



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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

EDITION 617

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016

PUBLISHED SINCE 1991

Phone: (02) 66 222 666

www.koorimail.com

Recommended price \$2.50 (GST-inclusive)

A truly welcome sight



AN image of an Indigenous woman graced the pylons of the Sydney Harbour Bridge (pictured) as part of the spectacular welcome to country ceremony during the city's New Year's Eve celebrations.

Red fireworks cascaded off the bridge while yellow flares erupted into the black night sky above the world-famous 'coat-hanger'

structure to complete the effect, turning the bridge into a giant Aboriginal flag.

Welcome ceremony creative director Rhoda Roberts said the imagery included natural landscapes and the flora and fauna symbols of local clan totems.

Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council chief executive Nathan Moran said his

organisation was delighted with the welcome to country on the bridge.

"We are deeply honoured and overjoyed that the Sydney New Year's Eve celebration had a specific focus on respecting the First Nations Australians of Sydney Harbour – the Gadigal, Wangal and Gamaragal clans of the Eora Nation," he said.

'This is far from over'

Bowraville families to fight on



FAMILIES of three Aboriginal children murdered at Bowraville, NSW, in 1991 have vowed to fight on despite a blow to their quest for justice. The NSW Government has ruled out changing

double jeopardy laws to open the way for a retrial of a prime suspect in the murders of 16-year-olds Colleen Walker-Craig and Clinton Speedy-Durox, and four-year-old Evelyn Greenup.

Disillusioned they may be, but family members say they won't rest.

"This is far from over," family member Leonie Durox told the *Koori Mail*.

"We'll be holding a march to Parliament when it reopens, and we'll be lobbying everyone we can to change the law.

"Justice must be done."

● Full report, page 5

Koorie Klaus is a popular fella



KOORIE Klaus (aka Kutcha Edwards) had plenty of fans when he visited the Koorie Heritage Trust's A Very Koorie Krismas celebration in Melbourne. See page 33 for all the details. *Picture: Jillian Mundy*

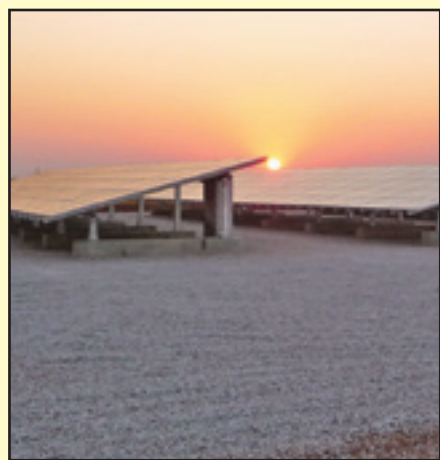
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My FAMILY Lorina Lovett – Fitzroy, Vic



THIS is me (number 7 on my t-shirt) with my daughters Ayesha, Anese and Mayeesha, and my partner Richard Seward. On the left is my friend Madaline Parsad. She is like family.

The picture was taken at the Koorie Kristmas event at Federation Square in Melbourne. My two oldest daughters performed there with the Koorie Tiddas Choir. Mayeesha will join next year.

I also have a son, Mali. He plays rugby for North Melbourne Panthers, as well as grid iron (American football).

They like to be involved in lots of things, and between them they play basketball, Auskick, soccer and rugby.

My mum was (the late) Denise Lovett and we are a very big mob. I'm the quiet one. When the Lovetts muck up, I take the King side – that's Grandma's maiden name.

Mum was a very proud black woman, very powerful, and a voice for the Aboriginal

community in Fitzroy and Collingwood. She helped a lot of people, and she worked with a lot of organisations helping the parkies. She was an original parky herself, before.

I take after her with my work. I do outreach for Launch Housing (City of Yarra), and I also run a women's group.

Anese wants to take after what Mum and I have been doing. She also wants to be a veterinarian or a nurse.

I'm very proud of my children – we're a strong family. They've all got their own thing, and I know they'll go far.

We're a multicultural family. My dad is Tongan/Maori, and the cultures have a lot of similarities. They live the same, and hunt the same. I think being multicultural makes us stronger, more caring, more accepting.

We do a lot together as a family. At home we always dance and sing and muck around together. They are my world.

– As told to Jillian Mundy

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



IF they're not swimming in creeks, the kids from Yarrabah in north Queensland are riding horses or bikes. And when they're not doing any of those things they're fishing! These youngsters know what they like to do on their school holidays, and they were only too happy to jump into the back of this boat to get out to sea off Cairns. *Picture: Christine Howes*

Koori Mail

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Advertising Rates

\$18.50 (+ GST) a column centimetre casual rate (discounts available for multiple bookings).
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Advertising Format

Page Size: 38cm deep x 26cm wide
7 columns per page
Single column size 35mm • 2.5mm space between columns

Advertising Deadlines

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

Koori Mail on The Web: www.koorimail.com

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

INFOKOORI site address

<http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/infokoori>

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Welcome fit for a champ



TENNIS great Roger Federer gets up close and personal with members of the Nunukul Yuggera Dance Troupe in Brisbane this month. Dancer Aaron Ruska told the *Koori Mail* the Swiss star, in town for the Brisbane International tournament in the lead up to the Australian Open starting in Melbourne on January 18, showed plenty of interest in the welcome dance given by the group. *AAP image*

Guilty plea to Groote dishonest dealings



A WOMAN who pleaded guilty to misappropriating almost half a million dollars from an Aboriginal land trust will be back in court on January 19.

Rosalie Lalara, 57, was the public officer of the Groote Eylandt Aboriginal Trust, which went into administration in 2012 with \$400,000 in the bank after \$34 million in mining repayments was spent between 2010 and 2012.

It is not clear where all the money went, although there have been reports of it being spent on cars, boats and plane charters, or gambled away.

The Darwin Supreme Court heard last month that Lalara spent \$111,000 on a Range Rover and accessories to be sent from Townsville to Cairns so she could have a car when she travelled there.

Justice Graham Hiley said Lalara had been involved in at least 15 dishonest dealings over a significant period of time.

In November last year she dismissed her lawyer minutes before court proceedings were due to begin and was instead supported by the NT representative of the Original Sovereign Tribal Movement (OSTM).

During those proceedings she questioned the jurisdiction of the courts and the ability of Parliament to enact laws, but Justice Hiley said that matter had since been resolved.

Referendum body meets



THE new Recognition Council will report by the middle of the year on steps towards recognising Indigenous people in the Constitution.

Leaders of the 16-member council have expressed optimism following their first meeting in Sydney just before Christmas.

Co-chairs Patrick Dodson and Mark Leibler have welcomed the bipartisan involvement of Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten.

Mr Leibler says Mr Turnbull had been behind the change in government approach to the discussions, with a series of Indigenous-led consultations to



Co-chair Patrick Dodson be held in coming months.

"You've got a new prime minister – simple as that," he said, when asked about the previous reluctance of the Government to make Indigenous-led discussions

central. "I am optimistic about the outcome of this."

Mr Leibler said changing the Constitution was in the interest of all Australians.

"We are not doing a favour here to Indigenous Australians," he said.

"This is about our self-respect and our dignity as Australians."

Winning the hearts and minds of Australians, and confronting a potential 'no' campaign, will be the biggest challenge for the council, Mr Leibler said.

Professor Dodson called for more public education.

"The drag needs to stop ... we need to bring this matter to fruition," he said.

The council will meet again this year and continue to aim for a 2017 referendum. – AAP

● Letter, page 25



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They're our Australian of the Year finalists

Turn to page 14 for the full story on these worthy contenders.



JT scores honorary doctorate



A HUGE 2015 for rugby league champion Johnathan Thurston was capped off last month with an Honorary Doctor of Letters from James Cook University.

The university's recognition of the North Queensland Cowboys' co-captain cited outstanding service and exceptional contributions to the regional community.

JCU chancellor John Grey said Thurston – or JT as he's widely known – has had a tremendous, positive influence that goes beyond the football field.

"He is a mentor to so many in north Queensland and beyond," General Grey said. "The qualities he displays – humility, sportsmanship, leadership, mateship, and loyalty to his community – are widely respected. Johnathan Thurston is an inspiration to youth and the broader community."

Thurston, a rugby league multiple award-winner, said he is humbled by the honour.

"It has been an amazing year (2015) for me personally and professionally, and I am really excited to be finishing it with this honour," he said.

"I take pride in the work I do and the time I spend in the community. I am passionate about north Queensland and the north Queensland people."

"I believe that the way forward for Indigenous people is through education and I am committed to using my profile to assist that cause in any way possible."

● Pictured: Johnathan Thurston in academic garb with his wife Samantha Lynch.

Picture: Richard Davis, JCU



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Dhu inquest told of pain



THE coronial inquest into the death in police custody of a young Western Australian Aboriginal woman

will resume in March. Ms Dhu died two days after being locked up at South Hedland Police Station in the Pilbara in August 2014 for unpaid fines totalling \$3622.

The inquest, which had fallen behind schedule, was adjourned last month by Coroner Ros Fogliani.

It had heard evidence that the 22-year-old Yamaji woman died during her third visit in as many days to the Hedland

Health Campus. She had a blood infection and pneumonia, following an infection in fractured ribs that spread to her lungs.

The inquest heard officers believed Ms Dhu, who had been in great pain for many

obvious deterioration in Ms Dhu's condition.

None of the 21 police investigated after her death were sacked, despite an internal review finding some failed to act urgently to save her.

The inquest heard that adverse findings were made against 11 officers in a police internal review, but none involved in her care were found to have acted criminally.

Coroner Fogliani thanked members of Ms Dhu's family for their participation and attention to the evidence.

"I have no doubt they have been long and difficult days for you," she said. – with AAP

"I have no doubt they have been long and difficult days for you."

– Coroner Ros Fogliani to Ms Dhu's family

hours, was either feigning or exaggerating her injury. Local medical staff had deemed her fit for custody.

WA police have admitted officers did not respond to an



Dysfunction turning to hope at remote Ali Curung – page 21

She'll use her education to help educate others



IT'S taken more than a century, but Casimira Tipiloura has done it. She's become the first student in over 100 years of education on the Tiwi Islands to finish high school with an ATAR ranking allowing her to go on to tertiary education.

Not only that, but the 17-year-old is also the first person from her rather large family – there's lots of Tipilouras in the Tiwis – to finish high school.

It's something the quietly spoken young woman from Wurrumiyanga (formerly Nguu) on Bathurst Island is just a little bit proud of.

"Education is important. It's how to get ahead," she told the *Koori Mail*.

In fact education is so important to Casimira that she's planning to become a teacher herself, and help other people in her community and other Aboriginal centres around the Northern Territory.

On course

To that end, she's going to Batchelor Institute, south of Darwin, next year to complete a certificate course in education.

Then the plan is to complete an education degree at Charles Darwin University, return as a teacher to the Tiwis, and perhaps teach in other Indigenous communities.

"I love children and I want to come back to my community and continue to give the kids here the education that I received while helping them maintain their culture," she said.

"Then I'll look at working on other communities."

As you might imagine, Casimira's road to tertiary education was challenging. The eldest in a large family, she has plenty of commitments taking her time.

And it didn't help that she was the only Year 12 student at Xavier Catholic College on Bathurst Island last year.

"It got a bit lonely, but I had lots of people helping and supporting me," she said. "In the end, it's all worth it."



Casimira Tipiloura with Aboriginal actor Luke Carroll on the Tiwi Islands.

