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'Year of upheaval and uncertainty'

Lack of clarity worries Gooda



A YEAR of uncertainty and upheaval for Indigenous people. That's the way Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda has characterised 2014 in his annual Social Justice and Native Title Report, tabled in Federal Parliament last week. Mr

Gooda points to "deep funding cuts, the radical reshaping of existing programs and services, and the development of new programs and services" in his report.



Mick Gooda

"New advisory arrangements have been created and existing representative structures have been defunded. This lack of clarity and muddled narrative is deeply worrying," he says.

Mr Gooda writes that the Federal Government's plan to streamline Indigenous programs from more than 150 into five broad areas is to be applauded, but says the implementation of funding and administration changes has caused distress and concern in Indigenous communities, due to

uncertainty and poor communication.

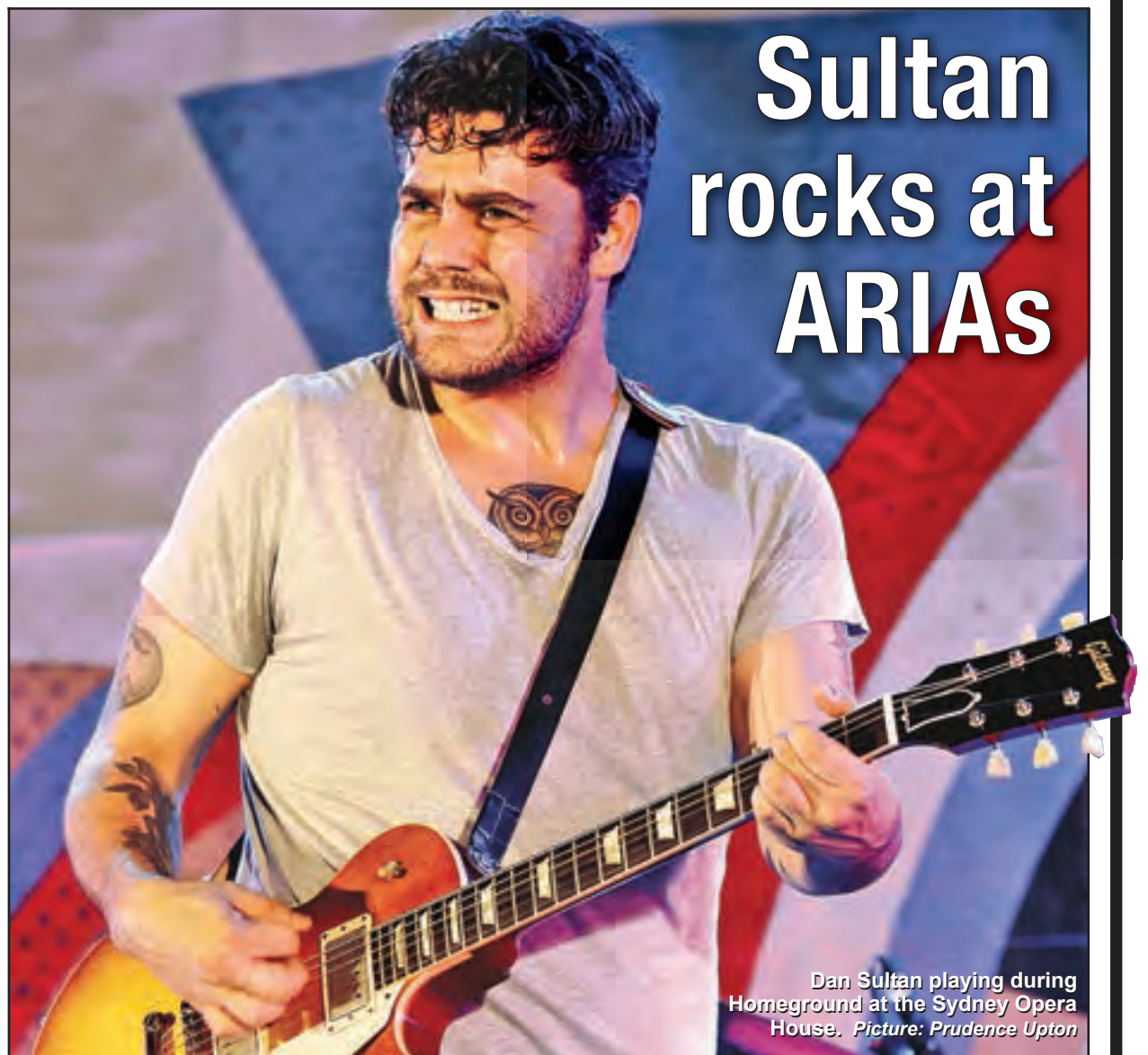
He said Government exclusively consulting with the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council wasn't good enough. And Mr Gooda called on Prime Minister Tony Abbott to set a timetable for a referendum on constitutional recognition of Indigenous people as the First Peoples of Australia.

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Wingard up with the best against Ireland

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Sultan rocks at ARIAs

Dan Sultan playing during Homeground at the Sydney Opera House. Picture: Prudence Upton



DAN Sultan rocked the house at this year's sold-out 2014 Australian Record Industry Association (ARIA) Awards with his performance of *Under Your Skin* from his album *Blackbird*, which took home the award for Best Rock Album.

Sultan was nominated for a total of five ARIA awards, but it

was his 13-track album recorded in Nashville, Tennessee, with producer Jacquire King (Tom Waits, Kings Of Leon) that took home the prize.

Sultan won't be resting on his laurels – or his ARIA award for that matter – as he's already released a new EP, *Dirty Ground*, and announced tour dates for February and March next year.

Jessica Mauboy also took to the ARIA stage again to show off her voice, performing her ARIA Top 5 hit *Can I Get A Moment?*.

The award capped off a busy week for Sultan, following on from his performance at Homeground, at the Sydney Opera House, as part of Corroboree Sydney.

● See pages 32-33 for our Corroboree Sydney coverage.

● Inside: Our 2015 calendar and the latest *Reconciliation News*

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They played for Australia

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My FAMILY

David Nogar Jnr – Townsville, Qld



● Above: David Nogar Jnr with, from left, his sister Anneliese Nogar, mum Elisha Freeman, and girlfriend Tay-lah Reid, from Darwin.

I AM 18 and the third generation of my family to be named David Nogar, following my dad and grandfather.

Family is very important to me and members continue to support me as I grow up where I was born, in Townsville, and far beyond.

But I also like to visit others who have moved away because of work or other reasons.

Recently I visited my granddad David 'Noges' Nogar where he lives, in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. It was great.

Noges used to be one of the best Australian rules footballers in Townsville, where he played for the Indigenous club Garbutt Magpies and also South Townsville.

One year in his heyday Noges won the coveted best-and-fairest award in the Townsville Australian rules competition.

Many people have told me he was one of the greatest ever players. Noges also played rugby league in Townsville and was also a champion darts player, as was my dad David Snr, as I call him.

I also have followed in their footsteps

and play rugby league in Townsville.

My nickname is 'Nongo'. I'm called that because when I was a baby the first word I tried to say was Nogar and it kept coming out as Nongo.

My mother, Elisha Freeman, is another great role model for me and I also love my sister Anneliese, who's 16.

On November 22 I went to a 60th birthday party at Riverside Tavern in Townsville with Mum, sister and my beautiful girlfriend Tay-lah Reid.

It was great to relax in a wonderful setting overlooking the freshwater stretches of Ross River.

Tay-lah is an 18-year-old Indigenous girl from Darwin. We met while working together at Townsville.

I attended Ignatius Park College, Townsville, which was a good school.

Life is good for me, and it's all because of the family I have.

With family members in Queensland, WA and my girlfriend's family in the NT, I can visit any of these places and feel at home.

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

OUR CHILDREN



PICTURED are members of the Yaama boys Aboriginal dance troupe, who will perform at the Blak Markets, Bare Island, La Perouse, Sydney, on December 7. They are, from left, Joshua Staines (Wiradjuri), John-Connor Bridges (Gamilaroi), James Bridges (Gamilaroi) and Deegan Hunter (Wiradjuri). The Yaama boys' dances and knowledge are derived from Wiradjuri traditions. The markets include food, craft and arts stalls, with an array of Aboriginal products and free entertainment. The proceeds from this market will go towards running Seeds to Success, a leadership program that involves Aboriginal students working with Aboriginal role models and Elders.

Koori Mail

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Jobe's film a finalist in Trop Jr

Jobe Adams, 15, from Baralaba in Queensland, has made the finals for Trop Jr for his film *Buloo*.



A FILM made by 15-year-old Jobe Adams about keeping culture alive has made the finals of Trop Jr, a national short-film competition. The film *Buloo* – which means 'grandfather' – is about Darren, a young boy who is growing up quickly. When he gets older, Darren

wants to be like his grandfather. Jobe made the film with some of his classmates from the remote Queensland Aboriginal community of Baralaba, 210km south-west of Rockhampton, on the traditional lands of the Wadja Wadja/Yungulu people. Jobe told the *Sydney Morning Herald* that the film was based on his grandfather. "He taught you how to

respect your Elders, how to help your community and how to protect your language," he said. Modelled on the renowned short film festival Tropfest, Trop Jr is a short-film making competition and a free, outdoor festival for children aged 15 and younger. Now in its sixth year, Trop Jr follows the same format as all Tropfest competitions, in

that all entries must be made specifically for the festival, be no more than seven minutes, and feature the Trop Jr signature item, which is 'fly' this year. Dharug man Richard Green is the co-writer of *Spirit Stones*, with Mille Rose Heywood, which has made the finals of Tropfest. Also featuring actor Ursula Yovich, *Spirit Stones* is described as "a contemporary

Dreamtime story about the powerful and transcendent nature of love, and the importance of keeping Aboriginal culture and language alive". Trop Jr begins at Centennial Park this Sunday, December 7, from 11am, followed by Tropfest, which will also be screened in other capital cities. More details are at www.tropfest.com/au

IAS funding is extended



THE Federal Government has announced six-month funding extensions for programs under its Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS), saying it needs more time for assessment.

The process, which started in August, was supposed to be completed by the end of November, with transitional contracts expiring this month.

National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) chair Matthew Cooke welcomed the extension, but said long-term certainty was needed for the success of frontline Aboriginal health programs.

Mr Cooke said proven programs relating to mental health, drug and alcohol addiction, social and emotional wellbeing and child and maternal health now fall under the IAS.

"These critical programs, many of which are run by Aboriginal community-controlled health services across Australia, have a proven track record in improving the health of Aboriginal people," he said.

"We are seeing baby birth weights increasing and better health of Aboriginal mums, which

can be attributed at least in part to the good work of our programs.

"Given the terrifyingly high suicide rates we are seeing amongst young Aboriginal people, the programs tackling mental health, drugs and alcohol are more vital than ever.

"While the interim funding arrangements mean these programs can remain functioning into early 2015, their clients still don't know if they will be able to access the services they rely on beyond the next six months."

Uncertainty

Mr Cooke said the uncertainty was also affecting the ability of organisations to recruit and retain staff.

Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion said there had been an "overwhelming response" to the first grant funding round under the new scheme and his department had requested more time for the assessment process of the more than 5000 applications.

"It is fair to say they are of varying quality – and more work is needed to match services with needs," he said.

"Of particular concern is that a number of current providers of services with contracts that

cease at the end of December may not have applied.

"Of the almost 2300 individual applications lodged, more than half were either late or had some compliance issues including, at times, insufficient detail for immediate assessment. Many of these are from smaller Indigenous organisations."

Shadow Indigenous Affairs Minister Shayne Neumann said the IAS had been an "unmitigated disaster" for Indigenous organisations.

"There are no guarantees of funding at the end of this transitional period," he said.

"We know now that more than 5000 applicants will be competing for less than half of the \$4.8 billion IAS and the Government has yet to reveal the total value of the bids.

"I am concerned that the large volume of applications will inevitably mean many Indigenous organisations that provide critical frontline services will miss out."

Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Indigenous Affairs Warren Snowdon said more than 75 Indigenous organisations providing critical services, including women's shelters in remote communities, did not apply for funding under the IAS.



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WA delegation fights for heritage



MORE than 70 traditional owners traveled from the Kimberley, Western Desert, Yamatji (Midwest and Murchison-

Gascoyne) and South West to Western Australia's Parliament last month to show the State Government that Aboriginal heritage and culture is alive and strong and could not be destroyed. The group is concerned that amendments to the *WA Aboriginal Heritage Act* give the final say on heritage protection to the bureaucracy.

The delegation met with Aboriginal Affairs Minister Peter Collier, Shadow Minister Ben Wyatt and Nationals MP Brendon Grylls to voice their concerns about the amendments, and present a petition signed by more than 1600 concerned people.

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) co-chair and Njamal Elder Doris Eaton urged the Minister to remove the proposed amendment and begin a meaningful consultation process.

"This is the first time we've met with Minister Collier to discuss these proposed changes," she said. "The Heritage Act should be protecting Aboriginal culture and heritage. Our heritage must be treated with the same respect as



Traditional owners at Parliament House in Perth.

built heritage, not weakened for industry to destroy it.

"This delegation of traditional owners is here to show the Government we are united, and speak with one voice. We will not remain silent as our land, Country and sacred sites are ruined."

However, a week after the meeting, the Government introduced the *Aboriginal Heritage Amendment Bill* to Parliament, which YMAC chief executive Simon Hawkins said flew in the

face of assurances by Mr Collier.

"The changes will be detrimental to Aboriginal cultural heritage and the protection of sites," he said. "It will allow the CEO of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to have the final say on site destruction."

"No surety"

"There has been no surety that traditional owners will be involved in these important decisions."

"I am disappointed that the

Minister has introduced the amendment Bill on the last sitting day of Parliament.

"Any amendments to the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* must include meaningful discussions with traditional owners. This has not happened."

Ms Eaton told the *Koori Mail* she felt the Barnett Government wasn't doing enough to protect Aboriginal heritage.

"Heritage means so much to us," she said. "I think TOs are all

on same page, our message is plain: The Minister needs to talk to us, and not put things in place beforehand. It is very important, especially when mining has destroyed much of our heritage."

"We want to look after it the best way we can, but the Government and department is going to have the power to give the go-ahead to mining and that's not right for Aboriginal people."

● **WA communities under threat of closure see page 8**

Gooda worried in 'year of upheaval'



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda believes the past year has been

one of uncertainty and upheaval for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. In the Social Justice and Native Title Report, tabled in Federal Parliament last week, Mr Gooda said that over the past year Indigenous Affairs had been "characterised by deep funding cuts, the radical reshaping of existing programs and services, and the development of new programs and services".

"These measures, combined with the hesitation of government to set a date for a referendum on constitutional recognition, and the impact of various government reviews, has created an atmosphere of uncertainty for our peoples," he said.

"This is compounded by the way Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are represented at the national level, which is in a state of flux. New advisory arrangements have been created and existing representative structures have been defunded. This lack of clarity and muddled narrative is deeply worrying."

Mr Gooda said the Abbott Government needed to engage more deeply and properly with Indigenous people and

organisations. "The Coalition Government came into office promising a new era of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement," he said.

"It really worries me to say that, even at this early stage, we are yet to see the outcomes expected of an effective, meaningful and considered engagement strategy."

"That a radical reshaping of the Indigenous policy space could be planned and executed with little or no involvement by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, communities and organisations at almost any level is disappointing."

Mr Gooda writes that the Federal Government's plan to streamline Indigenous programs from more than 150 into five broad areas is to be applauded, but says the implementation of funding and administration changes has caused distress and concern in Indigenous communities, due to uncertainty and poor communication.

He writes that budget cuts have already had impacts on 'frontline' services, including to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander legal services and the National Family Violence Prevention Legal Services and he called on the Government to add justice targets to the Close the Gap campaign.

"Given the extent of overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice and child

Commissioner's recommendations

That the Government:

- includes justice targets as part of the Close the Gap campaign (which Mr Gooda co-chairs with National Congress of Australia's First People's co-chair Kirstie Parker);
- works with the National Justice Coalition;
- works with states, territories and Indigenous communities to identify further justice reinvestment trial sites;
- acknowledges that effective local community governance is central to achieving sustainable development in Indigenous communities, and support research into the concept of nationhood and building an assembly of Australia's First Nations;
- implements the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ; and
- amends the Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011 to include the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the definition of human rights.

protection systems, it is difficult to understand the rationale behind these funding cuts," Mr Gooda says. "Unfortunately, it seems that

the organisations best placed to provide these vital legal and advocacy services to our communities are the ones that are, or are likely to be, affected by these cuts."

Cuts to health programs and the Government's proposal to introduce a payment to visit the doctor have also had negative effects, Mr Gooda wrote.

Mr Gooda said exclusively consulting with the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council (IAC) wasn't good enough. "Despite claims that the IAC was never intended to replace Congress, the Coalition Government created the IAC and removed the forward allocation of \$15 million from Congress within a few months of coming to power," he said.

"Further, the Prime Minister has met monthly with the IAC chair, as stipulated in the terms of reference, during this reporting period. In contrast, Congress has reported that the Prime Minister has not met with its co-chairs at all since the election."

"There is little doubt that the IAC members bring an impressive array of talent and experience to Indigenous issues. However, the different roles played by the IAC, as a strategic adviser, and Congress, as a representative voice, should be clarified and understood."

"While it is true to say that Congress' membership has not

grown as fast as was perhaps hoped, these are still very early days."

"It is early days, too, for the IAC, and I trust that they will engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and advocacy bodies, as set out in their terms of reference. However, I have seen little engagement to date."

Mr Gooda called on Prime Minister Abbott to set a timetable for a referendum on constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First Peoples of our nation.

And he challenged the nation to address racism.

"To move towards reconciliation and healing as a nation, rather than focussing on the 'right to be a bigot', we need to educate all Australians about how our colonial past affects our modern-day prejudices," he said.

"We also need to educate Australians about the impact of racial discrimination on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples."

"This is already happening. The response from the community on the proposed section 18C (of the *Racial Discrimination Act*) changes shows a renewed vigour about the importance of racial harmony and a willingness to engage in this conversation."

"Taking ownership of this issue together, as a nation, is the only way to achieve this change."

Pike's designs to help Target make a mark

By KATE L MUNRO



RETAILER
Target launched an initiative this week that will see clothing featuring the

designs of the late renowned Western Desert artist Jimmy Pike. The Western Australian-based label from the Kimberley, Desert Designs, a company generally synonymous with high fashion, is the resounding legacy of Jimmy Pike, who developed an innate art talent while sitting in a Fremantle prison cell in the early 1980s.

Desert Designs was officially formed in 1985 by Pike and his art teachers and collaborators Stephen Culley and David Wroth and is believed to be one of the first companies that applied Indigenous art to textile design.

Pike's work became internationally acclaimed and often featured on the catwalks of the world.

Pike is celebrated as possibly the first Aboriginal artist who broke away from 'traditional' style of Western Desert art to embrace a unique, spiritual vision of his country and its age-old stories. He died from a heart attack in 2002.

Target will be the first accessible retailer to stock a Desert Designs range printed with Pike's work, specially collated for the retailer.

Bigger plan

Target's first national Indigenous affairs manager, Kim Kruger, says the Desert Designs initiative is part of a much bigger plan for Target's engagement with mobs across the nation.

"We've developed an in-depth Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander plan, which we've ensured has a strong focus on economic participation between Target and Indigenous mob," she said.

The plan is titled 'Making Our Mark', and is "inspired by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have been making marks to carry culture for thousands of years".

This year Target is supporting the Jimmy Pike Trust, a direction of Pike's will that has allowed earnings from his works through applications of his designs under licence to fund education. Each year, two young Aboriginal Western Desert artists are awarded scholarships through the Kimberley Print School to further their technique, ambition and careers.

Pike's works are like no

A model wearing a Target dress featuring one of the Jimmy Pike designs.



others of his time, and show evidence he saw his country in a strikingly bright and spirited way, depicting a cultural connectedness to the roots of his ancestral bloodlines.

"Desert Designs applies contemporary technology to the art of an ancient culture and brings it to a new public in today's fashion world," Pike's widow Pat Lowe wrote.

"It is perhaps surprising that

depictions of remote desert landscapes and esoteric stories should become successful designs for fabric and a post-millennial range of clothing. That they are speaks to both the brilliance of the original drawings and the flair of imaginative young designers."

For further information: www.target.com.au and www.desertdesigns.com.au

Mixed results in OId report



THE Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage (OID) report released last week by the Productivity

Commission showed improvements in health, education and economic outcomes, but results in areas such as justice and mental health continue to cause concern.

The report showed that, nationally, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians:

- economic outcomes have improved over the longer term, with higher incomes, lower reliance on income support, increased home ownership, and higher rates of full time and professional employment. However, improvements have slowed in recent years;

- several health outcomes have improved, including increased life expectancy and lower child mortality. However, rates of disability and chronic disease remain high, mental health outcomes have not improved, and hospitalisation rates for self-harm have increased;

- post-secondary education outcomes have improved, but there has been virtually no change in literacy and numeracy results at school, which are particularly poor in remote areas; and

- justice outcomes continue to decline, with adult imprisonment rates worsening and no change in high rates of juvenile detention and family and community violence.

The OID report is the most comprehensive of its sort on Indigenous wellbeing produced in Australia.

Northern Territory Labor senator Nova Peris said the findings of the report were a "wake-up call for all levels of government and policy makers across Australia.

"The report shows that we still have a long way to go in addressing the fact that so many Aboriginal people continue to live in truly unacceptable conditions," she said.

"We must build on the successes and we must immediately move to address the failures.

"This report is too important to be put on the shelf and ignored, action is required to address the ongoing disadvantage identified in this report."

Senator Peris said the report's findings that rates of Indigenous incarceration, self-harm and suicide are increasing were alarming but,

unfortunately, not surprising.

Incoming National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) chairperson Matthew Cooke said he was concerned about the impact of policies being proposed by state and federal governments, such as the GP co-payment and closure of remote Aboriginal communities (see report page 8), and a failure to recommit to joint, coordinated efforts such as through National Partnership Agreements.

"We must celebrate the significant gains that have been made in areas such as infant mortality and life expectancy, which are the result of concerted efforts across all levels of government over a number of years," Mr Cooke said.

"We need continued investment if we are to close the gap further in these and other areas.

"National Partnership Agreements have lapsed, the COAG Reform Council has been disbanded and we don't have anything in place of either to ensure the focus stays on improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people.

"The OID report also reveals the shocking increase in levels of psychological distress, self-harm and suicide in Aboriginal communities.

"The solution to these issues lies in building strong and resilient communities by reinforcing localised decision making, encouraging cultural identity and fostering connection to country."

Priorities

Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion said the report reinforced the Abbott Government's priorities in Indigenous affairs.

"This Government has established three clear priorities in Indigenous affairs: getting children to school, adults into work and ensuring communities are safe," he said.

"There's no doubt that in communities where children are going to school and adults are going to work, levels of violence, imprisonment and juvenile detention, mental health and the whole range of indicators has improved. A new approach was clearly needed.

"This report reaffirms my commitment to ensuring that we focus our effort on these critical priorities to ensure a brighter future for future generations of First Australians."



Deborah Briggs, far left above and pictured below, and other concerned Gamilaroi residents among the 400 people at the anti-gas protest in Narrabri, north-western NSW.

Anti-gas protest in Narrabri



GOMEROI (NSW) people, including local resident Deborah Briggs, joined a recent anti-gas protest in Narrabri, north-western NSW.

About 400 people turned out to show their opposition to the NSW Government's gas plan and mining company Santos' Narrabri Gas Project in the Pilliga forest.

"Santos has done their best to divide this town, but the huge turnout against coal seam gas in Narrabri shows an enormous display of community strength," Ms Briggs said.

"We are learning that if we stand together, we can keep this region gasfield free.

"The 400 people in Narrabri made one thing very clear: families, farmers, business owners and the Gomeroi people in the Narrabri Shire overwhelmingly do not want to sacrifice our land and water to become coal seam gas fields."



NSWALC welcomes gas plan changes



THE NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) last week welcomed changes to the NSW Gas Plan that protects its interest in becoming a gas miner.

The Baird Government's original Gas Plan included legislation cancelling 16 petroleum exploration licences across the state, including six made by NSWALC.

However an amendment moved by Upper House MP Fred Nile and passed by both houses puts existing applicants at the front of the queue for new exploration licences.

NSWALC chair Craig Cromelin told the *Koori Mail* that the council's applications were based in the far west of NSW in the Darling Basin, near the Moomba to Sydney gas pipeline.

"It is an area where Aboriginal communities are in serious need of real employment opportunities," he said.

"It must be noted that our focus in this area is for conventional petroleum natural gas, not coal seam gas (CSG).

"Committed"

"In the event that we are able to develop the resource, NSWALC is committed to prioritising the allocation of gas for NSW industry and households.

"We maintain that, with our partner, we have the expertise to meet the requirements of the NSW Gas Plan and we are committed to ensuring that our petroleum exploration licences will be managed so as to more than meet the new standards being developed by Government.

"Our applications are aimed at not only securing the future energy

needs of NSW but also helping deliver economic opportunities for Aboriginal people, who up until now have watched on as others have benefitted from the resources on our traditional lands."

Cr Cromelin said NSWALC would become the first Aboriginal organisation in the state to explore for gas if the applications are awarded.

"Our view is that by undertaking exploration ourselves, we will be able to better protect significant sites and ensure that the culture and heritage of local Aboriginal people is respected during any resource development," he said.

"Principles"

"Any exploration activities will always be guided by NSWALC's principles regarding respect for cultural heritage, the environment and local communities.

"Ongoing consultation with Aboriginal people and other members of local communities will be crucial as part of the process and is part of our organisational ethos."

Cr Cromelin said NSWALC was focussing on conventional gas, not CSG.

"We've held preliminary discussions with land councils in the far western region," he said.

"The concern wasn't about the gas per se, it was more about how they would be invited to participate, what opportunities there would be as a result, whether they would include dollars, or employment.

"They know if gas is found out there, that they will have a difficult task to try to convince other organisations to get the same outcomes they would with NSWALC."

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From the bush to the big smoke



Rayella.
Picture:
Steve Pearce



ELEANOR Dixon, from the remote Northern Territory community of Marlinja, made history this year when she became the first woman to participate in the annual Bush

Bands Business Skills Development Camp and to perform on the Bush Bands Bash stage.

Along with her family band Rayella, Ms Dixon performed in front of 2500 people in a line-up that included groups such as Blekbala Mujik and Running Water.

It was at the Bush Bands Bash that Rayella caught the eye of Folk, Rhythm and Life Festival programmers and was invited to perform in front of thousands at the annual Melbourne festival.

Rayella, from Marlinja in the Barkly region, sing in Mudburra and English. They have also performed at the Desert Harmony Festival, Barunga Festival and NAIDOC celebrations at Borroloola.

Their debut album, recorded at Barkly Regional Arts' Winanjikari Music Centre, will be released at a special performance on the lawns of the Mona Museum in Hobart this Saturday, December 6.

Ms Dixon was also one of the first women to participate in the Barkly Divas program at the 2013 Desert Harmony Festival, a series of music workshops for Indigenous females aimed at providing opportunities for music careers. She is now a mentor and advocate for opportunities for Indigenous women in her community and throughout central Australia.

Edward Fry new IBA chair



AN Aboriginal man with wide experience in the resource sector has been appointed chair

of Indigenous Business Australia (IBA). Edward Fry takes on the role for three years from this month.

Mr Fry has worked in financial and human relations management as well as Indigenous training and employment, and has specialised in native title issues. He replaces Dawn Casey, who was not reappointed by the Government earlier this year.

Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion has also appointed Shirley McPherson, Glen Brennan and Richard Allert as IBA directors for three-year terms.

"Ms McPherson is a former chair of the Indigenous Land Corporation and has extensive small business development expertise," he said.

"Mr Allert, a former chairman of the Coles Group Ltd, has extensive board experience across a range of businesses, while Mr Brennan has wide banking experience specialising in microfinance loans for Indigenous communities."

Senator Scullion thanked IBA deputy chair Anthony Ashby for acting as IBA chair since June 2014, and thanked departing IBA directors Judy Hardy and Gail Reynolds-Adamson for their work.

Govt blasted for closure plans

By RUDI MAXWELL



THE Barnett Government of Western Australia has been condemned for its plan to close up to 150 remote Aboriginal communities, forcing thousands of people from their homes and homelands.

Kimberley Land Council chair Anthony Watson, a Ngykina Mangala man, told the *Koori Mail* that the proposal was causing Aboriginal people in WA a great deal of distress. "The Elders are thinking of the 1950s and 60s and being putting back into reserves and towns," he said. "Everyone is thinking which communities are going to be targeted, and are worried about the future if their lifestyle is taken away."

"Where's the jobs? Where's the towns to cater for this sort of upheaval?"

WA Premier Colin Barnett said the state had no option but to review the viability of 274 small Aboriginal communities, which have a total estimated population of 12,000, because the Federal Government had cut off essential services funding, leaving a 'parting gift' of \$90 million that would last two years.

After a three-day tour of the Kimberley with fellow Aboriginal Labor MP Josie Farrer, Opposition Aboriginal Affairs spokesman Ben Wyatt said residents were distressed, frustrated and confused by the decision, and were angry they had not been consulted.

"They are sick of being spoken about, but not spoken to," he said. "There are serious concerns from both the communities and the local shires about where people

will go if the communities are shut down.

"They will move to places like Broome, Kununurra and Fitzroy Crossing – places that are not equipped with adequate investment in housing and services to cope."

In Parliament last week, the Opposition put forward a motion calling on the State Government to directly consult with the communities and recognise that their size and location should not be the sole determinant of whether they receive support.

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Peter Collier promised that would be the case, adding he was "very frustrated" by the Commonwealth Government funding cut.



"Not only did the Barnett Government fail to consult with Aboriginal people living in remote communities, it also failed to consult with the state's peak advisory group."

– WA Opposition spokesman Ben Wyatt

Mr Wyatt criticised Mr Collier for failing to seek advice from the WA Aboriginal Advisory Council (WAAAC) before the announcement.

"Not only did the Barnett Government fail to consult with Aboriginal people living in remote communities, it also failed to consult with the state's peak advisory group," he said. "This is why the closure of remote Aboriginal communities is destined to fail."

"There was no consultation with Aboriginal people, which means that there will be no ownership of the discussions with Government and no credible plan once the communities are closed. Colin Barnett

appears to be the only person that does not accept that, for the design and development of government policy, an actual contribution from Aboriginal people is required."

Mr Watson was one of a delegation of traditional owners who met with Mr Collier to discuss changes to the heritage act (see report page 5) and the Government's plan to close Aboriginal communities.

"Aboriginal people in WA are under attack and the closure of Aboriginal communities is another example of the State Government trying to undermine our rights," he said.

"I made it clear that closing communities will have disastrous flow-on effects that will set our people back generations. I invited Minister Collier and the Premier to come to the Kimberley and meet with us, so we can show first-hand the positives that come from community living."

"We want to have engagement with the Commonwealth Government and we want them to intervene, because the

approach of the WA Government is really discriminatory.

"We suffer at the end of the day.

"The Government needs real engagement with our people so it can make decisions that help our regions. They need to meet with traditional owners to come up with plans to better our people."

"We are asking the Barnett Government for better consultation and engagement and not to make those changes without our input, otherwise we want Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion to intervene."

Recognise goes large

By JILLIAN MUNDY



THE Recognise campaign is literally going large scale, with giant 'paste ups' at universities across the nation.

Students are writing their words of support for recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Constitution and being photographed to be printed poster-sized and pasted in collections on buildings around the country.

Marta Hodul Lenton, from the Recognise campaign, said the project gave young people a way of participating.

"The younger generations are going to inherit this reform that happens. They are more important than older people," Ms Hodul Lenton told the *Koori Mail*.

"Also, they are a big part of the voting public. They also need to know and get their heads around what is being proposed, and be ready to think about it and make a decision one way or another when a referendum comes."

The 'paste ups' are a project of 'Recognise This', the youth branch of the Recognise campaign – a partnership between the Recognise campaign and the

National Centre of Indigenous Excellence.

The project is supported by a fund set up in honour of the late Jessie Trust, a campaigner for equal rights and justice, the elimination of all forms of discrimination, and world peace and disarmament, whose suggested amendments to the Constitution were eventually carried in the 1967 referendum.

Recently, a photo shoot was held at the Riawunna Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Centre at the University of Tasmania's Hobart campus, during the centre's last community luncheon for the year.

Those photographed at Riawunna will feature on a highly visible wall in the centre of the campus ready for Orientation week in mid-February.

'Paste ups' are already in place at the James Cook University office in Melbourne and Notre Dame University in Fremantle.

Further paste ups are planned for other cities including Darwin, Canberra, Sydney and Adelaide. They are likely to coincide with orientation weeks at universities in those cities.

The collection of photographs and words of support can also be found on Instagram.



Brenda and Bill Hodge, from Nierinna, write their reasons for supporting the Recognise campaign before being photographed for the 'paste up'.



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Deaths in custody motion supported



THE Senate has backed an Australian Greens motion on deaths in custody, calling on all levels of government to address the issue. The motion, moved by Greens senator Rachel Siewert, received broad support in the

Senate, including from the Government and Opposition.

"Now we need to see genuine action to end deaths in custody and reduce the unacceptably high rates of incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples," Senator Siewert said.

"People around the country

last month held a National Day of Action, Justice for Julieka, which marked the death in custody of 22-year-old Julieka Dhu in August. Any person in custody must be safe and be treated with care, respect and above all, justice, but that is not happening in Australia.

"An alarming number of

Aboriginal people have died in custody since the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, and the majority of the 339 recommendations made by the commission have not been implemented."

Senator Siewert said that the Senate had called on all levels

of government to show leadership in the implementation of the recommendations from the royal commission, and to develop programs that address the unacceptably high incarceration rates of Indigenous peoples, including justice reinvestment.



Wunggurr ranger Robin Dann conducting an early season dry burn in the Kimberley.

Fire project has many benefits



ABORIGINAL land owners in the north Kimberley of Western Australia are reducing carbon emissions through traditional fire management techniques in a landmark project backed by Qantas.

Under the North Kimberley Fire Abatement Project, four Aboriginal groups conduct early season dry burns to prevent uncontrolled wildfires, improve the health of country, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and generate certified carbon credits for sale.

North Kimberley traditional owner groups – Wilinggin, Dambimangari, Wunambal Gaambera and Balangarra – sold 226,000 carbon credits to Qantas through the compliance market under the now-dismantled carbon tax.

The airline has agreed to continue to support the project under the voluntary market and has committed to a long-term partnership, approving a memorandum of understanding with the four groups and the Kimberley Land Council (KLC).

The credits Qantas buys from the project will be used for its voluntary Fly Carbon Neutral program, which allows passengers to pay a small amount to offset emissions generated by their flight.

KLC chief executive Nolan Hunter said the project showed



The North Kimberley Fire Abatement Project helicopter. Picture courtesy Kimberley Land Council

how Aboriginal people were using their cultural values to stimulate economic activities in their communities.

"This project highlights how cultural enterprises in remote communities are working to create a range of environmental, social and economic opportunities and outcomes," he said.

"Benefits"

"Indigenous management of traditional country produces positive benefits not only at a local and national level, but for the international community through mitigating global climate change impacts."

Balangarra Aboriginal Corporation chair Cissy Gore-Birch said the North Kimberley Fire Abatement Project integrated Indigenous knowledge and cultural values

with modern science to create economic growth.

"This partnership is empowering our community to develop a sustainable future, built on our traditional knowledge and connection to country," she said.

"It has created jobs and is driving positive social change in our communities.

"Fire poses a significant threat to the high biodiversity values of the Kimberley region. Through managing fire across the landscape we are protecting threatened species and rock art sites while working to strengthen culture and ensure our iconic region can be enjoyed by all Australians for generations to come."

The KLC said the project has generated about 230,000 Kyoto Australia Carbon Credit Units over the past two years.



FOLLOWING the recent death of a patient undergoing Alcohol Mandatory Treatment (AMT) in the Northern Territory, Shadow Health Minister Lynne Walker has called for an urgent clinical review into the treatment.

"Territorians should have access to the data around AMT so we can clearly see where, and if, the controversial policy is working to reduce alcohol-related issues and improve client outcomes," she said.

The People's Alcohol Action

Coalition (PAAC) called on the NT Alcohol Rehabilitation and Health Minister Robyn Lambley to act on her commitment to evaluate AMT.

While PAAC spokesperson Dr John Boffa commended the minister for the recent amendments to AMT, he believes there is still more to be done to effectively evaluate the treatment.

The current amendments call for the implementation of some of the review recommendations, including the removal of it being an offence to abscond from residential treatment, a rule that Dr Boffa said effectively criminalises alcohol dependence.

"The narrow and quite limited review of the AMT legislation earlier this year did not tell Territorians about how well the AMT scheme is operating, or if there are more problems to be addressed," he said.

Dr Boffa said any further evaluation should be specific and

measurable and include questions such as: "How many people have been through mandatory treatment? Has it helped them to stop or reduce their drinking? How many people leave AMT before completion? How well are the facilities operated? What has it cost to date for each client?"

He further called for an independent and rigorous evaluation of the 18-month-old scheme and stressed that it must be separate to any coronial investigation into the recent death of an AMT residential client in Alice Springs.

Ms Walker said the Government's

recent evaluation was "just a limited look at the legislation" and stressed the need for a full review of the needs of those working in AMT services.

"AMT staff and providers are working hard to deliver a quality service and the best possible care, but serious questions remain about the level of support they receive from the Government and Health Department," she said.

The shadow minister said she was also

concerned about the lack of public information regarding the recent death. "News of this patient's untimely death was kept quiet by the Government and this veil of secrecy needs to be addressed," Ms Walker said.

"It is deeply concerning that the acting Health Minister has simply dismissed the incident as an unfortunate event that will be reviewed by the coroner at some future time."

"The narrow and quite limited review of the AMT legislation earlier this year did not tell Territorians about how well the AMT scheme is operating, or if there are more problems to be addressed."

Statue honours Bowen



Matt Bowen gets help from Hope Vale Deputy Mayor June Pearson to unveil the statue.
Picture: Gary Hutchison, Cooktown Local News

By ALF WILSON



A BRONZE statue of rugby league star Matt Bowen been unveiled at Hope Vale, in far north Queensland.

The larger-than-life statue, near the entrance to Hope Vale's Matthew Bowen Ngudhu Wuurinh Sports Complex, was unveiled last month when Mr Bowen, his partner Rudi Doyle, their son MJ and daughter Diaz returned to the NRL star's home community on holidays.

Also supporting Mr Bowen through the ceremony were his grandparents Frank and Ella Woibo, his parents Richard and Lillian, and many relatives, friends and youngsters who idolise him.

The quietly spoken rugby league hero had returned from the cold of England, where he played with Superleague side Wigan which lost the 2014 grand final 14-6 to St Helens at Old Trafford in October.

After an introduction from Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Deputy Mayor June Pearson, Mr Bowen gave an emotional speech. "I'm sincerely deeply honoured and humbled by having this statue struck for me," he said.

"And I hope that in years to come,

there will be at least six or more statues of other Hope Vale kids beside mine. Kids who can go on and achieve success in whatever sport they choose or any other field for that matter. If the opportunities present themselves, I hope they grab them with both hands and run with them."

Bowen's rugby league journey started at Abergowrie College, near Ingham. He went from being a champion junior representative to a stellar career with the North Queensland Cowboys in the National Rugby League between 2001 and 2013.

