the mine," he said.

"We appreciate your perspective but we are unable to agree to your request...."

Another shareholder, documentary film-maker David Bradbury, asked the board if it had done forward estimates on how much they would have to pay in future class actions for people, including mine workers, adversely affected by the mining.

Mr Kloppers told Mr Bradbury that BHP had undertaken rigorous environmental studies, running to many hundreds of pages, covering the impact of expanding mining at the Olympic Dam site.

BHP is planning to expand Olympic Dam with new open-pit operations in addition to the existing underground mine.

The protesters claimed the miner was legally able to over-ride important environmental legislation because of the South Australian Roxby Downs Indenture Act.

They tried to get their message across in a silent protest that included protesters dressed in anti-contamination wear standing on barrels supposedly filled with uranium.

They also had a five-piece band and a barbecue to make the day more of a fun outing than a hard-core, in-your-face, anti-nuclear demonstration that could turn shareholders against them. – AAP

# Fair success for Cape kids



SETs Consultant Naomi Hobson (right) helps an Aurukun parent to establish a student trust fund.



SUCCESSFUL book and toy fairs have been held in Aurukun, Hope Vale and Mossman Gorge over the past month, making hundreds of popular children's books and

educational toys available in the communities. Run by Cape York Partnerships, the fairs were used to promote the Student Education Trusts (SETs) project and featured 300 kids' books as well as teen and adult titles.

School uniforms and supplies were on hand to help parents prepare their kids for the next school year. Also on sale was a large range of educational toys including flash cards, wall charts, building blocks and Brainy Baby DVDs.

Young Indigenous leader and SETs

Consultant Naomi Hobson said the fairs gave Cape York families the opportunity to buy educational items to which they would otherwise not have access.

Meanwhile, the parents and carers of more than 120 Indigenous children across the three communities established a Student Education Trust (SET) to financially support their children's education from 'birth to graduation'.

### Process

The SETs process begins with donors depositing a fortnightly pre-calculated amount based on the age of the child into the child's SET account. The money then no longer belongs to the contributor, but sits within a trust for the child to be used for educational expenses.

"This is a great result and is a

testament to parents' commitment to their children's education," said Ms Hobson.

More than 450 educational items were sold across the three communities, with books accounting for 50 per cent of those items.

The fairs were held over three consecutive weeks beginning with Aurukun (27-30 October) followed by Hope Vale (3-7 November) and finally Mossman Gorge (10-14 November).

SETs forms part of the education component of the Cape York Welfare Reform trial in the communities of Mossman, Hope Vale, Coen and Aurukun, supporting the current generation of Cape York children in breaking the cycle of poor education, low expectations and aspirations and passive welfare dependency.



# Plea for languages

By KIRSTIE PARKER



THE Federation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages (FATSIL) is hoping a petition sent to the Federal Government will lead to an inquiry into Indigenous languages early next year and the development of a national Indigenous language policy.

The petition, bearing more than 500 signatures, expresses alarm at the rate of unchecked language loss in Australia.

"Over 250 vigorous and vibrant languages on record at the time of European arrival in Australia have been reduced to just 17 which are being transmitted naturally to younger members of their communities," it reads.

"Some other languages are still spoken fluently, but the vast majority are in varying states of decline and disrepair. There are also vigorous efforts across the country to maintain and revive languages, in some cases to re-introduce them after many decades of non-use.

"...In the debate and activity addressing Indigenous disadvantage, Indigenous languages have been overlooked. Language should be seen as a



FATSIL National Manager Paul Herbert (right) in Canberra on 12 November with MP Andrew Lamming, who is Deputy Chair of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, and Maria Williams, from Canberra.

pathway to education, to healthier and wealthier communities, not as a separate subordinate issue."

The petition also asks the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs to

develop a National Indigenous Languages Institute in order to strategically and coherently support the recognition, documentation, development, and usage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

It seeks more interpreting and translation services and expanded employment options recognising language knowledge and skills.

FATSIL National Manager Paul Herbert, who was principal petitioner, travelled to Canberra

last month and met with the Standing Committee's Deputy Chairperson, MP Andrew Lamming, MP Jim Turnour, and advisers to Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin, Arts Minister Peter Garrett and Opposition Indigenous Affairs spokesman Tony Abbott.

Mr Herbert said Mr Lamming was 'very supportive' of an inquiry into Indigenous languages.

"Talking with Mr Lamming in Canberra demonstrated how easily the cultural barriers can be bridged when there is an honest and open effort from both sides," he told *The Koori Mail*.

Mr Herbert also met with staff from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) to discuss ways the two organisations could work together.

Earlier in the month, he met with Standing Committee Chairperson Richard Marles at the MP's Geelong electorate.

Next week in Melbourne, Mr Herbert and Bruce Pascoe will give a keynote speech on Indigenous languages at the World Indigenous Peoples Conference: Education (WIPCE), which is expected to be attended by more than 3000 Australian and overseas educators and policy makers.

[www.familyviolence.vic.gov.au](http://www.familyviolence.vic.gov.au)

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IT'S NOW EASIER TO SAY**

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Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service	<b>1800 105 303</b>
Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service	<b>03 9419 3888</b>





# DANNY EASTWOOD'S VIEW



## Quote



**'We will never forget the suffering of these children'**

— NSW Minister Linda Burney speaking after the release of findings of an investigation into the Department of Community Services

● Full report on page 6

## Unquote

# Prescription for recovery

Last week, an Australian Medical Association (AMA) report card on Indigenous health reminded Australia how dire Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's health status remains.

"We are moving, I can see some traction, and we have to embrace that," AMA President Rosanna Capolingua said in Canberra.

"(But) when you look at Indigenous kids' health... there are pockets where a big difference is being made, and they would get an A, and then there are areas where I think an F might be too high a score.

"If you are talking about kids dying, there is no pass rate for that."

Of course, Dr Capolingua, whose support for Indigenous community controlled health services is commendable, was right.

So Saturday's announcement of nearly \$1.6 billion in new Commonwealth and State government funds to tackle the problem could not have come at a better time.

Global downturns will generally do that but there had also been a distinct cooling in relations between the Rudd Government and Indigenous communities in recent times.

Criticisms of a seemingly patchy consultation process for a new national Indigenous rep body, the continuation of discriminatory practices under the NT Intervention, and failure to formally endorse the United Nations Declaration



## OUR SAY

on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples had begun to take their toll.

Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma said as much in his recent assessment of Labor's performance in Indigenous affairs since its election a year ago.

However, the announcement of the kind of funds which can really begin to make a difference — while not Kevin Rudd's alone — will go some considerable way to redeeming his Government in the eyes of Indigenous communities.

The fact that all except the Western Australian Government are Labor undoubtedly made the weekend's consensus easier to achieve.

The trick now will be for all governments to ensure that Indigenous communities are properly involved in implementing plans not just on health but also on Indigenous housing, education, early childhood development, economic participation and service delivery.

And in regards to health, community controlled health services must be recognised for their unique skills and supported on the front line.

# A Yarn With...



## APRIL CLARKE

Melbourne, Vic  
Volunteer Co-ordinator  
World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education (WIPC:E)

Favourite bush tucker?  
Eel.

Favourite other food?  
Teppanyaki.

Favourite drink?  
Water.

Favourite music?  
The Band Texas.

Favourite sport?  
Boxing. Go Luke Maloney, a man who's doing a lot for boxing in Broadmeadows (Melbourne)!

What are you reading?  
*Peaceful Warrior*, by Dan Millman. It's a spiritual book about life's purpose.

Favourite holiday destination?  
Byron Bay, NSW.

What are you watching?  
*The Mentalist* on TV.

What do you like?  
Being alive. It's a gift.

What is your favourite memory?  
Being with my father, Alby Clarke, when he completed the Melbourne to Warrnambool cycle race. At age 70, he became the first Indigenous man to do it.

Who would you most like to meet?  
The singer Pink and the actor Queen Latifa.

Who do you look up to?  
My mother Jackie. She made me who I am today.

What would you do to help Indigenous people?  
Share knowledge, because knowledge is power. WIPC:E provides the opportunity to do this.

Koori Mail — 100 per cent Aboriginal-owned



# The Dreamer



Stephen Hagan

## HAGAN'S VIEW

● Stephen Hagan, 2006 NAIDOC Person of the Year, is an academic at the University of Southern Queensland, film-maker, award-winning author of *The N Word* and publisher of *Australia's Blackest Sporting Moments: The Top 100 and Melly and the Bilby*

● [www.stephenhagan.net](http://www.stephenhagan.net) and [www.ngalgawarralu-publishing.com.au/](http://www.ngalgawarralu-publishing.com.au/)

[hagan@koorimail.com](mailto:hagan@koorimail.com)

Eleanor Roosevelt (civil rights activist and wife of President Franklin D Roosevelt) once said: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

It would come as no surprise to the family of an upwardly mobile Indigenous business executive to find her immersed in the commercially surreal but burgeoning Middle East landscape when, as a young girl in rural Queensland, she informed them repeatedly of her dreams that constantly featured the eagle, sun and desert.

Today, Cheryl Gray, who heads up a communication team in a company in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, realises her childhood dream of seeing the eagle, sun and desert whenever she leaves behind her headquarters and climbs into her Hummer – paying a mere 20c a litre for fuel – to venture deep into the arid region of her adopted country.

Cheryl's spiritual connectedness is amply balanced by her steely resolve to achieve strategic success; staying focused in a cut-throat global business world littered with stories of those whose failure is symptomatic of inflated egos that didn't quite mirror their ability.

"There is no limit to where you can take your skills," says Cheryl. "You choose your own destiny and the world is so open



Cheryl Gray in her Hummer in the United Arab Emirates and, Inset, in an Abu Dhabi boardroom.

and is so small. I think nothing of getting on a plane for 10 hours or longer. Business is business the world over.

"If you can adapt to change and put up with the bureaucracy and paperwork of relocating countries, then why not?"

Cheryl loves the challenge of the business world that has seen her leading sizeable corporate teams in Sydney, London and now Abu Dhabi.

"I'm always looking for the next thing, the next job, and the next adventure," she says.

"After two years of the United Kingdom I was ready for another move and a warmer climate."

"There's something about the desert that has always captured my imagination. So the Middle East was a good choice for me."

Cheryl attributes the strong Kamilaroi genes of her maternal grandparents as providing her with the desire to engage in walk-about (metaphorically speaking) mode every couple of years when seeking out new work challenges.

Cheryl's Kamilaroi grandparents Eric (Mulga) and Dot Lesley met and married on their traditional country at Quirindi, western NSW, before Les took up a job on the waterfront in Sydney. It was in Sydney that Dot, a fair Koori woman with blue eyes, would routinely fill out applications for house rentals on a gut feeling that she had a far greater chance of success in securing accommodation than her husband with darker complexion.

Unfortunately for the besotted newlyweds, their initial concern was justified when the landlord made an unannounced house inspection early into their contract and with utter dismay

found Les at home resting on his day off.

Sure the contract identified Les as her husband, but having not seen him previously the bigoted landlord assumed his ethnicity to be European.

Instantly and without any compassion, the couple were banished from their modest premises after being told that Les's type 'did not represent the wholesome renters they sought for their tenancy list'.

Appalled by their inability to fulfil their rental contract, Les and Dot packed up their belongings and travelled as far away as possible from their painful experience in Sydney for a brighter and less prejudiced life in Queensland.

### Sturdy

A makeshift but sturdy galvanised tin hut on the Yumba fringe camp on the sandhills near Charleville, south-west Queensland, became the Lesleys' new residential address after Sydney.

It was at this serene location that Eric and Dot felt welcome and comfortable amongst hundreds of other displaced Traditional Owners who also called this discrete community home.

Later in life, Eric and Dot's daughter Robyn had two children, Cheryl and Sharon, but after her divorce she set sail for New Zealand. Cheryl and her elder sister Sharon were young (three and five) at the time, but eventually returned to Queensland soon after Sharon gave birth to Neenah.

Although her family and relatives on both sides still live in Toowoomba today, I get the feeling, after talking to this

ambitious jet-setting, adventure-seeking lady with farming land interests in Tasmania, that they will have to contend with intermittent contact with her in the years to come, or travel to her new international work location – as sister Sharon and niece Neenah intend doing next year.

Cheryl tells me she loves nothing better than to travel the world on holidays seeking new adventures. Favourites to date include Scotland 'for the fabulous fly fishing on offer,' and South Africa, where she has fallen in love with 'the stillness and beauty of safari parks and of seeing untamed animals up close in the wild'.

This corporate high-flyer was a wild child herself in her teenage years, despite having left school at 14. Cheryl quickly gained casual employment and developed good work habits at Hungry Jacks and Pizza Hut to pay her way in life.

Cheryl would often confide in her elder sister Sharon of her plans for the future and of doing something meaningful with her life. She even discussed her role models back then. They were: "Every kid at school who was smarter, every person who got a job or promotion over me, every girl who was able to dress nicer than me and a few deeply happy people who have a confident sense of kindness and humility."

Today, Cheryl reflects on her high school days – that were undeniably challenging – and identifies vivid memories of 'making heaps of friends and entrepreneurially doing haircuts for the girls at school behind the sports grandstand'.

Girl Guides also featured in Cheryl's small list of wonderful

adolescent stories of the past. She insists her Girl Guide years provided practical bush survival skills that serve her well today.

"The smell of eucalyptus on a crisp morning is one of the things I miss most while living abroad," she says.

"We belong to the Kamilaroi clan. Just as our ancestors did, I find total inner peace and strength from the land, away from the bustle of city and business life."

Following the lead of her big sister Sharon, who was doing an undergraduate degree in her home town of Toowoomba, Cheryl sat a test to gain admission to the University of Southern Queensland and several years later realised her dream by graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in journalism.

After stints as a cadet journalist at the Gold Coast Sun and Gold Coast Bulletin, Cheryl moved to Sydney where she eventually found her niche in information technology.

Away from work, Cheryl unwinds by reading a good book, writing poetry or just climbing into her Hummer and heading out into the desert.

"Abu Dhabi has so much amazing landscape," she says.

At present, Cheryl is reading *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, by Khaled Hosseini, the same author who wrote *The Kite Runner*.

"It's about life as a woman in Afghanistan. I have a friend who spends a lot of time in Afghanistan, raising money for orphanages. This book is a real eye-opener," she confesses.

"I thank my lucky stars that I was born an Australian where women have so much freedom."

Cheryl says she would like to see young Indigenous people – especially girls – pursue a career in the corporate world abroad. Her advice to anyone wanting to go down that path is to 'get a good mentor who can guide and help you – don't expect special treatment as an Indigenous Australian; focus on your skills; and just be really very good at what you do'.

And when Cheryl finds herself missing her mob on the other side of the globe, she thinks of her Kamilaroi roots and they keep her grounded.

"It makes me remember where I am from, why I am like I am, why I dream, why I will never let anyone tell me I can't have something or be someone," she says.

"I take an immense sense of pride in my heritage because it has given me a backbone, thick skin and ability to walk tall."

And what does the future hold for this Kamilaroi dreamer who finally found her eagle, sun and desert in the Middle East?

I guess the answer lies somewhere in the lines of Eleanor Roosevelt's famous quote: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."



# Sudden tragedy, and how we cope with such terrible loss

**H**ELLO, I hope you, your family and communities are doing well. I come to you from a very unfortunate place this week; sadly, in the last few days, my home town experienced the death of one of our young people and a good friend of mine.

The loss of a loved one is such a terrible thing. It is a sudden tragedy that is permanent and it sparks so many emotions in everyone who knew the person.

As a young adult who has in the past year lost two friends, I have been thinking, my goodness why is this happening? How unfair!

But what can we do, I suppose? Death is an inevitable part of life. At one time or another we have all lost a friend, a family or community member and it can be very hard and an emotional roller-coaster.

When I hear of someone passing on that I know or who is close to my family, my stomach starts to knot. I get a sudden rush of emotions, feel anxious and sad. From my experience as a health worker and as a black woman – death is a crisis that will always rock our little communities. But Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander people are very resilient, we are very strong, we have warmth and an understanding of loss.

It is always sad when attending to sorry business, and we often look to the silver-lining of what has happened.

But it is hard, and people struggle to do so. I struggle to do it.

How can we look forward to life after we have just committed a friend to the earth?

## Memories

How can life go on for someone who has just lost a mother, a father, husband, wife, brother or sister? Someone who has been a companion, who has shared so many memories and made a life together?

How do we do this? We just do, I guess, because the rising and the setting of the sun does not stop – life continues, just like it always has.

But we never forget the loved one we have just lost or all the loved ones over time that we have lost. How could we?

I don't know if this happens to anyone

else – it probably does – but when someone I know passes on, I start to think about all the times I spent with that person – all the memories I made with them and the funny yarns I heard about them.

It's a time to share memories and reflect upon the life that a person lived.

What I have noticed in our communities is that we never talk about what a person had or what they didn't have, and that is wonderful and encouraging. We just celebrate them and their presence in our family and community life.

On a final note, I would like to say to the many families or communities who have just lost someone: Be strong, call on your family and friends for support through this tough time, remember all the good times you shared with your loved one and celebrate their life.

Finally, I dedicate this column to a very dear friend of mine, Luke Warraweena. May you rest in peace and look over all your family and friends.

Will always miss, think of and love you.



**DIXIE CRAWFORD**

dixie@koorimail.com

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**NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service**

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

### Nominations for the Deriah Aboriginal Area Co-Management Committee

The National Parks and Wildlife Service is inviting Elders and Aboriginal community representatives to nominate for the Deriah Aboriginal Area Co-Management Committee. Deriah Aboriginal Area was gazetted as a Community Conservation Area Zone 2 (Aboriginal Area) in December 2005 under the Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Act 2005.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service support connection to Country of Aboriginal people and wish to involve local Aboriginal people with knowledge and connection to the area, in issues concerning the protection of Aboriginal heritage and other management issues in Deriah Aboriginal Area.

Nomination forms are available from the NPWS Narrabri Area office, 100 Maitland St Narrabri or by telephoning 6792 7300. If you wish to nominate or would like more information please contact Darren Pitt, Narrabri Area Manager, or Craig Trindall, Cultural Heritage Division at the Narrabri Area Office.

Nominations close on 24 December 2008.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is now part of the Department of Environment and Climate Change.

Department of Environment & Climate Change NSW



# Palm Island, you beauty!

Story and photos by ALF WILSON



PALM Island may have a troubled past, but the natural beauty of the north Queensland

Aboriginal community is as enchanting as ever.

Some of the recreational activities that Palm youth enjoy on and around their beloved home would be the envy of many around Australia.

The Koori Mail was on Palm Island for the island's recent rodeo, the first in 32 years, and the beach and waters around the local jetty were a hive of activity.

Some local youth rode towards the jetty on tamed brumby horses, which they had caught in the hills of Palm.

"We are going for a swim and you should take our photo," one of the youth sang out.

To the left of the jetty some kids and a couple of adults were enjoying a cool swim in shade, and then a small boat pulled up after a day of fishing in the blue waters.

The jetty was jam-packed with people waiting to go back to Townsville after the rodeo. They could see scores



Youths on tamed wild horses make their way to the Coral Sea at Palm Island.



Youth and horses splash around off Palm Island.

of youth swimming in the shallow waters near the council building side of the jetty from which most had jumped or dived.

It was easy to see why Australian rugby league Test and Melbourne Storm star

Greg Inglis did just that on a visit to Palm towards the end of the 2008 NRL season.

Then youths rode their brumbies bareback into the sea as the people on the jetty looked on. The horses seemed to enjoy the

experience as much as the youths.

Then another boat arrived at the ramp and the occupants had a healthy catch of coral trout on board.

One tourist who had visited Palm for the rodeo was Melbourne retiree Jim Stock, who said that the island was a paradise.

"I have read in papers and seen on television so much negative news about Palm Island, but this is truly one of the most beautiful places on earth," Mr Stock said.

"To me, it's a hidden paradise. Not many people know about it."

The Palm Island Council is looking at supporting tourism and fishing ventures, and nature has provided the ingredients.

Unemployment is a major problem on the island, but the youths who catch and tame the wild horses may have unwittingly secured themselves job prospects.

Many visitors at the island's recent job expo and at the rodeo remarked that such horse skills were sought after by employers on stations throughout Queensland and the Northern Territory who wanted ringers, cowboys, jackaroos and jillaroos.

Hope still has a place in Palm Island's future.





# Where is our own Obama?

Where is our Aboriginal Obama? This question has been asked many times since that magic day on 4 November 2008 when Democrat Barack Obama became the first black American to be elected President of the United States of America.

A number of Australians are now asking who will be the first Aboriginal man or woman in Australia to rise to such a high position in politics. While many of us are left wondering, perhaps we should take a moment to reflect on a few things.

Firstly, it should be pointed out that the original people of the United States are Native Americans. Barack Obama is African-American. While not belittling this historic and inspiring occasion, or the oratory powers of Obama, perhaps a better question to ask would be 'who will be the first Native American President?'

Comparing the first African-American President with a future Aboriginal Prime Minister is worthwhile, but it is a little off the mark. A far more accurate comparison would be between Aboriginal leaders and Native American leaders, of whom very few have risen to political heights.

In Australia, two Aboriginal men have been prominent politicians (Neville Bonner and Aden Ridgeway). Several other Aboriginal men and women have held, or currently hold, ministerial positions in State and Territory governments.

In comparison, in the United States to date, Charles Curtis, from the Kaw Reservation, has been the highest placed Native American in Federal Government. He was the 31st Vice-President of



US President-elect Barack Obama

the United States of America in 1930s under President Herbert Hoover. This political achievement is a very important milestone in world history that is rarely taught. Its significance should never be underestimated.

Why African-Americans have achieved more politically than Native Americans or Aboriginal

Australians is an interesting question. Is it because of the oratory powers of people like Martin Luther King who drove the civil rights movement, or is it due to the militant efforts of people such as Malcolm X?

Some people may say that militant African-Americans were prepared to fight and die for their

recognition and equality, while other minority groups around the world have not been ready to fight or die. Perhaps in Australia, some of us have been too divided to achieve solidarity or have been too focused on being the 'victim' to inspire and empower our people to greatness.

Perhaps the reason that so many African-Americans and Native Americans have risen to political prominence is because they took up the opportunities that they were given and made the most of these opportunities.

Maybe it was because the civil rights movement in America saw the establishment of a 'knowledge nation' of university-educated black people that led to employment in prominent positions in society where they could influence change.

Regardless of the barriers in Australia, we can overcome them. In Australia we have some catching up to do before our country has an Aboriginal Obama.

But can we achieve this milestone?

By supporting other Aboriginal people who have political aspirations to better the whole of Australia — YES WE CAN!

NEIL WILLMETT\*  
Brisbane, Qld

*\*Neil Willmet is an Aboriginal businessman and a regular facilitator in the Commonwealth Government Indigenous Men's Leadership Program. He will be attending Barack Obama's Inauguration Day celebrations in Washington on 20 January 2009 to watch Obama become the 44th President of the United States.*

## YOUR POETRY

### Guilt

I got up this morning and guilt met  
me face to face  
I opened up my cupboard  
It had everything in place  
Guilt had put money in my bank  
account  
While I slept through the night,  
And guilt was giving me a job to do  
So everything was right.

Guilt picked me up for work in a  
bright new shining car  
And it was coming for the missus  
So she did not walk too far  
Guilt fixed up her blood sugar  
And kidney problem too  
At the local AMS  
Oh did you know guilt built that too?

Guilt paid my daughter Abstudy  
So we could have a feed  
Oh she'll probably get a pair of  
shoes  
'Cos guilt don't fit the need

Guilt earns me a good living but I  
move around a lot  
I have to go to CDEP and then I go  
to DoCS  
I hit the local Salvos and St Vinnie's  
too  
And I even got a blanket  
Thought it had a hole or two.

My cousin don't believe in guilt. He  
lives a different life  
He went to TAFE and studied  
He ain't even got a wife  
He says we need our land back first  
So he can make it right.

He's working on some plan to get a  
business and some land  
He says we need economy  
The time is near at hand  
And if his mob gets hungry  
He takes them to the beach  
Or grabs a gun and shoots a roo  
He says there's food at hand

His mob don't get so sick you know,  
They walk around a lot  
And when I say you'll get old quick  
He simply answers, not

He's pretty fit, my brother,  
But his cash is not in hand  
And he seems to study late at night  
Which I don't understand  
His kids are all called Pemulwuy  
and Jandamarra too  
And they speak a lot of lingo  
And hardly ever blue  
And when they're sick or hungry,  
they eat bush tucker too.

They don't care about the  
whitefellas, or his politics and gain,  
They're working on their own they  
say  
We are here to rule the land  
They mostly don't drink alcohol,  
They haven't got the time  
So I don't know how they get happy  
There's no reason and no rhyme.

They do a lot of dancing and they  
sing in lingo too  
And they talk about corroboree  
And play the didgeridoo  
Friend guilt is not a friend to them  
Like he's a friend to me

And sometimes in the dead of night  
I too dream of being free.

SHARON LIVERMORE  
Kempsey, NSW

## 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. We try to fit in as many reader contributions as we can. You can help us by making sure that your letters are 400 words or less and poems generally no more than 25 medium-length lines. We'd prefer letters and poems to be even shorter;

this will increase your chances of being published.

Also, 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 that 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.

Lastly, remember too that 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.

— EDITOR



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The Editor, PO Box 117,  
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The address is:  
editor@koorimail.com

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.



# In memory of 'Anno'

We write in memory of our son, a young man who touched many hearts, and whose memory will live on at Manning Hospital (Taree, northern New South Wales), where he spent most of his time in his last year.

Anthony Avery Jnr, known to many as Anno, was just 26 when he lost his battle with bowel cancer in September.

We appreciated the way hospital staff treated our son and have since donated five Aboriginal artworks to hang in the emergency department, oncology and several levels of the hospital, along with a plaque to go under each to honour our son.

The plaque reads: *An amazing sportsman, lovable, joyful, respectful young man with a message - Listen to your patients.*

Our son was not telling people how to do their jobs but to do it the way he found it to be less painful and more bearable.

Manning Hospital General Manager Tim Mooney and other representatives from the hospital made a special trip to our family home for the presentation, which was also attended by family and friends.

Mr Mooney told us the artworks were a wonderful gift and said the hospital would have a great deal of pride displaying them in Anthony's memory at the hospital.

"We also hope it might help other Aboriginal people feel more comfortable in the hospital and that we care for them as much as anyone else," he said.

Rachel Pitt, representing the oncology staff who treated Anthony, also attended.

She said hospital staff would not forget Anthony, that he had touched a lot of hearts and that his message of listening to the patients was very powerful.

The artworks were painted and donated by family friend Terry Johnstone, from Tobwabba Art.

All of them have special meaning and



The donated artworks in memory of Anthony Avery Jnr held by, from left, Judy Aird, Tim Mooney (Manning Hospital), Mirinda Avery, Emma Spicer, Anthony Avery Snr, Clayton Avery, David Norling, Andrew Woolard, Rachel Pitt (Manning Hospital), Inga Kasch (Manning Hospital), and Michelle Wilkes from Community Health.

were chosen for each department for a reason.

For example, the one for the Emergency Department, titled *Working Together*, includes a black-and-white chain that represents Anthony connecting with others and black-and-white hands that represent

Aboriginal People that will go to oncology represents the healthy food you eat when you have cancer.

*Trails and campsites* represents people sitting around the campfire (people sitting around in hospital beds), *Boomerang Food Weapon* is also about food, and *Aboriginal*

We ask that people buy a bandanna to help raise money for CanTeen, which assists young people with or affected by cancer, because you never know who it will happen to. The bandannas are available at most supermarkets.

Anthony didn't smoke, drink alcohol or do drugs and yet he ended up with bowel cancer. During his life, he represented Australia at touch football at under 18 and 21 levels, North Coast in rugby league and also showed prowess in AFL. He is survived by us, his brothers Clayton and Aden, and his daughter Britney.

**Anthony didn't care about people's colour, but he was proud of his colour.**

people coming from two different cultures.

The Emergency Department is the first point of contact and is white and black together. Anthony didn't care about people's colour, but he was proud of his colour.

And the artwork *Past and Present*

*Serenity* includes mountains. Anthony loved to look at the mountains and could see them from his hospital bed. We will present a sixth artwork, *Bush Food, Bush Tucker*, to Anthony's doctor Colin Rose, to hang in his Chatham surgery.

**ANTHONY AVERY SNR and MIRINDA AVERY**  
Taree, NSW



[www.stkildafestival.com.au/YalukitWilamNgargee](http://www.stkildafestival.com.au/YalukitWilamNgargee)

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People Place Gathering St Kilda Old Man Sun

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## MARUMALI PROGRAM

Accredited training to increase the quality of support available for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander survivors of removal policies.

The Marumali program offers a unique, original & unparalleled model of healing developed & delivered by Lorraine Peeters, a survivor herself.

Marumali Circle of Healing  
Program (5 days)  
Registration fee: \$ 1650

- GOLD COAST 16 - 20 February 2009
- MELBOURNE 2-6 March 2009
- PERTH 20-24 April 2009
- GOLD COAST 16-22 May 2009

Marumali Risk Management  
for Workers (2 days)  
Registration fee: \$800

- GOLD COAST 20-21 July 2009
- GOLD COAST 23-24 July 2009

On successful completion of both courses, participants gain competency against unit HLTAW402A Assess & Support Client's Social & Emotional Wellbeing. Delivered in association with AHMRC's Aboriginal Health College.

Early bird and discounted packages available for purchase.

Contact Shaan on 07 55905866 for registration forms  
or email: [winangali@hunterlink.net.au](mailto:winangali@hunterlink.net.au)  
or visit the website for more info:

[www.marumali.com.au](http://www.marumali.com.au)



## The ugly truth regarding the NT Intervention

THE Federal Government's response to some key recommendations issued by an independent review panel that examined the impact of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) reveals a disturbing 'unauthenticity' in our approach to achieving everlasting reconciliation and is evidence that ulterior motives simmer beneath the surface of supposed goodwill.

Born out of political desperation by a failing Howard Government and given bipartisan support by an equally conservative and conniving Opposition, the Intervention has highlighted the impotence of our desire to achieve social justice for the First People of this land.

It is astonishing and deeply concerning that the Government has shown a profound lack of urgency in response to the recommendations. It parallels the deplorable actions of the previous Government that failed to implement any of the recommendations submitted in *The Little Children Are Sacred* report – the very document upon which the Intervention was instigated.

Despite the mountain of evidence to support the advice outlined in these reports, the suggestions are spurned by the Government as it belligerently pursues its own agenda.

The network of problems is complex enough without the Government refusing to act on advice that is supplied to them by experts in this field.

(Former Prime Minister) John Howard might blush with pride as his legacy is living in the despicable manner the Rudd Government continues to violate the rights of Aboriginal Australians.

### Refusals

Since taking the reins of leadership, Kevin '07 has refused to sign the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; refused to offer any form of compensation to members of the Stolen Generations; overseen the continued suspension of the Racial Discrimination Act; and continued to explore the feasibility of a nuclear waste dump in close proximity to three targeted communities.

Statistics released in May revealed that of the 7433 children examined by doctors, only 39 had been referred to authorities for suspected abuse.

It seems the real national emergency is not the welfare of sexually abused Aboriginal children, but the welfare of our burgeoning economy: The all-encompassing struggle to escape the wrath of the global financial crisis.

And what better way to achieve this aim than to extract prized minerals from the land; even if the land isn't yours.

It has been reported that the Government is threatening to discontinue the development of new housing and infrastructure if communities refuse to extend the five-year compulsory acquired leases out to 40-plus years.

The smokescreen dissipates and suddenly all is clear.

The Intervention is not about helping Australia's most oppressed minority – it is about seizing control of mineral-rich Aboriginal land through a process of disempowerment and deceit.

True engagement with Aboriginal communities is dangerous because it may plant the seeds of social justice. And in the eyes of the Government this cannot be. For if Aboriginal Territorians based in remote locations are given back their dignity and the chance to live a semi-traditional lifestyle, in no way will their existence enhance our GDP.

Therein lies the ugly truth.

JONATHAN HILL  
Old Erowal Bay, NSW



A scene from February's national anti-Intervention rally in Canberra.

Advertisement



Australian Government

## Economic Security Strategy Financial Assistance Payments

### Are you eligible for a lump sum payment?

From 8-19 December 2008, the Australian Government will provide lump sum payments as part of the Economic Security Strategy, in response to the global financial crisis.

You are entitled to a lump sum payment if you received one of the following payments on 14 October 2008:

- Age Pension
- Disability Support Pension
- Carer Payment
- Wife or Widow B Pension
- Partner, Widow or Bereavement Allowance
- Veterans' Income Support Supplement
- Veterans' Affairs Service Pension.

You are also eligible if, on 14 October 2008 you:

- held a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- held a Veterans' Affairs Gold Card and were eligible for Seniors Concession Allowance
- were of Age Pension age and received Parenting Payment, Special Benefit, Austudy or ABSTUDY Living Allowance.

If you received an eligible payment or held an eligible concession card, you will receive \$1,400 for singles or \$1,050 for each eligible member of a couple.

In addition, if you were entitled to Carer Allowance on 14 October 2008, you will receive \$1,000 for each eligible person in your care.

Families will receive a lump sum payment if, on 14 October 2008, they:

- were entitled to Family Tax Benefit Part A (FTB Part A) or
- had a dependent child/children attracting Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY Living Allowance, or an education allowance under the Veterans' Children Education Scheme or the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme and did not attract FTB Part A.

Families will receive a payment of \$1,000 for each eligible child in their care.

You do not need to do anything to receive your payment.

In most cases, it will be automatically paid to your bank account during the fortnight 8-19 December 2008 and a letter sent to you confirming the payment.

If you do not receive your payment by 22 December 2008 and you think you may be eligible, call Centrelink.

Centrelink Retirement Services 13 2300  
Centrelink Disability, Sickness and Carers 13 2717  
Family Assistance Office 13 6150  
Department of Veterans' Affairs 13 3254

[www.australia.gov.au/ESSpayments](http://www.australia.gov.au/ESSpayments)  
For a free brochure call 1800 050 009

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ESSPT11/6





MICHAEL MANSELL

## It's a tragedy

Neither (Prime Minister) Kevin Rudd nor (Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister) Jenny Macklin have done a single thing about returning land to Aboriginal people, or opened up dialogue about Aboriginal government in preference to advisory bodies.

The imprisonment rates

are still ten times higher for blacks than whites, and education standards of our children are dismal no matter how they are measured.

While (mining companies) Fortescue and Rio Tinto pull billions from the Pilbara, the traditional owners look on, ignored as owners and left to beg for funds from Canberra.

As long as Jenny Macklin keeps blaming powerless Aborigines for our plight, accusing us of being child abusers, drunks and dysfunctional, nothing will change. It is a human rights tragedy that keeps unfolding.

MICHAEL MANSELL  
Launceston, Tas

## YOUR POETRY



Glenn Morrison, who recently retired as Principal at Dubbo West Public School, NSW, with Junior AECG members Ted Ebsworth and Trey Doolan.

## School Mates\*

Forty years in education  
What an awesome claim!  
You're a friend of Black Australia too  
Us mob know your name  
You're humble and approachable  
You've helped create real change  
Not having you around  
Already feels so strange

You've touched so many young Australian lives

In such a positive way  
Yet everything must end  
And you're calling it a day  
I hope you won't forget  
The bridges you've constructed  
With Indigenous Australians  
Or the children you've instructed

Friendship can last forever  
Can outlast the best career  
To us mob you're a brother  
Somebody we hold dear  
Nothing changes Glenn  
After you retire  
'Us mob' think the world of you  
And you're welcome at our fire.

FRANK J DOOLAN (RIVERBANK FRANK)  
by email

\*This poem was submitted by Dubbo West Public School Aboriginal Education Officer Leigh Fieldsend. Frank J Doolan is a member of the local AECG.

## The Black Man's Pain

Since you set foot upon this land  
Our culture has slowly died  
You raped our women and killed our men  
Through our children we will survive  
As time goes by, we will grow strong  
The black man will live again  
We have lived your way and fought  
your wars  
And the black man is still in pain  
For we are proud people of this land  
And that you will never change  
You say you're Sorry for the wrongs you  
have done  
But that will never heal the pain  
So stand tall and strong, you proud  
black man  
Never bow your head in shame  
For you are the first man to walk this land  
So you should never feel ashamed.

R J QUAYLE  
Menindee, NSW

\*The author of this poem is a Barkingindji man from Menindee in far western New South Wales. He reports that he wrote this poem while watching an ABC TV show about Captain Cook, featuring a re-enactment of Cook's first encounter with the First Australians. His poem came equal third out of 121 entries in the Bridge Foundation Literacy Competition.

## HEALTH ADVERTISEMENT YOU'VE GOT TO MOVE IT!

**W**e all know about the health problems in our community – obesity, diabetes, heart and kidney disease, cancer – but there's nothing you can do about it, right?

Wrong! There is plenty you can do to help build a healthier community, and it all starts with you leading a healthier lifestyle.

### MORE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY MEANS BETTER HEALTH.

#### How can my lifestyle make a difference?

While we can't always stop ourselves from getting sick, if you eat healthy food, drink plenty of water and are physically active, you'll be more likely to live a long and healthy life.

A healthy lifestyle can help protect you from sicknesses like obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart and kidney disease, some cancers and other health problems. So if you start leading a healthier lifestyle, and encourage your friends and family to do the same, you're helping to build a healthier community – today, tomorrow and into the future.

#### More physical activity means better health

Olympic silver medal-winner Rohanee Cox certainly knows how important regular physical activity is, and not just for her own health and well-being.

"It's important for me to stay in top shape and be healthy for my team," she says.



"But it's even more important for me to be healthy for my daughter."

"As a parent, I know how important it is to make sure my daughter is healthy. This means making sure she eats well and gets enough physical activity, but it also means making sure I set the right example by living a healthy life as well."

#### How much physical activity do I need?

Getting enough physical activity is an important part of a healthy lifestyle, but you don't need to be training for hours a day. All you need is at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most or all days of the week. Moderate physical activity can be a brisk walk, a swim, a bike ride, mowing the lawn or even some vigorous housework!

You can even break up your physical activity into smaller periods. For instance, walk the kids to school in the morning, and then walk to pick them up again in the afternoon. (If you're pregnant, have been previously inactive or suffer from a medical condition, you should check with your doctor or health worker before doing vigorous physical activity.)

By making a few small changes – like playing a game of footy with the kids after school or walking to the shops instead of driving – you are making a big difference to you and your family's health.

"These small changes can make a real difference," Rohanee says. "Get into the habit of being more active, and you'll soon be feeling the benefits."

"You'll also be helping to build a healthier tomorrow – for ourselves, for our kids and for our community."

Tomorrow People starts today  
Do it for our kids. Do it for our culture

Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra.

TOMORROW PEOPLE  
Australian Better Health Initiative  
a joint Australian, State and Territory Government initiative

For more information on how you can start building a healthier tomorrow, go to [www.australia.gov.au/tomorrowpeople](http://www.australia.gov.au/tomorrowpeople)





A section of the crowd at the Armidale Cultural Centre celebrations on 22 November.



Former Cultural Centre Chairperson Steve Widders with the commemorative artwork he unveiled.

# Bridging the gap

## Armidale celebration proves a drawcard

**NSW** SEVERAL hundred people from northern New South Wales and beyond turned out for a major celebration to mark the 20th anniversary of Armidale and District's Aboriginal Cultural Centre and Keeping Place.

Bridging the gap was the theme for the celebration at the northern NSW city, in the heart of Anaiwan country.

Cultural Centre Director Daisy William was more than pleased with the event, which featured live entertainment, dancing, bush tucker, kids' activities and displays.

A central feature was the



Sisters (from left) Helen Vale, of Armidale, and Margaret Whitfield and Diana McGuinness, both of Glen Innes, at the *In Living Memory* exhibition.

photographic exhibition *In Living Memory*, which has 1000 black-and-white photographs from the official records of the former NSW Aborigines Welfare Board.

A local version of the display was also on show, attracting plenty of interest.

Special guests included renowned Indigenous photographer Merv Bishop,



Margaret Walford with her grand-daughter Keira Walford, both of Armidale, with a display about the Walford-Kelly family from the northern NSW region.

former Keeping Place Chairperson Steve Widders, who unveiled a 20th anniversary commemoration display area, and NSW Parliament Speaker and local

State MP Richard Torbay. The Cultural Centre and Keeping Place is on a large area and features a gallery and catering facilities. It attracts many visitors.



ABOVE: From left, Nicholas Levy, of Armidale, Zane and Rex Deke, of Glen Innes, and Brian Irving, of Guyra, were there.



LEFT: Annette Waters, of Moree, with her children Jeanette and Brandon, with an historic picture of Mrs Water Aunty Dawn Whaddy.



Members of the Mahmmod family were among the many interested non-Indigenous people at the celebration.





A welcome from Marie Taylor. Photo courtesy of the City of Fremantle



Richard Walley plays the didgeridoo. Photo courtesy of the City of Fremantle

# Thousands at Freo fest

Story by KEN BOASE  
Photos by ALITA BOASE



SEVERAL thousand people attended the annual Wardarnji festival in Fremantle on 15 November, one of the biggest Indigenous celebrations on the Perth calendar.

Arts and crafts and information stalls added a solid backdrop to the event, which included the Children's Nyoongar Circus, entertainment from a line-up of top bands and dancing displays and competition from five of Perth's top dance troupes.

The festival, which gets its name from the Wardandi Nyoongar people of the south-west of WA, was started in 1993 by a group of non-Aboriginal people wanting to celebrate Indigenous culture.

The festival's predecessor was a traditional celebration amongst local Nyoongar families in the Fremantle area, but the Wardarnji has grown in popularity and is attended by Aboriginal people from across Australia.

Wardarnji is also a popular tourist attraction, with many overseas tourists having their first contact with First Nations Australians, and for local non-Aboriginal people wanting to celebrate the culture.

Festival organiser Dave Chesson, who is an Indigenous Development Officer with the City of Fremantle, says the event is second only in size and popularity to the Survival Day concert on 26 January, and is



Adrian Ugle performing the Waitch (Emu) dance.

also an important part of the statewide festival calendar.

"The Aboriginal community is part of the rich and vital tapestry that is Fremantle," he said before the event.

"This part of the festival is a chance for Aboriginal people to celebrate and share their knowledge and cultural heritage with

the wider community and welcome everyone to participate in their celebrations."

The festival highlight was a final performance where dancers demonstrated their talents on a specially prepared corroboree ground of coloured sands before inviting other festival-goers to join in.



The Magic Monkeyz Nyoongar Circus was a hit.



Some of the displays and wares at the fest.



Children at the Partnership, Acceptance, Learning, Sharing (PALS) Awards which opened the fest. Photo: City of Fremantle.



Nyoongar yorga dance troupe Kwarbah Djookian.



The band No Shame and dance troupe Common Ground on the stage.



Dancers demonstrate their talent before inviting audience members to join in at the end of the festival.



# Beach life to benefit from clean-up days



**VISITORS** from Papua New Guinea joined locals in a clean-up of beaches on Erub (Darnley) Island, in the eastern Torres Strait last month.

The PNG visitors joined about 100 other volunteers in the first Erubam le (Erub family) BeachWatch clean-up day which organisers say will be held monthly.

Erubam le Turtle and Dugong Management Project Officer Eddie Sailor said attendance was great and it was only going to get bigger.

"It's one of our programs that is being created to ensure that we manage our marine turtle and dugong conservation and sustain them for future traditional and personal use," he said.

Mr Sailor said the idea was to clean up beaches and dispose of rubbish, which included plastic products, cans, tins, ghost

nets and other debris that may harm marine species.

"It is commonly known that turtles mistakenly eat rubbish that has been thrown overboard from vessels or washed out from beach communities and often die due to suffocation or blockages in their digestive system, amongst other forms of death arising from the eating of non-biodegradable rubbish," he said.

Marine species could also become tangled up in discarded ghost nets which then resulted in a slow and painful death, he said.

Mr Sailor has held meetings with the principal and teachers of Tagai College - Erub Island Campus to discuss the concept of getting the school children, staff and community members together to volunteer their time and energy to clean up Darnley's beaches.

"The staff members were really keen to be involved and said they would pass on

the request to the children, who in turn, were also very eager to help," he said.

"Community notices were sent out via mailboxes and the feedback was that this program was much needed, welcomed and would be supported by the Erubam le community."

Mr Sailor said the clean-up was supported by North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA), the Clean Up Australia organisation, Torres Strait Regional Authority's Land and Sea Management Unit, Seim Village Store, Erub Island Primary Health Care Centre staff, Erub Island Council Manager Daisy Ketchell, traditional visitors from Papua New Guinea, Erub Island Council Receptionist Mary Waigana, Tagai College Erub Island Campus principal, staff and students and Erubam le community volunteers.

The next clean-up day will be held on 13 December.



Cleaning up ... (from left), Dalah Sam, a PNG Traditional Visitor, and Erub Island Council Manager Daisy Ketchell at Dadamud Village Beach. The first Erubam le beach clean-up day on 15 November was such a success it will now be a monthly event.



## "YES YOU CAN"

### STILL ENROL TO STUDY IN 2009!

# KOORI CENTRE



The University of Sydney encourages and supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to enter and complete tertiary study through the provision of a wide range of services, including a newly established financial support pathway. Prospective students may choose from a variety of courses in almost every area of academic pursuit which lead to promising career opportunities.

The Koori Centre is the core of Indigenous Australian Education at The University of Sydney and is renowned for their expertise in Teaching and Learning, Scholarly and Creative Research, Community Outreach and Student Support. Facilities include expansive computer lab, fully equipped common room, extensive resource library, and much, much more.

#### CADIGAL SPECIAL ENTRY PROGRAM

The Cadigal Program is a special admission and support program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who want to study for their first degree at The University

of Sydney. We are accepting applications now from school leavers and mature age applicants (over 21 years) who want to study for their first degree at The University of Sydney. Applicants must also submit a Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) application showing their preferred course/s at University. We strongly advise school leavers to apply through the Cadigal Program now for study in 2009!

#### AWAY-FROM-BASE PROGRAMS (Block Mode)

Courses delivered in block-mode:

- Diploma in Education (Aboriginal)
- Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Aboriginal Studies)
- Masters of Education (Indigenous Languages)

#### ITAS TUTORING

Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme for Indigenous Australian students once they are enrolled at The University. Tutoring is provided at no cost to the student and can be arranged by contacting the ITAS Coordinator at the Koori Centre.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS, BURSARIES

The university offers a variety of scholarships and bursaries specifically for Indigenous Australian students including:

#### CHANCELLORS COMMITTEE INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN BURSARIES

These scholarships are available to Indigenous Australian students who are undertaking undergraduate study from all faculties across the University of Sydney.

#### COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS

Commonwealth Indigenous Access Scholarship (IAS) \$4080 once only, Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships (CAS) \$4324pa and Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship (CECS) \$2,162pa.

#### RESIDENTIAL

Residential colleges and some faculties of The University offer a number of part or full scholarships to Indigenous Australian Students to cover accommodation and meals on the Camperdown Campus.