New Year's hopes and resolutions

We asked Indigenous people around Australia for their 2016 New Year's hopes and resolutions. You'll find them on this and following pages.



Bernadette Puruntatameri – Tiwi Islands, NT: This year I want to quit smoking. Cigarettes are no good for your health.



Crusher Wotton – Townsville, Qld: I want to spend as much time as possible with my family on Palm Island. They are all so precious.



Karen Stone – Wynyard, Tas: I want to lose more weight. I exercise two days a week.



Warren Mundine – Sydney, NSW: I'll have a focus on Indigenous business and commercial growth this year.

Families vow to fight for justice



A BID by three Aboriginal families from Bowraville, NSW, to get justice for their murdered children has been dealt a blow.

But they have vowed to fight on in their quest for justice.

The NSW Government will not change double jeopardy laws to open the way for a retrial of a prime suspect in the murders of 16-year-olds Colleen Walker-Craig and Clinton Speedy-Duroux, and four-year-old Evelyn Greenup.

In early 1991, the bodies of Evelyn and Clinton were found in bushland along the Congarinni Road on the outskirts of the town.

Clothing belonging to Colleen was found in the Nambucca River nearby, but her body has never been found.

The review of double jeopardy laws was done by former Supreme Court judge James Wood,

who concluded they should not be amended.

It was prompted by a parliamentary inquiry into the unsolved murders.

The killings set the small timber town in the state's mid-north on edge.

At the time there was anger in the

"The NSW Government has shown little to no regard for the trauma and pain our families have lived with for more than two decades."

Indigenous community that the children's disappearances had not been taken seriously enough by authorities.

There was also a strong belief about who was responsible for the crimes. A man identified

as the prime suspect was separately tried and acquitted of the murder of Clinton and Evelyn.

In a statement, family members said they were totally dismayed and disillusioned by the decision.

"The NSW Government has shown little to no regard for the trauma and pain our families have lived with for more than two decades," they said.

They were also angered by the fact they were informed of the Cabinet decision by text and not in person.

Detective Inspector Gary Jubelin, who has worked on the case since 1996, said NSW police will continue to pursue justice for the families.

NSW Attorney-General Gabrielle Upton, who declined to meet with the families, said they can still apply to her or the NSW Director of Public Prosecutions for a retrial, and any application "will be carefully considered".

New Year's hopes and resolutions



Richard Scott-Moore – Nowra, NSW but currently living at Kettle and Stony Point Indian Reserve, Ontario, Canada: I want to continue inspiring youth by gaining and sharing traditional knowledge.



Darryll Tucker – Kalgoorlie, WA: I want a fair go for everyone and for all of us to be happy as a people.



Jack Wodidj – Palumpa (Wadeye), NT: I've been living in Darwin with my ill wife for a long time, so I want to go back to Palumpa and get the cattle station there up and running.



Lisa Stewart – Kilburn, SA: I want to be more successful with my endeavours to find employment.



Australia's own Black Elvis Gnarnayarrahe Waitairie performs at the Parkes Elvis Festival last week with his wife Karen, daughter Alinta and granddaughter Treinaya Phillips. *Picture: Parkes Champion-Post*

He's Australia's own Black Elvis, thank you very much



IF you're an Elvis Presley fan, there's only one place to be in January: Parkes. The central-western NSW town's annual Elvis Festival draws thousands of would-be Elvises and his fans for five days of The King's music.

Among them this year was Indigenous Australia's own Black Elvis, Gnarnayarrahe Waitairie.

The 67-year-old, originally from the Pilbara region of Western Australia, travelled up from Melbourne – something he's done every second year since 2010 – to take part.

Mr Waitairie says he has loved Elvis since he was a boy, and started his own tribute act and singing The King's songs more than 50 years ago.

He has busked in many places, and playing Elvis is his favourite act.

He says it's something he's not about to give up any time soon.

Pressure on to cut prison rates

By NATALIE CROMB



THE Law Council of Australia will pressure the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) to make reducing Indigenous imprisonment rates a top priority on the Closing the Gap agenda. The move follows a recent national symposium which brought together some of the nation's top legal experts and community leaders to examine Indigenous incarceration.

Nationally, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults are 15 times more likely to be imprisoned than other Australians, and the rate is even higher for Indigenous youth.

Law Council of Australia president Daniel McConnel confirmed his organisation will "work with participants in the symposium to elevate this national crisis to the COAG agenda".

"It is unacceptable for governments to simply accept the status quo," he said.

"It is time for governments to act, to break the vicious cycle of imprisonment, which is simply getting worse each year and seriously stymieing efforts to overcome Indigenous disadvantage."

Dr Fadwa Al-Yaman, of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, told the symposium it wasn't just the social costs of Indigenous incarceration that were high.

"Economic costs"

"The economic costs are also high, with \$1.19 billion spent in 2012-13 on the Indigenous population incarcerated," he said.

Policy makers at the gathering agreed the drivers of Indigenous incarceration are complex and inter-related, including disadvantage, lack of education, high rates of drug and alcohol abuse, family violence,

homelessness and unemployment.

Panellists agreed that current policies are unjust and unfairly target Indigenous Australians.

Dr Hilde Tubex, of the University of Western Australia, said holistic, culturally appropriate action based on the specific circumstances of Aboriginal people was needed to address Indigenous incarceration.

The Law Council is pressing for the COAG to reduce rates and length of imprisonment for Indigenous men, women and youths by 50% within five years.

It also wants tests in all jurisdictions aimed at reducing imprisonment by effective diversionary programs within 12 months, with a commitment to fund programs for five-year cycles, subject to performance targets, and a national review of programs within three years.

● **Summit on family violence, page 15**

Canadian PM apologises for abuse

NEW Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has apologised for more than a century of abuse at boarding schools set up to assimilate Canada's indigenous people, saying the burden of those experiences weighs heavily.

He was speaking to former students, chiefs and religious leaders at the unveiling of a final report on the schools, which left

many children disconnected from their families, communities and feeling ashamed of being born native.

The previous administration officially apologised in June 2008 for the cultural genocide, as part of a \$1.9 billion settlement with former students.

It also launched a truth and reconciliation commission which

urged increased funding for indigenous people to address the disparity in school performance with other Canadians.

Repair damage

Mr Trudeau pledged to implement this and 93 other recommendations in the report to help repair the damage caused by the schools.

Beginning in 1874, 150,000 Indian, Inuit and Metis children in Canada were forcibly enrolled in 139 boarding schools run by Christian churches on behalf of the federal government in an effort to integrate them into society.

Many told of abuse by headmasters and teachers, who stripped them of their culture and language. At least 3200

students never returned home.

The experience has been blamed for gross poverty and desperation in native communities that led to abuse, suicide and crime.

Most of Canada's Indian Residential Schools were shut in the 1970s. The last one closed in 1996 in Saskatchewan province. — AFP



At the Aboriginal Dental Assistant Trainee Program graduation, back from left, Cathy Schafer, Paul Talbot, Norma Binge and Graham White and, front from left, Elaine Hippi, Megan Binge, Melanie Schafer and Tiffany McGrady.

More qualified and ready for a career in oral health



EIGHTEEN Aboriginal students from across NSW have graduated from the state's Aboriginal Dental Assistant Trainee Program – the second group to do so.

NSW Health statewide Aboriginal oral health manager Boe Rambaldini said the graduation marks the beginning of an "exciting career path" for the students.

"The program has been very successful to date, with every single student from the previous round of graduates having secured a job as an oral health professional," he said.

"We expect the latest graduates will also find rewarding positions in the dental workforce."

The six-month traineeship covers dental assisting and oral health promotion. Students get practical experience using dental equipment, assisting dentists and oral health therapists, and teaching community members about good oral health.

Jointly managed and delivered by The Poche Centre for Indigenous Health, the Centre for Oral Health Strategy NSW, TAFE Western Sydney Institute and Rotary Sydney, the program was designed to build the Aboriginal workforce and meet the needs of Aboriginal dental patients.

Graduate, Elanie Hippi, who works with the Redfern Aboriginal Health Service, said the course had helped her find a career in oral health.

"The opportunity to learn and train

alongside my colleagues has been a rewarding and invaluable experience," she said.

"Many of us see this as a stepping stone to further advance or start our careers."

The program is part of the Aboriginal Oral Health Plan 2014-2020, which aims to close the dental health gap between Aboriginal and other people in NSW.

Mr Rambaldini said levels of untreated dental decay were more than twice as high as average, and far fewer Aboriginal adults used dental care.

"It's important that Aboriginal people have ready access to dental services so they will be more likely to have regular check-ups," he said.

Stolen wages claims open



QUEENSLAND'S \$21 million stolen wages reparations scheme is now taking applications from Indigenous Queenslanders whose wages or savings were withheld by previous governments.

The reopened scheme follows community consultation by a reparations taskforce, headed by social justice commissioner Mick Gooda.

Thousands of Indigenous Queenslanders had their pay withheld or cut under state policies from 1904 to the 1970s.

In 2002, the Beattie Government allocated \$56.6 million as reparations for stolen wages, but drew criticism for offering only between \$2000 and \$4000 to each eligible person, as well as for pushing for recipients to give up rights to take further legal action.

About 5500 eligible claimants received money in the first round in 2007, but it was estimated more than 3000 were rejected because of a lack of government records.

Widespread anger

There was widespread anger when the Bligh Government withdrew the remaining \$20.1 million, allocating it instead to Indigenous scholarships.

Under the new scheme, \$21 million has now been reallocated for payments.

Previous recipients will get 'top-up' payments of \$2200 if born before 1952, or \$1100 if born between January 1, 1952, and December 31, 1956.

Successful new claimants will receive \$9200 if born before 1952, or \$4600 if born between January 1, 1952 and December 31, 1959.

The Government says that, effectively, each eligible claimant will receive the same total amount of reparation payments regardless of when they applied.

Queensland Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Curtis Pitt said people born in 1960 or later who believe their may have a claim should also take action.

The reparations scheme will remain open for three years. Full details are available by calling 1800 619 505 or visiting www.qld.gov.au/reparations

Changes after police bungle



A SPECIAL police unit will deal with witnesses and suspects from remote Aboriginal communities in Western Australia in homicide cases after flawed interviews led to an illiterate Indigenous man having a murder charge downgraded to manslaughter.

Joshua Warneke, 21, was walking home from a night out drinking with friends in 2010 when he was struck from behind with a pole in Broome by Kiwirrkurra man Gene Gibson.

More than two years later, police

interviewed Gibson, and despite English being his second language, an interpreter was not used.

Police Commissioner Karl O'Callaghan said lessons had been learned, and among the changes would be pre-recorded cautions in every Aboriginal language, similar to the Northern Territory.

Mr O'Callaghan also revealed details about an internal investigation launched in July 2014 into the conduct of officers involved in the murder investigation.

It began after Supreme Court judge Stephen Hall ruled that all the police electronic records of the interview of the

accused were inadmissible. The probe also triggered a separate review of the investigation brief.

Mr O'Callaghan said eight officers would receive managerial intervention and three were subject to a loss of confidence process.

The commissioner said he was satisfied two of the officers had the knowledge and capacity to have done a better job.

"They made a series of judgment calls about the ability of suspects and witnesses to understand the interview process which were wrong and reflected a lack of diligence," he said. — AAP

Are you a Survivor?



EVER wanted to be a Survivor? On TV, that is. The producers of the Australian television series of *Survivor* are looking for adults for upcoming programs, and they're keen to hear from Indigenous

Australians. The only conditions for applicants is they must be 18 or over, an Australian resident and be able to swim.