His deeds at the Cowboys made Matt Bowen a household name in north Queensland and a role model for youngsters.

He holds the record for the most games played for the Cowboys, at 270, in which he scored 130 tries, 36 goals and five field goals for a personal haul of 597 points.

He first represented Queensland in State of Origin as an interchange player off the bench in 2002, after which he went on to make 10 appearances for the state between 2003 and 2007. He made one test appearance for Australia, in 2004.

Mr Bowen's NRL career ended in 2013, when he moved to England on a contract with Wigan Warriors, which has been extended to the end of the 2015 season.

"... I hope that in years to come, there will be at least six or more statues of other Hope Vale kids beside mine."

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Australian Government



Queensland Government

Authorised by the Queensland Government, Mary St, Brisbane



The endangered great desert skink.

How dingoes could help save skink



FERAL cats and foxes are threatening to wipe out the great desert skink from its few remaining habitats in the Australian deserts – but not if the dingo has anything to do with it.

A joint program between the Desert Wildlife Services, Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC) and Nyirripi rangers is a step closer to protecting the rare skink from extinction through a program aimed at eradicating its main predators.

Desert Wildlife Services scientist Dr Rachel Paltridge said a recent research project conducted at Newhaven Sanctuary, 350km north-west of Alice Springs, has identified feral cats as the main predators of the skinks, while also finding that dingoes could be the unlikely saviours of this fragile species.

While the research shows that dingoes occasionally eat the skinks, they have also revealed that dingoes are a significant predator of feral cats in the study area. This has led to a focus on making sure dingoes are not affected by the baiting, trapping and tracking program.

Newhaven Sanctuary supports



Nyirripi ranger Christine Michaels sets a bait trap. Picture: Desert Wildlife Services

one of the largest populations of the great desert skink in the world, with at least 200 active burrows mapped across the sanctuary. Elsewhere, the skink populations have contracted and are vulnerable to extinction.

“At Newhaven the combination of good fire management and a healthy population of dingoes is helping this species to become more resilient to cat predation,” Dr Paltridge said.

Newhaven Sanctuary

managers and Nyirripi rangers are using fox-specific bait stations, cat traps and traditional Indigenous feral cat tracking methods to reduce predation on these reptiles that are now only found in 10 locations across the western deserts.

“We are also very lucky to have some of the last great cat trackers in the Northern Territory living next door to Newhaven who we can call on to help remove problem cats,” Dr Paltridge said.

‘Chaos’ angers NT Palmer MPs



THE two remaining Palmer United Party (PUP) MPs in the Northern Territory are allegedly planning to leave the party, saying it is “absolute chaos” and internal divisions have been an embarrassment.

Alison Anderson and Larisa Lee left the Country Liberals Government and joined the PUP in April, with fellow Aboriginal backbencher Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu, who broke their bloc to rejoin the CLP in September.

The women said the PUP had failed to connect with its NT members and had not responded to their inquiries for help for Aboriginal people, *The Australian* reported on Saturday.

They said the party had failed to use its balance of power in the Senate effectively.

“We just wanted a partner, someone that would support us with (fighting for) Aboriginal rights in the federal parliament,” Ms Lee said.

“In the PUP we didn’t find that; there was too much controversy in there.”

The pair also criticised party leader Clive Palmer’s ongoing drama with Chinese firm Citic and former PUP member Senator Jacqui Lambie’s attacks on Muslims.

This is Ms Anderson’s third departure from a political party in nine years.



Alison Anderson

In 2005 she was elected to the seat of Namatjira in Central Australia with the Labor Party, but left in 2009, citing a failure to deliver for Aboriginal people.

After sitting as an independent, she was wooed by the CLP and joined before it won resoundingly in mainly Aboriginal bush electorates at the 2012 NT election



Larissa Lee

thanks to support for her, Ms Lee in the seat of Arnhem and Mr Kurrupuwu in the seat of Arfura.

But earlier this year the three said they were disillusioned with what they said was the Giles Government’s failure to fulfil election promises to Aboriginal communities. – AAP

Support for Indigenous consumers



THE South Australian Government has given its support to a nationwide effort to prioritise consumer awareness and rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers.

Business Services and Consumers Minister Gail Gago said Australian consumer protection agencies are committed to building awareness, knowledge and confidence for Indigenous people to exercise their consumer rights.

“South Australia’s Indigenous communities are scattered across the state, often in geographically isolated places, which can make them a lot more vulnerable to being targeted by unscrupulous traders,” she said. “We want to ensure that Indigenous people are empowered when it comes to their consumer rights.”

Ms Gago said the SA launch of the National Indigenous Consumer Strategy (NICS) Action Plan has identified four national priorities – trading practices, housing, consumer awareness and contracts.

“South Australia’s Consumer and Business Services (CBS) will be conducting a number of activities over the next two years to support each of the four priority areas,” she said.

“This will involve visits to the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands, hosting information stalls at events for Indigenous consumers, and working with community organisations to deliver consumer education programs.”

This is the third NICS Action Plan developed by national, state and territory consumer protection agencies since the first plan was released in 2003.

Big names for Saltwater Freshwater



MAJOR acts are on the program for the Saltwater Freshwater Festival, on

Gumbaynggirr country in Coffs Harbour, NSW, on January 26.

The festival, which returns to the town where it first began in 2010, will bring some of the biggest names in Aboriginal Australia to regional NSW.

Headline act Archie Roach will be joined by hip hop artist Briggs, rising star Radical Son, Gumbaynggirr soul singer Emma Donovan with her band the PutBacks and Coffs Coast band DidJital.

"This festival continues to showcase the depth and diversity of Koori talent up and down the mid north coast and is a source of pride of what can be achieved when many individuals come together to make something great," festival patron Aden Ridgeway said.

As well as presenting top Aboriginal music, the festival showcases the talents, history, language and culture of the four Aboriginal nations of the NSW mid north coast Saltwater Freshwater region – Biripi, Gumbaynggirr, Dunghutti and Worimi.

Saltwater Freshwater ambassador Troy Cassar-Daley said the festival has a focus on inclusivity and the message is clear that all are welcome to honour, respect and share in the Aboriginal culture of Saltwater Freshwater country on Australia



Ready for Saltwater Freshwater, back from left, Saltwater Freshwater Aboriginal Arts Alliance chair Jo-Anne Kelly, deputy chair Chris Spencer, Thungutti Land Council's Richard Campbell and Purfleet/Taree Land Council's Glen Rennie and, front from left, Galambila Aboriginal Health Service chair Reuben Robinson, Uncle Mark Flanders, Kristine Garrett, and Coffs Harbour Mayor Denise Knight.

Day. "The tide has turned and I see the salt and fresh water as black and white people coming together as one to celebrate this amazing country as First Nations people or First

Fleet people," he said. "We all have saltwater and freshwater in us now as we move towards a positive and tolerant nation that we all call our home and feel that we belong."

As well as music, the free one-day festival features dance, story, crafts, language, art, ceremony, workshops, conversation, children's activities and food.

Festival admission is by gold coin donation. More details available at www.saltwaterfreshwaterfestival.com.au or Facebook /saltwaterfreshwaterfestival

WA Labor concern at jail rates



UNPAID fines are leading to more women and Aboriginal people being locked up in Western Australian prisons, the state's Opposition

says. Labor says each year since 2010, more than 1100 people have been imprisoned because they are too poor to pay fines.

The Opposition says one in six Aboriginal people in prison are there because they could not pay the penalties, with incarceration rates jumping almost six-fold between 2008 and 2013.

The number of Aboriginal women jailed for fine default also soared from 33 to 223 during those five years, Labor said.

In WA, fine defaulters can go to prison to clear a fine if they have not paid it off via a payment plan or completed a community service order.

In a new discussion paper, Labor called on the WA Government to increase funding to supervise fine defaulters serving

Unpaid fines blamed for overcrowding

community service orders.

The party also wants an independent review of the legislation and regulations governing community service orders and fine default to assess the economic and social impact of the current system.

Labor MP Paul Papalia said the Corrective Services budget had blown out in recent years and it was costing \$345 a day to keep each fine defaulter locked up.

"It is minor offenders and fine defaulters who have caused overcrowding in the state's jails, not dangerous criminals," he said.

The issue recently gained national attention after the death of a 22-year-old Yamatji woman at the Port Hedland lock-up. — AAP



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Z0451633

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2013 Indigenous Writing Fellow Tristan Savage. Photo by KiLN.

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Public Notice

Invitation for expressions of interest in the upgrade and protection of Aboriginal heritage at Roger Summers Reserve Bundeena NSW.

Sutherland Shire Council invites Aboriginal community members who hold knowledge regarding the cultural significance and appropriate management of Aboriginal sites at the public reserve south of the ferry wharf Bundeena to register their interest.

Council proposes to undertake works to reduce foreshore erosion and improve access through the reserve. Signage to acknowledge the site's Aboriginal cultural heritage is also proposed. Information will assist council and the Office of Environment and Heritage take appropriate action to protect Aboriginal heritage.

Closing date for submissions is 30 January 2015.

For more information contact Natural Areas Manager Brendon Graham:

Ph: (02) 9710 0405

Email: Rogersummersreserve@ssc.nsw.gov.au

Post: Sutherland Shire Council
Locked Bag 17 Sutherland NSW 1499

WOORABINDA ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – LOCAL LAWS

Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council invites submissions on the following proposed new local laws and subordinate local laws: Local Law No. 1 and Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2014, Local Law No. 2 and Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2014, Subordinate Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2014, and Local Law No. 4 and Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Indigenous Community Land Management) 2014.

Council has also identified that the local laws and subordinate local laws contain possible anti-competitive provisions. These have been identified in a Public Interest Test Plan (PIT Plan) prepared by Council.

A copy of the proposed local laws, subordinate local laws and the PIT Plan may be inspected at Council's public office at 112 Munns Drive, Woorabinda or viewed on Council's website <http://www.woorabinda.qld.gov.au>

If you wish to make a submission about the local laws, subordinate local laws or the PIT Plan, please make your submission in writing by email to woorabindalocalaws@macdonnells.com.au or by mail to Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council, c/- MacDonnells Law, Attention: Mr. J Bodenmann, PO Box 5046, CAIRNS QLD 4870.

To be considered, submissions must be received by 5.00pm, 12 January 2015.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
WOORABINDA ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL**



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

Aboriginal Heritage The Northern Road Upgrade Stage 2 – Peter Brock Drive to Mersey Road

Roads and Maritime Services invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places for the upgrade of The Northern Road Stage 2 between Peter Brock Drive, Oran Park and Mersey Road, Bringelly to register to be consulted.

To register your interest, please contact Mark Lester, Roads and Maritime Cultural Heritage Officer, PO Box 973, Paramatta CBD NSW 2124 or email Mark.W.Lester@rms.nsw.gov.au

Registrations may also be made by phone on (02) 8849 2583 during business hours.

Registrations must be received by **6 February 2015.**

The detailed design for the upgrade may result in Roads and Maritime:

- Applying for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Part 6 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, and/or
- Undertaking investigations in accordance with the *Code of practice for archaeological investigations in NSW 2010*, and/or
- Undertaking an environmental impact assessment under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*.

2008/23



Freedom Summit delegates pictured at last week's gathering in Alice Springs (Mparntwe).

Summit vows to fight on



MORE than 100 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from around the

country met for a two-day 'Freedom Summit' in Alice Springs (Mparntwe) last week. The group gathered to discuss growing rates of incarceration, child removals, suicide and the rising numbers of deaths from preventable diseases in First Nations communities.

Chairperson of Narungga Nations Tauto Sansbury, one of the organisers of the summit, told the *Koori Mail* the gathering had come about after a conversation with fellow activists Geoff Clark and Michael Mansell.

"We are very concerned about what the Abbott Government is doing to Aboriginal organisations and communities across Australia," he said.

In a communique put out after the meeting, the group members declared independence of their nations and peoples and said they refused to permit any "legislative authority separate from ourselves to exist on our lands".

"Governments have shamefully announced intentions to close down communities in Western Australia and South Australia," the statement said.

"Oombulgurri in WA has already been bulldozed – this is an act of aggression in an open genocidal process, on top of the continuing apartheid and land clearances through the Northern Territory Intervention.

"Organisations across the continent are having funding slashed. Heritage laws are being attacked and our culture is being owned by white government ministers.



Palm Island's Lex Wotton makes a point at the summit. Picture: Paddy Gibson

"A new land grab is happening through mining tenements and operations. This is a direct attack on land rights across this country."

Group members said they were planning more summits to discuss the "true national representation with bigger numbers" and to strategise ways forward.

"Hand-picked farce"

"There is no grassroots representation of our people at the national level and the Indigenous Advisory Council is a hand-picked farce and must resign," they said.

Mr Sansbury said the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, an elected peak body, needed to consider its position.

"I signed up to the National Congress but I think the time has come for it to really sit down with Aboriginal communities and consider their role in this because this group that we've created is going to be around for a while and we're not going to go away," he said.

"There is a lack of representation in state and federal governments for Aboriginal people. We don't seem to have any friends in Parliament so we have got to start doing things for ourselves."

The summit statement said: "To our people suffering, we say there is hope."

"We have nominated a steering committee to take the struggle forward.

"The fight for our rights will rise from the ashes.

"We are planning to lead mass action on the streets to defend our rights and enforce our vision of self-determination and continuing sovereignty."

The Freedom Summit delegates are Tauto Sansbury, Rosalie Kunoth-Monks, John Christophersen, Jenny Munro, Les Coe, Paul Spearim Jnr, Lex Wotton, Christine Abdulla, Roxley Foley, Maurie Japarta Ryan, Helen Lee, Billy Risk, Vanessa Culbong, Richard Evans, John Singer, Ghillar Michael Anderson, Lesley Tickner, Janice Harris, Elaine Peckham, Rex Granites Japangka and Chris Tomlins.

Turtle research paying off



THE first record of a green turtle migrating between the north-west of the South Pacific Ocean and far north Queensland has been recorded after a tag was recently recovered in the Torres Strait and tracked back to Piai Island.

The Indonesian turtle tag was given to Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) Land and Sea Management Unit rangers.

TSRA chairman Joseph Elu said the new finding showed the importance of community-based turtle tagging programs.

"Green turtles are listed as a vulnerable species, which is why the TSRA Land and Sea Management Unit implements ongoing turtle management programs to safeguard their future," he said.

"The great majority of green turtles in Torres Strait originate from the northern GBR genetic stock, although there are a total of six different genetic stocks that are feeding together in our region.

"Despite continual monitoring and studies of the turtle and dugong population in the Torres Strait over many years, this is the first record that we have of a green turtle migrating between a north-west Pacific Ocean nesting beach and Torres Strait in far north Queensland.

"This reinforces the fact that we're still learning, and that the



TSRA Land and Sea Management Unit Malu Kiai (Boigu) rangers tagging a juvenile green turtle.

collaboration between TSRA rangers, scientists and neighbouring countries is so crucial to protecting the future of the green turtles."

The group conducting the monitoring studies at Piai Island

is a local non-government organisation called Papua Sea Turtle Foundation (Yayasan Penyu Papua) working specifically with turtle conservation in Papua Indonesia. Since 2007, it has been

monitoring the green turtle nesting activity at Piai Island in Raja Ampat West Papua, Indonesia.

"This highlights the importance of international collaborative approaches to the

management of green turtle populations within the Asia Pacific region and the need for protection and monitoring of turtle nesting rookeries like Raine Island in the northern Great Barrier Reef," Mr Elu said.

Detention a concern for Gooda



ABORIGINAL man Marlon Noble spent 10 years behind bars without ever being convicted of a crime. Now he's under strict, parole-like conditions and for the first time since his 2012 release he's been allowed to leave Western Australia.

Mr Noble opened a national summit on imprisonment of people with intellectual disabilities in Melbourne recently, saying he wants to get others like him out of prison.

Meningitis left Mr Noble intellectually impaired as a child, making him unfit to plea on charges of sexual assaulting two minors when he was 19. But with nowhere else to put him, authorities sent the teen to prison.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda said that was a breach of human rights and added to the over-representation of Indigenous people in jails.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states no person

risen 57% since 2000.

Indigenous youth are 24 times more likely to go to prison than other young people.

Mr Noble's case was under scrutiny at the summit, as part of a broader discussion on jailing intellectually impaired people.

The treatment of Roseanne Fulton, an intellectually impaired Indigenous woman held without conviction in a WA prison for almost two years, was also discussed.

Mr Gooda said governments must create alternative facilities to care for intellectually disabled people like Mr Noble.

"They're treated no differently in prison, they're counted as normal, run-of-the-mill prisoners," he said.

"(Mr Noble's) only crime is contracting meningitis." – AAP

"(Mr Noble's) only crime is contracting meningitis."
– Commissioner Mick Gooda

will be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

"That's what we're getting at the moment," Mr Gooda said.

"I couldn't even describe how I'd feel."

A recent Productivity Commission report found incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people has

Public Notice

Call for nominations – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel 2015/16/17

Applications close at 6pm Friday 19 December 2014.

The City of Sydney's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel has provided advice on matters of importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities since 2008.

The panel provides oversight for the City's Eora Journey projects, reviews cultural protocols and provides advice on policies and programs.

The panel is made up of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and cultural leaders, industry professionals and academics, Elders and young people.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work or study in the City of Sydney Local Government Area are invited to put forward nominations for themselves for a three-year role on the panel.

Nominations open on 24 November 2014 and close at 6pm on Friday 19 December 2014.

i For information on the panel, or to download a nomination form, please visit cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/community/community-support

You can also contact David Beaumont, Community Engagement Coordinator (Aboriginal Community Development), on 02 9265 9333 or email dbeaumont@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

i For more information call 02 9265 9333 or email council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

CITY OF SYDNEY



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MANA ALLAWAH ABORIGINAL ADVISORY BOARD

Passionate about improving the lives of Aboriginal people?

Want to be involved as the NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) works to promote the wellbeing and social, economic and cultural interests of Aboriginal people in the Northern Sydney area?

FACS Northern Sydney District is seeking expressions of interest from Aboriginal people across Northern Sydney to become a member of the Mana Allawah Aboriginal Advisory Board.

The establishment of the Mana Allawah Aboriginal Advisory Board will help ensure that FACS Aboriginal programmes achieve real, positive change in the lives of Aboriginal people. Board members will provide ongoing advice to the FACS Northern Sydney District Executive on current policy and implementation issues related to the outcomes of the Mana Allawah Aboriginal Strategy 2014-2016.

Meeting bi-monthly, the Mana Allawah Aboriginal Advisory Board will have up to 12 members, including a Chair and Deputy Chair. Members must be Aboriginal First Nations people of NSW. Aboriginal people with a strong understanding of Aboriginal culture and knowledge, and who bring a diversity of skills in community engagement, economic development, employment, education, youth participation, disability, service delivery and health, are encouraged to apply.

If you are interested in becoming a member please send a covering letter and resume by COB Friday 16th January 2015 to:

Simon Jovanovic
Aboriginal Community Development Officer, Northern Sydney District
Email: Simon.Jovanovic@facs.nsw.gov.au
Mail: Level 6, 12 Help Street, CHATSWOOD NSW 2067

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further, please contact Simon Jovanovic on mobile: 0447 737 149 or office: (02) 8424 255.



All that was left after the fire at the Papulankutja Artists gallery in the Western Desert.

Papulankutja artists fight back after fire



PAPULANKUTJA Artists, a remote not-for-profit Aboriginal-owned art centre on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands in the

Western Desert, is fighting back from disaster.

In October a grass fire destroyed the artists' gallery and they lost 90% of their stored canvases, including historical artworks from deceased artists.

The art centre had been the only place in town where artists could earn money while sharing the stories from their ancestors.

The artists not only lost their artworks but also future sales which could have provided

them with the money to rebuild and restock the centre with art supplies.

Despite their remote location, people in the small community of about 160 people took their plight to the world wide web and started a campaign on crowdfunding website chuffed.org.

New unit

Papulankutja artists need to raise \$37,500 to realise their dreams of building a new, custom-designed modular space to exhibit their art. The site of the previous gallery has been cleared and is now ready and waiting for the new unit.

The response to their campaign has been

overwhelming, and at the time of going to print the artists had raised more than half the funds needed to complete the new gallery.

The artists will be sharing a range of cards, jewellery, bookmarks and original art works with people who donate to their cause, and, for those especially generous donors, there will be a rare opportunity to go on a bush painting trip with the artists.

Papulankutja Artists is a registered charity and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

For more information visit www.papulankutja.com.au or donate online at www.chuffed.org/project/rebuilding-our-fire-devastated-art-gallery



Papulankutja artists, pictured with some of their works, have turned to crowdfunding to raise funds for a new gallery on their country in the Western Desert.



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& EDUCATION

MY STORY, YOUR STORY, OUR STORY. ENGAGE WITH OUR FIRST STORY FROM ANYWHERE IN AUSTRALIA WITH ACIKE.

"I'd say I was raised writing. My dad was always writing. I wanted to work with my brother to tell our family story. We needed to know how to make it work with the voices of many relatives and two authors. The ACIKE course has helped me do that. It's exposed me to a range of Indigenous and international authors and opened up new ways of writing. I've also created a short film script, which is something I've always wanted to do, and I'm even working on some songs to go into the film. That's been the biggest achievement for me."

Read the full story online.

Bev, Diploma of Creative and Indigenous Writing online student, Victoria

The Australian Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Education (ACIKE) offers study options as diverse as public policy, creative writing, languages, teaching and health. By engaging with these unique Indigenous knowledges, you'll be adding your footprints to the journey of the world's oldest civilisation. With unparalleled access to acknowledged experts, gain knowledge and add your voice to our shared history and stories of the future.

Online courses starting in March 2015:

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Bachelor of Indigenous Languages and Linguistics
Bachelor of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Knowledges (Honours)
Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Indigenous Partnerships
Graduate Certificate in Yolngu Studies
Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Policy Development
Master of Indigenous Knowledges (Mawul Rom)*

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Doctor of Philosophy – PhD

* Only available on campus.

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acike.edu.au/engage
1800 061 963



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AND BATCHelor INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS TERTIARY EDUCATION





Boys from Milingimbi dance up a storm in the new mental health resource film *Life Giving Music and Dance*.

New mental health DVD is a lifesaver



A NEW DVD, developed in response to the disproportionately high suicide rates faced by the Northern Territory's Indigenous populations, is using culture, dance and music to build resilience in mental health.

The DVD, *Life Giving Music and Dance*, was filmed on location in the communities of Galiwin'ku and Milingimbi and explores the importance of traditional and contemporary music and dance in maintaining strong mental health and, in turn, preventing suicide.

Produced by the NT Medicare Local (NTML) with Aboriginal health practitioners from Galiwin'ku, Milingimbi and Ramingining communities, the film tells the

story in Djambarrpuynu language of how music, dancing, singing, laughing and being around others can improve overall mental health.

Health workers in these Top End communities – strong advocates for caring for their own community and keeping Yolngu health in Yolngu hands – worked with the filmmakers to ensure themes of identity, connections to land, culture and local customs were integral to the project.

Response

The DVD was developed in response to the need for current, culturally safe, relevant and appropriate resources that could be widely used by community members in settings including health centres, community events, schools and training colleges.

The film is already making an impact and has screened nationally at the Australian Rural and Remote Mental Health Symposium in Geelong, the inaugural NT Suicide Prevention and Wellbeing Conference in Darwin, and the National Suicide Prevention Conference held in Perth. It has been distributed to 16 communities across Arnhem Land as a tool for health education and promotion.

In addition, the DVD recently screened on national television, with NITV securing the rights from filmmakers EG Productions to screen it over the next two years.

For more information, visit www.ntml.org.au or to request a copy, contact the NTML's principal program officer, Mental Health Services Rural and Remote Australia.



DJOK clan leader Jeffrey Lee received a standing ovation from 5000 delegates at the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney when he told the story of his fight to protect his country at Koongarra in Kakadu.

Kakadu, Australia's largest national park, is on the World Heritage List for its natural and cultural values.

Mr Lee fought for many years to see Koongarra protected from uranium mining, turning down offers of millions of dollars.

In 2011 he made the journey from Kakadu to Paris to see the World Heritage Committee include Koongarra in the World Heritage estate, and last year the area was formally included within Kakadu National Park and permanently protected from uranium mining.

Mr Lee is now asking the Australian Government to come good on a promise to build him a house on his country.

"I have said no to uranium mining at Koongarra because I believe that the land and my cultural beliefs are more important than mining and money," he said.

"Money comes and goes, but the land is always here, it always stays if we look after it and it will look after us.

"I want to tell people about Koongarra and remind the Government that I did all that work to protect that country.

"All I'm asking is for a place to live on my country. I don't want to wait until I've passed away. I want to live



Jeffrey Lee: "I just want a commitment from (the Federal Government) for a house so I can live on that country I fought for."

on my county now. I don't want the Government to forget me. They came to visit me. They congratulated me on my hard work and said they will support me in this.

"The Government knows how hard I worked. They gave me an Order of Australia and I'm happy for that.

"Now I just want a commitment from them for a house so I can live on that country I fought for."

SENIOR EXECUTIVE

Inspired Leadership in Child Protection Reform

The Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) was established as a Statutory Body on 1 July 2014, under the Family and Child Commission Act 2014, as part of the Queensland Government's far-reaching Stronger Families reforms. The QFCC will provide oversight of the effectiveness of the Queensland child protection system, which includes preventative and support services to strengthen families. These key appointments are offered to lead implementation of the reforms and to promote and advocate for the safety, well being and best interests of children, young people and their families.

Principal Commissioner - Ref. No. 4B/23095

The position will champion the organisation's vision and goals, providing leadership and direction to meet QFCC's strategic objectives. You will drive the implementation of child protection reform, leading the development of policies, practices and services that build the capacity of the sector and deliver results to improve overall performance and cross sector outcomes. You will provide expert advice on current research and child protection practice, enhancing education and information available to families. Further, you will lead change processes, developing a positive culture in delivery of high quality community services, within a strong governance framework.

Cultivating productive working relationships across sectors will be vital – your superior influencing and interpersonal skills will therefore be a key to your success. You will be a change agent capable of playing a major leadership role in transforming services for children, young people and families.

We seek high calibre executives, to be considered for either or both roles, with demonstrated experience and insight to child protection reform, with a commitment to delivering real outcomes. Under the Act, at least one of these positions will be held by an Aboriginal person or a Torres Strait Islander. Both positions will be statutory positions for up to 3 years.

Please apply quoting the relevant reference number online at au.hudson.com Enquiries can be made to Charles Kerr at Hudson in our Brisbane office on (07) 3258 8393. Applications close on Friday, 12 December 2014.

Commissioner - Ref. No. 4B/23096

A key support to the Principal Commissioner, you will provide strategic leadership, expert advice analysis and support in driving the effectiveness of the child protection system. A key focus is to lead and coordinate sector partnerships, capacity building and a governance strategy for the QFCC. The development of cross sector strategies to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and families is a critical component, including increasing collaboration between parties and building capacity to improve the delivery of services.

Your strategic capability is underpinned through high-level critical thinking, judgement and experience, to engage with key stakeholders and develop innovative solutions, recognising individual differences and diversity.



Do you or a family member have a connection with Parramatta Girls Home?

The NSW Government has announced the creation of a memorial at the former Parramatta Girls Home. This memorial will recognise and pay tribute to those people who were abused as children at the home.

It is important that anyone who has been affected by their time at Parramatta Girls has a say in the type of memorial that is created.

If you were at Parramatta Girls Home and would like to share your ideas with us please ring the Department of Family and Community Services on 1800 773 412 (free call – Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm) or write to parramattagirlsmemorial@facservices.nsw.gov.au

N2853



Aboriginal Heritage SOLDIERS POINT

Port Stephens Council is preparing an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application for council-owned land at Soldiers Point, NSW.

To help Port Stephens Council understand Aboriginal cultural heritage present in the Soldiers Point area, Council invites expressions of interest from Aboriginal groups and individuals to provide information to assist in the development of the AHIP application.

To register your interest, please contact:

Elizabeth Akerman
Community Engagement Officer
PSC2005-3650

Port Stephens Council
PO Box 42
Raymond Terrace NSW 2324

Phone: (02) 4980 0405
Mobile: 0408 842 893

Email: council@portstephens.nsw.gov.au

Registrations must be received by phone, writing or email by Friday, 30 January 2015.

Please quote PSC2005-3650

Your registration of interest will be acknowledged in writing.



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

Aboriginal Heritage

Nelson Bay Road south of Marsh Road, Bobs Farm

Roads and Maritime Services invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places for Nelson Bay Road south of Marsh Road at Bobs Farm to register to be consulted.

To register your interest, please contact Toby Brown, Project Engineer, Locked Bag 2030, Newcastle NSW 2300 or email Toby.Brown@rms.nsw.gov.au. Registrations may also be made by phone on (02) 4924 0247 during business hours.

Registrations must be received by **19 December 2014**.

Roads and Maritime proposes to carry out shoulder widening and improvements to a northbound 4.2 kilometre section of Nelson Bay Road, just south of the northern end of Marsh Road at Bobs Farm.

The proposal may result in Roads and Maritime:

- Applying for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Part 6 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, and/or
- Undertaking investigations in accordance with the *Code of practice for archaeological investigations in NSW 2010*, and/or
- Undertaking an environmental impact assessment under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*.

Z00762



Members of the Working in Partnerships to Develop a Culturally Appropriate Aboriginal Tobacco Control Project Members group which won the Building in Trust through Partnerships Award and the Minister of Health Award, from left, Kerry Welsh, Darryl Wright, Ray Minniecon, Natasha McEwan and Karen Bedford.

High praise for health winners



THIS year's NSW Aboriginal Health Award winners were

praised during a recent ceremony in Sydney.

NSW Health Minister Jillian Skinner said "clever, effective initiatives" were helping to close the health gap between Aboriginal and other people.

"The determination and expertise of the award winners shines through the diversity of projects honoured, from a tobacco control project to an initiative which empowers Aboriginal women to access colposcopy and gynaecology services in rural NSW," she said.

The Working in Partnerships to Develop a Culturally Appropriate Aboriginal Tobacco Control Project was the only entrant to win twice – the Minister of Health Award and the Building Trust Through Partnerships Award.

Developed by representatives from three Aboriginal community-controlled organisations and the South West Sydney Local Health District and Sydney Local Health District, the project aims to lower smoking rates in Aboriginal communities in south-western Sydney.

"With smoking rates among adult Aboriginal people more than double those in the non-Aboriginal population, this initiative is tackling one of the key health concerns in the Aboriginal community," Mrs Skinner said.

"The project has already shown to have encouraged



Quiet Achiever Award winner Joe Miller with NSW Health Minister Jillian Skinner.



Hall of Fame inductee Sandra Bailey, left, and Gail May Award winner Nicole Turner.

71.5% of smokers to consider quitting within six months.

"This is just one of the exciting initiatives we're celebrating that promises to make a real difference to the health and wellbeing of our Aboriginal population."

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Victor Dominello said the award winners

"exemplify the dedication of Aboriginal health workers across the state".

"Thanks to the hard work and commitment demonstrated by all the winners, we are seeing real and heartening progress towards improving the health outcomes for Aboriginal people right across NSW," he said.

This year's winners

● **Building Trust through Partnerships:** Working in Partnerships to Develop a Culturally Appropriate Aboriginal Tobacco Control Project (SWSLHD and SLHD)

● **Building Evidence and Research:** The Gudaga Research Program (SWSLHD – Macarthur region, Campbelltown)

● **Integrated Planning and Delivery:** Aboriginal Specific Outpatient Alcohol Withdrawal (SLHD – for Illawarra region)

● **Aboriginal Workforce:** Aboriginal Population Health Training Initiative – NSW Ministry of Health

● **Culturally Safe Work Environments and Health Services:** Respecting the Difference: Joining of Two Spirits (Justice Health)

● **Performance Monitoring, Management and Accountability:** A Framework for Ensuring Aboriginal Health is a Priority for SWSLHD hospitals (SWSLHD)

● **Quiet Achiever:** Ian (Joe) Miller (HNELHD – Tamworth)

● **Gail May Award:** Nicole Turner – Go4Fun (HNELHD)

● **Hall of Fame:** Sandra Bailey – chief executive, Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council

● **NSW Health Secretary's Award for Aboriginal Award:** Empowering Aboriginal Women to Access Colposcopy and Gynaecology Services in Rural and Remote NSW

● **Minister of Health Award:** Working in Partnerships to Develop a Culturally Appropriate Aboriginal Tobacco Control Project (SWSLHD and SLHD)

Top grog campaigners win Menzies Medallion



TWO influential campaigners tackling alcohol-related issues affecting Aboriginal people have been recognised for their efforts with a prestigious award.

June Oscar, chief executive of the Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre at Fitzroy Crossing in Western Australia, and Dr John Boffa, chief public health medical officer at the Central Australian Aboriginal Health Congress in Alice Springs, were named as dual recipients of the Menzies Medallion during the recent Menzies Oration at Melbourne University.

Bunuba woman Ms Oscar is a champion for Indigenous languages, social justice, women's issues, and improving child health and development, with a focus on foetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

In 2008, she fought successfully for alcohol restrictions in Fitzroy Crossing.

She focusses on Aboriginal children, with a determination that communities should not compromise regarding the health of their children and families.

Dr Boffa, in his various roles in Indigenous health,



Dr John Boffa, June Oscar and Professor Alan Cass after the presentation.

has played a significant role in Aboriginal health policy, including developing the CARPA Standard Treatment Guidelines, core indicators for primary health care and addressing the broader social determinants of Aboriginal health.

He has worked on alcohol policy, especially alcohol supply reduction measures, as well as early childhood programs and services.

Menzies director Professor Alan Cass said he was delighted to present the dual medallions to two

Indigenous health advocates who had "left an indelible mark through their work".

"Both June Oscar and Dr John Boffa continue to display unwavering bravery and determination to save lives and change communities for the better," he said.

"June Oscar's steadfast commitment to address the complex problems affecting the lives of Aboriginal Australians has made her an internationally respected figure in Indigenous affairs.

"Her work in the Fitzroy

Crossing has provided a blueprint for other Indigenous communities to write their own futures.

"Over the years, Dr John Boffa has played an inspirational role in changing attitudes toward alcohol in Northern Territory communities, early learning, mental health programs and strengthening the provision of health services to Indigenous Australians."

The Menzies Medallion is the highest award offered by the Menzies School of Health Research.

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APY concerns spark action



SA

THE South Australian Government will move to appoint an administrator to the executive of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands over concerns about

its management. Aboriginal Affairs Minister Ian Hunter said the Government will seek to amend the *Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Land Rights Act 1981 (APY Act)* in response to ongoing and escalating concerns over governance and administration.

Mr Hunter said he had grown increasingly concerned about the governance of the lands, which have had seven general managers since 2010.

APY chairman Bernard Singer criticised the push to remove the board as "draconian".

Mr Hunter said the amendments were not intended to undermine the APY's right to manage its lands.

"A strong administration is necessary if the APY executive is to operate as an institution that is effective and accountable to the communities they represent," he said.

Under existing legislation, the minister can only intervene in 'special circumstances' following a direction to the executive board to take action to address a failure of a specified kind, and only if the board fails to comply with that direction.

Opposition Leader Steven Marshall has reportedly backed the amendment, which was set to be introduced to Parliament this week.

Anangu woman Denise Kenmore told the *Koori Mail* in a statement that Anangu living on the APY Lands were concerned they weren't getting proper access to executive meeting minutes.

"Anangu concerned"

"Anangu are concerned as they know nothing about the mining negotiations the APY Executive talks about in its latest media release," she said.

Ms Kenmore said a group of Elders had travelled to Adelaide to meet with Mr Hunter, but had been ignored. She called on Mr Hunter to introduce an administrator.

Mr Singer said there was no reason for the minister to change the Act.

"The minister has not even tried to exercise his current powers under the Act by giving a direction to the Executive Board," he said.

"The minister has provided no evidence of any maladministration by the board – and just because *The Australian* (newspaper) says there has been, doesn't mean there has. There has been no misuse of taxpayers' money."

Mr Singer said in a recent meeting with Mr Hunter that the minister had given no indication of his intention to introduce changes to the Act.

"The State Government has turned the clock back more than 30 years to take control of the APY Lands from Anangu," he said.

"In doing so it is betraying the legacy of (former premier) Don Dunstan, who worked so hard to give control of this country to its traditional owners.

"The APY Executive is supported by all Anangu and was democratically elected. The minister has no mandate from Anangu to make these changes.

"We call on all Members of Parliament to reject the proposed changes to the *APY Land Rights Act*."



AMA

Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship 2015

For the assistance and encouragement of Aboriginal

and/or Torres Strait Islander people studying for a medical degree at an Australian University

Applications are now sought for the Australian Medical Association (AMA) Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship for 2015. Applicants must be people of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background.

Applicants must be currently enrolled full-time at an Australian medical school and in at least their first year of medicine. Preference will be given to applicants who do not already hold any other substantial scholarship.

The Scholarship will be awarded on the recommendation of an advisory committee appointed by the AMA. The value of the Scholarship given in 2015 will be \$10,000 per annum, paid in a lump sum each year of the course.

The Scholarship will be awarded for a full course of study, subject to review at the end of each year.

Applications close 30 January 2015.

To receive further information and an application package, please contact Sandra Riley, Administration Officer, AMA on 02 6270 5452 or email sriley@ama.com.au. An application package can be downloaded from the AMA website www.ama.com.au/indigenous-peoples-medical-scholarship-2015.

The Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship Trust Fund was established in 1994 with a contribution from the Australian Government. The Trust Fund is administered by the Australian Medical Association.

The Australian Medical Association would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the Reuben Pelerman Benevolent Foundation to the Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship.

DANNY EASTWOOD'S VIEW



A Yarn With...



John McGuinness Gunditjmara (Vic) man, Melbourne

Favourite food?
I'd have to say pasta.

Favourite Drink?
Raspberry cordial.

Favourite sports team?
The Bombers! Essendon.

What are you reading?
I do a lot of reading but it's more to do with my games, Warhammer 40K. The magazine is *White Dwarf*.

What are you watching?
I love *The Big Bang Theory* and at the moment *Agents of SHIELD*.

Who would you invite for a night around a campfire?
Just my nan. I lost her a couple of years ago and I didn't get to have that last talk with her. We were very close. I have a great mum and dad, but I credit my nan with raising me.

What do you do for leisure?
I'm a real tech person and bit of a nerd. I'm straight on to my Playstation 4 and I'm joined up to all the online and gaming communities. I also write hip hop.

What's your pet hate?
I'm a pretty relaxed person. Not too much gets under my skin, but I do have an opinion on everything. The main thing for me is Australia needs to worry about looking after its own affairs and not worry about what's going on in the world. Focus on the plight of the Aboriginal people.

What would you change about Indigenous affairs?
I'm involved with the Beyond the Bars project and we go into the prisons and do a radio show for NAIDOC every year. That's where I get my sense of what's wrong in the community. There's nothing for these young ones to do and no incentives to give back to the community, so as a result our kids are turning to drugs and alcohol. I've been involved in music programs for young people and can see the difference it can make in their lives.

Quote



"They are sick of being spoken about, but not spoken to."

— WA Aboriginal MP Ben Wyatt on plans to close Aboriginal communities in Western Australia

● See page 8

Unquote

Something we can all work for

ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda's yearly report into human rights and native title doesn't pull any punches. Mr Gooda believes the past year has been one of "uncertainty and upheaval" for Indigenous people – and that was before the Western Australian and South Australian governments announced they would not service remote Aboriginal communities and have threatened to force thousands of Aboriginal people from their homelands.