For more information on courses at The University of Sydney please contact the Koori Centre on: Toll Free 1800 622 742 or (02) 9351 2046 or visit our websites at: [www.koori.usyd.edu.au](http://www.koori.usyd.edu.au) or [www.usyd.edu.au/fstudent/indigenous/](http://www.usyd.edu.au/fstudent/indigenous/)



The University of Sydney

Koori Centre





## Safe House – Doomadgee

The Queensland Department of Child Safety is seeking a committed and innovative non-government organisation to develop a placement and support service in partnership with the Doomadgee community, under the Safe House initiative.

This is a unique opportunity for an organisation to work in partnership with the Doomadgee community and local agencies with the aim of building a local Aboriginal owned and managed service to provide placement and support services within the Doomadgee community.

The Department's funding will deliver a Residential Care Service to provide supervised placements for children within their community, with an attached Family Intervention Service to provide practical support and assistance for children and families who are subject to departmental child protection intervention.

The functions required, together with eligibility and assessment criteria, are set out in the Doomadgee Safe House Grant Funding Information Paper, which can be accessed via the Department's website at

[www.childsafety.qld.gov.au/funding/calendar/index.html](http://www.childsafety.qld.gov.au/funding/calendar/index.html) or by telephone (07) 3224 4546.

Expressions of interest are sought by **Monday 12 January 2009**. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to visit Doomadgee and present a proposal to community representatives and departmental officers, after which service providers will be further shortlisted and invited to provide additional, more detailed information.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Patricia Walsh, Manager Community Support Team, Northern Zone on (07) 4799 7943 for further information.



Queensland Government  
Department of Child Safety



## Board Member Appointments to the Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) and the Victorian Catchment Management Council (VCMC)

Contribute your skills and help to protect and enhance Victoria's natural resources

The Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Gavin Jennings MLC is seeking expressions of interest for member positions on the following entities.

### Catchment Management Authority Board Member Appointments

**Do you have experience and knowledge in strategic or business planning, financial management, environment or natural resources management, primary industry, land management, water resources management and the water industry or waterway management?**

There are ten catchment management authorities (CMAs) in Victoria and each is responsible for a region and its land, biodiversity and water resources. Each board has 9 members, including a chairperson, appointed for a term of up to 4 years.

CMA boards are responsible for strategic planning, evaluating effectiveness, monitoring progress and advising the Minister for Environment and Climate Change of their CMA region's priorities for natural resource management.

CMAs consult with the community, raise awareness of the sustainable use, conservation and rehabilitation of land and water resources and promote the cooperation of people and bodies involved in catchment management.

### Victorian Catchment Management Council Member Appointments

**Do you have experience and knowledge in land protection, water resource management, primary industry, environment protection and conservation, local government?**

The VCMC consists of up to 10 members, appointed for a term of up to three years. One VCMC member is appointed chairperson. The VCMC is independent of the CMAs and is the state's peak advisory body on catchment management.

Detailed information and application forms for board member appointments are now open and are available at: [www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au) then select 'What's New?' or call the Department of Sustainability and Environment's Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Expressions of Interest for member positions close on Monday 15 December 2008.

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that the diversity of our boards represent the diversity of our communities. Women, indigenous persons, people with a disability, young persons and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

[www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au)  
Customer Service Centre 136 186

# Gathering of



It was chilly ... the Dance Circle at the Tarerer Festival in western Victoria.



Among the many people at the festival were Ross Morris, Vickie Slade, Emily Slade, Lakota Morris and Nessie McLaren.



ABOVE: Jayden Lillyst was one of the many music acts at the Tarerer festival.

RIGHT: Pwoch and Mojwok Akoch, members of the Sudanese community of the nearby city of Warrnambool.





# many clans in Victoria



No Fixed Address on stage.



David Dryden, David Paa Paa and Bea Edwards were there.



Young Isabella Montagnese.

## Terrific Tarerer



**DANCERS** from across Australia shivered in their lap-laps, braving a sharp sea breeze to perform at the Tarerer Festival Gathering of Nations in western Victoria on 15-16 November.

Tarerer, meaning 'meeting of the clans', is a two-day festival of song, dance and workshops held each year just outside Port Fairy, on a traditional gathering site of the coastal Aboriginal clans.

Local community members, weekend visitors from Melbourne and festival regulars again saw an impressive dance showcase this year.

Huddled around a patch of sand were Victorian groups the

Kikkabush Dancers, from Gippsland, and the Lake Condah Dancers, together with the Tal Kin Jeri from South Australia, the Yarrabah from Queensland and the Kenbi from Northern Territory.

The host group, the Gunditjmara Karweeyn Dancers, went around the circle sharing their message stick and inviting each group to perform.

Features included Aboriginal stalls, special Sudanese food, and gum leaf playing courtesy of Uncle Herb Patten.

In the main arena, Dan Sultan delighted the crowd at the stage. Another popular act was No Fixed Address, the recently re-formed Aboriginal rock/reggae outfit.



Rebecca Gerrett-Magee in the Indigikids stall at the festival. Photos by JIRRA LULLA HARVEY



Members of the Kenbi Dance Group, from Darwin.



Dancers from Yarrabah Gura-buna Guggandji, Qld.



A Tal Kin Jeri Dancer, from South Australia.



# Lead way, women told



INDIGENOUS women face complex obstacles and barriers in having their voices heard, according to Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin. And she said

Indigenous and non-Indigenous women must work together to change the situation and for Australia to truly capitalise on goodwill generated by the national apology, re-engage with Indigenous people and turn around Indigenous disadvantage.

Ms Macklin made her comments at a small gathering of Indigenous and non-Indigenous 'women of influence' convened by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) in Canberra in mid-November.

She urged the group, including health workers, lawyers, businesswomen, an environmental campaigner, an educator and a journalist to 'nurture the leadership role of Indigenous women whose voices have too often been drowned out'.

"All of you here are leaders in your own field. All of you women of considerable influence but with very different experiences and stories," she said. "We can all learn so much from sharing them."

"Great things happen when we are connected. We can build the networks and the creative, trusting relationships that are an absolute prerequisite to closing the gap."

Ms Macklin said partnerships between government, Indigenous Australians and the corporate and not-for-profit sectors were at the heart of the Government's commitment to turning around Indigenous disadvantage.



Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin with participants in last month's gathering of Indigenous and non-Indigenous 'women of influence' in Canberra.

The workshop considered ways to promote the importance of women's representation in leadership and decision-making roles across the community, government and business.

It was jointly convened by Federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner Liz Broderick and FaHCSIA Indigenous Leadership and Engagement Group Manager Kerrie Tim, and there are plans to bring the group together on two or three other occasions over a 12-month period.

Ms Macklin also told of a group of about

70 'amazing women, young and old' whom she spoke to in the Top End remote community of Wadeye.

"The quality of their leadership was inspirational. They spoke of their hopes and ambitions for their children and grandchildren. They spoke strongly, convincingly, powerfully. They grasped the opportunity to speak to me to tell me how things needed to change," she said.

"They had the chance to show great leadership and they grabbed it. Of course you can't grab opportunity unless you are

given it. We must make sure (Indigenous women) get the opportunity to become leaders."

"Opportunities like this workshop to build bonds, bridges and understanding between women of different cultures ... as we construct the new relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia."

Ngunnawal Elder Agnes O'Shea had earlier welcomed the workshop participants to country.

— By Koori Mail Editor KIRSTIE PARKER, who attended the gathering



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health and Ageing**

## Call for Expressions of Interest

Auspice for

### New Drug and Alcohol Residential Rehabilitation Services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Weipa & Normanton, Queensland

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing is seeking Expressions of Interest from organisations and/or consortiums interested in being considered to auspice new drug and alcohol residential rehabilitation services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland.

Expressions of Interest are being sought for suitable organisations to establish and operate one or both of the following services:

- Weipa – to serve Indigenous communities in the Cape York region; and
- Normanton – to serve Indigenous communities in the lower Gulf region.

The proposed new residential rehabilitation services represent a significant investment by the Australian Government in relation to meeting its commitment to Closing the Gap around key indicators of Indigenous disadvantage. The services will also directly contribute to a number of major reform initiatives being implemented as part of a comprehensive strategy by the Australian and Queensland Governments to enhance health and related services in these remote communities.

**Applications Close: Friday, 19th December 2008**

Expression of Interest Guidelines and Application Forms can be obtained from the Tenders and Grants Section of the Department of Health and Ageing's website: [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

- Reference Number EO1 DAWP for documentation relating to Weipa, and
- Reference Number EO1 DANM for documentation relating to Normanton.

Contact for further application details: Melissa Hilless on Telephone: (07) 3360 2515 or email: [Melissa.hilless@health.gov.au](mailto:Melissa.hilless@health.gov.au)

The Department of Health and Ageing upholds the principles and practices of workplace diversity.

Visit our web site at: [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)



**Balkanu**

Cape York Development Corporation P/L

Cape York Land Council

## NOTICE OF MEETING

TO ALL NATIVE TITLE HOLDERS SHELburne BAY, CAPE YORK PENINSULA  
PROPOSED INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENT FOR STATE LAND DEALING  
Tuesday 16 December 2008, Cairns

All Native Title Holders of the Shelburne Bay property are invited and urged to attend a meeting convened by the Cape York Land Council and Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation. The Shelburne Bay property is located north of Lockhart River on Eastern Cape York Peninsula.

On Tuesday 16 December 2008 a meeting will be held to:-

1. Authorise the making of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) with the State of Queensland. The ILUA will provide native title holders consent for a number of future acts under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) including the dedication of a National Park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land) and entry into an Indigenous Management Agreement under the Nature Conservation Act 1992 (Qld) and the grant of Aboriginal freehold land under the Aboriginal Land Act 1991 (Qld).

Date: 9am Tuesday 16 December 2008 (lunch included).

Venue: Pacific International Hotel, Cairns (Cnr the Esplanade & Spence Sts, Cairns).

Provided authorisation of the ILUA occurs, a formal signing ceremony will take place from 3pm on 16 December 2008 or on 17 December 2008.

The Queensland government is able to provide some assistance with transport to this meeting. Please call Rod Burke at DNRW on (07) 4039 8272 no later than 5pm Wednesday 10th December 2008. For all other enquiries about the meeting please call either Michael Martin, Senior Project Officer, Balkanu on (07) 4019 6247 or Matt Patterson, Senior Legal Officer, Cape York Land Council on (07) 4053 9222.

## Longreach Gambling Help service funding

The Department of Communities has funding of up to \$229,500 per annum for three years to support the delivery of a Gambling Help service in the Central West Queensland region. In addition \$15,000 is available for set up costs.

The funding will provide for support services to people financially and emotionally effected by gambling. The service provider will deliver prevention and early intervention strategies and ongoing support to 'at risk' people and their families.

An information package is available from [www.communities.qld.gov.au](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au) or by phoning (07) 4938 4103.

Applications must be lodged by 4.00 p.m. on 22 December 2008.



Queensland Government  
Department of Communities

safe, valued and empowered communities



# Face Painting will focus on Perkins

By MAHALA STROHFELDT



BILL Leak may still be recovering from an horrific fall five weeks ago that left him fighting for his life in intensive care, but his enthusiasm for the subjects he depicts in his paintings is still palpable.

Well known for his satirical cartooning for *The Australian*, Leak is also a painter of portraits, having entered the Archibald Prize at least 13 times with many well-known subjects.

But the major difference in his latest undertaking, the ABC series *Face Painting*, is that he has had to get to know his subjects through the eyes of others, as all six are no longer living. At the end of each episode, Leak unveils the paintings to close friends to gauge their reactions.

Already, the six-part series has focussed on Leak's portraits of



Bill Leak (left) and an early photo of the late Charles Perkins

— Photos courtesy of the ABC



artist Pro Hart, actor June Salter and charismatic ACDC front man Bon Scott.

And one of the most influential

Indigenous leaders in Australian history, Charles Perkins, will feature in an episode to screen next Monday, 8 December.

Leak spoke with Perkins' long time friend Gordon Briscoe and businessman John Singleton amongst others to get behind the public persona and gain insight into the private man.

When Leak spoke with *The Koori Mail* last week, he was on his way to Sydney for yet again another round of exhausting medical tests, but said the show had been 'a wonderful experience' for him, presenting an interesting cross-section of people to get to know.

"I have always had an enormous amount of admiration for Charlie, even though I had never met him," he said.

"You need to find the soul of the person and most people are intrinsically interesting."

Now for some people, getting to the core of a person they've never met and only heard about, in order to paint a compelling and accurate portrait of them might seem daunting.

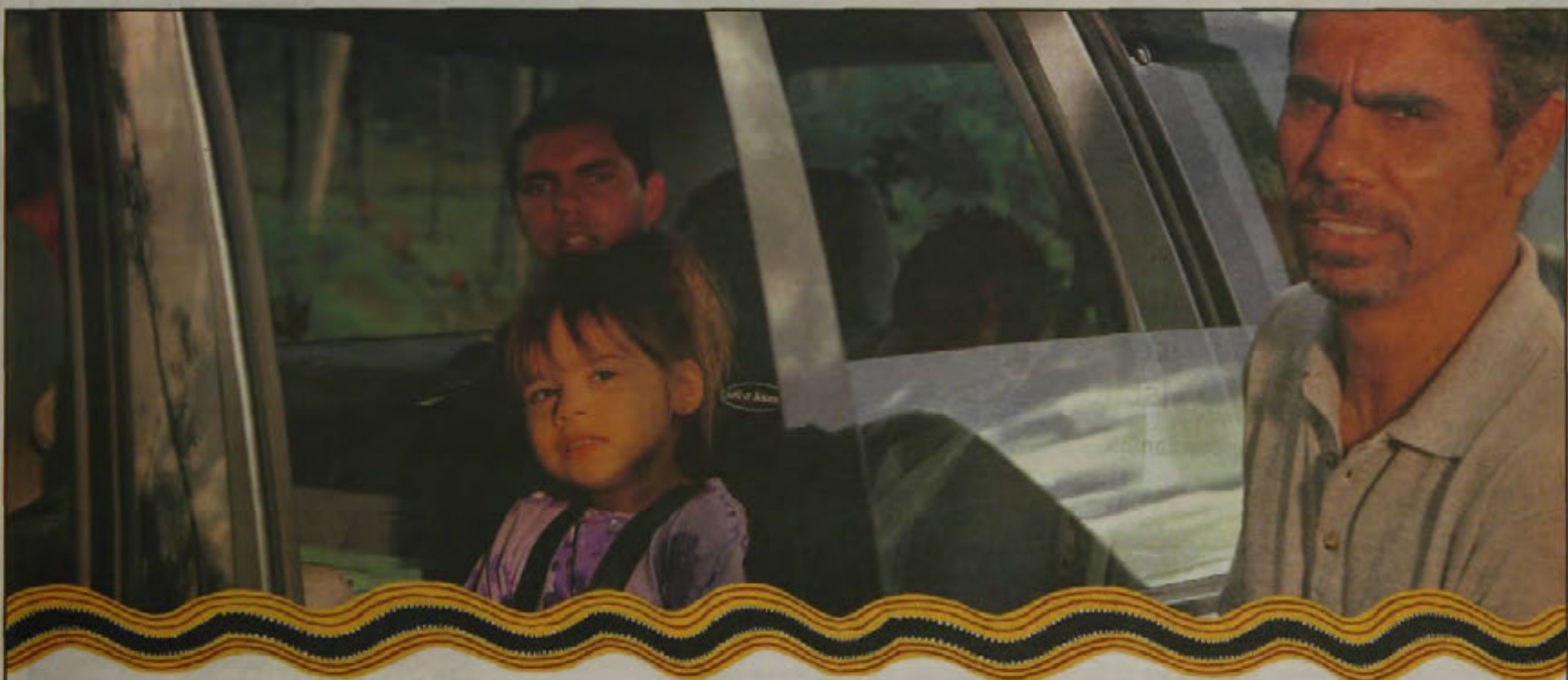
But for Leak it was just the challenge he was looking for.

As well as speaking with those closest to Perkins, he also drew from Robert McFarlane's photographs from the 1960s.

One that he found particularly telling was of a young Perkins on his first day of university, leaning down while standing at the front entrance of an imposing building. Leak learned that Perkins had a seething intensity at times and a certain anger, yet could also be quite shy and reflective.

When Leak asked Aboriginal leader Chicka Dixon: "When you think about Charlie, at what age do you see him?", the answer was definitive. "A younger Charlie, a born leader and motivator of people, someone who always knew where he was going."

*Face Painting* currently airs weekly on the ABC. The Perkins episode next Monday will be the second last episode.



## You love me, keep me safe.

Make sure your child restraints, harnesses and booster seats are fitted correctly. Get them inspected for free by RTA Authorised Restraint Fitters.

Date: Wednesday 10 December 2008

Time: 11am - 2pm

Place: Redfern Community Centre  
29 Hugo Street  
Redfern NSW 2016

For more information contact:

Kylie Stewart

Tel: 8849 2410

## Bring the mob home safely







New Zealand act Kora belt out their songs at the festival in Melbourne.



Elma Jackonia, Denna Nona and Evelyn Nona, from Badu Island in the Torres Strait.



Boonwurring Elder Carolyn Briggs, Gunai/Kurnai women Leanne Tregonning, Rita Watkins, Gina Smith and Pat Brahim, of Tennant Creek, Glenys Watts, a Gunai/Kunai woman from Mornington Peninsula, and Di Anisslie and Natalie Scott, of Tasmania were there.



Performer Lou Bennett, Helena Gulasch from Queensland Indigenous Arts, and Lydia Miller, of the Australia Council for the Arts.

# Our top acts on centre stage!

By DARREN COYNE



INDIGENOUS performers took centre stage in Melbourne last week, showcasing their talents and networking with industry representatives.

The occasion was the inaugural Australasian World Music Expo, held at the Arts Centre from 20-23 November.

And while the dreary Melbourne weather lived up to its reputation (with help from a rain dance performed by the Badu Island dancers from the Torres Strait), the expo provided a rainbow of talent.

The audience was treated to performances of everything from traditional Aboriginal dance and

Jamaican style dancehall to New Zealand dub and haunting West Papuan balladry.

The line-up included Archie Roach, Brothablack, Badu Island Dancers, Cangone Epa (New Caledonia), Dan Sultan, David Bridie, George Telek (Papua New Guinea), Ego Lemos and Gurrumul, just to name a few.

Badu Island dancer Denna Nona told *The Koori Mail* it was a pleasure to visit Melbourne and share culture, dance and songs.

The expo also brought together international delegates from various festivals and agencies interested in Australian and Pacific-based artists.

The networking that took place around the Art Centre will no doubt lead to performance and overseas opportunities for home-grown acts.

Along with the live performance program, the Arts Centre also hosted a series of daytime forums which covered topics ranging from Festival and Touring Guide for Europe to

Indigenous Australian Music Today, Copyright and Culture, Songwriters Speak and Marketing and Touring Your Product in North America.

During the Music for Reconciliation forum, performers told how it was often better to use music to push messages to a wider audience because it was less confrontational.

Skinnyfish Music Director Mark Grose, who has been promoting Indigenous music for 30 years, said music was an incredibly powerful vehicle to spread messages of reconciliation, and 'a great equaliser'.

"You can take a band like Saltwater from Arnhem Land to the Port Fairy Music Festival and they are treated with total respect," he said.

And Mr Grose said performers such as Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu had shown even songs that were not sung in English could strike a chord with a mainstream audience.

"For the community and family to see their people performing in front of non-Indigenous audiences and

everyone enjoying their music has a huge impact on the community," he said.

Phil Bartlett, an Indigenous Officer with the WA Music Industry, described the expo as awesome.

"Indigenous music is on the verge of something very special," he told *The Koori Mail*.

"With the sorry in place and positive things happening in a political sense, there is a good foundation for Indigenous music to go forward.

"It's just a pity we couldn't have got a few acts over from WA, but we'll be definitely looking to remedy that next year."

**'Indigenous music is on the verge of something very special'**

● More Page 36



# Australasian World Music Expo



Members of the Red Flag Dancers from Arnhem Land, Northern Territory.



RuC.L aka Rueben Campbell, Ben Garcia, of Benzeit Productions, AWME Festival Director Simon Raynor, and Fred Gesha, Project Co-ordinator with the Australia Council for the Arts.



Boonwurring Elder Carolyn Briggs, who delivered the Welcome to Country.



Frank Yamma performs.



Performer Lee Morgan and community development officer and performer Nick Haines with Skinnyfish Music Director Mark Grose (right) and hip-hop artist Little G aka Gina Chrsanthopoulos.



Didgeridoo performer Ganga Girl with Leanne Morris, of Lismore.



Phil Bartlett, an Indigenous Officer with West Australian Music Industry, attends a forum.



Didgeridoo player Russell Smith.



Lou Bennett and her band Sweet Cheeks perform.



Manuel Nomoa, Artistic Director of the Aibai Cultural Group, a music and dance group from Badu Island in the Torres Strait.



Badu Island Dancers perform their rain dance. It worked in Melbourne!



Dan Sultan performs under lights



## Tour caps big year for Leah Flanagan

**T**OP End diva Leah Flanagan has embarked on a tour of southern climes taking in Melbourne, Hobart and Adelaide. The tour follows a big year for Flanagan that has included the release of a self-titled CD, performances at events such as The Dreaming and Woodford Festivals, NT Writers Festival, Adelaide Fringe, the Darwin Festival, FUSE Festival, Alice Springs Festival and the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

And she recently returned from a trip to Germany and Europe as part of The Australian Wave Showcase at

the POPKOMM festival in Berlin.

Flanagan also performed at the 2008 East Coast Blues and Roots Festival, being personally invited by founder Peter Noble after he saw her play live at a jazz and blues bar in Darwin last year.

### Talented

"It's not often you get the chance to see someone so talented, so early in their career playing in a back-alley bar in Darwin," Noble said.

"I was flabbergasted when I heard her and immediately offered her a gig."

Flanagan's music reflects a mix of Aboriginal, Italian and Irish heritage: a blend of country, blues and folk music with heavy influence from the female jazz vocal tradition.

Classically trained at the Adelaide Conservatorium of Music, she combines a powerful voice with the gentleness of an acoustic singer.

During her performance in Melbourne, out the back of Pop Records in St Kilda, Flanagan said she was enjoying the tour but admitted she was missing the Darwin sunsets.



Leah Flanagan and Netanela Mizrahi, on violin, performing in Melbourne.

# A new place for groovers

**I**NDIGENOUS Australians have a new place to groove. A music portal called [blacklist.org.au](http://blacklist.org.au) has been launched to provide a 'one-stop online shop for information, interaction and the music of Indigenous Australia'.

The site features artists such as Archie Roach, Ruby Hunter, Kev Carmody and Dave Arden along with up-and-coming performers such as Tjumba and the Yung Warriors and Alter Egoz.

It has almost 100 artist pages with more in the works, and is the only interactive website dedicated to promoting and sharing Indigenous music and culture.

Featured music ranges from traditional to folk and rock to hip-hop.

The site, which went live on 21 November, allows anyone to get the latest news on artists, find upcoming performances, download music, explore their history and much more.

[blacklist.org.au](http://blacklist.org.au) will be free for all Australian Indigenous artists to upload their music and showcase their culture and talent to a global audience.

Victorian Gunditjmarra musician Dave Arden, one of the architects of [blacklist.org.au](http://blacklist.org.au), said the portal provided an opportunity to express culture.

"For the first time we have



Casey Atkinson, Indigenous Co-ordinator at Fraynework Indigital Centre and a member of Alter Egoz, speaks at the blacklist launch.

the opportunity to express our culture through an Indigenous music portal to the wider national and international audience," he said.

cross bridges, bind communities, find new audiences and avenues of income and expression for Australia's Indigenous musicians by promoting and

and artists with an Indigenous background, and all were encouraged to sign up to discover and enjoy Australia's Indigenous culture. The website went live

at a special launch during the Australasian World Music Expo in Melbourne. It is an initiative of Fraynework, a not-for-profit, multimedia and communications solutions provider established by the Sisters of Mercy based in Carlton. It was made possible through grants from ANZ Trustees: the William Buckland Foundation and the WCF Thomas Trust.

**'For the first time we have the opportunity to express our culture through an Indigenous music portal to the wider national and international audience'**

**— Blacklist architect Dave Arden**



"What I see it doing is giving Indigenous Australia a chance to showcase their art where it's 'hands-on' and we can maintain creative control."

"blacklist.org.au sets out to

sharing Indigenous music, and culture to all brothers and sisters around the world via the World Wide Web."

Mr Arden said the portal was open to all musicians

## At the World Music Expo



A Red Flag dancer from Arnhem Land.



Naomi Moran, formerly of The Koori Mail, and now with National Indigenous Television (NITV).



Jigzie Campbell, from RuCL Global Trinity.



# Vibe is alive in Kalgoorlie



ONE THOUSAND students from around Western Australia gathered at Kalgoorlie in early November for the most successful Vibe Alive festival yet.

Vibe Alive is a national two-day youth festival for Australians of all backgrounds that incorporates singing, dancing, sport and health and literacy activities.

It has been travelling around Australia as part of the Australian Government's Community Festivals for Education Engagement program, which supports targeted events that encourage school attendance, retention and healthy lifestyles for all young Australians, especially Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

"We were overwhelmed with the amount of community support we received from the people of Kalgoorlie," said Vibe Alive Executive Producer Gavin Jones.

## Spirit

"The spirit of Vibe Alive was also well and truly alive among all the young participants – we saw some really inspiring examples of sportsmanship, co-operation and kinship.

"We also saw some of the best student performances yet. The talent these kids have is amazing, and thanks to the guys from the Beyond Blue Indigenous Hip-Hop projects, we saw some incredible hip-hop dancing from all our teams. It's the perfect way for kids of all ages and ability levels to express themselves."

The overall winners of the West Australian Vibe Alive Cup were the Pythons, from Kalgoorlie Primary School. Hundreds of local kids took part in the competition, along with hundreds more who travelled from across WA.

Adding to the excitement of the festival were a group of Vibe Alive role models, including former Australian Idol Casey Donovan, and Courtney Walter, star of the hit reality TV show *So You Think You Can Dance*.

"Our special community concert was also a huge hit," Jones said. "The community turned out in force to watch students and role models perform, and their enthusiasm and support helped make the event immensely memorable."



Beyond Blue breaker Matt with some students at the Feel the Vibe tent.



Kalgoorlie Cup winners Pythons, from Kalgoorlie Primary School.



Students from O'Connor Primary School in Kalgoorlie.



Casey Donovan flanked by dancers Sean Carter and Suri Bin Saad at the festival.

# Super Saturday in Kempsey

Photographs by ANDREW ROSENFELDT



THE National Indigenous Basketball and Hip Hop Challenge, the Vibe 3on3, returned to Kempsey on the NSW mid-north coast for the fifth time recently. More than 50 teams participated and the community turned out to experience the new-look Super Saturday event at Melville High School on 18 October, with locals joined by visitors from South West Rocks, Crescent Head and Macksville.

"Kempsey turned out in great numbers and confirmed, once again, the mutual chemistry which exists between the Vibe 3on3 and the youth of Kempsey," said event Co-ordinator Claude Williams, thanking the "tireless and dedicated" local committee.

"We at Vibe have always rated the



Action during the Super Saturday in Kempsey, mid-north New South Wales.

Kempsey 3on3 the benchmark."

Joining the Vibe crew in Kempsey was Australian Seven's representative Matt Sonter and former NRL stars Nathan Blacklock and Owen Craigie, who spent the day hanging out with participants and community members. Other role models on hand included rapper Brothablack and artist and



comedian Kevin Kropinyeri.

Again, one of the highlights of the day was the Soulja Boy competition, with the Vibe crew searching to find the best Soulja Boy dancers in Australia.

Local sponsors for the event were Durri Aboriginal Corporation Medical Service, Boorongun Djugun Aboriginal Corporation and Kempsey Shire Council.

ntscorp  
Our People - Our Focus

NTSCORP Limited advises that as of 30 November 2008 the regional office at Dubbo will be closed.

All enquiries and correspondence should be made to the Sydney head office:  
PO Box 2105 Strawberry Hills  
NSW 2012

Freecall 1800 111 844

GUMBI GUMBI LIMITED

## WORKSHOP MEETING

between

Barada and Barna  
Yuipera and Wiri

Concerning Heads of Agreements signed between the above groups and possible new Native Title claims in the Central Qld Region as a way forward.

Interested persons should contact

Linda Budby on 0458500699

G. Sauney on 0427573135

To be held on Tuesday 16th  
December 2008 at 9am

At Central Queensland Institute of TAFE,  
"K" Block, Entrance is Sydney Street,  
Mackay

There are no funds available for Travel or  
Accommodation



## Upgrading the Pacific Highway Ballina bypass

This project is jointly funded by the Federal and  
New South Wales governments

The NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has formed an alliance with Leighton Contractors, Munsell AECOM, SMEC and Coffey Geotechnics to design and construct the Ballina bypass.

### Progress update – December 2008 to February 2009

- Continuing boundary fencing, utility relocation and construction of an on-site plant workshop near Ross Lane
- Implement a temporary closure of Sandy Flat Road access to the Pacific Highway.
- Switch traffic onto the Pacific Highway diversions currently under construction at Sandy Flat Road and north of Cumbalum.
- Continuing bulk earthworks between Ross Lane and Cumbalum.
- Commencement of bulk earthworks between Cumbalum and Bruxner Highway.
- Implement a temporary traffic deviation onto a section of the new Teven Road roundabout.
- Commencement of construction of the Ross Lane bridge deck, Sandy Flat Road arch underpass and piling platforms for the Emigrant Creek central bridge.
- Commencement of piling at Teven Road, and Cumbalum flood relief bridges.
- Commencement of construction of the balanced cantilever bridge at Emigrant Creek south.

### Traffic conditions

Where necessary for safety reasons, changes to traffic conditions and speed limits will be implemented along sections of the project as the works progress.

### Christmas shutdown

The Ballina bypass site will shut down on Tuesday, 23 December and work will resume on Monday, 5 January 2009.

### Safety

Please observe all project signage and traffic control directions during construction.

### Construction hours

Monday to Friday from 7am until 6pm and Saturday from 8am until 1pm. Nearby residents will be advised of any construction works to occur outside normal working hours.



For more information contact the project information line on 1800 209 484 (toll free), email [community.enquiries@ballina.insite.com.au](mailto:community.enquiries@ballina.insite.com.au) or visit the website [www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific) (click on Ballina bypass).





## Australian Government

### Department of Health and Ageing

The Department of Health and Ageing is seeking tenders from capable and experienced individuals or organisations with knowledge of Indigenous health, remote health programs, workforce issues in remote settings, remote primary health care service delivery and evaluation. The consultant will be required to conduct an evaluation of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) Child Health Check Initiative (CHCI), including follow-up service delivery, and the Expanding Health Service Delivery Initiative (EHSDI). The consultant will be required to conduct the evaluation in 2008-09 and 2009-10. The project will require the consultant to bring together all available qualitative and quantitative data, conduct consultations with key stakeholders and prepare reports.

Parties interested in tendering must address the evaluation criteria in the format outlined in the Request For Tender document, available in the first instance by registering on the Department's internet site at [www.health.gov.au/tenders](http://www.health.gov.au/tenders)

Tenders will close at 2pm EST on 5 January 2009 in Canberra.

hmgC092184



## Australian Government

### Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

## Helping Children with Autism package

### EARLY INTERVENTION FUNDING FOR CHILDREN WITH AN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) now have increased access to early intervention services.

If you have a child six years and younger who has been diagnosed with an ASD and hasn't yet started full time school, you may be eligible to access funding of up to \$12,000 in early intervention services.

FaHCSIA is establishing a group of Early Intervention Service Providers from which families will be able to choose services that best suit their child.

Families will be able to visit an Autism Advisor through Autism Associations in each state and territory to access service providers from the panel.

Contact your local autism advisor for information on available funding, early intervention and other support services that are available to you.

For contact details visit: [www.fahcsia.gov.au/autism](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/autism) or contact the Helping Children with Autism Enquiry Line on 1800 289 477 (TTY 1800 260 402)

hmgC092603

[www.fahcsia.gov.au](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au)

## Indigenous Recognised Entity Services

The Department of Child Safety has funding available for Indigenous organisations to assist the Department to provide services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people. Organisations specifically approved for this purpose are called Recognised Entities.

The functions required of these organisations, together with eligibility and assessment criteria, are set out in the Recognised Entity Services Funding Information Paper, which can be accessed via the Department's website at [www.childsafety.qld.gov.au](http://www.childsafety.qld.gov.au) or by telephone (07) 3224 4546.

**Funding is available to organisations in the Mount Isa, Townsville North, Aitkenvale, Thuringowa and Gulf CSSC catchment areas.**

Applicants are advised to contact Patricia Walsh, Community Support Team, Northern Zone on (07) 4799 7943.

**Funding is available to organisations in the Cape Torres Child Safety Service Centre catchment area.**

Applicants are advised to contact Vicki Hopkins, Community Support Team, Far Northern Zone on (07) 4048 9351.

All Recognised Entities approved through this process will be required to engage with the Indigenous community in their catchment area to ensure that the Indigenous community is kept informed of child protection issues.

**Funding submissions must be lodged by Monday  
23 February 2009.**

2008-09-03



Queensland Government  
Department of Child Safety

# Local Government



Orange City Council's Mary Croaker (left) and Fiona Rossiter, with Conference Planning Committee chair Steve Widders, of Armidale.



Les Jenkins, of Liverpool Council (left), with Leichhardt Council's Bob Webb (centre) and Alan Cinis.



Lesley Mye and Lesley Buckley, of Tweed Council, and Trevor Wilson, of Coffs Harbour.



From left, Trish Locke, of Armidale, Jamal Bassan, of Hurstville, Lorna Hague, of Armidale, and Kamrun Rahman, of Liverpool.



# Aboriginal Network Conference



Local Government Aboriginal Network Executive Members, from left President Barry Bird, Vice-President Rod Towney, Immediate Past President Gwen Griffen, community member Bob Webb and Vice-Presidents Veronica Graf and David Williams. Absent was Dominic Wykanak.



Athena Mumbulla, of the Aboriginal Heritage Office (left) with Beth Flynn, of Port Macquarie-Hastings Council.



Jim Gribbin, of Kempsey, with Community Development Officer Tracey Edwards.



Fay Griffiths, of Armidale, with Val Saunders, of Byron Shire Council.



Craig Greene and Cr Vera-Ann Hannaford, of Leichhardt Municipal Council.



Noeline Holten and Aloma Sagigi, of Bankstown City Council.

## Apology 'was just the start'



ABOVE: From left, Joanne Scott, of Shoalhaven Council, Joanne Albany, of Wingecarribee Council, Bob Leslie, of Blacktown Council, and Debbie McCall, of Campbelltown Council.



RIGHT: Local Government Aboriginal Network Chairman Barry Bird, of Shell Harbour, with Liz Hetar, of Albury City Council.



BOTTOM RIGHT: John Heath, of Port Macquarie, with Coffs Harbour City Council's Harry Mumbulla.



THE national apology to the Stolen Generations was just the start of better times for Indigenous people, this year's annual Local Government Aboriginal Network (LGAN) Conference has heard.

Network President Barry Bird told more than 150 delegates from councils around the State that Indigenous people were looking forward to improvements across the board.

Speaking last week in host city Armidale, northern NSW, Mr Bird said a common theme was the need to engage and involve young Indigenous people.

"Delegates agreed there was a need to mentor and help our youth become our future leaders and Elders," he told *The Koori Mail*.

"And there was also consensus about the need for Indigenous people to work smarter with authorities to get the best deal possible for our people."

### Guest speakers

This year's three-day conference – the 21st to be held – featured a wide range of guest speakers, including Indigenous leader and former Labor Party President Warren Mundine, NSW Aboriginal Affairs Director-General Jody Broun and Cheryl Crawford, from Indigenous Community Volunteers.

A highlight of the conference was the presentation of annual awards. Winners were:

- Councillor of the Year: Robert Webb (Leichhardt Municipal Council).
  - Council Employee of the Year: Nita Lyons (Sydney City Council).
  - Council of the Year: Orange City Council (first-timers at the conference).
  - Community Worker of the Year: Steve Widders (Armidale Council).
  - Organisation of the Year: Eurobodalla Aboriginal Advisory Committee.
- Mr Bird praised the winners as outstanding in their fields.
- Next year's conference will be held in Gosford, on the NSW central coast.



## Indigenous cultural heritage Acts—have your say

The Department of Natural Resources and Water (NRW) is reviewing the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.

### Submissions are now open

A review paper outlining the operation of the Acts has been released. For a copy of the paper, or to make a submission, visit the website or contact:

Indigenous Cultural Heritage Acts Review  
Department of Natural Resources and Water  
GPO Box 2454 Brisbane Qld 4001

Tel: (07) 3225 2714 Fax: (07) 3405 6899

Email: [ichar@nrw.qld.gov.au](mailto:ichar@nrw.qld.gov.au)

Submissions close on 28 February 2009

[www.nrw.qld.gov.au](http://www.nrw.qld.gov.au)



Queensland Government  
Natural Resources and Water

#28441



NSW National Parks  
and Wildlife Service

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

#### Nominations for the Narran Lake Nature Reserve Co-Management Committee

The National Parks and Wildlife Service is inviting Elders and Aboriginal community representatives to nominate for the Narran Lake Nature Reserve Co-Management Committee.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service support connection to Country of Aboriginal people and wish to involve local Aboriginal people with a knowledge and connection to the area, in issues concerning the protection of Aboriginal heritage and other management issues in Narran Lake Nature Reserve.

Nomination forms are available from the NPWS Narrabri Area office, 100 Marland St Narrabri or by telephoning 6792 7300. If you wish to nominate or would like more information please contact Jason Wilson on 0427 926 295.

Nominations close on 24 December 2008.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is now part of the Department of Environment and Climate Change.

Department of Environment & Climate Change NSW



7788202

## New South Wales Government Riverstone and Alex Avenue Draft Precinct Plans

The exhibition of the draft Precinct Planning documents for Riverstone and Alex Avenue in the North West Growth Centre is underway and closes on Friday 6th February 2009.

The exhibition sets out proposed planning controls for the Riverstone and Alex Avenue Precincts. The public are encouraged to view the information and are invited to provide their input to help shape the future of the areas.

The exhibition can be viewed at Blacktown City Council, 62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown, and the Growth Centres Commission at Level 5, 10 Valentine Avenue, Parramatta. The material is also on display at Council's Max Webber Library, Cnr Alpha Street and Flushcombe Road, Blacktown, and the Department of Planning, 23 - 33 Bridge Street, Sydney. A shopfront will also operate at 2/15 Pitt Street, Riverstone on Tuesday mornings, Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings, except during the Christmas/New Year period from 22nd December 2008 until 12th January 2009.

The exhibition information can also be obtained by visiting [www.gcc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.gcc.nsw.gov.au) or by calling 1300 730 550. If you require a translator, please ask for an interpreter when calling 1300 730 550.

Submissions on the Riverstone and Alex Avenue exhibition material must be received no later than 5pm Friday 6th February 2009. Submissions can be sent to:

PO Box 1457, Parramatta NSW 2124

[community@gcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:community@gcc.nsw.gov.au) or Fax: (02) 9895 7670



GROWTH CENTRES  
COMMISSION

7788202

# After 32-year break,



Dangerous things, bullrides. No major injuries were reported despite some spectacular action.



Tim Asai from Yorke Island was there.



Waiting for the Palm Island ferry were members of the Ambrym family, from left, Lissie, Virginia, Miranda and Amariah (3).



Organisers Pauline and Shaun Shortjoe.



The rodeo featured plenty of bullriding action for the crowd.



Woorabinda visitors Selina Bloomfield, Marta Bloomfield and Rynarta Gyemore.



Howdy ... young fellas enjoying the rodeo.



# rodeo makes a big comeback



Cherbourg councillor Bert Button



Little sisters size up the cattle brought to Palm Island for the rodeo.



Anthony Tyson, 2, in his cowboy hat.

# Palm rides high!

By ALF WILSON



THE first Palm Island rodeo in 32 years proved a great success, with competitors, family and supporters coming from as far away as Cherbourg, Woorabinda, Yarrabah, the Torres Strait, Cape York, Mount Isa and Townsville. The 15-16 November event was for Indigenous competitors only and served two main purposes – to provide entertainment at the north Queensland Aboriginal community, and to help residents move on from the 2004 death in custody of Mulrunji Doomadgee which resulted in rioting and led to the jailing last month of local man Lex Wotton.

The rodeo was organised by Pauline and Shaun Shortjoe and a band of volunteers.

Guests were welcomed to country by Traditional Owner Allan Palm Island, who said the rodeo was a positive event for the community.

"It is great to see so many people here," he said.

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey said the local council was right behind the rodeo.

"When it comes to rodeo, Aboriginal people are amongst the best jackaroos and jillaroos around and this lets us move forward," he said.

Rodeo clowns B J Rea and Ben Moss were also big hits with the kids.

Getting the rodeo bulls from Einasleigh in north Queensland to Palm Island proved a massive exercise. The calves and steers came from Charters Towers.

The Palm Island rodeo complex was packed on day one, even though the temperature was above 30 degrees.



Keep running, brother ... action from last month's Palm Island rodeo, in north Queensland.



The team from Cherbourg, south-east Queensland, at the Palm Island rodeo. They drove for 17 hours to take part in the action.

Kids were walking around in cowboy hats and adults in special Palm Island rodeo t-shirts. There were youths on tamed wild horses watching from the scrub outside the complex, giving it a real bush rodeo atmosphere.

The only negative aspect for organisers was that many people found a way to get into the complex without

paying, which didn't help to recover the costs involved.

A large group of competitors and supporters came from Cherbourg, in south-east Queensland. Bert Button, a Cherbourg Aboriginal Council member, said the 17-hour drive and barge trip had been worth it.

"This has been great and it's good to see a lot of the Woorabinda people here," he said.

"There is great co-operation between Palm Island, Cherbourg and Woorabinda."

Cr Button had even more reason to be happy at the end of day two, when Cherbourg's Charlie Bond won the all-round cowboy award, novice bullrider and the best open bullrider of the rodeo titles.

Woorabinda also tasted success, with 16-year-old Robert Oakley winning the juvenile bullride trophy.

Local ambulance officers were kept busy treating injuries – none of them major – while police reported no problems.

Pauline and Shaun Shortjoe promised the rodeo would be bigger and better next year.

"This has been a positive event for Palm Island and next year we hope to have a rodeo for non-Indigenous competitors as well," Mrs Shortjoe said.

The rodeo was praised by announcer Justin Price, of Townsville, who is a member of the Queensland Rodeo Association, as well as judge Darcy Davidson, the two clowns, Glen Mosch who supplied the bucking bulls, and John Moss, of Bucko Billy Rodeo.

"We will work again with Pauline and Shaun Shortjoe and have big plans for this next year. It has been great," John Moss said.

● Sport coverage – Pages 84, 85



# Tranby Aboriginal College



Former Tranby graduate Michael West does the welcome to country.



Gadigal Information Service Board members Rhianna Patrick, Warren Brown and Nancia Guivarra.



NSW Minister Linda Burney.



Aunty Marie Melito ... "Studying at Tranby was the best decision of my life."



The group Freshwater performs at the celebration.



Tranby Chairman Sol Bellear.



Robert Stanley, from Moree, who worked for Tranby from 1980 to 2000, with Vivian Hall, from Coonamble, who went to Tranby in 1984.



Buddy Knox and his Blues Band on stage.



Val March, from Booroongun Djugun College, with the signed photo of US President-elect Barack Obama purchased at the fund-raising auction.



Tranby Director Lindon Coombes and Thomas Newman.



Frank Cain, Cheryl Stockwell and Heather Jacky.



Gail Daylight and Maurice Shipp.



# marks 50th anniversary



Nicole Alexander, Maurice Shipp and Blanch Lake were there.



Celebration MC Sean Choolburra with a group of dancers from Yarrabah, north Queensland.

By SOLUA MIDDLETON  
in Sydney



AUSTRALIA'S oldest independent Aboriginal education provider has celebrated its 50th year. More than 500 people joined in the birthday celebrations for Tranby Aboriginal College held at the Hilton Hotel in Sydney.

The dinner provided an opportunity for guests to hear some of the stories from many people who attended the Glebe-based college over its proud history. A slideshow showing some of the hundreds of acres of Tranby took those gathered down memory lane.

Former graduate Michael West welcomed guests to country, followed by a speech by recent graduate Aunty Marie Melito.

Aunty Marie told the crowd she was a member of the Stolen Generations, but that since studying at Tranby, she felt that she had become closer to her Aboriginality.

"Studying at Tranby was the best decision of my life," she said. "I learned about my people and was able to experience the things I was robbed of as a child."

"We have really bonded together as a family."

## 500 pack out party

NSW Community Services Minister Linda Burney also spoke, saying that Tranby's 50th anniversary was much more than just another birthday.

"We're not just remembering the passing of time," she said.

"We are celebrating an organisation that has been a backbone of our community for half a century."

Ms Burney said the college

had been not only a place of learning but also a centre for social action.

"Tranby has been involved in many struggles for social justice and Aboriginal rights over the past five decades, including the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, the fight for land rights and the 1988 Bicentennial protests," she said.

"It has been a haven and a

launching pad for these pursuits over the years."

Ms Burney also praised the college for developing leaders, in particular Kevin Cook, the first Aboriginal General-Secretary of the Co-operative, and Jack Beeton, who has been involved with Tranby for many years as a student, teacher and director of studies since 1980.

Tranby's new Chairman, Sol

Belleair, also took the time to remember Kevin Cook, as well as the Rev Alf Clint who he described as 'a visionary' ahead of his time and the driving force behind the establishment of Tranby.

"One of the important things Tranby does is offer a comfortable place for Aboriginal people to re-engage with education," Mr Belleair said.

"This is particularly important for those people who did not have the best experience with mainstream education."

"But ask anyone and they will tell you that Tranby is far more than an educational institution."

"It is an Aboriginal institution in every sense. It has been run by Aboriginal CEOs for almost the last 30 years, there is a majority of Indigenous staff working there and seven out of eight current board members are Indigenous."

During the evening, an auction was held to raise money for Tranby. Among the items was a signed and authenticated photograph of US President-elect Barack Obama, which fetched \$3600.

The happy buyer was Booroongen Djugun College, and Director Val March told *The Koori Mail* it was a way for one college to help out another one.



ABOVE: From left, Charlene Emzin-Boyd, Marcia Browning, Shanene Phillips, Kerry Toomey, Belinda Nolegwa and Kerry Perrin.

RIGHT: Four members of the Whaleboat family from Au Ged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation, from left, Ellie, Tat, Dalton Snr, and Akazee Whaleboat.



On the dance floor at Tranby's 50th anniversary celebrations.



# Power to the people

By Tasmanian Correspondent  
JILLIAN MUNDY

## Wind generation, solar panels coming to Cape Barren Island



ABORIGINAL people on Cape Barren Island, off Tasmania, are looking forward to using the howling Bass Strait winds and the sun to generate the majority of their electricity by early next year. Last month the Federal

Government announced that it would provide \$1.26 million in funding to help install two 20 kilowatt wind turbines and three kilowatts of solar panels on the remote island.