To apply, go to www.survivorcasting.com.au. The deadline is February 10.

New Year's hopes and resolutions



Ruth Uddhammar – Fitzroy Crossing, WA: My resolution is very simple: to be healthy.



Kresten Hayes – Santa Teresa, NT: I'm staying in Alice Springs but hoping to get cattle work this year at Scott Creek Station, near Katherine. I'm also hoping to play Aussie rules for Santa Teresa.



Maureen McQuillan – Bateau Bay, NSW: I want to generally get healthier so I am able to keep up with my grannies, and continue working on my tattoos.



Cody Summer – Hobart, Tas: in 2016 I'd love to be getting on country more with the kids.



Children in Mount Liebig enjoy new play equipment upcycled from building offcuts and other waste materials.
Picture: MacDonnell Regional Council

Mt Liebig cleans up in Northern Territory Tidy Towns competition



RESIDENTS of Mount Liebig have celebrated their Tidy Towns success at a community barbecue with official guests.

The Central Australian community, about 325km west of Alice Springs, took out the Northern Territory Tidy Towns title and will now be in the running for the national

award, to be announced on March 18.

National Tidy Town Judge Jill Grant and NT Local Government Minister Bess Price were among the guests at last month's barbecue.

Local groups and organisations, many backed by the MacDonnell Regional Council, have contributed to Mt Liebig's Tidy Towns success.

An 'emu-bob' walk by local school

children and their families also helps to maintain the community's general tidiness. As well, the local school teaches the children about litter, recycling, and greening projects.

The community also has a recycling program where resourceful locals have turned offcuts and discarded items such as old car tyres into children's play equipment.

\$300m plan to help tackle ice



INDIGENOUS-specific treatment services are one of the focal points for the federal action plan to tackle the

drug ice. The \$300 million plan comes as the Turnbull Government backed all 38 recommendations of the National Ice Taskforce, released late last year.

The funding, on top of \$310 million already allocated for ice treatment, will go towards drug services, after care, education and other community-based preventive measures.

Medical and public health groups have welcomed the plan, which includes \$241.5 million for local primary health networks and an additional \$13 million towards subsidising addiction specialists.

We can help – NSWALC



THE NSW Aboriginal Land Council has welcomed the Federal

Government's action plan to combat the drug ice. Chair Roy Ah-See said the drug was an increasing nightmare for Aboriginal communities throughout NSW and he called for authorities to work with local Aboriginal land councils (LALCs) for solutions.

"The land rights network in

NSW is made up of 120 LALCs which are often the first point of contact for Aboriginal people in our communities and act as safe haven for young people," he said. Cr Ah-See welcomed the plan to target the most vulnerable populations.

"In NSW, more than half of our population is aged under 24. If we don't act quickly and decisively, ice will damage our future generations," he said.

Cr Ah-See said LALCs were well-placed to help tackle ice.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull says it takes advantage of "grassroots" bodies and the sourcing of local knowledge,

including Indigenous-specific treatment, while showing the Government can be "agile" in its response to the ice problem.

"We believe the medical and healthcare professionals who are closest to the people with the problems, the people in need, are best able to determine how the money is spent," he said.

The report found more than 200,000 Australians, many of them Indigenous, use ice, outstripping most other nations on a per capita basis.

Mr Turnbull warned preventive measures would not come at the expense of a tough police approach.

"Strong law enforcement is absolutely critical to countering the illegal trafficking of ice, to detecting, arresting and prosecuting those who profit from making misery," he said.

"But this very complex problem can't be left to the police alone."

● Editorial, page 20

New doctors are keen to help



THE University of NSW's latest Indigenous doctor graduates say they are

keen to make a difference to the lives of Australia's First People. The group of eight graduated last month, making up the highest number of Indigenous doctors from UNSW in a single year, surpassing the six who graduated in 2014.

They come from all walks of life, with graduates including an electrician, a musician and – believe it or not – a former army sniper.

Among them is Gumbayngirr (NSW) man Brendan Phillips, who grew up in western Sydney, but calls Coffs Harbour home.

Dr Phillips says a greater focus on expanding the Indigenous medical workforce is crucial if Indigenous health and life expectancy is to improve.

"The absence of Indigenous doctors in my community growing up was something that really stood out to me," he said.

"I personally have never been treated by an Indigenous doctor but would love it if I had that option, because they are likely to better understand the

social concerns, health issues and family dynamics specific to Indigenous people."

Australia-wide there are 204 Indigenous doctors, double the number a decade ago, but only a fraction of the almost 3000 needed for population parity, according to the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association.

Another UNSW 2015 graduate, Justin Keevers, who was once earning \$5.50 an hour while training to become a 'sparkie', now wants to become the first Indigenous doctor to specialise in obesity-related surgery.

"The burden of obesity-related type-2 diabetes among Indigenous adults is much greater than non-Indigenous people and this appears to be rising," he said.

Dr Keevers credits the UNSW Medicine and Nura Gili Pre-Medicine Program with setting him up for his training to become a doctor.

UNSW dean of medicine Professor Rodney Phillips says the graduations highlight UNSW's place as a leader in Indigenous medical education.

● Bathurst pair accepted into WSU medicine, page 39



New doctors celebrate their graduation. They are, from left, Justin Keevers, Mikayla Couch, Mitchell Sutton, Madison Reynolds, Brendan Phillips and Nigel Beetson.

Native title success



CLAIMANTS have been celebrating after three separate successful native title rulings just before Christmas.

The Federal Court granted native title over a section of South Australia's north-east following a 20-year bid for recognition.

In an on-country sitting near Innamincka, the court ruled that the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarra people are the rightful owners of a parcel of land spanning about 40,000 square kilometres.

The decision will protect the group's rights to camp, fish, hunt and collect resources on the land.

Council has new chief executive

THE National Native Title Council (NNTC) has a new chief executive officer.

Former South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council chief executive Glen Kelly takes on the role after the death of Brian Wyatt in October.

The NNTC is the peak body for native title representative bodies and service providers.

NNTC deputy chairman Kevin Smith said that while Mr Kelly had been appointed in sad circumstances, the council was excited to have him as chief executive officer.

In Western Australia, the Ngarluma people celebrated the legal recognition of their land

and culture at an on-country court sitting.

The Federal Court recognised

"Glen brings a wealth of experience to the NNTC," he said. "As well as working in the native title field for more than 15 years, he also has a background in natural resource management and has extensive board experience."

"The NNTC sees the next few years as extremely challenging for native title representative bodies and service providers around Australia, with a marked transition from claim resolution work to assisting prescribed bodies corporate manage their native title rights and interests over traditional country."

the Ngarluma People's non-exclusive rights to the towns of Wickham, Point Samson and

Karratha after these were excluded from the original Ngarluma determination in 2005. The application, filed in 2008, covers about 21.5 sq km of land in the Shire of Roebourne, over the town sites of Wickham, Point Samson and Karratha.

And in Queensland, the Mithaka people were awarded native title over more than 50,000 square km of land in the state's south-west.

Queensland Natural Resources Minister Anthony Lynham said the determination protected the Mithaka people's rights to access their lands to hunt, fish, teach and conduct ceremonies.

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New Year's hopes and resolutions



Judy Geary – Townsville, Qld: My resolution is to praise the Lord more, read the Bible more often and pray a lot more.



Jordan Smith – Dandenong, Vic: This year I want to be healthier and work harder.



Clara Tamu – Warraber Island, Torres Strait: This year I want to be at home more with family on Warraber Island. During 2015 I travelled a lot with my job especially to Saibai Island.



Rod Little – Canberra, ACT: I'm hoping our mob can come together and work on overcoming that which divides us.



Theresa Wilson and Tahlia Plain produce bush remedies at the Purple House.

Bush remedy program is making good scents



A BUSH medicine wellbeing program is proving more than just a handy little earner for Alice Springs-based Purple House. It's also providing an essential – and well-received – holistic and cultural service to the centre's many renal patients who come from remote communities across central Australia.

And it's also helping to ensure ancient knowledge about bush remedies is being passed on in a culturally appropriate way.

Established about five years ago, the Western Desert Dialysis Wellbeing Program produces a range of balms and lotions all made on site from natural bush ingredients.

Their sale provides a much-needed source of income for the Purple House, which works to improve the lives of people with renal failure, reunite families and reduce the incidence of kidney disease in communities across a huge area.

Important role

But they also have another vitally important role.

"The products mean we can give our patients, many of whom are elderly and away from home, a truly holistic health experience," Purple House's Sarah Brown said. "The products are full of local bush products and have scents these people know – the smell of their country."

"That's so comforting for these people who are far from their country."

Pitjantjara woman Theresa Wilson agrees.

The Areyonga woman has been working on the wellbeing program since it started, using her knowledge to make the products from scratch.

"It's good doing this work. It's keeping culture alive and it's helping our people at a difficult time in their lives," she said.

Ms Wilson has passed her skills on to younger generations, with young Western Arnernte woman Tahlia Plain the latest to be benefiting from her knowledge.

"It's good work and very interesting. It's about our culture and helping our people," she told the *Koori Mail*.

For more information on the products, go to www.westerndeserddialysis.com/wellbeing/

Survival events around nation



SURVIVAL Day events have been planned around the nation for January 26.

In **NSW**, Pitjantjara singer Bart Willoughby is the headline act for the Yabun concert at Victoria Park in Camperdown, Sydney. Other acts will include Radical Son, Yarwah, Drewz, Leah Flanagan, Evie J Willie, Black Turtles, Bow & Arrow and The Australian Eagle. The free event will also feature workshops, games and traditional cultural performances.

The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre has organised a street march followed by a rally on the lawns of Parliament House, **Hobart**. Musician John Butler will play at the event.

In **South Australia**, dance, music and market stalls will be held at the Semaphore Esplanade. Artists will include Electric Fields, Catherine Carter, Bec Gollan, Tempest



Sumner-Lovett, Allan Sumner, Eddie Peters, Michael Colbung, The Twang Bangers, Nuthin Yet and Eskotology. Kurruru Youth Performing Arts members will dance.

In **Victoria**, 'No Room for Racism' is the theme for this year's festival day at Borthwick Park in Belgrave. Kutcha Edwards is the

headline act, and there will be stalls and family activities. The annual Songlines Festival will also be held at the Treasury Gardens in the city from 1pm.

The Survival **Perth** concert will be held in a new location at the Ozone Reserve, near Langley Park. The lineup includes The Merindas, John Bennett, Phil Walley-Stack, Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse, Jake and The Cowboys, and Lilly Gogos. The event, which starts at 3pm, will also include a flag raising and traditional dance.

In **Canberra**, activities are planned from January 24 at the Tent Embassy, including a march from Garema Place and a rally outside Parliament House.

And in **Brisbane** there will be a march and rally from Parliament House to Musgrave Park during the morning, followed by a gathering in the park.

Big plans for ACT

Putalina set to go



MORE self-determination is a key longer-term priority for Canberra's new top Indigenous elected official.

Diane Collins became chair of the Australian Capital Territory's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body (ATSIEB) late last year.

Ms Collins and deputy chair Jo Chivers are the first women to head the seven-member body, established in 2008 to provide advice and guidance to the ACT Government.

A Wiradjuri woman who has been a public servant in Canberra for 25 years, Ms Collins says she is proud to lead what is the only organisation of its type in Australia.