Mr Gooda expresses the deep disappointment so many have in the Federal Coalition Government, who promised so much before last year's election only to have broken their word, and distilled their ideas to simplistic slogans, repeated so often they've become a mantra.

"The Coalition Government came into office promising a new era of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement," Mr Gooda writes. "It really worries me to say that, even at this early stage, we are yet to see the outcomes expected of an effective, meaningful and considered engagement strategy."

"That a radical reshaping of the Indigenous policy space could be planned and executed with little or no involvement by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, communities and organisations at almost any level is disappointing."

Engagement does not mean issuing decrees and expecting grateful subjects to fall into line. It means listening and actually taking on board what is said.

Two reports released this past fortnight, Mr Gooda's and the Overcoming



OUR SAY

Indigenous Disadvantage report, both point to a worsening of the already terrible numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the criminal justice system.

Mr Gooda points to trials of justice reinvestment that need to be extended and calls on the Government to include justice targets in the Close the Gap campaign.

There are many ideas discussed by Mr Gooda in his report; ideas that go towards encapsulating self-determination.

Another is his call to back barrister Tony McAvoy's idea for an Assembly of First Nations, as presented at this year's and last year's National Native Title conference.

"I am heartened by these developments – of nations governing themselves and also coming together as a national Assembly – because this shows Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples taking control of our destiny, and accepting responsibility for leadership and tackling the difficult issues," Mr Gooda wrote. "This is the true form of self-determination, as opposed to looking to government to provide a solution."

And surely a "true form of self-determination" is something everyone can get behind and work towards.

Koori Mail – 100% Aboriginal-owned

MARK Ella is one of the finest rugby union players Australia has produced. Indeed, he ranks with the world's best. But while rugby put him on the world stage, Ella always has had a passion for cricket, a sport which fell by the wayside as his rugby career took off. Now, at the age of 55, Ella can devote himself to cricket – this time at the helm of an organisation that seeks to create pathways for rising young players. He has just accepted the chairmanship of the Cricket NSW Indigenous Cricket Advisory Committee. The *Koori Mail* sports editor GRAHAM HUNT recently caught up with the sporting legend.

MARK Ella won 25 caps for the Australian rugby union Wallabies between 1980 and 1984 – 10 of them as captain – and was described by teammate David Campese as “the best rugby player I have ever known or seen”.

People began to take notice of the rising young player when he was the star of an Australian schoolboys team that toured Britain undefeated in 1978.

The fly-half returned to England in 1984 to mastermind the Wallabies' grand slam tour, after which he never played for his country again.

He was Young Australian of the Year in 1982 and was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1983.

In 2005 he was honoured as one of the inaugural five inductees into the Australian Rugby Union Hall of Fame.

Ten years earlier, he was inducted into the International Rugby Hall of Fame.

In 1987 he was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame.

After hanging up his boots, Ella pursued a career in media and today he is executive producer and head of sport at NITV – Australia's free-to-air Indigenous television network.

As a rugby player, he had incredible footwork and ball skills and almost psychic anticipation.

One of the famous three Ella brothers, Mark, his twin Glen and brother Gary were introduced to rugby at Matraville Sports High School, across the road from Long Bay Jail, in Sydney's south.

Within three months of leaving school, the Ellas were all playing first grade rugby for Randwick.

Mark Ella made his Test debut for Australia in the three-Test series against New Zealand in 1980. It was an historic series with Australia retaining the Bledisloe Cup with it first back-to-back win.

He was the second Indigenous Australian (behind rugby league legend Arthur Beetson) to captain a national sporting team.

Ella shocked the rugby world, when, at the age of 25, he announced his retirement. Was that a hard decision?

“No, not really,” he told the *Koori Mail*.

“I retired from rugby at a reasonably young age because I had other ambitions.

“Rugby was amateur. I wanted to get into the media and settle down. There were lots of things I wanted to do.

“I could have played on. It would have been great, but I could have walked away, say, 10 years later and still had \$10 in my pocket. I had to think about getting a job and knuckling down.

“Sport was one part of my life, but it was time to move on.”

Mark Ella grew up in a large family at La Perouse Aboriginal community.

“I came from a family of 12 kids. My twin brother Glen and I were right in the middle,” he said.

“I had four older sisters and an older brother and four younger brothers and Marcia, the youngest sister. She (Marcia) had a tough time.

“The four older sisters moved out and Marcia had to live in a household of seven or eight boys. It drove her crazy.

Gary and I say we toughed her up. We gave her hell.

“But she was a tough girl... determined.”

Marcia went on to achieve fame in her own right, becoming the first Aboriginal



Mark Ella, a legend of Australian rugby union, is turning his attention to helping young Indigenous cricketers.

Legend looks to cricket

scholarship holder at the Australian Institute of Sport and the first Aboriginal woman to represent Australia in netball.

And just like every other Indigenous boy growing up in La Perouse, the Ella boys played rugby league with the ‘La Pa’ Panthers.

“We played 12 years of rugby league,” Mark Ella said.

“No choice”

“But we became rugby (union) players because we had no choice. That was the school sport at Matraville. “But we excelled in rugby. The high school team went through two years undefeated. It had seven

or eight Indigenous kids in it.”

Cricket was another favourite pastime. Ella described himself as an “okay” cricketer – good enough to play at Sydney first grade level. “I played a lot of cricket with (Australian-players-to-be) Michael Whitney and ‘Mo’ (Greg) Matthews,” he said.

“I joined Randwick, but the atmosphere wasn’t right. I went to one training session at Randwick and that that was the end of my cricket career.

“In most sports clubs you feel part of it; you feel comfortable, but I just didn’t feel comfortable at Randwick.

“It wasn’t racism. They were just

obnoxious. I could have gone to another club and it might have been totally different.

“I was happy with my rugby career and I enjoyed playing indoor cricket – it was good fun.”

Cricket did re-enter his life after his rugby career.

“I went to a gathering where we discussed forming an Aboriginal cricket association,” Ella said.

“I walked out of the meeting as chairman.

“In 1988 we took an Indigenous team to the United Kingdom in a re-enactment of 1868 side 120 years earlier.

“I went as tour manager. I guess I got the job because of my experience with travelling, playing rugby in that part of the world.

“I played a couple of games. We had a couple of charity matches.

“(West Indies great) Clive Lloyd captained a team in a celebrity match and I played in that one.

“It was great. I also played another game against celebrities ... I remember (rocker) Jimmy Barnes and a lot of actors.

“But all the serious stuff I left to the experts. We had some good cricketers on that tour. Some of them went on to do reasonably well, but none of them reached state level.”

It was during that tour that Ella began to think about helping Indigenous cricketers rise through the ranks.

“During that 1988 tour, I had numerous discussions with Australian cricket officials, but they felt there wasn’t a need for supporting Indigenous athletes,” he said.

“That was a sign of the times.

“We all know a lot of traditional sports have taken a long time to reach out to Indigenous sportsmen and women.

“Rugby (union) took a long time. Cricket is probably the last bastion. It’s starting now, but there’s a long road ahead.

“The announcements of the past couple of days with the unveiling of Cricket Australia’s Reconciliation Action Plan and its Indigenous Cricket Strategy show that Indigenous cricket is finally being recognised.

“Other sports are beginning to do similar things and that’s good.

“We all say that Indigenous kids have natural talent, which they do.

“But they have to work hard to get to the highest level.

“In terms of natural instinct, why wouldn’t you go to Indigenous communities? Why wouldn’t sporting administrators promote their sports in Indigenous communities?

“Aussie rules is the best at this, without doubt. They do their best to look after their Indigenous players. The NRL is following behind, but the AFL has been doing it for 20, 30 or 40 years.

“The AFL has to put a lot more work into the young players they attract because many of them come from very remote communities, and making sure these kids get the culture that’s appropriate is so important.”

Mark Ella says that as head of NITV sport, he tries to give Indigenous sport the coverage it deserves.

“We try our best, but we’ve got limited budgets. That’s the problem. It has been restricting,” he said. “Some of it can attract sponsorship. But it all comes at a cost.

“What we try to do is to provide a balance, covering major sporting events and other sports that are relevant to the different parts of Australia.

“We’re part of SBS. There will be some cuts, but our budget overall is small – so minute compared with the ABC and SBS budgets.

“Having NITV go free-to-air was the best thing that could have happened. We now can be seen everywhere around the country for free.”

Away from sport, Ella would like to see equality for all. “Education is the key to that,” he said. “The easiest way to improve our lives is to get education. From that grows self-sufficiency and then leaders start to emerge.

“Education is always the priority – always has been and always will be.”



Kimberley country: Palm Spring, near Halls Creek. Picture: AGWA 2014



Artist and Desert River Sea emerging leader participant Ben Ward talks about his life and arts practice at Waringarri Aboriginal Arts in Kununurra. Picture: AGWA 2014



A Wandjina (cloud or rain spirit) painted about 1972-1974 by Alec Mingelmanganu, from Kalumburu.

Desert River Sea...



River Sea: Kimberley Art Then & Now project.

The Aboriginal people of the Kimberley can identify as desert people, freshwater people or saltwater people, and the stories and artworks portrayed on the website reflect this diversity. The website will display works by Aboriginal artists of the Kimberley that form part of the gallery's State Collection.

These works will be with the work of emerging and established

Kimberley artists and art centres, providing an overview into historic and current visual arts in the region.

The Desert River Sea team travelled widely to gather images and footage, most recently spending two weeks exploring the spectacular East Kimberley region with the Film Television Institute's Indigenous Community Stories to map and record Aboriginal art practices.

As well as being a place of digital record and a tool for research, desertriversea.com.au will also act as a cultural tourism resource for those planning travel through the Kimberley region.

The project was supported through a \$1.8 million, six-year partnership with Rio Tinto.



Carved pole public artwork sculptures by Waringarri artists at Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Centre in Kununurra. Picture: AGWA 2014



Kirriwirri 2007, by Daniel Walbidi from Bidyadanga. Purchased through the Leah Jane Cohen Bequest, Art Gallery of WA Foundation, 2009.



A pearl shell and ochre pubic ornament by Butcher Joe Nangan, from Broome, is part of desertriversea.com.au



The Indigenous Community Stories crew preparing to film artist Phyllis Ningarmara with her artwork at Waringarri Aboriginal Arts in Kununurra. Picture: AGWA 2014



On page 24, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service executive officer Eddie Cubillo warns on planned cuts to legal services.

Smell of the white man is killing us...

RECENTLY, the Premier of Western Australia, Colin Barnett, committed to closing about 150 remote Aboriginal communities in WA. The Premier has claimed that the closures would be in the best interest of Aboriginal people in that state. He has followed the old uninformed line that demonises Aboriginal men by insinuating that Aboriginal women and children are under great threat by the men in the communities.

This is all bought on by the Abbott Government's withdrawal of funding for countless Aboriginal issues, including Aboriginal communities.

A small amount of the revenue from the mining sector alone would cover the cost of this and other improvements. It is only fair to share in the richness of the land with the idea of equality in the treatment of Aboriginal people. After all, Aboriginal people are the traditional 'owners' of the land and waterways that hold all of the precious resources that made Australia a rich and wealthy country in the modern world.

We must remember that Aboriginal people belong to the oldest continuing culture on the planet. Aboriginal people were slaughtered, enslaved, raped, pillaged and plundered by the British colonisers. Surely in this day and age, we must listen to them and take and act seriously on Aboriginal people's concerns.

Instead, Barnett and (Prime Minister Tony) Abbott are hellbent on destroying the Aboriginal race, however well-meaning their intentions are.

When will this madness stop?

It is as though Aboriginal people have no human rights to sustain Aboriginal culture – to protect and preserve our sacred sites that include the sacred lands and waterways that are left over from the destruction and desecration of the past 200 years since the invading colonisers came.

Many non-Aboriginal people, and some Aboriginal people, keep making the same point over and over. They say that the answer is 'education' of Aboriginal people.

Perhaps they are right, however they mean non-Aboriginal 'education' so that Aboriginal people can live in the white man's world by the white man's laws.

But if we are to be fair and equal, then there must also be 'education' of Aboriginal lore customs and traditions for Aboriginal people and equal time to study and learn



WA Premier Colin Barnett

both cultures' education systems.

Aboriginal people must be compensated as is the right and proper thing to do for a peoples who have been wrongly dispossessed of their land, culture and all of their belongings. This is the least that can be done, instead of dragging a peoples into a future that offers only death and destruction of them and their culture.

How cruel and inhuman is it to force Aboriginal people from their sacred lands and waterways only to end up at the colonisers' rubbish tip or outside the bottle shop at the hands of unscrupulous people with evil intentions of abuse? And if that is not enough, then Aboriginal people will be caught by the authorities and imprisoned where they will more than likely never make it out alive.

The fact is that Australia has the highest incarceration rate and the highest suicide rate of indigenous peoples on the planet. After all, many of us are forced into this position by alcohol, drugs, prostitution and other evils introduced by you, the colonisers.

This is the reality of Aboriginal people in WA – no hope, no future and the reality is that Aboriginal people are never listened to and our thoughts are never acted upon. Not even the so-called free and open media will help us any more. We are left to the genocidal

politicians to devour our corpses.

Non-Aboriginal Australia only wants to hear what makes them feel good, like they belong in the sacred lands and waterways of our Aboriginal ancestors. Non-Aboriginal people only want to hear solutions that make them feel comfortable. Non-Aboriginal people only want to hear what makes them feel like they have accomplished making a fair and open society on the back of British colonisation.

Non-Aboriginal people believe that Aboriginal people are as lucky as them, if not luckier, because Aboriginal people were colonised by the British and not others such as the Spanish, Portuguese or the Dutch or French. The truth is that the British Empire colonisers were just as brutal, if not more brutal, than others in some cases.

Australia just refuses to look back at the atrocities of the past and acknowledge the rape, pillage and plunder by the British empire upon the Aboriginal nations of this continent and surrounding islands.

Why have we never been treated as equals and why have you, the colonisers, not shared with us so that we may have all prospered on the sacred lands and waterways that have belonged to Aboriginal peoples and our ancestors since the beginning of time?

Why are you so greedy that you will direct us all to a future of poisoned land and waterways that will not sustain us all into the future?

Aboriginal ancestors installed in us the way to protect and preserve our environment for future generations.

Why do you have a society that is selfish and is built on lies and dishonest explanations of the past? Why does your culture give a few much wealth and many little or nothing?

Nyungah Warrior Yagan once said: "You came to our country; you have driven us from our haunts and disturbed us in our occupations as we walk on our own country. We are fired upon by the white man. Why should the white man treat us so?"

It was once said by the old people: "Jangga Meenya Bomunggur" – the smell of the white man is killing us.

Perhaps they mean Premier Barnett and Prime Minister Abbott.

IVA HAYWARD-JACKSON
Nyungah Land and Culture Protector
Western Australia

POETRY

Because you didn't ask

We want to move forward

We don't want to move forward alone

We want to be in the now – in the future

We want to be everything we can be

We want to be accepted

We want to be respected

We want to be included

We want to share

We want to care

We want to be included in history

We want to be included in the future

We want to take our place in the world's history

We want to take our history into the future

We want you to recognise us

We want you to know us

We don't want you to separate us

We want all Australian history included in ours

We want our history to catch up with modern law

We want our inheritance of origin acknowledged

We want to move forward

We want to move now

We don't want to move forward alone

We want to move with you

We want you to take your place in our society

We want to respect you

We want to forgive you

We want us to be in the future together

We want our differences

We respect your differences

You want what we have

We want what you have

Why?

Because You Didn't Ask.

SHANE T HENDRY
Wollongbar, 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.

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

Even if sent via email, all letters and

poems must be accompanied by the author's full name, home town/city and state/territory, and a contact number so we can verify content. After that, we're happy to withhold names and addresses upon request.

We will publish 'Looking For' letters as long as they do not breach the privacy of individuals mentioned.

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

– EDITOR



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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.

Took me away

Who were my people,
where was I from?
These questions
remained for long.
Pieced together at
last, half a century
has passed.

Placed with strangers,
I grew up alone
All the lies I was told,
now they've been
solved.
What rights did they
have, what could they
do?
My family, my
granddad, his mother
too.

No words could they

say, they were
helpless that day.
As my history will say,
on that dark day.
I was a baby when
they took me away.

The years it has
taken, it's been far too
long.
All my family, my
Elders who knew
them are gone.
I've grown up without
knowledge, no place
of country
Their tears that were
flowing, it was terribly
wrong.

And their love which

was taken from me.
I feel pain and loss,
for all who are
gone.
I was left in a place
where I didn't belong.
I shed many tears
when I think of that
day.
Wondering why were
we treated that way?

As my history will say,
that on that dark day.
I was a baby when
they took me away.

**HELEN
ROBERSTON
Wailwan nation
(western NSW)**

Collective humanity

A Mandayan* man
I proudly stand
inhaling the sunrise
on sacred sand

The ocean breeze
through towering trees
feeling connected
feeling free

My Mandayan elders
guide and protect
forever present
instilling respect

An Irish man
I proudly stand
accepting the sunset
bare feet on the land

The golden water



and apricot clouds
amidst such beauty
imagination abounds

My Irish ancestors
stand by my side
fuelling the fire

instilling much pride

A silent man
I sit on the sand
watching the moon rise
trying to understand

The conceptions of
identity
the judgments that are
made
the dark shadow of
expectation
that never seems to fade

Beneath all this
confusion
there's one saving grace
our collective humanity
is what we all must
embrace.

**The Mandaya is an
Indigenous tribe from
the Philippines.*

**JONATHAN HILL
Old Erowal Bay, NSW**

Legal cuts a threat

THE overrepresentation of
Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander peoples in all
markers of socioeconomic
disadvantage, and in all stages
of the criminal justice system,
is one of Australia's most
significant issues.

It is scandalous that while
Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander people comprise 3% of
the Australian population, we
account for more than 25% of the
prison population and we are also
nearly eight times more likely to
be taken into police custody than
non-Indigenous people;

Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander offenders tend to have
contact with the criminal justice
system at younger ages than their
non-Indigenous counterparts and
in a higher proportion, with
Indigenous juveniles 25-28 times
more likely to be detained in the
juvenile justice system than other
young people. Over-imprisonment
also has a disproportionate impact
on Indigenous women.

This level of disadvantage,
combined with an inevitable
reduction in services due to cuts
to our national Budget, will place
critical pressures on Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Legal
Services' (ATSILS) ability to
deliver services to their clients.

On September 5 last year,
provided in the Coalition's
pre-election costings was a cut of
\$42 million to the Indigenous
Policy Reform Program. This
program provides funding to
ATSILS across Australia and their
peak body, the National Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Legal
Services (NATSILS).

On December 17, Federal
Treasurer Joe Hockey announced,
in the Mid-Year Economic and
Fiscal Outlook, that \$43.1 million
was to be cut across the broader
legal assistance sector over the
next four financial years.

This change was made
contrary to the many submissions
and arguments made by
NATSILS, individual ATSILS and
others in the legal sector, as well
as other peak Indigenous and
non-Indigenous organisations.

The Federal Attorney-
General's Department has since

confirmed that \$13.41 million will
be cut from the Indigenous Legal
Aid and Policy Reform Program in
the 2013-14 and the 2016-17
financial years. The Federal
Government has stated that these
cuts are aimed at defunding law
reform and advocacy activities.

The interaction between
funding for criminal law, civil and
family law services is particularly
complicated within the ATSILS, as
relevant funding agreements with
the Federal Attorney-General's
Department require ATSILS to
prioritise service delivery to assist
those at risk of going to jail.

But it is not the case that the
fiscal resources 'left over' after
criminal law services are then
simply allocated towards the
provision of civil and family law
services.

If this was the case, given the
level of demand for criminal law
services, it could be argued that
ATSILS do not have any
resources to spare for the
provision of other civil and family
legal services.

With the high level of need for
civil and family law services, and
recognising how unresolved civil
and family issues can escalate to
criminal matters, ATSILS directs a
limited amount of resources
towards these areas.

Despite ATSILS' best efforts,
there are simply insufficient
resources to cover this demand.

The convergence of chronic
underfunding and a high level of
unmet legal need amongst
Indigenous communities places
ATSILS in an untenable position,
where funding for services in
different areas of law competes for
priority, forcing ATSILS to make
difficult compromises between
different legal services that
ultimately affect people's access
to justice.

Recognition of the
overwhelming levels of unmet
needs amongst Indigenous
peoples is also increasing.

But without law reform and
community legal education
programs, systemic issues are not
identified and addressed. People
are ultimately not being
encouraged or assisted to resolve
disputes at an early stage where



Comment

Eddie Cubillo

the costs to the system are low.

Governments frequently reach
out to NATSILS and individual
ATSILS for professional and
specialised advice that inform and
assist in the development of laws,
policies and programs.

We respond to such requests
with evidence-based information
and advice that reflects on-the-
ground realities within the justice
sector more broadly. Law reform
and advocacy, therefore, is an
essential part of the role we play,
as we identify opportunities where
governments can more efficiently
address systemic issues, rather
than dealing with a more costly
case-by-case basis.

Rather than allocating full-time
staff to focus solely on law reform
and advocacy, these activities are
undertaken within ATSILS by a
range of staff (community legal
education lawyers, solicitors,
managers and principal legal
officers) in addition to their main
roles. For this reason,
implementing the announced
funding cuts cannot simply be
done by removing dedicated law
reform and advocacy positions.

The announced funding cuts

also include the complete
defunding of NATSILS, which will
leave ATSILS without a
mechanism to coordinate
themselves and share best
practice nationally.

In return for a relatively small
investment, NATSILS builds on
the more substantial investment
by the Government in ATSILS to
ensure that services across the
country are efficient, effective and
coordinated.

The critical aspect of ATSILS
service delivery that sets us apart
from other legal assistance
services is our focus on, and
ability to provide, culturally
competent services to Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander clients.

Cultural competency is
essential for effective
engagement, communication, and
the attainment of successful
outcomes.

As community-controlled
organisations with Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander cultural
needs at their core, ATSILS use a
culturally competent service
model.

Mainstream organisations that
have cultural liaison mechanisms
built into their organisations might
still not be sufficiently culturally
competent.

While clients may recognise
that they have a problem, often
they do not understand which
area of law applies.

Even with limited funding, each
ATSILS is able to act as a 'one-
stop-shop' for clients, with
different solicitors responding to
each problem and coordinating an
approach to prioritise their legal
issues. This is extremely important
because Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander peoples are less
likely than mainstream clients to
follow through with referrals,
especially to mainstream
organisations or organisations
which they are unfamiliar with.

ATSILS also are flexible in
terms of cultural considerations,
being less rigid with clients about
meeting appointment times and
being aware of communication
protocols.

As well as the need for
increased investment in civil and
family law services, an increase in

the ability of ATSILS to extend the
reach of Community Legal
Education (CLE) programs is of
particular importance. This is
because there is evidence of low
levels of awareness and
understanding about civil and
family law rights within Indigenous
communities.

CLE therefore plays a key role
in prevention and early
intervention of legal problems, as
it provides people with the
necessary information and skills to
prevent the development of civil
and family law issues.

It is disappointing to witness
the systemic discrimination that is
rampant in the justice system.
This is evident through the
statistics, but also is told through
the tragic individual stories of
Aboriginal people who have been
caught in the system.

Rather than accept the tired
claim that more Aboriginal people
are in the criminal justice system
because more of us commit
crimes, there needs to be
recognition that crime often is the
consequence of past and present
policies. We are not inherently
more criminal.

The irony is that this Australian
Government, which has
advocated for its own version of
'freedom of speech' through its
attempt to amend the *Racial
Discrimination Act 1975 (Cth)*, at
the same time is cutting funds to
ATSILS and others in the legal
sector with the intention of
ceasing our law reform and
advocacy work.

But these cuts will do more, as
they will affect frontline services
and deny Indigenous people the
legal advice and representation
they desperately need to deal
with serious criminal law, family
law, discrimination and tenancy
legal issues.

*Eddie Cubillo is of Arrente,
Larrakia and Wadjigam descent
and is the executive officer of the
National Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander Legal Service
(NATSILS). This is an edited
version of a piece that was
originally published in the
Indigenous Law Bulletin. To read it
in full go to www.ilc.unsw.edu.au*



Rockhampton woman Amarina Smith, 18, visited the World Trade Organisation in Geneva, Switzerland, as part of a Global Voices youth delegation.

Trip opens many doors for Amarina

By MEZ FISHER



AT just 18, Griffith University student Amarina Smith looks well on her way to realising her dream of working for an international agency where she can help create positive change in the world.

Ms Smith has just returned from Geneva, Switzerland, where she was part of the Global Voices' youth delegation to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Public Forum.

The Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Government and International Relations student was one of six young people – and the only Indigenous participant – from Australia to be selected for the program.

The trip included private meetings with WTO chiefs including deputy director general David Shark and head of Intellectual property Antony Taubman.

"It was an amazing opportunity, and to be offered it so early is incredible," Ms Smith said. "It's opened up a lot of doors for me, which is great."

As part of the program, Ms Smith had to produce a research paper, which she wrote on the topic of Indigenous intellectual property rights. She's also had her opinion piece on the subject published in *New Internationalist*, exploring issues around mass production of the didgeridoo, homogenisation of Australia's 400-odd Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups, and the lateral violence that can affect economic and trade negotiations.

"In order for Indigenous peoples to overcome the significant inequalities that currently exist, entrepreneurship and innovation must be encouraged and promoted," Ms Smith wrote.

"In light of this, the protection of Indigenous traditional knowledge and cultural heritage should be a priority."

Ms Smith said the didgeridoo has become synonymous with all of Indigenous

Australia, when it is in fact traditionally recognised as belonging to Arnhem Land people, in particular the Yolngu.

"To them, the didgeridoo holds significant spiritual and cultural importance," she said. "However, the mass-production of the instrument in China, as well as the assignment of didgeridoos to mass tourism and marketing campaigns, in addition to many Indigenous events, completely overlooks such significance."

Ms Smith said the Geneva trip had sparked an interest in exploring intellectual property law as a career, as well as human rights law.

"I had never really done any work into it until I did the research paper," she said.

"Some of it is very interesting and there's a lot of scope for further research into it. Being a law student and looking at that aspect of it was fascinating."

High-profile people

Before departing for Switzerland, Ms Smith and the other young delegates visited Canberra for a three-day program where they met Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove, Prime Minister Tony Abbott, and other politicians.

"It was such an awesome opportunity to be able to meet with such high-profile people and the fact they gave us their time was amazing," Ms Smith said, although she would only divulge that they discussed "current affairs" with the PM as they'd been told not to share what he said.

Ms Smith credits her family for instilling her with a great love of education.

"My mother is a teacher and that's helped me a lot in valuing education and really seeing value in learning, and loving learning, which has been a huge part in getting me to where I am today," she said.

She's never viewed herself as disadvantaged, but hopes to inspire other young Indigenous people to reach for their dreams.



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Wimmera Uniting Care chief executive Barrie Elvish, Aunty Nancy Harrison, baby Shilo Hurley and her mother Shae-Ann Harrison at the Welcome Baby to Country ceremony. Picture: Alinta Cruz



Great start for Wimmera babies



DELKAIA Aboriginal Best Start and Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative in Wimmera, Victoria, believe it's never too early to introduce children to culture. That's why they run programs for families and communities designed to help provide the best possible outcomes for early childhood, starting with pregnancy. "The Welcome Baby to Country ceremonies facilitate a positive and

inspiring engagement of traditional land owners and the broader Aboriginal community to celebrate the birth of Indigenous babies in the Wimmera-Mallee," Delkaia Best Start programs facilitator Tracey Rigney said. "The ceremonies focus attention on children's needs and achievements and acknowledge the role of parents, carers and families in their growth and development." About 60 people attended the most

recent Welcome Baby to Country ceremony, held at Horsham 298 Primary School. "On the day we had 16 families participate with a total of 26 children. It was a really positive day and we had a fantastic team of services come together to be involved," Ms Rigney said. "The project has also been successful in increasing the engagement of relevant support services with Indigenous parents, carers and families and in providing an

opportunity to supply information, resources and assistance for children's needs including health and wellbeing issues." Ms Rigney said all Aboriginal Best Start sites in Victoria had adopted the Welcome Baby to Country model following the success of the project in Wimmera. For more information, contact Ms Rigney at Delkaia Aboriginal Best Start at Wimmera UnitingCare on (03) 5362 4000.

More choice of accountants



SMALL and medium-sized Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations will have a greater choice of auditors following changes to regulations announced by Registrar of Indigenous Corporations Anthony Beven.

Members and fellows of the Institute of Public Accountants (IPA) can now be used to audit the financial reports of corporations operating under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Regulations 2007 (CATSI Regulations).

The corporations have a requirement under the CATSI regulations to have their financial statements audited, but previously the regulations did not include IPA members on its list of accounting professionals that can be used.

The amendment will bring the CATSI regulations into line with other Commonwealth legislation

that recognises the IPA.

"The regulation will increase the pool of eligible and qualified accountants who can audit the financial reports of these small and medium-sized corporations," Mr Beven said.

"It provides corporations with greater choice for auditing services, particularly in remote and regional areas, and should lead to reduced auditing costs."

IPA chief executive Andrew Conway welcomed the announcement.

"The IPA fully supports the changes the Government has made to the CATSI regulations," he said.

"Our members can now provide important auditing services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations covered by these changes."

More information is available from the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments at <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01466>

Maureen is a real achiever



Maureen Angus and WA Seniors and Volunteering Minister Tony Simpson.



MAUREEN Angus, a 62-year-old Bardi Jawi woman from Ardyaloon, has been named

Western Australia's highest achieving senior at the WA Seniors Awards.

As a senior cared for by her family and with regular visits from the Kimberley Aged and Community Services, Ms Angus considered herself lucky. But she knew other seniors weren't so fortunate, so she helped establish the first community care service in her Kimberley community.

Today, the Ardyaloon Community Care Service supports local seniors by

helping them with organised care, transport, shopping, cleaning and paying bills.

The service has enabled seniors to stay at home rather than move to residential care and has boosted social participation and reduced isolation among seniors.

WA Seniors and Volunteering Minister Tony Simpson said Ms Angus was a tireless advocate for the remote Kimberley centre's older people.

Presenting Ms Angus with the 2014 Juniper WA Seniors Champion Award, Mr Simpson said her determination had a lasting impact on the small Aboriginal community, beyond the establishment of a care service.

ICaN workers on the job



The ICaN group on the project site near Dubbo.



INDIGENOUS workers with Central West Local Land Services have joined forces with a Dubbo farmer to improve the biodiversity of his farm and adjoining river areas.

As part of a work for the dole program, Indigenous Concepts and

Networking (ICaN) Group members have fenced the Macquarie River on the property, 25km south of Dubbo, to prevent erosion and to enable replanting of native vegetation.

ICaN's James Riley said participants are learning important environmental and job-seeking skills.

"What we're trying to teach is not

just the practical side of getting a job, such as writing a resume, but also how to interact with others," Mr Riley said.

"It is about being able to communicate with different people on different levels, from government to landholders to our own mob as well."

Mr Riley said the project was an

opportunity for participants to help rehabilitate a river site.

"I think it's something that a lot of Aboriginal people hold pretty close to their heart," he said.

"We don't often get a chance in the work we do to get out on country. It gives us an opportunity to do something important."

Gala will help Bond students



THIS year's Bond University Indigenous Gala raised \$277,000 in scholarship funds for Indigenous

students. The event, on the Gold Coast, was a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and featured the original members of *The Sapphires* Lois Peeler and Laurel Robinson as guest speakers.

Ms Peeler and Ms Robinson spoke about their experiences growing up in Australia at a time when university entrance was a rarity for Indigenous students.

They told of their time as Yorta Yorta (Victoria) singers, made famous in the movie *The Sapphires*, who travelled to Vietnam to entertain the troops during the war in that Asian country.

Gala organiser and Bond University pro vice chancellor Catherine O'Sullivan said the event highlighted the importance of ensuring



At the gala, from left, Bond University pro vice chancellor Catherine O'Sullivan, Worawa Aboriginal College principal and former *Sapphire* Lois Peeler, Bond University chancellor Helen Nugent, Indigenous Community Excellence scholar Alisha Geary and former *Sapphire* Laurel Robinson.

Indigenous young people are provided with life-changing higher education opportunities.

"Despite the inroads made in recent years, a significant gap remains between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians' higher education outcomes, and currently Indigenous students

make up just 1.4% of enrolments at Australian universities," she said.

"Our Bond scholarship program not only creates opportunities for Indigenous students to gain a university qualification, but also the leadership skills, confidence and support they need to

drive generational change."

Last year's recipient of the Bond University Indigenous Community Excellence Scholar, Alisha Geary, was MC at the gala and spoke of the positive impact the scholarship had on her life and studies.

"I am the first person in my family to attend university, so receiving the Indigenous Scholarship to study at Bond University really changed my life," she said.

"Having grown up between Cairns and the Torres Strait Islands, coming to Bond on the Gold Coast was such a significant and exciting change for me.

"I have made so many international friends with such diverse cultural backgrounds that I wouldn't have had the opportunity to meet elsewhere."

"I am currently in my second year of a Bachelor of Laws, and would ideally love to be either a native title, constitutional, environmental or human rights lawyer at the completion of my studies."

New bores in Utopia homelands



THE Northern Territory Government says the completion of new bores in the Utopia Homelands of central Australia will ensure a long-term water supply for residents who have been relying on water being shipped in for the past 12 months.

NT Community Services Minister Bess Price said investigating options for bores at Amengerterneah and Pungalindum was a process that needed to be done correctly to ensure there was a reliable water supply into the future. "The failed bore at Amengerterneah was 30 years old and collapsed because of corrosion and poor construction, rather than water availability," she said.

"While water was being trucked in regularly by the Barkly Regional Council, this was not sustainable long-term."

The new bore was built using a stainless steel casing and included other recommendations by a hydro-geologist to avoid another collapse.

"A second bore was drilled nearby, pump-tested and capped in order to ensure water security into the future," Mrs Price said.

While the drill rig was in the region, a bore was also drilled at the Pungalindum outstation, which had been without a sustainable water supply for almost 12 months.

"This worked in the short-term, however there needed to be a long-term fix," Mrs Price said. "Anyone who has lived in a desert region will appreciate the importance of consistent, long-term access to water."

Nuclear dump rejected



A RECENT Central Land Council (CLC) meeting at Alpururulam concluded without the nomination of a site for a nuclear waste management facility. The CLC organised a meeting with traditional owners from the Tanami region, neighbouring land owners and government representatives at the Tanami Mine, north-west of Yuendumu. Traditional owners expressed their

dissatisfaction with the Federal Government's nomination process for the proposed waste management facility and with the lack of detailed information on the site, including the transportation of the waste and the Government's compensation offer. CLC director Davis Ross said that in accordance with the *National Radioactive Waste Management Act 2012*, traditional owners are expected to volunteer a site without knowing all the information.

"Yet once a site is nominated they cannot change their mind when they find out the full story," he said. "Given that a nuclear waste dump is forever, it's just not fair to ask people to make this decision without a comprehensive proposal."

Traditional owners were first contacted in August of this year by the NT Chief Minister's office regarding nominating a site on their country. During public consultations in Lajamanu, residents and traditional

owners of the proposed site expressed strong opposition to a nuclear waste facility in the Tanami.

"We have told the Government since 2005 that its process and the legislation were incompatible with the principle of prior informed consent. No one does business on this basis," Mr Ross said.

As a result of the meeting, Industry Minister Ian Macfarlane's requirement of a site "free from dispute" cannot be met.

- TOURING EXHIBITION - INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS AT WAR

This touring exhibition will be in Batchelor for 6 weeks commencing 23 May 2015.

To ensure local content, we are currently seeking advice regarding local Indigenous people who served in any war from the Boer War onwards.

Please advise names and any details to admin@batchelormuseum.org.au or phone 08 8976 7006 and leave contact details.

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QUIT for New Life Program - Now Available

Quit for new life program is available to all Aboriginal pregnant women and non-Aboriginal women having an Aboriginal baby, who smoke and attend the antenatal clinics at Nepean Hospital.

The program supports the pregnant mothers, their partners and other household members to quit smoking.

Through Quit for new life, the mother, partner and household members can receive:

- Free Nicotine Replacement Therapy, eg patches, lozenges (if appropriate) for up to 12 weeks.
- Support from a Smoking Care Advisor.
- A referral to Quitline for telephone support with quitting.

The program is also available through the Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health Services (Wel-leng-lie) and Building Strong Foundations (Mudang Mudjin) which operate in the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District.

To find out more and enrol in the program, speak to your midwife or contact your local Smoking Care Advisor (Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District clients): Tel: 0437 583 505.



The Aurukun wetlands feature in the region's new tourism strategy.

Aurukun has plan to draw in tourists



A NEW tourism strategy is designed to attract more visitors to Aurukun on the Cape York Peninsula. Although Cape York as a whole receives about 70,000 holiday visitors a year, there are currently few tourism opportunities in Aurukun.

But Aurukun Mayor Dereck Walpo said that may well change with the proposed sealing of the road to Weipa and the council is keen to maximise the community's tourism potential.

"Aurukun has historically had limited engagement with the tourism industry, and,

apart from fishing charters, there is very little on offer," he said.

"We've also had impediments such as poor road access for tourists, especially 'grey-nomad' visitors.

"However, we're determined to explore the potential of what our wonderful region can offer tourists visiting Cape York."

The council recently commissioned the Aurukun Tourism Strategy and Implementation Plan to identify the untapped potential of the region.

"We want to create a set of compelling tourism products to give our town an even stronger destination appeal,"

Cr Walpo said. The economic outcomes of increased tourism will be very beneficial for our community."

Cr Walpo said the strategy had identified a sample itinerary for a day tour to Aurukun from Weipa, including a boat tour of the inlet, a tour of the Wik and Kugu Arts Centre (with weaving demonstration), and a traditional cultural activity.

He said a similar itinerary could work for a multi-day Cape York safari tour, which could include camping on Aurukun trust lands in conjunction with traditional owners, and a day tour and activities in Aurukun before returning to Weipa.

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Concern over uranium plan



A RECENT protest by traditional owners and conservation groups at the Toro Energy annual general meeting in Perth failed to lead to assurances that the Wiluna uranium proposal won't go ahead.

Traditional owners said they were concerned that the process of gaining permission for the planned uranium mine had been causing rifts in the community.

"I said my bit about the significance of the site and how it was too close to our Dingo Dreaming but they said they had permission to go ahead," Ngaanyatjarra Elder and co-chair of the Australia

Nuclear Free Alliance Glen Cooke said.

"I told them the Toro Wiluna uranium proposal is too close to our community and unwanted in our region.

"They can't just build a wall around us with a uranium mine. It's becoming a problem for a number of communities whose residents all get their water from the same source, the West Creek."

Focus of opposition

The Toro Energy project remains the focus of environmental opposition, with concerns for two lake systems in the desert ecosystem, important groundwater resources and the health of neighbouring communities.

"The Government has said it is ready to go for uranium mining, but they can't mine in that place because it's Tjukurrpa (Dreaming) country," Mr Cooke said.

Mr Cooke, who attended the annual meeting, has previously formally opposed the proposed mine which he says is on his children's country and a regionally significant cultural site.

"We are concerned about the future generations, about the water and about the Dingo Dreaming," he said.

"Toro's planned mine is right on the songline. If this mine goes ahead it will destroy that songline and affect people right across the Western Desert."