That will be enough electricity to supply the 30 homes on the settlement on Cape Barren Island,

which sits off the north-east of mainland Tasmania.

Residents are only likely to need to make use of a new efficient back-up diesel generator, which is also on the installation list, on overcast, still days.

Denise Gardner, Acting Administrator of the Cape Barren Island Aboriginal Association, told *The Koori Mail* that such days were 'bloody unlikely' on her windswept island home.

"It never stops blowing," she said. "The big aim is to get rid of the diesel as much as possible. We're trying to do our best to reduce greenhouse emissions."

Ms Gardner said that apart from the solar hot water systems most home had, electricity came from diesel generators. More than 34,000 litres of diesel is carted to the island by barge each year.

She said the cost of diesel, coupled with transporting it, was huge; the highest living expense on the island, alongside food.

"The end result for the residents is that it will make living here affordable, and we're doing our bit for the environment," Ms Gardner said.

"Our pockets are so looking forward this," she said with a chuckle.



DENISE GARDNER

"We've been waiting a long time, I reckon about four or five years. But since (Minister) Peter Garrett gave his announcement it's been pretty quick."

Ms Gardner said the new generator was installed last week and the community was awaiting the arrival of wind turbines from overseas. It is anticipated that they will be turning by March next year.

The project will also provide locals with employment during the construction stage and at least one ongoing maintenance position.

Federal Ministers Jenny Macklin and Peter Garrett also appeared chuffed to make the

announcement.

Ms Macklin said providing reliable, 24-hour power in remote areas was an important step towards closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

"This funding will ensure the community has reliable power which is essential for the health of the entire community," Ms Macklin said.

The project is funded by the Renewable Remote Power Generation Program in the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

and the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

A spokesperson for the Peter Garrett said there were a range of other similar projects funded through the same program in other Indigenous communities. From small two or three-home communities with photovoltaics, to larger communities with arrays of solar concentrating dishes.

He said systems had already been installed in Hermannsburg, Bulman, Yuendumu and Lajamanu. Work was beginning on installations at Alekrange, Ti Tree and Kalkarindji.

### Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council

#### Notice of an Application for Registration as a Registered Aboriginal Party under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006



Name of applicant: Mungabareena Aboriginal Corporation  
Date received: 12 November 2008  
Comments due: 12 March 2009

The Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council (VAHC) has received an application from Mungabareena Aboriginal Corporation for registration as a Registered Aboriginal Party for the hatched area shown on the accompanying map. If registered, the applicant will be responsible for making key decisions about cultural heritage protection and management under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

In determining whether to grant this application, the VAHC must consider:

- whether the applicant is a native title party;
- whether the applicant has traditional or familial links to the area;
- whether the applicant has historical or contemporary interests in, and expertise in the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage in the area;
- the existence of any grant of land by government in fee simple to an Aboriginal body in the area;
- whether the applicant has entered into a land and natural resource management agreement with the State in the area;
- any other relevant matter.

The VAHC invites written comments on this application, which can be sent to: Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council Secretariat, GPO Box 2392, Melbourne Vic 3001

Email: [vhc@dpcd.vic.gov.au](mailto:vhc@dpcd.vic.gov.au)  
Phone: 9208 3243  
Fax: 9208 3292

The applicant will be advised of comments received.

## Wadeye celebrates new book's launch



THE Wadeye community have celebrated the launch of a new bilingual book *Ku Kukpi - Black-headed Python*, by senior Elder Kampawerr Patricia Karui.

There also was the presentation of awards to more than 40 students who have completed their studies in a range of VET courses through the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education.

The celebrations took place on 24 November at Wadeye, the Northern Territory's largest Aboriginal community, with a population of more than 3000 residents. Wadeye is 250km south-west of Darwin on the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf.

The endangered languages project is a joint partnership with Batchelor Institute and the Wadeye Languages Centre, funded by the Federal Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA).

Manager of Batchelor Press, Maree Klesch, said the launch of *Ku Kukpi* was the celebration of work undertaken over several years recording and documenting the dreamings and country of the Mardangunamme estate in the Fitzmaurice region of the Northern Territory.

"Many Indigenous people consider Mardangunamme to be a very wealthy estate because the Traditional Owners have many totems and dreamings located in some of the most remote and beautiful country in Australia," Ms Klesch said.

"Kampawerr, the senior Elder for this

country, has travelled many times to her country with family and Wadeye Aboriginal Languages Centre workers to teach and document place names, dreamings and foot highways of this vast estate.

"These projects are critical to the documentation of Indigenous languages and knowledge and not only support keeping language strong in communities, but they also make a significant contribution to the inclusion of Indigenous languages in schools and in particular the bilingual program at Wadeye.

"People participating in the project had the opportunity to travel back to their country which is often located in very remote areas. Participants develop skills as language workers, gain experience in using digital technology such as cameras, GPSs and video recorders.

"Much of the field work was undertaken with the local Thamarurr Rangers, some of whom have also been studying Natural and Cultural Resource Management and who also received awards on the same day as the book launch."

The launch of *Ku Kukpi* was followed by the conferral of more than 40 awards to Batchelor students studying at Wadeye in areas such as Spoken and Written English, Carpentry, Natural and Cultural Resource Management, Indigenous Education Work and First Aid.

They were presented with certificates and statements of attainment for successful completion of studies in 2008.



Australian Government

Department of Families, Housing,  
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

#### REQUEST FOR SELECTION PROCESS APPLICATIONS

### Intensive Support Playgroup – Halls Creek (WA)

The Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) invites suitably qualified organisations to apply for the provision of an **Intensive Support Playgroup (ISP) in Halls Creek (WA)**.

The ISP model employs a family support worker and early childhood workers to deliver mobile playgroup services across several sites for Indigenous families with young children. Service Providers are required to develop strategic partnerships in the community to enable the family support worker to refer and support playgroup participants to access a range of other community services. Funding may be available for multiple years with a budget of up to \$200,000 per annum (excl. GST).

**Conditions of participation:** This selection process is open to all not-for-profit legal entities. Local government may also apply.

Implementation of the above services is expected to commence by April 2009.

An application pack can be obtained by visiting [www.fahcsia.gov.au/epif](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/epif) from 8 December 2008. If you have difficulties downloading the application pack contact 1800 752 478.

Questions about the ISP model or selection process may be asked of the Department via email to [EPIF@fahcsia.gov.au](mailto:EPIF@fahcsia.gov.au). Questions and answers will be available at [www.fahcsia.gov.au/epif](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/epif).

Applications close at 2.00pm AWDT on 23 January 2009.

[www.fahcsia.gov.au](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au)





A group shot of people attending the Australian Indigenous Communications Association annual general meeting held last month in Darwin.

# Funding tops AICA agenda

By KIRSTIE PARKER



ABOUT 80 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander radio, television, newspaper and multi-media workers gathered in Darwin last month for the annual general meeting of the Australian Indigenous Communications Association (AICA).

Much of the discussion during the meeting, from 18-21 November, focussed on funding – or lack thereof – for Indigenous community broadcasting.

AICA Chairman Jim Remedio spoke about meetings held during the past year including one with Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Minister Stephen Conroy about the lack of funding so far to help Indigenous radio stations go digital.

Jeanette Brown, from Cherbourg Radio, reported that local community radio workers were still relying on CDEP for wages.

One resolution formally disagreed with a recommendation from Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's Australia 2020 summit in April which reportedly suggested that National Indigenous TV (NITV) – which was not represented at the AGM – should be the 'sole custodian' of Indigenous broadcasting stories and creativity, and also the agency deciding on funding for Indigenous community media organisations.

The meeting declared that such a move would reflect centralisation and a bureaucratic model which had no role in the community broadcasting sector.

It passed a resolution that NITV, as well as SBS, should be



CBAA's Indigenous Grants Advisory Committee, from left, Seraphim Slade, from STICCA – Southern Tablelands Indigenous Cultural Communications Association in Yass, Lloyd Wiles from 4K1G in Townsville, remote representative Nelson Conboy (IRCA – QRAM) and Dean Hodgson from Radio Adelaide's Nunga Wanga program. The committee awards about \$700,000 a year to Indigenous broadcast programs on general stations and also remote broadcasters for special projects and small equipment funding. Seven per cent of CBAA's overall funding is earmarked for Indigenous broadcasters.



PAW Media and Communications' Simon Fisher (Yuendumu), Noel Heenan (Yuelamu) and Joel Marshall (Ali Curung).

provided with adequate funding, but not at the expense of the Indigenous community broadcasting sector.

AICA members also agreed to lobby the Federal

Government for an independent satellite carrier for Indigenous community broadcasters.

Several office-bearer positions were voted on at the meeting, with Radio 4K1G's

Lloyd Wiles elected Vice-Chairperson, journalist Selena Sullivan elected Secretary, Annette Victor elected TV/Film Representative, and Nelson Conboy elected as the Indigenous Community TV Representative.

Indigenous broadcasters were well-represented in the 2008 Community Broadcasting Association of Australia (CBAA) Awards held in Alice Springs a few days before the AICA AGM.

CAAMA's Radio News Online took out the top award – the Tony Staley Award for Excellence in Community Broadcasting – as well as two other awards, Excellence in Digital Media and Excellence in Training.

Gadigal's Koori Radio was named Indigenous Broadcaster of the Year for its popular Blackchat program, presented by Paulette Whitton.

Melbourne's 3CR picked up the award for Special Event Broadcast for their 'right in the middle of it' coverage of The National Apology to the Stolen Generations in February.

3CR's Gilla McGuinness told *The Koori Mail* he did the broadcast 'out of the boot of a car with a 30-metre lead and stood in the middle and thousands of people walked towards me'.

"I like getting in amongst it," he said. "I got kicked off the top of the big screen three times. I said to the security guards 'I thought you were sorry'. Then I went and did a four-hour broadcast around the country via 3CR."

Whilst in the Top End, some AICA members also attended Batchelor Institute's Indigenous Media Unit – BIITE Media's celebrations of 21 years of media training at Batchelor, about an hour's drive south of Darwin.



Gilla McGuinness with his 2008 CBAA Award for Most Innovative Outside Broadcast or Special Event Broadcast.



Lesley Gabey, from 4K1G in Townsville, and Kevin Merritt from Radio Mama in Geraldton, Western Australia.



ICTV Chairperson Annette Victor and IRCA Chairperson Bess Price.



Nicole Muller, from Radio 4US in Rockhampton, and Valerie Craigie, from MOBFM in Mt Isa.





Members of the Brisbane Bees at the camp.

## 160 young Christians join camp



ABOUT 160 Christian Indigenous youths gathered at Lake Burrendong near Wellington, western New South Wales, recently for the fourth annual camp of the East Coast Christian Indigenous Youth Network (ECCIYN).

Youth groups travelled from Woodridge, Eden, Toukley, Dubbo, Mt Druitt, Minto, Broken Hill, Brisbane, Peak Hill, Albury, Condo and Coffs Harbour to take part in the event, which combined worship and sport.

Teams played six sports including touch football, basketball, soccer and hockey in a round-robin competition, and then put their minds to the test with a Bible quiz.

Later, the young people had fun with a fancy dress and talent night.

The overall winners, the Central Coast Turtles, beat three-time champs Minto Maggies to take out this year's Aunty Evvie Walker Memorial Shield.

ECCIYN youth leader Jenice Naden told *The Koori Mail* the weekend was a success, 'leaving everyone with smiles on their faces, new friendships, and more importantly a better understanding of God and a closer relationship with Him'.

Trophy winners were Broken Hill (basketball), Minto (touch football), Albury (hockey) and Mt Druitt (soccer).

At the night concert, Linda Russ won the 'Beyonce' award, while Jumel Naden took out the 'Usher' Award.

ECCIYN was established in 2005 and draws participants from NSW, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia. While the first such camp attracted about 60 people in five teams, numbers have now swelled to about 160 people in ten teams.

This year's camp hosts were the Dubbo Guuyars and their leaders Tom and Stella Sloane.



ABOVE: Members of the East Coast youth group.

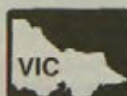
RIGHT: Youth Pastors Justin Green and Nathaniel Naden



Deborah Cheetham speaks at the ILNV launch while Elder Jim Berg and State Aboriginal Affairs Minister Richard Wynne look on.

# Leadership shot in arm for Victoria

By KERRI-LEE HARDING



LEADERSHIP in Victoria got a boost last month when the new Indigenous Leadership Network Victoria (ILNV) was launched in Melbourne.

Respected Victorian Elder Jim Berg officially launched the network before a crowd of more than 100 people at Tjanabi restaurant in Federation Square who had first been welcomed to country by Elder Aunty Carolyn Briggs.

Corporate business leaders joined local Indigenous people to celebrate the occasion.

Co-Chair of the new body, Karen Milward, was excited by the developments.

"I feel the network is finally a reality in its own right and I feel a sense of achievement as we were finally able to promote this to everyone through speaking and showcasing Indigenous people, discussing what leadership means to them and where Victorian Indigenous people should be heading in the future as it relates to Indigenous leadership in our community," she said.

ILNV aspires to support future directions of Indigenous leadership throughout the State, provide a clearing-house for debate on



**"I'd like to see a stronger voice provided for Indigenous young people in Victoria to discuss their issues, needs and priorities at all levels across all mediums."**

**— Karen Milward**

leadership, provide information to influence the development of key policy directions and give a vehicle for changing the operational culture of Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

Ms Milward said ILNV was very much needed in Victoria.

"We wanted a network to ensure that we could maximise all available opportunities in one place that could be accessed by Indigenous people as individuals, so that they didn't have to be a part of something that was connected to a particular group, organisation, political ideal or family group," she said.

"I'd like to see a stronger voice

provided for Indigenous young people in Victoria to discuss their issues, needs and priorities at all levels across all mediums."

Ms Milward's fellow Co-Chair, Paul Briggs, also spoke of his vision for the network.

"Our young people need to know that their skills and opinions, culture and identity are valued – and make significant contribution to Victoria's, and Australia's future, as well as its history," Mr Briggs told *The Koori Mail*.

"We will encourage and support the building and acquisition of knowledge by the mainstream where the lack of knowledge is."



# Equal time needed for culture in class

By PETER PURDON



INDIGENOUS communities must embrace Western concepts if they want to have the same life choices as the rest of the

country, a leading educator says.

However, Project Director of the Desert Peoples Centre Gregor Ramsey told the Desert Knowledge Symposium in Alice Springs last month there was no reason why language and other aspects of Indigenous culture could not be integrated into classroom teachings.

"Schools should be able to arrange times for both to occur, one controlled by the Indigenous people and the other by the teachers," Dr Ramsey said in a sometimes contentious keynote speech 'Learning and Education for Desert Futures'.

"The case could be made that each way needs equal time."

Dr Ramsey said that to his mind, Indigenous culture and Western culture needed to be kept notionally separated or at least people should be aware which was being applied when.

"Money, housing, bank, rent, English, work are all concepts that are part of Western culture and if people on communities want to avail themselves of things Western then they have to play the Western game: learn English, learn how to work, manage money, and speak English," he said.

"Newcomers to Australia do, irrespective of whether they come from the Sudan, Afghanistan, Iran or wherever. To gain the fruits of the wider Australian society people have to learn what it means to be part of it."

Dr Ramsey began his speech by quoting media magnate Rupert Murdoch in his recent 2008 Boyer Lecture, 'Australia's system of public education can never be called a success until



Desert Knowledge Australia Board Director Janet Turner welcomed delegates to country.

Aboriginal Australians benefit from it as much as any other citizens'.

The former National Board of Employment, Education and Training chairman's comments came after a decision by Northern Territory Education Minister Marion Scrymgour that the first four hours of the NT school day would be conducted solely in English.

In the past few weeks, bush communities have mounted a spirited campaign against the decision, which they say was made with little consultation.

About nine remote schools currently teach bi-lingual programs or 'two-way learning'.

Dr Ramsey that, in his 40-year experience, Indigenous parents from the desert were like parents everywhere and 'want the best for their children'.

"They want them to learn about their culture and heritage go to school, learn English and all the other skills needed to gain work and lead happy lives," he said.

"Like the firsts of anything in

any family, though, too many do not know how to help in such circumstances. They know about their own culture, but really do not know how much effort is required to be successful, and hardly know what a job is because the white fellows have the skills to snap up most of those."

## Teachers' skills

Dr Ramsey's speech also touched on the skills of teachers in desert communities.

"There is a limited future in an Indigenous language being used to teach Western concepts, and Western concepts by Indigenous teachers unless they are the best teachers available. The best teachers are needed whatever is being taught," he said.

"For those who teach, a community in the desert is so far from what most of their life experience has been that it is easy to adopt a laissez-faire attitude to their teaching."

"Committed experienced teachers of course do not, but

too many are gone after a year or two."

Renowned Indigenous educator Chris Sarra recently criticised the skills of some teachers sent to Indigenous communities, initially using the term 'white trash'. He later stepped back from those words, saying instead 'If I had my time again I would use the term lazy and incompetent'.

Dr Ramsey also said Australian schools struggled to integrate Indigenous languages in classrooms but had little problem integrating languages from overseas.

"I have no issue with the concept of both ways. It should apply to any cultural group in multicultural Australia that wishes to preserve aspects of their culture within the broader Australian culture," he said.

"This happens now for cultures such as Jewish, Muslim, and to an extent language and religious cultures such as Croatian, Serbian, and even Italian, Greek, and various Pacific Islander groups.

"Either they run a school where they charge fees and are supported by the Government or they run their own schools out of normal school hours. Both of these options would be available to Indigenous communities."

"Perhaps the word 'school' is not quite right for Indigenous learning, and the school of the natural world might be a better description."

"Other cultural groups teach their culture outside school hours. Why cannot Indigenous people? On the other hand we do teach other languages in schools."

Dr Ramsey said health was still very much an issue.

"Children cannot learn if they are tired or not well," he said.

"Knowledge and action is needed to prevent things like bad teeth, obesity, early pregnancy, and child and other illnesses. Sport and physical activity must be a natural part of each day's activity. There needs to be a good understanding of appropriate nutrition."

"Parents have significant responsibilities. Too often children are up too late without supervision and housing arrangements are usually poor."

Dr Ramsey concluded by saying schools would be successful only when children went to school on a daily basis, adults took a close interest in the business of the school, there was a close relationship between Indigenous learning and Western learning, and students had the skills to find jobs that were 'more than at the bottom end of the employment chain'.

"If only to talk about it got it all done!" he said.

The Desert Knowledge Symposium brought together in Alice Springs more than 300 business innovators, researchers and educators from the world's desert regions with the aim of developing a body of desert knowledge to help sustain desert communities.

# Young leader elected to top job



THE newly-elected Central Desert Shire Council has chosen its youngest member, James Jampajimpa Glenn, to become its first

president.

His twelve fellow councillors chose 30-year-old Mr Glenn, from Ti Tree, north of Alice Springs, from a field of seven candidates.

"We have many different groups in our shire and I look forward to working with all of them," said Mr Glenn.

"Together, I believe we can

explore new opportunities to develop a thriving economy."

The former Chairman of the Anmatjere Community Council has played a very active role in the local government reform process, serving as a Shire Transition Committee and Shire Council Committee member over a number of years.

Mr Glenn will work in a full-time capacity and base himself in Ti Tree and the hire headquarters in Alice Springs.

Educated at Yirra College, he speaks four languages and has been employed as a community



James Jampajimpa Glenn

liaison officer in Ti Tree. He is married with one child.

Central Desert Shire Council CEO Rowan Foley congratulated Mr Glenn on his appointment.

"James and I will work very closely with the other councillors to take our region forward," Mr Foley said.

Med Hargraves, from Yuendumu, was elected Deputy President for a 12-month period.

Councillors decided to elect a new Deputy President every year until the next Shire Council elections in 2012 because they want a range of individuals to

have the opportunity to gain experience in this role.

From a field of 26 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal candidates, shire voters chose James Glenn, Adrian Dixon, Jasper Haines and Noel Heenan (Anmatjere Ward), Ned Hargraves, Jean Brown, Robbie Wallit and Maisie Wayne (Southern Tanami Ward), and Bruce Finter and Louis Schaber (Atitjere Ward).

Norbert Patrick and William Johnson from Lajamanu were appointed unopposed to the two council positions of the Northern Tanami Ward.



## Business owner urges Indigenous strategy



AN Aboriginal business owner is urging the Federal Government to consider adopting an Indigenous Business Procurement Strategy.

The Rudd Government released the revised Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines on 10 October that took effect from 1 December.

The Guidelines represent the policy framework under which agencies govern and undertake their own procurement of goods and services.

Neil Willmetts, an Aboriginal business owner and former Queensland Government advisor, said he was pleased to hear about the reformed guidelines and was hopeful the Government would consider the inclusion of an Indigenous Business Procurement Strategy in the coming months.

"I applaud the Government for making the changes to these outdated guidelines. I believe that the Government's ongoing commitment to improving the lives of Aboriginal people will eventually translate into a whole-of-government Indigenous Business Procurement Strategy," he said.

Mr Willmetts, the author of the recently published book *How to Start a Successful Aboriginal Business in Australia*, said a collaborative partnership between the Government and Aboriginal business



NEIL WILLMETTS

owners was the way forward if a successful strategy was to be developed.

He said such a strategy would generate a range of benefits including economic independence, business expansion and the employment of more Aboriginal employees in those businesses.

He said there were a number of possible ways that an Indigenous Business Procurement Strategy could work. They included the Government setting aside contracts for Indigenous-

owned businesses; promoting joint ventures between Indigenous businesses and also Indigenous and non-Indigenous businesses; encouraging successful non-Indigenous contractors to sub-contract Indigenous labour; and educating stakeholders about Indigenous business.

He said an Indigenous Business Procurement Strategy would not be achieved by people just demanding one, and anyone bringing together policy-makers had to have a clear understanding of procurement policy.

"Established Aboriginal business owners who understand procurement practices are the answer," he said.

While supporting the need to see an Indigenous Business Procurement Strategy, Mr Willmetts said he was concerned that not enough people understood procurement and working collaboratively with Government to achieve outcomes.

"I am fed up with so-called Indigenous leaders who do not own an actual business, but who are always willing to criticise the Government for not doing enough for the Indigenous business sector," he said.

"Often these individuals have their own personal crusade or a disguised political agenda which often damages any goodwill between the Government and actual Aboriginal business owners."

## Looking to leadership in trying times

CONGRATULATIONS to the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) for their leadership in developing a program to address Indigenous governance. The AICD recently developed this product and undertook trial deliveries or programs in Darwin and Kununurra to refine the modules.

The result is a new and targeted product to be offered to Indigenous people occupying key positions, particularly Board positions, to provide the knowledge required to make important governance decisions.

This is a new area of development for the AICD and we are helping them to offer the service to Indigenous corporations.

Governance is often talked about as a major issue and it is reassuring to see mainstream organisations like the AICD taking up the call to help.

WE are all beginning to wonder what's on the horizon for the economic crisis gripping the world's markets. While Australia is still seen as being safer than most countries from possible effects of recession and downturns, we are not immune.

Last Tuesday, 25 November, IBA held a forum in Sydney bringing together economic leaders in order to address these issues. It was also a great opportunity for Indigenous business leaders along with a guest Maori business



## Participating in the Economy

with RON MORONY  
General Manager  
Indigenous Business Australia

leader to discuss the situation and explore ways of supporting each other in these tough economic times. (See separate story this issue).

FINALLY, I want to cover the issue of employment, currently a major focus of the Commonwealth Government, and moving to where the jobs are.

IBA was recently approached to employ a young Aboriginal man who had finished school and wanted a career in business development. He had grown up in Port Hedland (WA) and saw the need to move away from his home town to develop a future for himself. This is a tough decision, but one that has been made by many of us.

He has been given that chance and is now in Canberra looking to build a future with IBA. This young man from Port Hedland brought home to me the pressures we often face and the choices we often have to make which sometimes mean we have to make some difficult decisions in order to make a future in a world that is dominated by global economic issues.

Our culture and associations with family do not suffer as a consequence of taking those bold steps.

An economic pathway which starts with education, leading to jobs and being able to participate in business and commerce is my idea of a real future for Indigenous Australians and importantly the means to participate in the mainstream economy.



By DAVID SPEAR\*

THIS is the last year Indigenous corporations can report under the Aboriginal Corporations and Associations Act 1976. Going forward, directors and boards will need to report against the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (the CATSI Act).

Recognising the need for specialised governance training in Indigenous corporations, and the preparation required for the reporting transition, the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) formed a partnership with Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) to develop a director education program specifically customised for Indigenous boards.

Directors and boards play a pivotal role in our local communities and in the economy. As the people accountable for the control of all forms of companies, not-for-profit and public sector organisations, directors hold positions of considerable power



Article author David Spear

and responsibility. Many directors, however, are without a complete understanding of what their duties and responsibilities entail.

It can be challenging for directors and officers to fulfil their corporate governance responsibilities if there is limited experience of the function within the corporation. Time pressures often mean that the primary focus is on operational matters, but it is important that a board employs good governance.

On one level, corporate governance helps with compliance in legislative and

regulatory matters. But it should also be viewed as a function that can improve an organisation's performance through a heightened focus on effective systems and processes.

The Indigenous governance program was developed by AICD to help directors meet the practical demands of their roles, and address the unique challenges faced by Indigenous corporations.

Often considered as a single group, the realm of Indigenous corporations includes small and large organisations that operate with

varying degrees of structural complexity, and exist to serve vastly different purposes.

The Indigenous Governance Program has been customised to meet the needs of Indigenous boards and is supported by a group of specifically-selected facilitators. Delivery of the courses is by interactive workshop.

The programs were piloted in Darwin with the Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation and the Larrakia Development Corporation, and in Kununurra with MG Corporation.

AICD was excited by the feedback received and says the pilot course evaluations have been extremely positive.

With offices in every Australian State and Territory, and the experience of training thousands of non-Indigenous directors, AICD is well-positioned to run cost-effective, private training programs in the boardrooms of Indigenous corporations across the country.

"David Spear is State Manager of the Australian Institute of Company Directors' South Australian and Northern Territory divisions."





# Sharing their art

By DARREN COYNE



ARTISTS from six remote areas of Australia are sharing their culture and creations with the people of Melbourne.

An exhibition of artwork by the Western Desert Mob, an alliance of six remote art centres on the Ngaanyatjarra lands in the far east of Western Australia, is on show at the Melbourne Museum. When *The Koori Mail* visited last week,

staff at the museum enthusiastically described the exhibition as 'the best ever'.

The exhibition is called *Yamatji Pimi: Many Friendships* and celebrates the importance of connection to country and culture through art on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands. This area of nearly 160,000 sq kms has a population of more than 2000, and is in Western Australia, adjoining the Northern Territory and South Australia borders.

Ngaanyatjarra is the name of both the

language and the collective identity of Aboriginal people from this area.

The exhibition marks the first group showing of artworks from the Western Desert Mob Arts Centres in Melbourne.

## Friendships

*Yamatji Pimi: Many Friendships* includes a collection of paintings, punu (woodcarvings) and tjampi (weavings) from the Western Desert Mob Art Centre alliance; Kayili Artists, Warakurna Artists, Papulankutja Artists, Maruku Arts, Tjanpi

Desert Weavers and Tjarlirli Arts.

The art centres maintain transparent operations, producing artworks of 'impeccable provenance', with the majority of the profits being returned directly to artists and communities.

*Yamatji Pimi: Many Friendships* is showing at Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre at Melbourne until 28 February.

● Pictured from left, Warakurna artists Katjarra Butler, Mamie Butler and Sally Butler with Ken Shepherd and Tommy Mitchell.

# WA show for Bennett



SINCE his first major solo exhibition in 1989, Gordon Bennett has achieved international acclaim for his engagement with questions of cultural and personal identity.

Bennett's work has challenged conventional representations of Australian cultural identity for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Later this month, a new exhibition that brings together Bennett's early expressionist paintings with the later *Home Décor* and *Notes to Basquiat* series of paintings through to his recent abstract works will open at the Art Gallery of WA in Perth.

The Gordon Bennett Touring Exhibition comprises more than 80 works, including paintings, works on paper, installation and video performance.

Also showcased will be ten works by John Citizen, the artistic alter-ego described by Bennett as 'a persona I assume that allows me to follow other directions in my practice'. The John Citizen works are markedly different from Bennett's own work and include a series of interiors that replicate magazine-style living rooms.

Art Gallery of WA Director Stefano Carboni said: 'The gallery is delighted to present a survey of a distinguished career spanning 20 years which celebrates Gordon



Bennett's outstanding contribution to contemporary Australian art. It shows the impressive diversity and social engagement of his work as well as the continuing relevance of

the issues he addresses."

Bennett was born in 1955 at Monto, Queensland. He studied at the Queensland College of Art in Brisbane in 1986. In 1991 Bennett



Gordon Bennett's artworks, left, *The re-centred self* (1994), top, *Terra nullius* (1989) and above, *Home décor (Algebra) Daddy's little girl* (1998). Photos courtesy of the artist

was awarded the Moët et Chandon Fellowship which at the time was Australia's richest prize for young artists. He also won the John McCaughey

Memorial Art Prize, in 1997.

The Gordon Bennett Touring Exhibition will be on display in Perth from Saturday 20 December to Sunday 22 March.



# LJ Hill releases second album

By MAHALA STROHFELDT



SOMETIMES people's voices give away their past and if that's true, LJ Hill's life must surely have been lived at full speed.

Despite having been described as 'a gentle big bear of a man', LJ says if it wasn't for music, he would be dead, in jail or locked up in a mental institution. For him, music has been the thing that has saved him and rid him of some of the demons he carried around for so long.

*Namoi Mud*, LJ's second album, is a collection of songs that draws from themes of family, loss and love. The first song on the album, *18th day of May*, is a tribute to his sister who has passed on, and their lives together growing up in Narrabri, northern NSW.

With six brothers and two sisters, LJ said life was always busy. He said his mother Elsie Gertrude Hill was 'an outstanding woman who could have nothing and make a beautiful banquet out of dust and dreams'.

LJ lived at home until he was 16 and then left for Redfern, where he played second row and prop for the Redfern All Blacks rugby league club.

This began a long road that took him to the rodeo circuit riding bulls, and then to the boxing ring, which he says was 'a real shambles'.



LJ Hill ... "Music has been calling me my whole life."

LJ makes no bones about his fight, which for many is a life-long battle, to rid himself of an addiction to alcohol, which he says was a very real part of his home life.

"My father suffered from alcoholism, and I found out that that wasn't the way, but I don't

blame him, he was just a victim of circumstance too," he said.

However, there were two incidents that changed the self-destructive path he was on. One night when LJ was 'blind rotten drunk', his niece confronted him about his problem,

and told him that he had the potential to do great things with his life, but the drink was destroying that.

And by 1992, when he was studying music in Sydney and a teacher gave him some positive feedback about his songs, he was finally ready to listen and do something with it.

"Music has been calling me my whole life, and I've come to learn and understand that we all have eternal voices, and your spirit will sing for you," he told *The Koori Mail*.

"I've always had a yearning for something deeper and different, and the healing aspect of the music picks up on it subconsciously and never leaves."

With musical influences such as Merle Haggard, Bruce Springsteen and Tom T Hall, LJ's new album is a mixture of stories woven through country and blues but at the same time does not easily fit into any category. It makes you feel like you're peeping through the fence into the backyard of LJ's past, and when you listen to *Cowboys Never Change*, the seventh track on the album, you'll be drawn along with him, through the city streets, into dark smoky bars, sleeping under the stars in a town somewhere.

LJ is already working on his third album, and is getting ready to go on the road to play selected venues.

*Namoi Mud*, released on Laughing Outlaw Records, is available now.

# Spotlight on *Half Light*

By MARGARET SMITH



THE *Half Light: Portraits from Black Australia* exhibition which opened last month at the Art Gallery of NSW,

celebrates the work of 12 exceptional Indigenous photographers.

Many of the images are now iconic – especially Mervyn Bishop's photographs of the young, victorious Lionel Rose returning to Australia and Prime Minister Gough Whitlam's handback of traditional land to Elder Vincent Lingiari.

Also on display are Michael Riley's portrait of Tracey Moffatt, Destiny Deacon's party girls in *Last Laughs* and her cheeky *Where's Mickey?*, Ricky Maynard's *Wik Elder* – Bruce, Richard Bell's ironic angry self-portraits, and Brenda Croft's portrait of a young Hetti Perkins in *Strange Fruit*.

There are also images from younger, award-winning photographers showing the great diversity and strength of Indigenous photographers.

Merv Bishop said he was once called the 'lone ranger' of Aboriginal photographers. Starting out as a black-and-white news photographer he said his camera had taken him, 'to places that were emotionally and physically challenging'.

"It was wonderful to be present at the ceremony on Gurindji land in 1975 when the Prime Minister handed back the land," he said.

Genevieve Grieves is from the Worimi nation on the mid north coast of NSW and studied cinematography at UTS. She has recently worked on the TV series *The First Australians*, and said it



Photographs from the *Half Light: Portraits from Black Australia* exhibition, clockwise from top left: Prime Minister Gough Whitlam pours soil into the hands of traditional land owner Vincent Lingiari, Northern Territory by Mervyn Bishop; Wik Elder, Bruce by Ricky Maynard; *Strange Fruit* by Brenda L Croft; *Where's Mickey?* by Destiny Deacon.



was an honour to be part of the exhibition with luminaries of the Aboriginal art world who had 'paved the way for people like me'.

Her images explore the sub-text of early portraiture when white studio photographers placed Indigenous families in contrived set-ups, but in Grieves' depictions

the images are moving and we also see behind the scenes.

Peter McKenzie was born in La Perouse and is now doing a PhD at the University of New England. His work in *Half Light* features a LaPa football game where the camera ventures on and off-field and into the dressing rooms.

Multi-award-winning artist Richard Bell, who was born in Charleville and now lives in Brisbane, said he used his self-portraits ironically because of the stereotyping of his people.

"I wasn't angry, I was having fun," he said. His portraits of young Aboriginal children as future Prime

Ministers and Ministers are also an optimistic view of changing times.

"We've just seen that in the US," he said.

Dianne Jones now lives in Melbourne, but was raised in Northam and Perth, Western Australia, where her father was a shearer and her mother a painter. She enjoys being provocative in her images and looked back to the images of Max Dupain and Tom Roberts, inserting images of her own father into Roberts' famous painting *Shearing the Lambs* and herself into Max Dupain images of Bondi Beach lifesavers.

"There are a lot of sad and tough stories in our history, but these aren't the only stories I wanted to tell," she said.

Vernon Ah Kee, from far north Queensland, now lives in Brisbane, and has exhibited widely overseas. His exhibition piece centres around a series of images and texts of a conversation between himself as the black man and a white female friend, where they discuss the politics of their time and how they are affected.

He said he first composed the series when he was at art school, but returned to it this year and still found it relevant.

"We'll still be having this conversation 50 to 100 years from now," he said.

The *Half Light* exhibition also includes the works of Tony Albert, Brook Andrew, Brenda Croft, Michael Riley, Darren Sives and Christian Bumbarra Thompson, and the accompanying book has in-depth interviews with all the artists by Brenda Croft, Jonathan Jones and Hetti Perkins.

The exhibition runs until 22 February. Visit [www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au](http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au) for info on free films and seminars.



# Bran Nue role for Australian Idol's Jessica Mauboy

**R**ising music star, former *Australian Idol* contestant Jessica Mauboy has a starring role the screen adaption of the stage musical *Bran Nue Dae*, which has begun shooting in Broome, Western Australia.

Mauboy plays the female lead in the movie, alongside Oscar-winner Geoffrey Rush, Ernie Dingo, Deborah Mailman and singer-songwriter Missy Higgins.

Mauboy had never acted before, but has been lucky enough to be guided by Rush.

"I have learnt a lot," said Mauboy.

"I was mentored by him while reading the script and going through it a couple of times.

"He's an amazing artist. I think he's just beautiful.

"The cast is great, it's going to be funny, it's going to be a bit of everything."

*Bran Nue Dae* tells the story of a young Aboriginal man, Willie, growing up in Broome in the 1960s. His mother has high hopes for him

and sends him to a religious mission for further schooling, but he runs away after an incident, and heads back to Broome.

Mauboy plays Rosie, Willie's love interest, while Rush plays Father Benedictus.

It is due for release in July next year.

Mauboy found similarities between herself and her character.

"The character that I'm playing I haven't really changed, it seems as

recorded with US singer FloRida, has been a hit.

Her debut album *Been Waiting* was released on 22 November, and she performed her second single *Burn* at the *Australian Idol* grand final at the Sydney Opera House the next day.

She said she was looking forward to showing her more confident side in *Burn*, written by an American who has worked with big names like The Pussycat Dolls,

Jordin Sparks and Rihanna.

"It's going to be unexpected, a lot of people hadn't seen this side of me -

the Jess that no one's ever seen," she said.

"This is from my own creativity and something I've built up and I guess this is the direction I want to go. I'm really proud of this album"

- AAP

● Pictured: Jessica Mauboy on the red carpet at this year's Deadly Awards, where she performed her debut single *Running Back*.

- Photo courtesy of Vibe Australia

**'The cast is great, it's ... going to be a bit of everything'**

though I'm still the same person playing that Rosie character," she said.

"It's kind of moving and for Broome itself it was originally written there and it is based on a true story."

Her debut screen role comes as Mauboy's career is taking off.

The 2006 *Idol* runner-up's first single, *Running Back*, which she

# Murri talent shines on Woodford stage



THE Murri Stage at this year's Woodford Folk Festival will feature a line-up of about 30 bands, dance troupes, artists and speakers.

The music on offer will span didge to rap, country to blues, roots to rock, desert to the coast, and from Torres Strait to Polynesia.

Organisers say Banawurun and Oka, along with didge maestro/composer William Barton will be among the highlights, while the Stiff Gins should impress with their harmonies.

Patrons on the Sunday morning will get a chance to hear Professor Mick Dodson talk about 'Sorry, Ten Months On' while on the Tuesday morning, Ernie Dingo will speak.

The festival starts on 27 December and runs through to late on 1 January, offering 580 acts and 1600 performances from across the world.

There will also be a visual arts program including installation, illumination and gallery exhibitions. Patrons can attend on any day or make a camp for the duration. For more information, go to [www.woodfordfolkfestival.com](http://www.woodfordfolkfestival.com)



Ernie Dingo (left) will be amongst the speakers on the Murri Stage, meanwhile didgeridoo player William Barton (right) will be one of the performing artists featured.





# Young dancers wow out west



The Wagambirra Dance Group from Cowra

**NSW** YOUNG people from the communities of Wellington, Cowra, Bathurst, Kelso and Condobolin will come together to perform with the Yarrigan Dancers in Wellington this Saturday, December 6.

The performance is the culmination of the Central West Contemporary Aboriginal Dance Development Project 2008, which saw more than 75 young dancers participate in a series of contemporary dance workshops across the region with the Yarrigan Dancers.

Led by Jo Clancy, the Yarrigan Dancers are all National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association (NAISDA) graduates and talented emerging artists. On Saturday they will perform a new contemporary Indigenous dance work being developed by Jo

Clancy in collaboration with three other dancers.

The Yarrigan performance is an opportunity for regional Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal dancers and the public to be exposed to a professional performance of this kind.

Performances by the Wagambirra Dancers (Wiradjuri for play and dance about) from Cowra will also be on show, joining the young people in showcasing the new works they have devised in the workshops.

These groups will perform new contemporary Aboriginal dance pieces that explore the fusion of traditional and contemporary movement.

The Central West Contemporary Aboriginal Dance Development program focuses on four communities: Cowra, Condobolin, Wellington and Kelso/Bathurst.

Organised by Arts OutWest, the program has been supported by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Board of the Australia Council for the Arts.

Each community has access to the expertise of Ms Clancy for at least four intense two-day working sessions. These workshops covered choreographic, performance and presentation development.

The public is encouraged to attend the performance and any groups from other schools or communities wishing to attend must book with Wellington High School.

The performance will be in the Wellington High School Auditorium, Whitely Street, at 5.30pm.

● For further information on the program, contact Wellington High School on (02) 6845-2344 or Arts OutWest on (02) 6338-4657.

## Utopian bush medicine the focus of art



AN art exhibition that focuses on the bush medicine knowledge of Traditional Owners from the Utopia region in Central Australia has opened at the Araluen Art Gallery in Alice Springs.

*Intem-anley anem: These things will always be* is the result of a collaborative project that began over 12 months ago when a group of women Elders from Utopia, 270km north-east of Alice Springs, requested support to document bush medicine knowledge in order to pass it on to younger generations.

As a result, lecturers from the Central Australian campus of Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education and youth media trainers from the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA), began collaborating with the community to document this important area of traditional knowledge.

"We wanted Batchelor to help us find new ways to pass on our knowledge about bush medicine to younger generations," said Utopia Elder Lena Pwerli.

"We want our young people to learn new skills too."

Batchelor lecturer in language and linguistics Margaret Carew said the collaborative project focused on the intergenerational transmission of language and culture, cultural documentation and the development of literacy and learning through art and performance.

Her colleague and linguist Gail Woods said the project had been operating throughout 2008 and since its commencement in March, well over 40 community members had been involved, including youth and Elders.

"Together they have drawn upon existing strengths such as oral language competence, the Elders' traditional knowledge and visual art practices, to develop a community driven artistic response to the theme," Ms Woods said.

Batchelor art lecturer Jenny Taylor said the process included going out on country with senior knowledge holders and Elders, engaging local youth to research and document local knowledge of bush medicine and for them to express and respond to this knowledge through contemporary visual art, multimedia and the Alyawarr and Anmatjerr languages.

The exhibition continues until 8 February.

# Nana's stories inspire artworks



THE art of storytelling is the focus of expressive paintings by Dena Leo in a new exhibition which opened last week at

Girringun Aboriginal Corporation at Cardwell, in north Queensland.

Leo, whose language name is Bunga Milbirrigun, is a Traditional Owner of the Girramay people.

Leo's inspiration has largely come from her grandmother, the late Bessie Jerry (Ewadray).

"The real connection, what got me started, was my nana asking me to paint our stories or to paint things to do with culture," she said.

"Nana said to me, 'You gadg'ee got you jinna in two world, we fella world, Aboriginal and inna wybala



Dena Leo draws on the legacy of her grandmother to create contemporary visions of an ancient culture.



world. You gudg'ee teach im! "Nana hoped that I could use my painting as an educational tool, not just for our kids so that they can remember the stories,

but for the wider community too. "Before the old people would spend days on end telling our culture, but now we don't get that kind of time any more.

"So this is my way of educating our kids and whoever else wants to know."

The exhibition continues at Girringun Aboriginal Corporation,

235 Victoria Street, Cardwell until 17 December, Mon to Thurs 8.30am-5pm and Fridays 8.30am-2pm. Contact (07) 4066 8300 or [artsmanager@girringun.com.au](mailto:artsmanager@girringun.com.au)



# Aboriginal art is far more than just dots

By KERRI-LEE HARDING



THE people behind a new book are hoping it will educate the wider community about the fact that Aboriginal art is not all the same. The book *Not Just Dots* challenges many of the myths and misunderstandings that some people have when it comes to Indigenous art.

The book promotes Eastern Victorian Indigenous Art while at the same time it captures the heart and soul of the local Aboriginal history of the region.

The Elders are celebrated and embraced and the book introduces emerging artists who are yet to make their mark on the Australian Arts scene.

Neat and compact in size, the book encapsulates the very essence of the East Gippsland Aboriginal artists and their work.

In the foreword, Gunai/Kurnai Elder



Pictured with the book *Not Just Dots* are, from left, Garry Baker of Deniliquin Newspapers who printed the book, EGAAC CEO Danny Waters, artist Colin Hood and author Robyn Evans.

Uncle Albert Mullett wrote: "The country we live in is unique. There are now many people in the area from other country who bring their art and stories."

"Today it is a sharing thing and there is a great diversity of artists. It is important that the Traditional Owners are supporting young people in the development of their

art work. "We tell our artists they shouldn't do dots, it doesn't belong to this country we need to carry on the traditional fine line work."

There was not just one launch but two, the first held at Bairnsdale and a week later at the State Library of Victoria, Melbourne. Wurundjeri Elder Aunty Pat Ockwell welcomed the guests to the launch at the State Library and told the audience that things like this book are so important 'so our culture stays strong and can be passed on to the next generation'.

Aunty Eadie Terrick, one of the artists featured in the book, lives in Bairnsdale and now, at age 80, is much-respected for her basketry skills, creating detailed eel traps and baskets.

She says the eel traps are made for catching fish, eels and crabs and can take several weeks to make.

## 'Few dollars'

"It was a way for blackfellas to make a few dollars," she said.

Twenty-one artists are featured in the book including Aunty Eadie's daughter Elaine Terrick, Colin Hood, Aunty Faye Harrison, Brett Ross, Cindy Dean and Charlotte (Penny) Hood.

The project has been funded by The City of Melbourne's Indigenous Arts Unit and supported by Melbourne's Deputy Lord Mayor Gary Singer who said that while working hard to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Victorians in health and education was important, it was equally important to 'shape an accurate perception of Indigenous heritage and culture in the mind of all Victorians'.

The book is available in hardback from various outlets or from the publisher, East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Corporation (EGAAC). Phone (03) 5153 1002 - RRP \$29.95.

# Journey into WA country

## Heartsick for Country

Stories of Love, Spirit and Creation  
Edited by Sally Morgan, Tjalamina Mia and Blaze Kwaymullina

Through Fremantle Arts Press

ISBN 978 192 136 111 1

RRP \$27.95

Reviewed by MARGARET SMITH

THIS collection of stories and essays from West Australian writers takes us on a journey into the Dreamtime of their Elders, and forward to a future where caring for country must become a reality for all Australians.

Writer and artist Sally Morgan, from the Palyku traditional lands in WA's Pilbara region, reflects on the early contact between Europeans and her Indigenous people.

"One of these hardy, seagoing adventurers was a working-class man from Yorkshire - James Cook, English hero and the nemesis of my people - on the eve of the Americas giving birth to the idea that all men are created equal, with the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," said Morgan.

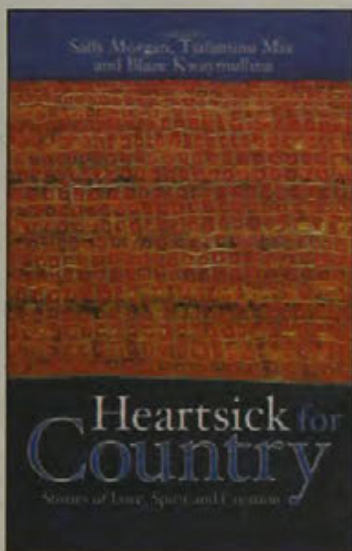
"Cook brought the winds of change to our shores, only he blew in on a mighty gust of Empire, not revolution."

More significant for the future of WA's Aboriginal people, those that mapped their coast before Cook had already pronounced it 'an infernal southland'.

Ironically, Morgan writes that they were terrified by 'the pitiless blue sky of a sunburnt country, the beauty and terror of a wide brown land'.