"No other state or territory has an ATSI body such as ours which has direct access to government departments and heads," the mother-of-four told the *Koori Mail*.

"The ATSIEB has been successful since it started and it's only gotten bigger and done more for our people."

Not that there's little left to do. Far from it, Ms Collins says.

A member of the ATSIEB since its inception, Ms Collins – who was elected to the top job when incumbent Rod Little resigned after being elected co-chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples – is keen to see it become more independent and



New ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body chair Diane Collins: "Ideally, we'd like to run ourselves, with a full-time chair and deputy chair and a stronger direct influence to help our people."

have greater influence. "Ideally, we'd like to run ourselves, with a full-time chair and deputy chair and

a stronger direct influence to help our people," she said. "At the last census there were

5500 ATSI people in Canberra, and that number was growing quickly.

"All the ATSIEB members are keen to see greater self-determination, and we're working in that direction. I'd like to see us become a local version of the National Congress."

Ms Collins lists several ATSIEB priorities for the year. They include:

- guaranteeing the long-term future and community control of Boomanulla Oval, which she says is vitally important to Indigenous Canberrans;

- working to ensure appropriate action regarding local Indigenous kids in care;

- progressing Canberra's Indigenous older people's housing project – five two-bedroom units planned to be built this year; and

- overseeing the implementation of amendments to the *ACT Human Rights Act* to recognise Indigenous cultural rights.

Board members are also awaiting the findings of a review of the functions of the body, due to be released this year.

Ms Collins says the ATSIEB has benefitted from bipartisan support in the ACT, something she believes will continue after this year's election in the Territory.

Other members of the ATSIEB, all serving until next year, are Tony McCullough, Maurice Walker, Ross Fowler and Richard Allan and Tjanara Goreng-Goreng.



HOME-GROWN talent will be front and centre at this year's

putalina festival in Tasmania this Saturday (January 16).

The annual celebration, held near Hobart, is a highlight of Tasmania's Aboriginal calendar.

This year, the extensive entertainment line-up is headed by Dewayne Everettsmith, Kartanya Maynard and Bob Wilson.

For more details, call 1800 132 260.

Last chance to nominate



NOMINATIONS close at midnight tonight

(January 13) for the NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year Award. The award, a new section in the NSW Women of the Year Awards, is for a woman who has made a major contribution to her community or is respected for her success.

The winner will be named on March 9.

Nominations at www.women.nsw.gov.au

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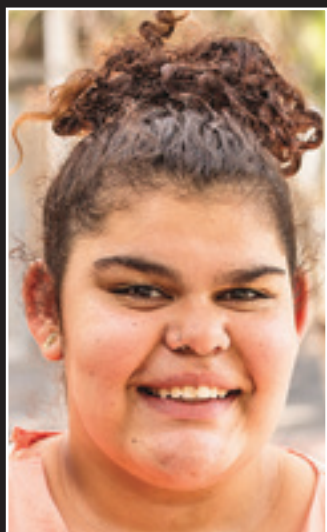
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New Year's hopes and resolutions



Bella Wickey – Melbourne: I'm looking forward to getting a job and living with my sister. She's moving down from Echuca.



Coolio Seaton – Townsville, Qld: My resolution is to forgive and forget as there is too much hate in the world, and also to visit family at Charters Towers, Kowanyama, Ingham and other places.



Annie Taylor – Borroloola, NT: I'm hoping to move into a management position at the Purple House in Alice Springs, where I work.



Colin J Hughes – Cape Barren Island, Tas: This year I'll be eliminating weeds to protect the biodiversity of Cape Barren.



Thomaseena Jawai, an aunt of the dead children, plants a tree.

Cairns killings commemorated



A WHOLE community came together on December 19 and 20 to remember the terrible deaths

of eight children in their Cairns home one year on from the killings.

The commemoration in suburban Manoora included a family day and concert on the Saturday and a pastoral service and tree-planting on the Sunday.

The eight children – seven of them siblings and all aged between two and 14 – were found dead in their Murray Street home. As a mark of respect we have not named them, and we make no direct reference to the resulting police and court action while justice continues to take its course.

Many hundreds of people turned out for the events last month, including on the Sunday when eight frangipani trees were planted – one for each of the children.

"Every year at this time the trees will blossom and the children will be remembered with joy," said Red Cross regional manager Michael White, who has led the Cairns City Council's Community Healing Project to help locals recover from the terrible event.

The Saturday family day included the release of a CD, *Kids of Murray Street*, produced by Wuchopperen Health Service wellbeing

worker Nick Wymarra.

"This has been the culmination of a year of supporting the community and bringing families together," he said. "This has been about reconnecting people, healing, and to plan and acknowledge not only the deceased, but all children across the community and the importance of good families."

James Gela, a spokesperson for the families of the children, said the support they had received from the wider community had been overwhelming.

"One year on, families are here with their kids just to celebrate something positive on the day," he said.

Trust fund

At the Sunday tree-planting, Rod Willie, grandfather to the seven dead siblings, spoke of a trust fund designed to help others. "I just hope that we can all walk in the same vein, in the same footpath, that we can do something to help others coming behind us who may suffer a tragedy like this in the future," he said.

Danessa Willie-White and Thomaseena Jawai, aunts of children, said the frangipani trees were a fitting tribute.

"It was a wonderful choice to commemorate the children here in this garden," Ms Willie-White said.



Bishop Saibo Mabo blesses the trees at the Community Healing Project service.



● Above: Michael White, left, and Pastor James Gela at the Murray Street service.



● Left: Thomaseena Jawai, Danessa Willie-White and Rod Willie show their grief as they remember the terrible day one year earlier.

Thousands pack Woodford



NOEL Pearson was one of the thousands of people, many of them Indigenous, to pack this year's Woodford Folk Festival in south-east Queensland. The Cape York campaigner and Guugu Yimidhirr man was a main speaker during the festival, sharing his views on Constitutional recognition with a large audience including former Prime Minister Bob Hawke. He's pictured here on site with Shireen Morris, from the Cape York Institute, and Jimi Bostock, from the Cape York Partnership. Turn to page 30 for more coverage from the festival.

New Year's hopes and resolutions



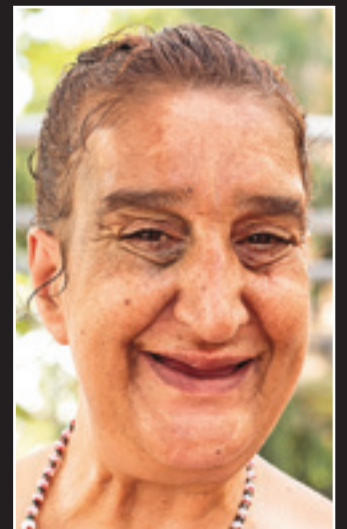
Angela Triffit – Hobart, Tas: Because I'm from Launceston but working in Hobart, I want to spend more time with my family and back on country at Cape Barren Island.



Nicky Stephens – Para Hills, SA: My resolution is to be a good mum.



William Ryder – Perth, WA: My hope is for all my family to be healthy and happy.



Maria Francis Galea – Melbourne: I say no to drugs and I'll be doing that this year.

Island split over sniffing fuel ban

By ALF WILSON



OPINION appears divided on Palm Island over the Federal Government decision to ban the sale of regular unleaded fuel there.

Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion has signed an order banning regular unleaded, citing a need to stop petrol sniffing in the community.

Only low aromatic 'Opal' petrol can now be sold, with heavy fines for those selling regular fuel.

Many in the community have backed the move, but others say the incidence of petrol sniffing has been exaggerated, and the low aromatic fuel damages engines – a claim rejected by Senator Scullion.

Detective Sgt Paul Enders, of Palm Island police, backs the move, saying low aromatic fuel, introduced voluntarily on the island earlier in 2015, had virtually stopped all sniffing by young people.

"When unleaded fuel became available again (later in the year), the petrol sniffing started up," he

Scullion moves to ban regular unleaded petrol in the Barkly



IT will soon be illegal to sell sniffable unleaded fuel in and around Tennant Creek. Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion is moving to ban the sale of any sniffable fuel in the Barkly district of the Northern Territory, in another bid to fight petrol sniffing.

Low-aromatic fuel, often called Opal, was introduced in Alice Springs 10 years ago and has been hailed as greatly curtailing the problem in the central Australian town.

"We must protect our most vulnerable. This is a very pernicious (addiction) that is very damaging, and I'm so pleased that I no longer have to go to Indigenous communities ... seeing very, very young Aboriginal people in just the worst possible circumstances, that often people just don't recover from," he said.

Opal is expensive but is being subsidised by the Government because it is "fantastic", Senator Scullion said. "I've never seen a silver bullet like this that has been able to fix the nature of a particular substance abuse." – AAP

told the *Koori Mail*.

"It appears that low aromatic fuel is the best way of ensuring the health and safety of the young people involved."

But Palm Island Elder Peena Geia and service station co-owner Raymond Sibley have taken issue.

Mrs Geia told the *Koori Mail* that the number of petrol sniffers on Palm Island had been exaggerated, and the low aromatic fuel damages car engines and outboard motors, making it unpopular with many.

"Talk is cheap about the petrol sniffing, and the damage the low

aromatic fuel does to cars and boats is making many people annoyed," she said.

Mr Sibley, who faces a \$54,000 fine if he supplies regular unleaded petrol, told the *Townsville Bulletin* he was disappointed the Opal fuel was being forced on the community "without much consultation".

"The community didn't support this," he said. "I'm starting a petition and ... I expect 80% of the community will be against Opal."

Mr Sibley said he previously sold Opal, but reverted to regular unleaded later last year after a number of people complained their new engines were being damaged.

Senator Scullion said the roll out of low aromatic fuel is a high priority for the Federal Government "as part of a proven strategy to reduce harmful petrol sniffing".

"Stopping the sale of regular unleaded fuel will make a big impact on petrol sniffing and the damage it does to the health and safety of families on Palm Island, and will show other communities that low aromatic fuel is a better option," he said.

"The health and wellbeing of children must come first."

Two in running for Australian of Year



JUST two Indigenous people are in the running for this year's Australian of the Year awards.

Victorian actor Jack Charles is a finalist for the Senior Australian of the Year title, while Michael Ross, from north Queensland, is in the Local Hero category. There are no Indigenous finalists in the Australian of the Year and Young Australian of the Year sections.

The national title finalists – all state and territory category winners – will be named in Canberra on January 25.

Last year there were six Indigenous finalists, and Aboriginal footballer Adam Goodes was named

Australian of the Year in 2014.

Jack Charles, the Victorian Senior Australian of the Year, has overcome great adversity to become a role model for younger Australians.

The 72-year-old, one of the Stolen Generations, has appeared in many films and has been a vocal advocate

for his people.

Michael Ross hails from Cooktown in the state's far north, where he has been a strong campaigner for land rights.

As chairperson of far north

Queensland's Oikola Aboriginal Corporation, he supports his people to return to country, encourages eco-tourism and backs self-determination.

● Editorial, page 20



Cooktown's Michael Ross is the Queensland finalist in the Local Hero category.



Actor Jack Charles, from Victoria, is a finalist for the Senior Australian of the Year title.

Mandatory folate helping our kids



MANDATORY folate in bread has dramatically cut the rates of serious birth defects in Aboriginal children, according to just-released research.

A Telethon Kids Institute study used Western Australian data to examine all 52,919 Aboriginal births from 1980 to 2014. It found the prevalence of spina bifida and related anomalies had fallen by 68% since mandatory fortification of all wheat flour for bread making was introduced in 2009.