Artists sought to help make Qld memorial



THE Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dedicated Memorial Committee in Queensland has called for artists to help create a memorial for

Indigenous service men and women in Anzac Square, Brisbane.

The committee wants "an artist who is capable of producing a signature artwork that in 100 years will remain representative of our contemporary era and culture".

Professional practising Indigenous artists are invited to provide written proposals about their design. The memorial concept must include symbolism and be representative of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. In addition it must represent the Royal Australian Navy, Army and Royal Australian Air Force.

Applications close on Friday, February 27. For more information on selection and tender criteria, contact Dr Dale Kerwin (07) 3735 5884, d.kerwin@griffith.edu.au

Applications open for City advisory panel



THE City of Sydney council is seeking applicants for its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory

Panel to provide advice and information on policies and projects.

The panel was established in 2008 and provides advice on ways the council can respond to the needs of Indigenous people in its area.

One key project is the Eora Journey, aimed at building cultural and financial sustainability for the Aboriginal community.

"To be able to assist the City of Sydney implement the Eora Journey and lift the visibility of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture has been very rewarding. Being on the panel is a great way to give back to the local community and I strongly encourage you to consider applying," Wiradjuri man Lachlan McDaniel, who served as co-chair of the panel from 2013 to 2014, said.

The panel also helped advise on the *Barani/Barrabugu Information and Guide Book* about a range of significant cultural heritage sites across the city.

Information and applications are available on the city's website – www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Monitoring is working: Audit



CLOSE monitoring of Western Australia mine operators means they are now better at meeting environmental and Aboriginal heritage

conditions, a report has found. Auditor-General Colin Murphy said his follow-up audit on compliance with mining conditions found significant improvements across agencies in response to the findings in his 2011 report.

Mr Murphy said the introduction of the Mining Rehabilitation Fund meant operators were more closely monitored to check they were meeting environmental and Aboriginal heritage conditions. – AAP

Tenants invited to join scheme



PUBLIC housing tenants are being invited to sign up for the Northern Territory's new remote home ownership scheme, with information sessions being held in many centres.

The communities of Wurrumiyanga on Bathurst Island, Milikapiti on Melville Island, Angurugu and Umbakumba on Groote Eylandt and Milyakburra on Bickerton Island recently received advice about the program.

Senior traditional owner Bernard Tipoloura, who attended an information session, said he was interested in buying his home in Wurrumiyanga on the Tiwi Islands.

"We've always wanted to buy a home, my wife and I," he said.

"We want to do things and set a good example for my people. I want to renovate and put in solar energy, modify the building, and add a veranda to welcome people. I would like to have something for our grandchildren.

"I've got a granddaughter who stays with us and I keep telling her about how important home is. I think people are more proud when it's their own house."

\$4.5 million

NT Housing Minister Matt Conlan said \$4.5 million has been set aside over the next three years for the program. Up to half the Territory's remote housing stock could be made available for sale to tenants who want to buy their home in communities with long-term leases.

"Clearly, there is a strong appetite for home ownership in our remote communities which is encouraging to see," Mr Conlan said.

The price of properties will be determined through an independent evaluation and it is expected that most homes will be in the \$50,000 to \$150,000 range.

The NT Government has employed case managers to help applicants with the process of



Senior traditional owner Bernard Tipoloura and his wife Lynette at the Wurrumiyanga remote home ownership information session. "We want to do things and set a good example for my people. I want to renovate and put in solar energy, modify the building, and add a veranda to welcome people. I would like to have something for our grandchildren," Mr Tipoloura said.

buying their own home. Once successful, they will then complete a home-owner training program through Indigenous Business Australia (IBA).

IBA will provide the loan products and services under the program, including insurance

for the first 12 months.

Once the sale is complete, the new owners will be supported with a special incentive grant of \$20,000 to help them upgrade and maintain their home. It is expected the first homes will be ready for sale

towards the end of the year.

For more information and expressions of interest forms, contact the Department of Housing on (08) 8999 5069, local housing offices, or visit www.housing.nt.gov.au/remotehousing

NEW SERIES



Join Jub Clerc in the new series Mugu Kids, a fun-filled and educational adventure around Australia every weekday at 8am and 2.30pm on NITV

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Pastor Ossie Cruse, with his award, and Museums and Galleries NSW chair Oliver Frankel. *Picture: Mimi Kelly*

Ossie Cruse's contribution to culture wins recognition



EDEN-based Aboriginal leader Pastor Ossie Cruse received special recognition at the recent IMAGinE awards for his contribution to preserving Indigenous culture.

Uncle Ossie who, since the 1960s, has been actively involved with Aboriginal affairs at local, state, national and international levels through the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, picked up the award for Lifetime Contribution to Aboriginal Culture in NSW.

Along with his service for the Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council, Uncle Ossie helped establish and build the Monaroo Bobberrr Gudu Cultural Heritage Keeping Place.

The keeping place is the gateway to the Bundian Way, the first Aboriginal pathway to be listed on the NSW State Heritage Register.

The IMAGinE industry awards recognise innovation and excellence in 500 museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural centres across NSW.

Quandamooka seek native title



THE traditional owners of Queensland's Moreton Bay region, the Quandamooka people, have lodged a claim in the Federal Court for a native title determination on parts of Mulgumpin (Moreton Island).

Mulgumpin, which means place of sand hills, is the third largest sand island in the world. A naturally formed island just off Brisbane, it covers more than 19,000 hectares and is surrounded by the Moreton Bay Marine Park.

More than 90% of the island is national park. It is also home to Tangalooma Wild Dolphin resort and is a tourist destination for national and international tourists who visit the island to watch the nightly spectacle of wild dolphins swimming in to be fed in the water's shallows.

The claim follows the Federal Court's consent determination on July 4, 2011, which formally recognised, for the first time since white arrival, the laws and customs of the Quandamooka people.

This second claim seeks exclusive native title rights over small sections of unallocated state land on Moreton Island and non-exclusive rights over the rest.

Confident

Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation chief executive Cameron Costello said he was confident the Federal Court and other stakeholders including the Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council would look favourably on the claim.

"Our objective is to work cooperatively with everyone to secure another consent determination," he said.

"We have good relationships with the residents and community groups that live, own land or have leases on Moreton Island. Nothing will change for those people as a result of this claim."

"We support the presence of community groups and other responsible organisations on the island. Among other things they also help us care for our country and value it as we do."

The decision to lodge the claim was first made at a meeting of the native title claim group on North Stradbroke Island on February 25, 2012.

"We are already the registered cultural heritage body for Mulgumpin under the *Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and have had Quandamooka people employed as National Parks rangers on the island for many years," Mr Costello said.

Apprentices are on the job for housing project



ABORIGINAL apprentices in the Kimberley are working on a project that aims to increase opportunities for Indigenous workers while providing affordable housing in the East Kimberley.

The apprentices are working on Kununurra's Building Futures project, a joint initiative between the Department of Housing and Kimberley Group Training (KGT) and the local construction industry.

Local builder Colin Wilkinson Developments was awarded the contract for the first stage of the Building Futures project in March this year.

Two apprentices supplied by KGT are working on the project, with four attending TAFE for pre-apprenticeship training, including gaining their construction white card.

The project aims to benefit the local community through more jobs and improved home ownership opportunities.

Stage one is expected to be completed later this month.

Minister meets with leaders in Port Augusta



SOUTH Australian Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Minister Ian Hunter met with the Port Augusta Aboriginal Community Engagement Group last week for a 'leader to leader' meeting.

The meeting was a part of the State Government's Aboriginal Regional Authority Policy development workshop being held at four trial sites around the South Australia.

"Port Augusta is one of four sites engaged in assisting in the design and development of a policy to recognise Aboriginal regional governance structures across SA," Mr Hunter said.

"The draft policy, to be released early next year, will establish a new relationship between the Government of South Australia and Aboriginal communities."

"The policy will seek to strengthen regional cohesion and recognise the existing cultural authority of Aboriginal nations to speak for their country, and will be sufficiently flexible to allow for different approaches in different groups across South Australia."

Senator wants funds restored



LABOR senator for the Northern Territory Nova Peris has called on the Federal Government to restore funding cut from NT child protection services.

"Child abuse reports are up 30% but the budget has been cut and the number of investigations being completed has dropped," she said.

"The number of Aboriginal children in care has jumped by 26% in the last year but the funding to support them has been slashed."

Senator Peris' call for reinstatement of funding came in response to the recent revelation that a young girl in her early teens had fallen pregnant for the second time since being under the care of the Department of Children and Families.

"The department is trying to care for more children with less money. The result is that children aren't being cared for as shown by this young girl getting pregnant," she said.

Culture and creativity



The Firelight Ceremony by Bangarra Dance Theatre. Picture: James Morgan

Jess Beck at the Corroboree Café at the NSW Art Gallery.
Picture: Anna Warr



Narelle Thomas from the Boolarng Nangamai Together Dreaming artists.



Maori performer Jerome Kavanagh at Homeground.
Picture: Prudence Upton



Bundjalung artist Gilbert Lawrie at the Black Markets, La Perouse.
Picture: Anna Warr



Gomeroi (NSW) artist Penny Evans at the Corroboree Sydney Black Markets at Bare Island, La Perouse.



David Page starring in the production Page 8.
Picture: Tiffany Parker



Teddy Lewis King at Homeground.
Picture: Prudence Upton

at Corroboree Sydney

The Firelight Ceremony by Bangarra Dance Theatre.
Picture: James Morgan



Rachel Perkins speaks about TV series *Redfern Now*.
Picture: Anna Warr



Top acts and plenty more



SYDNEYSIDERS were treated to 10 days of events, exhibitions and performances celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and creativity for the Corroboree Sydney festival.

From the opening Gurung Parade to the festival closing last weekend with a special Bangarra Dance Theatre performance, Corroboree Sydney showcased the wide range and diversity of Indigenous artists and performers.

Events included the Homeground Festival, a free gig at the Sydney Opera House featuring Indigenous performers including Aboriginal acts Dan Sultan, Richard Frankland and Teddy Lewis King and Maori musician Jerome Kavanagh.

Workshops

Galleries and museums also hosted events, including workshops at the Australian Museum and talks at the NSW Art Gallery.

The Aboriginal star-gazing proved popular, with many people having a look through telescopes and a yarn with Aboriginal astronomers.

The final event of the festival, a free performance by Bangarra Dance Theatre, was held on Sunday night, with MC Deborah Mailman and featuring Christine Anu.

Bangarra dancers presented pieces from many of their favourite works, introduced through a traditional Yolngu performance by Djakapurra Munyarryun from north-east Arnhem Land.



Yorta Yorta opera singer Deborah Cheetham leads the NSW Public Schools Aboriginal Dance Company to the Firelight Ceremony.



The Gurung Parade, where thousands of schoolchildren walked through Sydney to open the festival. Picture: James Morgan



Richard Frankland performs at Homeground at the Sydney Opera House.
Picture: Prudence Upton



Elder Max Eulo welcomes people to country for the Homeground festival as part of Corroboree Sydney. Picture: James Morgan

Deadly Success heading offshore



FOLLOWING on from the Shangri-La Indigenous Employment program which resulted in jobs for all participants, the Cairns-based Deadly Success employment program has set its sights offshore.

Deadly Success director Susan Hardy said the company's latest initiative was designed to increase the number of Indigenous staff working on tourist boats that run daily tours to the Great Barrier Reef.

"We are all about increasing the number of Indigenous people in front-line tourism roles and helping people learn more about Indigenous culture, an experience many of our

overseas guests are looking for," she said.

"Deadly Success has a formula developing each program specifically around industry needs."

After a recruitment process where many applicants competed for the 12 available positions, the successful dozen have started an eight-week Certificate II in Tourism course and will also undertake elements of shipboard safety and first aid. On completion of their studies, they will start a paid traineeship with a guaranteed job when they are done.

● **Pictured: Graduates of the Indigenous employment program Deadly Success on Water in Cairns with local Federal MP Warren Entsch.**

Our culture in Korea



NAMSUNG Middle School in South Korea might be the least likely place you would expect

to find a room full of Australian Aboriginal artworks, but thanks to a Southern Highlands high school the gifts of Indigenous culture are reaching around the world.

Moss Vale High School principal Peter Macbeth travelled with 15 students to South Korea in the term three holidays to present Namsung principal Mr Kim with more artworks to add to the burgeoning display in their 'Moss Vale room'.

Moss Vale has been running an exchange program with the South Korean school for 10 years, and Mr Macbeth makes a point of sharing an understanding of Indigenous culture with his Asian colleagues.

This year he wore his hoodie emblazoned with the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME) logo, given to him free as long as he promised to take photos of it around South Korea.

His support of Indigenous education has also earned his school a NSW Department of Education Nanga Mai Award for its Gundungarra Community Project, which explored the school's core values and



Namsung Middle School principal Mr Kim with an artwork presented to him by Moss Vale High School.

expectations of being 'respectful, responsible and safe' in partnership with the local Aboriginal Gundungarra community.

It's a surprising effort from a school that has only 23 Indigenous students among its

606 pupils, but for Mr Macbeth, that's what makes it even more important.

"It's our job to make sure we raise awareness amongst young people – the 583 other young people who are not Indigenous benefit greatly from understanding

the culture and history of our Aboriginal people," he said.

Mr Macbeth came to the top job at Moss Vale just two years ago, having a passion and enthusiasm for exploring and supporting Indigenous culture and knowledge from several years

spent 'out west'.

"Aboriginal culture is a big part of our school," he said.

"It adds a richness and awareness that we're very proud of. It builds positive relationships, positive understanding and positive communication, and very much respect for each other."

The award-winning Gundungarra Project saw several of the school's Indigenous students meet Gundungarra Elders in Katoomba (some 170km from the school but where the local mob is centred) to share and reflect on stories about respect, responsibility and safety.

The students explored the school's values through an Aboriginal perspective, developed in consultation with then president of the local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) Aunty Eleanor McIlwain, and president of the Upper South Coast Regional AECG Aunty Lyn Stewart.

Mr Macbeth said the project made an important contribution to the school's Positive Behaviour for Success (PBS) initiative developed in 2012, which focusses on creating a positive school culture through teaching behaviours and reinforcing three core values – respect, responsible and safe learning.

Holiday Coast bus puts pride on show



COMMUNITIES in the mid north coast of NSW can now feast their eyes on a

colourful and culturally significant selection of mobile designs created by the Wauchope TAFE Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Arts Program. The designs, which decorate the Holiday Coast Connections bus that travels between Newcastle and Port Macquarie, feature work created for the *Spirit of Place* exhibition, held at

Port Macquarie earlier this year.

The project aims to not only promote public transport use, but also increase access to educational facilities for local Aboriginal people and to foster a sense of pride and ownership in using the transport.

Holiday Coast Connections owner Suzie White said she was proud to have the students' designs on the bus. "They are each talented artists and bring a valued awareness of the local Indigenous culture within our region," she said.



Wauchope TAFE cultural arts students and others involved in the Wauchope Wanderings project get ready to launch their bus designs.

Sea is focus of exhibition



At the launch, from left, Gadigal Elder Allen Madden, Aunty Jeanie Holroyd, from Pormpuraaw in Queensland, Wiradjuri Elder Aunty Millie Ingram, Australian Museum director Kim McKay, Minister Victor Dominello, Pormpuraaw Elder Uncle Sid Bruce Short Joe, Yuin Elder Uncle Max Dulumunmun Harrison, Buduwang Elder Uncle Noel Butler and Yuin Elder Uncle Athol Dixon. Picture: James Morgan, Australian Museum



THE first major Aboriginal exhibition to be opened at the Australian Museum in more than 17 years is now on show.

Garrigarang: Sea Country was officially opened by NSW Aboriginal Affairs Minister Victor Dominello.

The major exhibition, which continues until December 2017, includes 300 objects that shows the deep connection between Aboriginal culture and the sea. Garrigarang means the sea in the Tharawal (NSW) language.

"A strong connection to country is core to Aboriginal culture and it is great to see

an exhibition like this that showcases the diverse spiritual beliefs, values and knowledge systems that still exist today between Aboriginal people and the sea", Mr Dominello said.

"*Garrigarang* features 300 treasures from the Australian Museum's Aboriginal collection as well as 17 recent

acquisitions including canoes, fish traps and spears, as well as spectacular ghost net sculptures.

"The exhibition will also showcase the word for 'sea' in 20 different Aboriginal languages in NSW – showcasing the important connection between Aboriginal language and culture."

Watercolour masterpieces at Parliament



WATERCOLOUR paintings by Aboriginal artists from the Central Desert are now on show at

Parliament House in Canberra.

The exhibition, *Namatjira to Now: Five Generations of Watercolours in the Central Desert*, continues until February 9. It has been organised by arts and social change company Big hART's Namatjira Project, with Ngurratjuta Many Hands Art Centre and the Ntaria School.

The exhibition features works by five generations of the Hermannsburg School of Watercolours, and it is part of a campaign to establish a Namatjira art centre to house the works and ensure the future for the watercolour school.

The exhibition launch was hosted by Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion, with University of Canberra

chancellor Tom Calma.

Five senior Western Aranda watercolour artists and three of the younger generation of artists were at Parliament House for the launch.

Namatjira to Now is an exhibition of desert landscapes



East MacDonnell Ranges, 2012, watercolour by Ivy Pareroutja. Image courtesy of Ngurratjuta Many Hands Art Centre

of the Hermannsburg watercolour movement. It also showcases an animation from the youngest generation – students at the Ntaria School –

alongside watercolours by the renowned founder of the movement, Albert Namatjira, together with generations in between.

The Canberra trip resulted from the reception the Namatjira family received in London when touring with Big hART's theatre production *Namatjira* late last year. During the visit, Lenie and Kevin Namatjira were invited to an audience with the Queen, who holds a number of watercolours by Albert Namatjira in her collection.

"It was a great honour to meet the Queen and to be able to tell her that we need help to get Aboriginal children to paint," Lenie said.

"We are teaching the young ones to paint – just like my family and the other Western Aranda watercolour painters once did.

"Now we want to make our own arts centre strong, so we can carry on this tradition."

NAISDA DANCE COLLEGE & CARRIAGEWORKS PRESENTS

YOUR SKINS

Directed by Frances Rings

"Within the cells of bodies and behind the walls of buildings lie stories waiting to be unearthed" says Director Frances Rings.

NAISDA Dance College returns to Carriageworks to present *your Skin my Skin*. This new production brings together international and national choreographers to weave their contemporary stories through the cultural landscape of Elcho Islands Datiwuy clan.

Performance Dates:

WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 8PM
THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 8PM
FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 8PM
SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER 2PM & 8PM

Bookings essential through Carriageworks, Sydney
www.carriageworks.com.au
or phone 02 8571 9099

 **naisdadancecollege**
PROUDLY DANCING ON DARKINJUNG LAND

Nuts a new artform



BOAB100
nut casts,
from the
Wesfarmers
Art Collection.



A PARTNERSHIP between a Kimberley Aboriginal art centre and a major Australian company has resulted in a new artform built on traditional skills and knowledge. Inspired by the boab tree and the traditional artform of boab nut engraving unique to the Kimberley region of Western Australia, *BOAB100* is a collection of 15 boab nut casts engraved by artists from Waringarri Aboriginal Arts and reproduced in white aluminum.

Commissioned by Wesfarmers for its official centenary gift, *BOAB100* has been produced as a limited edition of 100 sets of each design.

As part of the official launch of *BOAB100*, two complete sets of the *BOAB100* collection have been gifted to the Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, and the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.

Wesfarmers arts manager Helen Carroll said *BOAB100* extended beyond the artistic output of the 15 artists selected for the project.

"The idea of the centenary gift was always two-fold – to commission a gift that has wide appeal and is fresh and innovative, and one that provides a long lasting impact for its artistic creators," she said.

BOAB100 involved working with Waringarri artists and arts workers, as well as the team at Urban Art Projects, Brisbane, which produced the cast aluminum editions.

Waringarri manager Cathy Cummins said *BOAB100* had already begun to achieve its objective of increasing creative value. "Techniques and materials developed for the project are now being used by Waringarri on architectural-scale bronzes and small boab sculptures for the gallery market, as well as boab-pod-inspired jewellery for private commissions and public sale from early 2015," she said.

Additional sets will be gifted to National Library of Australia, Canberra, and Charles Darwin University Collection, Darwin, and one set will be held by the Wesfarmers Collection of Australian Art and by Waringarri Aboriginal Arts.

From the desert to Darwin



NT

Warlayirti: The Art of Balgo, an exhibition by artists from a remote desert region in the north of Western Australia, is now on show at the

Araluen Art Centre in Darwin.

Warlayirti artists are located at Balgo (Wirrimanu) on the edge of the Great Sandy and Tanami deserts.

"The Warlayirti art movement began with the painting of church banners in 1981 and a selection of these early works were displayed in a watershed exhibit at the Art Gallery of Western Australia in 1986," Araluen Arts Centre director Tim Rollason said.



Water dreaming (Lap Lapi), 1986, by Mick Gill Tjakamarra is part of the exhibition. Australian Museum collection

"*Warlayirti: The Art of Balgo* brings together the church banners, key works from the 1986 exhibition and a selection of artworks by the major artists to emerge from this community.

"The exhibition also presents more recent artworks, by the leading figures that have emerged from Warlayirti artists as well as

the current generation of artists. The exhibition examines the divergences and vibrancy that distinguishes the art of Balgo and brings together the historical and contemporary, examining the art movement's emergence and energy."

The exhibition continues until February 15. More information at www.araluenartcentre.nt.gov.au



The Black Anzac mural in Redfern, Sydney.

Crowdfunding campaign to complete documentary



NSW

A CAMPAIGN to complete *Black Anzac*, a documentary film in the making, has recently launched on crowdfunding internet platform Pozible.

Black Anzac explores the story of Indigenous service in World War I through the work

of Sydney street artist Hego.

In order to finish post-production by Anzac Day next year, the month-long campaign must raise \$10,000 by December 17, or the film will receive no funding.

Black Anzac follows Hego on his quest to create the largest wheatpasted mural in Australia – that of an

Aboriginal World War I digger. The mural, in Redfern, is based on an original idea by Hego.

The documentary will be directed and produced by filmmaker Tim Anastasi and line producer Kimberley Low.

To contribute, go to <http://www.pozible.com/project/188544>

NT artists learn new skills



ARTISTS from the Northern Territory community of Borrooloola have learned printmaking and etching skills at a

Vocational and Education Training workshop.

Seven Waralungku Arts Centre artists completed printmaking units in a Certificate II in Visual Arts course during the recent seven-day workshop at Northern Editions printmaking studio on Charles Darwin University's Casuarina campus.

Some artists undertook units at Borrooloola in 2013 and will continue the course next year.

Northern Editions gallery manager Chris Miezi said the artists could use their screens to print designs on products, such as t-shirts, which they could sell at their art centre.

"These workshops home in on the artists' skills," she said. "The artists also have a product to sell by the end of the workshop, which brings income into the community."

Senior artist Nancy McDinny said she hoped to pass on the skills she had learned to young people in Borrooloola.

"This is my first time doing printing and I am learning new skills," she said.

Fellow artist Stewart Hoosan praised Northern

Waralungku artist Nancy McDinny shows some of her work.



Editions printmakers Glynis Lee and Karlissa Kennedy for running the workshop.

"I have never done

printmaking before and the teachers are really great," he said.

Northern Editions has been

running printmaking workshops and delivering VET units in remote Indigenous communities for more than 20

years. The Northern Editions printmakers have also worked with artists from across Australia and the Pacific.

Exhibition highlights foreshore



SUBMISSIONS and proposals are being sought for next year's

HarbourSculpture exhibition in Sydney.

The exhibition aims to highlight the foreshores of suburban Woolwich in Sydney.

It has an internal exhibition of smaller sculptural works in the Deckhouse Woolwich waterfront restaurant/ function centre, while an external exhibition features larger works displayed along the shoreline adjacent to Deckhouse Woolwich and the Sydney Harbour foreshore of Clarkes Point Reserve.

The exhibition will run from July 30-August 9.

Guidelines for artist entry and other information is available at www.harboursculpture.com.au

Entries will close on March 17.

Fellowships offer \$10,000 and more



2013 Indigenous Writing Fellow Tristan Savage. Picture: KiLN



APPLICATIONS close on January 30 for the State Library of Queensland's annual black&write! Indigenous Writing Fellowships.

Two applicants will each be awarded \$10,000, professional manuscript development working with State Library's black&write! Indigenous editors, and a publishing deal with Indigenous publishing house Magabala Books.

The fellowships are open to manuscript entries in the form of a novel, short story collection, poetry collection, or children's book, from published and unpublished Indigenous writers.

Queensland State Librarian Janette Wright said that since 2010, the black&write! Indigenous Writing and Editing project has contributed significantly to fostering Indigenous writers.

"State Library's national black&write! project has begun to have a real impact on contemporary Indigenous Australian literature across all areas of writing, editing and publishing," she said.

The 2014 fellows, first-time author Adrian Stanley and playwright Jane Harrison, have been working on their manuscripts with the black&write! editors since May, with their works set to be published by Magabala Books next year.

Winners of the 2013 black&write! kuril dhagun prize, former rugby player Scott Prince and Logan schoolteacher Dave Hartley, have just been awarded book of the year in the Indigenous children's books category by Speech Pathology Australia.

Application forms are available at slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on

AFL Cape York House celebrates



A FAR north Queensland Indigenous boarding house has farewelled its largest and most successful group of graduates yet, celebrating the achievements of its six Year 12 students at a formal ceremony in Cairns.

More than 90 guests, including Member for Cairns Gavin King and AFL Commissioner Sam Mostyn, attended the AFL Cape York House graduation function.

Of the six graduates, four will attend university next year while the others are considering Australian Defence Force careers.

Last year's graduates, Anthony Nicholls and Alfred Billy, were also presented with plaques to reflect their achievement.

Commended

AFL Cape York House general manager Richard Stewart commended the graduates for choosing to move away from home and pursue their education in an unfamiliar environment.

"The transition away from remote communities to secondary education in larger regional centres and capitals can be highly problematic for many Indigenous students," he said.

"These young men have shown great perseverance and determination to make it to this very important milestone."

Mr Stewart stressed that higher graduation rates can contribute significantly to closing the gap between Indigenous and other Australians.

"The success rate in terms of



Looking to the future: This year's AFL Cape York House Year 12 students, from left, John Pearson, Titapo 'Suma' Nona, Malachi Songoro, Ezra Charlie, Glendon Woosup and Joseph Pearson.

completion of Year 12 is less than one in four for children from remote Indigenous communities, and for many communities the completion of Year 12 is the exception and not the rule," he said. "Successful completion of

Year 12 creates significant life-changing opportunities and our graduates are a clear example of this."

AFL Cape York House is a 48-bed residential centre in Cairns founded last year to

provide educational, employment and training opportunities for young Indigenous men from far north Queensland's remote communities.

There are now 36 students in residence from the communities

of Hope Vale, Coen, Lockhart River, Kowanyama, Coen, Aurukun, Pormpuraaw, Bamaga/Injinoo, Mornington Island, Badu Island, Maubiag Island, Moa Island, Yam Island, and Coconut Island.

Scholarship program expanded



ONE of Sydney's leading girls schools is expanding its Indigenous

scholarship program

MLC School in Sydney will now offer its Gawalgalyung scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls who live in and around Sydney, from Year 2 through to Year 12.

MLC School says it offers many scholarships, and offering Indigenous scholarships increases diversity at the school and builds on an established and successful program.

Principal Denice Scala says the Gawalgalyung Scholarships enrich the teaching and learning environment for the school community.

The scholarships aim to enrol Indigenous girls whose financial circumstances would exclude them from attending MLC School on a full fee-paying basis.

More details at www.mlcsyd.nsw.edu.au

New education laws welcomed



THE Federal Government has welcomed new changes to education laws.

Education Minister Christopher Pyne said the *Australian Education Amendment Act 2014* provided an extra \$6.8 million for non-government schools that have significant numbers of Indigenous boarding students from remote areas and protects \$2.4 million for students with disability.

"This Government is committed to delivering fresh, practical approaches to improving the educational opportunities for all school students," he said.

"Indigenous students in remote



"This Act means more funding for schools that currently have more than 50 Indigenous boarding students from remote or very remote Australia, or where more than 50% of their boarders are Indigenous and from remote areas." – Minister Christopher Pyne

locations face extra challenges to attend boarding school so I am determined to support these students with initiatives and funding to boost school attendance and student engagement."

"This Act means more funding for schools that currently have more than 50 Indigenous boarding students from remote or very remote Australia, or where more than 50% of their boarders are Indigenous and from remote

areas. The legislation has also prevented a sudden drop in funding from 2015 for some schools that cater for students with disability.

"Under the arrangements put in place by the previous Government, some independent special schools and special assistance schools would have had their funding reduced from January 1.

"These schools now have certainty, allowing them to move towards the student resourcing standard over time, consistent with other schools."

Mr Pyne said the Commonwealth will provide more than \$4.8 billion for students with disability over the next four years.

Tiwi two are role models



XAVIER Catholic College Wurrumiyanga on the Tiwi Islands has celebrated the success of two of its students.

Jericka Mungatopi and Amber Tipiloura, both 18, have received the Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training (NTCET) after completing all their education on the Tiwi islands.

Both attended Murrupurtyanuwu Catholic Primary School before moving to Xavier college for high school.

Jericka and Amber joined other NT students for the Northern Territory Open Education Centre graduation dinner and presentation night in Darwin earlier this month.

They received the Stage 2 Certificate of Completion as well as an award for the 2014 NTOEC Top Achiever for their health, recreation and the community subject.

"These girls are leaders and role models for future generations of Tiwi students," class coordinator and teacher Tahnee Gale said.

"They have shown that Tiwi students don't need to leave home to complete their senior secondary studies, but can stay in community and graduate successfully."

Completing Year 12 doesn't mean the end of school for the young women.

Assistant teachers

Both have been employed as assistant teachers at Xavier, assisting in English and maths, and have applied to study a Bachelor of Education degree through the Grow Our Own program at Charles Darwin University.

Next year they will work three days a week at the school as well as study.

"I feel like I am free from school but I still have to wake up earlier and make sure I go to school on time," Amber said.

"I think the younger students relate to me, because they know me."

Jericka said finishing her schooling made her feel proud. "I'm very happy that I've finished and am working as an assistant teacher," she said.

"Doing the course will be good, because when I've finished I'll be a qualified teacher."

Both girls said it had been important to them to finish their schooling close to family.

● **Pictured: Jericka Mungatopi, left, and Amber Tipiloura dressed up for their graduation.**



On a solid pathway



MORE than 300 top Indigenous school students are closer to pursuing careers in a range of areas thanks to

a program launched at The University of Queensland this year. Solid Pathways, which supports Queensland's high-achieving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students through school and into careers, will hold an experience day at UQ for its student participants today (December 3).

UQ program director Associate Professor Deborah Brown, from the School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics, said feedback on the Queensland Government-funded program had been overwhelmingly positive.

"Solid Pathways is unique because it focusses on academic excellence and higher-order thinking skills and involves students at such

an early age," she said.

"Schools have been extremely positive about academic and attitudinal improvements in students as a result of participating in the program."

The focus of the program is small-group critical-thinking classes taught online by Education Queensland teachers.

Participating Indigenous students, who scored in the top 10% on NAPLAN tests in reading and numeracy, come from 187 Queensland schools.

The number of students in the program is expected to increase in 2015 as it expands to the Darling Downs West, and the South East and North East Coast regions of Queensland.

● **Pictured: Solid Pathways teacher Jeff Cassidy with program participants brother and sister Asher and Chloe Salam and their parents Rikiana and Diana.**

Meetings help Murgon students



STUDENTS from Murgon State School in south-east Queensland have been benefitting from regular meetings between parents and staff. Parents, grandparents and carers are being kept informed in the meetings with principal Pamela O'Loughlin and senior staff.

The staff get to hear what's happening at the students' homes, and gain tips from the parents and carers on how they might do things better.

Parent liaison and teacher aide Vera Sullivan said the monthly gatherings allowed the school to improve its work relationship with children.

"We're able to put in place actions so the students can better learn in a safe environment," she said.

Comfortable

Student mother Cathy Alberts said she now felt comfortable going to the school for advice.

"My son seems a lot happier at school and home," she said.

Grandmother Francis Blackman said the meetings allowed her to learn how the children were getting on with their learning and in the playground.

"I find out a lot more about how the school works," she said.

"This wasn't around when I had my kids at the school 40 years ago."

Ms Blackman believed schools to be "much better now". So does Frank Button, 43, who attended Murgon State School for one year when there were only a handful of Aboriginal children there.

Today, nearly half its student population is Indigenous.

"We never had these types of meetings back in our day," Mr Button said.

"We never had schools listening to what our parents had to say. This makes a big difference."



Murgon State School 'family' members, from left, Lizzy Boland, 3, her aunt Naomi Cutmore, her sister Lannay, 1, and mother Bonnie Bartholomew (who has children Celeste and Myiesha in Years 3 and 5 respectively at the school). Also pictured is Lilly Bartholomew.

Batchelor and Telstra put education online



BATCHELOR Institute is working with Telstra to give students more access to online

education and training opportunities as they move into the workforce.

For the past five years, Batchelor Institute, one of the largest providers of Indigenous education in the Northern Territory and Australia, has been developing its online learning capacity.

It now works online with more than 3000 students across 11 regional and remote sites in Australia.

Challenges

Institute ICT and remote infrastructure manager Trevor Osborne says providing online education services and connecting with the remote communities involves many challenges.

"The tyranny of distance dramatically affects Batchelor's ability to influence positive long-term outcomes for some of Australia's most vulnerable communities," he said. "Without the connection,



Batchelor students, from left, Shannon William Lander, Shane McMasters and Craig Le Rossignol at work on their laptop computers.

there's very little provision for students in these far-flung areas to access online programs that can support education pathways."

Over the past six months, Telstra has worked with Batchelor to provide high-speed fibre and copper access to remote sites.

Telstra's Will Irving said he hoped the work with Batchelor meant that "now no students will be left behind".

"This partnership reinforces our commitment to create a brilliant connected future for everyone," he said.

Kirsty Kelly, the head of strategic and corporate services at Batchelor, said the institute's goal had been to give regional and remote students the same opportunities as those in metropolitan areas.

"Our partnership with Telstra is an important step in

achieving this goal, and we're looking forward to seeing what our remote students are able to realise through greater access to education and training," she said.

Telstra is working with Batchelor to deliver the new high-speed fibre services to its primary sites at Batchelor and Alice Springs. The other nine remote and regional sites will be upgraded in coming months.

More are going to classes



QUEENSLAND'S Indigenous school attendance rates have improved, the State Parliament's Education and Innovation Committee has found.

But it has also found that the overall statewide attendance of Indigenous students is much lower than for other students.

The committee completed a review of school attendance rates in Queensland state schools following a 2012 Auditor-General's report which highlighted that attendance rates had not picked up over the preceding four years, despite strategies aimed at improving them.

Committee chair Rosemary Menkens MP said that, statewide, school attendance rates had improved in 2014.

"The committee was very pleased to see a small improvement in state school attendance rates, from 90.8% in semester one 2013 to 91.1% in 2014," she said.

"The most encouraging finding was that the increase was more significant for Indigenous students, with their attendance rate up one whole percentage point.

"But there's still a way to go: the overall statewide attendance rate for Indigenous students is 84%, while the rate for non-Indigenous students is 92%".

The committee noted there were initiatives to try to reduce that gap.

The committee report is available at www.parliament.qld.gov.au/eic

Book highlights men's business



A NEW book on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men's sexual and reproductive health by leading Indigenous doctor Mick Adams contains the findings and recommendations from his doctoral research at Queensland University of Technology.

The book, *Men's Business*, was launched at QUT's Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation where Dr Adams conducted his research study.

Dr Adams has spent most of his adult life living and working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

"We have found the old knowledge on sexual and reproductive health is not out there, so we had to have a talk with men and educate them on misconceptions around this health issue," he said.

"The data from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men suggest they are more likely than other Australian men to have urinary symptoms that may indicate prostate disease.

"They go to the doctor as often as non-Indigenous men but they are screened for prostate disease (PSA) at only one-third the rate of non-Indigenous men."

Dr Adams said he took advantage of all opportunities to speak to doctors and health workers at conferences and community gatherings on how to broach the subject of their sexual and reproductive health with Aboriginal men.

"You have to have a two-way conversation. Doctors have to be able to talk to men about it," he said.

Apunipima Cape York Health Council public health medical adviser Dr Mark



Dr Mick Adams with his new book *Men's Business*.

Wenitong said the book was unique.

"It begs a response from health professionals and policy makers alike about how to respond and address these seldom mentioned issues for Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander men, in a way that both utilises the medical evidence and treatment," he said.

Executive dean of QUT's Faculty of Health Professor Ross Young said QUT

was proud of the knowledge Dr Adams had made available. "He has filled a gap with this wonderful book. His respectful and engaging voice is a voice not heard before in such a substantive way."

Murals will deliver positive messages



A NEW series of murals at King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH) in Perth features Aboriginal art and positive health messages for pregnant women.

The murals are featured along the wall of an underground passage connecting the main hospital with the nearby Agnes Walsh House, which provides accommodation for women from remote and regional areas receiving care at KEMH.

The house features a room named Ngalla Mia (our place), where Aboriginal women receive support during their stay.

The murals feature artwork by Sally Lane and Esmay Ward, both from the Warburton community, as well as Kellee Hall, an Aboriginal health worker at KEMH.

Health messages focus on the dangers of smoking and drinking while pregnant, as well as tips for safe waking and sleeping environments for newborns.

The murals resulted from an arrangement between the Aboriginal Health Council of WA (AHCWA) and KEMH's Aboriginal Maternity Support Services Unit.

AHCWA chief executive Des Martin said the murals were part of



Tobacco action worker Sharma Hamilton and Aboriginal senior health promotion officer Janinne Gliddon at the Ngalla Mia (our place) room. Picture: Mal Bruce

an ongoing effort to improve the health of Aboriginal babies and their mothers.

"Aboriginal people are twice as likely to smoke than non-Aboriginal people in WA, and this is having a serious impact on those who smoke and the children in their care," he said.

"Aboriginal babies are far more likely to suffer from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) than non-Aboriginal babies, and tobacco smoke is thought to be a significant factor in many SIDS

cases. These murals aim to change behaviour in relation to smoking, and raise awareness of a number of other health issues relating to pregnancy and caring for newborns."

In addition to the murals, a series of postcards featuring the artwork and messaging has been created to spread the health messages.

AHCWA is the peak body representing the 21 Aboriginal community-controlled health services in WA.

Eye gap plan sees progress



EFFORTS to close the gap in Indigenous eye health are well on track, according to a new report.

Speaking at the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO) Annual Scientific Congress in Brisbane, Professor Hugh R Taylor, the Harold Mitchell Chair of Indigenous Eye Health at the University of Melbourne, said progress is being made on every recommendation in the Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision. Five of the recommendations have been fully implemented.

Trachoma down

"Rates of trachoma are now below 4%, having fallen from 14% in 2009," he said.

"The Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision, developed by the Indigenous Eye Health Group at

the University of Melbourne, contains 42 interlocked policy recommendations.

"In terms of regional implementation of the roadmap, there has been positive engagement. We are working with 12 regions across the country covering over one-third of the nation's Indigenous population."

The 2014 Annual Update on the Implementation of the Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision was launched by former Governor-General Quentin Bryce and new National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) chair Matthew Cooke.