"They were haunted by a place of perfect happiness which they called 'Terra Australia Incognita', Latin for the unknown south land," she said.

But the Aboriginal people passed their stories down through generations, and Morgan's aunty even recalled that when she first saw a man on a horse, 'she



thought it was a devil kicking up dust'.

Ambelin Kwaymullina, also from the Pilbara, takes up this theme in her *Land of Many Countries* essay. She documents the increasing gulf between white invaders and Indigenous people, and writes 'paradoxically with every action taken to claim this country, the British only succeeded in creating greater and greater distance between themselves and the territory they wanted to make their own'.

She goes on to write that this violence lingers today.

"It was not only Aboriginal people who were, and still are, affected by colonial violence. The land remembers where blood was shed," she writes.

Nyungar man Len Collard interviews his Elders for his essay, and reflects on their kinship and religious beliefs, and how Perth's Kings Park was a camping

ground for them in the early day and where their spirits can still be felt.

In her essay, Irene Watson, from south-east South Australia, and now with the Faculty of Law at the University of Sydney, explores the Stolen Generations and country.

"Whilst the removal for Aboriginal child removal is stated differently, its effect on Aboriginal connection to country is the same: We become dispossessed as traditional owners of our country."

But even in the Indigenous practice of 'caring for country' there can be hardship. Irene Watson reveals 'it can also be a lot of worry, sadness and hopelessness over our dealings with a dominant culture that doesn't care in the same way that many Aboriginal people care for the land'.

Nyungar/Indjarbandi man Noel Nannup sees the possibility of training young people to help heal country.

"What we need is a group of Aboriginal people trained up as river rangers, with direct responsibility of going to companies along the river, monitoring the water, and finding out where this dreadful stuff (pollution) is coming from," he writes.

Sally Morgan also testifies to the great rock art of the Pilbara now under threat from mining companies, and calls for balance in all our dealings with the earth.

This takes on a spiritual dimension as Gladys Idjirrimoonya Milroy and her daughter Jill Milroy, both Palyku Elders, reveal their belief in healing through stories about the great power of Dingo and Wombat in looking after the earth.

"Dingo is always finding things that are lost and Wombat is always trying to help him with them," they write.

"Together they give us lessons on how to restore everything to its proper place in order to ensure the future."

They quote the great Kakadu poet Bill Neidjie: 'If you feel sore. Headache, sore body. That mean somebody killing tree or grass'.

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# Dot's vision for good eyesight

# Closing the gap in South Australia

**NT** MORE than 300 million people worldwide are blind or vision impaired because they don't have access to the type of eye care provided by Dorothy Butler in the Northern Territory, according to Professor Brien Holden, CEO of International Centre for Eyecare Education (ICEE).

Dorothy (Dot) Butler is the Regional Eye Health Co-ordinator for Wurli Wurli Health Service, an Aboriginal Medical Service (AMS) in Katherine.

Between visits to communities in her care and general health care duties, she manages the busy list of referrals to visiting ICEE optometrists, as well as local ophthalmologists.

Ms Butler's role as Regional Eye Health Co-ordinator covers an area from Katherine, in the north, to Lajamanu, in the south, and east to Borroloola, an area larger than some European countries.

Ms Butler is a warm, generous character and, like so many health care workers, when you scratch the surface, you find an ambitious, hard-working woman dedicated to good eye care and healthy vision for the Indigenous people of her communities.

Ms Butler started as a Health Co-ordinator at Wurli seven years ago. Two years later she was invited to attend a vision screening and eye health training course with ICEE, an Australian non-government organisation (NGO) delivering eye care services in Aboriginal operated medical services for ten years.

Because of her eye health training and experience, Ms Butler has been able to

**Dot Butler at work in Katherine. Her work as a Regional Eye Health Co-ordinator covers areas of the Northern Territory that are larger than some European countries.**



train two more health workers from her community. Recently she embarked upon an ambitious project to screen the eyes of every Indigenous school child in Katherine which, she says should be finished by Christmas this year.

The program is a first for the community and an initiative of Wurli Wurli Health Service.

## Burgeoning global crisis

Professor Holden is less known at home in Australia than he is internationally, where he is renowned for his contribution to public health and vision correction research. He works exhaustively on the issue of global eye care, but worries that the problem of unnecessary vision impairment and blindness due to refractive error is a burgeoning global health crisis.

"We talk about 300 million people, but the number doesn't include those suffering from presbyopia. If we were to include that number, then uncorrected refractive error (URE) would be considered one of the biggest health

care challenges facing us today," he said.

"The reality is that as we age our eyes begin to deteriorate, a condition known as presbyopia. It affects most of us over by the age of 45 years. Usually, a pair of glasses is all that is needed to correct the problem.

"It's an established fact - visual impairment has a direct link with poverty." In developing and remote communities around the world, getting access to eye care is often difficult and not always because of the cost involved.

"To get an eye examination it can involve travelling long distances and leaving work and family to get there," Prof Holden said.

"There is a long list of other deterrents that prevent millions worldwide from getting access to an eye examination and the right pair of glasses, but not addressing a vision problem can have devastating consequences.

"That's why the work of Dot Butler at Wurli Wurli Health Service is so important."

# Cultures vary widely on 'informed consent'



A RESEARCH study has shown a considerable cultural difference between the beliefs of traditional Aboriginal and Western people with regards to 'informed consent' for medical procedures.

Senior Research Fellow with the International Program of Psycho-Social Health Research (a research body of CQ University Australia) Dr Pam McGrath said the differing perspectives and cultural practices translated into major concerns that impacted on the practice of obtaining consent for medical procedures.

## Extensive interviews

The findings were reached from qualitative interviews conducted with 72 participants, including Indigenous patients, their carers, Aboriginal health workers, health professionals and interpreters from rural and remote areas of the Northern Territory.

The study found that for traditional Indigenous people, there was a cultural need for consent to come from the 'right' person within the network of kinship and community

relationships, not necessarily solely the patient, as in Western medicine.

"Disrespect for such traditional processes can lead to 'payback' for the ill Indigenous person or their relatives, as well as considerable anger from family members," Dr McGrath said.

The emphasis on immediacy in relation to obtaining consent also conflicts with the timing needed for community consent.

"The study also revealed that because of the differing culture understandings of health and illness held by Indigenous peoples, it may be difficult to relate to the associated consequences and distress associated with many treatments," Dr McGrath said.

"The consent process is further compromised by language barriers when Indigenous people are not fully informed, in their own language, about the potential benefits and harms of the intervention offered."

Dr McGrath said the research findings indicated the importance of providing a culturally appropriate means of obtaining informed consent for Indigenous patients in rural and remote areas.



A REPORT detailing the achievements and milestones of Australia's first Centre of Clinical Research Excellence (CCRE) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health was launched in Adelaide last month.

The CCRE, a partnership between the Aboriginal Health Council of SA (AHCSA) and Flinders University, has been funded under the National Health and Medical Research Council's Centres of Clinical Research Excellence (CCRE) Scheme, but will cease operation later this year when that funding finishes.

The Centre's main focus has been to improve the health of Aboriginal people by conducting quality research and building the research capacity of the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector.

CCRE Chair Yvonne Buza says the Centre plays a critical role in strengthening the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector's involvement in planning, researching and evaluating Aboriginal health interventions.

"The key focus of this project has been to increase Aboriginal capacity to be decisively involved in and prioritise research that will benefit the health of South Australian Aboriginal peoples," said Ms Buza.

"Working with community-based health organisations such as the Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service, Port Augusta's Pika Wiya Health Service and the Ceduna-Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service has been critical to our successes in monitoring and evaluating health programs to improve the effectiveness of Aboriginal-controlled health services."

## Course goes national

Ms Buza said the Centre had been instrumental in developing a Certificate IV course in Research and Evaluation, which had now been delivered for the first time nationally to Aboriginal people.

"If we are going to close the health inequity gap, then it's essential that Aboriginal people take a decisive role in developing and implementing health programs and this course is a critical capacity building component of this strategy," she said.

AHCSA aims to continue offering this course as a significant part of efforts to build the capacity of Aboriginal health services to be able to incorporate research and evaluation within their core business and there are also plans to establish a position to co-ordinate research involvement by the Aboriginal health sector and to assist the sector in determining its research priorities.

The CCRE has also been active in introducing innovative primary health care models for prevention and management of the chronic diseases killing Aboriginal people much earlier in life than non-Aboriginal Australians, including a ground-breaking Aboriginal chronic disease self-management model, developed with Aboriginal community representatives to ensure its appropriateness.



# AMA

## Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship 2009

For the assistance and encouragement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders studying for a medical degree at an Australian University.

Applications are now sought for the Australian Medical Association (AMA) Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship for 2009. Applicants must be people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background.

Applicants must be eligible for ABSTUDY. A scholarship will not be awarded to an applicant who already holds any other substantial scholarship. To be eligible, the applicant must be currently enrolled at an Australian Medical School and completing at least their first year of medicine.

The scholarship will be awarded on the recommendation of an advisory committee appointed by the AMA. The value of any scholarship given in 2009 will be \$9,000 per annum.

The scholarship will be awarded for a full course of study, subject to review at the end of each year. A scholarship may be awarded part-way through a year to apply to the remainder of the year's study.

Applications close Friday 30 January 2009.

To receive further information and an application package, please contact Mrs Sophia Habib, Administration Officer, AMA on 02 6270 5452 or by e-mail shahab@ama.com.au. An application package can also be downloaded from the AMA website [www.ama.com.au](http://www.ama.com.au)

The Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship Trust Fund has been established with a contribution from the Australian Government. The Trust is administered by the Australian Medical Association, with the help of an advisory committee appointed by the Board of Trustees.

The Australian Medical Association would like to acknowledge the Reuben Peleman Benevolent Foundation for their support of the Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship.





## Nurse claims untrue, NT department says



CLAIMS that nurses are employed in outback communities instead of doctors to save money are simply untrue, says the Northern Territory Health Department.

The allegations were made by Queensland doctor Pat Rebgetz, who three years ago moved to Wadeye, 250km south-west of Darwin. It is the NT's largest and most troubled Aboriginal community.

Dr Rebgetz, who regularly treated victims of domestic violence, sex abuse and gang violence, said nurses were encouraged to treat seriously ill patients.

"I don't get to see patients with illnesses that I think it would be appropriate for them anywhere else in Australia to see a doctor," he told the media last month. "Cases like pneumonia are being treated by the nurse."

This seriously jeopardised the quality of care and was at times illegal, said Dr Rebgetz, who claimed to be continually

astounded by the level and acceptance of dysfunction at Wadeye.

The doctor said his attempts to talk to the NT Department of Health and Families (DHFS) about the problem had been ignored.

"If they're really serious about wanting to get doctors to spend meaningful amounts of time in these communities, these communities are difficult enough to work in from a location and cross-cultural point of view, without having additional problems with

clinical governance in your place of work," he said.

DHFS Chief Executive David Ashbridge on Wednesday denied the claims.

"It is simply false," he said in a statement. "It is not the department's policy to employ nurses in favour of doctors."

Mr Ashbridge said nurses at Wadeye were working 'within their scope of practice' and in line with a treatment manual issued by the Central Australian Rural Practitioners Association.

# Her work delivers

As an obstetrician, I feel very privileged in my life's work. I get to work with mothers, striving to give the best care possible to unborn children.

Healthy mothers give our kids a great start in life and an optimistic future. And this is true in a spiritual, mental, physical and cultural sense.

### My story

I'd like to share my story with you about how I ended up where I am today.

I came from a big, extended family that was very matriarchal. My mother is the eldest of 12 kids – eight of them were girls – so growing up, I saw the pivotal role that women play in their families and communities, as well as the heavy health burden that they bear.

My mother was an inspirational healer in her own right, a leader in our community and a women's health advocate. She was a registered nurse as well as a registered midwife. She was also one of the first women's health practitioners in New South Wales.

As a young doctor, I was also strongly influenced by Sister Alison Bush, or 'Bushy' as we called her. An Aboriginal midwife, Bushy and I still maintain our strong connection to this day and

she has definitely played a part in my career path in women's health.

However it wasn't until 1999, when I worked for a year in Papua New Guinea, that I finally made the decision to work in obstetrics and gynaecology. It was the wonderful but heart-breaking experiences I had that year that led me down the long, six-year road of medical specialty training.

### Healthy mothers equal healthy kids

In the early 1990s, a researcher named Barker found that there was a link between babies with low birth weights and getting diseases like heart disease and kidney disease later on in life.

Barker's work has important implications for our people because we have higher rates of low birth weight babies. So it's important to get it right in pregnancy if we are truly to give our kids the best start in life.

### Healthy pregnancy

As well as low birth-weight babies, Aboriginal women have higher rates of pre-term birth, or babies being born too early. If they live outside major cities, it often means being flown to a city



## Doctor's Advice

A column from the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association

with Dr Marilyn Clarke

hospital so the baby can be cared for in an intensive care unit. This can be a scary experience – being away from home, not having a lot of family around for support, being in an unfamiliar and large hospital environment, as well as the stress of the baby being sick with tubes and drips.

Being able to prevent pre-term labour is something that we all strive to achieve. Things that can help include presenting

for antenatal care early in the pregnancy; having regular visits; looking after yourself with good healthy tucker; avoiding smoking; and, believe it or not, healthy teeth! There is some evidence to suggest poor dental hygiene is associated with pre-term births.

From the medical side, there is lots of research into how we help prevent pre-term births and there are some exciting prospects on the horizon.

### Good news stories

I can't begin to tell you how rewarding it is to see the tears of joy and the pride in a mother's face as she holds her baby for the first time. It makes all the hard work worth it.

In my own work as a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist for the Aboriginal midwifery program in Coffs Harbour (NSW), I've seen a very positive program, which is now being rolled out across NSW, where midwife and Aboriginal health worker work as a team to deliver community-based care to Aboriginal women and their babies.

When this program was first trialled, there were some significant improvements in women's health. This is a testament to the fact that positive

changes can occur. We owe it to the future health of our children.

● For those readers who might be thinking about becoming doctors, we really want to hear from you. Write to us c/- the Editor, Koori Mail, PO Box 117, Lismore 2480 or email editor@koorimail.com



● Dr Marilyn Clarke, pictured with daughter Phoebe at the 2006 AIDA Symposium in Darwin, is from the Worimi people of Port Stephens, NSW. She grew up there with her twin sister Marlene and younger brother Kelvin, raised by their mother and extended family. Dr Clarke studied medicine with her sister at Sydney University, where they were the first Aboriginal medical graduates in 1997. Since then, Dr Clarke has completed her medical specialty training in obstetrics and gynaecology. To date, she is the only Aboriginal obstetrician and gynaecology specialist in Australia. Dr Clarke works in Coffs Harbour.



## Want to make a difference in improving the health of the Indigenous community?

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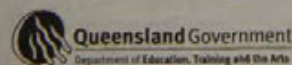
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# First for Flinders

SA

A SOUTH Australian university is taking a leadership role in improving employment outcomes for Indigenous Australians.

Federal Employment Participation Minister

Brendan O'Connor last week visited the Yunggoendi First Nations Centre for Higher Education and Research at Flinders University, which was the first higher education institution in Australia to become a corporate leader for Indigenous Employment Projects.

Mr O'Connor met with participants of a Structure Training and Employment Project, which the Australian Government provided with \$152,250 in funding.

## 13 highly-skilled jobs

Of the 19 participants in the STEP program, 13 have been employed with the university in highly-skilled positions, including lecturers, research associates and academic advisers.

"Flinders University has been a leader in many fields for many years and is now emerging as a leading university in employing Indigenous people in highly skilled jobs," Mr O'Connor said.

"It has developed an employment strategy for Indigenous Australians which has significantly improved the recruitment, participation and retention of Indigenous people at the university.

"With the help of an Australian Government STEP project, Flinders has appointed an Indigenous Employment Co-ordinator and been able to attract highly-skilled Indigenous staff to highly-skilled positions."

Mr O'Connor said that providing better access to public and private sector jobs was crucial in securing economic independence



Flinders University Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Professor Chris Marlin; Federal Employment Participation Minister Brendan O'Connor; Flinders University Indigenous Employment Co-ordinator Stephen Gonda; National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction Indigenous Project Officer Donna Weetra; Flinders University Trainee Records Clerk Natasha Wanganeen, and Flinders University's Employment Strategy for Indigenous Australians Advisory Group Chair Dr Jane Robbins.

Photo: Jonathon Guppy

for Indigenous Australians.

The Australian Government says it is committed to halving the employment gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade by creating job opportunities and giving Indigenous people the skills and training they need to get and keep a job.

"I look forward to Flinders University continuing to work with the Government to further explore opportunities for employment and other economic activities for Indigenous people in higher education," Mr O'Connor said.

## Curtin academic short-listed for national book award



DARREN Garvey, a lecturer at Curtin University of Technology's Centre for

Aboriginal Studies (CAS), has been short-listed for the 2008 Stanner Award.

His book, *Indigenous Identity in Contemporary Psychology – Dilemmas, Developments, Directions*, is one of three short-listed for the award, which is presented by the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS).

The book focuses on the development of Indigenous psychology in Australia and describes what contemporary psychology and psychologists might do to improve service delivery.

### Trailblazer

Mr Garvey, one of Australia's first Indigenous male psychologists, said he was excited and humbled about being short-listed for this year's award.

"I am honoured to be nominated for the award, especially because of the quality of the work that has previously won," he said.

"I couldn't quite believe it at first, but it is fantastic that my book is held in such high esteem."

Mr Garvey said he hoped to use royalties from book sales and the prizemoney, if he received it, to set up two awards for academically talented Indigenous students, one through CAS and the other through the Australian Psychological Society.

Mr Garvey has a Bachelor Degree in Psychology from James Cook University and Masters in Health Promotion from Curtin. He



currently lectures in the Indigenous Australian Cultural Studies Program at CAS.

The Stanner Award is for the best published contribution to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander studies that year.

Contributions are assessed on a number of criteria, including the importance of the work to advancing awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies, and the ability to promote a greater awareness of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culture and identities.

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## NT workers see what West has to offer



**EIGHTEEN** Indigenous Education Workers (IEWs) from Catholic schools in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs have recently returned from a study tour to Western Australia which organisers declared 'a huge success'.

During the week-long tour, the IEWs witnessed successful practices in promoting positive outcomes for Aboriginal students in WA schools and also experienced a range of other cultural and educational activities aimed at broadening their scope of operation, strategies, activities and networks.

### School visits

Highlights included visiting two Dare to Lead Excellence Award-winning schools in Perth - Challis Early Childhood Education Centre and Yule Brook College.

An afternoon was spent at Clontarf Aboriginal College, as well as two schools implementing the Aboriginal Literacy Strategy Program in the Kalgoorlie area.

Participants visited George Wally and his family for a cultural tour around Mandurah, including



IEWs on the WA study tour with students from Clontarf Aboriginal College where they spent an afternoon.

the site of the Battle of Pinjarra.

Another excellent opportunity for cultural sharing was a night under the stars at Moropoi Aboriginal Station, in the State's east.

"It was a huge success, a fantastic tour," said Georgie Jones, Education Officer for the NT Catholic Education Office.

"We had a combination of school visits and cultural experiences to immerse the IEWs in some contexts that were different to where they're from, as well as some that were similar.

"They picked up hundreds of ideas they can implement in their own schools. We are currently

compiling an Indigenous Education Worker resource folder. The experiences of the tour will feed into that.

"Also, the 18 IEWs who went on the tour wrote a song about the experience that they have recorded with Shelley Morris, and that will be on the DVD that is part of the resource folder."

As one participant wrote in the Tour Diary: "I have grown as a person. The trip has also been about finding ourselves and I have enjoyed the experience. I have four children of my own and want the best for them... the trip has given me ideas to make some positive steps back home."

— By MICHAEL WINKLER

# School on wheels

By PETER PURDON



**TWO** mobile truck-driven classrooms demonstrating a range of e-learning software connecting the cultural values of local communities with educational outcomes visited Northern Territory

regional and bush communities last month.

The MALU (Mobile Active Learning Unit) roadshow spent a week between Alice Springs and Darwin promoting the use of digital learning tools.

The project was organised by Charles Darwin University (CDU), the NT Government and local private training provider IST.

Ruth Wallace, a researcher from CDU's Education, Health and Science Faculty, was a key contributor.

Ms Wallace said that Indigenous learners' confidence to participate in formal learning was boosted through intuitive technologies that allowed them to share their ideas through images, sound and text and removing the reliance on text-based learning tools.

This helped to break down the language barriers and involved Indigenous people in co-producing knowledge and skills, she said.

"Traditionally, Indigenous learners would have to start with a written text not in their first language," Ms Wallace said.

"But now with e-learning, they can actually start with something that looks more relevant. Their own world and their own lives become the centre of learning where they can represent all the things they already know about, so it becomes a way of sharing who they are."

It also allowed the teacher to better

engage with the student as the material they were working with together was a reflection of the student's own life.

"By talking about a subject they are passionate about and getting to see them represent their knowledge visually using their own landscape, the teacher gets to see the whole person and all the things

they can do," Ms Wallace said.

Ms Wallace said she believed Indigenous learners had a higher engagement when e-learning technology was involved because it was in this technology that people could see ideas and places relevant to themselves and their learning.



The Mobile Active Learning Unit (MALU) roadshow on its way to another location in the Northern Territory.



Inside the mobile classroom.



# School expands



Students at the opening of new facilities at Woolaning Homeland Christian College.

Melbourne Girls Grammar  
an Anglican school

## INDIGENOUS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Melbourne Girls Grammar (MGGS) is pleased to announce the extension of its Indigenous Student Scholarship program. In 2009 MGGS will provide a program to encourage and enable Indigenous students from the Melbourne area to study at MGGS.

One scholarship comprising full tuition fees is being offered to an Indigenous girl entering Year 7 or Year 9 as a day girl. Interested students should contact MGGS by Friday 5 December 2008.

Information regarding the MGGS Indigenous Student Scholarship program, including information on how to apply can be found by contacting the Indigenous Student Scholarship Co-ordinator, Kellie Lyneham, on (03) 9862 9200 or email [kellie.lyneham@mggs.vic.edu.au](mailto:kellie.lyneham@mggs.vic.edu.au).

Further information can also be found on our website: [www.mggs.vic.edu.au](http://www.mggs.vic.edu.au)



AT a time when the national average attendance rate of Indigenous students is two to three times lower

than for non-Indigenous children, one Northern Territory school has kids wanting to get back to the books before the holidays are over.

"It happens a lot," said Woolaning Homeland Christian College Principal Fred van Brussel.

"There are a number of kids who come to mind who just love being here and are in contact with us during school breaks.

"They ring up and say 'you sure we can't come back until a certain day'."

Mr van Brussel said attendance figures at Woolaning were consistently above 80 per cent, among the highest in the Northern Territory.

The reason, he says, is because of the unique model on which the school is based.

"We are the only one like this," he said.

Woolaning is a boarding school for Indigenous children. It was set up by Northern Territory Christian Schools Association in Litchfield National Park, just south of Darwin, in 2002 at the request of representatives from local clans. They wanted their kids to go to school away from the distractions of living in town or



Official opening with Trish Crossin, Tom Petherick and Principal Fred van Brussel.

in their communities.

Other schools haven't had the success Woolaning has experienced in maintaining high attendance. One of the reasons, Mr van Brussel says, is that students stay at Woolaning for the full term, whereas in other schools they go home at weekends or live at home.

"Being there for the whole term takes away the problem of students being at school on Monday morning," he said.

The school operates on a six-term year, so students work for shorter periods of time, making it easier for them to maintain concentration.

"Because we have six manageable, six-week terms, they don't get so exhausted and homesick to the same extent. They know at the end of six weeks they are going to go

home for a week, which gives them all incentive to work through while they are at school," Mr van Brussel said.

"If you talk to people who are teaching Indigenous students in places with 12-week terms, they often find that the last few weeks can be a complete dead loss. Our students are very happy about working through."

Students are only able to attend Woolaning if there is a bed for them and last month Northern Territory Senator Trish Crossin officially opened the school's fifth family group home and a new art and craft centre.

The new home takes the school's capacity to 60.

Funding for the buildings was made available through the NT Block Grant Authority under the Australian Government's Capital Grants Program for Schools.



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TWELVE Indigenous job-seekers have gained full-time employment in the construction and mining industries after undertaking an Australian Government funded accredited training course.

They were among 26 participants who have graduated from the fourth Dugalunji Civil Construction and Mining Skills Pre-vocational Program in Camooweal, in north-west Queensland.

The Government provided \$429,000 towards the project under the Structured Training and Employment Project and Employment Related Services (STEP ERS).

The accredited training was provided by Mount Isa Institute of TAFE, Rutherford MIRATS and Whitehouse Consultancies.

Myuma Pty Ltd, a not-for-profit civil construction and labour hire business operated by the Traditional Owners of the Camooweal region - Indjilandji/Dhidhanu people - employed the participants as they undertook paid training and on-the-job work experience in civil construction, open cut mining and life skills. Participants on the program were drawn from a

number of communities stretching from north Queensland to eastern Northern Territory.

Congratulating the latest graduates, Federal Employment Participation Minister Brendan O'Connor said that during the 13-week program, participants gained valuable experience working alongside Myuma's workforce on a number of projects - new mining camp facilities, road construction works, quarrying activities and exploration drilling.

"This program is a wonderful example of how accredited training when supported with work experience can achieve employment," he said.

"Twelve participants from the latest course have already secured full-time positions with organizations, including Rio Tinto, Legend International Holdings, Incitec Pivot and Myuma."

"Further full-time employment opportunities are being discussed with companies, including Xstrata, Ozminerals, RoadTek and Seymour Whyte."

Four courses have been completed at the Dugalunji Training Camp since last year and from 92 participants which began, 43 people have already moved from training into full-time employment.



## Award a highlight at youth talks

By PETER PURDON



A GROUP of youth services staff and young people from Western

Australia's Kutjunga Region in the State's far north travelled to Perth recently to attend the Youth Affairs Council of WA (YACWA) Fairground Conference.

A highlight was when Palyalatju Mapampa Health Committee (PMHC) Youth Service Co-ordinator David Heathwood was named winner of the WA Youth Sector Worker of the Year Award.

Mr Heathwood was nominated for his work with young people,

particularly young males, in the Kutjunga region where he is based in the remote communities of Balgo, Mulan and Billiuna.

Working primarily with young males aged 12-25, Mr Heathwood provides information, advocacy, support, counselling, case management and health education support.

Bronwyn Taylor, a former Balgo-based youth worker and keynote speaker on the young persons' panel, talked about growing up in Broome and Balgo. She delivered a moving address and also spoke of the important role the media plays when it comes to stories about young people.

PMHC Youth Services staff and young people also presented a



Participants at the YACWA conference.

workshop at the conference, 'Young Leaders in Remote Areas', about their program and its success in engaging and empowering young people to participate in youth projects and activities themselves.

PMHC Senior Youth Services Co-ordinator

Sandra Spadanuda said the young people in the region, with support from the community, played an active and important role in the running and development of the service.

Mr Heathwood hopes his award will 'show the importance of youth

services in remote Australia'.

"There has been some great results in the region, with a huge reduction in self-harm, substance misuse, and the number of young people involved in the justice system, as well as a noticeable change in the overall behaviours and well-being of the young people – particularly how they engage and participate in the community," he said.

But Mr Heathwood is concerned about what he says is the lack of support for the remote service from governments, and he wants this to change.

"Ninety-five per cent of our funding currently comes from private organisations, and it ends in October 2009. To see this service and all the

hard work by staff, young people and the community end will be devastating and a huge step backwards," he said.

"There should not need to be a tragedy before governments take action. It is time for governments to come forward and fund this program and others like it, especially in rural and remote Australia."

PMHC Youth Services was established in 2006, and is one of the most successful youth services in the East Kimberley, and the only one based in the remote communities themselves, and not a town. Ninety-five per cent of PMHC Youth Services funding comes from St John of God and Caritas Australia, with a five per cent contribution from the WA Government.

## UWA trailblazers



THE University of Western Australia's Kurtis and Rowena Leslie say they learned a great deal during a recent a six-month exchange

at the University of New Mexico (UNM) in Albuquerque, USA.

Kurtis, whose family are from Moree, NSW, has a science degree and a Graduate Diploma of Education from the University of WA (UWA) and is now a lecturer at the School of Indigenous Studies while completing a Masters in Education.

Rowena, from Kalgoorlie, has a Bachelor of Arts and graduated for the second time last month, this time with a Bachelor of Law, having completed her final semester at UNM.

They were the first two UWA exchange students with UNM.

Kurtis says they chose the south-western US State of New Mexico because of its large population of Native American people.

"UNM accepted us and it was creating a new exchange partnership with them," he said.

"I learned about developing curriculum that is responsive to Indigenous students and saw the similarities with boarding schools, taking kids away and all the stats were similar – kids dropping out of school, health issues..."

Kurtis said the US system of 'charter schools' was a good solution 'because they are community-based and incorporate cultural knowledge and history into the classroom to make it more relevant. The focus is on language and immersion programs. It is definitely curriculum that is responsive to kids'.

Before she finished her law degree, Rowena wanted an educational experience outside her country. She had long been



THE University of Western Australia's Kurtis and Rowena Leslie ... back from an exchange to the US State of New Mexico.

interested in Indigenous issues and said she was attracted to the South-West Indian Law Clinic for the perspective it would provide.

Rowena says she wanted to go on exchange 'to develop my skills in a different setting – study skills, personal skills and communication with people from a different environment'.

Her academic highlights included working at a law clinic and attending the Native American Annual Law Society Law Conference, which was held in Albuquerque.

It wasn't all study, and Kurtis and Rowena were able to visit Navaho and Apache/Muscelaro communities, Native American

schools and junior colleges as well as camp in places many others only dream of – the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone Park and Mesa Verde. And they went skiing in Colorado.

Both also speak highly of student exchanges.

"Go outside the comfort zone, to see what others are doing. It's not only great for confidence but also to get an international perspective and get more skills," they said.

Both said they appreciated assistance from a range of people and groups including Bundarra Contractors, Minara Resources, BYAC Contractors, UWA and the School of Indigenous Studies as well as Rotary (Kenwick).



UWA exchange student Rowena Leslie at the University of New Mexico in the United States.



## Mandatory training a welcome first step



INDIGENOUS cultural training will become mandatory for the entire workforce of the NSW Department of Education and Training under a new policy.

The training commitment – contained in the State Government's new Aboriginal Education and Training Policy released on 18 November – will apply to 93,000 people working in schools and TAFE colleges.

Dr Karen Martin, associate professor of Early Childhood in the School of Education at Southern Cross University, described the policy as 'courageous but necessary'.

"This approach shows national leadership and is something Aboriginal people have been seeking for over 20 years," Prof Martin said.

"The policy will see a 10-hour unit in Aboriginal culture becoming mandatory training and it is a great system-wide first step in helping to deliver equality for Aboriginal students, who have missed out on equitable outcomes for the previous 130 years of compulsory education in NSW."

The focus of Professor Martin's work at Southern Cross University has been to embed an Aboriginal world view into all curriculum material delivered to teacher education students in the primary and early

childhood education degree courses.

"In mid 2007 I asked a cohort of 600 teacher education students at a Brisbane university if they had met and spoken with an Aboriginal person. Less than one-third had," Prof Martin said.

"This same group of mostly non-Aboriginal Australians were also asked about their level of knowledge about Aboriginal cultures, histories and issues. Most rated themselves as having 'little' to 'some' knowledge.

### Opinions

"Further questioning revealed that many had already formed negative opinions about Aboriginal people, their families, their communities and their realities (often through media stories)."

She said teaching Aboriginal students wasn't about replacing Aboriginality, nor was it about cultural anarchy in schools.

"It is about creating a space where the 'relatedness' that is a key feature of Aboriginal worldviews inter-faces and is mediated with the things that schools do – equipping students with the necessary skills to have a full and productive life.

"It requires teachers to 'unlearn' the negative preconceptions that are prevalent about Aboriginal people and to fully understand that it is not their job to replace or erase the Aboriginality of their students."



Mary G and Nathias Warkill.



● ABOVE: Bob Muir.

● LEFT: Sophie Yasso, Marcus Pedro and Alan Bird.

## Reinforcing success in 'Rocky'



WHAT do you get if you combine the irrepressible Mary G, five fine role models, 550 other people and put them together at the Rockhampton Showgrounds?

Binggubay Walga

Wangaranga is the answer. The name means 'moving forward together' in the language of the Darambul people and the event was the culmination of a post-Year 12 transition project devised by secondary schools in the Rockhampton region of central Queensland.

An all-day program was held for senior students at five participating high schools from the Rockhampton-Gladstone area. The program included talks from high-profile identities Torres Strait Islander motivational speaker Marcus Pedro, Sydney Roosters rugby league player Javarn White, journalist Amy McQuire, 2008 NAIDOC male Elder of the Year Bob Muir, and touch footy legend Bo De La Cruz.

These guests also attended the evening event, which was hosted by Mary G and

featured student performances including dance, drama, singing and guitar playing.

"Organising it was a big team effort," said Glenmore State High School Principal Bo De La Cruz.

"Through the Building Leaders, Building Community project there was extensive Community Education Counsellor involvement in organising and managing the event.

"It was a lot of work, we had to be a bit flexible along the way – but it all came together, and we all agreed we had a lot of fun."

The event included the official local launch of the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE).

Many secondary school parents attended the event, as well as Indigenous families with primary-age students and the Learning Engagement Centre has reported receiving contact from parents wanting to get more involved in the education agenda.

– By MICHAEL WINKLER

## No time to study? Then enrol now to study by Block Mode

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All Indigenous Australians have the opportunity to gain direct entry via the **Badanami Alternative Entry Program**. Final closing date for enrolments: 15 January 2009

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\*Admission requirements may be waived for exceptional funding to assist the costs of travel and accommodation.

For further information about alternative entry and scholarship opportunities for Indigenous Australians, please contact UWS

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● To list your events in our National Calendar of Events, write no more than two sentences with contact details to email [calendar@koorimail.com](mailto:calendar@koorimail.com) or fax it to (02) 6622 2600.

**Ongoing:** Living Black on SBS Television. Held every Wednesday at 6pm on SBS. Details: (02) 9430 2828 or 1800 500 727 or email [news@sbs.simplicitycm.com](mailto:news@sbs.simplicitycm.com)

**Ongoing:** Australian Indigenous Global Sports Academy (AIGSA) and Prokick Australia are looking for Koori male youths ages 15-17 to play a series of American gridiron games against high schools in the USA. Details: Richard Young on (0422) 866 201 or email [rd@bold.net.au](mailto:rd@bold.net.au)

**Ongoing:** Tranby Aboriginal College 50th anniversary 2008. Tranby is seeking former staff and students and other community members who are interested in coming together to catch up and to share their experience over the past 50 years. Held at Tranby Aboriginal College, 13 Mansfield St, Glebe. Details: Annaliese Monaro on (02) 9660 3444 or 1800 601 988 email [a.monaro@tranby.edu.au](mailto:a.monaro@tranby.edu.au) visit [www.tranby.edu.au](http://www.tranby.edu.au)

**Ongoing:** The Aboriginal Heritage Projects is providing grants of up to \$75,000 to conserve Aboriginal heritage and encourage greater understanding of Aboriginal culture. The program assists in the conservation of culturally significant Aboriginal sites, documents community events and contributes to Aboriginal tourism. Details: Richard Sharpter on (02) 9873 8577 or email [richard.sharpter@heritage.nsw.gov.au](mailto:richard.sharpter@heritage.nsw.gov.au)

**Ongoing:** Day Club provides social and recreational activities for veterans, their spouses, war widows/widowers and any other members of the community. Details: Margaret Morgan on (02) 9213 7225 or Erica Greig on (02) 9213 7482 or visit [www.dva.gov.au/health/day\\_clubs](http://www.dva.gov.au/health/day_clubs)

**Ongoing:** Certificate IV in Training and Assessment for Aboriginal people who want to become TAFE teachers or workplace trainers. Held in Ballina. Details: Deb Evans on (02) 6681 8911 or email [debbe.evans@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:debbe.evans@tafensw.edu.au) or (02) 6586 2249 or email [nci.courseinfo@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:nci.courseinfo@tafensw.edu.au)

**Ongoing:** Gooi Women's Yarnin' Circle. The Yarnin Circle is a time of sharing, listening and learning for Aboriginal Mothers, Aunts and Sisters. The Circle will enable us to support each other in our parenting and make the things happen that we value and strive for as Aboriginal Parents. All welcome with morning tea provided. Transport can be provided. Held every Wednesday at the YWCA, 101a Rous Road, Goonellabah from 10am-12.30pm. Details: Chrissy Franks (02) 6625 5804 or (0450) 840 179 or email [chrissy@ywcansw.com.au](mailto:chrissy@ywcansw.com.au) or visit [www.ywcansw.com.au](http://www.ywcansw.com.au)

**Until 6 December:** Yanoongoo (New/Fresh) Art Exhibition. This is Janangoo Butcher Chere's ninth exhibition with Brigitte Braun who has been representing him since 1992. All welcome. Held at Brigitte Braun Gallery, White Street, Windsor. Details: Brigitte Braun on (03) 95212324 or (0417) 184 260 or email [artplace@inet.net.au](mailto:artplace@inet.net.au) or visit [www.artplace.com.au](http://www.artplace.com.au)

**Until 6 December:** Brownyn's Exhibition 'A Woman's World'. These paintings attempt to express the interweaving of the intricacies of life and its journey for me as an Aboriginal woman, a mother, a daughter, a niece, a cousin, an aunt, a sister and a friend. All welcome. Held at Vivien Anderson Gallery, 470 Dandenong Road, Caulfield North, Victoria. Details: (03) 9509 0255 or email [info@vivienandersongallery.com](mailto:info@vivienandersongallery.com) or visit [www.vivienandersongallery.com/exhibitions](http://www.vivienandersongallery.com/exhibitions)

**Until 7 December:** Pukurarrima-La! 'Let Us Celebrate' Art Exhibition. This exhibition will show Papulankutja artists who paint their country and depict some of the important stories of their region such as the Wati

## Spirit to shine at Adelaide festival



THE vibrant spirit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture is set to shine across Adelaide as the city hosts its first interactive Aboriginal arts and sports festival mid-month.

Aboriginal singing sensation Jessica Mauboy and Aboriginal comedian Sean Choolburra will headline the 2008 Spirit Festival's entertainment, which will also feature a line-up of bands, dancers and visual artists.

Thousands of people are expected to converge on Elder Park for the inaugural festival on 13-14 December to share in a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and craft, music, dance, food, sport, film, story-telling.

Festival Director Karl Telfer said the festival had the potential to put SA on the map and he expected it to stand alongside the likes of the internationally-respected Garma Festival in the Northern Territory.

"The festival is much-anticipated as we have traditionally been the only State not to have an event dedicated to celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture," Mr Telfer said.

"This is a huge milestone for us to host such a vibrant Aboriginal festival which will encourage all people to come and share in the spirit of our culture, while highlighting the diverse talents of our people."

"Performers, artists, dancers and



sportspeople will gather from across Australia to put on a show in the heart of our city unlike anything South Australia has ever seen."

Mr Telfer encouraged all South Australians to get behind the festival.

The 2008 Spirit Festival will start at 11am both days and entry is free. For further information, go to [www.thespiritfestival.com](http://www.thespiritfestival.com)

Kutjarra (two men), the Seven Sisters, Pukara (a waterhole) and Ilurpa (another waterhole). Held at Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide. Details: (08) 8224 3200 or email [tandanya@tandanya.com.au](mailto:tandanya@tandanya.com.au) or visit [www.tandanya.com.au](http://www.tandanya.com.au)

**Until 11 December:** Lives of the Papunya Tula Artists Art Exhibition. This is a complimentary exhibition of contemporary Papunya Tula artworks. All welcome. Held at the Tjilbruke Gallery, Tandanya. Details: Kel Rankine on (08) 8224 3216 or email [kelly@tandanya.com.au](mailto:kelly@tandanya.com.au) or Cale Gaston on (08) 8224 3202 or visit [www.tandanya.com.au](http://www.tandanya.com.au)

**Until 11 December:** Breast Screening Mobile Unit. These are free mammogram screenings. It is important that all women over the age of 40 receive mammograms (breast x-rays) every two years. Appointments only take about 10 minutes and they could save your life. There is an open session at each venue where appointments are not needed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. Dates and venues: 13-14 October Bonaibo, 15-16 October Urbenville, 20-30 October Kyogle, 3-4 November Uki and 5 November-11 December Mullumbimby. There is also all year round screenings at Tweed Heads, Lismore, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie. Details: 13 20 50 or Melissa Rahmate on 66211206 or (0417) 040 803 or visit [www.bsnsw.org.au](http://www.bsnsw.org.au)

**Until 12 December:** Spinifex Artists Recent Works Art exhibition. Featuring an array of exciting works by the likes of Angelina Woods, Mark Anderson, Cyril Thomas, Byron Brookes, Lawrence Pennington, Simon Hogan, Anne Hogan, Bill Anderson, Elaine Thomas and many more. All

welcome and is free. Held at Short St Gallery, Broom. Details: (08) 9192 2658 or email [enquiries@shortstgallery.com](mailto:enquiries@shortstgallery.com) or visit [www.shortstgallery.com.au](http://www.shortstgallery.com.au)

**Until 13 December:** Vibe 3on3. The Vibe 3on3 brings together Indigenous and non-Indigenous people for a fun day of basketball, dancing, music, health and culture. The event encourages sportsmanship, teaches new skills and builds self-esteem as well as promoting reconciliation at a grassroots level. Held at Kempsey 18 October, Ceduna 6 December and Sydney 13 December. Details: Alison Turner on (02) 9361 0140 or (0400) 385 984 or email [alison@vibe.com.au](mailto:alison@vibe.com.au) or visit [www.vibe.com.au](http://www.vibe.com.au)

**Until 15 December:** Playing Australia Funding Program with the objective of support tours to regional and remote Australia from theatre to music and opera, dance, puppetry and circus and much more. Details: (02) 6275 9550 or 1800 819 461 or email [playing.australia@environment.gov.au](mailto:playing.australia@environment.gov.au) or visit [www.arts.gov.au](http://www.arts.gov.au)

**Until 16 December:** Introduction to Music Recording. If you are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and want to record your own CD you can learn how to record and produce your own music in a music studio with other Aboriginal musicians such as Michael Donovan and more. All welcome. Held at Miller TAFE Campus from 9am-3pm. Details: Jody Lively on (02) 9825 7429 or Romina Figuerola on (02) 9825 7492.

**Until 29 December:** Family drug support meetings. Do you have a family member or loved one with drug and alcohol matters? This support group offers a place to talk and listen

with others struggling with similar problems. Held at Byron Bay NSW, Leabrook SA, Hallett Cove SA, Salisbury SA, Kincumber NSW, Geelong VIC, Canberra ACT, Port Macquarie NSW, Penrith NSW, Brisbane QLD, Newcastle NSW, Chatswood NSW, Ashfield NSW, Coffs Harbour NSW and Cessnock NSW. Details on event location times and dates call 1300 368 186 or visit [www.fds.org.au](http://www.fds.org.au)

**Until 4 January 09:** 380,000 km2 of Art Exhibition. This exhibition displays a range of styles, including the traditional Arnhem Land and Tanami Desert styles, contemporary art from Rivers region, the eastern areas of the NT and the distinctive style of renowned artist Bill Harey from Meningen, also known as Innisvale Station. All welcome. Details: (08) 8224 3200 or email [tandanya@tandanya.com.au](mailto:tandanya@tandanya.com.au) or visit [www.tandanya.com.au](http://www.tandanya.com.au)

**Until-4 January 09:** Anangu Tjuta Tgungu Warkarinyi - Many Anangu Working Together art exhibition. This is an exhibition which celebrates the successful collaboration between Mimili Maku Arts and Crafts and Iwantja Arts. Held at Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide. Details: (08) 8224 3200 or email [tandanya@tandanya.com.au](mailto:tandanya@tandanya.com.au) or visit [www.tandanya.com.au](http://www.tandanya.com.au)

**Until 19 January 09:** Arafura Craft Exchange. The Arafura Craft Exchange introduces audiences to remarkable examples of contemporary craft from Indonesia and Australia. This exhibition is of stunning contemporary ceramic practice featuring wild colours, emotive forms, elaborate concepts and sometimes comical themes. All welcome. Held at the Arts NT Office, Darwin. Details: (08) 8999 8101 or (08) 8999 8264 or email [magnit@nt.gov.au](mailto:magnit@nt.gov.au) or visit [www.magnit.nt.gov.au](http://www.magnit.nt.gov.au)

**Until 30 June 09:** Indigenous Leadership Program 09. This program leads Indigenous people to bigger actions and opportunities. Details: 1800 249 873 or email [indigenousleadership@fahcsia.gov.au](mailto:indigenousleadership@fahcsia.gov.au) or visit [www.fahcsia.gov.au](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au)

**Until-11 January 09:** Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards Exhibition. The exhibition will showcase outstanding works by sixteen Indigenous artists from across the nation. Each artist will be in the running to receive the non-acquisitive Western Australian Indigenous Art Award valued at \$50,000. There is also a \$10,000 as well as the \$5,000 People's Choice Award. Details: (08) 9388 2899 or email [art@mossensongalleries.com.au](mailto:art@mossensongalleries.com.au) or visit [www.mossensongalleries.com.au](http://www.mossensongalleries.com.au) or [www.artgallery.wa.gov.au](http://www.artgallery.wa.gov.au)

**Until 25 July 2010:** In Living Memory NSW Tour. This is an exhibition dedicated to the memory of the Stolen Generations. Dates and venues: 22 November 08-30 January 09 held at the Aboriginal Cultural Centre and Keeping Place, Armidale, 5 February-1 March 09 held at the Northern Rivers Community Gallery, Ballina, 12 March-2 April 09 held at Kempsey Shire Library, 11 April-28 June 09 held at the Regional Gallery, Penrith, 9 July-24 September 09 held at St George Regional Museum, Hurstville, 30 September-7 November 09 held at the University of Newcastle, 1-16 December 09 held at the Mechanics Institute, Moruya, 6-18 April 2010 held at the Museum of the Riverina, Wagga Wagga, 22 April-6 May 2010 held at Cootamundra Library, 15 May-25 July 2010 held at Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo. Details: Andrew Williams on (0408) 602 936 or Susan Charlton on (02) 8247 8660 or visit [www.records.nsw.gov.au](http://www.records.nsw.gov.au)

**3 December:** The Charcoal Club's fifth birthday celebration. The support act will be Kavisha Mazzella who has performed regularly with the Charcoal Club recently, also featuring songs from their new CD *Hearts Full of Rust* that is due out in 2009. Tickets \$12 per person. Held at the East Brunswick Club, 280 Lygon Street, East Brunswick from 7.30 onwards. Details: John Foss (0408) 386 812 or call (03) 9388 2777 or visit

● Continued next page



# National Calendar

## From previous page

www.eastbrunswickclub.com or  
www.charcoalclub.com.au

**3-20 December:** Warmun at Ten 'A Decade of Warmun Art' Exhibition. All welcome. Held at Hogarth Galleries, 7 Walker Lane, Paddington. Details: (02) 9360 6839 or email info@hogarthgalleries.com or visit www.aboriginalartcentres.com

**3-5 December:** Re-Orienting Whiteness - Call for papers. Scholars are invited to explore the potential, or otherwise, of 'whiteness' to analyse the operations of race, past and present. Held in Melbourne. Details: (03) 990 52172 or email katherine.ellinghaus@arts.monash.edu.au or reorientingwhiteness@gmail.com or visit www.arts.monash.edu.au/historical-studies/news-and-events/reorienting-whiteness-2008

**4 December:** Music concert. This is a concert of original songs and favourites performed by certificate and diploma music graduates from the Eora College. All welcome. Held at Landsdowne Hotel, City Road, Broadway from 4.30-8.30pm. Details: (02) 9217 4878 or visit www.sit.nsw.edu.au/eora

**4-5 December:** The Business of Art Workshop with Bronwyn Bancroft. Leading Aboriginal artist Bronwyn Bancroft will be delivering a one-day workshop on how to understand the business of art. Topics include: Indigenous artists and the taxman, ABNs, GST, professional development, copyright and more. On 4 December held at Jambama Art Centre, 47 Casino Drive, Casino, from 10am-4pm, and 5 December held at Grafton Regional Gallery, 158 Fitzroy St, Grafton from 10am-4pm. Details: Frances on (02) 6628 8120 or email frances@artnorthernrivers.com.au

**6 December:** ANTAR's Friendship and Human Rights Day. Come and join in to celebrate our success, forge new friendships and enjoy great entertainment with music from *Large Doses* and more as well as comedians Doris and Betty. Free barbecue and all welcome. Drug and alcohol-free event. Entry by gold coin donation. Held at Jagera Arts Centre, Musgrave Park, 121 Cordelia St, South Brisbane, from noon-2pm. Details: (07) 3844 9800 or email admin@antarqld.org.au or visit www.antarqld.org.au

**6-7 December:** Junior squad and assistant coach course. A junior squad and assistant coach has the competence to coach junior swimmers that are 12 years and younger who are in the early stages of competitive swimming development and/or assist a suitably qualified and licensed coach in the delivery of competitive swimming programs for age-group 13-18 years and open swimmers. Numbers are limited. Costs \$350 per participant and includes your 1st year ASCA membership, CD-ROM and Text. Held at Ballina Memorial Pool, River St, Ballina from 9.30am-4.30pm. Details: Deb Grant on (02) 6618 0400 email deb.grant@dasr.nsw.gov.au or

Emma Donovan will perform during the 2008 Fan the Flames Indigenous Student and Alumni Showcase at VCA in Melbourne.