Inadequate levels of folate are linked to devastating birth defects of the brain or spinal cord.

Lead author Professor Carol Bower said the defects usually developed in the first month of pregnancy even before many women knew they were expecting, meaning that to be effective, folate intake had to be increased before pregnancy.

Folate levels are lower in Aboriginal communities, where there's less access to fresh fruit and vegetables containing essential vitamins.

Police investigating Intervention author



THE author of the Northern Territory Intervention, Mal Brough, has stood aside as a minister in the Turnbull Government. Mr Brough, who as the Howard Government's Indigenous Affairs Minister in 2006 introduced

the intervention policy, stood aside after ongoing pressure over his role in matters relating to former disgraced Parliament Speaker Peter Slipper.

Mr Brough lost his seat in the 2007 election, but was re-elected in 2013 and subsequently named Special Minister of State last September by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull.

Police are investigating the legality of what action, if any, Mr Brough took regarding the downfall of Mr Slipper.

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Noongar Language Centre set to open



THE long-awaited Noongar Language Centre will open in Bunbury, Western Australia, on January 28. A major public celebration is planned for the new centre, which has been 11 years in the making.

It will be an academic institution,

recording, analysing and preserving the language of the Noongar people, with a long-term goal to develop a dictionary.

Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation manager Sue Hanson told the *Koori Mail* the opening was the culmination of more than a decade of planning and work.

"There's been a huge study of languages, and this area has been specifically chosen for the centre because there are so many Noongar language speakers here," she said.

Noongar linguist Denise Smith-Ali said the centre would be a place to preserve local culture.

"The language centre shows the ownership of this nation," she said.

"It shows we are still living and breathing our culture and can preserve our language."

All are welcome for the official opening, from 6.30pm at Unit 3, 14 Ommanney Street, Bunbury.

More details on (08) 9791 2224.



Members of the Cedric family at the new bridge in Yarrabah, north Queensland.

Yarrabah's new bridge is named for stalwart

By CHRISTINE HOWES



FOR as long as most can remember, Yarrabah's main township and several suburbs on the way to Jilji (Back Beach) have been connected by a single-lane bridge over a popular swimming spot.

But that changed for the better at the north Queensland

community last month when a new two-lane bridge, named for a stalwart of the community, was opened.

The new bridge is named for community leader the late Maurice Cedric, also known as Maurice Salt and Maurice Costello, who lived well into his 90s at Yarrabah after moving from his traditional Lama Lama country.

Yarrabah Mayor Errol Neal said recognising Uncle Maurice, who he said did much for the

community, was more than appropriate. And he welcomed the long-awaited bridge, saying it would greatly improve community safety.

Maurice Cedric Snr said his grandfather was one of the people who came to Yarrabah and helped build the community.

"It was a blessing from the Lama Lama tribe," he said.

"It's a privilege to be standing up here (at the opening). It means a lot to us."

Summit targets violence



INDIGENOUS women's voices must be front and centre at this year's national summit on family violence.

That's the message from the National Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention Legal Services Forum (National FVPLS Forum), which welcomed the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) decision to hold the summit late this year.

National FVPLS Forum's Antoinette Braybrook said it is essential community-controlled organisations providing frontline services to those affected actively participate in the forum.

"This will help ensure the voices and stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are heard and inform policy making," she said.

"Family violence is a national problem which affects Australians from all backgrounds and all walks of life. It is a national crisis that demands a national response.

"Marginalisation and disadvantage place some groups at particularly high risk. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are the most



Antoinette Braybrook

legally disadvantaged women in Australia. Our women are especially vulnerable to family violence and require additional support.

"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are vastly overrepresented as victims of family violence – 34 times more likely to be hospitalised for family violence, and 11 times more likely to be murdered.

"Sadly, our women are at the heart of the family violence crisis, and therefore must also be at the heart of the response to it."

COAG also agreed that domestic violence orders will be recognised across the country and information about violent partners and parents will be shared across all jurisdictions.

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New Year's hopes and resolutions



Tarneen Onus-Williams – Melbourne: I'm part of the Aboriginal Nations and Torres Strait Islander HIV Youth Mob, and I want to raise awareness about sexual health and safe injecting practices for young black fellas.



Aaron Fa'aoso – Cairns, Qld: I'm going to give up alcohol for 12 months.



Rosemary Hayden – Kellerberrin, WA: I going back to study my Certificate III in Adult Education.



Jasmine Slade – Reynella, SA: I'm looking forward to welcoming a happy and healthy new member of family in June.

Packed program at Tamworth



TROY Cassar-Daley heads the Indigenous line-up for this year's Tamworth Country Music Festival, which starts on Friday (January 15). Thousands are expected to pack the northern NSW city for the annual showcase of Australia's finest country music performers.

A highlight will be the ninth Aboriginal Cultural Showcase, where up-and-coming Indigenous talent gets to perform on the big stage.

The showcase, a partnership between Arts

North West and the Tamworth Aboriginal Land Council, has the goal of providing new and emerging talent with exposure and skills development opportunities.

It also has a cultural workshop program which has proved popular with visitors.

Concert highlight

A highlight will be on January 19 when Indigenous Golden Guitar winner Amos Morris, from Kempsey, is joined in concert by Amber Joy Poulton and Sandra Humphries.

Kevin Bennett is scheduled to play in the County Heart and Soul concert with Felicity Urquhart and Lyn Bowtell on January 20. Bennett, the front man of acclaimed band The Flood, found he was a Kamilaroi man just over 10 years ago.

And Troy Cassar-Daley, who has won 27 Golden Guitars in his 25-year career, will have a special performance on January 21.

The 10-day festival will have about 700 performers doing 2800 shows at 120 venues. More details at www.tcmf.com.au



Cathy Freeman (in red shirt) celebrates with Palm Island Year 12 graduates Koipe, Edna, Heath, Joseph, Kathleen and Racine.



THE Cathy Freeman Foundation has marked 2015 by honouring 20 students who completed Year 12 last year at the foundation's four partner communities of Galiwinku and Wurrumiyanga (Northern Territory) and Palm Island and Woorabinda (Queensland).

Working with the communities, the foundation aims to inspire and support local students with opportunities to help them reach their potential.

"We are proud of the effort and commitment these students have shown to complete Year 12," foundation chief executive Jamie

Big year for foundation

Howden said. "By reaching this milestone, they have created the best possible future for themselves and we wish them every success for the future."

Graduating students from Wurrumiyanga received certificates and awards from new

foundation ambassador, Indigenous actor Luke Carroll.

In other 2015 highlights for the foundation:

- A record 33 families participated in the Early Learning Program.
- 1692 attendance awards

and 601 literacy and behaviour awards were presented to students as part of the Starting Block Program.

● For the first time, 75 students from all four partner communities gathered through the Horizons Program, which had five trips to Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne.

● The foundation expanded from 12 to 24 staff, half of them Indigenous.

"We would like to thank and congratulate the community leaders, schools, students and their families who have worked so hard over the last 12 months to achieve these brilliant education outcomes," Mr Howden said.

NSWALC sights on land claim backlog



THE NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) says it's committed to working with the State Government to address outstanding land claims.

NSWALC chair Roy Ah-See said the number of NSW land claims yet to be determined (currently more than 28,000) was a source of frustration for the land rights network.

A NSW Auditor-General's report confirms that more than 750 of these unresolved claims go back more than a decade.

Cr Ah-See said clearing the backlog of claims would allow many local Aboriginal land

councils to leverage land for a range of purposes, including economic development.

But he acknowledged that the Baird Government, and Lands Minister Niall Blair, were moving in the right direction.

"The NSWALC has made its position clear, and to his credit Minister Blair recognises the need to tackle the backlog of outstanding land claims," he said.

"Under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*, NSWALC and the network of 120 local Aboriginal land councils are able to claim Crown Land that is unused or not needed. The land rights network is in a strong position to

realise the potential of the land we've claimed.

"Successful claims allow Aboriginal communities to create and manage an independent wealth base and also encourage cultural, social and spiritual development.

"Like the Baird Government, the NSWALC supports economic development and we want to see regional NSW share in this economic activity.

"The NSWALC encourages the NSW Government to continue working in partnership with the land rights network to make inroads into the number of outstanding land claims."

● **Victory at Kingscliff, page 29**



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Hip hop and more during big week on Horn Island



HIP hop was front and centre during a week of activities on Horn Island in the Torres Strait last month.

PCYC Horn Island and national group Indigenous Hip Hop Projects (IHHP) hosted the events just before Christmas. Queensland Health also ran workshops including young people's health checks, screen printing, and health and hygiene and alcohol, tobacco and other drugs sessions.

A special guest was Kerry Williams, from the Cairns Taipans, who ran basketball skills and drills workshops.

IHHP documented the week and will now develop a documentary about the Horn Island community, with a focus on social emotional wellbeing and how to stay strong and healthy.

Participants showcased routines at the Nuruapi Mura Kaimelan (Horn Island coming together) Community Concert, which drew about 300 locals. The concert included traditional and hula dance, hip hop performances, reggae by Lonnie Pedro from Reggae Bliss and headline act Mau Power.

PCYC's youth management



Participants enjoy one of the events during the week-long activities on Horn Island in the Torres Strait.

team, the YOLO Crew, was busy, and the Horn Island Falcons basketball team paid tribute to the late Bala Byron Crowley-Mills, with stallholders raising \$450 for his headstone.

"We are really proud of how the community has come together for this event," Horn Island PCYC program manager Kylie Young said.

"We would also like to extend our thanks to IHHP, Queensland Health, Cairns Taipans, The Wongai Hotel, Wis Wei Charters, Tagai College, Torres Shire Council, Seaswift, Pacific Custom Sportswear, Pastor Tamwoy, Auntie Enid Tom, Lonnie Pedro – Reggae Bliss, Mau Power and our stall holders for their support of this event."

Mabunji ordered to report



BORROLOOLA-based Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Indigenous Corporation has

until the end of the month to report on irregularities uncovered in an audit.

The Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) audit followed disquiet in the Queensland Gulf community following the dismissal last year of then Mabunji chief executive Michael Gravener.

Mr Gravener, who was in the top job just two months before being dismissed, and residents have been demanding an investigation into the organisation.

Mabunji was established in 1983 as a resource centre to service local Aboriginal people and their homelands of the Borroloola region.

The ORIC audit found there

are reasonable grounds to suspect financial and other irregularities in the affairs of the corporation. Among other findings, the audit revealed time-in-lieu payments of almost \$200,000 for two senior Mabunji staff.

The corporation recorded a net loss of more than \$840,000 last financial year, despite a surplus of almost \$700,000 the previous year.

"The decline between 2014 and 2015 is largely contributed to an increase in employee expenses of \$760,000, an increase in operating expenses of \$230,000 and a decline in grant income of approximately \$880,000," the audit report said.

Mabunji has until the end of January to report on its time-off-in-lieu policy, employment contracts, non-compliance with the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act* and other irregularities.



Signature Works: Story Innovation Lab Seeking Expressions of Interest

Closing date: 14 February 2016

Decisions advised: March 2016

Innovation Lab: May 2016

Collaborate, Innovate, Create

What are the **new** big exciting, daring, **innovative artistic** ideas? Where are the stories we want to **tell now**? How are those story ideas transformed into creative experiences that excite, inspire, challenge and engage people across nations?

Who do we need to bring this to life for now and the future?