Prof Taylor said there was "excellent commitment and engagement" with the Federal Government, that funded several initiatives in the roadmap, and work is also being undertaken with support from the states and the Northern Territory.

Anti-smoking message on road



THE high cost of smoking is being highlighted in a new

campaign by Mildura-based Mallee District Aboriginal Services (MDAS).

A specially-decorated new Holden Barina is being used as a mobile billboard for the Quit Today program and as a practical example of the financial cost of smoking.

"The reality is that for the pack-a-day smoker, this Holden Barina is what you could buy in two years, if you kick the habit," said MDAS healthy lifestyle worker Bianca Krause.

"If you give up a pack-a-day habit you save an average \$20 a day for a pack of 25s or \$140 a week – that's the equivalent of a home deposit in a year, or a brand new car in two years," she said.

The vehicle is for the use of the Healthy for Life Program, which operates in Mildura, Robinvale, Swan Hill and Kerang and encourages and supports people to make healthy lifestyle choices.

Tobacco action worker Carl Kirby said the message would resonate with smokers in each of the communities.

"The car looks great and it will be out and about every day, hopefully getting the message through to everyone that the benefits of quitting



With the car are MDAS Healthy Lifestyles Team workers, from left, Kirsty Hampton, Bianca Krause, Carl Kirby and Mandy Caddy.

smoking are more than just the physical ones, that you will notice a big difference in your pocket as well," he said.

"We were hearing from the community that people are no longer really being

moved by the scare campaigns about how many chemicals there are in cigarette smoke, or what effect it might have on their health in the future.

"So we decided to take this

approach to reaching people with a really tangible and practical message that will hopefully prompt them to take that step to getting help to stop or cut down their smoking."

The Healthy for Life team praised Mildura Holden in making the vehicle available to MDAS for six months to carry the campaign message and to Exposed Signage for kitting it out.

Initiative aimed at helping close gap



AUSTRALIAN GPs are being urged to join an initiative that could improve health outcomes for Indigenous people. Closing the Gap:

Measure and Act is an Improvement Foundation (IF) initiative designed to help general practices and other health services better respond to specific Indigenous health issues.

General practices can participate by measuring important quality improvement indicators that will help determine if there are any service level gaps at the practice. General practices will also be able to check their work with other peers participating in the initiative.

"After some basic steps to submit quality indicators we will be able to demonstrate any gaps to the general practice through a specifically designed dashboard in our secure web portal. From here we'll invite general practices to participate in learning sessions," IF chief executive Colin Frick said.

"Over the past four years, through other Closing the Gap initiatives, we have demonstrated what can be achieved when GPs are attuned to specific Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander issues and can clearly see any gaps.

"GPs have strong patient relationships and when we can clearly identify opportunities for improvement, it makes a big difference.

"Now we want to go a step further. GPs don't need to have been previously involved in an IF program to participate. They just have to embrace the concept and the methodology. We'll help them through the rest."

Federal Assistant Health Minister Fiona Nash supports IF's work to raise awareness of the need to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health through the Closing the Gap: Measure and Act initiative.

"The Government encourages a range of activities that increase the awareness of and improvement in the delivery of health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," she said. "I am happy to support the Measure and Act campaign as one of a number of initiatives that are available to help GPs improve their practice and close the gap."

More information is available at CTG@improve.org.au or by visiting the Improvement Foundation website at www.improve.org.au/ctg

WA fluoride decision is welcomed



THE Western Australian Government expects the oral health of Indigenous children to improve following a landmark ruling on the use of fluoride.

In a first for WA, the state's chief pharmacist has issued an exemption meaning health workers will soon be able to apply fluoride varnish to prevent tooth decay among children in remote communities.

Health Minister Kim Hames said the WA Fluoride Varnish Service, part of the \$6 million Royalties for Regions-funded Ear, Eye and Oral Health Initiative, would help children in some of WA's most remote communities.

He said about 50% of Aboriginal children in remote regions had preventable dental problems.

"Fluoride strengthens tooth enamel and is

a highly effective treatment where tooth enamel is starting to show signs of decay," Dr Hames said.

"This is the first time a special exemption has been given by the WA chief pharmacist allowing health workers other than dental practitioners to use fluoride varnish. That's a significant step in the treatment and prevention of tooth decay among Aboriginal children.

"Decay decrease"

"Australian studies have demonstrated a 25 to 45% decrease in the decay rate with the use of fluoride varnish when applied six-monthly."

Training in fluoride varnish application will be offered to Aboriginal health workers, school health and child health nurses, and remote area nurses in early 2015.

We welcome items for our Calendar of Events. Please keep them short and to the point, and send them to any of the addresses listed in the panel on page 23.

Ongoing: Lifeline. Saving lives. Crisis support. Suicide prevention. Call 13 11 14.

Carer Line is a free national telephone information and support service for and about carers that provides access to information, emotional support and referrals to a range of services for carers. Call 1800 242 636, Monday to Friday.

The Better Start for Children with Disability Initiative. Children who are eligible for the program can access funding of up to \$12,000 each financial year for a range of early intervention services.

Children must be registered before age six. For more information, call the Registration and Information Service on 1800 242 636 or visit www.carersnsw.org.au

Until December 11: Frank Yamma's *Uncle* album launch tour. Performing at venues across Victoria and NSW. Details: www.frankgamma.com

NSW-ACT

Ongoing: National Museum of Australia Go on a Gallery Tour. Explore Indigenous people's history, cultures, spirituality and connections to country on this one-hour guided tour of the permanent collection. Held at the National Museum of Australia, Lawson Cres, Acton, daily at 3pm. Costs apply. Details: (02) 6208 5000 or visit www.nma.gov.au

Ongoing: TeleYarn, a Red Cross project that provides phone calls to Indigenous people across NSW who would benefit from a regular yarn. Details: Kerrie on 0429 151 112.

Until February 9: *Namatjira to Now* exhibition. Features works from Albert Namatjira and his family, and includes new watercolour animation created by Ntaria School artists.

Held at the Presiding Officers' Exhibition Area, Parliament House, Canberra. Free. Details: Yolande on 0438 545 291 or visit www.bighart.com

Until December 4: Northern Rivers Pop Up Gallery. Features works by women from the Gulli-bal Living Group who use the traditional Bundjalung basketmaking techniques found in the Mary Bundock collection. Held at Northern Rivers creative Pop Up Gallery, 129 Summerland Way, Kyogle. Details: (02) 6628 8120 or visit www.artsnorthernrivers.com.au

Until December 12: *Country In Colour* exhibition. Ngurratjuta Many Hands Art Centre will hold an exhibition and market day showcasing more of its artwork. Held at Mabo Room, AIATSIS, 51 Lawson Cres, Acton, ACT. Free entry. Details: Yolande on 0438 545 291



Flash Blacks Live Cabaret director Pascoe Braun on stage. He will host a fundraiser for rapper Little G at the Laundry Bar in Fitzroy, Melbourne, on Thursday, December 11.

Fundraiser to help Little G



FORMER NITV personality Pascoe Braun and Stolen Generations leader Christine Jacques-Doolan have teamed up with former Essendon AFL great Nathan Lovett-Murray to put on a fundraiser in Melbourne for Indigenous rapper Little G.

Little G, who is battling health problems, gained wide recognition for her hit song *Invasion Day*.

Pascoe will MC the event which is being produced by

Lovett-Murray's Payback Records. Other acts include Cee Cee, Richmond AL, Honeybee, R3AL and Killa B. "We need all the Victorian Koori community and their many friends and supporters to come along and honour this genuine national treasure," Braun said.

"Little G is a young lady who has never asked us for anything but who did so much good for our community as a groundbreaker.

"Her music and personality led to so many

others making an impression in the industry.

"Now it's time for us to pay her back at a time when she needs our help for health reasons.

"Thank god for Nathan Lovett-Murray who did not hesitate in deciding this event will be a fundraiser for Little G!"

The concert will be held from 7pm on Thursday, December 11, at The Laundry Bar, 48-50 Johnston Street, Fitzroy. More details on (03) 9415 8027 or at www.paybackrecords.com.au

(02) 6207 5163 or visit www.library.act.gov.au

Until December 23: Beauty skill set course. An opportunity to complete a course in beauty, make-up and skincare. Held at Wollongbar TAFE, northern NSW, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9.30am-2.30pm. Free. Details: Leanne Holmes on 0409 074 401 or email holmes6@tafensw.edu.au

December 4: Reduce Risk Increase Student Knowledge (RRISK) seminar 'Alcohol and other drugs: what people working with adolescents need to know', presented by Paul Dillion. Held at Tweed Civic Centre, Brett St, Tweed Heads, from 4-6pm. Free. Details: (02) 6620 7504.

December 4: The 2014 University of Western Sydney (UWS) Yarramundi Lecture. The UWS Commemorating Generations of Knowledge research project highlights the impact the Indigenous community has had on the development of Greater Western Sydney and the University of Western Sydney. Held at The Ian and Nancy Turbott Auditorium (building EE), UWS Parramatta campus, cnr of James Ruse Dr and Victoria Rd, Rydalmere, from 2.30pm. Free. Details and to register: (02) 9678 7512 or visit www.uws.edu.au/yarramundi2014

December 5-6: Aboriginal Studies Association (ASA) 2014 conference. Keynote speakers are Linda Burney MP, Dr Don

Weatherburn and Dr Paddy Cavanagh. Conference fees apply. Registration closes November 28.

Details: NSWAECC on (02) 9550 5666 or email tara.ryan@aecg.nsw.edu.au or dave.lardner@aecg.nsw.edu.au

December 6: *Boomalli Members' Show* exhibition. Includes live entertainment, food and refreshments. Held at Boomalli Aboriginal Artist Co-op, 55-59 Flood St, Leichhardt, from 4-6pm.

Details: (02) 9560 2541 or visit www.boomalli.com.au

December 7: Blak Markets. Includes stalls, bush tucker, workshops, performances and more. Held at Bare Island, La Perouse, from 10.30am-5pm. Cost: \$2 a person entry. Details: (02) 9345 4404 or visit www.firsthandsolutions.org

December 8-11: Barnardos HIPPY Week. Fun activities for children to five years, and guest speakers for parents each day. Lunch provided. Held at the land council, Simpson Street, Wellington, daily from 10am-1pm. Free event. Details: Donna on (02) 6845 1788.

December 9: International Human Rights Day forum. Guest speakers include Ray Jackson, Debra Swan, Jeff McMullen and Chris Graham. Held at Trades Hall, 337 Sussex St, Sydney, from 6pm. Free event. Details: www.stoptheintervention.org

December 9: YWCA Goonellabah Christmas party. Includes carols, jumping castle, activities, a visit from Santa, lucky ticket raffle and free barbecue. Held at Goonellabah and District Soccer Club, Reserve Rd, Goonellabah, from 4-6pm. Free event. Details: (02) 6625 5800.

December 10: Heal and Grow workshop for Aboriginal women. Share experiences of grief and loss in a circle of safety and loving support. Held at YWCA, 101a Rous Rd, Goonellabah, from 10am-2pm. Free. Details: Mereki on 0407 675 603 or Belinda on 0475 817 383.

December 10-13: NAISDA Dance College *Your skin, my skin* production. Held at Carriageworks, 245 Wilson St, Eveleigh, daily at 2pm and 8pm. Cost: Adults \$18-\$38, Children 16 and under \$20. Details: (02) 8571 9099 or visit www.carriageworks.com.au

December 20: Christmas twilight market with entertainment. Held at Bare Island, La Perouse, from 3pm-7.30pm. Cost: \$2 a person entry. Details: (02) 9345 4404 or visit www.firsthandsolutions.org

February 20-21: Ella 7s rugby union competition. Held at Coffs Harbour. Cost: \$1210 per team entry. Registration closes four weeks before competition. Details: Mel Howie on 0414 256 600 or email mel.howie@rugby.com.au or Tom Evans on (02) 8030 3334 or email tom.evans@rugby.com.au

● Continued next page

Queensland

Until January 15: Entries open for the 2015 *Gab Titui Indigenous Art Award*, an annual showcase of art and craft produced in the communities of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area. Details: (07) 4069 0888 or visit www.gabtitui.com.au

Until December 6: *Stockroom Expose* exhibition. Introduces a selection of new works from established artists including Netta Loogatha and Ethel Thomas. Held at KickArts Contemporary Arts, 96 Abbott St, Cairns, from Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm. Free entry. Details: (07) 4050 9494 or visit www.kickarts.org.au

Until December 24: *Four Spirits from Maningrida* exhibition. This encompasses painted timber and fibre-based sculptural and suspended works including Yawkyawks, Wyarra, Wangarra and Mimih spirits, as well as a selection of woven mats, baskets and fishtraps. Held at FireWorks Gallery, 52a Doggett St, Newstead, Tues-Fri, 10am-6pm and Sat, 10am-4pm. Details: (07) 3216 1250 or visit www.fireworksgallery.com.au

December 5: National Roundtable on Indigenous Access Education. Hosted in CQUniversity Rockhampton's Office of Indigenous Engagement. Details: 1800 651 891 or Tina Boneham at t.boneham@cqu.edu.au

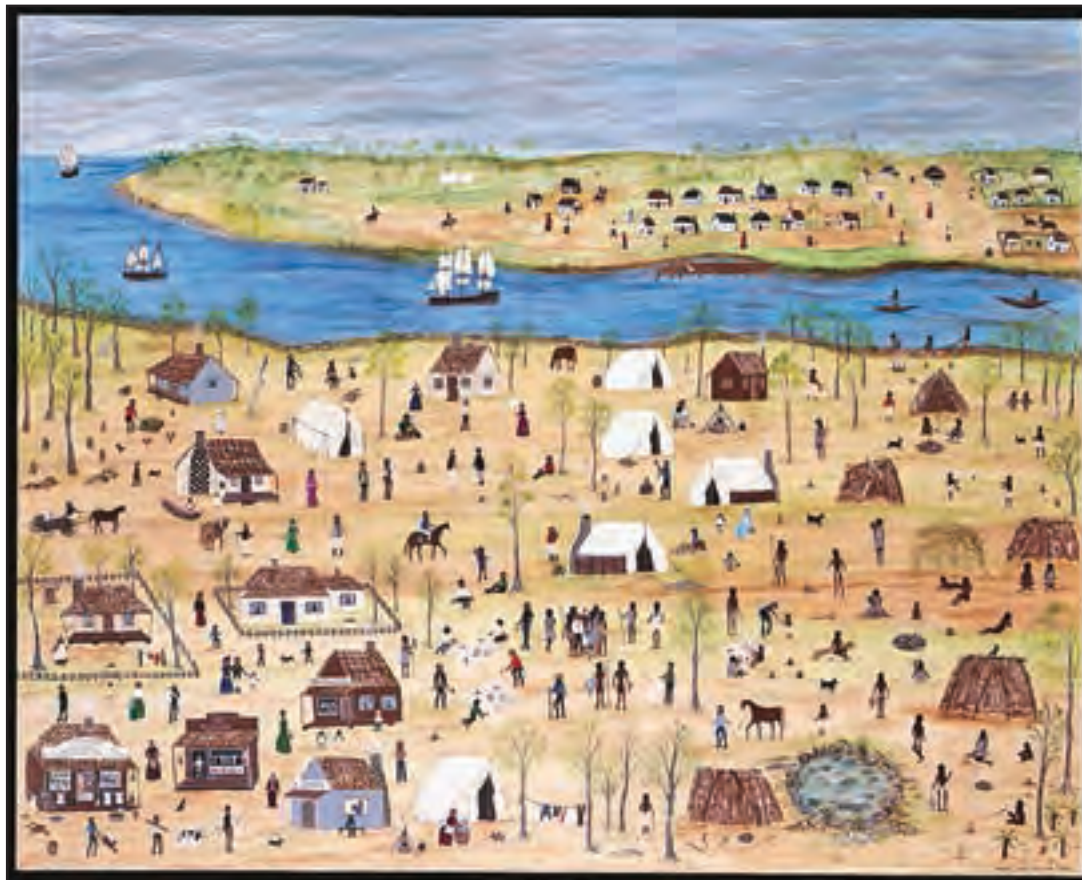
December 6: Wearable art with Nickeema Williams, who will show how to create a wearable art accessory using natural and synthetic materials. Held at Kuril Dhagun, Level 1, State Library of Queensland, Stanley Place, Southbank from 3-5pm. Cost: \$22.50 a person (including refreshments and materials). Details: (07) 38429061. Bookings slq.eventbrite.com

December 13: Murri Christmas celebration. Includes music, crafts, colour and laughs. Held at Knowledge Walk, Level 1, State Library of Queensland, Stanley Place, Southbank from 10am-12 noon. Free. Details: (07) 38429061 or visit www.slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on

Victoria

Until December 7: 'Rivers To Recognition' campaign, which aims to raise awareness of recognition of the First Peoples. A series of free workshops and community forums will be held to examine what constitutional recognition means for Indigenous Australians. Held in the western region including Brimbank, Maribyrnong, Melton, Moonee Valley and Wyndham council areas. Details: (03) 9932 1000 or visit www.hobsonsabay.vic.gov.au

Until February 27: *Men's Business: From The Darling To The Bay* exhibition. Presenting a journey into the lives of 10 Indigenous men from south-east Australia. Held at Koorie Heritage Trust, 295 King Street, Melbourne, weekdays 9am-5pm.



This artwork, titled *Batman Treaty*, by Marlene Gilson, is part of the exhibition at Bunjilaka.

Ballarat focus for exhibition



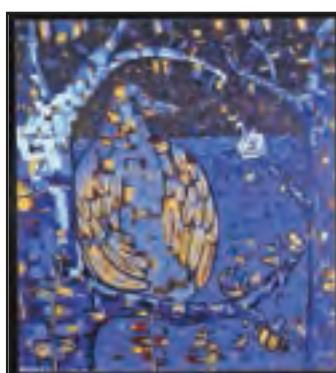
A NEW art exhibition by mother-daughter Koorie artists Marlene and Deanne Gilson exploring the early settlement history of Ballarat opens at Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Melbourne Museum, this Friday, December 5.

"In *Wadawurrung: Past, Present, Future*, Marlene and Deanne's work looks at early settlement of Ballarat and the goldfields through a Wadawurrung perspective," Bunjilaka manager Caroline Martin said.

"The exhibition invites visitors to look beyond the surface of our colonial past and explore the Koorie stories and culture of the Wadawurrung people that are a part of that history."

Living on country in Ballarat, Marlene and Deanne's life is linked to their Wadawurrung culture and the oral histories that have been passed down to them.

"In this exhibition we share stories of Ballarat and our bond



Deanne Gilson's *Waa* is part of *Wadawurrung: Past, Present, Future*.

to the Kulin people of Melbourne," Marlene said.

"We draw from knowledge that is remembered and documented, and also an unseen intuitive emotion and inherent connection to our culture."

"We acknowledge and maintain our culture, giving voice to our ancestors, carrying them with us into the future."

Marlene's work is embodied with narrative that has been handed down by her ancestors for thousands of years.

"My works visually depict times of ceremony, cultural practice, settlement, and the change that colonisation brought that dramatically affected my people," she said.

Deanne's style, which is different to her mother's, draws inspiration from family oral histories as well as cultural objects in the Museum Victoria collections.

"My practice looks to interrogate the colonial legacy of settlement and the Western hegemonic systems of class, race and representation in historical photographs that were imposed on our ancestors," she said.

"My work also explores the matriarchal role through my feminist perspectives, looking at the history of marriage and oppression within my culture."

Deanne's son Maximillian and niece and nephew Indigo and Rhyder also share a space in this exhibition, creating artwork based on the stories and histories as told to them by Marlene, their grandmother.

The exhibition continues until June 28 next year.

Free. Details: (03) 8622 2600 or visit www.koorieheritagetrust.com

December 5: City of Whittlesea Christmas event. Activities include kids karaoke, photo booth, Elders' tai chi, traditional games, dunking machine and more. Held at Meadow Glen International,

Athletics Stadium, 146-156 McDonalds Rd, Epping, from 4-6pm. Free. Details: Donna on (03) 9217 2159 or email aboriginalofficer@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

December 8-February 27: *The Koorie Art Show 2014*. Showcasing the talent of

Victorian Indigenous artists in one space. Held at Koorie Heritage Trust, 295 King Street, Melbourne, weekdays 9am-5pm. Free. Details: (03) 8622 2600 or visit www.koorieheritagetrust.com

December 9: Weaving circle activity to learn how to make a set of coasters, placemats or

baskets. Held at Koorie Heritage Trust, 295 King St, Melbourne, from noon-1pm. Cost: \$15 a session. Bookings essential. Details: (03) 8622 2614 or visit exhibitions@koorieheritagetrust.com

December 11: Fundraiser for rapper 'Little G'. Join Pascoe Braun, Christine Jacques-Doolan and Nathan Lovett-Murray for the event. Held at The Laundry Bar, 48-50 Johnson St, Fitzroy, from 7pm. Details: (03) 9415 8027 or visit www.paybackrecords.com.au

December 14: Aborigines Advancement League (AAL) Christmas Tree. Celebrations include a raffle, barbecue lunch, show bags, rides, games and more. Held at Aborigines Advancement League, 2 Watt St, Thornbury, from 11am-3pm. Cost: \$5 a child. To register contact reception on (03) 9480 7777.

January 15-17: Wominjeka Festival 2015. Presenting a diverse program of art, music, performances and activities featuring Christine Anu, The Treathers, Mariaa Randall and more. Held at Footscray Community Art Centre, 45 Moreland St, Footscray, from noon to 9pm. Details: (03) 9362 8888 or visit www.footscrayarts.com

Western Australia

Ongoing: Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company Writers Group meeting for new and emerging playwrights. Held on the second Monday of the month at Yirra Yaakin, 65 Murray Street, Perth, from 6.30-8.30pm. Details: Irma on (08) 9202 1966 or www.yirrayaakin.com.au

Until January 2015: 'Marlathamdu Wanggagu - Once Upon a Time In The West' project. Explores histories and stories of Aboriginal stockmen, rural and domestic workers on pastoral stations in the Pilbara during the 20th century. Held at FORM Gallery, 357 Murray St, Perth, Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm and Sat, 10am-5pm. Details: (08) 9226 2799 or visit www.form.net.au

Until December 23: *Warlpiri Star Gazers* exhibition. Thirty artists from desert communities have created images from more than 15 different jukurrpa or Dreaming law stories to create their artwork. Held at Japingka Gallery, 47 High Street, Fremantle, Mon-Fri, 10am-5.30pm, Sat-Sun, noon-5pm. Free. Details: (08) 9335 8265 or visit www.japingka.com.au

South Australia

Until December 7: *Our Mob* exhibition. An annual exhibition showcasing the talents of South Australian-based Aboriginal artists, it aims to create an outlet for artists to share their stories. Held at the Artspace and Festival foyers, Adelaide Festival Centre, King William St, Adelaide, Wed-Sun, 11am-4pm. Free. Details: (08) 8216 8600 or visit www.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au



Worawa College students Rhianna Nambiard and Regina Inkamala during their Eastern Health work experience with, from left, Aboriginal employment coordinator Stephanie May, Aboriginal hospital liaison officer Jo Voce and Box Hill Hospital social work student Sarah Brudenell.

Worawa students have taste of health careers



TWO students from Worawa Aboriginal College in Victoria have completed work experience at Eastern Health as part of an

Aboriginal employment plan.

Rhianna Nambiard and Regina Inkamala visited Maroondah Hospital, Healesville and District Hospital, Box Hill Hospital, Angliss Hospital, Yarra Valley Community Health and Yarra Ranges

Health to get first-hand experience of working in health care.

Eastern Health Aboriginal employment coordinator Stephanie May arranged the pilot program, which she said was a great initiative for students interested in a health career.

“Closing the gap”

“Eastern Health is committed to closing the health gap and as part of our Aboriginal employment plan we are

looking at ways we can provide more employment and training opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people,” she said.

“From accompanying nurses in the emergency department to meeting and hearing about the range of allied health professions and observing staff in community health, this experience will hopefully provide students with a great taste of what it would be like to work in health care.”

“Our staff at the various sites did a wonderful job hosting the students and providing diverse and interesting experiences over the week.

“The girls enjoyed every day of the program and noted that a particular highlight was spending time with elderly patients.”

Eastern Health says it will encourage Aboriginal students from schools in its region to consider work experience and a career with Eastern Health.

It's your guide to employment

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

Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed. No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!

Advertising disclaimer: Budsoar Pty Ltd, publisher of the *Koori Mail*, reserves the right to alter, omit or change advertisements, and while every care is exercised, it is not responsible for errors or non-insertions. No adjustments will be made for errors unless attention is drawn to them within the first week of

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who provide prizes for competitions or reader offers. If you would prefer that we do not do this, please write to us at: admin@koorimail.com or phone (02) 66 222 666, or fax (02) 66 222 600. Mail can be sent addressed to General Manager, Budsoar Pty Ltd, PO Box 117, Lismore NSW 2480.

Sheriff's Aboriginal Liaison Officer



- **Location negotiable - Ballarat or Geelong**
- **Ongoing, full-time position**
- **Salary range \$58,630 - \$71,189 plus superannation**

A great opportunity now exists for a motivated individual with a keen interest in Aboriginal welfare to join our team in the newly established role of Sheriff's Aboriginal Liaison Officer.

Working across the Grampians and Barwon South West Regions, the Sheriff's Aboriginal Liaison Officer is responsible for working in partnership with the Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee (RAJAC) Executive Officer and the Sheriff's Regional Manager to establish and maintain mutually beneficial relationships between all members of the Sheriff's Koori Support Network.

The purpose of the Network is to support the Department of Justice Koori related services aimed at assisting Koori community members to address their outstanding infringement obligations.

As the successful candidate, you will possess strong interpersonal and communication skills and have a knowledge and understanding of indigenous communities, both society and culture and the issues impacting on it.

This is an Aboriginal Designated Position, classified under 'special measures' of section 12 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. Only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply.

For further information on this position and to submit your application, please visit careers.vic.gov.au before Wednesday 14 January 2015.



ACT
Government

Justice and Community Safety

ACT Corrective Services Business Policy and Coordination Policy and Government

Indigenous Services and Cultural Diversity Senior Policy Officer

Administrative Services Officer Class 6
Salary Range: \$74,098 - \$84,803 (PN: 43036)

The Justice and Community Safety Directorate is seeking a motivated, hard-working person to undertake a key Policy Officer position in ACT Corrective Services. The person will assist with the development of policies and programs and provide advice in addressing issues of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and broader cultural diversity in the delivery of corrective services. The successful applicant will have demonstrated an understanding of the issues faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the criminal justice system and have strong and accepted links with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the ACT. The successful applicant must also demonstrate strong writing skills as the preparation of briefs, correspondence and policy papers is central to the position. The relative size of both the ACT Government and its Corrective Services Agency means that the successful applicant will have a real influence in service delivery to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients.

Eligibility/Other Requirements: Tertiary qualifications in a relevant field, eg: Law, Criminology, Social Sciences would be an advantage. The successful candidate will be required to undergo a criminal record check. This is a designated position and is only open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Notes: Applicants must identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person (*s42, Discrimination Act 1991*).

Contact Officer: Anthony Malone (02) 6207 0023
anthony.malone@act.gov.au

For further information, please visit **www.jobs.act.gov.au**

Applications Close: 17 December 2014

GT12616

**Great careers
come with the Territory.**

For more information on these positions and how to apply, visit **www.jobs.act.gov.au**



The Australia Council is seeking applications for a key leadership position, to commence in early 2015:

DIRECTOR INVESTMENT

Full time position – contract term 3 years
Convenient Surry Hills location just metres from Central Station

The Director Investment will lead the strategic oversight of investments in six year funded organisations and Major Performing Arts companies. In addition to leading a team of relationship managers and business analysts, this position will be charged with developing and maintaining a strategy for the investment of Council funding in Australian arts organisations.

To obtain further information, please visit our careers page at <http://jobs.australiacouncil.gov.au>

Applications close Monday 8th December 2014 at 5.00pm (AEDT)



Lead the Journey to Recognition on Australia's national Recognise campaign

PROJECT MANAGER

The Recognise campaign is seeking a Project Manager to lead the Journey to Recognition – a national relay travelling around the nation to build awareness and support for the campaign to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia's Constitution.

This position is responsible for leading a small team to carry the Journey to Recognition through to its completion. Since May 2013, the Journey has already travelled over 28,000kms, holding over 230 events in over 180 communities across the country.

The position is full-time and Sydney based, with a maximum term to 30 June 2015 (with likely extension to 30 June 2016).

Recognise is part of Reconciliation Australia, an independent, national not-for-profit organisation. We are committed to improving employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians and strongly encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

For further information about Reconciliation Australia, job description and selection criteria go to our website www.reconciliation.org.au or call 02-8204-1500

Applications close: Monday 15 December 2014

Please send resume and brief covering letter addressing selection criteria to: Journey to Recognition - Project Manager Position, PO Box K746, HAYMARKET NSW 1240, claire.toepfer@recognise.org.au

ST JOHNS COLLEGE, DUBBO

Co-educational School Years 7 – 12
Current enrolments 1,065

TEACHER ASSISTANT INDIGENOUS

Part Time Temporary Position
40 hours per fortnight

Commencing 27.01.2015 to 18.12.2015

Applications are invited for the above position from persons who demonstrate a sincere commitment to the aims and philosophy of Catholic education.

Essential:

- Commitment to supporting students learning needs.
- Effective communication and a high level of interpersonal skills to work as part of a team.
- Ability to provide individual support as well as direct small learning groups.
- At least three years' experience working with high school students to support and develop literacy and numeracy skills.
- Provide confirmation of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background.

Preferred:

- A qualification in Learning Support or other related qualification.

Further details of this position are be obtained by contacting Jenny Cosgrove on (02) 6338 3000 or email j.cosgrove@bth.catholic.edu.au

A valid Working with Children Check Number is required for this position and must be provided at the time of application. To obtain a Working with Children Check Number visit www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au or call (02) 9286 7219.

Written applications addressing the selection criteria and with the names of three professional referees (including a Priest of the Parish) to be submitted to:

Mrs Darlene Murdoch
Catholic Education Office
PO Box 308
BATHURST NSW 2795
Email: d.murdoch@bth.catholic.edu.au

Applications close: Monday, 8 December 2014 at 3.00pm

The Catholic Education Office Bathurst is an equal opportunity employer.



Ngambri Local Aboriginal Land Council CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Remuneration package negotiable)

Ngambri Local Aboriginal Land Council based in Queanbeyan NSW is a progressive organisation that are seeking applications from experienced and motivated people interested in a rewarding career undertaking the challenging role of Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO will be required to assist and support the Board in implementing the NLALC Community Land and Business Plan, as well as other Legislative and Regulatory compliances.

The successful applicant will have to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (NSW) the capacity to interpret and implement legislation and sound communication skills. Organisational and management experience is essential together with an understanding of accounting practices and principles. An in depth knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal issues, including culture and heritage and social housing would be required.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the position description, selection criteria and address the selection criteria for their application to be considered.

Recruitment package: Cheryl Williams 02 6297 4152

Applications can be forwarded to: nlalc1@bigpond.net.au

Applications can be posted to: marked "Confidential" and posted to:

The Chairperson
Ngambri Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 150, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Applications close: Friday 9th January 2015

Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply

Aboriginal Health Promotion and Chronic Care (AHPACC) Worker, Western suburbs

Cohealth is one of Australia's largest community health organisations delivering services across Melbourne's inner, northern and western metropolitan suburbs.

Cohealth's mission is to strengthen community and make a difference to the lives and wellbeing of people, particularly of those who experience stigma and the risk of marginalisation. We create impact through a powerful combination of advocacy, innovation in service delivery, and partnership with consumers, communities and other stakeholders.

With over 30 sites cohealth provides a range of vital local health and support services including medical, dental, allied health, mental health, and counselling, and many specialist health services. More information about cohealth is available on our website www.cohealth.org.au.

Only people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) descent will be considered for this position

Position Summary

The position will be based at cohealth Braybrook site, and will focus on engaging with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the western suburbs of Melbourne. This position is part of a team of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers, led and supported by an Indigenous Team Leader.

Position Responsibilities

Service delivery - 50% of the role will be service delivery, as follows:

- Care Coordination
- Clinical disease management
- Preventative health checks
- Health promotion programs

The remaining 50% of the role will involve activities related to the following:

- Quality improvement: Organisational change and development
- Administrative responsibilities

cohealth is an equal opportunity employer that offers generous salary packaging and opportunity to undertake professional training and development opportunities. Only people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) descent will be considered for this position.

To apply for this job go to:
www.cohealthcareers.org.au/Jobs/
& enter ref code: 1842863.
Applications close 08 December 2014.



Aboriginal Targeted SOLICITOR, HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM

**Civil Law Division,
Coffs Harbour Office
Legal Officer I-III
(Ongoing)**

- Ongoing vacancy
- Package up to \$112K

Applications must be submitted online through jobs.nsw.gov.au to be considered. Please go to www.jobs.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number 00003C2F.

Closing date: 7 December 2014

Enquiries: Sally Bryant on (02) 6651 7899

200785

Aboriginal Targeted, Hotline Information Officer, Clerk 3/4 Parramatta Justice Precinct

- Ongoing vacancy
- Package up to \$77K
- To view full advert, please go to www.jobs.nsw.gov.au Use 00003BVB as the reference number
- All applications MUST be submitted online through Jobs NSW

Enquiries: Te'res Sia on (02) 8688 3968

Closing date: 7 December 2014

200786



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

Applications can be lodged online at liveandworknhehealth.com.au/work/opportunities-for-aboriginal-torres-strait-islander-people/
Application Information Packages are available at this web address or by contacting Aboriginal Employment – Workforce on (02) 4985 3286.

Clinical Nurse Consultant Grade 2

Adamstown Chronic Disease Aged Care
Enquiries: Suzanne Tunny (02) 4924 2503
Reference ID: 224167

Closing Date: 17 December 2014

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People are encouraged to apply.

Salary and conditions in accordance with relevant award. Hunter New England Health promotes the values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect & Empowerment and is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

200714

POSITION VACANT

**Victorian Aboriginal
Community Services
Association Ltd**



The Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association Limited (VACSAL) is the recognised state-wide Peak Advisory body on Aboriginal Community issues. VACSAL is a community based, community controlled organisation, comprising representatives from Koorie organisations across the State. VACSAL delivers and manages a range of critical community services across Victoria, including youth justice where we currently have the following vacant position available;

Aboriginal Youth Justice Worker

To provide culturally appropriate support and advocacy service to Aboriginal Youth in the Youth Justice system or youth who are "at risk" of entering the Youth Justice system.

The position seeks to reduce the numbers of Koorie youth who reside and or visit the North and West Metropolitan Region and who come into contact and or are at risk of coming into contact with the Criminal Justice System.

Please contact Leigh Saunders on (03) 9484 5310 for further information and or a Position Description.

Koorie people are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applications close – on the 17th December 2014



**BULLINAH ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICE (BAHS)
BALLINA**

Bullinah Aboriginal Health Service is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service that provides comprehensive primary healthcare services to the Aboriginal Communities in the Ballina and surrounding regions.

We are seeking a suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the following position:

Senior Aboriginal Health Worker (Full-Time)

(Salary negotiable depending on qualifications and experience).

Bullinah Aboriginal Health Service considers that being Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander is a general occupational qualification for this position under Section 14 of the Anti – Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).

For further information on this position, please contact the Practice Manager, Marilyn Bailey on 02 6681 5644 or via email to: nurse@bullinahahs.org.au

For the Position Documentation please email:
adminsupport@bullinahahs.org.au

Written applications should contain the following:

- Résumé
- Statement addressing the Selection Criteria
- List of Referees

Please send applications to:
CEO (Marked Confidential)
Bullinah Aboriginal Health Service
P.O. Box 148, BALLINA NSW 2478

Applications Close 5pm Friday 19th December 2014

ABORIGINAL METROPOLITAN ICE PARTNERSHIP – PILOT

We are pleased to announce a new initiative in Metropolitan Melbourne that aims to increase services and support in addressing growing ICE related issues impacting on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families and the community.

The Aboriginal Metropolitan Ice Partnership initiative is an 18 month pilot project that reflects a new partnership approach between Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) and Alcohol and Drug services.

This exciting initiative will focus on assertive outreach, alcohol and drug support and clinical interventions as well as better access to alcohol and drug services for Aboriginal people and families with ice and other alcohol and drug issues. There are nine positions in total being recruited to - including a Coordinator position based at the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service as well as four Care and Recovery positions and four Counselling positions.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG SUPPORT WORKER – CARE AND RECOVERY POSITION:

This role will provide culturally responsive support and advocacy for Aboriginal clients and their families in supporting improved access to alcohol and drug treatment in relation to ICE use. This will involve referral and support services for Aboriginal people (youth and adult) and will support integrated treatment and care pathways for clients with the highest needs.

These positions will be based in the following Aboriginal Community organisations:

Ngwala Willumbong Cooperative Ltd (1 position to cover Southern Metropolitan region) – for a copy of the position description please see www.ngwala.org or contact Glenn Howard on 9510 3233 for information relating to the position
Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (1 position to cover Eastern Metropolitan region) – for a copy of the position description please see www.vacca.org or contact Siobhan Meechan on 9871 9000 for information relating to the position
Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (2 positions to cover Northern Metropolitan region and Western Metropolitan region) – for a copy of the position description please see www.vahs.org.au or contact Lesley Day on 9419 3000 for information relating to the position

ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELLING POSITION:

This position aims to reduce ICE related harms by providing an assessment as well as range of counselling interventions to assist clients and their family members to change harmful behaviours and to increase their capacity to effectively manage ICE related impacts including issues associated with addictions.

The role also links Aboriginal clients and their families to other appropriate services and supports the provision of holistic coordinated care according to the complexity of client and family needs within a recovery framework.

These positions will be based in the following community health services and alcohol and drug services:

Eastern Health (1 position to cover Eastern Metropolitan region) – for a copy of the position description please see www.easternhealth.org.au or contact Gavin Foster on 9843 1288 for information relating to applying for the position
Monash Health (1 position to cover Southern Metropolitan region) – for a copy of the position description please see www.monashhealth.org or contact Debra Alexander on 9792 7618 for information relating to applying for the position
Odyssey House (1 position to cover Western Metropolitan region) – for a copy of the position description please see www.odyssey.org.au or contact Neos Zavrou on 9420 7651 for information relating to the position
Uniting Care Re-Gen (1 position to cover Northern Metropolitan region) – for a copy of the position description please see www.regen.org.au or contact Brandon Jones on 9386 2876 for information relating to applying for the position



ZO441106



**Australian
National
University**

Higher Degree Research Program Manager

The National Centre for Indigenous Studies
Academic Level C
\$107,389 to \$119, 733 plus 17% super
Fixed Term 3 Years
Reference: 492434

The National Centre for Indigenous Studies (NCIS) promotes cross-disciplinary research in a wide range of areas of relevance to Indigenous Australians. An exciting opportunity exists to join the NCIS as its Higher Degree Research (HDR) Program Manager.

The HDR Program Manager will work with the Director and other Centre staff to deliver key strategic outcomes in research and outreach as well as effectively managing the growing demands of the HDR program. The successful applicant will also make a contribution to the teaching effort of the Centre.

Led by Professor Mick Dodson AM, the National Centre for Indigenous Studies (NCIS) promotes and initiates cross-disciplinary research and teaching in a wide range of areas of relevance to Indigenous Australians. Through this research, NCIS aims to deepen Australia's understanding of Indigenous cultures and histories and ensure Indigenous knowledge, perspectives and experiences are respected, valued, accessed and incorporated into all learning environments at The Australian National University (ANU) and beyond.