## Showcasing emerging talent



THE Willin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) will host the 2008 Fan the Flames Indigenous Student and Alumni Showcase on Wednesday 10 December.

Sydney-based singer/songwriter Emma Donovan and visual artist and opera singer Tiriki Onus will be guests at the annual event, which will feature a strong line-up of VCA's Indigenous students.

Donovan, a Naagaja, Yamatji, Gumbainggir-Dangali woman, is a musical powerhouse from a large musically-gifted family, who draw inspiration from the roots of country music. Donovan's style is described as urban soul.

Her connection to culture runs deep. Writing songs in the traditional Gumbainggir language of her mother's people is an unrelenting passion for the gifted musician.

Donovan released her first solo album, *Changes*, in 2004.

Tiriki Onus is the son of the late Indigenous visual artist Lin Onus. A successful visual artist in his own right, he also has a voice that resonates.

*Fan the Flames* will be Onus' first professional performance as an Opera singer.

"Fan the Flames is a celebration of Indigenous talent and a fabulous way to end the year," said Yorta Yorta soprano, and the event's planner, Deborah Cheetham.

"We at the Willin Centre are very proud of the achievements of students and alumni and Fan the Flames is our way of

celebrating their success."

Other performers at the event include VCA Secondary School (VCASS) violinist Rachel Richardson, third-year percussionist Matt Millar, drama students Uraire Mastrosavas and Murial Skuthorpe, actor Gregory J Fryer, Toni Lalich and Alena Schneider.

*Fan the Flames* will also feature the announcement of the Yvonne Cohen Award for Creative Indigenous Australian Youth winner, a national \$5000 art prize and the Arthur Papadimitrou Inspiration award, a \$500 prize going to a VCA Indigenous student.

Fan the Flames will be a free event and starts at 6.30pm on Wednesday 10 December at VCA's Federal Hall in Grant Street, Southbank (off St Kilda Rd). For more info, call 03 9685 9327.

visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

**7 December:** Murri Claus. Come and catch up with Murri Claus and his Murri Minstrels before they head home to the North Pole in time for Christmas. Learn songs and dances from the Torres Strait Islanders at The Corner, and get your free Polaroid photograph taken with Murri Claus. Activities for all. Held at The Corner and Knowledge Walk, Level 1, State Library, Brisbane, Qld, from 10.30am onwards. Free and all welcome. Details: (07) 3842 9847 or (07) 3840 7666 or email marketing@slq.qld.gov.au or visit www.slq.qld.gov.au

**7-11 December:** The World Indigenous Peoples Conference: Education (WIPCE) Emerging Leaders Summit, theme 'Maintaining Culture in the Global Environment'. This is a triennial conference of international significance that attracts peoples from around the globe to celebrate and share diverse cultures, traditions and knowledge with a focus on world Indigenous education. Held at Rod Laver Arena, Melbourne. Cost involved. Details: Jirra Harvey on (03) 9486 1599 or (0408) 335 379 or email jirra@wipce2008.com or visit www.wipce2008.com

**26 December 2008-4 January 2009:** Ten Days Holy Ghost Camp Meeting 2008. What to bring: sleeping gear, cutlery, bathers, pen, paper, gifts, talents and your community. Held at Taree Basketball Stadium, Taree from 5pm onwards. Accommodation in the hall only or book yourself into a motel. All welcome. Details: Brian Booker on (02) 6550 0086 or (0428) 597 397 or call John Andrews on (07) 4039 4012 or (0431) 049 188.

**6-8 March 2009:** WOMAdelaide 09. WOMAdelaide returns to Adelaide with a magnificent program of music, arts and dance from across the globe. Performances feature across seven stages and throughout the park with workshops for adults and children, visual arts, street theatre program and a KidZone. The 2009 line-up features artists from Argentina, Cuba, Senegal, UK, Nigeria and more. All welcome. Held at Botanic Park, Adelaide, SA. Details: Danika Gael-Krieg on (02) 6684 7907 or (0408) 804 504 or email danikagk@bigpond.com or visit www.womadelaide.com.au

**21-22 March 2009:** Yarrowarra Women's Gathering. This is a spiritual and cultural retreat for

women. Activities include: basket weaving, bush tucker cooking, beach activities and screen printing. You will be able to take home your own personally screen printed t-shirt and a water urn you have woven. Women from all cultures and all age groups are welcome. Dancing and stories around the campfire. A variety of packages are on offer including accommodation with meals, camping and participation without accommodation. Held at Corindi Beach. Details: Sally on (0409) 824 803 or email yarrowarra\_womens\_network@bigpond.com

**Until 6 April 09:** Austswim Courses. Austswim accreditation provides participants with the knowledge and skills needed to instruct learn to swim and water safety programs. The Austswim certificate is valid for three years and includes both theory and practical sessions. Participants must be 16 year and over. For details on the locations, dates, times and costs call Deb Grant on (02) 6618 0400 or deb.grant@dsr.nsw.gov.au or visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

**27-29 May 09:** Yulkuum-Jerrang: The 2nd Indigenous Economic Development Conference 'Growing Out Future'.

This unique Conference will provide key stakeholders with an opportunity to share perspectives, increase business and create employment opportunities. Featuring international and local speakers, Indigenous youth forum, business and social networking opportunities, gala dinner and more. Held in Melbourne. Details: (03) 9870 2611 or email events@conferenceworks.net.au or visit www.kbconference.vic.gov.au

**10 December:** International Humans Rights Day.

**10 December:** *Sacred Ground* - Australian big screen premiere. *Sacred Ground* is a poignant and deeply moving story of resilience, dispossession and powerlessness. Five years in the making, this observational documentary captures Quentin Agius and his family fighting to save what is left of their ancient heritage and culture. Held at Tandanya from 7pm onwards. Tickets are \$7 each. Details: Cate Gaston on (08) 8224 3200 or (08) 8224 3222 or email marketing@tandanya.com.au or visit www.tandanya.com.au

**12-14 December:** Lord's Taverners NSW Aboriginal Cricket Development Camp 08. This camp will bring together some of the most talented Indigenous cricketers from across NSW to access some of the best coaches and facilities Cricket NSW can provide so they can develop their skills and hopefully represent NSW. The 24 most promising and talented cricketers will be selected to attend. Held at the SCG and Sancta Sophia College, Sydney. Details: Russel Grimson on (02) 8302 6037 or (0425) 295 551 or visit www.cricketsnsw.com or www.nswblues.com

**16 December:** Makaton Keyword and Sign Gesture Workshop. This workshop series is aimed towards parents but can also be applicable for teachers and childcare workers with children showing a communication delay. All welcome and is free. Held at YWCA Northern Rivers, 101a Rous Rd, Goonellabah, from 9.30am-2.30pm. Details: Kaili Leadbeater on (02) 6625 5805 or (0425) 711 137 or Judith Chubb on (02) 6625 0500 or visit www.ywcansw.com.au

**18 December:** *Beyond the Bars* CD Launch. Celebrate this unique project which gives a voice to Indigenous people in Victoria's prisons. The CD features highlights from the NAIDOC week broadcasts. This is the fifth CD in the *Beyond the Bars* series. All welcome. Held at Bella Union Bar, Trades Hall, Carlton, from 6pm onwards. Details: Bree McMilligan on (03) 9419 8377 or visit www.3cr.org.au

**23-26 January 2009:** Art of the Bundjalung Nation. Indigenous artists are invited to participate in this exhibition and sale of Aboriginal artwork. Presented by Gargan Bulahnggelah, Lismore Aboriginal Health, in association with NORPA. Held at Lismore City Hall, Lismore. For details on conditions of entry call Malcolm Tester on (02) 66 874 758 or (02) 6622 0300.





# Employment

## Indigenous Job Opportunities



# Fostering jobs

By CHRISTINE HOWES

IT'S difficult to see children go into foster care, whatever the reason. Perhaps especially so given recent history, when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from north Queensland and Cape York have been sent as far away as Logan, in south-east Queensland, because of a lack of suitable care on their home turf.

A group of dedicated foster carers, and ex-foster carers, have come together in Cairns in an attempt to find new directions within the child safety industry that include career paths into government jobs for local Indigenous youth workers and foster carers.

The Campfire Project was an initiative of five people who saw that foster care generally was lacking support mechanisms for children, youth, families and staff.

It was established two years ago to lobby and advocate on issues around Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in care, their parents, families and communities.

The group is now working with two other organisations in what it hopes will be the beginning of a ripple-like effect across the community.

One is already offering residential care out of three houses staffed by Indigenous workers on an all-hours, seven-day basis, and another is offering a new community- and culturally-oriented nationally accredited training course, which is already changing lives.

Their first graduates just passed phase one of the new course, and are raring to go into phases two and three.

Kullun Youth Services is the first Indigenous service provider for the Department of Child Safety and Youth Justice in north Queensland.

Today, the service has a



Charmaine and Conrad Yeatman, and Louise De Busch (at back) with the first group of Phase 1 graduates from their Indigenous Youth Worker program.

Photo by Ingenious Studios.

45-strong 100 per cent Indigenous workforce.

In collaboration with locally-owned One Time Training and Support Services, Kullun has developed an Indigenous Youth Worker Program, which will help launch participants into careers in child protection or youth justice, or simply boost the number of Indigenous foster and kinship carers across the region.

providing services to our kids, but these kids are in hotels?" – I was actually working with kids in hotels," she said.

"What I found was that who I was working for was actually white people in business who provided a service to the department to look after children.

"So they basically recruited youth workers and I thought there was nothing stopping us from

they actually trial it on their own family – at the end of the day, that's what you want.

"In a way we could be recruiting more foster carers, it depends how people feel, but we're raising more awareness in terms of youth justice, child safety, casework and there's all those opportunities for young people.

"At the moment all of those areas have a lack of Indigenous

needs as well, not only numeracy and literacy but some underpinning knowledge to get them started and that's what One Time supports Kullun Youth Services with," she said.

"The first phase was four weeks with the job-readiness phase, which we've just completed.

"The participants are really motivated. They're easily inspired because they want to provide the solutions to a lot of the problems they see every day."

Campfire Project board member and one of the directors of Kullun Youth Services Conrad Yeatman said he had taken on a mentoring role between the two organisations.

"I just try to empower and build relationships at all levels from community level to government," he said.

Mr Yeatman said part of that had been building a strong relationship with the Logan Elders Group in south-east Queensland.

"What really triggered our relationship with Logan was for too long departments have been transferring our Indigenous kids down to south-east Queensland and they've been going into care down there," he said.

"So what's been happening is that the Elders around that area have said 'that's not right' so they've engaged us to look at how we can be more innovative and

help them to develop services in the way we've developed Kullun Youth Services.

"What's happening between what we're trying to achieve and what we're doing is we're benchmarking a new approach for Indigenous industries and businesses.

"That means we're caring for our own kids, we're educating our own people to provide the support services, we're looking at ways on how we can provide more effective support and services so it'll be really good.

"We want Indigenous people to get in and do the job themselves."

**'The participants are really motivated. They're easily inspired because they want to provide the solutions to a lot of the problems they see every day'**

Kullun Executive Manager Louise De Busch said when she realised non-Indigenous people were working with children in hotels and calling it 'child protection' she went back to Campfire and said 'this is not on'.

Ms De Busch had taken a job in the child industry as a youth worker to broaden her experience in the sector.

"And I thought 'why are non-Indigenous people still

starting our own business."

Ms De Busch said the new course was an initiative of One Time.

"The problem for foster carers is barriers aren't identified and there's not a lot of support, even during the time they actually have children in their care," she said.

"What we've found now is the youth workers go back to their own community, share the information they've learned and

people sitting in identified positions so the more we get these three services in to talk to our participants, the more opportunities there are outside of the home."

One Time Managing Director Charmaine Yeatman said the new course was about 'job readiness'.

"When Louise first started she just had to get 'whoever' in, who had experience of some sort, but along the way found they had

## It's your guide to employment

Welcome to the Koori Mail's Indigenous Job Opportunities section. Each edition we publish hundreds of 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](mailto:advertising@koorimail.com) or see our website – [www.koorimail.com](http://www.koorimail.com)

**Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed. No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!**

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The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority is the principal advisor to the Australian Government, through the Minister for Environment, Heritage and the Arts, on the care, development and management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

## Director, Indigenous Partnerships (PN191)

Environment and Sustainability Branch - Townsville, QLD

EL2 Salary range \$97,957 - \$113,632 pa plus super and benefits

We are seeking an experienced senior manager to lead a small, expert team in the development of policies, strategies and plans relating to the Indigenous partnerships in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Your extensive knowledge of contemporary conservation and Indigenous partnership liaison programs, policies and issues will be essential in this role. Your ability to communicate effectively at all levels within government, with Traditional Owners and with stakeholders, as well as be able to effectively problem solve and negotiate solutions is vital to the role.

Contact Peter McGinnity on (07) 4750 0822

## Manager, Indigenous Partnerships (PN27)

Environment and Sustainability Branch - Townsville, QLD

EL1 Salary range \$83,640 - \$89,987 pa plus super and benefits

We are seeking a manager with extensive experience working with Indigenous people. You will manage programs relating to the Indigenous partnerships in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Your knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander societies and cultures in relation to marine park management will be essential in this role. Your ability to communicate effectively at all levels within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Traditional Owners and with relevant government agencies and stakeholders, as well as be able to effectively problem solve and negotiate solutions is vital to the role.

Contact Peter McGinnity on (07) 4750 0822

## Project Manager - Reef Rescue, Indigenous Partnerships (PN416)

Environment and Sustainability Branch - Cairns, QLD

APS 6 Salary range \$66,901 - \$74,722 pa plus super and benefits

Non-ongoing contract for a period up to 3 years

We are seeking an experienced project manager to be part of a dynamic team working on Indigenous issues relevant to Great Barrier Reef Marine Park management. Your focus will be on projects in the Cairns and Cape York Peninsula area.

Your expertise in project management and communication skills working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will be essential in this role.

Contact John Tapim on (07) 4750 0719

## Project Coordinator - Reef Rescue, Indigenous Partnerships (PN415)

Environment and Sustainability Branch - Townsville, QLD

APS 5/6 Salary range \$60,648 - \$74,722 pa plus super and benefits

Non-ongoing contract for a period up to 3 years

We are seeking a motivated person to assist the Director, Indigenous Partnerships in developing, implementing and maintaining systems to provide accurate and timely reporting of contracts relating to the Land and Sea Country Indigenous Partnership elements of the Reef Rescue Plan. Your ability to project manage and communicate with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders peoples will be essential in this role.

## Project Manager - Indigenous Partnerships (PN417)

Environment and Sustainability Branch - Townsville, QLD

APS 6 Salary range \$66,901 - \$74,722 pa plus super and benefits

We are seeking an experienced project manager to be part of a dynamic team working on Indigenous issues relevant to Great Barrier Reef Marine Park management.

Your expertise in project management and communication skills working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will be essential in this role.

Contact John Tapim on (07) 4750 0719

Positions numbered PN191, PN27, PN416 and PN417 are identified positions and applicants applying for these positions will be required to supply a reference from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, group or organisation.

These are truly diverse roles that promote a culture for working together for the sea country and will suit someone who is willing to be measured by the program's success and reputation.

Applicants should address selection criteria found on the website at [www.gbrmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au)

Applications for all of the above positions close 9.00am (QLD time) - Monday 15 December 2008

Email applications to [recruitment@gbrmpa.gov.au](mailto:recruitment@gbrmpa.gov.au)

Or mail written applications to

People Management

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

PO Box 1379

TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

For selection criteria and further information visit [www.gbrmpa.gov.au/vacancies](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/vacancies)



Government of Western Australia  
WA Country Health Service

## Indigenous Diversion Program Officer

Kimberley - Kununurra

Position Number: CH613605

Level/Salary: HSLJ Level 5 \$55,686 - \$60,490 pa

Fixed Term Full Time until 30th June 2009

We are seeking an enthusiastic individual to provide alcohol and other drug assessment, referral and intervention to offenders with a drug use problem, appearing in the Magistrate's Court as part of the Indigenous Diversion Program. You will be responsible for the delivery of the alcohol and other drug community development, prevention and early intervention programs within the program's target rural and remote communities.

You will be required to travel with the Magistrate on their court circuit to implement the program and provide feedback to the court on client progress.

You will be responsible for reporting on the program's progress and coordinating the program management meetings. You may need to liaise with the Indigenous Diversion Program worker in Broome and the Aboriginal Health Program of the Drug and Alcohol Office regarding the specific supports required for the program's implementation.

Aboriginality is considered essential for this position under Section 50(d) of the Equal Opportunities Act 1984.

For Further Job Related Information: Enquiries are encouraged, please phone Sally Malone on Ph: (08) 9194 2640.

Application Instructions: Applicants are requested to apply online at [www.jobs.wa.gov.au](http://www.jobs.wa.gov.au)

Alternatively you can request for an application kit to be sent to you by calling (08) 9480 9307.

Closing Date: 4.00 pm, Monday 22nd December 2008.



Australian Government  
Aboriginal Hostels Limited



## Corporate Services Administrative Officer

Cairns

Cairns Regional Office

APS Level 3

\$38,089 - \$44,248 pa, plus superannuation

Duties

- Process all Regional Office financial transactions
- Assist with registration and certification of accounts for payments and the administration of recruitment
- Provide accurate advice on routine finance and payroll issues
- Provide relevant financial and payroll reports

Want to know more?

Contact Patricia Whitla on 07 4051 4588.

Application Documents

From our website or telephone Sandra Callope on 07 4051 4588.

How to Apply

Send written applications addressing the selection criteria to Regional Manager, Aboriginal Hostels Limited, PO Box 1143, CAIRNS QLD 4870.

Closing date

By 5pm 19 December 2008.

Working with Indigenous people for Indigenous people

Aboriginal Hostels Limited improves Indigenous quality of life through the delivery of hostel accommodation to enable access to education, employment, health and other services.

Conditions of Employment

The successful applicant is required to be an Australian citizen and to satisfactorily complete a medical assessment and police records check.

A probationary period applies.

This is an identified position.

One APS Career ... Thousands of Opportunities

[www.ahl.gov.au](http://www.ahl.gov.au)





## Careers @ Justice

### SENIOR PROJECT OFFICER

Indigenous Issues Unit

Grade 5, \$71,671 - \$86,716

Position No: DJ5876

The Indigenous Issues Unit is primarily responsible for co-ordinating implementation of the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement (AJA) across the Victorian Government and justice system.

The primary responsibility is to implement, manage and monitor community funded programs under the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement (AJA2) (Community Grant Programs, Frontline Youth Initiatives and Community Initiative Program, Koori Night Patrol Program, Koori Offender Support and Mentoring Program and the Local Justice Worker Program).

The position is an Identified Position in accordance with the Department's Identified Position policy.

For specific enquiries please contact Antoinette Gentile on 8684 1742.

To obtain a position description and apply online please visit

[www.careers.vic.gov.au](http://www.careers.vic.gov.au)

Closing date for applications is 12 December 2008

[www.justice.vic.gov.au](http://www.justice.vic.gov.au)

Our Values: Community - Together - Integrity - Respect - Happen @ One Justice

## A Red Cross Shop Is Coming To Kununurra

- World's largest humanitarian organisation
- 2 part time roles
- Excellent salary packaging

Red Cross is seeking two customer focused individuals to be responsible for and assist in the effective coordination and running of our new retail store in Kununurra.

If you get along well with other people, have a flair for selling and can inspire a team of volunteers then this is the role for you. We will also need you to be punctual, reliable and have great organisational and communication skills.

If you have a good eye for detail and the motivation to take on the responsibility of this new business, please contact Daniela Macnar on ph 08 9225 1969 or visit our careers page at

[www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

Applications close Friday 12 December at 5pm.



**Australian Red Cross**  
THE POWER OF HUMANITY

Relief in times of crisis, be it big or small, care when it's needed most and commitment when others turn away. Red Cross is there for people in need, no matter who you are, no matter where you live.

## Project Officer - Emergency Services

- World's largest humanitarian organisation
- Excellent salary packaging available

**Want to play an important role in helping local communities respond to emergencies?**

In this role, you will have the opportunity to work with one of the world's most respected disaster response organisations and support a number of Aboriginal communities in South Australia to better prepare for, respond to and recover after a major emergency or disaster.

You will focus on developing and maintaining our emergency services volunteer capacity and capability to ensure the ongoing delivery of services that aid in the support and recovery of a person or communities when an emergency occurs.

If you are passionate about helping your community, then visit our careers page at

[www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are encouraged to apply.

Applications close: 5pm Friday 12 December 2008.



**Australian Red Cross**  
THE POWER OF HUMANITY

Relief in times of crisis, be it big or small, care when it's needed most and commitment when others turn away. Red Cross is there for people in need, no matter who you are, no matter where you live.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



## NSW HEALTH HUNTER NEW ENGLAND

Applications can be lodged on line at [www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/recruitment](http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/recruitment)  
Application information Packages are available at this web address or by contacting the application kit line on (02) 4926 7626.

### Project Officer

Population Health, Tamworth

Perm Full Time

Position No: 61472

Creation of an eligibility list for future Perm/Temp, Full/Part Time and Casual positions.

Hunter New England Population Health offers an exciting opportunity for an innovative Project Officer to be involved in the development, delivery and evaluation of evidence-based health promotion projects that address the prevention of: chronic disease; obesity; HIV/AIDS and related diseases; and injury risks in the Hunter New England population. These projects will integrate other Population Health services, the broader health system, and strategic partners. A key role of the position will be to contribute to ensuring that Population Health Services are culturally appropriate and effective for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

Salary and conditions:

Health Education Officer Non-Graduate Level 1 (\$38,864.00)

Health Education Officer Graduate Level 9 (\$66,320.00)

Enquiries: Todd Heard, Program Manager, (02) 4924 6244, [todd.heard@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:todd.heard@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au)

Closing Date: 22 December 2008.

### Aboriginal Health Education Officer

Drug and Alcohol Clinical Services, Moree

Perm Full Time

Position No: 61110

Creation of an eligibility list for future Perm/Temp, Full/Part Time and Casual positions.

Enquiries: Martin Nearn, (02) 6767 8191.

Closing Date: 19 December 2008.

• The position is identified for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people under Section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act.

### Aboriginal Health Education Officer (AHEO)

AM&HS, Obstetrics, Inverell

Temp Part Time, 24 hpw (until June 2009)

Position No: 60609

Enquiries: Lynne Shands, (02) 6721 9691.

Closing Date: 19 December 2008.

• This is a designated Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander role. Exemption is claimed under Section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act (1977). Applicants must be female. This is a genuine occupational qualification under Section 31 of the Anti-Discrimination Act (1977).

Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders are encouraged to apply. Salary and conditions in accordance with relevant award. Hunter New England Health promotes the values of Teamwork, Honesty, Respect, Ethics, Excellence, Caring, Courage & Commitment and is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

## BOURKE ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICE

POSITIONS VACANT



The Bourke Aboriginal Health Service recently restructured and expanded their services therefore we have several positions vacant.

Are you looking for challenging, exciting and rewarding careers in Aboriginal Health, working with a supportive, progressive and welcoming team, we may have the job you looking for.

Four (4) full time **ABORIGINAL HEALTH WORKER** positions are now available in our Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) and Primary Health Teams in Bourke

- Aboriginal Health Worker with a Focus on Alcohol & Other Drugs (SEWB)
- Aboriginal Health Worker with a Focus on Social and Emotional Wellbeing (gender specific - male) (SEWB)
- Aboriginal Health Worker with a Focus on Sexual Health (SEWB)
- Aboriginal Health Worker with a Focus on Public Health (PH)

Qualifications for all four positions - Certificate, Diploma or Degree in Aboriginal Health or qualifications as a registered or enrolled nurse with experience in relevant field.

Note: All three positions are Aboriginal Identified. (An applicant's race is a genuine occupational qualification authorised under section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 NSW)

## EYE HEALTH WORKER / COORDINATOR

We are looking for a person with qualifications as an Aboriginal Health Worker or a Nurse who would be interested in working in Eye Health Care, in partnership with the Prince of Wales Outback Eye Team and the Bourke Hospital. Eye Health Care training based in Sydney is an essential component of this position.

"Suitably qualified Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply for this position".

Note: 1. Relevant training available for all positions.

2. An attractive Salary Package relates to all positions including salary sacrifice, five (5) weeks annual leave, a generous personal leave entitlements and a uniform provided.

3. Under the Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998 it is an offence for a prohibited person to apply for these positions

To apply for any of the above positions, please obtain the relevant "Employment Application Package" and ensure that you follow the guidelines outlined and address all criteria as requested, incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Inquiries to: Rose Gordon, Ph: (02) 68 723 088

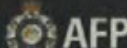
Bourke Aboriginal Health Service

PO Box 362, Bourke NSW 2840

Email: [rose@bahs.com.au](mailto:rose@bahs.com.au)

[jane.williams@bahs.com.au](mailto:jane.williams@bahs.com.au)

Applications close: 4pm on Friday 12th December 2008



OUR JOBS ARE DIVERSE, CHALLENGING AND REWARDING

The mission of the AFP is to provide dynamic and effective law enforcement to the people of Australia. It provides policing throughout Australia in relation to the prevention and detection of crimes against the Commonwealth, its laws and integrity, and community police services to the Community of the ACT.

### PROTECTIVE SERVICE OFFICER

GRADE 1, \$51,754 - \$70,203

ALICE SPRINGS, EXMOUTH, GERALDTON, WOOMERA

(this salary includes a base salary plus 22% composite paid in lieu of shift penalties)

Protective Service Officers are employees of the Australian Federal Police and play a vital role in protecting all Australians. The AFP is a truly global policing agency, committed to staying one step ahead in a rapidly evolving criminal environment. The AFP actively encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, women and people from diverse backgrounds to apply.

PSOs perform a range of functions including Counter Terrorist First Response duties at designated airports and Commonwealth establishments around Australia. PSOs provide an armed uniform capability at those sensitive sites and conduct patrol and response duties.

On completion of probation, further opportunities may exist for deployment to a range of specialist functions within the AFP such as Bomb Appraisal Officers and Firearms and Explosive Detection Canine Handlers and overseas deployment with the International Deployment Group.

To become a Protective Service Officer you must:

- Be at least 18 years old, be an Australian Citizen
- Hold a current manual driver's licence.

The selection process will include:

- A physical fitness test, an assessment centre process
- A stringent medical examination and psychological profile
- You will also be required to undergo a police check and full security check. The ability to hold an Australian Security Clearance is essential.

The AFP offers a generous remuneration and conditions package, including six weeks annual leave, leave to maintain a healthy work/life balance, and Commonwealth superannuation provisions.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified people who are interested in an appointment to the AFP. Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to the core values of the AFP.

Successful applicants will be placed in a talent pool and may be offered a place on a recruit course scheduled for early 2009.

Applications may be lodged online at [www.afp.gov.au](http://www.afp.gov.au). For further information please contact Ken Napier on (08) 8951 2462.

Conditions of service are in accordance with the Collective Agreement 2007 - 2011 (available on [www.afp.gov.au](http://www.afp.gov.au))

Applications close 12 December 2008.

The AFP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and has a Smoke Free Work Environment.

[www.afp.gov.au](http://www.afp.gov.au)



## HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE OF INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT AND ENGAGEMENT PROJECT OFFICER - INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

Penrith (Werrington North) Campus

Ref No. 082/08

Fixed Term for 12 Months

Remuneration Package: HEW Level 7 \$68,710 to \$74,140 p.a.  
(comprising Salary, 9% Superannuation and Leave Loading)

"The University of Western Sydney (UWS) considers that being an Indigenous Australian is a genuine occupational qualification under s14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW)"

The Office of Indigenous Employment and Engagement is located within Human Resources; and works across all areas of the University, scoping, developing, managing and implementing key initiatives that contribute to the University achieving its key goals.

The University is seeking to appoint a Project Officer to provide high level assistance to the Director, Indigenous Employment and Engagement.

The Project Officer will be required to manage all aspects of project deliverables to ensure successful delivery of initiatives.

To be successful, you will be a highly motivated Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person with sound oral and written communication skills together with the relevant qualifications and experience and the ability to manage projects to scope. You will also be able to demonstrate experience working with the Indigenous community.

Position Enquiries: Melissa Williams, (02) 9678 7587 or email: melissa.williams@uws.edu.au

Closing Date: 8 December 2008

Please visit the UWS Website: <http://www.uws.edu.au/vacancies/>  
for full details on this position and how to apply.

UWS values workplace diversity

University of  
Western Sydney  
Bringing knowledge to life

BE INSPIRED,  
BE PART OF A UNIVERSITY ON THE MOVE



The Inner South Community Health Service is a dynamic organisation committed to providing the highest quality community health and support services and programs to the local communities in Prahran, St Kilda, South and Port Melbourne.

### OPPORTUNITIES @ INNER SOUTH

#### Indigenous Access & Equity Worker

0.4 EFT

Additional hours available until July 09

If you a person committed with experience in services for Indigenous Australians and would like to work in an innovative and established program, please read on. The worker will:

- Advocate for Indigenous members of the community, and enable access to health and welfare services
- Engage with Indigenous and mainstream services to improve service delivery across Local Government Areas.
- Provide cultural awareness support and consultation.
- Support an Indigenous GP service.

#### We Offer

- generous salary packaging
- meals entertainment provisions
- comprehensive professional development

Position description available at

[www.ischs.org.au](http://www.ischs.org.au) or phone 9684 4221.

Applications Close: Fri 12th Dec 08 @ 5pm

A HEALTHY AND  
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Page Ref: 7451-4-5

## NSW HEALTH SOUTH EASTERN SYDNEY ILLAWARRA

SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - NURSING

GESCHN Aboriginal Health Workers

Education Project Officer

Nurse Educator (Grading to be confirmed)

Temp Full Time for up to 2 years

Position No: NNSCH08180

Enq: Jane Davey, (02) 9382 1523 or page 42550.

Closing Date: 19 December 2008.

For further information, or to apply for a position, visit [www.seahhs.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.seahhs.health.nsw.gov.au) or contact the enquiries person.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

We can offer Registered Nurses from overseas Temporary Business Sponsorships of up to four years under arrangements with the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, and the Health Service. We are committed to EEO, OHS, Ethical Practice, and the principles of Cultural Diversity and promote a smoke-free environment. Salary and conditions (including generous employer superannuation and salary packaging) are paid in accordance with the relevant award/agreement. All appointments are subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Check. Restricted Persons as declared under the Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998 are not eligible to apply for child-related employment. Eligibility Lists will be kept for up to 12 months. Employment with SEHHS is subject to you having current immunity status that complies with the Assessment, Screening & Vaccination against Specified Infectious Diseases - Policy Directive. Appointment and ongoing employment will be subject to continued compliance with the policy directive.

### South East Women and Children's Services Inc. (SEWACS)

SEWACS is a non-profit community organisation that provides support services and accommodation options for women, with or without dependant children, who are experiencing domestic and family violence.

SEWACS is inviting applications to the following position:

#### SEWACS Eden Team Leader/Support Worker

(32 base hours per week)

The Team leader will work with the Manager of the service to ensure that the most appropriate and effective services are provided to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness because of domestic/family violence.

- Salary and conditions as per SACS Award
- To be female is a genuine requirement under section 31 of the Anti Discrimination Act (1977)
- Applicants must hold a current drivers licence.
- Successful applicant must be willing to undergo a criminal record check and 'Working with Children' check as a condition of their employment.
- Applicants must be of Aboriginal descent or.
- Have a demonstrated history of working effectively with Aboriginal women and children.
- An initial 3 month probation period will apply

For application package contact: (02) 64 923 597

Address all correspondence marked confidential to:

The Manager, South East Women and Children's Services  
P.O. Box 921 Bega NSW 2550

Applications Close Monday 22nd December 2008

## Careers @ Justice

The Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement (AJA) is part of a broad policy by the Victorian Government to work in partnership with the Koori community. Its purpose is to tackle disadvantage and inequity, reduce Koori contact with the criminal justice system, and improve the justice process for Indigenous Victorians. The Koori Programs and Initiatives team implement AJA Phase 2 initiatives that are the Courts portfolio responsibility.

VPS 6 - Manager, Koori Programs and Initiatives, Position No. DJ4496  
\$87,910 - \$102,776 + superannuation, Fixed Term until 14 August 2009

The Manager will facilitate the implementation of Koori initiatives identified in the AJA, the Victorian Indigenous Affairs Framework, a Fairer Victoria and the Justice Statement to deliver effective Court initiatives. A key focus of this role will be to develop and research policy proposals and participate in working groups to represent the Koori Programs and Initiative Unit in various justice forums.

VPS 5 - Project Manager, Koori Programs and Initiatives, Position No. DJ3195  
\$71,671 - \$79,193 + superannuation, Fixed Term until 30 October 2009

The Project Manager will promote opportunities for, and develop a range of strategic initiatives that increase positive engagement with Victorian Koori communities. A key focus of this role will be to develop policies and projects, manage relevant contracting issues, and oversee budgets associated with key projects and related Court initiatives.

Both positions are Identified Positions in accordance with the Department of Justice Identified Positions Policy. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

For further information on Position No. DJ4496, please contact Jon Cina on 9603 9268 and for Position No. DJ3195, contact Lorraine Becton on 9603 9099.

Please note if you are shortlisted, interviews will be held in early January 2009.

To obtain a position description and apply online please visit

[www.careers.vic.gov.au](http://www.careers.vic.gov.au)

Closing date for applications is 21st December 2008

[www.justice.vic.gov.au](http://www.justice.vic.gov.au)

Our Values: Community - Together - Integrity - Respect - Happen @ One Justice



NSW DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

HOUSING NSW

### COMMUNITY REGENERATION MANAGER

Clerk Grade 11/12

Southern & Western NSW Housing Division

Western Area, Orange/Bathurst

Temporary Full-Time

Position No: DOH-08-17215

Total remuneration package valued up to \$121,562 per annum (Salary: \$95,253 pa - \$110,160 pa) includes employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

**Job Description:** This position will work with communities, government & non-government agencies and others to implement regeneration plans that aim to achieve sustainable improvements within social housing neighbourhoods across NSW.

#### Selection Criteria:

- Excellent communication, negotiation and facilitation skills, including a demonstrated ability to work with and secure the support of a wide range of stakeholders.
- Relevant experience in achieving outcomes as part of long-term change processes.
- Experience in managing cross agency/cross-sectoral programs or projects.
- Sound knowledge of the principles underpinning community regeneration policy and practice.
- Sound knowledge of government policy and programs addressing the needs of disadvantaged communities.
- Demonstrated management experience, including leadership of multi-disciplinary teams.

**Job Notes:** This is a Temporary Full-Time position for a period of up to December 2010, with the option of a possible extension under the terms of the Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002. Further information about this position is available on-line and applicants you must address the full selection criteria.

**Inquiries:** Mark Byrne (02) 6363 6037

**Information package:** phone (02) 6392 8250 or email

[www.housing.nsw.gov.au/About+Us/Careers/](mailto:www.housing.nsw.gov.au/About+Us/Careers/)

**Apply on-line:** As per link given in the Information Package or post to: The Manager, NSW Businesslink Pty Ltd, Western Regional Service Centre, PO Box 2552, Orange NSW 2800.

**Closing date:** Friday 12 December 2008

641-70012

## FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER

### • MT ISA BASE

Join a great Australian icon! As a Family Support Worker with the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Queensland, you will be making a difference to those most in need.

As part of the Mental Health team of our rapidly expanding Primary Health Care services, the Family Support Worker will promote the social and emotional wellbeing of Indigenous individuals and families through promotion, prevention and early intervention activities.

It is a genuine occupational requirement that this position be held by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person who is accepted by the community in which they will be employed.

To be successful in this role you will possess:

- A current driver's licence;
- The ability to undertake and complete the Certificate IV in Mental Health (non-clinical);
- The ability to demonstrate or acquire skills in raising with community members and stakeholders in a remote Indigenous community;
- Good oral and written communication skills, and the ability to develop skills in administration or computer use.

Employment in this role will be subject to a Working with Children Blue Card check and a Criminal History check.

Interested?

For further information or to apply for this role please contact  
Joanna Jamieson, Team Leader Allied Health, 11 Barkley Highway Mt Isa QLD 4825  
(07) 4743 2800, [jjamieson@rfdqld.com.au](mailto:jjamieson@rfdqld.com.au)

Applications close: 5 December, 2008.

[www.flyingdoctor.org.au](http://www.flyingdoctor.org.au)



health • care • people

Careers in Health

### Nursing

#### Nurse Unit Manager (Indigenous Health) -

Indigenous Health Clinic Team, Northside Primary and Community Health Services, Chermide Community Health Centre, Chermide, Metro North Health Service District.

Remuneration value up to \$95 262 p.a., comprising salary between \$77 920 - \$83 493 p.a., employer contribution to superannuation (up to 12.75%) and annual leave loading (17.5%) (Nurse Grade 7) (Applications will remain current for 12 months) JAR: H08PCH11256. **Duties/Abilities:** The Nurse Unit Manager will provide expert nursing knowledge and skills in generic primary and community health nursing including the management of human, financial and material resources.

The Nurse Unit Manager leads the multidisciplinary Indigenous Clinical Team in the development and provision of culturally appropriate services in consultation with the Indigenous Management Advisory Committee. The position is responsible for the development of the Health Management Protocol, coordination and management of staff vaccination clinics.

**Enquiries:** Robyn Chalkot (07) 3139 4123.

**Application Kit:** (07) 3139 4972 (Voice Mail) or

[www.health.qld.gov.au/workforce](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/workforce)

Closing Date: Monday 8 December 2008.

### Allied Health

**Health Worker Advanced - Child, Youth and Family Health Program, Community and Extended Care Services, Nambour, Sunshine Coast-Wide Bay Health Service District.**

Remuneration value up to \$54 520 p.a., comprising salary between \$43 449 - \$47 793 p.a., employer contribution to superannuation (up to 12.75%) and annual leave loading (17.5%) (004) [Applications will remain current for 12 months] JAR: H08SC11461. **Duties/Abilities:** Deliver culturally appropriate prevention and early intervention support services to Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander children and their families. Under s25 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 (Qld), there is a genuine occupational requirement for the incumbent to be Indigenous to the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community.

**Enquiries:** Robyn Wyatt (07) 5449 5941.

**Application Kit:** (07) 5313 8065 or

[www.health.qld.gov.au/workforce](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/workforce)

Closing Date: Monday, 15 December 2008.

You can apply online at

[www.health.qld.gov.au/workforce](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/workforce)

A criminal history check may be conducted on the recommended person for the job. A non-smoking policy applies to Queensland Government buildings, offices and motor vehicles.





**ELDRIDGE**  
GROUP AUSTRALIA

## Chief Executive Officer

**DURRI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION MEDICAL SERVICE**

This is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Identified Position

Applications are invited for the position of Chief Executive Officer with Durri Aboriginal Corporation Medical Service (ACMS) located in Kempsey, New South Wales.

### Applicants must:

- Demonstrate experience in senior management positions and experience in the roles and responsibilities of a Chief Executive Officer.
- Possess relevant tertiary qualifications in management.
- Have a good understanding of the issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and community controlled organisations.
- Have the ability to think strategically and experience in the development and implementation of strategic and business planning processes.
- Have the ability to communicate and consult with all levels of stakeholders both internal and external to the organisation.
- Have proven experience in cost effectively managing a large number of diverse programs and projects.
- Have a proven ability to secure and manage funding for health and community development initiatives.
- Have demonstrated knowledge and experience in human and financial resource management.
- Have the ability to build and nurture relationships particularly in respect to workplace health and safety and code of conduct policies.
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of legislation impacting on Aboriginal Medical Services.
- Have knowledge and understanding of computerised accounting and office administration systems.

The position reports directly to the Durri ACMS Board of Directors (elected members) and a package in the vicinity of \$140,000 - \$160,000 will be negotiated with the successful applicant subject to qualifications and experience.

Applicants must address the selection criteria and provide a resume outlining qualifications and experience. The selection documentation, conditions of employment, and further information in relation to the position can be obtained by contacting Ms Rebecca Mathews on (02) 6921 4955 or by email to Rebecca.Mathews@eldridge.com.au or via the website at www.eldridge.com.au, under Careers.

Applications marked "Strictly Confidential - CEO Application" should be forwarded to:

Ms Rebecca Mathews  
Eldridge and Associates  
PO Box 1306 WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650  
or  
via email at ceodurri@eldridge.com.au

Applications close at 5.00 pm, Friday 12 December 2008



**SOUTH EASTERN  
ABORIGINAL REGIONAL  
MANAGEMENT SERVICE**

## Senior Housing Officer (Asset Management)

Salary: \$46,572 - \$50,683 SACS Award  
Position Location: Moruya NSW

The Senior Housing Officer (Asset Management) is responsible for the successful implementation of the SEARMS Asset Management Plan. The Senior Housing Officer (Asset Management) will provide high level advice to the General Manager on technical aspects of property management and will also provide advice, training and assistance to other staff of SEARMS on maintenance matters.

### Selection Criteria

- Aboriginality, knowledge of local Aboriginal communities and an understanding of the issues facing Aboriginal people, particularly in relation to housing
- Technical, trade or project management background relating to property maintenance. Relevant qualifications or willingness to undertake training
- Ability to monitor and supervise contractor performance and quality of maintenance work
- Ability to develop, formulate and implement asset management plans and strategies
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Proven high level ability to work with diverse client groups and use initiative, judgement and high level problem solving skills
- Team leadership skills, including supervisory experience and a demonstrated ability to build and maintain relationships
- Computer literacy, including demonstrated experience in word processing, spreadsheets, email and internet usage. Proven ability to use accounting software, financial systems, asset management and tenant management software.
- Current Drivers' License
- Knowledge of and commitment to equal employment opportunity (EEO) and occupational health and safety (OH&S) principles and how they apply in the workplace
- Relevant tertiary qualifications, or willingness to obtain

### Notes for Applicants:

Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977

- This is a contract-based position for an initial period of 6 months. Ongoing employment will be subject to work performance and the availability of funds
- Applicants will be subject to a Criminal Record Check. The SEARMS Board of Directors will consider whether any convictions in the last 5 years, particularly in regard to fraud or serious assault, will affect suitability for the position

Inquiries: Christine Lee (02) 4474-5200

Information Packages: Erika Brunhuber (02) 4474 5200  
Email: erika@searms.com.au

Applications Marked 'Confidential' to: Christine Lee,  
P.O. Box 996 Moruya NSW 2537

Closing Date: Friday, 12th December 2008



## COMMUNITY LIAISON DEVELOPMENT OFFICER - GENERAL HEALTH

Join a great Australian icon! As a Community Liaison Development Officer with the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Queensland Section, you will be making a difference to those most in need.

### • MOUNT ISA BASE

As part of the Allied Health team of our rapidly expanding Primary Health Care services, the CLDO position ensures culturally safe service delivery within RFDS program areas. This is done by assisting RFDS staff in the process of integrating an Indigenous focus into client services and by providing support and liaison services to clients and their families in rural and remote communities.

Indigenous applicants are encouraged to apply.

### Qualifications and experience:

- Relevant qualifications or extensive experience in the health services / community services field;
- Acceptance within the Indigenous communities served by the RFDS
- Demonstrated understanding of rural and remote Indigenous health issues
- Excellent oral, and sound written, communication skills

Employment in this role will be subject to a Working with Children Blue Card check and a Criminal History check.

The RFDS offers competitive salaries and extensive salary packaging opportunities.

### Interested?

For further information or to apply for this role please contact Denise Robertson or Joanne Jamieson, Allied Health, 11 Barkley Highway Mt Isa QLD 4825, (07) 4745 0444, drobertson@rfdsqld.com.au  
Applications close: 15 December, 2008

www.flyingdoctor.org.au



**Queensland  
Government**

## Director, Indigenous VET Initiatives

Indigenous Education, Training and the Arts

(Indigenous people are encouraged to apply)

Education, Training and the Arts

Salary: \$124 880 - \$130 663 p.a. (Total Remuneration Value)

Location: Brisbane

REF: QLD/ET5966/08

**Key Duties:** Provide strategic leadership in the development and coordination of VET policies, programs and initiatives directed at Indigenous Queenslanders.

**Skills and Abilities:** Demonstrated ability to recognise and articulate the interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples including a capacity to negotiate effectively and sensitively and consult in accordance with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander protocols.

**Enquiries:** (07) 3247 6242 or

E-Mail: WorkforceOpsApplications@det.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Monday, 15 December 2008

## Principal Policy Officer

Indigenous Services, Resource and Land Dealings

(Temporary until 30 June 2009)

Natural Resources and Water

Salary: \$81 140 - \$87 005 p.a.