We are inviting expressions of interest to participate in a four day residential Innovation Lab in May 2016. The Innovation Lab will focus on exploring new story ideas in collaboration with some 30 Indigenous artistic and creative professionals from the artform disciplines of music, dance, theatre, literature, visual arts and digital media, to develop future Signature Works of scale.

A culturally ambitious nation cherishes the art and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and Signature Works is a strategic investment to stimulate and grow the extraordinary story-telling and creativity of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

Selection criteria

- Track record as a practising artist or creative professional
- 500 word pitch of your innovative artistic idea
- Willingness to participate, collaborate and share

Please provide relevant support material that best promotes why you have to be involved in the Signature Works: Story Innovation Lab

For further details contact:

makingsolidground@australiacouncil.gov.au

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Tiwi Island horticulture students, from left, Daniel Stassi, Dominic Kantilla and Phillip Puruntatameri.

Tiwi horticulture students check out Darwin gardens



TIWI Island students have explored horticulture around Darwin as part of their training at Charles Darwin University.

The 13 Certificate II in Horticulture students saw first-hand the industry jobs their training could lead to during the field trip.

Horticulture lecturers travelled to Bathurst and Melville islands last year to provide training for the students, but this was the first time the students had visited

the mainland as part of their course.

Vocational Education and Training lecturer Robyn Wing said the course aimed to help students develop skills in horticulture, which they could apply in their communities.

"This has been an excellent opportunity for the students to be exposed to different parts of the industry," she said.

The students visited horticultural facilities including the CDU Chinese Garden, Lakeside Drive Community

Garden, Jingili Water Gardens, George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, the Government House garden, farms at Humpty Doo and nurseries around Darwin.

Horticulture and aquaculture acting team leader Chadd Mumme, remote VET coordinator Philip Kiragu, lecturer Samuel Kandiah, and customer service officer Amanda Watters assisted in organising the trip, which was supported with an Australian Government 'Away From Base' grant.

Funding win for custody service



THE Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) has secured ongoing funding for the

Custody Notification Service (CNS) from the Federal Government. The CNS is a 24/7 legal advice and RU OK phone line for Aboriginal people which has been in place since 2000. It is designed to ensure any Indigenous person taken into custody receives legal advice and a welfare check.

Funding had been under threat late last year, but the Federal Government has provided \$1.8

million that will keep the service operating until June 2019.

Aboriginal Legal Service chief executive Gary Oliver welcomed the funding. "If a loved-one is picked up by police, families have a very real fear of the person not being treated for health or other concerns while in custody," he said.

"This was the case before the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and remains the case today as we note the recent and very sad passing of Ms Dhu in Western Australia. All of this means a family's fear never really goes away.

"That's why the CNS is so important – because it provides a safeguard against preventable deaths in police cell custody.

"We are pleased the Australian Government has taken into account all the evidence demonstrating the success of the CNS in NSW and ACT.

\$526,000 a year

The Federal Government has funded the CNS through one-off annual grants since 2008. It costs \$526,000 a year to run, employing six solicitors working around the clock and an administration officer. "We happily accept the

Australian Government's offer of triennial funding for the CNS, and we say thank you," Mr Oliver said.

He also thanked people for their support, including 50,000 petitioners, plus key peak legal bodies in NSW, Indigenous legal services around Australia, other Aboriginal organisations and bodies in NSW and around Australia, and "a significant number of individuals who tirelessly helped us spread the word about the need for CNS funding".

"You spoke out and you have been listened to. Thank you," Mr Oliver said.

New Year's hopes and resolutions



Kurt Porter – Carnarvon, WA: I'm going to study hard and finish my Certificate III in Finance Administration so I can apply those skills to help my organisation run more efficiently.



Patricia Raymond – Darwin, NT: I want to keep working as long as my health lets me, and go to the rugby league State of Origin this year with my best friend. Go the Maroons!

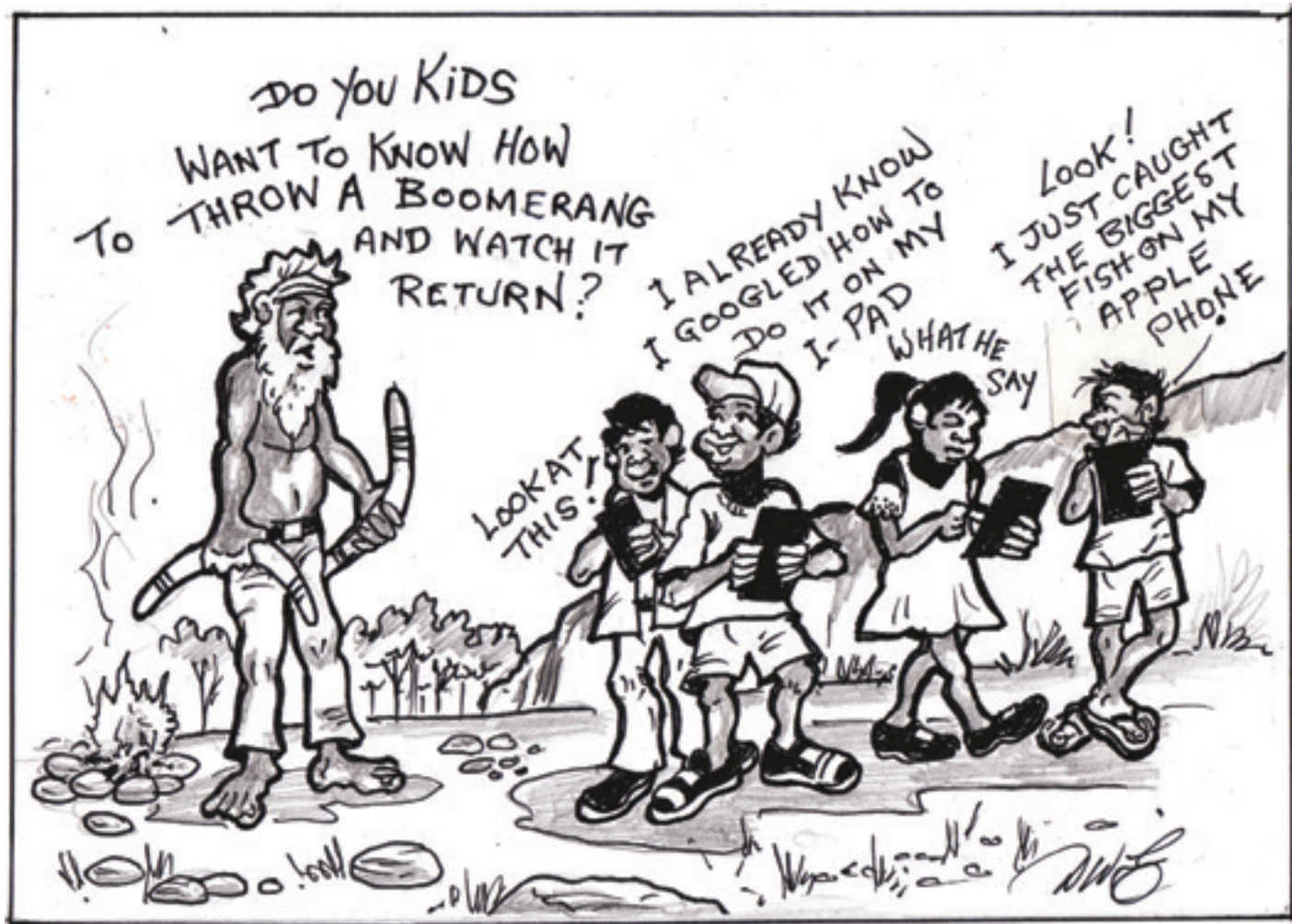


Elia Ware – Edmonton, Qld and of Torres Strait Islander descent: I will try harder at being a good man, and to lead by example for my family, friends and others. And this year I'll see the Cowboys win back-to-back NRL premierships!



Sharron Williams – Melbourne, Vic: I hope that we will listen to each other better and act with good faith and good heart on that.

DANNY EASTWOOD'S VIEW



A Yarn With...



CHANARA COOMBES

Admin manager
Alice Springs, NT

Favourite bush tucker?
Kangaroo.

Favourite other food?
Chinese.

Favourite drink?
Cordial.

Favourite music?
Country, R'n'B... anything really.

Favourite sport?
Definitely swimming at this time of the year. It's pretty hot in Alice Springs.

Favourite holiday destination?
Anywhere overseas.

What are you watching?
On TV, *Home and Away*.

What do you like in life?
Being with my family.

What don't you like?
When I think about it, there's not a lot I don't like.

Who would you invite for a night around the campfire?
My family. We do that a lot here in winter.

If you could, what would you do to help Indigenous Australians?

Health is our number-one priority, and I've just got my Certificate III Health Practitioner certificate, so that's what I'm doing to help my people.

Quote



“Oh, how they were mistaken.”

– Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education and Training graduate
Therese Reid on people who said her mother Isobel would never amount to anything

● See page 22

Unquote

A scourge that must be beaten

THE Federal Government's plan to tackle the ice drug scourge is more than welcome.

As we reported last year, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are being devastated by this pernicious drug which is destroying so many of our young people and their families.

Indigenous-specific treatment services are part of the \$300 million plan to tackle ice – a praiseworthy move.

The Government could do far worse than heed the words of NSW Aboriginal Land Council chair Roy Ah-See, who says local Aboriginal land councils (LALCs) are well placed to help with solutions. “If we don't act quickly and decisively, ice will damage our future generations,” he warns in this edition.

He's right.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull says the plan aims to make use of grassroots bodies in the fight.

Who better than local Indigenous councils – not just in NSW, but around the country – to help our people tackle this scourge?

Congratulations to our two finalists in the Australian of the Year awards, to be announced on January 26.

Actor Jack Charles – a man not known for holding back on issues



OUR SAY

affecting his people – is in the running for Senior Australian of the Year, while Michael Ross, a vocal advocate for his Olkola people of far north Queensland, is a worthy candidate for the national Local Hero title.

Both are strong men who are already winners with their people.

It will be great to see them on the national stage for Survival Day.

Bring on February 13 when the Indigenous All Stars will take on Wayne Bennett's National Rugby League (NRL) World All Stars at Lang Park, Brisbane.

The Indigenous All Stars are shooting for their third straight win, having beaten the NRL All Stars for the past two years.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the rising stars to show their capabilities in the company of the likes of Johnathan Thurston, Greg Inglis, Alex Johnston, Sam Thaiday and Greg Bird.

We can't wait.

Koori Mail – 100% Aboriginal-owned

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

Hope grows at Ali Curung

Graham Beasley runs the bush tucker and bush medicine garden at the Arlpwe Art & Culture Centre at Ali Curung, north of Alice Springs.



WHEN Graham Beasley was about 10, his parents abandoned him and his cousin in the bush. “For years and years we lived off the land ourselves,” he said, talking of foraging for food, trapping fish and hunting kangaroos.

Now aged in his 50s, Mr Beasley works at the Arlpwe Art & Culture Centre at Ali Curung, north of Alice Springs, running a bush tucker and bush medicine garden which is starting to bear fruit – quite literally – and taking young people out on the land to teach them traditional survival techniques.

“We encourage kids: ‘You can’t go hungry. You can’t get lost,’” he said.

The gardens are a connection between the landscape and the art for sale at the centre, the vast majority of which are depictions of bush tucker.

Art centre manager Ian Grieve says the community is looking for ways to become economically self-sufficient.