For confidential discussion regarding this position please contact Tamai Heaton T +61 2 6125 6708
E.ncis@anu.edu.au

jobs.anu.edu.au

CBIC021001500



Community Based Organisation

- Leadership opportunities within an independent community organisation, South Eastern Sydney.
- Recently merged, dynamic organisation poised for significant further growth

Director, Community Care

Lead a portfolio of programs in ageing, carers and disability services.

- High level strategic, conceptual, and analytical skills to review complex issues, and formulate innovative solutions.
- Demonstrated leadership and management in a fast moving flexible organisation.
- Knowledge of enablement and consumer directed care and the ability to develop multiple teams around this philosophy and approach.

Manager, Philanthropy, Partnerships and Innovation

Lead sponsorship, fundraising, branding, innovation and marketing.

- Evidence of strategic capacity to develop a diversified revenue stream.
- Sponsorship and/or business development experience in a complex corporate environment.

Manager, Youth Services

Lead early intervention programs to reduce the risk of young people entering child protection.

- Strategic vision, motivation and business acumen.
- Substantial work experience within the education and/or youth sector.
- Exceptional interpersonal and people management skills.
- Industry relevant tertiary qualifications in counselling, social work or related field with eligibility for professional membership.

People from NESB and ATSI backgrounds are invited to apply.

Further information: Barry Gallagher, 02 95800688.
Applicants can access an information pack by emailing amalia.bethivas@3bridges.org.au.

Closing date: 10 December 2014.



Aboriginal Cancer Screening Coordinator

- Contribute to improving health outcomes for Aboriginal people
- Develop cancer prevention initiatives for Aboriginal communities
- Full-time fixed term position – St Kilda Road, Melbourne

Cancer Council Victoria is committed to reducing the impact of cancer and tailoring strategies for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. The Prevention Division includes a broad range of cancer prevention and screening programs including Quit Victoria, SunSmart, PapScreen Victoria the Obesity Policy Coalition, alcohol policy and bowel cancer screening program.

Cancer Council is excited to be working in partnership with AFL SportsReady to find a dedicated Program Coordinator for our Aboriginal Prevention team. Your role is to develop, implement and evaluate cancer screening initiatives for Aboriginal communities, specifically cervical, breast and bowel cancer screening, including building and maintaining working relationships with key Aboriginal stakeholders.

This full-time fixed term position to 23 December 2015 provides a salary within range \$61,000 to \$68,000 pa plus superannuation, annual leave loading and the benefits of not-for-profit salary packaging. We can also offer a flexible and friendly work environment, social and wellbeing activities, and a location close to public transport.

To find out more visit www.cancervic.org.au/about/careers or contact Hiranthi Perera on (03) 9514 6423.

Only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply for this position. This action constitutes a special measure under section 12 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic).

Applications close Sunday, 14 December 2014



Our vision: Generations of vibrant, healthy and strong Aboriginal communities

The Mallee District Aboriginal Services has many exciting opportunities for suitably qualified and experienced professionals to join our organization. These opportunities would be suited to highly motivated and organized individuals looking to work as part of a professional team committed to improving Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing.

Please Note: This position is "Identified for Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander candidates only". (Exemption under the Special Measure Provision Sections 12 and 28 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010)

Corporate Services Position Vacant

Human Resource Officer

The Human Resource (HR) Officer is an entry level HR administration role with responsibilities for providing support in the various human resource functions, which include recruitment, staffing, training and development and performance monitoring. In addition the HR Officer will be supported by the Manager, People and Culture and Senior Human Resource Consultant to learn the more complex aspects of Human Resource Management including; Employee Counselling, Industrial Relations and Workplace Investigation.

Please Note: Recruitment Agencies are welcome to refer applicants to jobs at MDAS but only applications meeting all requirements outlined in the "How to Apply" instructions on our website will be considered. Enquiries from genuine applicants are welcome however enquiries made on behalf of an applicant will not be received or returned.

How to Apply

For full details including a position description and details on how to apply please refer to the 'People and Jobs' section of our website: www.mdas.org.au.

Closing date for the above position is 5pm, Friday 12th December 2014.



Mildura Rural City Council

Health Promotion Officer

Community Care Services Branch

Full time temporary position for up to 12 months
Job Number: R1352

Salary: Band 5 commencing at \$58,033.54 per annum
Closes: 4pm Thursday 11 December 2014

The filling of this vacancy is intended to constitute a special measure under section 12 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. This vacancy is only available to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.

GERARD JOSÉ
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Personal Assistant

We're looking for an experienced Personal Assistant to help support the Head Content Services based in Ultimo, Sydney. You'll need to have experience in a similar role, a positive can-do attitude and strong communication skills.

For details visit abc.net.au/careers

The ABC strives for equity and diversity in the workplace and to promote a culture of opportunity. Indigenous Australians are strongly encouraged to apply for this position.

GT12/03



Health
Justice Health &
Forensic Mental Health Network

Aboriginal Sexual Health Education Officer (Aboriginal Identified)

Eastgardens

Temporary Full Time (up to 30/06/15)

JH No: 220834

Salary: AHENG01-09: \$918.40-\$1,352.70 pw.

Enquiries: Jennifer Woodward on 0412 971 562.

Closing Date: 3 December 2014.

• This is a dedicated Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander position. Applicants must be able to prove Aboriginal descent through parentage, identification as being an Aboriginal person and being accepted in the community as such. Exemption is claimed under Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act. JH&FMHN deems it appropriate to seek confirmation of Aboriginal status from applicants applying for Aboriginal identified positions or targeted positions either during the interview process or prior to commencement of the position.

To apply for this position please visit <http://nswhealth.recruit.com.au> NSW Health Service – Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network is committed to Work Health & Safety, EEO, Ethical Practices, and the Principles of Cultural Diversity. Personal criminal records checks will be conducted. Prohibited persons as declared under the Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998 are not eligible to apply for child-related employment.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



NGUNYA JARJUM
ABORIGINAL CHILD AND
FAMILY NETWORK INC.

Ngunya Jarjum is the first Aboriginal, Out of Home Care Service on NSW to be accredited for 5 years by the Office of the Children's Guardian. We are able to offer exciting career opportunities to anyone with the skills and dedication to join our case management team. We are a dynamic service in the process of significantly increasing our capacity to enable us to provide additional care placements for our children, families and communities.

Re-advertised positions

Experienced ATSI Caseworkers

Full time permanent positions

Ngunya Jarjum is seeking to employ an Aboriginal caseworker for our OOHC team. A minimum of 3 years' experience in casework practice in Human Services, particularly in OOHC, social welfare, carer support or working with communities, families and children.

A satisfactory "Working with Children Check" and a medical will be conducted.

Salary: As per award - Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010. A generous remuneration package plus superannuation, leave loading and including a generous salary sacrificing arrangement will be negotiated.

In this position an applicants race is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination act 1977.

Location: Lismore.

Contact: Cathrine Tarrant via email cathrine.tarrant@ngunyarjarjum.com

Information Packages: Must be obtained prior to completion of the application and is available on request by contacting the office on (02) 6626 3700.

Send Applications to: Chairperson, Ngunya Jarjum, PO Box 580, Lismore NSW 2480.

Previous applicants need not apply.

Closing Date: 30 January 2015.

Legal Aid
NEW SOUTH WALES

ABORIGINAL TARGETED SOLICITOR

Civil Law Division, Lismore Office

Legal Officer I-III

(Ongoing)

- Ongoing vacancy
- Package up to \$112K

Applications must be submitted online through jobs.nsw.gov.au to be considered. Please go to www.jobs.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number 00003C5D.

Closing date: 10 December 2014

Enquiries: Fiona Pace on (02) 6621 2082

200925

Career Opportunities

Aboriginal Health Worker - 3 days per week

Aboriginal Men's Worker - 3 days per week

For further information on the above positions, please contact:
Liz Chondros on 8470 1171 or 0413 189 135.

To apply for this job go to:

www.dch.recruitment.com.au

Applications close 12 December 2014.



Family Connector: Get a career that matters.

- Are you looking for a rewarding new role?

UnitingCare CYPF is seeking an enthusiastic Family Connector to join our Family Referral Service team in Dubbo. This program offers a voluntary and integrated service to meet the needs of families.

We offer great staff benefits including training and development opportunities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates are encouraged to apply.

To apply: www.getacareerthatmatters.com.au

Apply online by 5pm Tuesday 9 December 2014.

Please view our job description online.

We are an EEO Employer and are committed to principles of Diversity.



**Foundation of
Rehabilitation with
Aboriginal Alcohol
Related Difficulties
Aboriginal
Corporation**

FORWAARD Aboriginal Corporation is a not for profit organisation providing a residential rehabilitation program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with alcohol or other substance misuse problems.

We are looking for suitably experienced and qualified individuals to fill these positions.

Applicants must demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and have an understanding of their culture, values and life styles. Applicants will be required to undergo a criminal history check and Working with Children Clearance (Ochre Card).

CLIENT SERVICES MANAGER

Salary - \$65,500 per annum

As part of FORWAARD's Alcohol and Other Drug Residential Program, the Client Service Manager will manage and lead the treatment team in service delivery and implementation of alcohol and other drug programs through the continuum of client care.

You must have demonstrated extensive experience in the management of diverse teams and program delivery.

FORWAARD Aboriginal Corporation offers 6 weeks annual leave, salary packaging and a friendly work environment.

Applications close COB: Friday 12th December 2014

For a copy of the Position Description please email: management.assist@forwaard.com.au.

To apply, please address the selection criteria and email, with your CV, to: management.assist@forwaard.com.au or post to: GPO Box 966, Darwin NT 0801

"Indigenous Australians are encouraged to apply"



Aboriginal Nursing Cadet

- **Part Time, Fixed Term position (until December 2015)**
- **Aboriginal Health, Mission**
- **Excellent benefits including salary packaging**

St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne (SVHM) is part of St Vincent's Health Australia and a leading teaching, research and tertiary health service which employs more than 5,000 staff across 18 sites throughout Melbourne. SVHM provides a diverse range of adult clinical services including acute medical and surgical services, sub-acute care, medical diagnostics, rehabilitation, allied health, mental health, palliative care, correctional health and community residential care. SVHM is one of Australia's leading Catholic not-for-profit healthcare providers.

Opportunities currently exist for enthusiastic Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students from Victoria who are currently completing a Bachelor or Post Graduate Degree in Nursing, to partake in St Vincent's 2015 Aboriginal Nursing and Allied Health Cadetship Program.

Cadetships offer an opportunity for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander nursing students to work at St Vincent's whilst completing their studies.

You will receive paid employment experience as you work alongside nurses to observe and help deliver quality care to patients across an array of clinical areas. You will receive cultural support from an Aboriginal nurse as well as clinical and career mentoring throughout the year and if eligible, be supported through the application process for a federal scholarship to assist with living and study expenses.

Cadetships will consist of 40 shifts spread out from January - December 2015 within St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne.

It is essential you provide confirmation of Aboriginality and evidence of passing grades in subjects undertaken thus far.

Interested applicants will need to submit a CV and covering letter and may be asked to attend an interview. Preference will be given to students in their last or second last year of study of their degree.

Join us. Your reward is a career structure with opportunities for training and development in a value based organisation. Benefits include salary packaging, onsite gym, employee assistance program and Staff health centre.

All appointments are made subject to the candidate providing a current satisfactory National Police Certificate conducted by The Victoria Police.

For position description and to apply please go to <https://stvincents.mercury.com.au/ViewPosition.aspx?id=12735>

Closing date is Wednesday 10 December 2014.



Indigenous Traineeships x 4 (12 months)

A great opportunity to have your qualification paid for whilst gaining meaningful work experience.

City of Melbourne is proud to be partnering with Aplus to provide Traineeships to applicants from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people in different work areas across the organisation.

Trainees will be provided with valuable work experience whilst studying towards an accredited Certificate III qualification.

Traineeships are being offered in the following work areas: Customer Relations, Human Resources, Family Services, Events Melbourne and City Research.

For more information and to lodge an expression of interest in one or more of these traineeships, please visit our website www.employment.melbourne.vic.gov.au

Expressions of Interest Close Friday, 14 December 2014

Only Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply as in accordance with the special measure provision of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010



NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc.

OFFICE MANAGER

Full time position (Subject to ongoing funding)

Location: Sydney

Total remuneration Grade 7/8 salary (\$78,142- \$86,498 per annum), and employer's contribution to superannuation.

Applications close Friday 12th December 2014

The Officer Manager is responsible for the day-to-day administrative functions of the NSW AECG Inc Secretariat. The position manages the financial, human and administrative resources of the Secretariat to ensure delivery of support services to members of the NSW AECG Inc. These services are to be delivered within budget and in accordance with policies and procedures of the NSW AECG Inc.

Applicants are to address the following criteria:

- Aboriginality.
- Sound knowledge of issues affecting Aboriginal people in relation to education and training.
- Extensive experience managing a busy, customer-based office including supervision of staff, record keeping and procurement of goods and services.
- Demonstrated experience in financial day to day operations including overseeing payment of accounts, payroll and preparation of invoices and payment requisitions.
- Proven ability to liaise with clients, business associates and colleagues.
- Good keyboard skills with experience using Microsoft Office applications.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Current driver's licence.
- Commitment and capacity to implement EEO, Charter of Principles for a Culturally Diverse Society and Ethical Behavior.

Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

All enquiries and applications are to be directed to Mervyn Donovan, Executive Officer by phone 02 9550 5666 or by email to merv.donovan@aecg.nsw.edu.au



SOUTH COAST MEDICAL SERVICE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION - NOWRA, NSW

The South Coast Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation is a "not-for-profit Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation" providing Health and Wellbeing services to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Shoalhaven area.

Two (2) Full Time Case Workers - Out of Home Care (Aboriginal Designated)

We are seeking experienced candidates to assist with providing day to day service delivery for the provision of Aboriginal Out Of Home Care services for the Far South Coast Region from Batemans Bay to Eden. With a particular focus on providing positive outcomes for Children.

Experience is essential, applicants should possess the following:

- An ability to form relationships with a range of other agencies such as Family and Community Services (FaCS).
- Previous experience in working in an Out of Home Care Service.

Applications Must Address the Selection Criteria: For an Information Package containing position description, selection criteria and an employment application, please contact Tallara Kennedy on 02 4422 4222 or email reception@habitatpersonnel.org.au

Applications close: COB Friday 19th December 2014

- Cert IV in Community Services and or willingness to obtain the relevant qualification.
- High level communication skills both written and oral.

Aboriginality is a Genuine Occupational Requirement under S14 of the Anti- discrimination Act.

BIRIPI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION MEDICAL CENTRE



Biripi Aboriginal Corporation Medical Centre is seeking applications from suitable people for the following positions. All positions are Aboriginal Designated and authorised under section 14D of the Anti-Discrimination Act.

MANAGER

Biripi Aboriginal Children & Youth Services

Full-time permanent

Manage the Biripi Aboriginal Children Services (BACS), Biripi Aboriginal Youth Services (BAYS) & Walanbaa Gayili Children Services team under this position. Undertake and ensure all aspects of administration program management and information systems management. Aide the facilitation of Biripi's Strategic Plan through the effective and efficient delivery of services to the community.

All applicants need to contact Andrew King on 02-6591 2418 or andrew.king@biripi.org.au for an application package and must address the essential criteria outlined. If you have any enquiries please contact Brett Cowling on 0439 267 215.

Applications Close 3pm Friday 12th December 2014



COMMUNITY PROJECT OFFICER ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

Reference No. 2014.119

Permanent Part Time - 21 hours per week

This is an Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander identified position. Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under section 14(d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.

The position was created to address access and equity issues experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; reaffirm Fairfield City Council's commitment to Reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; initiate and coordinate the delivery of actions in Council's Reconciliation Action Plan *Dyalgala - to embrace Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reconciliation Plan for Fairfield City 2011-2016*.

To obtain a description of the full advertisement and position description, visit Council's website www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au. For more information contact Susan Gibbeson on 02 9725 0700.

Applications close: Thursday, 11 December 2014

Department of Justice

Senior Clinician Metropolitan Remand Centre



- **Ongoing, full time opportunity**
- **Salary range \$83,749 - \$101,330 plus superannuation**

The Department of Justice delivers high quality services to Victorians and supports a safe, just, innovative and thriving Victoria.

The Senior Clinician leads a team that is responsible for the strategic planning, scheduling and resourcing of interventions across the region in accordance with business requirements and service delivery expectations.

The Senior Clinician is also responsible for supervising, developing and ensuring quality outcomes and the integrity of Offending Behaviour Programs interventions.

The ideal candidate will possess knowledge and understanding of the Criminal Justice System, experience in the clinical supervision of psychologists or social workers, experience in a management role, knowledge of the reducing re-offending literature, and previous experience in offending behaviour assessment and intervention.

For further information on this position and to submit your application, please visit careers.vic.gov.au.

Applications close on Tuesday 9 December 2014.



Family & Community Services

Disability Support Worker (Part-Time)

**Accommodation and Respite
South Eastern Sydney District
Job Reference No. 000039WB**

Salary range \$48,584 pa - \$59,819 (pro rata) pa PLUS employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

There are few jobs as personally rewarding as those that help improve the quality of life of other people. As a Disability Support Worker with Family and Community Services, you will provide care and support to people with a disability living in community-based group homes.

Family and Community Services is currently seeking enthusiastic and caring Disability Support Workers to work with individuals with intellectual disabilities. Work requires resilience and self confidence as well as the ability to assess and manage risks to ensure safety.

A current NSW driver's licence, Working with Children Check Clearance and either a First Aid Certificate or an Emergency Response Certificate are required for this role.

Job Notes: There are ongoing part time roles available in accordance with the *Government Sector Employment Act, 2013*. A talent pool will be created to fill positions arising within a 12 month period in South Eastern Sydney District.

Enquiries: Kylie Fulton on (02) 9566 5000

Information Packages and to apply on-line: Please visit www.jobs.nsw.gov.au for details on how to apply.

Closing date: 17 December 2014



National Manager, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy

- **Make a genuine difference to the lives of some of Australia's most disadvantaged kids and families.**
- **Pivotal role in influencing across all areas of our work.**
- **Work with an inspiring and passionate team in an innovative organisation.**
- **Dynamic part-time role, 30.4 hours per week**
- **Can be located in either Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane.**

The National Manager, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander is vital in ensuring the integrity of The Smith Family's (TSF) approach to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people to get the most from their education.

A day in the life of a National Manager, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, might look like this, but really every day will be different:

- Provide expert advice to key stakeholders on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander policy
- Support our quarterly reflective practice sit-ins
- Liaise with members of our Advisory Group on issues concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.
- Develop relationships with a range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders
- Provide an Executive update on progress against our Reconciliation Action Plan
- Respond to all the emails and phone messages (that never seem to stop!)

To find out more information about this role please see the position description located at <http://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/about-us/careers/current-vacancies/national-manager-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-policy>

For any other information, please contact Wendy Field via email at wendy.field@thesmithfamily.com.au

Closing date: Monday 8 December, 2014

Due to the nature of this role, the successful candidate must be prepared to undertake a National Police Check.

The filling of this employment opportunity is intended to constitute a special measure Applications will only be considered from persons of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent for this position, under special measures pursuant to constitute a special measure under subsection 8 (1) of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975).

thesmithfamily.com.au

- ZO451655

Get set for the Coffs Ella 7s

By **TOM EVENS, Executive Officer, Lloyd McDermott Rugby Development Team (LMRDT)**

THE Lloyd McDermott Rugby Development Team – or ‘Lloydies’ as it is known – was founded more than 20 years ago.

Initially, the mission was to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in rugby.

The mission changed not long after its establishment to providing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth with a future through rugby with staying at school a priority.

The organisation has introduced many innovative programs and provided a lot of opportunities for our youth to experience rugby in Australia and overseas.

One of these innovations has been the development of the very popular Ella 7s tournaments at Coffs Harbour and more recently our schoolgirl development camp in Alice Springs.

The Coffs Harbour Ella 7s tournament has been hugely successful in giving players a chance to be identified by ARU national selectors.

The LMRDT has received a request from the ARU to enter teams into the 2015 national 7s championships for men, women, youth boys and youth girls.

The 2015 national 7s championships for youth boys and youth girls will be held on February

27-28 and March 1, 1915 at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation, Wakehurst Parkway, Narrabeen.

The 2015 national men’s and women’s 7s championships will follow on March 6-8 at the same venue.

The 2015 Warruwi Ella 7s will be held at Coffs Harbour on February 20-21 at the C.ex Coffs International Stadium.

The LMRDT has nominations for 22 men’s teams and eight women’s teams.

The men’s draw is almost full and the women’s draw has four positions available.

The tournament is limited to 32 men and 12 women’s teams.

Can enter second team

Those who wish to enter a second team are welcome with the understanding that the second team will be in the same half of the draw as the first eam. Each team will consist of 12 players and two management staff.

As part of our arrangements with Coffs Harbour Council, all visiting teams must book their accommodation through the Coffs Harbour Information Centre. Visitor Information staff can be contacted on 1300 369 070 (toll free in Australia).

Team nominations will not be finalised until we receive confirmation that bookings have been made through the Coffs

Harbour Information Centre.

Entry to the C.ex Coffs International Stadium is \$5 for everyone, including players.

The event will be run on cup,

plate and bowl basis.

All players must be complete an ARU registration form and must be over the age of 18. Players turning 17 or 18 in 2015

can apply for dispensation by completing the two-year window form. These need to be lodged before you arrive in Coffs Harbour.

NOTICE INITIATING NEGOTIATIONS WITH NATIVE TITLE PARTIES MINING ACT 1971 (SA) SECTION 63M

TAKE NOTICE that, TAMAS KAPITANY of 13 Olive Road, Devon Meadows, Victoria, 3977, proposes to carry out mining-operations pursuant to Mineral Claim 3443, including any extensions, renewals, transfers, assignments or other dealings with Mineral Claim 3443 and any other Mineral Claim authority or interest in a Mineral Claim authority held over the area of Mineral Claim 3443 on:

DESCRIPTION OF AREA MINERAL CLAIM 3443

The land located in the State of South Australia , approximately 42km South West of Woomera, referred to as Mt Gunson and is the land bounded by:

Commencing at a point being the intersection of latitude -31o25'40" and longitude 137o10'55" thence, North West to -31o25'30" and 137o10'27", thence South to -31o25'37", thence South East to -31o25'45" and 137o10'55" and thence north to the point of commencement.

AREA of the land: approximately 13.05 Hectares.

All the within latitudes and longitudes being geocentric and expressed in the terms of the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94)

The general nature of the proposed mining operations that are to be carried out on the land is:

Shallow excavation of Gypsum crystals and associated mineral salts. Very low impact with no mechanical equipment used. No damage to the area.

The proposed operations are authorised by the following Mineral Claim Authorities under the Mining Act 1971 (SA):

Mineral Claim 3443 and Mining Lease application TO2426 of which TAMAS KAPITANY is the registered

holder.

TAMAS KAPITANY (and his successors or assigns) seeks to negotiate a native title mining agreement under Part 9B of the Mining Act 1971 (SA) in the respect of the proposed mining operations of the Land.

NOTE: If, two (2) months after this notice is given as required by the Mining Act 1971 (SA), there are no persons registered under the law of the State of the Commonwealth as holders of, or claimants to, native title in the Land, TAMAS KAPITANY (or his successors or assigns) may apply *ex parte* to the Environment, Resources and Development Court for a summary



NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Mining Lease	12/28	PREMIER COAL LIMITED	875.84HA	3km W'ly of Collie	Lat: 33° 21' S Long: 116° 6' E	COLLIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	38/1267	GOLD ROAD RESOURCES LIMITED	6845.69HA	94km E'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 121° 52' E	LAVERTON SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of mining leases, which authorises the applicant to mine for minerals for a term of 21 years from notification of grant and a right of renewal for 21 years.

Notification day: 3 December 2014

Native title parties: Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on **3 March 2015**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100. The mining tenements may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 3 April 2015**), there is no native title party under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* in relation to the area of the mining tenements.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518

adcorp F96821



NOTICE TO GRANT AMALGAMATION APPLICATIONS NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines and Petroleum, 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
45/3320-I	ATLAS IRON LIMITED	455919	9.38HA	35km SW'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 27' S Long: 119° 36' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
45/3321-I	ATLAS IRON LIMITED	455920	10.01HA	38km S'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 29' S Long: 119° 37' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
26/152	NORTHERN MINING LTD	456599	185.14HA	27km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 51' S Long: 121° 42' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
74/448	TRAKA RESOURCES LIMITED	457021	285.51HA	29km SE'ly of Ravensthorpe	Lat: 33° 38' S Long: 120° 17' E	RAVENSTHORPE SHIRE
74/522-I	TRAKA RESOURCES LIMITED	457022	531.71HA	22km E'ly of Ravensthorpe	Lat: 33° 38' S Long: 120° 16' E	RAVENSTHORPE SHIRE
31/1070-I	GOLDENRICH MINING RESOURCES PTY LTD	457232	23.50HA	113km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 38' S Long: 122° 24' E	MENZIES SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 3 December 2014

Native title parties: Under Section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to the applications. The 3 month period closes on **3 March 2015**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each amalgamation application may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 3 April 2015**), a native title party lodges an objection with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of the licence is an act attracting the expedited procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9425 1000.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

adcorp F96822

NOTICE INITIATING NEGOTIATIONS WITH NATIVE TITLE PARTIES MINING ACT 1971 (SA) SECTION 63M

TAKE NOTICE that **TASMAN RESOURCES LIMITED, ACN 009 253 187** of Level 15, 197 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000 (and its successors and assigns) (“Company”) proposes to carry out exploratory mining operations on the land comprised within Exploration Licence 4475 of which it is the registered holder.

1 Description of the land comprised in EL4475

An area of land being approximately 145 square kilometres located approximately 50km west of Port Augusta and 20 km north of Iron Knob in the vicinity of Wartaka Station in South Australia bounded as follows:

Commencing at a point being the intersection of latitude 32°34’S and longitude 137°05’E thence east to longitude 137°07’E, north to latitude 32°32’S , east to longitude 137°08’E, north to latitude 32°31’S, east to longitude 137°14’E, south to latitude 32°35’S, east to longitude 137°18’E, south to latitude 32° 39’S, west to longitude 137°16’E, north to latitude 32°38’S, west to longitude 137°14’E, north to latitude 32°36’S, west to longitude 137°12’E, north to latitude 32°35’S, west to longitude 137°10’E, south to latitude 32°36’S, west to longitude 137° 05’ and north to the point of commencement, all the within latitudes and longitudes being geodetic and expressed in terms of the Australian Geodetic Datum as defined on p. 4984 of Commonwealth Gazette number 84 dated October 6, 1966 (AGD66).

2 The general nature of the proposed mining operations that are to be carried out on the land is:

Exploratory operations to determine the geological structure of the land and presence of economic mineralisation. The operations may include all kinds of reconnaissance, geological mapping and gridding; all forms of exploration drilling; sampling and radiometric testing of drill cuttings; aerial and other photography; airborne and ground magnetic, electromagnetic, radiometric, seismic, gravity and electrical surveying; shallow trenching, geochemical soil and rock chip sampling, water sampling, hydrological studies; and all things necessarily incidental to those operations.

3 The proposed operations are or will be authorised by the following exploration authority under the Mining Act 1971:

Exploration Licence 4475 (or any substitute thereof).

4 TASMAN RESOURCES LIMITED seeks to negotiate a native title mining agreement under Part 9B of the Mining Act 1971.

Note: If, two months after this notice is given as required by the Mining Act 1971, there are no persons registered under the law of the State or the Commonwealth as the holders of, or claimants to, native title in the land, the Company may apply ex parte to the Environment, Resources and Development Court for a summary determination authorising entry to the land for the purpose of carrying out mining operations on the land, and the conduct of mining operations on the land.

Any person who holds or may hold native title in the land who requires further information regarding this notice is invited to contact the proponent **Tasman Resources Limited** as follows:

- Contact telephone number: (08) 9282 5889
- Contact facsimile number: (08) 9282 5855
- Postal address: PO Box 7055 Cloisters Square, Perth WA 6850
- Contact person: Mr Greg Solomon

Cabbage Tree kids know how to run



TWO sets of brothers have brought more glory to the small community of Cabbage Tree

Island, winning their 4x100m relay at the NSW Primary Schools Sports Association (PSSA) state athletics carnival.

Competing in the small schools relay, the Cabbage Tree Island boys of Malaki and Desmond Ferguson and Brett and Izaha James won the Norman and Elizabeth Austen Trophy.

Cabbage Tree Island is an Aboriginal community on the Richmond River south of Ballina, in Northern NSW.

Brett is in Year 6, Malaki and Izaha are in Year 5 and Desmond is in Year 4.

The boys went through a succession of carnivals to qualify for the state carnival in Sydney.

Last year the Cabbage Tree team finished a credible sixth.



From left, Malaki Ferguson, brothers Brett and Izaha James, and Malaki's brother Desmond Ferguson after their athletics success in Sydney.

School principal Dyonne Anderson said that this year, she felt confident the boys would finish in the top three.

"It was no surprise that our boys won," she said.

"The school and our community are extremely proud

of the boys.

"They had trainer Peter Stevenson helping them with starting and changeovers and he did a fantastic job.

"Our families have been so supportive of their kids in organising them to get to the state

championships and a big thanks to Aunty Delia, our Aboriginal education officer, who travelled by train with two of the boys."

Ms Anderson said Malaki Ferguson also competed in the long jump, but fell short of his personal best.

"It wasn't his best jump on the day, but if it had been, his personal best he would have given him third place, so we know he is keen to improve on his already fantastic result," she said.

Last March, the *Koori Mail* reported that the Cabbage Tree 4x50m relay team qualified for the PSSA state swimming titles in Sydney.

The Ferguson boys were members of that team.

Malaki also was a member of the athletics relay team that made it to the state finals in 2012.

Brett was a member of the school's swimming team that went to Sydney in 2013 and the athletics relay team in 2012.

At the 2014 athletics carnival, the Ngurrula Aboriginal Corporation provided sponsorship through the Indigenous Sport and Active Recreation Program. The families of the four boys were provided with financial support for travel and accommodation.

Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements

State of Queensland

Notification day: 10 December 2014



National Native Title Tribunal



QI2014/079 Carpentaria Shire Council Kowanyama People ILUA

Description of the agreement area:

The agreement covers about 560 sq km over five segments extending from 145 km to 275 km northeast of Normanton.

Relevant LGA: Carpentaria Shire Council.

Agreement area boundary compiled using data sources from, and with permission of, the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Queensland.

Parties to the agreements and their contact addresses:

Carpentaria Shire Council
c/- Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 31
NORMANTON QLD 4890

Kowanyama People
c/- Cape York Land Council Corporation
PO Box 2496
CAIRNS QLD 4870

The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

4.4 Subdivision P of Division 3 of Part 2 of the Native Title Act is not intended to apply to any Future Acts for which the Native Title Parties have given consent under this Deed.

8.2 The Native Title Parties consent to the continued operation, use and maintenance of: (a) the Non-Extinguishing Infrastructure; (b) the land on which the Non-Extinguishing Infrastructure is located; and (c) any land or waters which is adjacent to the land on which the Non-Extinguishing Infrastructure is located which is necessary for, or incidental to, the operation of the Non-Extinguishing Infrastructure.

9.2 [...] the Native Title Parties consent to: (a) the operation and maintenance of off alignment roads by or on behalf of the Council; (b) the use by the public of off alignment roads.

10.4 The Parties consent to the doing of Approved Future Acts.

11.1 The Parties consent to the construction or carrying out of Minor Works or Activities on the conditions described in Schedule 3.

"Approved Future Acts" has the meaning in clause 10.2 [if (a) it is described in a Proposed Activity Notice or Revised Activity Notice given to the Native Title Parties; and (b) either (i) the Native Title Parties have given a Concurrence Notice; or (ii) consent is deemed to be given under paragraph 10 of Schedule 2].

"Minor Works of Activities" means the acts described in paragraph 2 of Schedule 3 [for example, tree lopping, repairing, reinstating, inspecting, maintaining Council Infrastructure, fencing or barricading, erecting sign posts].

"Works or Activities" means any Council Infrastructure or the grant of an Occupancy Interest that Council may provide or undertake as a local government after the Commencement Date other than Minor Works or Activities.

Responses to an application to register an ILUA—where the application has not been certified:

Because this application for registration of the agreement has not been certified by the Representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Body/ies for the area, there is no opportunity to make a formal objection to its registration. However, if you claim to hold native title in relation to any of the land or waters covered by this agreement, you may wish, within the notice period, to make a native title determination application or equivalent application under a law of a state or territory in respect of any part of the area. **The application must be made by 10 March 2015.** If that application is registered on the Register of Native Title Claims, the registered native title claimants must be a party to this agreement before it can be registered.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Michelle Mann on freecall 1800 640 501 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

GT12639

Shared country, shared future.

Michael Bailey a Perth rookie



WESTERN Australia's Imparja Cup-winning cricket captain Michael Bailey is the newest Perth

Scorchers signing, joining the club for the 2014-15 KFC Big Bash League on a community rookie contract.

Bailey, a Clontarf Foundation mentor, was selected through a series of trials that provided opportunities for players from rural communities, low socio-economic areas and Indigenous and non-English-speaking backgrounds to showcase their talents in a bid for the single community rookie contract.

He joins another Indigenous cricketer, South Australian Ayden McGregor-Baptista, as a community rookie for the upcoming BBL season.

McGregor-Baptista has joined the Adelaide Strikers.

As a member of the Perth Scorchers squad, Bailey, 22, will immerse himself in the program following the conclusion of the first block of the Bupa Sheffield Shield this next month.

Bailey will not occupy one of Perth's 18 roster spots, but will be available for selection as a local replacement player in the event of injury or national selection, as was the case for Solomon Mire, who debuted for the Melbourne Renegades in BBL 2003.

More than 20 players from the Perth Bengal Cricket club, Indian Society of WA, the Sub Cup and WA's Imparja Cup team participated in the trials conducted by WACA and Perth Scorchers talent ID officers.

"The decision was not straightforward or easy, with a lot of exciting and promising talent taking part in the trials," Perth Scorchers talent manager Brett Jones said.

"Michael has had an outstanding 12 months with bat and ball at first



Michael Bailey batting for Western Australia at this year's Imparja Cup cricket carnival in Alice Springs. Picture: Getty

grade level and recently represented the WA Futures League team.

"This is an exciting opportunity for Michael to experience the professional environment of the Scorchers and Big Bash League and we look forward to him being a part of the team."

Bailey is among a burgeoning group of cricketers coming through the West Australian system and was named 2013-14 Lord's Taverners Indigenous Cricketer of the Year after leading his state to the Imparja Cup title earlier this year.

The 2013-14 WA Rising Star winner has this season been a part of Western Australia's line-up for both rounds of the national second XI competition, the Toyota Futures League, with scores of 22 and 62 in last week's clash against ACT.

Bailey joins a squad already rich in cultural backgrounds through players such as Ashton Agar, Hilton Cartwright, Yasir Arafat and Michael Carberry.

Tanisha debuts in women's 7s

FORMER Indigenous netballer Tanisha Stanton is set to make her debut when the gun Australian women's rugby sevens team begin their Olympic qualifying campaign. The 2014-15 Rugby Sevens World

Series beginning in Dubai this week doubles as qualifying for the sport's entry to the Olympics with the top four teams gaining automatic entry for Rio 2016. The Australians finished runner-up

to New Zealand in the last world series and coach Tim Walsh is expecting the competition to be a lot harder this time around as many nations put more resources into chasing Olympic spots. Stanton was named in a 13-strong

squad for the Dubai opener. "I have been delighted with the progress that Tanisha and Chloe have made since switching from netball and basketball respectively," coach Walsh said.



NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the Mining Act 1978:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	04/1947	KESWICK PTY LTD	4BL	122km E'ly of Derby	Lat: 17° 24' S Long: 124° 46' E	DERBY-WEST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	04/2379	FISSURE EXPLORATION PTY LTD	76BL	123km NW'ly of Fitzroy Crossing	Lat: 17° 12' S Long: 125° 1' E	DERBY-WEST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/2456	NORTHERN STAR RESOURCES LTD	1BL	104km NW'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 22° 47' S Long: 116° 45' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/2548	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	8BL	66km SE'ly of Onslow	Lat: 21° 59' S Long: 115° 38' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/2649	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	70BL	41km E'ly of Onslow	Lat: 21° 39' S Long: 115° 30' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2113	BARACUS PTY LTD	30BL	67km NE'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 24° 48' S Long: 115° 48' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2119	ENTERPRISE URANIUM LIMITED	85BL	173km NW'ly of Cue	Lat: 26° 44' S Long: 116° 19' E	MURCHISON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2123	WESTMIN PTY LTD	45BL	151km SW'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 44' S Long: 116° 19' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE, UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1421	LODED DOG PROSPECTING PTY LTD	12BL	30km S'ly of Widgiemooltha	Lat: 31° 45' S Long: 121° 41' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1445	BULLABULLING GOLD (UK) LIMITED	3BL	24km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 7' S Long: 121° 0' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	26/176	DOLE, Lena Anne	3BL	24km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 4' S Long: 121° 52' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	26/177	RAMELIUS RESOURCES LIMITED	5BL	19km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 7' S Long: 121° 50' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/536	ROLFE, Antony John	4BL	45km N'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 20' S Long: 121° 29' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2476-I	ROLFE, Matthew James				
Exploration Licence	28/2490	GOLDTRIBE CORPORATION PTY LTD	12BL	131km W'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 30° 44' S Long: 123° 54' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2495	WESTEX RESOURCES PTY LTD	12BL	88km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 20' S Long: 122° 34' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2496	MINING PROJECTS GROUP LIMITED	11BL	92km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 20' S Long: 122° 37' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2498	VALE AUSTRALIA EA PTY LTD	200BL	56km W'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 31° 1' S Long: 124° 38' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2499	NATURALISTE HOLDINGS PTY LTD	4BL	137km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 16' S Long: 122° 47' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2501	RUMBLE RESOURCES LIMITED	200BL	68km NW'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 30° 29' S Long: 124° 55' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/937	GOLDPHYRE RESOURCES LIMITED	118BL	154km W'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 30° 58' S Long: 123° 36' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	31/1077	MINERAL AND GOLD RESOURCES OF AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	2BL	52km S'ly of Menzies	Lat: 30° 9' S Long: 120° 57' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	36/841	ACH EXPLORATION PTY LTD	52BL	91km SE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 27' S Long: 122° 0' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1205	FAUREX PTY LTD	16BL	37km E'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 53' S Long: 121° 4' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/2966	PELM RESOURCES PTY LTD	23BL	57km NE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 24' S Long: 121° 33' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/2987	GOLD ROAD RESOURCES LIMITED	16BL	82km SE'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 28° 17' S Long: 123° 39' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/2999	GOLD ROAD RESOURCES LIMITED	10BL	73km E'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 59' S Long: 123° 38' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3000	MONTEZUMA MINING COMPANY LTD	22BL	101km E'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 59' S Long: 123° 55' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3001	GSM MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	9BL	10km W'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 37' S Long: 122° 18' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/4418	GSM MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	2BL	6km NW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 36' S Long: 122° 20' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/4441	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	150BL	162km SW'ly of Telfer	Lat: 22° 54' S Long: 121° 19' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/4445	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	174BL	145km SE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 22° 48' S Long: 121° 7' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/4458	S2M2 EASTERN COAL PTY LTD	12BL	73km SW'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 26' S Long: 119° 6' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE, PORT HEDLAND TOWN
Exploration Licence	47/3203-I	ANGORA BLUE PTY LTD	54BL	54km SW'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 35' S Long: 119° 28' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	47/3211	ATLAS IRON LIMITED	9BL	109km SW'ly of Port Hedland	Lat: 21° 12' S Long: 118° 10' E	PORT HEDLAND TOWN
Exploration Licence	51/1658	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	13BL	85km NW'ly of Tom Price	Lat: 22° 5' S Long: 117° 17' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/1659	DORAY MINERALS LIMITED	69BL	54km N'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 7' S Long: 118° 37' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/1664	DORAY MINERALS LIMITED	1BL	62km NE'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 4' S Long: 118° 44' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	52/3158	EASTERN GOLDFIELDS EXPLORATION PTY LTD	67BL	19km E'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 37' S Long: 118° 41' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	52/3159	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	1BL	51km E'ly of Newman	Lat: 23° 25' S Long: 120° 13' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	52/3160	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	6BL	52km E'ly of Newman	Lat: 23° 28' S Long: 120° 13' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE, MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/970	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	10BL	27km W'ly of Newman	Lat: 23° 20' S Long: 119° 28' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/974-I	VENUS METALS CORPORATION LIMITED	22BL	78km SW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 37' S Long: 118° 58' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/985	VENUS METALS CORPORATION LIMITED	3BL	18km S'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 8' S Long: 119° 14' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/987	VENUS METALS CORPORATION LIMITED	24BL	79km SW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 35' S Long: 118° 51' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/988	LEGENDRE, Bruce Robert				
Exploration Licence	59/2071	SNAP HOOK (WA) PTY LTD	70BL	63km N'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 25' S Long: 119° 21' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	63/1712	MAJEKA MINERALS PTY LTD	70BL	57km N'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 28' S Long: 119° 22' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	69/3297	ZETEK RESOURCES PTY LTD (ATF THE ZETEK TRUST)	1BL	81km E'ly of Morawa	Lat: 29° 14' S Long: 116° 50' E	PERENJORI SHIRE
Exploration Licence	69/3301-2	LEGENDRE, Bruce Robert	12BL	6km S'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 29° 19' S Long: 117° 40' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/4654	POLAR METALS PTY LTD	21BL	27km N'ly of Norseman	Lat: 31° 57' S Long: 121° 45' E	DUNDAS SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/4657	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	114BL	164km NW'ly of Wiluna	Lat: 25° 13' S Long: 120° 12' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	74/558-9	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	349BL	285km SW'ly of Blackstone	Lat: 28° 5' S Long: 126° 39' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2260	CANNING COAL PTY LTD	157BL	37km NE'ly of Albany	Lat: 34° 49' S Long: 118° 12' E	ALBANY CITY
Exploration Licence	77/2262-I	YILGARN IRON PTY LTD	49BL	53km NE'ly of Albany	Lat: 34° 48' S Long: 118° 24' E	ALBANY CITY
Exploration Licence	77/2263	SILVER LAKE RESOURCES LIMITED	12BL	13km E'ly of Ravensthorpe	Lat: 33° 37' S Long: 120° 11' E	RAVENSTHORPE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/4901	SOUTHERN CROSS GOLDFIELDS LTD	18BL	74km NW'ly of Koolyanobbing	Lat: 30° 12' S Long: 119° 11' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/4907	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	17BL	144km E'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 29° 27' S Long: 119° 9' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/4911	FLEET STREET HOLDINGS PTY LTD	15BL	75km N'ly of Bullfinch	Lat: 30° 19' S Long: 118° 55' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/5907	BILDEX HOLDINGS PTY LTD				
Exploration Licence	15/5945	LOWRIE, Ian	185BL	64km NE'ly of Wyndham	Lat: 15° 10' S Long: 128° 38' E	WYNDHAM-EAST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/5948	PERROT, Mathew				
Exploration Licence	20/2240	MINCOR ZINC PTY LTD	50BL	91km SE'ly of Fitzroy Crossing	Lat: 18° 50' S Long: 126° 7' E	DERBY-WEST KIMBERLEY SHIRE, HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	21/730	DUKETON CONSOLIDATED PTY LTD	20BL	27km S'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 18° 28' S Long: 127° 36' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	24/4857-61	LODED DOG PROSPECTING PTY LTD	199.55HA	29km S'ly of Widgiemooltha	Lat: 31° 44' S Long: 121° 40' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	25/2292	MINCOR RESOURCES NL	121.34HA	1km SE'ly of Widgiemooltha	Lat: 31° 30' S Long: 121° 34' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	25/2293	STACEY, Steele	32.49HA	18km SW'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 19' S Long: 121° 33' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	26/4015	PUCK RESOURCES PTY LTD	127.03HA	53km NW'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 7' S Long: 117° 27' E	CUE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	26/4016	LITTLE, Terrence Harold	100.45HA	6km SW'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 28' S Long: 117° 50' E	CUE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	27/2206	GPM RESOURCES PTY LTD	660.24HA	58km N'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 15' S Long: 121° 15' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	37/8505	KALGOORLIE ORE TREATMENT COMPANY PTY LTD	199.84HA	24km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 43' S Long: 121° 42' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	40/1360-S	EDWARDS, Gilbert Anthony	52.99HA	31km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 42' S Long: 121° 46' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	46/1825-9	MRG METALS (EXPLORATION) PTY LTD	170.00HA	11km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 41' S Long: 121° 33' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	51/2907	MRG METALS (EXPLORATION) PTY LTD	195.67HA	11km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 41' S Long: 121° 32' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	51/2909	ROLFE, Antony John	198.00HA	43km N'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 21' S Long: 121° 28' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	51/2910-2	HALLORAN, Wayne Vincent	121.18HA	14km NE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 121° 26' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2913	MKO MINES PTY LTD	130.30HA	67km NE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 29' S Long: 121° 10' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2914	CHITTEBOROUGH, Graham John	9.42HA	41km S'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 14' S Long: 121° 25' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2919	CAZALY RESOURCES LTD	800.34HA	26km N'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 40' S Long: 120° 11' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1354	CORAZON MINING LIMITED				
Exploration Licence	57/1355-S	JINKA MINERALS LTD	117.82HA	39km S'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 55' S Long: 118° 36' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1356-S	ZEUS MINING PTY LTD	155.00HA	15km N'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 27' S Long: 118° 27' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1357	ZEUS MINING PTY LTD	393.88HA	12km N'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 29' S Long: 118° 27' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2049-54	ZEUS MINING PTY LTD	17.04HA	12km NW'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 29' S Long: 118° 26' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence		ZEUS MINING PTY LTD	113.55HA	9km N'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 30' S Long: 118° 27' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence		JASPER, Rowan Neil	200.00HA	10km SE'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 39' S Long: 118° 34' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence		BENNETT, John	27.18HA	6km NW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 56' S Long: 119° 16' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence		TANUCCI, Carmela	9.57HA	6km NW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 56' S Long: 119° 15' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence		TANUCCI, Leo	9.84HA	7km NW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 56' S Long: 119° 15' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence		DOHNT, Joseph Harold	39.57HA	6km N'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 56' S Long: 119° 16' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence		NEAROLOGY PTY LTD	1123.89HA	18km SE'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 28° 28' S Long: 116° 47' E	YALGOO SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of prospecting licences which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term of 4 years from date of grant. Grant of Special Prospecting Licences, which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term up to 4 years from the date of grant. Grant of exploration licences, which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 years from the date of grant.

Notification day: 3 December 2014

Native title parties: Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on **3 March 2015**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each licence may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 3 April 2015**), a native title party lodges an objection with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of the licence is an act attracting the expedited procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9425 1000.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

* - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km²

Timira takes the plunge... and loves it



YOUNG Jervis Bay swimmer Timira Squires Thomas has been rubbing shoulders with some of Australia's finest swimmers.

Timira attended the two-day Swimming With the Stars camp in October, where she was coached by the likes of James Magnussen and 2011 Australian Coach of the Year Grant Best.

Not bad for a girl, who, at the age of nine in 2011, took her first learn-to-swim lesson at the Bay and Basin Leisure Centre at Vincentia, Jervis Bay.

The young Aboriginal girl joined the Bay and Basin Swim Club to become a competitive swimmer.

She received her first trophy in 2011-12 for the coaches' award for most improved swimmer.

This was a sign of things to come for the Bay and Basin swimmer.

Timira enjoys learning from her coaches and is always seeking to get better.

She enjoys being fit and feeling better within herself and respects her coach Kimberly McEvoy (Norton), a Commonwealth Games trials swimmer.

Timira's favourite stroke is backstroke, but her best stroke is the challenging butterfly.

She is focussed on achieving personal bests and reaching the 12 years country qualifying times in backstroke (currently 1.90 sec outside time) and butterfly (0.44 sec outside time).



Timira is pictured with Australian swimmers Jayden Hadler and Christen Sprenger at the recent Swimming with the Stars camp at the Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre at Homebush.

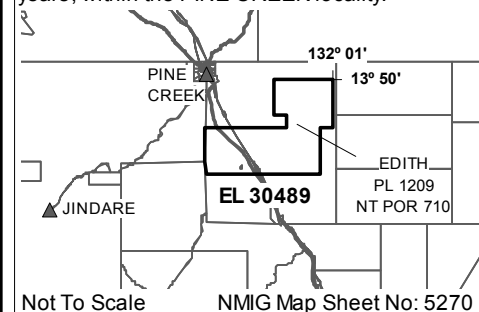
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

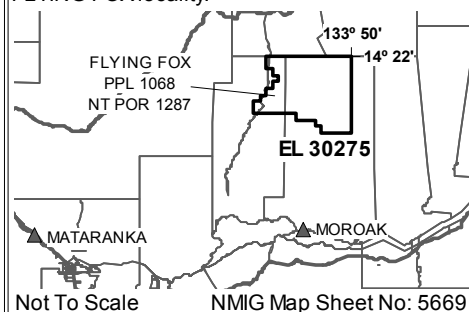
The Honourable Willem Westra Van Holthe MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mines and Energy, C/- Department of Mines and Energy, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of his intent to do an act, namely to grant the following exploration licence applications.

Applications to which this notice applies:

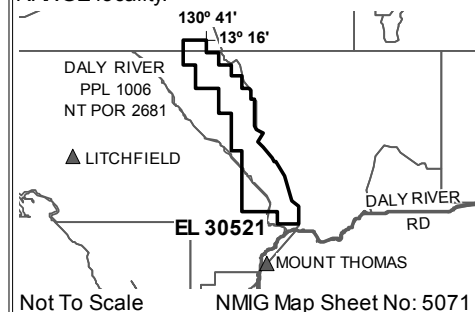
Exploration Licence 30489 sought by ADELAIDE CRUSHINGS AND RECYCLING (SA) PTY LTD, ACN 151 094 352 over an area of 59 Blocks (197 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the PINE CREEK locality.



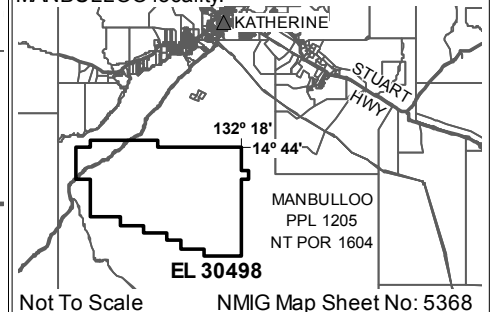
Exploration Licence 30275 sought by BLUEKEBBLE PTY LTD, ACN 116 988 508 over an area of 147 Blocks (489 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the FLYING FOX locality.



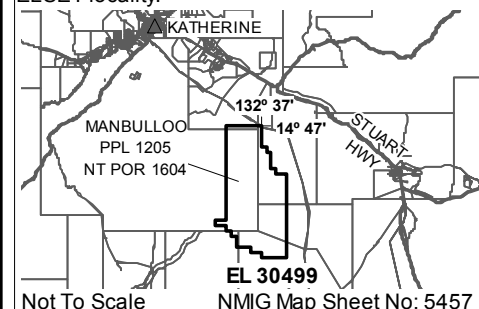
Exploration Licence 30521 sought by MAY DRILLING PTY LTD, ACN 123 393 135 over an area of 49 Blocks (149 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the REYNOLDS RANGE locality.



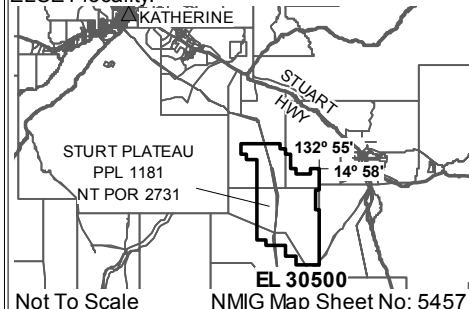
Exploration Licence 30498 sought by PANGAEA MINERALS PTY LTD, ACN 120 631 316 over an area of 250 Blocks (829 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the MANBULLOO locality.



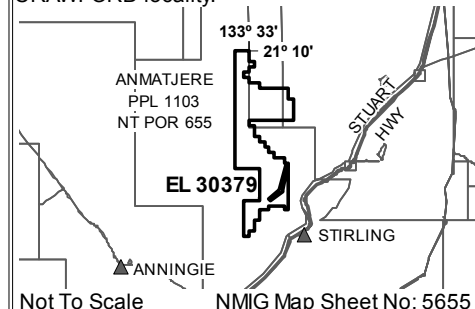
Exploration Licence 30499 sought by PANGAEA MINERALS PTY LTD, ACN 120 631 316 over an area of 250 Blocks (830 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the ELSEY locality.



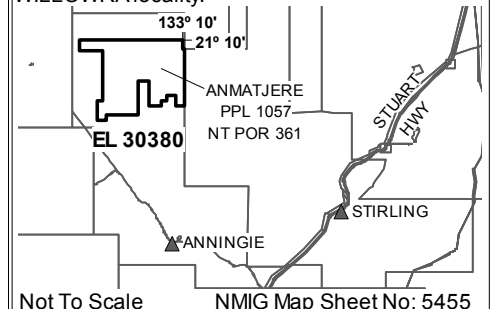
Exploration Licence 30500 sought by PANGAEA MINERALS PTY LTD, ACN 120 631 316 over an area of 250 Blocks (827 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the ELSEY locality.



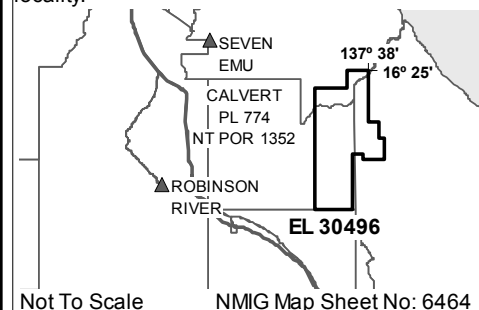
Exploration Licence 30379 sought by NT MINERALS AUST PTY LTD, ACN 153 885 771 over an area of 213 Blocks (667 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the CRAWFORD locality.



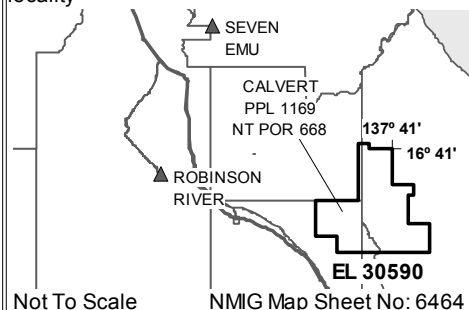
Exploration Licence 30380 sought by NT MINERALS AUST PTY LTD, ACN 153 885 771 over an area of 250 Blocks (798 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the WILLOWRA locality.



Exploration Licence 30496 sought by RR RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 166 770 896 over an area of 221 Blocks (728 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the SELBY locality.



Exploration Licence 30590 sought by RR RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 166 770 896 over an area of 228 Blocks (750 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the SELBY locality.



Nature of act(s): The grant of an exploration licence under the *Mineral Titles Act* authorises the holder to conduct activities in connection with exploration for minerals for a term not exceeding 6 years and to seek renewal(s). The term for which it is intended to grant the mineral exploration licences referred to in this notice commences from the date of grant. Further information about the act may be obtained from the Department of Mines and Energy, GPO Box 4550 Darwin NT 0801 or Centrepoint Building 48-50 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800, telephone (08) 8999 5322.

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 16, Law Courts Building, Queens Square, Sydney NSW 2000 or GPO Box 9973 Sydney, NSW 2001, or telephone (02) 9227 4000.

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: 3 December 2014

T20 cricket a blast



ABORIGINAL cricketers – young and old – gathered at Port Augusta's redeveloped ETSA Oval on November 23-24 for the Lord's Taverners Indigenous T20 carnival.

The event coincided with the visit to Port Augusta on November 24 of the International Cricket Council World Cup trophy that is on a national tour.

The six-team format competition was headlined by 16-year-old Adelaide Striker community rookie and under 23 Australian Indigenous cricketer and South Australian under 17 captain Ayden McGregor-Baptista.

Also taking part was fellow under 17 squad member Tyrell Sinclair.

South Australian Cricket Association (SACA) officials said the carnival was a resounding success and was played in the right spirit.

Each team featured young and experienced players. For some, it was their first experience at a cricket carnival.

Jermaine Miller, captain of the winning Port Lincoln team, said the carnival gave players the opportunity to showcase their skills and learn from others.

Award winners: batting aggregate, Matthew O'Brien (Port Lincoln) 246 runs, av 61.50, HS 98; bowling aggregate, Billy Martin (Lake Eyre) 9 Wickets, av 11.11, best bowling: 4-20; fielding, Corey Thomas (Port Lincoln); wicketkeeper, Bradley Amos (Flinders); spirit of cricket, Port Augusta; player of the carnival (Vince Copley Medal), Matthew O'Brien; winning team, Port Lincoln.

SACA officials said it was the first time a six-team T20 format competition had been played in country South Australia.

Following the Lord's Taverners carnival, the Southern Boomerangs will continue their preparation for the Imparja Cup to be held in Alice Springs from 8-14 January, 2015.



Lake Eyre and Port Lincoln teams.



Flinders and Port Augusta teams.



Geoff Abdulla and Bevan Wilton at Port Augusta with cricket's World Cup trophy.

Cricket's a big hit in the Gulf



NORTHERN Territory Cricket has ended a five-week program for the students of three schools in the territory's Gulf region.

It culminated in the MILO T20 Blast School Cup that ran alongside the annual senior carnival at Borroloola between November 21 and 23.

The program was made possible primarily through harnessing the NT Government Sport Voucher Scheme.

Almost 400 students from Borroloola, Robinson River and Kiana schools enjoyed an intensive MILO in2CRICKET and MILO T20 Blast Skills program delivered by Brendan Jones.

Jones was blown away by the talent shown by the kids involved in the program.

"Their natural sporting prowess is incredible," he said.

As well as showing off this talent, it has

been a chance for the students to get a real taste of a sport that still is not a traditional one in most Indigenous communities.

Borroloola school assistant principal Jen Cadzow is always keen to embrace programs that not only "develop our students' motor skills and promote involvement, but also do so in a very fun way".

NT Cricket game development and communications officer Ed Alexander is excited by the program's potential as a model for remote areas.

"This is the first time we've been able to have someone on the ground in a remote area delivering for a substantial period of time and the benefits have been huge," he said.

"The Sport Voucher Scheme has made quality and extended sports programs much more accessible to remote schools and we hope to work with many more to deliver similar initiatives."



Harold, a Grade 5 student at Borroloola, with NT Cricket game development officer Brendan Jones.

See Thunder home games for free!



ENTRY to all 2015 Northern Territory Thunder home games in the North East Australian Football League (NEAFL) competition will be free. Australian Football League (AFL) and NEAFL finals will be excluded. There will be 11 minor round home games – 10 at TIO Stadium, Marrara (Darwin) and one at Traeger Park (Alice Springs). The family-friendly schedule

will include 'Thunderland' – a large inflatable waterslide. There will be free face painting and regular giveaways and activities for the kids. The half-time games for the under 12s will continue in addition to Thunder Junior and Auskick games. NT Thunder general manager Jarred Ilett said: "The decision to open up the gates for NT Thunder's scheduled home games at TIO Stadium bolsters the Northern Territory Football Club's commitment to the Territory community and our strong focus on family

involvement with the club. "NT Thunder games will provide a safe, fun and affordable night out for Territory families during the dry season while encouraging the younger generation to participate in AFL and to support their local football team." For the Thunder next year, there will be 11 home games, seven away games (six in Queensland and one in Sydney). The Thunder will host four AFL Reserves sides – Brisbane Lions, Sydney Swans, GWS Giants and Gold

Coast Suns at TIO Stadium, Marrara. The Thunder will play each team at least once, hosting Canberra-based team the Eastlake Demons for the first time in Darwin; Games will kick off at 6.30pm (previously 7pm). Meanwhile, the Thunder has announced the re-signing of champions Cameron Ilett, Aaron Motlop and Darren Ewing. Motlop, 28, a midfield-forward, was recruited from Wanderers FC and is entering his sixth year at the club.



Aaron Motlop



Rohanee Cox, left, and Sydney Uni Flames teammate Leilani Mitchell. They are also Australian Opals, but have not played together in an Opals team. They are believed to be the first two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to play in the same team in the WNBL. Pictures: Peter Argent

Mitchell's big week

By PETER ARGENT



POINT guard Leilani Mitchell collected the Women's National Basketball League (WNBL) round five Player of the Week award after a standout performance against the Melbourne Boomers on Friday, November 15, American-born with a Torres Strait mother and now an Australian Opal, Mitchell is in her first season with the Sydney Uni Flames. She had previously spent the 2013-14 campaign with the Dandenong Ranges. Mitchell was a key ingredient in the Flames' 2-0 result over that weekend, with Uni on top of the ladder displaying an impressive 5-1 winning record to this point. Her performance on the Friday night was the catalyst to Mitchell's round five honours. She completed a team-high 24 points, shooting at an outstanding 75 per cent from the floor. He performance included a trio of three-point bombs in a potent offensive performance. She

added to this shooting effort with four assists and two rebounds. Although her statistics were not quite as dominant on the Saturday afternoon in Sydney Uni's win over Adelaide, Mitchell still finished with nine points, a game-high six assists and five rebounds. The Flames cruised to an impressive 19-point victory over the Lightning, winning, 78-59. Mitchell is recording similar results to last season where she won selection in the WNBL All Star Five last summer. In her 2013-14 campaign with the Ranges, Mitchell averaged 14.5 points per game, 5.8 rebounds and 5.2 assists. Creative and quick over the court, Mitchell was the third Player of the Week winner who was a member of the Opals World Cup campaign. She averaged five points and 3.5 assists at the World Cup, finishing the tournament ranked amongst the top ten in assists. Now 29, Mitchell is a highly experienced professional basketballer, having played with the New York Liberty from 2008 to 2013, and was the WNBA Most Improved Player in 2010.



Rohanee Cox (above) and Leilani Mitchell (right) in action against the Adelaide Lightning.



First flight

MAGIC'S MOMENTS



With **MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN**

magic@koorimail.com

In articles, I have focussed on the need to not only build and maintain pathways for Indigenous players in the game, but also to work on better retention strategies to ensure they stay in the game and reach their full potential.

A program that captures all the good principles of what these strategies is one that is very close to my heart given I had the honour of being involved with the team.

I am of course referring to the AFL Flying Boomerangs.

This year's squad came together last week for a high-performance camp.

Indeed, it had all the elements of a high-performance camp, but it was that and much more.

The Flying Boomerangs is a personal development and leadership program that is presented in a cultural context.

Although selected by AFL talent managers, the players meet criteria around school attendance, leadership skills as well as football ability.

This year the squad of 24 young Indigenous men is being led by Eugene Warrior, former Port Adelaide and Norwood player.

Eight days

The camp goes for eight days and is a holistic experience of what it takes to be successful on and off the field.

Importantly, there are activities and sessions that allows these young men to connect or reconnect with their culture and understand that the game values their heritage as an important part of their individual identity.

Highlights of the camp included visiting Melbourne and Collingwood Football clubs, an intensive training camp at HMAS Cerberus, and a cultural session at Brambuk, in the Grampians.

AFL head of diversity Jason Mifsud said the camp schedule specifically addressed the four

key pillars of the program – communication, resilience, decision making and identity.

"The Flying Boomerangs program is a great opportunity for the best rising Indigenous players in the nation to develop leadership skills, as well as provide talent pathway opportunities for participants to play at an elite level," Mifsud said ahead of the camp.

"During the camp, participants are exposed to the AFL training environment when they visit Melbourne and Collingwood Football clubs.

"Their skills in communication, resilience and decision making will be challenged when they take on physical and psychological activities at the HMAS Cerberus and finally the participants will learn more about their identity and Indigenous culture when they visit the cultural centre at Brambuk for storytelling, dancing and reflection time.

"As we've recently seen, Boomerangs players such as Jay Kennedy Harris and Jarman Impey go on to achieve recognition at AFL level, we look forward to seeing the next generation of Flying Boomerangs represented in the AFL draft."

From personal experience, I know how this program has had a positive effect on the lives of many of our youth.

Not all of them have gone on to play at the AFL level.

Better people

But the great majority of them have become better people for having been involved as a Flying Boomerang.

For many, it becomes part of the process of becoming a man.

They return to their families, homes and communities with increased confidence and awareness of what is possible.

Included in this is the potential that they cannot only be potential leaders in the game, but they can also take in a leadership role in their communities and schools.

Already, the younger kids at home will see them as somebody to follow.

For many of these kids, the Boomerangs will be as much a hero as players in the AFL.

In some cases, their influence will be greater as the age difference and accessibility will mean that the young kids will believe that they can achieve as well.

This can be powerful, transforming stuff.

I am always impressed by the scope and reach of the program as well.

Places that the players originate from include the likes of Burunga and Alice Springs in the Northern Territory, Victor Harbour in South Australia, Kalgoorlie in WA, and Stradbroke Island in Queensland.

It was great to see Tasmania represented as well.

Longford footballer Tyran Mansell is still pinching himself.

The Kings Meadows High School Grade 9 student was the only Tasmanian initially picked in the Flying Boomerangs squad that competed in the national under 16 championships on the Gold Coast earlier in the year.

The 15-year-old midfielder was part of a squad that represented their people in three division 3 matches during the carnival against the Western Australia North-West, and a South Pacific and world team.

"I was surprised to be picked, but happy at the same time – and a bit nervous," Mansell said.

He said the trip and program not only helped him to improve his football.

"I want to keep on playing at the highest level and improve my skills as a leader," he said.

And that is the basis of the success of the program.

More than football

It teaches young boys that there is more to achieving your dream to be an AFL player than being able to catch, pass and kick a football.

It requires dedication, discipline, resilience and a strong set of personal values to make the journey.

Above all, it is being true to yourself and your sense of identity that will determine your level of success.

And it gives young Indigenous kids a great sense of hope and acceptance when they can look around a group and see players from a similar background on the same journey.

Acceptance and belonging are important to our cultural identity.

The Flying Boomerangs has seen a large number of players soar to great heights.

Until Next time... Keep Dreaming!

The 2014 squad

2014 Flying Boomerangs squad: Tyrell Hocking (Sailsbury, SA), Xavier Cubillo (Darwin, NT), Cameron Wild (Ceduna, SA), Nathan Kruger (Victor Harbour, SA), Adam Nichaloff (Alice Springs, NT), Jeffrey McDonald (Burunga, NT), Rodney Baird (Palmerston, NT), Dominic Grant (Darwin, NT), Tyrone Hayes (Lakes Entrance, Vic), Aiden Domic (Mt Clear, Vic), Joel Garner (Gruyere, Vic), Jamaine Morgan (Croyden, Vic), Tyran Mansell (Launceston, Tas), Liam Lupton (Canberra, ACT), Tere Yarran (Huntingdale, WA), Harley Stack (Ballajura, WA), Billy Johns (Koondoola, WA), Kris Ryder (Beldon, WA), Tyrees Miller (Quinns Rock, WA), Brendon Collard (Kalgoorlie, WA), Gregory Humphries (Bunbury, WA), Bowe Roads (South Perth, WA), Sachem Parkin-Owens (Stradbroke Island, Qld), Byron Cole (Alice Springs, NT).



The winning Swan District team.

Talent to burn at girls' carnival



AN epic encounter took place at Lightning Park, in Perth's northwest, on Friday, November 21, where the annual Year 8-9 Cross District girls' Australian football carnival was held.

Swan Districts had Kellie Gibson as head coach with assistant coaches Courtney Ugle and Tayla Bresland – both former state under 18 players.

In the first game, Swans were up against East Perth.

Northam's Caitlyn Buchanan was strong throughout the day and never backed out of a contest.

Swans bagged their first win – 4.5 (29) to East Perth's 0.5 (5).

In their second game, the Swans met the Butler Sharks – a combined team from two districts – East Fremantle and Butler Falcons.

Full forward Sarah Garstone slotted two goals in a comfortable win for the Swans.

The Swans came up against a combined South Fremantle-Peel Thunder (Thunderdogs) outfit in the final.

The Thunderdogs began

strongly, with hard hits and tackle pressure.

Outstanding work from the Thunderdog's ball magnet Courtney Hodder had the Ducks in a bit of trouble, but it wasn't long before Swans turned it around to slot through the last goal to put them in front at three-quarter time.

The teams went goal for goal in the last quarter, but in the end, the Swans were in front by seven points – 5.1 (31) to 4.0 (24).

"With only having two training sessions before the carnival, it was great to see the girls actually used what we taught them," coach Gibson said.

Assistant coach Courtney Ugle said: "It's amazing to see so much talent coming through, and to give the girls a knowledge of the female football pathway they can follow.

"This is where I started my football pathway, and now have represented WA three years in a row and playing for a two-time premiership winning side.

"With the crazy talent that was on display at the carnival, I have no doubt these young ladies will go far."



Assistant coach Courtney Ugle address the Swans District team during a break in one of the matches. On her left is head coach Kellie Gibson.

Sistas to benefit from fine



Rugby Development Team (LMRDT) to promote empowerment for Indigenous girls and women.

The Wallaby playmaker was fined \$45,000 by the Australian Rugby Union (ARU) following a widely reported breach of rugby's

code of conduct.

The money specifically will be aimed at the LMRDT's 'Stronga Sistas' program that uses rugby as an avenue to work with young women to learn about stronger bodies and stronger minds.

The LMRDT is an independent organisation dedicated to running programs that foster the development of teamwork, confidence, leadership and rugby skills.



Yarrabah and Pormpuraaw Crocs players after their clash at the Hope Vale All Blacks rugby league carnival.

Yarrabah's double

By ALF WILSON



YARRABAH side Bukki Buna won the final of the Gordonvale All Blacks carnival beating Julaymba 36-16.

Six sides competed at the carnival, with the others being Giangurra Beach Dogs, Innisfail Waru, Black Cockatoos and Bukki Buna (2).

The carnival was played at one of the most scenic grounds – Alley Park – with Walsh's Pyramid (Bundadjarruga), an independent 922m peak – as an impressive backdrop.

Three sides contested two pools and in the semifinals, Bukki Buna beat Innisfail Waru 22-18 and Julaymba defeated Bukki Buna (2) 40-16.

In earlier elimination quarterfinals Bukki, Buna (2) beat Giangurra Beach Dogs 22-16 and Innisfail Waru overcame Black Cockatoos 30-14.

In the plate losers final, Innisfail Waru beat Bukki Buna (2) 40-10.

Bukki Buna went into the main final as favourites and had a star-studded line-up against Mossman team Julaymba that also included some players from Yarrabah.

MEANWHILE, six teams battled it out at Hope Vale's John Bowen Memorial rugby league carnival and Yarrabah won the grand final, beating Mala Yabbas 36-18.

It was held at Hope Vale's new Matty Bowen Oval and the other sides were local teams Dhuway and Brothers, Black Cockatoos from Cairns and the Pormpuraaw Crocs.

Player of the Carnival was Brandon Yougie (Dhuway); best fullback, Jahmal Deen (Black Cockatoos); best winger, Gedi Dau (Pormpuraaw); best centre, Linc Port (Yarrabah); best five-eighth, Aaron Daniels (Mala Yabbas); best halfback, Isaac Rokeby (Brothers); best second rower, Greg Miller (Yarrabah); best prop, Stanton Bowen (Brothers); and best lock, Harry Ambrym (Mala Yabbas).

In the semifinals, Yarrabah defeated Dhuway 28-16 and Mala Yabbas beat Brothers 18-12.



Stanton Bowen receives best forward award from Auntie Jeanette Singleton and the chairman and founder of the Gordonvale Indigenous rugby league carnival Jason Joinbee.

Picture: Erica Savage



Bukki Buna, winners of the Gordonvale carnival.



Mala Yabbas player Craig Gibson gets the ball away during the Hope Vale carnival grand final against Yarrabah.

Picture: Gary Hutchison



Mala Yabbas players have their work cut out stopping Yarrabah forward Mark Griven.

Picture: Gary Hutchison

Mornington magic

RUGBY LEAGUE



With **PRESTON CAMPBELL**

ALMOST every time I visit a community as part of a program, I will be asked one common question – whether it be by an Elder or a youngster.

They will look at me warily and ask, “How long will you be here?”

The question is not meant to offend or be aggressive.

It is just borne out of the common experience of a new person arriving or a new program starting and community members investing their energy and trust only for the program to cease or the key person to leave.

Mostly, this is not the fault of individuals or providers.

I have been part of great programs where the funding has ceased or people have had to move on.

It's just that it happens too often and it is the community members who get left holding the baby.

That's why I was so proud to see Mornington Island host a special rugby league day recently with my colleagues Ryan James, Dean Widders and Kyel Dancey there in support, along with good mate Dave Maiden from the NRL.

Titans 4 Tomorrow has been working in the Gulf communities of Mornington Island and Doomadgee for close to four years with the support of the



Some of the players at the Dangkakurrijari Memorial Day Nines carnival on Mornington Island.

Australian Government.

We have been working on building community capacity in sports development and management in Mornington and have recently brought the NRL on as an additional partner.

In doing so, we continue to promote school attendance and healthy lifestyles in schools.

We have been visiting Mornington and Doomadgee communities on a monthly basis across the year and have seen some great advancements.

The rugby league program has been a great way of modelling the importance of education as the desire to see rugby league re-established on Mornington Island has seen more than 30 community members being accredited in league safety, sports trainer, refereeing and coaching.

The Titans 4 Tomorrow team has been assisting both communities develop and run successful sporting carnivals in 2014 but there is little doubt the recent one was a highlight.

It was fitting that Dean Widders was in attendance, as along with Clinton Toopi, Paul Sinclair and myself, he there nearly four years ago when we

started the program.

“It's great to see so many of the community members support the initiative so that events like this can be run professionally and safely,” Deano said.

“Rugby league has always had the capacity to bring Indigenous communities together and Mornington Island is no exception.

“The passion for the game and the enjoyment it provides is something the whole community celebrates.

Common goal

“It is a great celebration of community and culture and the kids can see what can be achieved when people work together for a common goal.”

Titans star Ryan James is the first to put his hand up for visits to community events like this.

“It is one thing to see the smiles on kids' faces, but these trips mean so much more to me,” Ryano said.

“It enriches my appreciation of my Aboriginal culture and heritage and I feel inspired and energised when I leave.

“I hope that in some way I can return that favour by letting kids know that not only can they

dream, but they can also achieve that dream if they commit.”

The tournament was the inaugural Dangkakurrijari Memorial Day Nines and was a special celebration after a long absence of formal rugby league on the island.

The day was to remember and acknowledge the Mornington Island plane crash in 1999 where key community members passed away.

An emotional and passionate memorial service was held in the morning, where the community paid their respects to the loved ones who had passed on.

The rugby league kicked off at 2pm, with the community and the service providers packing the ground to create a wonderful atmosphere for some quality action.

There were four teams in the tournament, playing a nines round-robin format, with each side playing three games.

Mornington Island provided three sides – Black, Yellow and Green of equal ability, with Doomadgee United as the fourth side.

The Doomadgee team was transported from the mainland

via the Mornington Island marine rescue boat the day before the tournament.

The results of the round-robin matches were: Doomadgee 24 d Black 12, Green 14 d Yellow 12, Black 14 d Yellow 10, Doomadgee 14 d Green 12, Green 18 d Black 14, Doomadgee 14 d Yellow 4.

In the final, refereed by Dean Widders, Doomadgee proved too strong, claiming the Inaugural Dangkakurrijari Shield 18-6 against Green.

The day was concluded by the awarding of trophies to remember those that lost their lives.

Mornington Shire Council sport and recreation coordinator Sean Durant thanked all the volunteers and service providers for assisting on the day, making it a wonderful day.

Doomadgee are well respected for their rugby league success in the region.

But I am sure they would agree that such an event made sure that everybody felt a winner.

Deano captured the spirit of the event when he returned.

“It was magic!” he said. “Mornington Magic!”

Dubbo pays tribute to marathon man Nathan Riley



THE achievements of history-making Dubbo man Nathan Riley were celebrated last Saturday in a return to community ceremony.

Riley, the Indigenous Marathon Project's (IMP's) youngest runner in 2014, became the fastest Aboriginal man to run the New York Marathon when he crossed the line in 3 hours and 9 minutes in the coldest conditions in New York Marathon history.

Riley's return to community celebration at Barden Park was led by world champion marathon runner and IMP founder Rob de Castella, IMP head coach Mick Rees and the IMP's first New York Marathon runner, Charlie Maher, who was part of the inaugural squad in 2010.

“Nathan is an incredible role model for Dubbo,” de Castella said.

“His determination, commitment and drive is unquestionable and his history-making run is thoroughly deserved for the way he has

conducted himself throughout the year.

“His boxing background meant he had some existing fitness, but he had never been a runner. To emerge from no running to running the world's largest marathon and finish as the fastest Aboriginal man ever to run the event, is remarkable.”

The ceremony also marked the official opening of Dubbo's new athletics track by NSW Aboriginal Affairs Minister Vic Dominello and Dubbo MP Troy Grant.



Nathan Riley in New York.

Cricket's new pathway

By GRAHAM HUNT



PATHWAYS for Indigenous cricketers across Australia are set to be expanded following the launching of initiatives by Cricket Australia, and cricketing authorities in NSW and the ACT.

Members of the NSW-ACT Indigenous Cricket Advisory Committee, under the chairmanship of rugby union legend Mark Ella, were introduced at a function at the Sydney Cricket Ground during the tea break in the fifth and final one-day international between Australia and South Africa on Sunday, November 23.

Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia hosted the *Cricket – a Sport For All* event, where Cricket Australia launched its National Indigenous Cricket Strategy and the Australian Cricket Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Cricket Australia's National Indigenous Cricket Advisory Committee co-chairs Aaron Briscoe and John Bannon launched the RAP.

The co-chairs said they were confident the plan would be more than a glossy book – they expected to see 'runs on the board' as programs were implemented.

Connection rekindled

Bannon said the history of the connection between cricket and Indigenous Australians had faded, but it was being potentially rekindled through Cricket Australia's Indigenous programs.

Darwin-based Briscoe said Cricket Australia's RAP had been designed and influenced by Indigenous Australians and aimed to strengthen relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Bannon said the RAP contained practical actions and aspirational plans that would drive greater equality and sustainable opportunities for Indigenous Australians.