Location: Wollongabba

REF: QLD/NRW9033/08

**Key Duties:** Assist Land Trusts to understand and manage their financial obligations under the relevant legislation, including the provision of specialist advice in regards to account management and auditing procedures. Facilitate, negotiate, and report on consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people regarding the financial management practices of Land Trusts and assist the financial management of the Land Trust Capacity Development Training Program.

**Enquiries:** Gavin Shanks (07) 3896 3353

Closing Date: Monday, 8 December 2008

## Regional Planner

Service Delivery and Smart Service Queensland

Communities

Salary: \$72 515 - \$77 584 p.a.

Location: Windsor

REF: QLD/COM9055/08

**Key Duties:** Establish effective relationships with government agencies, to integrate departmental interests in planning and development processes, including at the regional, sub-regional and local level. Work with regional staff to ensure that the priority needs of the Department's target groups are represented in all aspects of planning and resource allocation undertaken in the region.

**Enquiries:** (07) 3006 7675

Closing Date: Monday, 15 December 2008

## Senior Project Officer

Indigenous Services, Capacity Building Unit

Natural Resources and Water

Salary: \$72 515 - \$77 584 p.a.

Location: Wollongabba

REF: QLD/NRW9173/08

**Key Duties:** Facilitate the grant of exploration tenures using the expedited procedures set out in the Commonwealth's Native Title Act 1993; Manage the Capacity Development Officer Program and liaison with peak Indigenous bodies in relation to exploration tenures; Provide timely advice on matters arising from complex native title issues relating to mineral exploration tenures.

**Enquiries:** Samuel Boamah (07) 3896 3358

Closing Date: Monday, 15 December 2008

## Indigenous Arts Business Development Officer

Industry, Investment and Development

Tourism, Regional Development and Industry

Salary: \$72 515 - \$77 584 p.a.

Location: Toowoomba

REF: QLD/TRD1724/08

**Key Duties:** Provide support, referral and linkages for regional Indigenous arts practitioners in the area defined as South and South West Queensland; including coordination of workshops and other activities that will assist with the delivery of economic opportunities for the Indigenous arts industry. The role would also explore the opportunities for regional branding, marketing, pricing and involve data collection, research and analysis.

**Enquiries:** (07) 3224 5048 or E-Mail: jobvac.dtrdi@ssa.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Monday, 8 December 2008

## Local Area Coordinator (Specified)

Service Delivery

(Specified - Applicants will need to provide a reference from a member of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community)

Disability Services Queensland

Salary: \$63 201 - \$68 693 p.a.

Location: Murgon

REF: QLD/DS09196/08

**Key Duties:** Develop relationships with people with disabilities, their families and/or committed others to facilitate the identification of immediate and long term needs and the planning for supports and services that are responsive to individual need.

**Enquiries:** (07) 3006 7689

Closing Date: Monday, 15 December 2008

## Housing Officer

Gold Coast Area Office, Client Services

(Two positions available)

Housing

Salary: \$46 120 - \$51 432 p.a.

Location: Robina

REF: QLD/HO7751/08

**Key Duties:** Delivering a broad range of tenancy and property management services and providing advice to clients.

**Skills and Abilities:** Match and deliver services to a diverse range of clients. Communicate effectively with staff, clients and support services.

**Enquiries:** Jason Cowen (07) 5583 2230 or

E-Mail: jobvac.hsg@ssa.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Monday, 8 December 2008

## Police Liaison Officer

Central Region

Queensland Police Service

Salary: \$39 804 - \$42 622 p.a. (\$23 204 - \$35 077 p.a. if under 21 years of age)

Location: Woorabinda

REF: PO488/08

**Enquiries:** Meg McArthur (07) 4935 0155

Closing Date: Monday, 8 December 2008

## Youth Worker (Specified)

Service Delivery and Smart Service Queensland

(One casual position available. Specified - Applicants will need to provide a reference from a member of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community)

Communities

Salary: \$39 632 - \$48 294 p.a.

Location: Wacol

REF: QLD/COM9038/08

**Key Duties:** Provide security and support for Young People in detention including the maintaining of a secure and safe environment. Provide coaching and mentoring.

**Skills and Abilities:** Be able to act as a valuable member of a multidisciplinary team.

**Enquiries:** (07) 3006 7675

Closing Date: Monday, 8 December 2008

## Ranger (Indigenous Identified)

Queensland Parks and Wildlife

(The EPA has determined that it is a genuine occupational requirement that an Aboriginal person or Torres Strait Islander person fills the position)

Environmental Protection Agency

Salary: \$39 632 - \$42 188 p.a.

Location: Fraser Island

REF: QLD/EN7758/08

**Enquiries:** (07) 3238 3998 or E-Mail: jobvac.epa@ssa.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Friday, 5 December 2008

## Smart jobs in Queensland

To view position descriptions, apply & see more jobs

visit [www.jobs.qld.gov.au](http://www.jobs.qld.gov.au)





## Reception Traineeship

**AFL**  
Northern Territory  
Hands on, paid work experience - approx 12 months.  
Youth wages apply.

## Customer Service Traineeship

**Australia Post**  
Northern Territory  
Counter sales, paid work experience - approx 12 months.  
Youth wages apply.

Indigenous applicants encouraged to apply.

Call Shannon from AFL SportsReady Traineeships on

**0431 735 392**

## Student Support Officer.

### Centre for Indigenous Education (CIE) - Academic Enrichment Services, Office of the Provost

An exemption has been granted under Section 83 of the Equal Opportunity Act 1995 (No.4312/2007). Only Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply.

Want to inspire and develop students? Apply for this dynamic position to help develop and implement programs which will ensure the welfare and wellbeing of Indigenous students. You will be a member of a team responsible for the provision of high quality support services and advice to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled at the University. The major focus of the role is to provide support, advocacy and liaison services. You will also develop relationships with appropriate student support officers in the Melbourne University Student Centres, other service providers at the University and within the broader community.

Salary: \$58,583 - \$63,414 p.a. plus employer super of 17%.

Employment Type: Full-time (continuing) position.

Enquiries Only To: Mr Chris Heelan, General Manager, CIE, tel. +61 3 8344 6560, email cheelan@unimelb.edu.au

Indigenous Australians can contact the Indigenous Employment Co-ordinator on +61 3 8344 9978 for advice and information on making an application.

Applications Close: 16 December 2008.

For position information and to apply online go to [www.jobs.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.jobs.unimelb.edu.au) and search under the job title or job number 0019152.

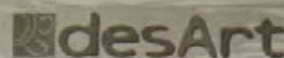
An Equal Opportunity employer.



**dream large**



www.jobs.unimelb.edu.au



## Project Officer

Aboriginal identified position

Work with Aboriginal owned Art Centres across Central Australia

Exciting opportunity for a confident team player with strong admin and computer skills to support Aboriginal art & culture.

Based in Alice Springs with travel throughout Central Australia this role includes being responsible for coordinating events and assisting with projects.

Salary range \$43,000 - \$48,000

Job description and selection criteria from:

Email: admin@desart.com.au Phone: 08 8953 4736.

Closing date: Friday 12th December 2008.

[www.desart.com.au](http://www.desart.com.au)

## NSW HEALTH SYDNEY SOUTH WEST AREA HEALTH SERVICE

Sydney South West Area Health Service is offering 12 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Traineeships in the following Health positions at Campbelltown Hospital.

- Administration
- Sterilisation
- Health Support Services
- Engineering
- Food Services

Eligibility Criteria for the program are:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent
- Identify and accepted as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Willingness to undertake and complete the related Certificate 3

The traineeship offers:

- Paid work placement of 1-2 year duration according to the Public Hospital (Training Wage) (State) Award.
- Opportunity to complete a nationally recognised qualification
- Full support and mentorship during the traineeship

All enquiries, requests and application packages may be directed to:

Helen Orcher, Aboriginal Workforce Development Coordinator, Sydney South West Area Health Service, LMB 7017 Liverpool NSW 1871.

Phone: (02) 9828 5986, fax: (02) 9828 5931,

email: helen.orcher@swahs.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: 12 December 2008.

• Being Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander are genuine occupational qualifications and are authorised under Section 14(d) and Section 31(2h) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

### BARRAMBAH REGIONAL MEDICAL SERVICE

#### Bringing Them Home Counsellor

1xMale & 1xFemale Positions Fulltime Contract Position

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Bringing Them Home (BTH) Counsellors is to provide counselling and education to clients who have been affected by the removal or by intergenerational effects of forced removal. BTH Counsellors must give priority to First Generation clients, especially elderly clients and those requiring urgent assistance due to health concerns. The services work closely with other agencies such as Link Up Program.

**Specific Duties will include:**

- provide counselling and support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people;
- offering a broad range of counselling services which includes trans-generational grief, trauma and family relationship counselling;
- establishing a referral network of professional counsellors, psychologists, psychiatrists, traditional healers and other relevant health professionals;
- offer to refer clients to other services as required, including mainstream mental health services, non-government organisations, and alternative services such as drug and alcohol services;
- participating in the full re-union process at the request of a Link Up service whose function is family tracing and reunion. This participation could occur from the pre-reunion phase through to the post-reunion phase and may involve travelling with clients to community locations;
- attending regular case discussion meetings with the social health team to ensure cultural sensitivity and safety in clinical practice;
- working with established peer support groups and other Stolen Generations groups to either conduct or support healing programs and related activities; and
- offering to refer clients to Link Up services for family tracing and reunion services.

**Remuneration Package subject to Qualifications:** \$68,500 include super and other FBT

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE:** 05th January 2009

Aboriginal and Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply For an Application Package to address the selection criteria or further information regarding this position please call:

Bruce Simpson

Chief Executive Officer

07 4169 8600 or 0423 258 858

Barrabah Regional Medical Service

Cnr of Bligh and Broadway Streets

CHERBOURG, Qld 4605

or email: ceo@barrabah.org



## Manager - Family Support

- Make a positive change in the community
- Unique and rewarding opportunity

Katherine Families Support Unit Aboriginal Corporation is seeking a passionate and motivated Manager to work collaboratively with a Board of Directors, legal staff and external bookkeepers to oversee the operational needs and support of associated programs. You will enjoy a negotiable remuneration package that includes salary packaging options up to \$15,000, and you will have a fully maintained vehicle available for work use. You'll also receive 5 weeks annual leave. Additionally, professional development opportunities will be offered through training sessions and conferences in Sydney and Melbourne. Get set to be challenged, rewarded, and inspired by a dedicated team. Apply Now!



Call 1300 366 573 or visit [ApplyNow.com.au/Job10069](http://ApplyNow.com.au/Job10069)



### THAMARRURR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Employment & Training

#### SITE MANAGER - WADEYE

We are looking for an employment service specialist to lead a employment services team based in the largest Aboriginal Community in Australia. The successful applicant will have an excellent working knowledge of current employment programs including Job Network, Personal Support Program, JPET, GDEP and must have proven experience in leading a team to produce outcomes with highly disadvantaged jobseekers. Attractive remuneration and incentives will be based on experience.

#### EMPLOYMENT CONSULTANT - WADEYE

3 Positions

Excellent opportunity to work as an Employment Consultant in Wadeye and Palumpa. Our network exists so that job seekers can achieve lasting and meaningful employment, and access training and development programs to build employable skills.

We are seeking people who are motivated and encouraging to others, to deliver employment and related services to our clients.

Job Futures provides opportunities to receive industry leading training. However, past experience in working with traditional Aboriginal people, in an employment or development role desirable. The remuneration package also includes regular flights to Darwin and subsidised housing.

These positions provide a unique opportunity for people seeking an alternative lifestyle and to be a part of a committed team, building the employability skills of local people to work in the emerging local labour market.

For selection documentation, position enquiries and forwarding address for applications please contact Amanda Strange, telephone 08 8978 2111 or email [amanda.strange@thamarrur.org.au](mailto:amanda.strange@thamarrur.org.au)

Applications close 19th December, 2008.



### Centre for Remote Health

A joint centre of Flinders University and Charles Darwin University

## Indigenous Research Officer

LEVEL A: \$52, 800 - \$64, 308 PA  
LEVEL B: \$67, 696 - \$80, 387 PA

This position is available immediately for 3 years on a full-time or part-time basis.  
Location: Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

REF 8282 This is an exciting opportunity for an Indigenous academic or health professional who wishes to contribute to the Centre's research effort aimed at improving health and social well-being outcomes in remote communities. The position of Indigenous Research Officer is integral to the implementation of the Primary Health Care Research Evaluation and Development (PHCRED) program across the Northern Territory. The successful applicant will participate in a variety of research and education activities related to primary health care in remote communities (such as the areas of mental health, ageing and dementia care, sustainable communities, and workforce development), and will also be encouraged to pursue their own research interests with training and professional development provided as appropriate.

Full details of this position can be found at our [Jobs@flinders website](http://www.flinders.edu.au): <http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment> or please ring (08) 8951 4700 for further information.

Applications may be lodged online at [Jobs@flinders](http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment): <http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment> or by email to: [jeanne.tahini@flinders.edu.au](mailto:jeanne.tahini@flinders.edu.au) by Monday, 8 December 2008.

EOWA EMPLOYER OF CHOICE FOR WOMEN  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IS UNIVERSITY POLICY  
[www.flinders.edu.au](http://www.flinders.edu.au)

inspiring achievement

CRICOS Provider Number: 00114A

### NSW DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

#### HOUSING NSW

#### SENIOR CLIENT SERVICE OFFICER - IDENTIFIED

Clerk Grade 5/6

Southern & Western NSW Housing Services Division  
Western Area, Dubbo  
Temporary Full-Time

Position No: DOH-08-17207

Total remuneration package valued up to \$77,406 per annum (Salary: \$63,573 pa - \$70,146 pa), includes employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

**Job Description:** The successful applicant will be expected to demonstrate experience in working with people with high and/or multiple support needs, be motivated and have the ability to develop networks between the Department and community support agencies.

**Selection Criteria:**

- Aboriginality
- Demonstrated leadership skills and the ability to significantly contribute to team performance.
- Capacity to undertake community consultations.
- Demonstrated understanding of and commitment to assisting clients with special needs including Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islanders (ATSI).
- Demonstrated understanding of and commitment to people from non-English speaking backgrounds, people with disabilities, mental illness, victims of domestic violence and complex nuisance and annoyance.
- Demonstrated ability to contribute to local planning initiatives and to find innovative solutions to problems in a client service environment.
- Sound decision-making skills and excellent communication, negotiation, conflict resolution and interviewing skills.
- Current Driver's Licence.

**Job Notes:** This is a temporary full-time position under the terms of the Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002 for a period up to June 2009, with possibility of extension. Further information about this position is available on-line and applicants must address the full selection criteria. Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under Section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977.

Inquiries: Kerry McDermott (02) 6885 7111

**Information Packages:** Businesslink phone (02) 6392 8250 [www.housing.nsw.gov.au/AboutUs/Careers](http://www.housing.nsw.gov.au/AboutUs/Careers) or NSW

**Apply on-line:** As per link in the Information Package or post to: The Manager, NSW Businesslink, Western Regional Service Centre, PO Box 2552, Orange NSW 2800.

**Closing Date:** Friday 12 December 2008



## Coordinator (STEPS)

Mt Isa

STEPS, standing for Structured Training and Employment Program Services, is a Commonwealth Government program designed to assist Indigenous Australians into sustainable employment.

An opportunity exists at Jobfind for a dynamic Coordinator to lead a team of motivated professionals and manage the operational requirements.

To achieve success and enjoyment in this role, you should be able to answer 'YES' to the following questions:

- A sound knowledge of barriers facing Indigenous Australians entering and remaining in the workforce
- Effective human resource management and workplace leadership, developed through previous hands-on management roles
- Dynamic management track record in the Job Network or similar government funded program
- The ability to prioritise and manage a demanding workload with critical timelines
- Good communication skills at a range of levels
- The ability to develop strong networks with a range of stakeholders

### What's in it for you?

Salary range for this position will be \$55,000-\$60,000, ongoing training and development will be provided within a positive work environment. You also get a chance to make a significant difference to people's lives.



To apply please send a cover letter and resume, quoting ref STEPSM1, to HR at GPO Box 5239 Sydney NSW 2001, fax (02) 9259-5500 or email employment@angusknights.com.au

## MARRICKVILLE council

An excellent opportunity is available for enthusiastic people to learn in two of the most dynamic areas in Council.

### Trainee, Human Resource (Ref. K8126)

A fun and exciting way to jump start your career in HR. Gain experience through on-the-job training in a bustling HR environment.

### Trainee, Customer Service (Ref. K8127)

Learn about customer service and play a role in providing counter and call centre services to citizens.

### INFORMATION FOR BOTH POSITIONS

Traineeships are available for a 12-month period and are offered with a salary of \$27k plus Super and RDO. You will participate in a training program leading to a TAFE Certificate in Business Administration. Applicants with Certificate III or higher level qualifications cannot be considered.

For a Job Info Pack visit [www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au](http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au) or telephone Recruitment Line on 00350 2000. Apply by 12/12/08 and following the instructions in your pack.

Council serves a diverse and vibrant community and promotes equity and diversity among its workforce.

Kim Anson, General Manager

Winner of the 2006 Australian HR Award  
Employer of Choice (Public Sector)



## Department for Child Protection Career Opportunities in Responsible Parenting

Responsible Parenting Services provides ParentSupport which helps parents whose children are not going to school, not showing respect for their family or community or starting to offend. ParentSupport works with parents to make a difference in families.

### Case Worker

Pool Ref CP6528  
Level 2/4, \$46,271-\$60,444 pa / Level 1,  
Specified Callings \$49,616-\$68,827 pa  
Location: Derby, Broome, Fitzroy  
Crossing, Kununurra and Halls Creek  
Various Permanent Full Time Positions

A Caseworker is a parent support worker. They work with the family to find their strengths and to set some plans and goals for better child behaviour and a solid family.

### Senior Case Worker

Pool Ref CP6527  
Level 5, \$63,621-\$70,315 pa / Level 2,  
Specified Callings \$69,704-\$77,036 pa  
Location: Derby, Broome, Fitzroy Crossing  
Various Permanent Full Time Positions

A Senior Caseworker is a parent support worker. They work with families with more complex issues. They assist the coordination of Parent Visitors and if they are Aboriginal may provide advice on working with Aboriginal families.

Further Job Information  
Contact Julie Anne Davis  
on 9192 1317.

Job Application Package  
Can be downloaded from  
[www.jobs.wa.gov.au](http://www.jobs.wa.gov.au) or  
by phoning the Broome  
District Office on  
(08) 9192 1317.

Indigenous and Torres  
Strait Islander people are  
encouraged to apply.

Closing Date:  
Monday  
8th December 2008  
at 5:00pm



Government of South Australia  
Department for Environment  
and Heritage

## Rangers

### DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE Ongoing Positions

Vac No: 10584/2008 Adelaide Region  
Vac No: 10588/2008 Southern Flinders Ranges  
Vac No: 10590/2008 Kangaroo Island  
Vac No: 10594/2008 Far West Coast  
Vac No: 10596/2008 Northern Flinders Ranges  
\$41,303 - \$44,705 p.a. (OPS2)

South Australia faces a number of environmental challenges - some unique, others shared with the national and global community.

DEH are currently recruiting Rangers to take on one of the most rewarding conservation roles in the State. Rangers are integral to our organisation and play a key role in the care and conservation of SA's biological diversity in the reserve system and across the broader landscape.

You must have a knowledge of ecological processes, nature conservation land management principles and visitor management; be a good communicator and able to use initiative and judgement; and be willing to live in and partner with communities in regional and remote locations.

Appropriate tertiary qualifications in Natural Resource Management are desirable. Rangers are required to wear a departmental uniform and work 75 hours per fortnight on a 10 day on, 4 day off roster (depending on management requirements) for which an allowance will be paid. Work involving travel and overnight absences away from the work site is required.

Allowances for weekend rosters and superannuation apply.

Applicants for these positions will also be considered for further vacancies which may occur in the near future.

Enquiries to: Jacqui Hillman email: [hillman.jacqui@savgov.sa.gov.au](mailto:hillman.jacqui@savgov.sa.gov.au) or ph: (08) 8463 4845.

Application Information:  
[www.environment.sa.gov.au/vacancies](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/vacancies) or email: [deh.jobs@savgov.sa.gov.au](mailto:deh.jobs@savgov.sa.gov.au) or ph: (08) 8204 1898.

Applications (4 copies) addressing the Person Specification and stating where you saw the position advertised to: Recruitment and Selection, HR Services, Department for Environment and Heritage, GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001, or email to [deh.jobs@savgov.sa.gov.au](mailto:deh.jobs@savgov.sa.gov.au)

Please quote vacancy number on application.

Applications Close: 5:00pm 12 December 2008

[www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)

## TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICERS (X3)

- National Organisation with roles based in Adelaide, Perth & Brisbane
- Diverse and interesting opportunity with interstate & regional travel
- 3 year employment contract
- Salary package up to \$100k

A rare opportunity has arisen to join the Training and Employment Directorate of a national organisation. The organisation conducts land based enterprises and other land based activities across Australia and uniquely operates in both the public and private sector. Reporting to the Director Training and Employment, you will be responsible for:

- Developing, securing funding, implementing, monitoring and evaluating training and employment projects and other strategic initiatives designed to maximise employment and training benefits from Indigenous land;
- Providing expert advice on labour market opportunities and vocational education and training policies, programs and approaches; and
- Developing and maintaining strategic and operational alliances and partnerships with employment and training funding agencies and service providers, employers, industry groups, Indigenous organisations and other employment and training stakeholders at the state, regional and local levels.

We are looking for an energetic, highly focused strategic thinker with commercial focus that has the capacity to back their own judgement. The preferred candidate will have knowledge and experience in vocational education and training policy and delivery approaches and an understanding of businesses involved in job placement and vocational training within the current labour market.

The candidate will have excellent communication skills, demonstrated negotiation skills and an understanding of Indigenous social and economic issues across urban, rural and remote communities. Formal qualifications in an appropriate discipline, including Project Management will be highly regarded.

The commencing salary package will be dependent on your skills and experience. The successful candidate will have access to excellent conditions including the opportunity to further develop their skills through our generous Studies Assistance program.

For further information, please contact Stephen McCarthy, Manager Training and Employment on (08) 8100 7133 or Freecall 1800 818 450. (Position documentation and more information on the ILC are available on our website at [www.ilc.gov.au](http://www.ilc.gov.au)).

Applications are to include the ILC Cover Note (available on the website), covering letter and detailed current CV only. Further information may be requested if you are required for an interview.

Applications should be emailed to [vacancies@ilc.gov.au](mailto:vacancies@ilc.gov.au) Or marked "Confidential" and forwarded to:

Adam Jenkins  
Indigenous Land Corporation  
GPO Box 652,  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders are encouraged to apply.

Applications close at 12 noon on Monday 15 December 2008.

## EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

### EQUITY AND DIVERSITY OFFICER (SOCIAL INCLUSION) FULL-TIME, CONTINUING REF. 21336

Macquarie University values social inclusion for both staff and students and aims to provide opportunity and redress disadvantage for Indigenous Australians; women; people with disabilities; members of the LGBTI community and those from language backgrounds other than English.

The role of Equity and Diversity Officer has responsibilities within the planning, development, implementation, evaluation and review of equity and diversity policy and programs. The successful candidate will provide high quality advice on social justice issues, be culturally sensitive and have excellent communication, administrative and operational skills and a desire to learn. This position operates in an exciting and varied environment where change, short time frames and competing demands are the norm.

#### Essential Selection Criteria:

- Undergraduate qualification and/or sustained, relevant experience in an equity and diversity related area
- Knowledge of relevant anti-discrimination legislation (State and Commonwealth) and proven capacity to apply legislative obligations in the workplace
- Successful project management experience for demonstrated capacity to progress an equity and diversity agenda within an organisation
- Ability to work closely and effectively with people from a wide variety of backgrounds and experience in the negotiation/facilitation of outcomes with stakeholder groups (including women, people with disabilities, people from language backgrounds other than English, and Indigenous Australians)
- Demonstrated ability to communicate and negotiate effectively with people at all levels within an organisation
- Demonstrated experience in reviewing and developing policy, procedures, and guidelines
- Excellent written communication skills including capacity to draft reports (including basic statistical analysis), and promotional material
- Demonstrated capacity to work as part of a team; manage resources effectively and facilitate training/confident public speaking

#### Desirable Selection Criteria:

- Experience and familiarity with the tertiary education sector or similar environment
- Capacity to develop and maintain website for desire to become proficient

Enquiries: Kate Wilson, Manager Equity and Diversity on (02) 9850 7471

or email: [kate.wilson@mq.edu.au](mailto:kate.wilson@mq.edu.au)

Package: From \$77,147 pa, including (Level 7) base salary \$65,190 to \$70,219 pa plus 17% employer's superannuation and annual leave loading

Applications close: 12 December 2008

Like to find out more? Visit our site at: [www.mq.edu.au](http://www.mq.edu.au)  
Ready to apply? Go to: [www.jobs.mq.edu.au](http://www.jobs.mq.edu.au)

Applications will only be accepted via the Macquarie University online system.

Macquarie University is an Equal Opportunity Employer with a commitment to diversity and social inclusion. We encourage applications from Indigenous Australians; people with a disability; those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds; and women (particularly for senior and non-traditional vacancies).



AUSTRALIA'S INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITY

## Reconciliation Australia Policy and Public Affairs Director

Reconciliation Australia is a non-government, not-for-profit national organisation building and promoting reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians for the wellbeing of the nation.

The Policy and Public Affairs Director is a new position created to lead a team of people responsible for Reconciliation Australia's policy and evidence gathering activities, and for educating and influencing all sectors of the Australian community to engage effectively in reconciliation.

Working as a member of the management team, the Policy and Public Affairs Director will have strong people and financial management skills, excellent strategic policy skills and a proven capacity to lead a diverse team. The person will also have experience in managing community education programs and relationship management. Excellent communication skills and a capacity to work in a dynamic environment are also required.

Information about Reconciliation Australia and a job description are available from [www.reconciliation.org.au](http://www.reconciliation.org.au).

Applicants of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent are encouraged. This position is Canberra based.

Applications close Monday 15 December 2008

Written applications to:

Barbara Livesey, CEO  
Reconciliation Australia  
PO Box 4773, Kingston ACT 2604  
Phone: 02 6273 9200  
email: [Nathan.Dunn@reconciliation.org.au](mailto:Nathan.Dunn@reconciliation.org.au)



## Community Engagement and Indigenous Liaison Officer

Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport

Administrative Officer 5 (\$60 285 - \$63 425)

Natural Resource Management - Palmerston

Permanent

The Community Engagement and Indigenous Liaison Officer will be implementing community engagement activities relating to water resource management in the Darwin Region.

This position will require the successful applicant to work closely with the proposed Top End Region Water Advisory Committee, Regional Reference groups and Community and local Indigenous groups in water planning and management processes. This position will be working under the supervision of the Darwin Water Resource Planner based with the Division of Natural Resource Management. It is desirable that the applicant has a tertiary qualification in Natural Resource Management or Community Development and knowledge of Darwin's regional natural resource management issues.

This is a re-advertised vacancy and previous applicants need not reapply.

Applications should address the Selection Criteria. Please refer to the contact details below for a copy of the Selection Criteria and Job Description.

Quote vacancy number: 280584  
Closing date: 12 December 2008

### Contact us now

Phone: 1300 659 247  
Email: Recruitment@nt.gov.au  
Visit: www.nt.gov.au/jobs



Northern Territory Government



## Aboriginal Education Program Coordinator

Are you passionate about improving the health of Indigenous people?

Cancer Council Victoria (an independent charity) is seeking an Aboriginal Education Program Coordinator to join our Cancer Education Unit.

In its efforts in Indigenous cancer control, Cancer Council Victoria is committed to developing and implementing culturally appropriate education programs for Aboriginal communities. For some cancers, this group has higher rates of cancer incidence and mortality than for all other Australians.

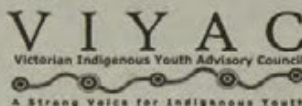
The Aboriginal Education Program Coordinator will be responsible for developing and implementing initiatives targeting Aboriginal communities for PapScreen Victoria. They will also provide advice and direction for other programs within the Cancer Council and promote our services and programs within Aboriginal networks.

The successful candidate will have significant work experience in the Aboriginal health sector. A knowledge of and experience in working with Aboriginal communities is essential. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are encouraged to apply.

This is a full-time position. For a position description visit [www.cancervic.org.au](http://www.cancervic.org.au) or contact Kaye Cromie on (03) 9635 5363.

Applications close Friday 12 December.

Cancer Council Victoria



## VICTORIAN INDIGENOUS YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

(Youth Affairs Council of Victoria)

### Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council- State Co-ordinator

This position is offered at full-time.  
(Hourly rate between \$24.73 and \$26.05 per hour.  
Salary between \$48,871.00 and \$51,470.00 per annum).  
Permanent Position.

All YACVic positions are subject to a 3 month probationary period.  
Level 2, 172 Flinders St Melbourne.

VIYAC is a state-wide network of volunteer Indigenous young people who provide a voice to government and community on issues of importance to them.

VIYAC is an avenue for Indigenous young people to come together and voice their ideas, passions and interests, in a safe, structured and supportive environment.

VIYAC is committed to supporting all our members to build their skills and capacity. It is a community based volunteer program, which is not for profit.

VIYAC currently consists of approximately 35 young volunteer VIYAC Council Members from across the state.

Key tasks of the VIYAC Co-ordinator are to maintain the VIYAC, coordinate VIYAC meetings and activities and provide advice on relevant policy and program issues for government and Community committees or organisations.

Indigenous applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

For details and key selection criteria please contact: Jen Rose, Manager of Policy and Projects at the Youth Affairs, Council of Victoria, (03) 9267 3722 or [jrose@yacvic.org.au](mailto:jrose@yacvic.org.au)

Closing date for applications: 5pm, 9 January, 2009.



## MAGISTRATES' COURT OF VICTORIA

The Magistrates' Court of Victoria is seeking a highly motivated and enthusiastic person. The Aboriginal Liaison Service forms part of the Court Integrated Services Program (CISP). CISP provides a multi-disciplinary

team approach to the service and treatment of defendants.

### ABORIGINAL LIAISON OFFICER

Ongoing - Full Time

VPS Grade 3 (\$50,175 - \$60,922)

The Aboriginal Liaison Officer Service addresses the issue of over-representation of Indigenous people in the Victorian justice system by working with Indigenous clients when they enter the court system. In addition, the service helps Aboriginal people to maximise their chances of rehabilitation through culturally appropriate and sensitive intervention.

This is an Identified Indigenous position, which will involve the development and delivery of programs and services which impact on Indigenous people.

To apply or for further information on position descriptions and selection criteria visit [www.careers.vic.gov.au](http://www.careers.vic.gov.au) or contact Jo Beckett on 9628 7981.

Applications close 12 December 2008.

## NSW HEALTH SYDNEY SOUTH WEST AREA HEALTH SERVICE

### COMMUNITY HEALTH

#### Aboriginal Health Worker (Aboriginal HEO)

Ref: 56211/2. Salary: \$38,878-\$57,266 pa.

F/T at Campbelltown Community Health.

Enq: Erika Lehner, (02) 4640 3515.

Closing Date: 12 December 2008.

Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualifications and are authorised under Section 14(d) and Section 31(2h) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Apply online at: [www.sswahs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sswahs.nsw.gov.au)

or email application quoting Ref No. to: [jobs@sswahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jobs@sswahs.nsw.gov.au) or send application to: Recruitment Unit, Locked Bag 7050, Liverpool NSW 1871.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

## Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service (WACHS)

(Funded by NSW Health Department and Commonwealth Department of Health & Ageing)

### Clinical Team Leader

This position is a Senior Management position within WACHS and therefore offers a lucrative package incorporating a \$90K+ salary and fully maintained company vehicle. Salary packaging is also available for this position once permanent employment has been offered.

The successful applicant will need to demonstrate a very high level of skills in staff management and have relevant experience and skills within a Social & Emotional Wellbeing environment including Drugs & Alcohol, Sexual Health, and Family Health issues. The position will be responsible for supervising a staff of six, with a thorough knowledge of Mental Health issues and legislation an advantage to perspective applicants.

Qualifications in a relevant field being Health or Management is essential, and people from Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander heritage are encouraged to apply.

Interested persons are encouraged to contact Darren Ah See, Chief Executive Officer at Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service phone (02) 6845 3545 or email [Enquiries@wachs.net.au](mailto:Enquiries@wachs.net.au) for an information package which details the "essential criteria" to be addressed in applications.

Applications close at 5.00pm Friday 19 December 2008.

### Drug and Alcohol Worker

(Funded by NSW Department of Health)

Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service is recruiting for a Drug and Alcohol Worker to work within its Social and Emotional Wellbeing Team. The successful applicant will need to possess a high level of case management skills within a client focused service, whilst having a sound knowledge of drug and alcohol issues within Aboriginal communities. Previous experience within the drug and alcohol field would be an advantage.

Applicants are required to contact Darren Ah See, Chief Executive Officer on telephone (02) 6845 3545 or email [Enquiries@wachs.net.au](mailto:Enquiries@wachs.net.au) for an information package which details the selection criteria.

Note: This is an Aboriginal identified position and Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification authorised under Section 14D of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Applications close Friday 5 December 2008.



MAARI MA HEALTH  
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION  
[www.maarma.com.au](http://www.maarma.com.au)

Maari Ma is a leader and a partner, winning respect and showing it to clients, community and other organisations, and providing services that reflect best practice to the communities in our region.

Maari Ma, with our partners, is implementing a Chronic Disease Strategy utilising an integrated, multidisciplinary approach to prevention, early detection and chronic disease management. It is an exciting time to work with Maari Ma as we continue the implementation of our award winning programs; real primary health care - real services.

### Position Vacant - Broken Hill

Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

### Project Officer

Community Safety Research Project - two year term

Maari Ma is collaborating with the University of New South Wales (UNSW) Schools of Psychology and Psychiatry, on a 5-year research project. The project is researching the effects of violence in participating communities in the Maari Ma Region: Broken Hill, Wilcannia and Menindee.

The aims of the project are to:  
- Improve the wellbeing and safety of communities, families and individuals; and  
- Increase capacity of the communities to maintain wellbeing and safety.

The Project Officer is responsible for providing practical assistance to support the development and implementation of the research project; to actively complete, in collaboration with the manager, the research components of the project. The position will provide a key role in community liaison for the project.

Salary range \$53,500 to \$76,700 gross per annum based on qualifications and experience. + salary packaging and employer's contribution to superannuation

For further enquiries, please contact Louise Denley, telephone 08 9082 9836 or email [LDenley@gwahs.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:LDenley@gwahs.health.nsw.gov.au)

Application packages for above positions are available from Glenis Barnes, email [glenis.barnes@gwahs.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:glenis.barnes@gwahs.health.nsw.gov.au)

Applications close 12 December 2008

Maari Ma has a smoke free health care workplace policy and relevant criminal record checks are required prior to appointment.



## Administrative Assistant (Teaching Programs Unit)

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
FACULTY OF EDUCATION, HUMANITIES, LAW AND THEOLOGY

REF 8303 Administrative Assistant (Teaching Programs Unit)  
HEO level 3 full-time, continuing position.

\$40,493 to \$43,905 pa (wef 3/1/09)

REF 8304 Administrative Assistant (Teaching Programs Unit)  
HEO level 2 part-time (0.8), continuing position.

\$36,752 to \$39,459 pa (wef 3/1/09)

Closes: Monday, 8 December 2008.

## Receptionist/ Administrative Assistant

STUDENT LEARNING CENTRE  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SERVICES DIVISION  
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

\$40,439 to \$43,905 pa (wef 3/1/09)

REF 8316 The appointee will be responsible for undertaking a range of receptionist and administrative duties in support of the activities of the Student Learning Centre.

This position is available immediately on a full-time, continuing basis.

Closes: Monday, 8 December 2008.

Applications must address the specified selection criteria. Detailed position information (including selection criteria) and essential information for intending applicants are available via the [Jobs@Flinders](http://www.flinders.edu.au) website: <http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment>

EOWA EMPLOYER OF CHOICE FOR WOMEN  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IS UNIVERSITY POLICY  
[www.flinders.edu.au](http://www.flinders.edu.au)

inspiring achievement

CRICOS Provider Number: 00114A



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YOUR AD IN THE  
KOORI MAIL  
CONTACT  
CHRIS OR STUART  
ON  
02 66 222 666

### KALWUN HEALTH SERVICE ABORIGINAL HEALTH WORKER ON THE GOLD COAST

We are seeking an Aboriginal Health Worker with a Certificate III in Primary Health Care.

Application Package: available by phoning Yvonne on 07 5520 6799  
Applications close: 4.30pm Monday 8th December 2008.

This is an identified position and Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by S14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

### Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre Community Legal Educator (Part time, fixed term @ 21 hrs per/week)

Wirringa Baiya works with women and children in relation to issues such as domestic violence, adult and child sexual assault. The position will be responsible assisting in the delivery of information to Aboriginal women and children regarding their rights.

Being an Aboriginal woman is a genuine occupational qualification under sections 14 & 31 of the Anti Discrimination Act (1977)

Rate of pay Grade 4 Year 3 as per the (SACS) Award.

Information Package: Christine Robinson on (02) 9569 3847.

Closing date: Monday 15th December 2008.

## Looking for Work?

### Free Call:

NSW:  
1300 167 504

QLD:  
1300 784 263

Are you an Aboriginal or a Torres Strait Islander and have past mistakes made it hard for you to find work? BSI Learning offers a **FREE & confidential** program to give you the help you need. We can help you to get training and work and will keep on helping you, even after you get a job!



is federally funded by DEEWR under STEP ERS funding.

### PIUS X ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Pius X Aboriginal Corporation is a community controlled organisation addressing the health needs of the local Moree community. We are currently seeking applications for the following position.

### Clinical Practice Manager

Pius X Aboriginal Corporation is seeking a suitably qualified health professional who is enthusiastic, experienced, motivated and innovative.

The Clinical Practice Manager would coordinate the clinical practice section of Pius to provide an effective primary health care service and will report to the CEO. Further information about the position is outlined in the position description.

To apply for the position applicants are required to address the criteria and submit this with a resume.

For position description and further information please contact: Mrs Kim Connors on 02 6752 1099 or email admin@piusx.com.au

A generous salary and the option of salary package are features of this position.

Applications close 5pm Tuesday 23rd December 2008.



CHILDREN'S  
SERVICES INC.  
educating and caring for our children

### Aboriginal Early Intervention Worker x 2

SDN Children's Services works with families and children aged from 0-8. We are a lead agency in Sydney for the Brighter Futures early intervention program working with vulnerable families to strengthen and empower through targeted support.

We currently have an opportunity for highly motivated team members to join the SDN Brighter Futures Program. These positions will be based in Redfern and work throughout the Sydney region.

These positions will be responsible for coordinating services; case management; building relationships and advocating for and supporting Aboriginal children and families in the community who are part of the Brighter Futures early intervention program.

A salary of \$47,571-\$51,653 (dependent on skills and experience) will be offered to the successful appointees. These positions are available on a full-time defined duration basis until 30 June 2009.

For further information or to arrange collection of an information package, please contact Ms Maria Mahina on (02) 9698 3144. To view the position description and selection criteria for these positions, please visit our website at [www.sdn.org.au](http://www.sdn.org.au)

Applications must address the selection criteria and can be sent to either [careers@sdn.org.au](mailto:careers@sdn.org.au) or Ms Maria Mahina, Aboriginal Support Worker, 141-145 Pitt Street, Redfern NSW 2016 or can be dropped off in person with prior arrangement.

Applications close: 12 December 2008

Candidates from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background are encouraged to apply. Working with Children Check applies.



## NOTICE TO GRANT AMALGAMATION APPLICATIONS

### NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Resources, C/- Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following amalgamation applications under the Mining Act 1978:

EXPLORATION NO.	APPLICANT	AMALG NO	AREA	LOCALITY	CENTROID	SHIRE
26/100	Gregory John Keeley Rocky Reef Mining Pty Ltd	KA3/56 KA4/56	2.86ha 56.47ha	24km Ely of Kambalda	Lat 31°07' Long 121°53' Lat 31°10' Long 121°56'	Kalgoorlie Boulder City/ Kalgoorlie Boulder City/ Coolgardie

Nature of the act: Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 3 December 2008

**Native title parties:** Under Section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to the applications. The 3 month period closes on 3 March 2009. 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. 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. 3 April 2009), 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 11, 233 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9268 9700.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3828.



## NOTICE TO GRANT EXPLORATION LICENCES

### NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Resources, C/- Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following exploration licence applications under the Mining Act 1978:

NO	APPLICANT	AREA	LOCALITY	CENTROID	SHIRE
04/1765	Cullen Exploration Pty Ltd	45.48km <sup>2</sup>	62km SEly of Hecro Crossing	Lat 16°39' Long 125°54'	Derby- West Kimberley
09/1554	Northern Phosphate Ltd	486.28km <sup>2</sup>	111km SEly of Coral Bay	Lat 23°50' Long 114°33'	Leonora
09/1568	Altera Resources Ltd	18.60km <sup>2</sup>	72km NEly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat 24°35' Long 115°43'	Upper Gascoyne
09/1569	Altera Resources Ltd	46.71km <sup>2</sup>	77km NEly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat 24°37' Long 115°48'	Upper Gascoyne
09/1570	Altera Resources Ltd	28.04km <sup>2</sup>	84km NEly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat 24°32' Long 115°49'	Upper Gascoyne
20/689	State Resources Pty Ltd	9.22km <sup>2</sup>	54km Nly of Cue	Lat 26°57' Long 117°43'	Cue
21/130	Peter Alexander Peabbles Goldbridge Pty Ltd	209.59km <sup>2</sup>	21km SWly of Cue	Lat 27°33' Long 117°44'	Cue/Mount Magnet
21/134	Minea Pty Ltd	152km <sup>2</sup>	8km SEly of Cue	Lat 27°28' Long 117°55'	Cue
37/981	St Barbara Ltd	18.11km <sup>2</sup>	56km SEly of Leinster	Lat 28°17' Long 121°05'	Leonora
37/986	Poseidon Nickel Ltd	9.01km <sup>2</sup>	38km NEly of Leonora	Lat 28°44' Long 121°41'	Leonora
38/2107	Jarvis Exploration Pty Ltd	358.47km <sup>2</sup>	61km SEly of Cooma Newbury Mission	Lat 28°28' Long 123°13'	Laverton
45/3233	Pandell Pty Ltd	205.03km <sup>2</sup>	79km Ely of Shay Gap	Lat 20°47' Long 120°50'	East Pilbara
45/3268	Talman Mining Ltd	3.19km <sup>2</sup>	104km NEly of Nullagine	Lat 21°21' Long 120°56'	East Pilbara
45/3269	Talman Mining Ltd	73.44km <sup>2</sup>	108km NEly of Nullagine	Lat 21°16' Long 120°55'	East Pilbara
45/3299-303	Wix Pty Ltd	1119.84km <sup>2</sup>	16km NWly of Marble Bar	Lat 21°04' Long 119°38'	East Pilbara
52/2243	Aurora Resources Pty Ltd	125.16km <sup>2</sup>	109km SWly of Newman	Lat 24°04' Long 119°00'	Meekatharra
52/2245	Aurora Resources Pty Ltd	78.27km <sup>2</sup>	89km SWly of Newman	Lat 24°02' Long 119°16'	Meekatharra
57/768	Joseph Paul Legendre Brian Anthony Melville	9.03km <sup>2</sup>	81km SWly of Sandstone	Lat 28°36' Long 118°51'	Sandstone
57/769	Reed Resources Ltd	213.09km <sup>2</sup>	65km Nly of Sandstone	Lat 27°25' Long 119°07'	Sandstone
57/770	Reed Resources Ltd	213.24km <sup>2</sup>	71km Nly of Sandstone	Lat 27°22' Long 119°06'	Meekatharra/ Sandstone
57/774	Ziond Enterprises Pty Ltd	12.18km <sup>2</sup>	72km Nly of Sandstone	Lat 27°23' Long 119°33'	Sandstone
58/370	Boldiet Pty Ltd	45.47km <sup>2</sup>	33km Nly of Mount Magnet	Lat 27°46' Long 117°47'	Mount Magnet
59/1199	Digital Mapping Services Pty Ltd	90.15km <sup>2</sup>	48km SEly of Yalgoo	Lat 28°43' Long 116°55'	Yalgoo
59/1486	Barber Exploration Pty Ltd	15.03km <sup>2</sup>	64km Nly of Paynes Find	Lat 28°41' Long 117°44'	Mount Magnet/ Yalgoo
59/1526	Portman Iron Ore Ltd	21.01km <sup>2</sup>	47km Nly of Paynes Find	Lat 28°52' Long 117°52'	Yalgoo
59/1529	Portman Iron Ore Ltd	5.98km <sup>2</sup>	72km Ely of Morawa	Lat 29°13' Long 116°45'	Perenjori
59/1534	Gindalbie Metals Ltd	2.99km <sup>2</sup>	74km Ely of Morawa	Lat 29°14' Long 116°46'	Perenjori
59/1535	Gindalbie Metals Ltd	65.74km <sup>2</sup>	75km Ely of Morawa	Lat 29°18' Long 116°46'	Perenjori
63/1235	Grealdeal Pty Ltd	202.42km <sup>2</sup>	68km NWly of Salmon Gums	Lat 32°38' Long 121°02'	Dundas/Esperance
66/68	Infinity Resources Pty Ltd	36.37km <sup>2</sup>	46km SEly of Kalbarri	Lat 27°56' Long 114°33'	Northampton
66/69	Infinity Resources Pty Ltd	36.32km <sup>2</sup>	28km Nly of Northampton	Lat 28°06' Long 114°34'	Northampton
66/71	Infinity Resources Pty Ltd	12.07km <sup>2</sup>	14km Wly of Northampton	Lat 28°22' Long 114°29'	Northampton
66/72	Infinity Resources Pty Ltd	205.03km <sup>2</sup>	22km Sly of Northampton	Lat 28°32' Long 114°40'	Chapman Valley/ Northampton
69/2564	Zutshen Energy Pty Ltd	459.16km <sup>2</sup>	51km NWly of Balladonia	Lat 32°03' Long 123°37'	Dundas
69/2565	Lignitell Pty Ltd	287.34km <sup>2</sup>	84km SWly of Balladonia	Lat 33°07' Long 123°26'	Esperance
70/3161	Independence Group NL	581.5km <sup>2</sup>	49km NWly of Dalwallinu	Lat 30°04' Long 116°12'	Coorow/Dalwallinu/ Moora
70/3162	Independence Group NL	591.58km <sup>2</sup>	32km SWly of Dalwallinu	Lat 30°24' Long 116°21'	Dalwallinu/Moora
70/3247	Gregory Ross O'Rourke Malcolm Kenneth Virgo	36.45km <sup>2</sup>	73km Ely of Kalbarri	Lat 27°39' Long 114°54'	Northampton
70/3409	Infinity Resources Pty Ltd	36.36km <sup>2</sup>	48km Nly of Northampton	Lat 27°55' Long 114°44'	Northampton
70/3411	Image Resources Pty Ltd	64.68km <sup>2</sup>	46km NWly of Gingin	Lat 31°00' Long 115°38'	Dandaragan/Gingin
70/3463	Elsoni Nominees Pty Ltd	123.31km <sup>2</sup>	25km Nly of Gingin	Lat 31°07' Long 115°55'	Gingin/Victoria Plains
70/3478	Westralian Gas and Power Ltd	57.08km <sup>2</sup>	35km NEly of Bridgetown	Lat 33°42' Long 116°22'	Boyar Brook
70/3507	Edel Resources Pty Ltd	603.68km <sup>2</sup>	38km Nly of Kalbarri	Lat 27°22' Long 114°09'	Northampton
77/1425	Forrestania Gold NL	17.51km <sup>2</sup>	81km SEly of Southern Cross	Lat 31°48' Long 119°51'	Yilgarn
77/1426	Forrestania Gold NL	20.4km <sup>2</sup>	89km SEly of Southern Cross	Lat 31°56' Long 119°46'	Yilgarn
77/1529	Frank Hill Brenton Anthony Parry	59.5km <sup>2</sup>	109km Nly of Koolyanobbing	Lat 29°52' Long 119°11'	Menzies/Yilgarn
77/1541	Portman Iron Ore Ltd	2.96km <sup>2</sup>	69km NWly of Koolyanobbing	Lat 30°15' Long 119°11'	Yilgarn
77/1569	St Barbara Ltd	2.92km <sup>2</sup>	42km SEly of Southern Cross	Lat 31°27' Long 119°40'	Yilgarn
77/1599	Southern Cross Goldfields Ltd	20.53km <sup>2</sup>	7km SWly of Southern Cross	Lat 31°17' Long 119°17'	Yilgarn
77/1608	Southern Cross Goldfields Ltd	8.92km <sup>2</sup>	101km Nly of Koolyanobbing	Lat 29°57' Long 119°11'	Yilgarn
80/4093	Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Ltd	232.18km <sup>2</sup>	158km NWly of Wyndham	Lat 14°11' Long 127°30'	Wyndham & East Kimberley

Nature of the act: 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: 3 December 2008

**Native title parties:** Under section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on 3 March 2009. 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. 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. 3 April 2009), 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 11, 233 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9268 9700.