To that end, several programs are being run, including a training scheme backed by Batchelor Institute and Desert.

“The tourists who come in and buy our art, they want to know something

about our bush tucker and bush medicine, so we can physically show them those products,” he said.

“Those things are important in developing capacity in a community, especially in a tourism and art tourism business.

“You need to have a cultural experience for the tourists, rather than just a cold walk-in-walk-out-buy-a-bit-of-art-while-we’re-here sort of attitude.”

“There is now an awareness that cultural tourism could be a possible way out, creating employment.”

Economic self-sufficiency is becoming increasingly important for remote Indigenous communities.

NT Chief Minister Adam Giles has said his government will not close remote communities, as has been threatened in Western Australia, but will continue running essential services as it seeks to boost employment and industry.

In many remote Aboriginal communities the art centre is a hub, creating jobs and bringing people

together for work and to reinforce culture.

Ali Curung, a community of 535 people from four language groups, is almost 400km north of Alice Springs just off the Stuart Highway, and the Arlpwe Arts Centre – which employs 10 Indigenous workers – is trying to diversify in order to offer more relevant work to locals.

Artists can run bush tucker tours and

Aboriginal people in taking on the bigger roles they need to take on... or as a community,” he said.

Alcohol and substance abuse and a historic lack of employment have contributed to a lack of confidence and social dysfunction, which Mr Grieve says the centre is trying to turn around.

The art centre has just expanded, enabling the introduction of a men’s shed and a recycling area for the community.

“This can only be good for our community,” he told the *Koori Mail*.

“Often people who are at a disadvantage education-wise, they’re sort of locked out of the system.

“There’s been lots and lots of programs; it’s a very

frustrating process to be involved in, trying to get people to take the opportunity ... sometimes those opportunities aren’t recognised and often people miss out because of it.”

Mr Grieve says a disempowerment from top-down policy approaches has not helped get people into work.

“It’s quite debilitating as a human being if you’ve got nothing to do,” he said.

“You need to have a meaningful, positive life.” – with AAP

Mr Grieve is hoping to develop some accommodation so visitors can spend the night in the community.

“There is now an awareness that cultural tourism could be a possible way out, creating employment,” he said.

The biggest challenge is emboldening people who lack the confidence to take up work opportunities, he said.

“Fear of failure is such a handicap to any person, but in remote Australia that probably is the biggest hindrance to

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**Barnardos
Australia**

Expression of Interest

Barnardos Foster and Kin Care Aboriginal Advisory Group

This is a voluntary position – some funds are available to assist in covering travel and meeting expenses.

Barnardos is an accredited foster care agency which has many offices across NSW and ACT. In Orange, NSW Barnardos have an Aboriginal Foster and Kin Carer Program which is supported by ABSEC and the Barnardos Indigenous Group.

Barnardos is seeking expressions of interest from Aboriginal people who live and/or work within the Orange, Cowra and Bathurst areas to be part of a voluntary advisory group. We are looking for people from a variety of backgrounds some people may be strong in culture and connection to community others may have business or professional skills.

The Barnardos Aboriginal Advisory group will:

- Provide advice to Barnardos on emerging trends for local Aboriginal people.
- Provide guidance and assistance in the development of appropriate Cultural Support Plans for children and young people.
- Provide guidance and assistance in the recruitment of Aboriginal foster and kin carers.
- Be involved in the recruitment of Aboriginal staff for Barnardos.
- Provide guidance and assistance to Barnardos staff about safe family, kin and community placements for children.
- Provide guidance and assistance to Barnardos staff as to the best ways to work with Aboriginal families to keep children safely at home.
- Promote Barnardos and the Aboriginal program in the community.

Further information can be obtained from:

1. Barnardos Senior Manager Carol Lockley: (02) 6124 3800.
2. Orange Centre Manager Jenny Howes: (02) 6393 6000.
3. Barnardos Indigenous Group Member Kurt Beahan: (02) 6393 6000.

Expression of Interest:

- Briefly outline why you would like to be on this voluntary advisory group?
- What are your skills and qualities that you would contribute to the group?
- What connections do you have to the Aboriginal Community that we work in?
- What is your availability to attend meetings at the Barnardos Orange office and to be an active advisory group member? At this time it is expected that the group will meet formally 4 times per year and then come together on other occasions for consultation with Barnardos staff.

For help to complete the expression of interest or to apply contact Jenny Howes Orange Centre Manager at the address or email below. **By: 30 January 2016**

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'I realised that I wanted to become one of those amazing black minds'

By LYNNE MINION



LIFE for Therese Reid was content until "we hit a speed bump", as she puts it. Studying for a degree in community management, and with her daughter in high school, things were going well until her partner, Stuart, was killed in a freak accident.

"Grief changes you. Grief has the ability to take you to places you'd rather not be. That time has passed," Ms Reid said.

In an address in Sydney at last month's relaunch of Tranby Aboriginal College to Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education and Training, Ms Reid, who recently graduated with qualifications in governance, spoke about recovering from adversity and finding her voice as an Aboriginal leader.

Ms Reid told the assembled Elders, graduates and supporters of the college in Glebe that she had once been told: "Some of the most incredible black minds in the country have either graduated from or been associated with Tranby."

It was all the incentive she needed. "I realised that I wanted to become one of those amazing black minds," she said.

Tranby chief executive Dr Belinda Russon described the organisation as "a very special place", and said that despite the hard slog to raise funds, it was thriving.

"We have developed a partnership with the University of Sydney and we will be launching our Indigenous pre-law program to give legal studies graduates entry into the Sydney University law program," she said.

"Federal international student mobility grants have allowed students to take study tours this year to Cambodia and the Cook Islands. We have held a series of NAIDOC youth leadership events that have encouraged Indigenous high school children to aspire to be leaders.

"And we are also looking at more opportunities so we can be financially independent and secure our future, which will allow us to operate for another 58 years on our own terms.

"Through Tranby's commitment to adult education and cultural empowerment, we act as a building block in terms of schooling and governance and leadership, contributing directly to the closing the gap objective to halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians."

Tranby students come from across Australia, including the Torres Strait islands. Some have had limited formal secondary education, or they are taking



Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education and Training graduate Therese Reid.

on post-secondary studies for the first time, or they are re-entering the education system after a long absence.

"For students, Tranby provides a unique opportunity. It provides education free from the trappings of financial burden and cultural misunderstanding," Dr Russon said.

"In return, we ask only one thing – that they use the drive, motivation, self-belief and knowledge they have found here to better the lives of those around them. In this, they will be leaders."

Ms Reid says her drive to lead has been inspired by her mother Isobel, a Wiradjuri Elder, one of the oldest living members of the Stolen Generation, and Wagga Wagga's 2014 Citizen of the Year, who was told in the homes that she would never amount to anything.

"Oh, how they were mistaken,"



Wiradjuri (NSW) Elder Isobel Reid, the mother of Therese Reid.

Social Justice tears

WE hear of the police shootings of African Americans and wonder how that can be allowed to carry on time and time again.

We sympathise with the 'Black Lives Matter' campaign (in the US), secretly glad we don't live in a country where a segment of society even needs to bring attention to this kind of injustice.

Then the inquest into the

death in custody of Western Australia's Ms Dhu while in the 'care' of Port Hedland police is an uncomfortable reminder that perhaps as a nation we do, unfortunately, have some things in common with the USA.

If that's not enough to open our eyes, then there's the tragedy surrounding the death of Northern Territory's Kumanjari Langdon's death in May 2015,

soon to be followed by Queensland's Shaun Coolwell in October.

Of Kumanjari it was heart breakingly stated his death was unnoticed in Cell 5 until the police cell check.

Shaun was in distress over the memory of the loss of his brother Bradley four years earlier and in need of medical attention, while Ms Dhu continually sought

medical help but was sent back to the police lockup each time. Silence on her passing appeared deafening at the time.

Many a tear has been shed by family and friends, and I shed the tears the deceased now cannot.

Who am I?

I am Social Justice.

BRUCE DOCKER
Logan City, Qld

POETRY

The Crow

Is this your country spirit messenger?
This black tarred earth beneath my feet,
is this what you foresaw?
Altered now from country that had flourished once,
Now it's steel framed sails that harbour you...
Not the soap bushes and wattles,
ancestors had once cherished.

You hop around the scattered trolleys,
plastic cups and wrappers.
You forage the scraps of human negligence.
Your legacy dispossessed.
Now conforming...
To this modern mess.

This cold landscape is your country now.
Made of steel, and bitumen,
with air filled ambience of traffic and the muzak of Chopin.
You perch on the car park sign,
And caw to your kin.
And, the raucous a cappella begins...
A new dreaming song...
Or a requiem of what had been.

IRENE HOWE
Browns Plains, Qld

Our Wondrous Land

It's our past, our present, our future
It's our song, our spirits, our land
It's our time to find our place
Our heads held high – the sun upon our face
To let everyone know – we are one
That we walk our country hand in hand.

Some wish us gone and to leave no trace
What an insult to an ancient race!
Our country was beautiful, stunning and grand
Our ancestors nurtured and loved this land.

Now, from the rivers, the oceans too
Because of the digging and the damage they do
Dead animals wash up on the sands.

It's our time, it's our place – let them all know
Together our strength and our knowledge does grow
That we walk our country hand in hand
Before we all lose our wondrous land.

HELEN ROBERTSON
Wailwan country
Bundaberg, Qld

Santa's spirit in Walgett



I'M writing to let readers know about what my dad Richard Walford does for our Walgett community (north-western NSW) at Christmas.

Each year he goes around to the local shops and gets donations towards the Christmas party we hold in our front yard (pictured above left).

He also buys a lot of the food and drinks out of his own money, but he doesn't care what it costs because all he wants is for the kids of Walgett to have a very merry Christmas.

Every year Santa helps share the Christmas spirit in the community by celebrating with local kids.

This year Santa walked around the streets in 35-degree heat (pictured above right) handing out lollies, and hosted a Christmas barbecue. He also had lots of drinks, ice blocks and chips, and finished the night off with Christmas sparkles!

The kids love it, and Santa even sang Christmas carols and danced with the kids this year.



I'm really proud of my Dad and I want people to see that it's not just about who has the best Christmas lights or who has the best present. It's all about putting smiles on children's faces and that's what Dad does each year. He will continue to do it for as long as he can.

Dad's one of a kind and he's already planning what he's going to do next year for the kids.

CARA-LEIGH WALFORD
Walgett, 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 address is:
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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.

Parity and closing the gap

It was Jesus who said “the poor will always be with you”. Theologians discuss the religious and practical implications of these words. In everyday use they’re often an expression of resignation, even cynicism; that no matter how much we try, we can never really eliminate disadvantage.

I suspect this mindset is common in relation to Indigenous disadvantage. For at least 40 years, governments have been working to help lift Indigenous Australians out of poverty and ‘close the gap’. So has much of corporate Australia in the past decade. Most major companies in Australia today have Reconciliation Action Plans and the private sector has put large sums of money and in-kind resources towards helping Indigenous Australians.

Yet the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians continues.

Last month, the Productivity Commission released a Performance Assessment Report on the Closing the Gap targets which have been adopted by all Australian governments. The report found that, apart from improvements in Year 12 attainment and child mortality, “little or no progress has been made in closing gaps for life expectancy and reading and numeracy. And employment gaps have increased rather than narrowed.” This is “despite

considerable effort and investment”.

The report recommended a much stronger “evaluation culture” in Indigenous policy, which properly considers the effectiveness of the services being provided.