Launching the National Indigenous Cricket Strategy, Cricket Australia's senior management community engagement Sam Almaliki said the strategy was for Indigenous Australians and influenced by Indigenous Australians.

"The strategy is bold and aims



The National Indigenous Cricket Strategy for game and market development from 2014 to 2018 and Cricket Australia's Reconciliation Action Plan that were launched in Sydney on November 23.



Cricket Australia and Cricket NSW and ACT Cricket officials with members of the NSW-ACT Indigenous Cricket Advisory Committee at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Sunday, November 23, from left, NSW-ACT ICAC member Tanis Bates, ACT Cricket's Martin Garoni, Cricket Australia's senior manager, community engagement Sam Almaliki, NSW-ACT ICAC member Brett Russell, Cricket Australia's Indigenous cricket officer Paul Stewart, NSW-ACT ICAC chairman Mark Ella, NSW-ACT ICAC member Andrew Gordon, NSW-ACT ICAC member Donna Coady, Cricket NSW chairman John Warn, NSW-ACT ICAC member Peter Cooley and Cricket NSW's general manager for game and market development Cameron French. Absent is NSW-ACT ICAC member David Thompson. Picture: Graham Hunt



National Indigenous Cricket Advisory Committee co-chairs Aaron Briscoe and John Bannon at the SCG where they launched Cricket Australia's latest Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan. John Bannon is a former South Australian Premier. Picture: Graham Hunt

to significantly deepen cricket's connection with Indigenous communities," he said.

"It has a strong focus on growing participation among regional and remote communities, particularly among school-aged children, as well as an emphasis on urban hubs with high Indigenous populations, such as iconic Redfern.

"By 2017-18, the strategy sets the target of 27,442 Indigenous participants – 2.14% of all cricket's participants.

"This is an ambitious increase of 40% in participation. It will take a deepening of current connections with Indigenous communities, and the creation of new ones, for us to achieve this goal."

Almaliki also said the strategy would have a strong focus on

high-performance programs.

This would include:

- The evolution of the state and territory Imparja Cup division into a fully-fledged national indigenous championships;

- National female and male Indigenous representative squads;

- State and territory Indigenous representative youth squads; and

- Scholarships to further progress and accelerate Indigenous talent.

"Just in the past year, our best young Indigenous talent, via high-performance initiatives, have had the opportunity to work with national talent manager Greg Chappell and Commonwealth Bank Southern Stars coach Cathryn Fitzpatrick," Almaliki said.

"It is these developmental opportunities that the strategy aims to expand.

"Supporting the strategy's participation and high-performance programs are a range of cricket-wide initiatives and resources that have been 12 months in development and are already six months into implementation."

Almaliki said these programs showed that the strategy was not a passive document that would sit unused on the desk of administrators; it was a living, breathing plan of action already delivering results, including:

- Cricket Australia's historic Clontarf Foundation partnership that sees 3000 young indigenous men play cricket as part of their education;

- Significant growth in the Imparja Cup, including girls' and boys' schools divisions;

- The embedding of Indigenous targets across Australian cricket and delivering programs in communities such as, Broome, Borroloola, Bidiyadanga;

- The Australian Cricket RAP.

Meanwhile, the NSW-ACT Indigenous Cricket Advisory Committee will provide strategic guidance to Cricket NSW and Cricket ACT on how to best engage Indigenous communities and how to help the next generation of Indigenous cricketers progress in the game.

Ella said he was excited to be leading the committee.



Cricket Australia's senior manager, community engagement Sam Almaliki launching the National Indigenous Cricket Strategy.

Four new faces in NSW team



THERE are four new faces in the NSW team for next year's Imparja Cup Indigenous

cricket carnival in Alice Springs.

They are ACT allrounder Djali Bloomfield, Penrith's Tyrann Liddiard, North Coast Andrew Glover and former Queensland Imparja Cup player Sam Doggett.

Missing will be 2014 players Pat Rosser, Tyrone Thomas, Jack Manning-Bancroft and Daniel Caldwell.

Rosser almost single-handedly won the Imparja Cup final for NSW a couple of years ago.

As a build-up to the big February tournament, the NSW Imparja Cup squad will take on NSW Country at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Sunday, December 14.

For the Country team, it will be an opportunity for a hitout before the Australian Country carnival.

Rising youngsters Jonte Pattison and Nathan Price have been selected to play in NSW Futures league squads this year.

Pattison is a young leg-spinner and allrounder Price a prolific scorer in Imparja Cup and Sydney grade cricket.

Six of the NSW Imparja Cup players are Sydney first graders, three are in Sydney lower grades and four are from Country NSW.

Djali Bloomfield has trialled previously and attended NSW development camps as a

youngster for the NSW Imparja Cup side and he gets his chance to debut in 2015.

Tyrann Liddiard is the son of Glen Liddiard, a Parramatta and Penrith rugby league player from the late 1980s and 1990s.

He is only 16 and is a fresh-faced wicketkeeper.

Andrew Glover played for North Coast at the NSW Country championships a couple of weeks ago in Ballina and comes from Port Macquarie. He is top to middle-order batsmen.

Sam Doggett played for Queensland in this year's Imparja Cup and has moved to Sydney for work and is now playing with Randwick-Petersham.

Jonte Pattison and Lain Beckett have represented Australia at under 19 level.

Played against India

Pattison also played for a Cricket Australia XI against India in a two-day tour match last week in Adelaide.

The Imparja Cup will run from February 8-15.

In this year's final, tournament favourites NSW were beaten by a rising West Australian outfit.

NSW has a proud record in the tournament, having won it four times.

Queensland has won it six times, while Western Australia next year will be shooting for their third title.

The NSW men's team is: Jeff Cook – capt (Kamillaroi/Western Suburbs), Tyrann Liddiard (Biripi/Penrith), Samuel Doggett

(Worimi/Randwick Petersham), Andrew Gordon (Kamillaroi/Western Suburbs), Jake Turner (Ngarabul/University of NSW), Nathan Price (Kamillaroi/Randwick Petersham), Lain Beckett (Yuin Nation/Southern), Damien Duroux (Gumbainggir/North West Sydney), Ben Mitchell (Wadi Wadi/Randwick Petersham), Jonte Pattison (Wiradjuri/Sydney University/Central Coast), Chris White (Dunghutti/Parramatta/North Coast), Andrew Glover (Darug/North Coast), Djali Bloomfield (Wiradjuri/ACT).

The NSW women's team is: Rheanna Lotter (Yuin Nation/St George-Sutherland), Ashleigh Gardner (Muruwari/Bankstown Sports), Roxsanne Van-Veen (Gundungarra/St George-Sutherland/Western), Julie Muir (Wiradjuri/St George-Sutherland), Veronica Gordon (Wiradjuri/St George-Sutherland), Taylor Gilbert (Wiradjuri/Western), Nicole Honeysett (Wiradjuri/Universities/Western), Madison McCooey (Wiradjuri/Bankstown Sports), Nicole Squires (Wiradjuri/Northern District), Ricki Lee Bell-Sloan (Ngunnawal/Parramatta-Blacktown), Sara Darney (Wiradjuri/Western), Jemma Astley (Wonnarua/Central Coast).

Ashleigh Gardner, Jemma Astley, Taylor Gilbert, Roxsanne Van-Veen and captain Julie Muir are regular first graders in the Sydney women's competition, with Gardner a member of the Lend Lease Breakers squad.



SANFL representative Don McSweeney with Don McSweeney Medal winner Nelson Peters. It was Peters' second Don McSweeney Medal in the Far North West Sports League Aussie rules competition. Picture: Sarah Reed/The Advertiser

SANFL backs APY project



THE South Australian National Football League (SANFL) is behind a move to support communities to self-administer their sports across the APY Lands.

The SANFL recently brought football and softball administrators from clubs participating in the Far North West Sports League to Ernabella to discuss the formation of a board to oversee the project.

SANFL said that as part of its consultation, it was evident that community members wanted to move in this direction and take greater control of the football and softball competitions.

SANFL diversity programs manager Melanie Dancer said the SANFL had extensive history in administering junior and senior sports programs in remote Aboriginal communities.

"The move towards self-governance of the Far North West Sports League has been a long time coming and we're excited to be supporting their wishes to develop this. It's a great

move," Dancer said.

SANFL is working with the board in the draft of a constitution, bylaws, and supplying administration expertise to eventually be the masters of their own destiny in providing sporting activities on the APY Lands.

SANFL representatives Shawn Ford, Don McSweeney, Ron Redford and Kevin Tannerbring (Softball SA) were on hand to listen and provide support to the thoughts of the community members who have indicated support for a more structured approach.

Mr McSweeney chaired the meeting and resolved that the SANFL would develop an initial draft document that would be customised in consultation with the community members to promote football and softball in the APY Lands.

Later in the evening, the FNWSL conducted its presentation night where Nelson Peters was awarded his second Don McSweeney Medal for the best and fairest player in the competition.

Girls' footy booms in Top End



AUSTRALIAN football officials in the Northern Territory are considering expansion of the competition for girls.

Rapid growth and clubs calling for greater division of the youth girls' Northern Territory Football

League (NTFL) competition has prompted AFLNT to seriously consider a 2015-16 expansion plan.

In just two seasons, the division has grown from three teams playing nine-a-side to eight teams playing 15-a-side.

Many teams have up to 24 players listed on team sheets each week, meaning clubs are at stretching point to accommodate the growing number of eager under 16 girls.

AFLNT competition manager Darryl Griffiths

said the league was seriously considering their options for 2015 and beyond.

"Feedback from the clubs suggests we need to find ways to close the age gap in our girls and women's competitions as well as provide greater opportunities for competition," Griffiths said.

"Each of the eight teams continually fields full sides week in, week out and we can now see genuine increases in numbers, depth and popularity."

Tentative changes could include changing the youth girls competition from under 16 to under 15, and including an under 18 competition for the first time.

"This will provide a tighter age range in each competition, an additional under-age pathway from youth girls to seniors, and increasing participation opportunities," Griffiths said.

AOC pledge thrilling: Freeman



Olympic champion Cathy Freeman, with AOC chairman John Coates, announces in Melbourne an AOC initiative to help Indigenous recognition in sport. Picture: AAP



CATHY Freeman says she's thrilled and proud that the Australian Olympic Committee will recognise Indigenous

Australians.

Speaking in Melbourne, the Sydney Olympics 400m champion said it was a really important step for future generations of Indigenous children.

"It's days like today that reinvigorate my faith in the future," Freeman told reporters.

"This a great step towards better relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians."

The new constitution will recognise the heritage, culture and contribution of the nation's First Peoples and give practical support to Indigenous

reconciliation through sport.

AOC president John Coates said it was an important step to changing the attitudes in the Australian sporting community.

"More work needs to be done and major sporting organisations, including the Australian Olympic Committee, can lead the way," Coates said.

"I hope the 35 sports under the AOC umbrella will mobilise, along with other sports, and bring about change."

The AOC has also given its branding to The Cathy Freeman Foundation to ensure strong bonds between Olympic sport and the Indigenous children that the foundation supports.

Coates said the AOC would also donate excess Olympic uniforms to the foundation. — AAP

Mate against mate



DANIEL Geale believes his experience will give him the edge in tonight's fight against

Queensland's Jarrod Fletcher at the Horden Pavilion, Sydney.

While Fletcher is two years younger, Geale has had twice as many bouts.

"I think experience means a hell of a lot," he said.

"Jarrod's been in a few big fights, but I don't think he's faced the pressure quite as much as I have."

Geale is looking to fight his way back to the big stage of boxing in an attempt to regain his world ranking after a devastating loss to Kazakh Gennady Golovkin in July.

He said training in the lead-up to the fight had been solid.

"I've been pushing myself really hard in training and sparring sessions," he said.

"The body's in good condition and I'm feeling really positive."

Fletcher is known for his quick left-hand stab.

Know each other

Geale has had nothing but praise for the 31-year-old.

"We've got a bit of a history because we've known each other for a long time. He's got a great left jab and there's no doubt he'll be using it to the best of his ability against me," he said.

Fletcher said: "I've known Geale since 2001 when we were roommates at the Australian Institute of Sport. There are no secrets about his style that I don't know. We've sparred hundreds of rounds together over the years.

"There are no obvious chinks in his armour. I just have to be super fit and maintain the pressure on him all the way. I have to outwork him and I know it's a big job because he has a massive work rate.

"But I feel really good and confident."

Both fighters are desperate to



Jarrod Fletcher (left) and former middleweight world champion Daniel Geale shake hands in Brisbane, on Thursday, November 20. They will share the main event tonight (Wednesday, December 3) along with a fight between NRL star Paul Gallen and former player Anthony Watts at Sydney's Horden Pavilion. Picture: AAP

get back into the win column after losing world title bouts within a fortnight of each other in New York. Geale was stopped by Kazakhstan's Gennady Golovkin in July and Fletcher went down to American Daniel Jacobs.

"Everyone has been so supportive of me following the Golovkin loss and in the lead up to

the Fletcher fight. I appreciate it so much," Geale said.

Meanwhile, Geale has even had some nice things to say about his arch-enemy Anthony Mundine.

Geale gave a surprising response at the promotion for the Fletcher fight when asked about Mundine.

The two share some history,

with Geale beating the controversial former rugby league star in January last year.

Following his recent win over the previously unbeaten Sergey Rabchenko for the WBC silver light middleweight title, Mundine called out American superstar Floyd Mayweather.

Somewhat surprisingly, Geale

didn't criticise Mundine for being outspoken once again.

"To be honest with you, he (Mundine) has proved a few people wrong," Geale told APN.

"He's done well to come back and get a victory against a guy with an unbeaten record.

Geale even said Mundine could challenge Mayweather.

12 years on, Bradley wins same trophy as dad

By ALF WILSON



AS his son Bradley Stephen received his player of the year award for Cairns and District Rugby League competition premiers Kangaroos, his proud dad Francis Stephen took a trip down memory lane to when he won it in 2002.

"I am 40 now and I played for Kangaroos for 15 years and won that very same award 12 years ago," Francis said.

"I started as a winger and centre, but ended up playing as a prop."

Bradley, 20, had an outstanding 2014, playing as a centre and also won the best back in A grade and the most tries awards over all

Kangaroos grades.

He was presented with the Frank Gil Medal by its namesake, Kangaroos life member and club stalwart Frank Gil.

Incredibly, Mr Gil first attended a Kangaroo's presentation night as an 18-year-old in 1948, and has attended every presentation night since.

Kangaroos defeated Innisfail Leprechauns in the A grade grand final.

Francis said he was born on Stephen (Ugar) Island and grew up on Darnley.

"We have been in Cairns for some years and have relatives in Townsville and many in the Torres Strait," he said.

Bradley attended Cairns West Primary and Trinity Bay High.

Kangaroos have a large number of

Aboriginal and TSI players.

They figured prominently in the Kangaroos club awards.

In A grade, most improved went to Jamal Tabuai, best forward Alphonse Gima, and players' player Kepa Sebasio.

Reserve grade's best forward was Patrick Matasia and players' player Bruce Joseph who has been a star at numerous Island of Origin carnivals on Badu Island.

C grade most improved was Richard Dotoi; best forward Alfred Bowie and best and fairest Boyd Ahmat.

In under 18, the players' player was Tolowah Savage and coach's awards went to William Gibas, Jubei Doi and Budhagi Gibuma.

Club awards went to Jubei Doi and Kepa Sebasio.



Kangaroos player of the year Bradley Stephen and his father Francis Stephen, who won the same award in 2002.

Retired, but Abbott keeps delivering

By CHRIS PIKE



DES Abbott might have been forced into a premature retirement, but he is proud of his remarkable international hockey career with the Kookaburras and is keen to help as many

Indigenous kids as he can take up the sport that is so dear to him.

Abbott grew up in Darwin playing hockey and despite initially finding it tough to move away from home to take up the sport further, it proved tremendously successful before he decided a knee injury that kept him out of the 2012 Olympic Games would also bring about his retirement.

The striker made his international debut for Australia against The Netherlands in January 2007 and until his retirement announcement in July last year, he amassed 111 appearances with the Kookaburras, scoring 61 goals.

Along the way, he went to the Beijing Olympics, scoring six goals to help Australia to the bronze medal, and he also took part in the gold medal-winning teams at the 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 Champions Trophy tournaments, and the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India.

There were also personal accolades for the goal-scoring star and he was named the Northern Territory Sportsperson of the Year in 2009, 2011 and 2012, and named in the International Hockey Federation World All Star Team in 2010.

However, he couldn't quite recover from a knee injury in time to be selected for the London Olympics in 2012 and less than 12 months later he decided to retire from representative level despite being just 27 years of age.

Abbott still does play competitively in Perth and as often as he can, he gets out to communities and schools in the north of Western Australia and also in the Northern Territory to bring them the game of hockey.

"I enjoy seeing kids having fun and especially teaching them about hockey. I think it's brilliant to come and talk to school kids about not only hockey, but also teaching them a bit about life," Abbott said.

"Sport is very important, especially when you go out to the smaller communities and every single kid has a footy in their hands and a smile on their face."

"Things like taking hockey out to the communities and schools actually gives kids a

reason to go to school sometimes if they can kick a footy or play hockey. As long as they are there, then they learn without really knowing so sport is very important for Indigenous people."

Reflecting back on his career, out of everything he achieved, it was the Olympics experience in 2008 at Beijing that takes the cake for Abbott.

"The Olympics is always the pinnacle of hockey, so 2008 was absolutely amazing just seeing all the best athletes in the one place in the village," Abbott said.

"I saw the likes of LeBron James, Kobe Bryant and Roger Federer. It was unbelievable and it was like a dream come true. You almost think those sorts of people are not real. Seeing them in the crowd and watching you compete at the highest level was something very special to me."

Joel Carroll is still playing with the Kookaburras and was there at the 2012 Olympics, and hopes to be again in 2016, and as a cousin of Abbott, he was desperate to play with him on the grandest stage.

Dream of returning to Darwin

While it was disappointing that didn't happen, Carroll and Abbott have the goal of returning to Darwin to play together once more in coming years.

"That was our goal to go to the Olympics and I know that was one of the worst days for him, but I know for me it was one of my worst days in my hockey career as well," Carroll said.

"He was one of the best strikers to play hockey, not only in Australia, but in the whole world, so he won't only be missed by myself, but by the whole hockey team."

"I definitely want to get back to Darwin once I've finished with all this Aussie stuff so we can get back to Nightcliff Tigers and win a couple more premierships."

Abbott is also looking forward to getting back to playing in Darwin at some point and he is happy and content with life without the pressures and demands of having to represent Australia, and train incredibly hard while also holding down a full-time job.

"I'm a lot more relaxed now and I have no more pressure on me. Sport has helped me get to where I am and I've enjoyed every bit," Abbott said.

"I definitely will be back in the next couple of years for sure. It's not quite the right time at the moment, but I will be back. I can't stay away from this place."



Des Abbott, left, and Joel Carroll of Darwin, in Perth during the announcement of the Australian squad selected for the 2012 London Olympics. Carroll was not considered for selection in the Kookaburras team for the Champions Trophy in India his month because of a foot injury. Picture: AAP

Three in AFL top

By PETER ARGENT



ON a night that again heralded the talent of Aboriginal players in the Australian

Football League (AFL), six Indigenous footballers found their way on to AFL lists – three in the top 10 and four in the first round.

Jarrold Pickett and Paul Ahern will start their AFL careers at Greater Western Sydney, while Nakia Cockatoo has been collected by Geelong, all within the highly proclaimed 'top ten' at

the 2014 draft held on the Gold Coast last Thursday, November 27.

"The last few days have been magic," Pickett, the first Aboriginal selection on the night, at number four, told the *Koori Mail*.

"Once you've had your name called out, it is a totally different feeling, you know where you're going.

"I had my mum (Monica Collard) and dad (Lance Pickett) at the draft with me as support.

"After the event, the Giants put on a dinner, with the coaches and parents.

"I've only even been to Sydney twice before, and I believe GWS is going to become a strong club over the next few years, so I'm excited to be a part of it.

"I've received a number of messages from the players welcoming me to the club.

"I hope to get a strong pre-season in and hopefully get the opportunity to play AFL football in 2015."

Pickett's AFL life started on Monday, December 1, with a 5am flight from Perth to Sydney to meet new teammates.

With Pickett's fellow Sandgroper teammate Jarrod Garlett going to Suns, gained with selection number 15, there were four Indigenous first round draft picks this year.

First since 2005

This is the first time since 2005, when Patrick Ryder (selection 7 – Essendon), Jarrod Oakley-Nicholls (8 – Richmond), Travis Varcoe (15 – Geelong) and Courtenay Dempsey (19 – Essendon) where added to AFL lists, where four Aboriginal players have been secured in the top 20.

A year earlier, at the 2004 draft, was the only other time in the 29-year history of draft – Richard Tambling (selection 4 – Richmond), Lance Franklin (5 – Hawthorn) and Chris Egan (10 – Collingwood) – where three Indigenous talents were among the top 10 selections.

The Greater Western Sydney Giants have further strengthened their playing list for 2015, securing Aboriginal lads among the three of their top 10 picks.

The Giants collected exciting South Fremantle forward Jarrod Pickett with pick number four, and smooth-moving mid-fielder Paul Ahern with their selection number seven.

Jarrold Pickett, 18, is a small forward/midfielder from Jandakot Junior Football Club in Western Australia.



Paul Ahern



Nakia Cockatoo



Josh McGuinness

Noted for electrifying pace and 'smarts' around goals, he is related to former North Melbourne and Port Adelaide premiership player Byron Pickett and former Collingwood star Leon Davis.

Paul Ahern is an 18-year-old on-ball type from the Calder Cannons football factory.

Ahern, a Keilor junior, won selected in the under 18 All-Australian team after a superb performance in the national carnival and was outstanding in the TAC Cup grand final.

Nakia Cockatoo's explosiveness, speed and natural athleticism ticked all the boxes for

the Cats, taking the dynamic, 186cm forward/midfield player at pick number 10.

The 13th draftee from the NT Thunder program, Cockatoo learned his trade with NTFL club Southern Districts through their junior program.

From early in his youth, Cockatoo wore the Territory colours with pride, stemming from the influence of his father Jason, as a Southern Districts premiership player and Northern Territory representative.

He made his debut for NT Thunder as a 16-year-old in

● Continued next page



Jarrold Pickett

10 national draft

● From previous page

round one of the 2013 NEAFL season, being one of the youngest players to make his senior debut for the club.

At 186cm and 86kg, Cockatoo has been compared with current AFL stars Patrick Dangerfield (Adelaide) and Richmond's Dustin Martin.

The Suns' list and strategy manager Scott Clayton said the Suns had secured an exciting prospect in Jarrod Garlett at selection 15.

"The excitement of Garlett's speed, endurance and outside run is sensational," he said.

"He is very focused and determined to be an elite AFL

player, so he is going to be very exciting to watch."

Touted as a top 20 draft candidate, showing the strength and depth of the 2014 draft, Carlton used pick 60 (round four) to select robust midfielder Clem Smith from Western Australia.

At the age of just 17, Smith was named in the 2013 All-Australian under 18 team and has played 10 senior games for Perth in the WAFL.

Bargain buy

While he struggled with injury this year, he is seen as a bargain, going so deep in the draft.

With one of the final selections at the main draft,

the Brisbane Lions secured the services of Josh McGuinness, from Lauderdale, Tasmania, with pick number 81.

He is a 189cm strong-marking, sweeping defender, joining fellow Tasmanians Josh Green, Ryan Harwood, Josh Watts and Mitch Robinson at the Lions.

McGuinness was impressive across the entire national under 18 carnival, being rewarded for his efforts with All-Australian selection.

A number of talents who missed out in the main draft will come under consideration at the pre-season and rookie draft to be held on Wednesday, December 3.



Jarrod Garlett

NSW grabs academy lads

By PETER ARGENT



ABE Davis and Jeremy Finlayson – two of this year's victorious NSW national under 18s side – have found homes on local Australian Football League (AFL) lists.

This follows the 2014 AFL Academy bidding meeting on October 6.

Among the three Swans Academy players confirmed before the draft, Davis was taken at pick number 76.

Davis joined the Swans Academy in 2011 and grew up in Maroubra, a southern Sydney beach suburb, where he played for the Maroubra Saints Juniors.

A versatile key position player who excels in attack and defence, he is also a dedicated surf lifesaver.

Davis also played basketball at a high level throughout his youth.

GWS Giants have used pick number 116 to secure Finlayson, although he will have a delayed start to his first pre-season after undergoing hip surgery.

Restricted program

The 18-year-old will be on a restricted program for the next 12-16 weeks and is expected to resume full training in late January.

Coming through the Giants Academy, Finlayson is an athletic 195cm mobile forward with the ability to play in defence, on the wing and in the ruck.

He grew up in Culcairn, in the Riverina.

The Western Bulldogs have added another young key defender to their list – former Cat Joel Hamling, who finished third in the Cats' VFL affiliates best and fairest award this year through the delisted free agency period.

He was original drafted by Geelong with selection 32 in the 2011 National Draft from Western Australia after an impressive draft testing performances where he ranked in the elite category for the 20m sprint and running vertical jump.

The 21-year-old who stands 194cm, failed to play a senior game in three seasons at Simonds Stadium, but Bulldogs list manager Jason McCartney suggested



Abe Davis

he would complement the growing young group of defenders at the Kennel.

Hamling has the versatility to play forward.

McCartney said it was part of the Bulldogs' trade strategy to fill specific list requirements, and 194cm Hamling fitted the bill.

"Getting in another key defender was important for us, and Joel adds a different dynamic to that group with his raw athleticism," McCartney said.

"Joel has been part of an elite development program at Geelong, and having watched closely throughout the year, we believe he is not far from playing good consistent AFL football."

In other news surrounding Indigenous AFL players, at the end of the 2014 season, Terry Milera informed the St Kilda of his desire to return to South Australia for personal reasons.

Despite trying to accommodate Milera, the club was unable to secure a trade with Adelaide or Port Adelaide.

Milera played 30 games and kicked 31 goals for the Saints after arriving at the club in 2011 via the Port Adelaide Magpies in the SANFL.

For preliminary finalists Port Adelaide, 20-year-old West Australian recruit



Jeremy Finlayson

Brendon Ah Chee has been offered a one-year contract for 2015.

Ah Chee has been on the list since 2012 and played this year with the Magpies in the SANFL grand final.

"We think Brendon took some significant steps forward with the Magpies this year and we're going to give him that chance to go to the next level in 2015," Power list manager Jason Cripps said.

As expected, Fremantle has also delisted second-year player Josh Simpson.

The 20-year-old, who was Fremantle's pick 16 in the 2012 National Draft, has been on a club-ordered paid leave of absence since June to complete a personal development program.

"As we do with all players on our list, we have provided Josh with significant support and resources, including a personal development program that was put together to assist him in dealing with personal and professional matters he faced away from football," manager Chris Bond said.

"Although Josh has been formally delisted, the club will continue to work with him and his management to provide appropriate levels of support and assistance into 2015."



Josh Simpson



Terry Milera

Seeking fresh starts

By CHRIS PIKE



TALENTED small forward Leroy Jetta is hoping a move to West Australian Football League (WAFL) club Peel Thunder can help him back into the Australian Football League (AFL) system in 2016 while Murray Newman is ready to make the most of his second chance with the West Coast Eagles.

Jetta decided to part ways with Essendon at the end of the 2014 AFL season after eight seasons with the Bombers, where he played 93 games and kicked 80 goals with his best seasons coming in 2011 and 2012 when he played in 44 matches,



Murray Newman

kicking 49 goals.

However, the 26-year-old managed just 10 games in the past two seasons in the AFL, and just two in 2014, so decided the time was right to leave the Bombers.

But he hasn't given up hope on still having a future at the top level.

That now looks unlikely to happen in 2015, but rather than return to his original WAFL club South Fremantle, Jetta will link up with Peel Thunder next year after playing in the Northern Territory Football League with Palmerston under coach Dean Rioli, where he is currently plying his trade.

In the WAFL, Peel is the aligned club with the Fremantle Dockers, so impressive performances there will have Jetta's name up in lights for AFL clubs again while also giving him the chance to play alongside good friends Cruize Garlett and Kelvin Lawrence.

Tough decision

Jetta admits to having to make a tough decision to leave Essendon and while he is confident it's the best thing for him, he is proud of his time with the Bombers.

"It is a difficult decision to move on after eight years at Essendon but the time is right to look for new opportunities," Jetta said.

"I've been lucky enough to play under some terrific coaches and I would like to thank everyone at the Essendon Football Club for the support they have shown me, especially my teammates. I will always look back at my time at Essendon with great memories."

Another talented West Australian footballer, Murray Newman has now returned to the West Coast Eagles having spent the 2014 season in prison after being convicted of an assault that occurred when he was an 18-year-old.

Newman was released on parole on September 4 and after remaining in good

shape while inside, he has been training diligently ahead of West Coast's official pre-season beginning and he looks to be in tremendous shape as he looks to repay the faith the Eagles showed in him by maintaining him on their list.

His coach at West Coast, former North Melbourne champion midfielder Adam Simpson, is happy with the way the 21-year-old has presented himself after a year he will look to put behind him, wanting now to add to his four AFL matches.

"He has trained every day since the boys left for their break so every time I've been at the club, he has been there training. If you have a look at him, he's in really good shape and he's probably too big. He has been pumping a lot of iron for eight weeks so we need to manage that," Simpson said.

"He is in really good condition so we are happy with the shape he is in. Hopefully he just completes a full pre-season from here to make himself available for the NAB Cup. I've seen nothing but good things from Murray from the first time I saw him last year and now nothing has changed 12 months on."

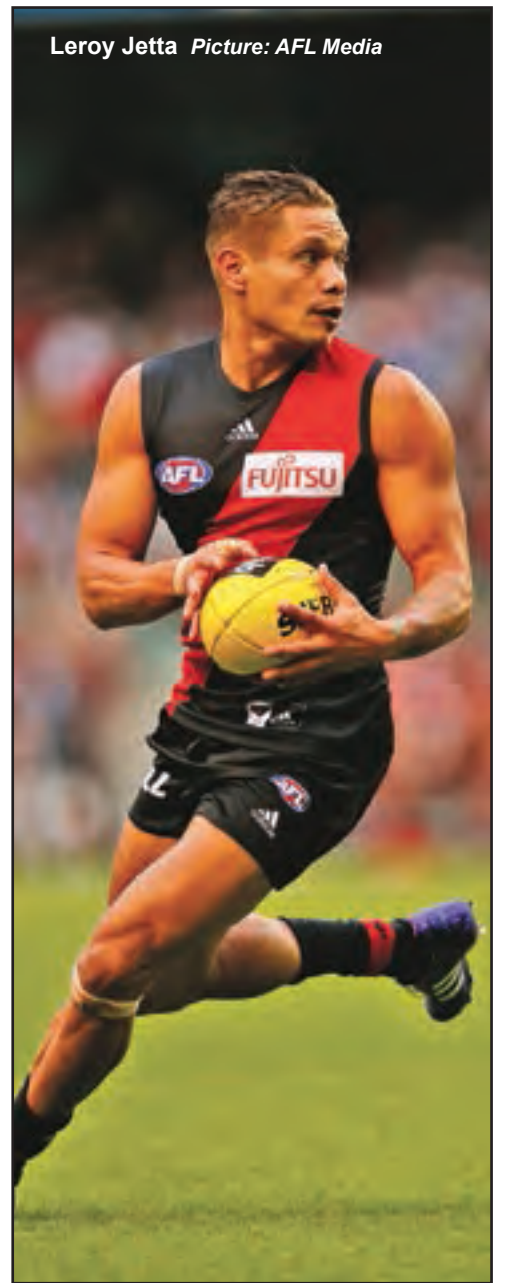
Back in trouble

Meanwhile, the news isn't so good for another prodigious Indigenous talent from WA with Dayle Garlett again finding himself in trouble with the law.

After a tumultuous 12 months that saw Hawthorn take a chance on the troubled, yet hugely talented youngster only for him to not cope with his early taste of life as an AFL footballer, and subsequently quit the club, things have continued to spiral downwards.

Since returning to Perth, he was arrested for aggravated burglary and avoided a conviction, but subsequently admitted to a drug addiction and has since again been arrested ahead of again facing court in early December.

Leroy Jetta Picture: AFL Media



Want to run in the 2015 NY Marathon?



APPLICATIONS have opened for Indigenous athletes who want to try out for the 2015 Indigenous Marathon Project (IMP) – a process that eventually leads to competing in the New York Marathon.

Established in 2010 by world champion marathon runner Rob de Castella, the IMP is a health promotion charity that uses running as a vehicle to drive social change and celebrate the resilience and achievement of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Each year a team of 12 young Indigenous Australians aged 18-30 is selected to train for the world's largest marathon, the New York City Marathon.

Most have no prior running experience.

Education is a core component of the project, with the compulsory completion of a Certificate IV in Leisure and Health, providing ongoing career pathways and opportunities.

In the past five years, IMP has trained and mentored 42 runners across the finish line of a major international marathon, including New York, Tokyo, and Boston.

De Castella is encouraging all young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to apply.

"We had a record number of applications in 2014 and we expect even more for 2015. The beauty of IMP is that no running experience is required," he said.



The 2014 IMP squad. Elsie Seriat is at far right in the middle row.

"We are looking for people who are determined, demonstrate commitment and are willing to become ongoing role models for their family and community.

"IMP isn't about running. It's about celebrating Indigenous resilience and achievement and the simple act of running creates an incredible ripple effect that has a significant impact, as we've seen in the past five years of the project.

"We have witnessed enormous mental, emotional and personal growth in all of our IMP graduates which echoes throughout communities. They become inspired, they realise anything is achievable and they develop a contagious sense of pride and belief. We are very excited about meeting hundreds of applicants and showcasing their capacity to achieve to the nation.

Thursday Island 2014 IMP representative

and Nadine Hunt Award recipient for leadership qualities, Elsie Seriat, said the past six months had been life changing.

"IMP changes your life forever and not only you but your family, community and friends," she said.

"Six months ago, I struggled to run 3km and weighed 94kg for my IMP tryout, coming from a zero background of running.

"Six months later, I'm proud to say I'm officially a marathoner and finished my race with the amazing time of 4:36:19 and now weigh 74kg.

"I never thought I'd be as fit as I am now. Since being part of the project I have lost 20kg. I see life differently now. I choose to want to live longer, healthier and stronger, therefore I need to make all the positive choices in life, whether it be eat right or just being active and leading by example for my next generation."

Elsie's advice to people considering applying is simple.

"Don't follow your dreams, chase them. Believe in yourself and never doubt, no matter what walks of life you come from. Don't miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"This is the best thing that ever happened to me by far throughout my life and you won't be disappointed," she said.

To apply for the 2015 IMP team, visit www.imp.org.au or contact IMP head coach Mick Rees at mick.r@imp.org.au or (02) 6162 4750.



Josh Lalor and Jonte Pattison at Glenelg, Adelaide, where they played for a Cricket Australia XI against the touring Indians in a two-day match. The small back page picture of Josh Lalor shows him wearing a green cap presented to the players before the match. But it is not a baggy green cap which features the Australian coat of arms. The cap Lalor is wearing on the back page features a Cricket Australia logo. *Pictures: Peter Argent*

Historic match



HISTORY
was
made in
Adelaide
when two

Indigenous Australians turned out for an Australian cricket team in an international match.

The Cricket Australia XI included New South Welshmen Josh Lalor and Jonte Pattison.

Lalor, a left-arm fast bowler, was the most impressive of the Australian attack, finishing with 2-55 off 20 overs in India's total of 8-363 at Glenelg.

Pattison, a young leg-spinner, captured the wicket of SK Raina for 44 and finished with 1-24 off seven overs.

The Indian total was in reply to the Australian XI total of 219.

Pattison scored seven and Lalor was 18 not out.



Leg-spinner Jonte Pattison winds up.



Josh Lalor beats the bat.



It looks like a baggy green – but is it? **Page 67**



The Voice of Indigenous Australia

Coolum to host national bowls titles



THE inaugural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander national lawns bowls championship is to be held next year on the Queensland Sunshine Coast.

The man driving the concept is Coolum Beach Bowling Club member Mark Sidaway.

He said the event had the blessing of Bowls Australia and would be held at Coolum Beach and possibly nearby clubs next April 19-24.

There will be two days of singles and three days of pairs.

The use of greens other than Coolum Beach will depend on the number of entries.

Sunday, April 19, will be dedicated to welcoming contestants and will feature an Indigenous festival organised by the same group that runs NAIDOC celebrations at Coolum.

The tournament will start on Monday, with two days of singles, followed by pairs on April 22, 23 and 24.

Sidaway said word of the Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander championships had been spread throughout Australian bows clubs.

He said that following the tournament, a team of seven would be selected to play the following day (Anzac Day) against as Queensland Selection or Australia A.

The Indigenous team would be made up of a singles player, a pairs team and a fours team.

Sidaway said the concept for the tournament came out of discussions he had with the late Ray McKenzie, who

died just a couple of months after a 22-year reign as Coolum Beach Bowls Club president.

Sidaway said the late McKenzie was the man who put the bowls club in such a sound position and had a history of helping Indigenous people through his job as a bank manager.

He said the Coolum Beach Bowls Club was organising accommodation packages for people wishing to visit.

Sidaway can be contacted on 0457 220 203. The Coolum Beach Bowls Club's number is (07) 5446 1153.

Wingard shines in international rules



Chad Wingard flies for a mark over Colm Boyle during the 2014 international rules match between Australia and Ireland at Patersons Stadium, Perth, on November 22. Wingard was the only Indigenous player in the Australian team. He was one of the stars of the game, scoring three overs. The hybrid concept was brought back to life when a sellout crowd of 38,262 attended Australia's 10-point win. *Picture: AFL Media*

Knockout for Dubbo



DUBBO'S offer to host the 2014 NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout

carnival was too good to reject, organisers said.

It has been officially confirmed that Dubbo, in central-western NSW, will host the Knockout from Friday, October 2, to Monday, October 5, at Caltex Park.

Knockout hosts Walgett Aboriginal Connection (AC) said the facilities at Caltex Park were first-class.

Spokesman Mark de Weerd said Dubbo City Council had made out the best case of the four cities bidding for the carnival. The others were Bathurst, Albury and Wagga Wagga.

Walgett AC won the right to host the Knockout when they beat the Newcastle All Blacks 28-16 in the final of the 2014

Knockout at Raymond Terrace on October 6.

Raymond Terrace has hosted the past three knockouts.

Dubbo Mayor Mathew Dickerson said the Knockout would be a fantastic event for Dubbo and the whole region.

"Dubbo will turn it on for rugby league fans as we have done for previous big matches and carnivals," he said.

"Caltex Park is certainly one of the premier facilities in regional NSW. The ground will be in top condition for the Knockout and the players, officials and spectators will fully appreciate the amenities, including under cover grandstand.

"The surface also received very high praise from the players and coaches of this year's Country and City Origin teams."

Cr Dickerson said Dubbo and the western NSW region



Dubbo Mayor Mathew Dickerson

had long been a heartland for rugby league.

"I expect local clubs, sports fans, schools and businesses all getting in to the spirit and supporting this event," he said.

Meanwhile, a Knockout delegates meeting has been put back until the New Year.

De Weerd said there were a few issues that needed to be sorted before the delegates meeting could be held.



Caltex Park, Dubbo, venue of the 2015 NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout carnival. *Picture supplied by Dubbo City Council*

● **NSW men's and women's Imparja Cup teams: page 60**