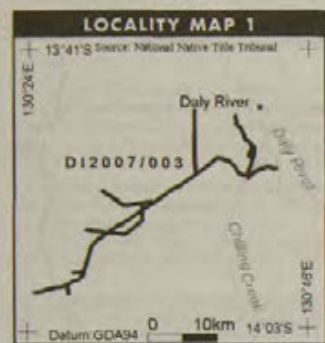
For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3828.



# Notice of applications to register area agreements on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements

Northern Territory of Australia  
Notification day: 3 December 2008

National  
Native Title  
Tribunal



**DI2007/003 BGP Fish River ILUA**  
**Description of the agreement area:** The area subject to this agreement is a 100m wide corridor, covering about 10km<sup>2</sup> in total and located approximately 145km south of Darwin, south-west of Daly River as shown on the locality map.  
The agreement falls within the Local Government Authority of Victoria - Daly Shire.



**DI2007/004 BGP Douglas North ILUA**  
**Description of the agreement area:** The area subject to this agreement is a 100m wide corridor separated into 2 segments, covering about 3.4km<sup>2</sup> in total, located approximately 130km south-east of Darwin in the vicinity of Hayes Creek as shown on the locality map.  
The agreement falls within the Local Government Authorities of Victoria - Daly Shire and the un-incorporated area.



**DI2007/005 BGP West Ban Ban ILUA**  
**Description of the agreement area:** The area subject to this agreement is a 100m wide corridor separated into 2 segments, covering about 2km<sup>2</sup> in total, located approximately 130km south-east of Darwin in the vicinity of Ban Ban Springs as shown on the locality map.  
The agreement falls within the Local Government Authorities of Victoria - Daly Shire and the un-incorporated area.



**DI2008/004 BGP Northern Land Council ILUA**  
**Description of the agreement area:** The area subject to this agreement is a 100m wide corridor, covering about 10.8km<sup>2</sup> in total, located approximately 140km south-east of Darwin in the vicinity of Hayes Creek and Daly River as shown on the locality map.  
The agreement falls within the Local Government Authorities of Victoria - Daly Shire and the un-incorporated area.

**The parties to agreement DI2007/003 and their contact addresses are:**  
Power and Water Corporation,  
C/- Clayton Utz Lawyers, GPO Box 612, DARWIN NT 0801  
BGP Tenure Holdings Pty Ltd,  
C/- Minter Ellison Lawyers, Level 4, 66 Smith Street, DARWIN NT 0800  
Paddy Huddleston, Margaret Foster, Kathleen Parry, Arthur Que Noy and Albert Myoung, C/- Northern Land Council, GPO Box 1222, DARWIN NT 0801  
Northern Land Council, GPO Box 1222, DARWIN NT 0801  
APT Bonaparte Pty Ltd,  
C/- Minter Ellison Lawyers, Level 4, 66 Smith Street, DARWIN NT 0800

**The parties to agreement DI2007/005 and their contact addresses are:**  
Power and Water Corporation,  
C/- Clayton Utz Lawyers, GPO Box 612, DARWIN NT 0801  
BGP Tenure Holdings Pty Ltd,  
C/- Minter Ellison Lawyers, Level 4, 66 Smith Street, DARWIN NT 0800  
David John Kenyon and Graham Kenyon,  
C/- Northern Land Council, GPO Box 1222, DARWIN NT 0801  
Northern Land Council, GPO Box 1222, DARWIN NT 0801  
APT Bonaparte Pty Ltd,  
C/- Minter Ellison Lawyers, Level 4, 66 Smith Street, DARWIN NT 0800

**The parties to agreement DI2007/004 and their contact addresses are:**  
Power and Water Corporation,  
C/- Clayton Utz Lawyers, GPO Box 612, DARWIN NT 0801  
BGP Tenure Holdings Pty Ltd,  
C/- Minter Ellison Lawyers, Level 4, 66 Smith Street, DARWIN NT 0800  
Arthur Que Noy, Gabriel Hazelbanc, Paddy Huddleston and Margaret Foster, C/- Northern Land Council, GPO Box 1222, DARWIN NT 0801  
Northern Land Council, GPO Box 1222, DARWIN NT 0801  
APT Bonaparte Pty Ltd,  
C/- Minter Ellison Lawyers, Level 4, 66 Smith Street, DARWIN NT 0800

**The parties to agreement DI2008/004 and their contact addresses are:**  
Power and Water Corporation,  
C/- Clayton Utz Lawyers, GPO Box 612, DARWIN NT 0801  
BGP Tenure Holdings Pty Ltd,  
C/- Minter Ellison Lawyers, Level 4, 66 Smith Street, DARWIN NT 0800  
Northern Land Council, GPO Box 1222, DARWIN NT 0801  
APT Bonaparte Pty Ltd,  
C/- Minter Ellison Lawyers, Level 4, 66 Smith Street, DARWIN NT 0800

**Each of the agreements contain the following statements:**  
**Clause 4.1** To the extent that any or all of the Relevant Acts constitute or amount to a Future Act, each of the Parties consent to the doing of any or all of those Relevant Acts (without conditions) subject to the provisions of this ILUA and agree not to challenge the validity of the Relevant Acts at any time in the future.  
**Clause 4.2** The right to negotiate provisions of Subdivision P of Division 3 of Part 2 of the NTA are not intended to apply to the doing of any or all of the Relevant Acts.  
**Clause 4.4** The Parties acknowledge and agree that the consents in this clause 4 constitute the requisite statement of consent of the Parties for the purposes of section 24EB(1)(b)(i) and 24EBA(1)(a)(i) of the NTA to the doing of any of the Relevant Acts.  
**Clause 1.1** provides the following interpretations and definitions:  
"Relevant Acts" means without limitation any or all of the following acts for the purposes of the Project in respect of the ILUA Area:  
(a) the grant and/or renewal of any assignment,

transfer or substitution of any licence to permit the construction and commissioning of the Pipeline within the ILUA area to the Pipeline Proponent or BGPT;  
(b) the grant and/or renewal of any assignment or transfer of any non-exclusive tenure for the operation and maintenance of the Pipeline being an area of land no more than 30 metres wide within the ILUA area to the Pipeline Proponent or BGPT;  
(c) the grant and/or renewal of any assignment or transfer of any non-exclusive tenure for the construction, commissioning, operation and maintenance of the Ancillary Facilities on the Ancillary Facilities Land to the Pipeline Proponent or BGPT;  
(d) the grant and/or renewal of any assignment or transfer of any exclusive tenure other than freehold, for the construction, commissioning, operation and maintenance of the Pipeline Facilities on the Pipeline Facilities Land to the Pipeline Proponent or BGPT;  
(e) the grant by the Territory of a statutory right to cross a waterway to the Pipeline Proponent or BGPT;

(f) the grant by the Territory of a statutory right to cross a road corridor to the Pipeline Proponent or BGPT;  
(g) the grant by the Territory of any form of interest in the event that any Lease within which the ILUA Area is located is forfeited or surrendered to the Territory or compulsorily acquired by the Territory to the Pipeline Proponent or BGPT; provided that such acts have no greater effect on native title than any of the acts done in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (f) as the case may be;  
(h) the enactment or amendment of the Project Legislation; and  
(i) any and all acts necessary or incidental to any or all of the Relevant Acts or class of acts referred to in this ILUA or to the efficient implementation of the Project including the grant of all leases, licences, permits, authorities, approvals, consents, encumbrances, easements or renewals and any activities necessary or desirable to develop, operate or maintain the Project to the Pipeline Proponent or BGPT provided that such acts have no greater effect on native title than any of the acts done in accordance with paragraphs (a) to (f) and (h) as the case may be.

## Objections to the registration of an ILUA where the application for registration has been certified

These applications for registration of an indigenous land use agreement (ILUA) have been certified by the Northern Land Council, the representative body for all of the ILUA areas. Any person claiming to hold native title to any part of an area covered by any of the ILUAs may object in writing to the registration of these agreements if they think that the application to register these ILUAs has not been properly certified.  
If you wish to object to the registration of any these agreements (and you hold, or claim to hold, native title in any part of the area covered by any of these agreements) you may only object for one reason: in your view, the applications to register the relevant ILUA has not been properly certified, as required by section 203BE(5)(a) and (b) of the Native Title Act 1993 (C'with).  
You must make your objection in writing and send it to the Native Title Registrar, National Native Title Tribunal, GPO Box 9973, Darwin NT 0801 by 3 March 2009.  
Generally procedural fairness will require that the material you provide is given to certain other persons or organisations for comment. It may also be taken into account in the registration of other ILUAs and claimant applications and thus be provided to relevant persons or organisations for comment.  
**Data statement:** agreement area boundaries compiled by the National Native Title Tribunal. Search and photocopy fees may apply. Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

**For assistance and further information about this application,**  
contact Lorna Gregory on freecall 1800 640 501 or visit [www.nntt.gov.au](http://www.nntt.gov.au)

Resolution of native title issues over land and waters.

# DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENERGY

An application for a JOINT WATER SUPPLY WORKS approval under section 92 of the Water Management Act 2000, has been received from:

**NSW MURRAY REGULATED RIVER WATER SOURCE (Dry Lake)**

FAY LYNETTE WOODHEAD & MICHAEL WILLIAM ADCROFT-PITT for 2 x CHANNEL-BELOW GROUND at Lot 4441 DP767426 Parish TAILA, County TAILA; Lot 1 DP621996 Parish TAILA, County TAILA; at Lot 2 DP621996 Parish TAILA, County TAILA; at Lot 1 DP763040 Parish TAILA, County TAILA. (Application No. 2037)

An application for an amended WATER SUPPLY WORKS and WATER USE approval under section 92 of the Water Management Act 2000, has been received from:

**NSW MURRAY REGULATED RIVER WATER SOURCE (Lower Darling River, Wentworth weir pool)**

JOHN ERIC KELLY, MARGARET KELLY, TODD EVAN KELLY and RICK ADAM KELLY for IRRIGATION of an additional 216 Hectares of GRAPE VINES at Lot 1 DP735148 Parish TAPIO, County WENTWORTH; at Lot 1 DP735148 Parish WENTWORTH, County WENTWORTH; at Lot 26 DP756969 Parish PALINYEWAH, County WENTWORTH; at Lot 5485 DP768394 Parish PALINYEWAH, County WENTWORTH; at part Lot 20 DP760340 Parish PALINYEWAH, County WENTWORTH. (Ref.60CA581464)

Any inquiries regarding the above should be directed to the undersigned on (03) 5051 6211. Written objections, specifying grounds, must be lodged with the Department of Water and Energy, PO Box 363, Buronga NSW 2739, within 28 days of the date of this publication.

Peter Winton, Licensing Officer

Applications for a WATER SUPPLY WORKS approval under section 92 of the Water Management Act 2000, have been received from:

**LOWER MURRUMBIDGEE DEEP GROUNDWATER SOURCE**

ROBERT JOSEPH WISEMAN for 1 x BORE at/adjacent to Lot 119 DP750885 Parish GIDGELL, County BOYD, for IRRIGATION at/adjacent to Lot 119 DP750885 Parish GIDGELL, County BOYD. (Application no. 2079)  
BADEN KENNETH WISEMAN for 1 x BORE at/adjacent to Lot 127 DP750885 Parish GIDGELL, County BOYD, for IRRIGATION at/adjacent to Lot 127 DP750885 Parish GIDGELL, County BOYD. (Application NO. 2078)

Any inquiries regarding the above should be directed to the undersigned on (02) 6953 0700. Written objections, specifying grounds, must be lodged with the Department of Water and Energy, PO Box 156, Leeton NSW 2705, within 28 days of the date of this publication.

Steve Webb, Licensing Manager



## EXPLORATION LICENCE APPLICATION NO. 3609 (ACT 1992)

This notice is given in accordance with the requirements of Section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (C'th).

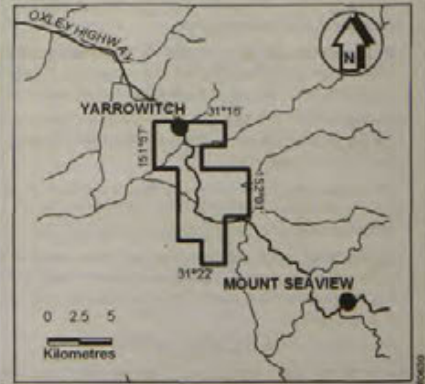
**Description of area that may be affected by the Minister's consent to prospect on native title land.**  
An area of 42 square kilometres (14 units) situated approximately 52 kilometres south east of Walcha in the State of NSW as shown on the attached diagram.

**Description of the nature of the act**  
Raymond Noel Ronald Andrews and Joseph Terp are the holders of Exploration Licence Application No. 3609 (Act 1992) to prospect for group 6 minerals and may (as applicable) exploration licence/assessment lease/mining lease which would authorise the prospecting/mining for (if ML and Coal just enter the word "coal") or Group 1 (metallic) minerals may be granted for a term of 2 years.

**Name and postal address of person by whom the act would be done**  
Ian Macdonald, Minister for Mineral Resources, PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre, NSW 2310.

**How further information about the act can be obtained**  
Further information may be obtained from S. Hughes; Eastern Titles Program, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Telephone (02) 4931 6450 Fax (02) 4931 6776.

**Notification Day**  
For the purposes of Section 29(4) of the Native Title Act 1993 (C'th) the notification day is 18 December 2008. Under Section 30 of that Act persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice.





## Ian Redpath resigns from NT cricket

**NT** IAN Redpath has resigned as an Indigenous Cricket Officer at Northern Territory Cricket. He left the job on 27 November. In announcing his departure, Redpath thanked the people who had assisted him in what he said was the continuous exposure of cricket to the Indigenous and non-Indigenous population of the Northern Territory.

"I have had some very pleasant and enjoyable experiences working with kids all over the NT and in particular kids on remote outback communities," he said.

"I feel I have made a positive impact on certain lives through the activities that I have co-ordinated and I will miss exciting smiles from the kids that are produced when I walk in to a community where I am known as the 'cricket man'."

"Cricket has had a major positive impact on my life and fortunately I have had the chance to give some of that back."

"The exposure of cricket to remote kids is still very much in the early stages and I will take it on at a personal level to keep an eye on the progress and contribute where I can to the development."

## Rumbalara gets behind



BRYCE MCGIBBON

THE Victorian rural Indigenous community is getting behind exciting 12-year-old BMX cyclist Bryce McGibbon so that he can compete in the sport at an elite level.

The Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative will hold an event on 18 December in support of Bryce.

Rumbalara said the event would raise money so that Bryce could compete at the elite level at various events throughout the 2008-09 seasons.

Bryce was born and bred in Shepparton. He competes as an elite BMX athlete and is one of the rising stars in his field.

He is a seasoned competitor and has competed at the regional BMX titles for the past three years.

He was to compete in the regional Victorian BMX titles in Wodonga on

## BMX rider

29-30 November and then will travel to Perth for the Australian titles from 26 April to 3 May.

If Bryce does well in Perth, he will be automatically invited to the World BMX titles in Adelaide from 20-26 July.

### Fundraiser

The Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative will be hosting the fundraising event at the Rumbalara Football and Netball grounds, with an invitation going out to the local community.

The highlight will be a local football and netball legends games, with some ex-AFL footballers participating as well as other sports stars.

## Notice of Proposed Grant of Authority to Prospect

### Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) Section 29

The Current Applicant named below hereby give notice in accordance with section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) of the proposed grant of the Authority to Prospect shown below under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 (Qld).

Authority to Prospect to which this notice applies:

Authority to Prospect Number	Location of Authority to Prospect (Refer to Diagram)	Description of Area of Application*	Current Applicant ACN																																
ATP1056	Approx. 51 km South West from Noccundra Centred at approximately Lat.28°09'30"S Long.142°09'30"E Local Government Area: Bulloo Shire Council	<p>Area: 3903 km<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Block Identification Map: Broken Hill and Cooper Creek</p> <p>Number of Sub-blocks: 1289 (each 1°lat.x 1°long.)</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Block Number</th><th>Sub-blocks</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Broken Hill</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>50</td><td>a, b, c, d, e, g, h, j, k, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, u, w, x, y, z</td></tr><tr><td>51 to 54</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>122</td><td>b, c, d, e, g, h, j, k, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, u, w, x, y, z</td></tr><tr><td>123 to 126</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>193 to 198</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>262 to 263</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>265 to 270</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>334 to 342</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>406 to 414</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>Cooper Creek</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3292 to 3293</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>3363</td><td>c, d, e, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z</td></tr><tr><td>3364 to 3366</td><td>inclusive</td></tr><tr><td>3435 to 3438</td><td>inclusive</td></tr></tbody></table>	Block Number	Sub-blocks	Broken Hill		50	a, b, c, d, e, g, h, j, k, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, u, w, x, y, z	51 to 54	inclusive	122	b, c, d, e, g, h, j, k, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, u, w, x, y, z	123 to 126	inclusive	193 to 198	inclusive	262 to 263	inclusive	265 to 270	inclusive	334 to 342	inclusive	406 to 414	inclusive	Cooper Creek		3292 to 3293	inclusive	3363	c, d, e, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z	3364 to 3366	inclusive	3435 to 3438	inclusive	Discovery Geo Corporation 060 521 717
Block Number	Sub-blocks																																		
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\* Authorities to Prospect are described by the name of the Block Identification Map and the number of the Blocks (the Block Numbers) and the number of Sub-blocks (the Sub-block Code) the application covers. The Department of Mines and Energy creates Block Identification Maps. These maps use a linear grid to cover the whole of Queensland. The basic unit of that linear grid is a Block. Each Block is approximately 5 minutes of latitude and 5 minutes of longitude. The approximate area of a Block is 80 square kilometres. 3456 Blocks, which are individually numbered from 1 to 3456, make up an area that is shown on a Block Identification Map.

Each Block Identification Map has a different name. The Block Identification Map is usually named after a geographical feature shown on the Block Identification Map. Block Identification Maps are at a scale of 1:1 000 000.

Each Block is sub-divided into 25 Sub-Blocks, identified alphabetically by code 'a' to 'z' omitting 'i'. Each Sub-Block is approx. 1 minute of latitude and 1 minute of longitude. The approximate area of a Sub-Block is 3 square kilometres. A unique description of each Sub-Block is achieved by combining the name of the Block Identification Map with the number of the Block (from 1 to 3456) and the Sub-Block (from a to z) i.e. MAP NAME, BLOCK NUMBER, Sub-Block code eg. CHARLEVILLE 1645 d.

It is to be noted that this Authority to Prospect will not be granted over a National Park (Scientific), National Park, National Park (Aboriginal Land), National Park (Torres Strait Islander Land), National Park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal Land), National Park (Recovery) or Conservation Park that are in existence on the date of effect of this authority.

**Nature of the acts:** Grant of an Authority to Prospect under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 (Qld) authorises the holder to explore for petroleum for a period not exceeding twelve (12) years. Under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 (Qld) a holder of an Authority to Prospect is entitled to apply for a Petroleum Lease over land that is the subject of the Authority to Prospect. A Petroleum Lease entitles the holder to undertake regulated activities in order to develop and produce payable deposits of petroleum.

**Name and address of person doing acts:** The Authority to Prospect will be granted under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Mines and Energy or his delegate, PO Box 1475, COORPAROO, QLD 4151.

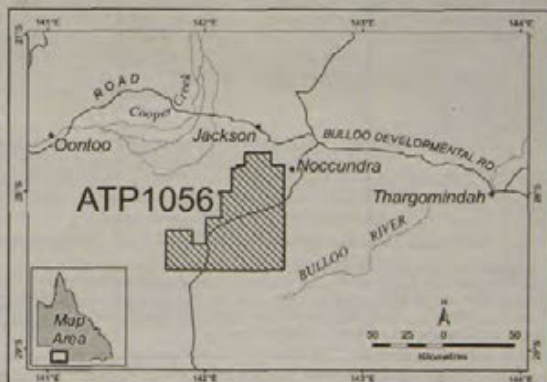
**Further information:** Further information about the proposed grant of the Authority to Prospect, including Block Identification Maps, may be obtained from the Department of Mines and Energy, Landcentre, Corner of Vulture and Main Streets, Woolloongabba, Queensland 4102, Telephone: (07) 3238 3729.

**Native Title Parties:** Under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) any person who is a 'native title party' is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed grant of the Authority to Prospect. Under section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice.

Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000, Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au

Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 30, 239 George Street, Brisbane, Queensland 4000, Telephone: (07) 3226 8200 or 1800 640 501.

**Notification Day:** 27 December 2008



## MINING LEASE APPLICATION 324 (ACT 1992)

This notice is given in accordance with the requirements of Section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth).

**Description of area that may be affected by the grant of a mining lease:**

An area of 429 hectares situated approximately 7 kilometres east north-east of Portland in the State of NSW as shown on the attached diagram.

**Description of the nature of the act:**

Coalpac Pty Limited (ACN 003 558 914) is the applicant of Mining Lease Application 324 (Act 1992), for a mining lease which would authorise the mining for coal and be granted for a term of 21 years.

**Name and postal address of person by whom the act would be done:**

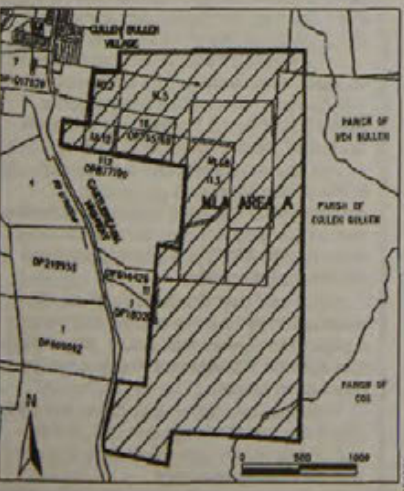
Ian Macdonald, Minister for Mineral Resources, PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre, NSW 2310.

**How further information about the act can be obtained:**

Further information may be obtained from Melanie Brown, Titles Program, NSW Department of Primary Industries, 02 4931 6424.

**Notification Day:**

For the purposes of Section 29(4) of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) the notification day is 18 December 2008. Under Section 30 of that Act persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice.







## NOTICE TO GRANT GENERAL PURPOSE LEASES

### NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Resources, C/- Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following general purpose lease applications under the Mining Act 1978:

NO	APPLICANT	AREA	LOCALITY	CENTROID	SHIRE
70/227	The Griffin Coal Mining Co. Pty Ltd	872.02ha	23km N/ly of Bridgetown	Lat 33°45' Long 116°14'	Boyp Brook/ Donnybrook-Balingup
70/228	The Griffin Coal Mining Co. Pty Ltd	2821a	28km N/ly of Bridgetown	Lat 33°43' Long 116°15'	Boyp Brook
70/229	The Griffin Coal Mining Co. Pty Ltd	8.89ha	26km NE/ly of Bridgetown	Lat 33°44' Long 116°15'	Boyp Brook

**The purposes for G70/227 are:** Stockpiles, plant sites, residue disposal, roads, bridge, electricity transmission and distribution, gas distribution, water, dam, pipeline, waste water, channel or other water management facility, sewerage storage and distribution and communication facilities, a storage or other transmission facility for oil or gas or derivatives of oil or gas, a storage or transportation facility for coal, any other mineral or any mineral concentrate and for use in connection with mining operations.

**The purposes for G70/228 are:** Stockpiles, plant sites, residue disposal, roads, bridge, electricity transmission and distribution, gas distribution, water, dam, pipeline, waste water, channel or other water management facility, sewerage storage and distribution, communication facilities, storage and transmission facility of oil or gas or derivatives of oil and gas, storage and transportation facility for coal, any other mineral or any mineral concentrate, erecting placing and operating machinery in connection with mining operations, conveying system, tailings dam, stockpile machinery, airport or landing strip and cable, antenna, tower or radio/ wireless communication systems.

**The purposes for G70/229 are:** Stockpiles, plant sites, residue disposal, storage distribution and transmission facility of oil or gas or derivatives of oil and gas and for use in connection with mining operations.

**Nature of the act:** Grant of general purpose leases for purpose in connection with mining for minerals for a term of 21 years with a right of successive renewals for terms of 21 years.

**Notification day:** 3 December 2008

**Native title parties:** Under Section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to the applications. The 3 month period closes on 3 March 2009. 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. 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 leases may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. 3 April 2009), there is no native title party in relation to the area of the leases.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3828.

## Notice of Proposed Approval to Conduct Drilling and other Activities on Land not included in the Surface Area of a Mining Lease

### Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) Section 29

The Current Holders named below give notice in accordance with section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) of the proposed approval to conduct drilling and other activities on land not included in the surface area covered by the Mining Lease shown below under the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld).

ML4738 was granted on 15 December 1977. The current holders have now applied under Section 237 of the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld) for approval to conduct drilling and other activities on land not included in the surface area of the Mining Lease described below.

**Mining Lease to which this notice applies:**

Mining Lease Number and Name	Location of Mining Lease (Refer to Diagrams)	Description of Application Area	Current Applicants ACN
ML4738 Hail Creek	Approx. 51 km North West from Nebo Local Government Area: Isaac Regional Council	<p><b>Current Land Tenures:</b></p> <p>Lot 2 on GV210 - Freehold Land Lot 18 on SP104452 - Pastoral Holding 30/3239 Road Reserves</p> <p><b>Area of land in Mining Lease to conduct drilling and other activities:</b> 2493.6ha (abt)</p>	<p>Queensland Coal Pty. Limited 000 003 921 (82%)</p> <p>Nippon Steel Australia Pty Ltd 001 445 049 (8%)</p> <p>Marubeni Coal Pty. Ltd. 009 932 236 (6.6667%)</p> <p>Sumisho Coal Development Queensland Pty Ltd 082 435 149 (3.3333%)</p>

**Nature of the acts:** Approval to conduct drilling and other activities on land not included in the surface area of a Mining Lease under the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld) authorises the holders to carry out drilling and other associated activities on the Application Area subject to the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld) for the term of the Mining Lease.

**Name and address of person doing acts:** It is proposed that the application to conduct drilling and other associated activities within ML4738 be approved under the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Mines and Energy, PO Box 15216, City East, QLD 4002.

**Further information:** Further information about the proposed approval to conduct drilling and other activities within a Mining Lease, may be obtained from the Department of Mines and Energy (DME) Landcentre, Corner of Vulture and Main Streets, Woolloongabba, Qld 4102, Telephone: (07) 3238 3737; DME, Office of the Mining Registrar, Emerald, Department of Mines and Energy, Government Offices, 99 Hospital Road, PO Box 19, Emerald QLD 4720, Telephone: (07) 4987 9300.

**Native Title Parties:** Under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) any person who is a 'native title party' is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed drilling and other activities within a mining lease. Under section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice.

Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Qld 4000, Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au.

Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 30, 239 George Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000, Telephone: (07) 3226 8200 or 1800 640 501.

**Notification Day:** 3 December 2008



**Queensland Government**  
Natural Resources and Water

## Sport

# Dolphins romp home in final

By ALF WILSON



A STAR-STUDDED combined Badu Island side, the Regional Airlines Gaubuth Dolphins, beat Alau Eagles 66-12 in the grand final of the rich Dan Ropeyarn Memorial Rugby League Carnival at Bamaga on 22 November.

Badu Gaubuth Dolphins played in honour of the late Council chairman Jack Ahmat, and won their five games at the carnival.

Gaubuth is the name of the beach at the back of the Badu Island, in the Torres Strait, which has lots of coconut palms and is named after Jack Ahmat.

The three-day carnival began on 20 November and attracted players from as far away as Mackay, Moranbah, Townsville and Cairns. Bamaga is a small community just 40km south of the tip of Cape York.

Other teams were Injinoo Crocs, Palm Island, Bamaga Raiders, Chivalry Warriors, TI Stingers, and Mapoon 8HB Brothers.

Stingers had recently won the final of the Zenadth Kes carnival on Thursday Island and were amongst the favoured teams, but were eliminated in the round-robin games.

In the semi-finals, Dolphins beat 8HB Warriors and Alau Eagles defeated Injinoo Crocs.

In the play-off to determine fifth and sixth spots, Palm Island narrowly defeated Bamaga Raiders 24-22.

### Queensland's richest

Dolphins coach Tala Nona said it was the richest All Blacks carnival in Queensland and he was delighted his side won.

"Our first prize was \$20,000 and we were determined to win for the late Jack Ahmat. In our first game, we beat Alau with 13 players," Nona said.

The Dolphins consisted of players from arch rival Badu sides Kulpiyam and Mulga Tigers and some quality ring-ins from the Cairns competition.

At the Island of Origin series final at Badu in August, Kulpiyam beat Mulga Tigers 26-16 in the final and the seeds were sown then for the combined Dolphins.

Nona rated James Coppins, Horace Baira and Joe Tamwoy as the best forwards and Stephen Singleton, Jim Ahmat and Victor Akiba as stars in the backs.

"The rookie's best player was Remus Ishmael, who stood out for a 20-year-old, and Solomon Ahmat had a big carnival. Every player had a big role and the team work was great," Nona said.

Jim Ahmat had played for Moranbah club in the strong Mackay A grade club competition in the 2008 season and finished third in the league's best and fairest player award, while Akiba is a quality back from the Cairns competition.

Nona said that Gaubuth Dolphins were undefeated in their five games and he also praised Tom Baira, Jack David, Dodie Nona and Weldon Matasia and Frank Nona as other good players.

Bamaga-based Dominic Carte, the QRL Coaching and Development Officer NPA and Torres Strait, said the Dan Ropeyarn Cup was a huge success.



## 14 rafts reach the finish line



By ALF WILSON

IT is one of the most unusual sporting events in the Torres Strait... a raft race between Horn Island and Thursday Island.

A craft called Get Hammered won the 2008 event last month. Fifteen entries created a major spectacle when they left Horn Island for

the race over to Thursday Island, and Get Hammered recorded a time of just under 21 minutes.

The flame-painted raft took line honours, followed by Qantaslink Dasher and Ergon Energy's Snakes & Ladders.

Get Hammered skipper and owner Glen Wiener said he was 'pretty happy' with the results, particularly since the crew had finished building the raft only the night

before and had been unable to practise.

"The crew worked well," he said. "No-one fell off."

Mr Wiener attributed the TI Hardware's entry this year to his son and fellow crew member, Jacob Wiener, 10, who 'bugged' him for weeks to enter the race.

Fifteen official rafts, with varying degrees of seaworthiness, entered the 2008 race, with 14 finishing. One withdrew after breaking a mast.

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Honourable Kon Vatskalis MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries & Resources, C/- Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources, GPO Box 3000 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth) of his intent to do an act, namely to grant the following exploration licence applications.

Applications to which this notice applies:

Exploration Licence 27028 sought by CASTLE RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 124 314 085, over an area of 8 Blocks (27 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the BATTEN locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6065

Exploration Licence 27007 sought by COMPASS RESOURCES LIMITED, ACN 010 536 820, over an area of 2 Blocks (1 Sq Km) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the NOONAMAH locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5172

Exploration Licence 26989 sought by CORPORATE DEVELOPMENTS PTY. LTD., ACN 009 610 271, over an area of 11 Blocks (35 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the NOONAMAH locality.



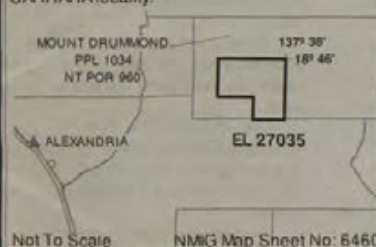
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5172

Exploration Licence 27002 sought by CORPORATE DEVELOPMENTS PTY. LTD., ACN 009 610 271, over an area of 3 Blocks (6 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the NOONAMAH locality.



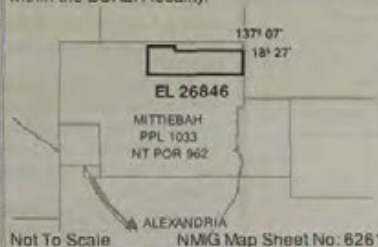
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5172

Exploration Licence 27035 sought by MANTLE MINING CORPORATION LTD, ACN 107 180 441, over an area of 155 Blocks (504 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the CARRARA locality.



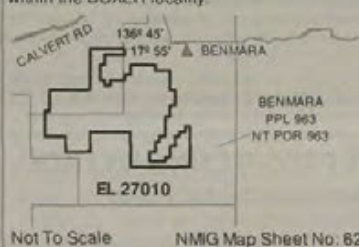
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6460

Exploration Licence 26846 sought by PHOSPHATE AUSTRALIA LIMITED, ACN 129 158 550, over an area of 111 Blocks (362 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the BOXER locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6261

Exploration Licence 27010 sought by PHOSPHATE AUSTRALIA LIMITED, ACN 129 158 550, over an area of 357 Blocks (1165 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the BOXER locality.



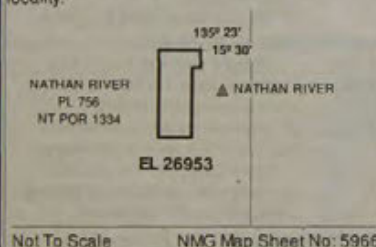
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6261

Exploration Licence 26909 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 1 Block (4 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the BATTEN locality.



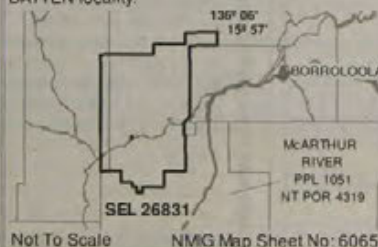
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6065

Exploration Licence 26953 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 42 Blocks (139 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 6 years, within the MANTUNGULA locality.



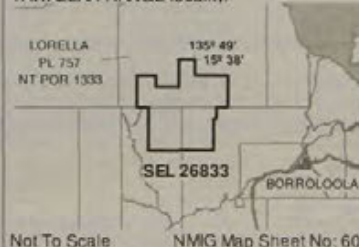
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5966

Substitution Exploration Licence 26831 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 402 Blocks (1308 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 4 years, within the BATTEN locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6065

Substitution Exploration Licence 26833 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 380 Blocks (1256 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 4 years, within the TAWALLAH RANGE locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6066

Substitution Exploration Licence 26835 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 413 Blocks (1366 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 4 years, within the TAWALLAH RANGE locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6066

Substitution Exploration Licence 26836 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 500 Blocks (1578 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 4 years, within the MT. YOUNG locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6067

Substitution Exploration Licence 26837 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 473 Blocks (1536 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 4 years, within the TOWNS locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5967

Substitution Exploration Licence 26938 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 437 Blocks (1339 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 4 years, within the BATTEN locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6065

Substitution Exploration Licence 26939 sought by SANDFIRE RESOURCES NL, ACN 105 154 185, over an area of 393 Blocks (1252 Sq Kms) depicted below, for a term of 4 years, within the MANTUNGULA locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5966

**Nature of act(s):** The grant of an exploration licence under the Mining Act authorises the holder to explore for minerals and such operations and works as are necessary for that purpose including (but not limited to) geological survey, rock sampling, drilling, removal and testing of ore material for a term not exceeding 6 years for exploration licences and 4 years for substitute exploration licences and to seek renewal(s). The term for which it is intended to grant the exploration licence/s referred to in this notice commences from the date of grant. Further information about the act may be obtained from the Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources, GPO Box 3000 Darwin NT 0801 or Centrepoint Building 48-50 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800, telephone (08) 89 995322.

**Native Title Parties:** Any person who is, or becomes a "native title party" within the meaning of the Native Title Act is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2, Division 3, Subdivision P of the Native Title Act. Under section 30 of the Native Title Act, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries concerning becoming a native title party should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5 NT House, 22 Mitchell Street Darwin NT 0800 or GPO Box 9973 Darwin NT 0801, telephone (08) 89 361600.

**Expedited Procedure:** The Northern Territory Government considers that the acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure as defined in section 237 of the Native Title Act. The exploration licences referred to in this notice may be granted unless an objection is made by a native title party to the statement that the act is one which attracts the expedited procedure. Such an objection must be made to the National Native Title Tribunal within 4 months of the notification day.

**Notification Day:** 03 December 2008





## NOTICE TO GRANT EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Resources, C/- Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following exploration licence applications under the Mining Act 1978:

NO	APPLICANT	AREA	LOCALITY	CENTROID	SHIRE
47/1843	PAC Pilbara Pty Ltd	138.7km <sup>2</sup>	35km NEly of Paraburdoo	Lat 22°59' Long 117°56'	Ashburton
52/2205	PAC Pilbara Pty Ltd	69.29km <sup>2</sup>	17km Ely of Newman	Lat 23°24' Long 119°53'	East Pilbara/Meekatharra

**Nature of the act:** 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:** 3 December 2008

**Native Title Parties:** Under Section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to any of the land and/or waters that will be affected by the act. The 3 month period closes on 3 March 2009. 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. Enquiries in relation to filing an application for native title determination 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 exploration licence may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. 3 April 2009), there is no native title party under section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993 (CTH) in relation to the area of the exploration licences.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3828.



## NOTICE TO GRANT MINING LEASES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Resources, C/- Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following mining lease applications under the Mining Act 1978(WA):

NO	APPLICANT	AREA	LOCALITY	CENTROID	SHIRE
20/503	Midwest Corporation Ltd	56.8ha	60km Nly of Cue	Lat 28°55' Long 117°30'	Cue
31/441	Hawthorn Resources Limited	296.6ha	144km NEly of Kalgoorlie	Lat 30°05' Long 122°45'	Merredith
36/553	Plutonic (Barker) Pty Ltd	18.82ha	32km NEly of Leinster	Lat 27°47' Long 120°58'	Leonora
36/554	Plutonic (Barker) Pty Ltd	2.47ha	30km Ely of Leinster	Lat 27°49' Long 120°58'	Leonora
45/1098	Pilbara Manganese Pty Ltd	24.18ha	96km SEly of Shay Gap	Lat 21°12' Long 120°41'	East Pilbara
45/1101	Pilbara Manganese Pty Ltd	101.69ha	100km NEly of Nullagine	Lat 21°12' Long 120°45'	East Pilbara
52/1041	Murchison Resources Pty Ltd	1235.87ha	132km NWly of Meekatharra	Lat 25°35' Long 117°47'	Meekatharra

**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:** 3 December 2008

**Native Title Parties:** Under Section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to any of the land and/or waters that will be affected by the act. The 3 month period closes on 3 March 2009. 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. Enquiries in relation to filing an application for native title determination 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 leases may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. 3 April 2009), there is no native title party under section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993 (CTH) in relation to the area of the mining leases.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3828.



## NOTICE TO GRANT PROSPECTING LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Resources, C/- Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following prospecting licence applications under the Mining Act 1978:

NO	APPLICANT	AREA	LOCALITY	CENTROID	SHIRE
15/5307-8	Heron Resources Ltd	241.03ha	19km SWly of Coolgardie	Lat 31°03' Long 121°00'	Coolgardie
15/5309	Andrew James Pratt	196.38ha	22km SWly of Coolgardie	Lat 31°07' Long 121°02'	Coolgardie
20/2052	JML Resources Pty Ltd	58.02ha	5km Nly of Cue	Lat 27°23' Long 117°52'	Cue
20/2053	JML Resources Pty Ltd	68.43ha	1km Nly of Cue	Lat 27°25' Long 117°52'	Cue
20/2054	JML Resources Pty Ltd	79.66ha	3km NEly of Cue	Lat 27°24' Long 117°54'	Cue
20/2071	Frederick Raymond Rose	9.63ha	49km NWly of Cue	Lat 27°07' Long 117°31'	Cue
20/2075	Windy Knob Resources Ltd	98.65ha	30km NEly of Cue	Lat 27°07' Long 118°02'	Cue
20/2077	Midwest Corporation Ltd	23.78ha	61km NWly of Cue	Lat 26°58' Long 117°31'	Cue
20/2078	Midwest Corporation Ltd	23.78ha	61km NWly of Cue	Lat 26°59' Long 117°29'	Cue
20/2080	Midwest Corporation Ltd	23.52ha	59km Nly of Cue	Lat 26°55' Long 117°39'	Cue
20/2082-6	Midwest Corporation Ltd	390.2ha	59km NWly of Cue	Lat 26°57' Long 117°36'	Cue
21/701	Mainland Gold Pty Ltd	27.17ha	16km Sly of Cue	Lat 27°35' Long 117°55'	Cue
26/3682-3	Wombola Gold Pty Ltd	248.13ha	33km NEly of Kambalda	Lat 30°57' Long 121°51'	Kalgoorlie-Boulder City
38/3122	Carbon Energy Ltd	23.49ha	21km SEly of Laverton	Lat 28°44' Long 122°33'	Laverton
51/2603	Windy Knob Resources Ltd	45.27ha	61km Sly of Meekatharra	Lat 27°07' Long 118°36'	Meekatharra
51/2604	Windy Knob Resources Ltd	98.43ha	59km Sly of Meekatharra	Lat 27°07' Long 118°36'	Cue
51/2605-13	Midwest Corporation Ltd	1783.49ha	61km Nly of Cue	Lat 26°52' Long 117°48'	Cue
52/1284	Warwick Resources Ltd	49.13ha	43km SWly of Newman	Lat 23°25' Long 120°09'	East Pilbara/Meekatharra
58/1346 & 58/1351	Mount Magnet South NL	226.51ha	10km Nly of Mount Magnet	Lat 27°58' Long 117°48'	Mount Magnet
59/1805	Charles Edward East	178.74ha	50km SEly of Yalgoo	Lat 28°42' Long 116°58'	Yalgoo
	Sean Cameron Ashcroft				
	Jan Theo Robin				
	Minger Gold Pty Ltd				
	Robert Ernst John Sheppard				
59/1905	Legend Resources Pty Ltd	23.63ha	30km NWly of Paynes Find	Lat 29°05' Long 117°26'	Yalgoo
59/1906	Gaulin Resources NL	45.06ha	78km Wly of Paynes Find	Lat 29°05' Long 116°54'	Perenjori
77/3953	Southern Cross Goldfields Ltd	191.88ha	67km SEly of Southern Cross	Lat 31°47' Long 119°36'	Yalgoo
77/3954	Portman Iron Ore Ltd	20.76ha	96km Nly of Koolyanobbing	Lat 29°59' Long 119°10'	Yalgoo
77/3956	Brantley Anthony Parry	95.8ha	125km Nly of Koolyanobbing	Lat 29°41' Long 119°25'	Merredith
	Adam Frank Hill				

**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.

**Notification day:** 3 December 2008

**Native title parties:** Under section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on 3 March 2009. 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. 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. 3 April 2009), 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 11, 233 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9268 9700.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Industry and Resources, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3828.

# Baby Lorna sleeps while mum Noby slugs it out

By ALF WILSON



A PRAM sat not far from the boxing ring with 11-week-old Lorna Jennifer Ann in it as her mother Noby Clay was ready to fight for an

Australian Amateur Boxing League title.

It was on the night of 26 November – just after 9pm – as the 25-year-old Noby entered the ring at the Townsville Showgrounds during the Australian Amateur Boxing League's national titles.

The Boxing League is a boxing organisation in opposition with Boxing Australia, the national federation for amateur boxing in Australia.

More than 100 competitors from around the country fought over the three nights, finishing on 29 November, and Noby represented the Palm Island Boxing Club.

It was day two and Noby lined up against Tasmanian Rebecca Miller for the 60kg women's Australian title.

Noby was up against it as she had not fought for five years since her last bout in Melbourne and gave away 12kg to the 17-year-old Tasmanian.

"I am not really nervous and have had three children since my last fight," she said. Her other two children are Robin Cassius Clay-Nallajar, 5, and Shenzye Alierah, aged 3.

Her partner, Robin Nallajar, stood by as Noby had her fists bandaged by trainer Ray Dennis.

"I have been itching for this fight for some time now," Noby said.

In a nearby room was Rebecca, who said she was from Hobart and was having her first bout.

By comparison, Noby has had 12 amateur bouts for five wins before the long break.

The women entered the ring and the large crowd was treated to one of the best bouts of boxing you could see anywhere.

It was estimated that Noby and Rebecca threw more than 100 punches each and many landed.

Sunstate Amateur Boxing League official Cowboy Stockham said he had never seen anything like it.

"They are going hell for leather and Noby has her baby in the pram just over there," Cowboy said.

After three rounds, both boxers looked the worse for wear and the referee and judges declared Rebecca a winner on points.

"Noby is one very tough lady and I hit her with everything and could not knock her out," Rebecca said.

Ray Dennis said it had been a superlative effort by Noby, who would improve.

"To give away 12kg is such a great effort," he said.

Straight after the bout, Noby picked up baby Lorna from the pram and headed over to Rebecca who shared a moment with them in a spirit of friendship.

"I feel great and my legs didn't give way and I am looking forward to my next bout," Noby said.



● LEFT: Palm Islander Noby Clay lands a punch on the nose of Tasmanian Rebecca Miller.

● LEFT: The two fighters share a moment with Noby's daughter, 11-week-old Lorna.





# Mail Medallists named

By PETER ARGENT



THREE Indigenous footballers from Eyre Peninsula competitions have added their names to the list of recipients of the Mail Medal.

They are Ray McIntosh from South Whyalla (Whyalla Football League), Marbie Range's Hayden Parker (Port Lincoln Football League) and the diminutive Waylon Johncock (Far West Football League).

The Mail Medal was started in the 1930s when Adelaide's Sunday Mail struck the medal for the best-and-fairest player in each of the 27 South Australian country Australian Football League competitions.

## Won before

This was the first win by Parker, but Johncock and McIntosh have previously won the award.

Johncock collected his first back in 2005 with the famous Mallee Park Football Club, while McIntosh also collected his first in 2006 with the Roopena club.

Other members of the famous Johncock clan who have been Mail Medallists include Roger and Trevor, both in 1995.

Roger won his award with Koonibba and Trevor's medal was with the Peckers, Mallee Park.

McIntosh was an outstanding player all season for South Whyalla, winning 25 votes – six ahead of his nearest rival.

He began playing football with Roopena Football Club at under 12s level and this is his first season with South Whyalla.

"When I've seen him play he actually dominates, he's highly gifted and he attracts the umpire's attention," South A grade coach Grant Sleep said.

"He definitely deserved the medal, he's a standout player."



RAY McINTOSH

Dynamic Ceduna midfielder 21-year-old Waylon Johncock's stellar 2008 season with the Blues was rewarded with his being named Mail Medallist as South Australia's Far West Football League's, polling 29 votes.

"I would've preferred to have the premiership this year because that's really what I wanted," Johncock said.

Hayden Parker won the Port Lincoln League's best and fairest after polling 18 votes.

## 1935 winner

The first known Aboriginal footballer to win this award was Allan Karpary in the Murray Downs Football League in 1935.

Many more have followed since, include the Davey brothers of current AFL fame (Aaron and Alwyn), their late father Alwyn Senior, who won won three in a row with Thevenard, while their uncle Bevan won two and a third uncle – Hayden – collected one.

Keith Warrior, who played with Port Pearce on the Yorke Peninsula during the 1950s and 1960s, won an unprecedented five Mail medals.

Elkin Reilly, a South Melbourne footballer in the 1960s, secured two medals, while SANFL 'hall of famer' and Sturt premiership player Michael Graham also collected one with Penola, in the south-east of the State.

Elite player, coach and football statesman from the far west Corey McLennan, secured three medals, along with becoming a State coach at country level in later years. His elder brother Shaun also won three medals with three clubs – Koonibba, South Augusta and Central Whyalla – in three associations.

Mervin Kartinyeri also collected three Mail Medals for Tailem Bend, in the River Murray football league.

After winning the Tomkins Medal in 1951 with Port Adelaide in the SANFL under 19s competition, all-round sporting talent Vince Copley also secured a Mail Medal with Curramulka, on the Yorke Peninsula, in 1957.

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## Menindee Yabbies celebrate a big year in rugby league

The Yabbies Rugby League Club in Menindee, western NSW, staged its recent junior presentation at local swimming venue Copi Hollow. The club fielded five teams in the Broken Hill junior comp, and won in three grades. The Yabbies decided to combine their presentation evening with a swim and sports for the kids at the Menindee Lakes recreational area. A large number of parents, supports and Elders from the town came along to see the kids get their trophies.



## Boxing ring brawl sequel



A NUMBER of people involved in violence at a boxing promotion in Gosford last month have been asked to show cause why their registration with the Boxing Authority of New South Wales should not be suspended or cancelled.

The Authority held a 'special meeting' to review television coverage of the violence following the bout between West Australian sensation Willie Kickett and Ahmed Elomar at the Central Coast Leagues Club.

Taunts were exchanged between supporters of both men after Elomar's shock first-round knockout of the previously unbeaten Kickett, with fights subsequently breaking out and objects thrown into the ring.

In their review, the Authority said they would recommend to the Minister for Sport and Recreation changes to legislation aimed at preventing future ring invasions.

Authority Executive Officer Craig Waller declined to identify the people to whom his organisation would send show-cause letters.

In a statement, the Authority said 'these persons will be required to show cause why their registration should not be suspended or cancelled'.

The Authority can suspend or

even cancel the licences of people registered with them, which normally includes fighters, trainers and corner men.

Waller said the proposed change of legislation regarding the prevention of ring invasions would be to bring his sport into line with the current regulations regarding other sporting venues.

"Hopefully we will have all the issues resolved before the end of the year," Waller said.

"As far as the recommendations to the Minister, that will depend on how we rehash the Pitch Invasions Act to suit the Boxing Authority."

"We will be using that as a template to be able to work from for suggestions."

### Exciting prospect

Before the shock result against Alomar, Kickett had been regarded as the hottest boxing prospect to come out of Australia in a long time.

Critics say he has speed, power and great reflexes.

But his game plan against Elomar was terrible, one commentator said.

He unloaded with some terrific combinations in the opening minute and had Elomar on the back foot.

Kickett then dropped his hands and was caught by a massive right, which ended the fight.

Brett Johnson, of *Boxing News*,

said Kickett should not have been looking to win this fight through a knockout.

"Kickett is a classy backfoot fighter, relying on counter punching. His game plan went against his strongest attributes," he said.

"In saying that, Kickett needs to respond strong. There is too much talent there for him not to make the move on to the international scene. Australian boxing needs a young light to shine, Kickett will respond well and will produce in the future."

On the eve of his seventh pro fight, Sydney's *Daily Telegraph* said Johnny Lewis called Kickett 'our greatest Indigenous fighter since Lionel Rose - a young Aborigine capable of uniting the entire nation'.

He is a gutsy 61kg Sandgroper who, Lewis insists, could surpass even the feats of champions such as Rose, Dave Sands and Anthony Mundine.

"Young William is the hottest Australian prospect we've had in years," Lewis told *The Daily Telegraph*.

"And if you're asking me how far he can go - I'd put my house on him becoming a world champion and one of our best ever."

"Honestly, this kid will be a household name in 12 months; a boxer that the whole of Australia wants to get behind." - with AAP

## Live-in camp for Indigenous cricket players



THIS year's Lord's Taverners NSW Aboriginal

Cricket Development Camp will be held at the Sydney Cricket Ground from 12-14 December.

The camp will involve 24 male participants, combined with numerous city-based players for matches on Sunday 14 December at Sydney University.

This year, female players are invited to attend a net session on the afternoon of 13 December at the SCG to help select the NSW Indigenous Women's XI.

The Lord's Taverners Aboriginal Cricket Development Camp is the flagship for Indigenous cricket development in NSW.

It brings together some of the most talented Indigenous cricketers from across the State to access some of the best coaches and facilities Cricket NSW can provide.

The objective is to provide opportunities for talented Indigenous cricketers to develop their skills and hopefully represent NSW.

For the fourth year, the Lord's Taverners, a leader in supporting the cause of Indigenous cricket throughout Australia, have joined in

partnership with Cricket NSW and NSW Sport and Recreation to hold the development camp.

The camp is the culmination of an extensive talent identification process which has aimed to provide greater opportunities for all Indigenous people to play cricket.

The Lord's Taverners Australia is an autonomous body of more than 1600 members committed to ensuring disabled and disadvantaged people have access to the best equipment, training, practice facilities and competitions. For the past 24 years they have provided many people with the opportunity to further their cricket.

Accommodation for the camp will be at the nearby Sancta Sophia College.

Indigenous cricketers are invited to apply for a place at the camp by completing an application form and returning it to Cricket NSW by Friday 5 December.

The 24 most promising and talented cricketers will be selected to attend.

Details: Cricket NSW, PO Box 333, Paddington, NSW, 2021. Tel: (02) 8302 6037. Fax: (02) 9360 6877. Mobile 0425 295 551. Email russel.grimson@cricketnsw.com.au



## Former Indigenous Paralympian to coach goalball team



**INDIGENOUS** Australian Paralympian Warren Lawton has agreed to coach the Australian goalball team for the next four years.

Goalball is a team sport designed for blind athletes.

Lawton retired from the sport in 2001 after major heart surgery, where he needed heart surgery because of a

condition associated with the disease Marfan syndrome.

Lawton competed as a B3 sportsperson. He has no sight in one eye and less than 6/60 in the other, classing him as legally blind.

He competed in goalball at the New York, Seoul, Barcelona, Atlanta and Sydney Games.

Goalball became a full part of the Paralympics from the 1980 Summer

Paralympics in Arnhem onwards, but was dropped after Sydney in 2000.

The Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) has offered some funding to Goalball Australia with the hope of making it to Canada in 2010 for the World Championships.

There also is hope that goalball will return to the London Paralympics in 2012.

In goalball, participants compete in

teams of three, and try to throw a ball, that has bells embedded in it, into the opponents' goal.

They must use the sound of the bell to judge the position and movement of the ball.

Games consist of two 10-minute halves.

Blindfolds allow partially sighted players to compete on an equal footing with blind players.

# Injury doubt over McLeod



**INJURY** could prevent Adelaide star Andrew McLeod from having to make the difficult choice of his club or his heritage when the Crows take on the Indigenous All-Stars in Darwin this February.

The All-Stars team last played together in 2007 when they lost to Essendon by 50 points in Darwin.

McLeod, who hails from the Northern Territory, was named captain of that side, which also included Adelaide team-mate Graham Johncock and excitement machines Daniel Wells, Daniel Motlop, Patrick Ryder and Shaun Burgoyne.

But Katrina Gill reports on the AFL Bigpond Network that McLeod, who is recovering from knee surgery, could miss the Crows' first official hit-out of 2009, which is scheduled to be played under lights at TIO Stadium, Darwin, on Saturday 7 February.

It will be the first time Adelaide has gone head-to-head with the Indigenous All-Stars, who have previously taken on and beaten Collingwood, Carlton and the Western Bulldogs.

Crows coach Neil Craig said the game in Darwin would be the ideal way for his team to kick off the new season.

"These games have always been of a high standard and will fit in to our program very well," Craig told [afc.com.au](http://afc.com.au).

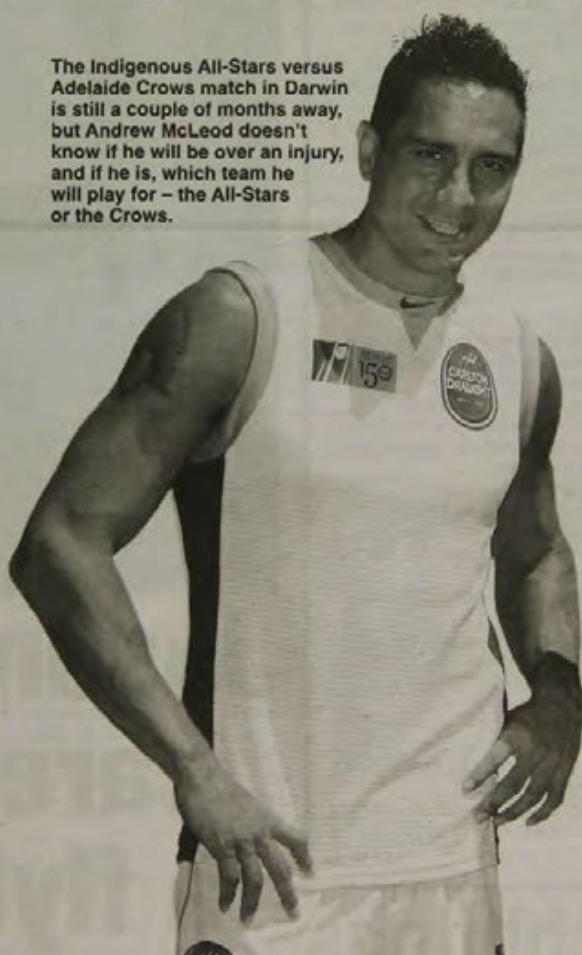
"Darwin has a high number of Crows supporters and it will give us an opportunity to play in front of them. We are looking forward to the game."

Former Brisbane champion Chris Johnson will coach the 2009 Qantas Indigenous All Stars.

Johnson, who retired from the game in 2007, after playing over 260 games with Fitzroy and Brisbane Lions, brings a wealth of experience to the role through his current position as development coach for the Brisbane Lions.

The 32-year-old has a list of playing accolades that includes three premierships medals in 2001, 2002 and 2003, dual All-Australian selection, International Rules captain and club captaincy.

The Indigenous All-Stars versus Adelaide Crows match in Darwin is still a couple of months away, but Andrew McLeod doesn't know if he will be over an injury, and if he is, which team he will play for - the All-Stars or the Crows.



## Netballer Gina Kickett's death stuns Ballarat

By ANGELA CAREY, of the *Ballarat Courier*

**G**EORGINA Kickett will never know whether she was good enough to play netball at the highest level in Ballarat.

Gina should have been anticipating the release of the Ballarat Pride netball squad for 2009.

Instead, Ballarat's netball fraternity joined her family and friends on 19 November at the memorial service for the 27-year-old mother of two.

Gina Kickett died suddenly on 11 November after collapsing at a local supermarket.

Doctors weren't certain what caused her death so unexpectedly, but suspect it could have been the result of an undiagnosed blood clot.

There had been no sign that Gina had been unwell.

"She said to me that morning that I might have to fill in at netball for her that night because her back was a bit sore," her mother, Belinda Hayden, said.

That was the only clue her family got that anything might be wrong.

Gina had been trying out for selection in next year's Pride team, which will play in the inaugural season of the Victorian Netball League.

Coach Jo Dash said that 'at the very least', Gina would have made the team's development squad.

Since moving to Ballarat in 2004, Gina had made a name for herself in netball circles.

The night she died, she had been due to play in a netball final with her team, Dela Force. Stunned by the news of their team-mate's death, the girls forfeited the match.

They rallied and played the following Thursday night - Gina's 15-year-old sister Jordan included.

Watching from the sidelines was Gina's partner Aaron Clark, their two children, three-year-old Alkira and 18-month old Mingara, and members of the Kickett and Clark families.

But the team's grief was too overwhelming and they were beaten, forcing Dela Force into a preliminary final.

Gina's death has shocked the Aboriginal community and her family and friends.

Her partner, Aaron, is devastated.

"Life was just starting for us," he said.

BRETT LEE



## Top triathlete to be Narrandera guest



**INDIGENOUS** youth are invited to enrol in the NSW Indigenous Youth Swimming Carnival to be held at Narrandera, in southern NSW, on Saturday 23 February.

"Indigenous triathlete Brett Lee will be on hand to give the children some tips in the pool and motivate our young up-and-comers to reach for the stars," NSW Sport and Recreation spokesman Dane Kennedy said.

"The carnival will cater for all swimmers up to the age of 18, from beginners to experienced competitors.

Races on the program include freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly, over distances ranging from 15 to 200 metres.

"The carnival encourages participants to get involved in their local swimming clubs and to swim regularly for fitness and well-being."

Kennedy said more than 150 Indigenous youth from across New South Wales had taken part in previous years.

"Current enrolments include swimmers from Albury, Narrandera, Griffith, Lake Cargelligo and Wagga Wagga," he said.

The carnival is a partnership between NSW Sport and Recreation, Lake Talbot Swimming Complex, Narrandera Amateur Swimming and Life Saving Club and Narrandera Shire Council.

Kennedy said that anyone wanting to support the event by volunteering as an official would be welcomed.

A free sausage sizzle breakfast is on offer at 8am, followed by a warm-up with Brett Lee. Racing will start at 10am.

● For further information or to enrol, contact NSW Sport and Recreation on (02) 6928 4300.



## Alex can't be ignored forever, says his dad



**P**ROUD father Ricky

Harrison feels his son Alex is being overlooked by athletics officialdom, but it will only be a matter of time before they sit up and take notice.

The Ten-year-old flyer from Bundaberg has beaten the Australian record for his age in the 70 metres, running 9.2 seconds on 21 November while competing for the West Bundaberg Little Athletics Club.

He carved 0.3 second off the record which had stood since 1992.

Ricky Harrison, who plays rhythm guitar with *No Fixed Address*, says young Alex only took on athletics to keep up his fitness for rugby league.

Alex plays for the Western Suburbs Panthers in the Bundaberg junior competition and uses his speed to score many tries.

"The speed that Alex brings to rugby league has excited the Western Suburbs crowd," Ricky Harrison said. "His coach, Wes Tanner, said he was the fastest kid he had seen."

It should come as no surprise that Alex has speed to burn.

"My cousin Lionel Rose won the world professional bantamweight title and my uncle Noel Hood won the Stawell Gift," Harrison Snr said.

"It is my belief that Alex will be the next Indigenous athlete to overcome the odds and take his place as one of Australia's greatest sporting stars."

"But for now Alex slips in under the radar, knowing that he is the fastest for his age on a national level."



Jason Byrnes - just 13 years old and on a two-year contract with the Brisbane Broncos.

## Jason's league career off to a flying start

## Tallis to join Rabbitohs

**F**ORMER rugby league Kangaroo Gorden Tallis (pictured) has been confirmed as South Sydney's new forwards coach for the next two NRL seasons.

The former Broncos and Queensland player said he was relishing the prospect of returning to a team atmosphere after his retirement in 2004.

"It's something I've missed since I retired and I can't wait to be part of the Rabbitohs' coaching team headed by Jason Taylor," Tallis said.

Tallis left a position on the board of the North Queensland Cowboys recently, citing his increasing time demands in Sydney, which included media and commenting duties.

-AAP



AT just 13 years of age, Tweed Heads lad Jason Byrnes has already had a dream come true by being part of the Brisbane Broncos elite player program and junior talent squad for the past six months.

After a review of Jason's performances, the Broncos have now signed him to a two-year contract.

Playing for local teams since he was seven, as well as competing at State level for rugby league, touch football and athletics, he now has an exciting opportunity before him.

Jason attends Palm Beach-Currumbin State High School, where he is part of the rugby league excellence program.

It was while playing for his under 13 school team that he was recognised by football scouts from various National Rugby League (NRL) teams, but in the end Jason chose the Broncos.

With mum Kerry-Ann helping him with his education and keeping him focused, his dad Thomas, who is his number-one supporter, has been travelling all over NSW and now Queensland for Jason's sporting commitments.

Thomas and Jason's grandfathers, Kevin Byrnes and Geoffrey Walsh, are exceptionally proud. Being past footballers, they know how hard it is to get such an opportunity.

Jason will now attend the Broncos' Academy camp this month.

He has a bright future and can't wait for the rugby league season to begin.



# What an upset!

As much as rugby league can reflect life, occasionally it produces a moment that is larger than our everyday existence.

Such was the final of the World Cup that saw a Billy Slater moment of madness and a controversial penalty try deliver New Zealand their first ever rugby league World Cup with a stunning 34-20 upset win over Australia.

Not since Stephen Bradbury skated his way into Winter Olympics history has there been such a stunning victory in sport.

This is not to take anything away from our Kiwi cousins, who I believe were the better team on the night and deserving of victory.

But nobody can deny that the Kiwis were massive underdogs heading into the match and that they pulled off the biggest upset in World Cup history as the Kangaroos surrendered their No1 ranking to their trans-Tasman rivals with their first loss since 2006.

The Aussies were left lamenting a series of blunders and a massive call from video referee Steve Ganson – the Englishman awarding the visitors a penalty try with ten minutes remaining which extended New Zealand's lead to beyond a converted try.

Adam Blair then confirmed the win with a try four minutes from time to revive memories of their memorable 2005 Tri-Nations final triumph.

Ganson ruled Australian winger Joel Monaghan had taken out Lance Hohaia as he chased through a Benji Marshall grubber, Slater's proximity to the incident giving doubt as to whether the Kiwi No1 would have got to the ball first.

But despite all this controversy – including coach Ricky Stuart's alleged abuse of officials the day following the game – there is little doubt that the Kiwis were dominating



**DAVID LIDDIARD**

[liddiard@koorimail.com](mailto:liddiard@koorimail.com)

the game during this period.

Admittedly, the Australians had just got themselves back into the contest when Darren Lockyer, who scored two tries, sent Greg Inglis over to cut the deficit to 22-20.

But to my mind, the Inglis try reinforced what had been wrong with the Australian team's performance all night.

The ball seldom got to Inglis or Fofau early enough for them to truly test their opponents.

After a scintillating opening, the Kangaroos seemed intent on proving their physical dominance in the centre of the field.

The television call reported Alfie Langer had conveyed the message that the team needed to go through the Kiwi defence rather than around it.

If this is correct, it reflected a fundamental tactical error that played right into the Kiwis' hands.

Up until the final, the Kangaroos had played an attacking style of football that took full advantage of the size and speed of its outside backs.

To revert to a ruck-dominated game could

only be described as a form of football suicide.

When one takes into account that the team lost experienced prop Steven Price just before the game and replaced him with a running back-rower in Anthony Walmough, the tactics are even harder to understand.

This does not mean, however, that the Australians played without commitment or passion.

Nor does it mean that Billy Slater or Joel Monaghan should bear the brunt of fault for the defeat.

Slater's season of magic spontaneously combusted with what could only be described as a monumental brain-snap.

Slater, who had a stunning first half in which he set up tries for Lockyer and David Williams, chanced his arm one too many times with his flirtation with the touchline ending in disaster as he flicked the ball infield ten metres from his own line only to watch Marshall pounce and dive over for a 22-16 lead with just 19 minutes remaining.

It set up the sort of grandstand finish tournament officials had been craving after the Australians had romped through the preliminary rounds with massive winning margins over every opponent.

Fears of another landslide Kangaroo win evaporated after a committed first half from both sides.

The scene was set for an epic opening as the Kiwis got within centimetres of their opponents while performing their traditional pre-game haka, the emotion spilling over into several heavy hits early in the contest.

In a season of controversy and drama, only the soap opera that is rugby league could produce such a finale.

The game enters its second century alive and kicking.

Next season can't come quickly enough!

● **LEFT: Australia's Greg Inglis scores in the corner during the Australia v New Zealand Rugby League World Cup final at Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane, on 22 November.**

AAP image



# First step

## DEANO'S LEAGUE



**With DEAN WIDDERS**

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**T**HE National Rugby League's (NRL) annual Toyota Cup induction camp at Sydney University last week was judged a great success and, as an Aboriginal player, I am happy to say Indigenous issues once again formed a key part of the camp.

Billy Williams has been delivering his session on cultural awareness for a few years, but no matter how many times I hear him, I always find him entertaining and thought-provoking.

The beauty about Billy's presentation is that he uses his own life stories and his struggles with self-identity to give his presentation real meaning.

He invites all who hear him to think about what defines their own personal identity as well as the culture of their family, race and nation.

At some level, everybody can relate to his story and through this process come to a better understanding of Indigenous culture, and hopefully, for all the players present, a better understanding of the culture of professional sport with all its demands and expectations.

The players also had the NRL's vilification policy explained to them, including their rights and responsibilities.

The beauty of the NRL as a game is that there are so many players from different cultural, racial and religious backgrounds that the message is one that is readily accepted.

But it is one that should not be overlooked.

It would be foolish to say that our game is free from racism.

It would be equally foolish to suggest that a simple workshop will eradicate the issue.

But the power of education and self-discovery was an important element of the recent World Cup.

As has been mentioned in earlier articles, Billy Williams also conducted a session with the Dreamtime Team at the recent World Cup when we visited

Redfern Community Centre for a team dinner.

On reflection, this session will be one of my lasting memories of the week.

It went beyond a workshop or presentation.

It was a bonding experience like no other as each player gave an insight into their inner person in an environment of shared trust and honesty.

I cannot betray that trust and will keep those personal glimpses private as they should be.

But what I can reveal is the power of the bonds of our common experiences.

Every player was proud of their ancestry and the opportunity to express their pride

through playing for the team.

You could sense this pride was building as each player shared the importance of the game in the context of their rugby league careers.

This was despite the fact that each person in the room also had histories and experiences that made them different.

And this is the beauty of Billy Williams' approach to cultural awareness.

Our Aboriginality is one part of our identity.

By recognising our uniqueness as individuals, he destroys any sense of stereotyping.

### Struck a chord

I have seen him approached by Polynesian players, young players of all backgrounds who left home, coaching staff and administrators, all who have found his message has struck a chord.

In many respects, Billy's message is one that could have been custom-made for rugby league.

To be successful in the game, each individual has to contribute to a sense of team.

For the team to be successful, it has to accommodate the needs of the individuals who make up the squad.

When this balance is achieved, the sum of the team is greater than the sum of its individual parts.

So it should be with the community in which we live.

Cultural awareness all comes down to not so much a general respect for a race, but more a specific respect for the individual.

This is the message I hope to carry with me in my adventures in England.

It is one that I hope all these young players will take with them on their personal journeys in the world of professional sport.



# Search on for fresh leadership



Adam Goodes ... Appears the logical choice to replace Leo Barry as leader at the Sydney Swans. AAP Image

**T**HE AFL premiership model is built on a principle of talent equalisation, which, in theory, means that no single club or group of clubs can dominate the competition.

This means that the combined effect of the draft and the salary cap should ensure that all fans should be able to believe that their team should be competitive on a weekly basis and that on any given day any side can be victorious.

To a certain degree this is true, but there is little doubt that in any given season only a few teams can truly declare themselves premiership contenders.

The AFL would then argue that over a period of time, all sides would experience times of success before the draft and salary cap would force them into a period of rebuilding.

To a certain degree this is again true, but I would like to believe that clever clubs can go through a process of regeneration rather than rebuilding.

I would like to think that the Swans are a case in point.

In recent seasons we have been criticised for our draft choices by preferring experience over untried youth.

One can understand the reasoning behind this criticism, but the Swans have maintained our competitiveness while other sides have waned.

At the centre of our philosophy has been a succession plan built around the core of a strong leadership group.

Coach Paul Roos has revealed this approach by stating that we now need to nurture our next group of potential leaders after long-serving fullback Leo Barry announced he was standing down from the co-captaincy.

Leo is having one final season in 2009 and rightly wants to focus solely on his football and has stepped down from the club's leadership group.

We now have two remaining co-captains in Craig Bolton and Brett Kirk.

But the club also recognises that many of our established players like Kirk, Barry Hall and my good self are over 30 years of age and Roos said the challenge facing Sydney is to develop the next generation of leaders.

"I think the challenge at the

## Magic's Moments



With MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN

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moment is how do we get the next group of leaders coming through. We've had a really good leadership group and those guys are now getting towards the end of their careers," Roos said.

While the club has yet to decide whether to continue with the co-captaincy concept, dual Brownlow Medallist Adam Goodes would appear the logical choice to replace Barry.

However, Goodes will turn 29 before next season and Roos is keen to develop the next generation of leaders.

### Challenge

Asked if Goodes was ready to assume a captaincy position, Roos said: "He is probably ready, I suppose our challenge is more the younger group."

"The danger is if we put another 29, 30-year-old (as captain), I'm not even talking about Adam, but someone of that age, it may stifle (the younger potential leaders), so that's probably the thing we've got to think about at the moment."

Therein lies the difference in thinking that I believe makes the Swans an ongoing competitive team.

The thinking is more about the transition of leadership and the maintenance of a culture than simply the recruitment of talent.

Talent is essential, but it needs a successful culture if it is to be realised.

It is a culture that allows a player like Leo Barry to move on gracefully and ensure he plays his last season to the best of his ability.

Fully fit after being sidelined by a hamstring injury for several weeks in the second half of last season, Barry said his body felt fine heading into his final season.

"I've had a really good break and I've started training a bit earlier this year so I'm really focused on my on-field performance and hopefully I will have a good pre-season, I feel pretty good at the moment," he said.

He nominated Lewis Roberts-Thomson and youngster Jesse White as potential replacements for him at fullback.

"I was always really keen to keep playing and I still feel I can really contribute to the group," Barry said.

"And I still think at the moment I can definitely hold down that fullback position and there's no one I am keeping out of a spot."

Barry said he expected Sydney to be 'super competitive' next year and have another tilt at the flag.

Roos said Sydney would look at drafting the best available player with their first pick, the No 12 slot in Saturday's national draft, rather than target a particular position.

This again shows an astuteness that is often overlooked by clubs looking for an immediate fix.

A quality player will always be a better long-term acquisition than a player basically picked to fill a hole or address a particular weakness.

Those are the situations where you would go for experience over youth, which is exactly what the Swans have done in the past.

The Swans have a long-term view which still produces results for today.

It's why I prepare for another season in the confidence that we will be truly competitive.

Until Next Time... Keep Dreaming!

● AFL 2008 Draft report – Back Page  
● McLeod doubt for All Stars clash – Page 79



# Rubbing shoulders



AS opportunities go, the chance for 11 young Indigenous cricketers to rub shoulders with some of the legends of the game was too good to miss. Especially when it meant playing a Twenty/20 match against them.

That was the outcome for the Indigenous Cricket All-Stars team that played a T20 match at Brisbane's Allan Border Field last month against the Australian Cricketers' Association Masters XI.

The Indigenous team was selected from players who attended the high-performance development camp conducted at the Cricket Australia's Centre for Excellence each year, following the Imparja Cup carnival in Alice Springs in February.

Batting first, the ACA Masters piled on an impressive 8-224 from their 20 overs, with former first-class stars Michael Di Venuto (74 retired) and Andy Bichel (87no) displaying their class.

The Indigenous All-Stars had their share of eye-catching efforts as well, with Queensland all-rounder Ben Maindhardt taking 3-31 from his four overs and ACT left-arm quick Danny Tye claiming 2-37 in a lively display with the new ball.

NSW Blues contracted player Josh Lalor picked up 1-35.

The run chase proved too great an ask for the Indigenous side, despite a clean-hitting 46 from Queensland Bulls contracted rookie player Worrin Williams, whose big hitting thrilled the sizable crowd in attendance for the free Cricket Fan Day, a part of the Emirates All-Star weekend.

After the game, Lalor was awarded a Masters scholarship by ACA president Darren Lehmann, which provides him with \$2500 and \$500 worth of cricket equipment from Slazenger.

Rockhampton leg-spinner Chris Swain, who earned praise from former Test spinner Greg Matthews for his efforts in the unrelenting T20 environment, was already a Masters scholarship recipient, which also provides the player with a 'mentor' from the ACA.

According to Cricket Australia's Senior Officer Indigenous Cricket, Michael McGregor, the players are the most talented Indigenous cricketers under the



The Australian indigenous All Stars team and team officials with Test opener Matthew Hayden (rear centre) before the Twenty/20 game against the Australian Cricketers Association's Masters XI.

Pictures: Bob Jones/Queensland Cricket

age of 23 in the country.

"Matches such as this give our young players invaluable experience on the big stage against cricket greats," McGregor said.

"These are guys they will have looked up to during their careers and who have been absolute role models for them."

"We are very grateful to the ACA for providing our Indigenous players with this opportunity. It's all about providing pathways and opportunities to ensure that players with an Indigenous background have the chance to one day represent their country."

Players on the Indigenous side will also be keen to impress to cement their spot in the Indigenous squad to tour England next year. This tour will commemorate the Indigenous team that toured England in 1868.

## Statue dedicated

UNDER a shady Moreton Bay fig tree overlooking a white picket fence, a statue of Eddie Gilbert gazes out over a pristine cricket field dotted with talented Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cricketers.

That was the scene after a formal ceremony to unveil a lasting tribute to the memory of the late Harold Edward Gilbert, better known as Eddie.

The right-arm fast bowler debuted for Queensland in the 1930-31 Sheffield Shield season and had a celebrated career spanning 10 years, taking 87 wickets during 23 first-class matches, including the great Sir Donald Bradman for a duck.

He was the fastest bowler in Australia in the 1930s and the only Aboriginal player of his time to play first-class cricket.

The bronze statue,



Queensland leg-spinner Chris Swain bowling for the Indigenous All Stars. The non-striking batsman is former Test all-rounder Greg Matthews.

originally commissioned by Indigenous Sport Queensland, was formally unveiled to the public in a ceremony that featured invited guests, interested onlookers and cricketers, past and present.

With his son Eddie Barney unable to attend, the task of unveiling the statue fell to ISQ President Wayne Coolwell and Queensland Indigenous Cricket Advisory Council Chairman Larry Budd, after speeches by Police, Corrective Services and Sport Minister Judy Spence MP, and Queensland Cricket Director Jim Holding.

The ceremony was part of the Australian Cricket Family Day, which features the Twenty/20 game between the ACA Masters and the Australian Indigenous All-Stars.

A traditional welcome to country was conducted by Aunty Val Coolwell and Queensland Cricket also unveiled a plaque that serves as a permanent acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the land.

Among the many guests was Indigenous cricketer Worrin Williams, a contracted rookie player with the Queensland Bulls for the past two seasons.

"It's an amazing statue; they've done a really good job. It's got him bowling and

you get the feeling you're actually watching him send a ball down. It gave me goosebumps down my back," Williams said.

"When they were speaking about him, it made me think back to his days and how hard it was for Indigenous players to be recognised."

"These days I think all the programs in place promoting the players have pretty much turned things around."

The statue is available for public viewing during the week and on weekends when Queensland Cricket headquarters at Albion are open.



● LEFT: All-Stars players Worrin Williams (QLD) and Josh Lalor (NSW) admire the Eddie Gilbert statue.



Queensland Sport Minister Judy Spence, Aunty Valda Coolwell, Test cricketer Matthew Hayden and Queensland Indigenous Cricket Advisory Committee Chairman Larry Budd with the Eddie Gilbert statue.



# Thrills and spills at Cherbourg rider leads the way

Shown on this page: Some of the action from last month's Palm Island Rodeo. Pictures by Alf Wilson

By ALF WILSON



CHERBOURG and Woorabinda competitors cleaned up at the first Palm Island rodeo in 32 years, held on 15-16 November.

Charlie Bond, from Cherbourg, won the all-round cowboy award, the open bull ride and novice bull ride, while 16-year-old Robert Oakley, from Woorabinda, took out the juvenile bull ride.

Oakley also won the open steer ride and young Bo Button, from Cherbourg, won the encouragement award trophy.

More than 70 competitors took part. They pitted their skills against more than 30 bulls and a truckload of steers and calves.

The rodeo was six months in the planning, and organisers Pauline and Shaun Shortjoe were delighted with the crowd, which numbered almost 1000 on day one.

Pauline Shortjoe told the ABC's *The World Today* that she had been desperate to hold an event on the island for years. She made her mind up six months ago to make it happen.

"It's important because we've got so many young teenagers who are actually becoming more and more addicted to drugs and alcohol and not knowing how to control it and all that," she said.

"I thought maybe another sport might make it a little bit more interesting. Something a little bit more rougher than what they're used to."

The other person who helped organise the rodeo, Kym Dann, from Cairns, could not make the trip due to illness.

The only downer was the large number of freeloaders who managed to get around one side of the ground to watch the action free of charge.

## Came from far and wide

There were people from throughout north Queensland and beyond as they gathered at the no-alcohol event, and police reported no incidents other than telling youngsters to stay back from the fence when bulls were in the arena.

It was a massive logistics exercise to get the animals and infrastructure to Palm Island.

Bulls were brought from Einasleigh by Glen Mosch and Graham Quinn, and the calves and steers came from Charters Towers.

They were brought to Palm Island by barge from Lucinda.

Clowns for the weekend were Ben Moss, from Charters Towers, and Billy-Joe Rea, from Clermont, who saved some fallen bull riders from serious injuries.

Moss himself was charged by a bull as he tried to climb the fence and then later came to the rescue of local Tim Asai, who faced serious injury under the hooves and horns of a 600kg animal called Blackjack.

Croydon miner Allan Oakley, 39, was amongst a

number of competitors who were bucked from bulls and treated by ambulance and then taken to hospital.

"I was really lucky to escape with four stitches," said the Century Mine worker.

He went to Townsville hospital the following day for precautionary x-rays. The bull's name was Paleface.

Cherbourg's Tyrone Murray was another who was treated by medics at the ground and taken to Palm Island hospital after falling during the novice bull ride, in which he was runner-up.

Murray returned after several hours and was in good spirits.

One of the highlights late on day two was when Shaun Shortjoe made a riding comeback after an absence of many years. He rode a nasty bull named Choice.

He received a standing ovation when he managed to stay on the bull for a number of seconds before hitting the dust.

## Plenty of ability

Rodeo announcer Justin Price, from Townsville, was glowing in his praise of the event, saying that some of the 70 competitors showed genuine ability.

Judge Darcy Davidson, from Charters Towers, was impressed, as was Bucko Billy Rodeo promoter John Moss, who was in control of all competition.

"This can grow into a very big event and we have some plans along with Pauline for next year," Moss said.

Cable television NITV was there, along with SBS to film the event, and Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey said it was a huge event for Palm Island.

"It has been well received by the community and the organisers deserve credit and there was a lot of Palm Island competitors," he said.

The Mayor said the rodeo couldn't have come at a better time.

He told *The World Today*: "It's brought a new feeling into the community. I suppose in terms of some positive stuff and good news coming out of Palm for once and certainly council is very supportive of events in our community that lifts the community spirit, you know and that's what it's about. It is about lifting community spirit. It's about pulling the old boots out and getting people to get involved and that."

Even the mechanical bucking bull proved difficult to stay on, with Thomas Chookie failing to tame it.

"It really was hard to stay on," he said.

## Results:

All-round cowboy, Charlie Bond (Cherbourg); juvenile bull ride, Robert Oakley (Woorabinda) 63 p 1; open bull ride, Charlie Bond (Cherbourg) 72p 1; novice bull ride, Charlie Bond 68p 1; Tyrone Murray (Cherbourg) 63p 2; open steer ride, Robert Oakley 62p 1; Bo Button (Cherbourg) 60p 2; Terry Lee Mudd, Joseph McInerney 57p equal 3; junior encouragement award, Bo Button (Cherbourg).





# Palm Island rodeo



Juvenile bull ride winner Robert Oakley with his family and supporters from Woorabinda.



Clown Ben Moss makes a hasty exit after being attacked by a bull.



Tyrone Murray, of Cherbourg, being placed in an ambulance after being injured in a bull ride.



Allan Douglas of Croydon shows his facial bandage after receiving four stitches from a bull horn.



Thomas Chookie on the bucking mechanical bull.



All-round champion cowboy Charlie Bond, of Cherbourg.



● ABOVE, LEFT and RIGHT: Some of the action. All-round cowboy winner Charlie Bond is riding the bull in the picture at left.





# Young fighters stake their claims

By GRAHAM HUNT



INDIGENOUS fighters were to the fore at the Australian amateur boxing titles held on 20-23 November at the Blacktown RSL Club, Sydney. With several Olympians missing, including Anthony Little, Paul Fleming and Luke Boyd, other Indigenous fighters put their names before selection officials.

Little, who is rushing to prepare himself for the World Cup tournament in Moscow this month, decided to focus on the Russian event and did not enter the Blacktown tournament.

## Change of heart

Little announced his retirement from amateur boxing after the disappointment of the Beijing Olympics, where he was eliminated in the second round in a fight some critics thought he had won.

But he decided to press on and have a crack at the World Cup.

Despite his absence, Little was assessed at Blacktown as Australia's best internationally-performed fighter.

Boyd, Australia's bantamweight representative at the Beijing Olympics, could not make it to Sydney and it is understood that Fleming, Australia's featherweight representative in Beijing, is turning professional.

Also missing was exciting Ballina (NSW) fighter Timacoy Williams, who finished with a bronze medal at the World Youth championships last October in Guadalajara, Mexico.

## Too heavy

Williams weighed in too heavy for his division at Blacktown.

Indigenous Queenslander Brad Hore won the senior under 54kg (bantamweight) Australian title when he beat Jarred Woods (WA) 11-2 in the four-round final.

In the under 69kg (welterweight) final, Tyler Johns, an Indigenous fighter from Queensland, was outclassed by Mark Basile (Victoria) 22-5. Basile was subsequently judged the best fighter of the tournament.

Indigenous Queenslander Michael Tapau was beaten 9-1 in the final of the under 17 under 60kg class by

another Indigenous boxer, Bladen Boyles (ACT).

Indigenous Queenslander Damien Hooper won the under 17 under 70kg class, beating a Northern Territory opponent with a first-round knockout.

In the under 17 under 40kg final, Zorran Cassady – another Indigenous Queenslander – beat Brandon Levy (NSW) 7-2. Levy was the undefeated NSW and Golden Glove champion.

## Big year

Cassady this year has won the south-east Queensland and Queensland titles, and winning the national title capped off an outstanding year.

Joseph Nicholls (Indigenous, Qld) beat another Indigenous fighter, Brandon Ogilvie (WA), 4-2 in the under 17 45kg final.

In the under 17 under 50kg final, Jayden Hanson (Indigenous, WA) was beaten 7-6 by B Rice (Qld).

The much-travelled Jesse Ross (Indigenous, Qld) beat Mohammed Zaidan (NSW) 13-5 in the under 19 under 69kg (welterweight) final.

Ross is not long back from the Commonwealth Youth tournament in Pune (India).

In what was regarded as the fight of the tournament, Zac Dunn (Indigenous, NSW) beat Aaron Woods (Tas) 20-12 in the under 19 81kg final. Boxing Australia Chairman Ted Tanner rates Dunn among the world's top two in his weight division.

AIS Boxing Program Manager Kate Fehon said the unseeded draw meant many outstanding fighters – some of them Indigenous – were eliminated in early rounds of the tournament.

"A number of Indigenous boxers didn't make it through to the finals, but did themselves proud," she said.

Ted Tanner told *The Koori Mail* that Indigenous boxers brought outstanding quality to the Australian titles.

Meanwhile, Queensland woman Elizabeth Kidd was assessed by an international panel during the Australian titles and has become the first Australian Indigenous woman to gain International Boxing Association accreditation as a ring official. She can now judge international fights.



West Australian Matt Garlett, who lost his semi-final bout against Chris Rizzo (NSW).



Queenslander Joseph Nicholls sizes up an opponent. Nicholls won the under 17 45kg title.



New South Wales' Zac Dunn (blue) during his under 19 81kg final bout against Tasmanian Aaron Woods.



● LEFT: An all-Indigenous final: Brandon Levy (red) up against Queenslander Zorran Cassady (blue). Cassady beat the highly fancied Levy in the under 17 40kg division.

● RIGHT: Indigenous fighter Steven Pitt (red) against Mostyn Niemann. Pitt lost his senior men's 91kg semi-final bout to Niemann.

● Pictures by Kate Fehon





# Contact!

**B**RISSBANE last week hosted the 15th annual First Contact Sports and Cultural Festival at Coorparoo. The festival lived up to its name, with plenty of contact, especially in the touch football competitions, where Australia's finest Indigenous players came up against each other, and the best of the New Zealand Maoris. The Koori Mail's MAHALA STROHFELDT was at First Contact and filed these pictures.

● More pictures and details of the festival will appear in our final edition for 2008, out on 17 December.



Alyce Smith, winner of Best and Fairest Female, and Cody Green, winner of Best and Fairest Male, both from Trackadigeniez in the secondary schools mixed division.



Kingsridge Youth Footy Team from PNG, from left, Carissa Andrews, Leisl Kasper and Vanessa Artango.



Jemila Darr and Micaila Talbot at The Koori Mail stand.



An attacker on the run in the secondary schools mixed semi-final between Trackadigeniez and Moree.



Action from the secondary schools mixed division game between Kingsridge Youth and Cleveland State High School.



Semi-final action in the match between Trackadigeniez and Moree.

## Eight Indigenous players feature in latest AFL draft

● From page back

Daniel is currently on the Power's list and Shannon was a premiership player with the Kangaroos in 1999.

Neville Jetta, who comes from the Carey Park Junior Football Club, is a cousin of the brilliant Bombers second-year player Leroy, while diminutive forward Michael Walters, a Sheehan Medallist at the under 16 national championships in 2007, will be staying in Western Australia with the Dockers.

Warren Benjamin, the younger brother of delisted Carlton footballer Clinton Benjamin, gets his chance with the Kangaroos.

### Draft selections

Round 1: No 3 – Stephen Hill (Western Australia – Fremantle)

No 6 – Chris Yarran (Western Australia – Carlton)

Round 2: No 32 – Liam Jones (Tasmania – Western Bulldogs)

Round 3: No 35 – Jamie Bennell (Western Australia – Melbourne)

No 39 – Stephen Mollop (Northern Territory – Geelong)

Round 4: No 51 – Neville Jetta (Western Australia – Melbourne)

No 53 – Michael Walters (Western Australia – Fremantle)

Round 5: No 71 – Warren Benjamin (Western Australia – North Melbourne)



JOSH HILL



CHRIS YARRAN



MICHAEL WALTERS





**McLeod in  
doubt for  
All-Stars game**

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The Voice of Indigenous Australia



## Parting of the ways

A rider comes unstuck during the bull riding event at the revived Palm Island Rodeo.

Picture: ALF WILSON

● See Pages 40-41 and 84-85 for details and more pictures.

# Our young guns

## Next crop of Indigenous champions queue up for careers

By PETER ARGENT



A FURTHER eight Indigenous footballers have been given the chance to prove themselves at the highest level, being selected in last Saturday's Australian Football League (AFL) draft in Melbourne.

As expected, Stephen Hill and Chris Yarran were top-ten selections, while Tasmanian lad Liam Jones will travel across to Melbourne to start his career at the Western Bulldogs.

Jamie Bennell and Stephen Motlop are also headed for Victorian clubs — Melbourne and Geelong.

West Australian under 18 team-mates

Neville Jetta and Michael Walters were selected in round four. They are off to Melbourne and Fremantle respectively, while Warren Benjamin will get his chance with the North Melbourne Kangaroos.

Only two Aboriginal footballers — Des Headland in 1998 and Daniel Wells in 2002 — have had higher selection than Stephen Hill in the more than two decades of the national draft.

Hill, who hails from the Quinns Districts junior football in Western Australia, has been selected by the Fremantle Dockers as the 2008 AFL draft's highly-prized number-three selection.

"Stephen is a beautiful kicker of the football and has good pace, including his change of pace," Fremantle National

Recruiting Manager Brad Lloyd said.

"He is offensively damaging and works very hard defensively as well.

"His work rate, fitness and endurance give him the capacity to achieve this.

"Our recruitment people Phil Smart, John Nykyforak and Ed Brown deserve a lot of credit in getting Stephen and Michael to our club."

Chris Yarran, who has been playing senior football at Swan Districts this year, was Carlton's first pick, at number six. The teenager also collected his club's leading goal-kicker award.

A strong-marking tall forward or defender, Liam Jones is the son of former Saints player Bob, who played 20 games in the late 1980s.

A student at Scotch College, his 2008 season was curtailed due to injury.

He was a member of the AIS/AFL Academy squad in its tour of South Africa earlier in the year, and his foundation club was North Hobart.

Melbourne's round-three selection, Jamie Bennell, is from Bunbury. He also played State under-age cricket for Western Australian.

He was a surprise selection in some people's eyes, but is noted for his freakish ability and ball use.

Stephen Motlop is following the same path as siblings Shannon and Daniel, who have played at the top level.

● Continued Page 87

● Widders — P81 ● Liddiard — P81 ● O'Loughlin — P82