Almost exactly three years ago in this newspaper I ruffled more than a few feathers by saying governments and the private sector treat Indigenous disadvantage as a problem that will never actually be solved.

But it was just a logical deduction. Normally, when governments and corporate Australia set out to deliver a transformation or fix a problem, they develop a plan with a business case, a budget, clear measurable outcomes and benefits and deadlines for delivery. Progress and success are monitored against the plan and the budget, and the team moves on to another challenge when it’s done.

The private sector is particularly rigorous on accountability. Going over time or over budget – or failing to deliver – can get people fired.

But even government projects need to deliver and conclude. The National Broadband Network, for example, is over-time and over-budget, and the eventual outcomes will be less than originally envisaged. But it will come to an end. And when it does there’ll be an operating



Nyunggai Warren Mundine

broadband network. The Government is not planning to fund an NBN rollout for 40 years without actually rolling out a network.

Yet this is happening in Indigenous affairs. Teams of people have permanent jobs, ongoing budgets and indefinite terms and focus on activities rather than outcomes, and continue to be funded for decades without delivering much at all. How do I know this? Because the gap is not closing.

So clearly, meaningful outcomes are not being achieved. And we see this approach across government, not-for-profit and private sectors alike.

The gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians can be measured in many ways. The Closing the Gap initiative looks at long-range statistics and compares percentages for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in areas like employment, health and education.

Another approach is to set parity targets. Indigenous Australians make up 3% of the population, so achieving parity in some key professions and occupations would require around:

- 1400 extra Indigenous solicitors (there are 560 currently);
- 7000 Indigenous accountants (currently below 50);
- 8000 Indigenous engineers;
- 2900 Indigenous doctors (currently there are 204 plus 310 medical students);
- 10,000 Indigenous nurses and midwives (currently there are 1745 Indigenous nurses);
- 9000 teaching staff;
- 50,000 technicians and trades workers and 22,000 machinery operators and drivers; and
- 60,000 small and medium enterprises owned by Indigenous people.

The great thing about parity targets is it’s very clear if the outcome has or hasn’t been achieved. They provide a defined

goal that people can work towards and there are leading indicators to identify the level of progress along the way (for example, the number of students enrolled in these fields less typical dropout rates).

Industry groups and businesses that really want to make a difference for Indigenous people would develop plans to achieve parity in their organisations and professions – plans that set out how long it will take, who they need to work with (for example, Indigenous education and mentoring support services), how much funding is required and who will be accountable for delivering.

Committing to deliver parity requires courage because the progress (or lack of it) is there for all to see; there’s very little wriggle room. Parity commitments are a test of how much governments and private sector believe their own spin; a test of how fair dinkum they really are.

Parity must be achievable if the gap is really going to close. If not, then Indigenous poverty will always be with us.

I’m not prepared to concede that. Are you?

Nyunggai Warren Mundine is chairman and managing director of Nyungga Black Group Pty Ltd – www.nyunggablack.com

He also chairs the Prime Minister’s Indigenous Advisory Council.

Climate change and our best interests

At the Paris Climate Summit towards the end of last year, 196 countries signed a legal agreement to reach net zero emissions in the second half of this century. That’s less than 50 years away.

This sends a powerful message to global markets that the age of fossil fuels is coming to and end and the future is in clean, renewable energy.

French President Francois Hollande said countries “had a rare chance to make history” and that “we are at a decisive point in time”. US President Barack Obama called the agreement “a vital step in ensuring the future of the planet”.

Former US vice-president Al Gore, who helped draft the 1997 Kyoto climate treaty, added, “The transformation of our global economy from one fuelled by dirty energy to one fuelled by sustainable economic growth is now firmly and inevitably under way.”

It saddens me that many of our own who are seen in the public eye as Aboriginal leaders have led the campaign for fossil fuels and

mining over and above renewable, clean energy.

Not only have they led the campaign, they have often used their position to cite that environmental issues, social justice and equity are motivated by the Left, which holds strong influence over Aboriginal people.

Environmental issues, social justice and equity are, and always have been, Aboriginal issues, and as blackfellas all around Australia we have a mind of our own. To suggest anything else is condescending.

In witnessing a movement of such importance that protects our environment and the world we live in, we should have been at the very forefront and seen as the progressive and motivational force leading this moment in history.

It was a moment lost to progress the Aboriginal movement in Australia and claim our rightful place on the world stage.

The real problem is that we have Aboriginal people who are not representing our best interests in public debate.

IndigenousX’s Celeste Liddle



Woolombi Waters

exposed this as a problem when it was revealed that 87% of our mob did not agree on recognition after the Australian public was told time and time again we did.

Forbes magazine lists honesty

as the most important criteria in making a great leader, followed by communication and accountability. I guess that begs the question where are these people’s accountability and who do they really represent. Certainly not our brothas and sistas in the Torres Strait who watched what was happening in Paris with great interest. Why? Because their homes are sinking.

Mebai Warusam, from Saibai Island, states in an interview that’s gone viral on social media, “They said, ‘If water comes right through this island, what you will do?’ I said, ‘I will never move from this island.’ I will jump on my boat, tie that rope on a wongai tree. I will live here; I will die here.”

Saibai is one of more than 200 islands and coral cays that make up the Torres Strait. For most of these communities the impact of climate change is a daily reality. Coastal erosion, rising sea levels, worsening yearly floods, frightening king tides and drought are now part of life.

During the Paris summit, the annual Climate Change

Performance Index report published by Climate Action Network Europe and Germanwatch ranked Australia third worst in the world for developed Western countries in regards to pollution, fossil fuel and emission rates.

That just shows you where the Torres Strait people, as Australian citizens, rank as a priority with government, big business and Aboriginal people pushing mining and fossil fuel as a viable industry to our mob.

More than 150 years ago two blackfellas wrote a series of letters that were published in the *Moreton Bay Courier* in Brisbane. In one of those letters it stated the following: “You live like a bird of prey, and if you amass wealth, you soon become a bird of passage ... you do not seek the good of the land where you dwell.” (*Dalinkua and Dalipie, 1858*)

It makes you think doesn’t it.

Dr Woolombi Waters is an award-winning writer, educator and academic at Griffith University. He is a regular Koori Mail columnist.

Council members not our leaders

THE members of the so-called Referendum Council (*Koori Mail*, December 13) are not our leaders and they do not represent us.

They are all blacklisted by the Sovereign Movement and the Aboriginal Embassy in Canberra.

The current Australian Constitution is invalid. There is no such thing as the Queen of Australia.

The Commonwealth Constitution is an Act of the British Parliament and foreign.

We, the people, did not ask for recognition – no consultation, no consent.

The members of the Aboriginal Embassy and the Sovereign Movement do not acknowledge the Commonwealth of Australia as a government, but a corporation masquerading as a government.

Say no to recognition. Vote no to recognition.

**LEE NANGALA
DAYLIGHT LACEY**
Aboriginal Embassy
Canberra, ACT

Help wanted for Yarrabah's tank



Yarrabah community members who built a monument to Indigenous service personnel.

Monumental RSL effort in Yarrabah

By CHRISTINE HOWES



THE 12-month process from being a Returned and Services League (RSL) chapter to full-blown sub-branch has been marked at the half-way point by the completion of a monument in Yarrabah, south-east of Cairns. Yarrabah RSL vice-president Tim White said the community had pulled together to create a monument that recognised Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service personnel from the region. "Attached to our monument we've researched the old



The *Koori Mail's* Yarrabah RSL report from May 6 last year.

WE have established an RSL at the Yarrabah community in north Queensland and are very proud of our achievements thus far.

We have built an impressive monument which stands as a testament to the servicemen and women of Yarrabah.

One of our members, James Canuto, served with the 3rd Cavalry Regiment as a tank driver in Vietnam. People can see his story at vimeo.com/118973213

Recently, the Australian Defence Force permitted the release of a retired tank to our community. We bought it and intend to collect the vehicle from NSW and have it shipped to Yarrabah next month.

The issue we have is we have no means to transport the tank, and the cost is around \$11,000. We need a transport company or individual prepared to sponsor the project.

We aim to use the tank as a centrepiece for our Veteran Healing Garden.

We want to encourage all veterans of all conflicts to come to our community and feel welcome and use this site as a place of healing.

We just have to work out how we are going to get the tank here.

If anyone can help, my contact number is 0438 151 730.

TIM WHITE
RSL president
Yarrabah, Qld

Forward

We are not a stagnant peoples
Our culture evolves
We adapt, we change
We move forward.

The future is ours
We are changing but the same
Our instruments of song are the same
We have adapted to use new instruments in song
But we are the same.

We move forwards
We adapt
We evolve
The future is ours.

We are not a stagnant peoples
We are the future
Be proud

SHANE T HENDRY

Stand Strong

Stand tall
Young brothers
And those who rise
Against demise
2 centuries
We have held this fire
Stand true
Our ancestors' spirits
Are here...
Respect never retires
Stand up
We've marched
Our voices have been heard
Stand here
Where we belong
Stand altogether
With our passionate hearts
For respect
We all stand strong.

ZELDA QUAKAWOOT
Northern Territory

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR THE MARRICKVILLE ABORIGINAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The role of MACC (Marrickville Aboriginal Consultative Committee) is to:

- Promote an increased knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal culture and society in the wider community and develop the interests of Aboriginal people in the local area;
- Advise Marrickville Council on issues relating to Aboriginal people;
- Act as a representative of Council on issues relating to the Aboriginal community;
- Work to achieve the vision of the Community Strategic Plan – Our Place Our Vision.

Members of the Aboriginal community who live, work or study in the Marrickville local government area are encouraged to apply. Suburbs of Marrickville include: Camperdown, Dulwich Hill, Enmore, Lewisham, Marrickville, Newtown, Petersham, St. Peters, Stanmore, Sydenham and Tempe.

- maximum of seven (7) Aboriginal community members will be selected and one (1) non-Aboriginal community member
- the appointment will be for two years
- membership is voluntary
- meetings will be held every two months – in the evenings, dates to be confirmed

Nominations for membership on the MACC:

- Please supply your name, address, contact phone number and/or email address, and detail whether you live, work or study in Marrickville Local Government Area;
- An acknowledgement of your Aboriginal status by the local Aboriginal community, where appropriate;
- A short description about yourself including what skills, knowledge and experience you will bring to the MACC to serve the local community.

For any enquiries regarding the nomination and selection process, please contact Rebecca Carroll, Aboriginal Projects Officer on telephone: 9335 2243 or email rebecca.carroll@marrickville.nsw.gov.au

Expressions of Interest should be with Council by close of business Friday 5 February, 2016.

Address nominations to:

MACC Committee Nominations
General Manager,
Marrickville Council,
PO BOX 14,
Petersham 2049



A blueprint for change

Rights Matter

A column from Amnesty International Australia



ON November 30 last year the Change the Record Coalition met in Canberra to launch its Blueprint for Change. The blueprint marks the first time a broad range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous organisations has come together with a concrete plan for federal, state and territory governments to turn around soaring Indigenous imprisonment rates and high levels of experienced violence.

The blueprint is the result of more than two years of collaboration between 16 leading peak Indigenous bodies, legal organisations and human rights groups.

The Change the Record Coalition is made up of the First Peoples Disability Network, National Family Violence

April 15 this year marks the 25th anniversary of the final report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. The report set out detailed recommendations to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the justice system. Twenty-five years on, those recommendations have not adequately been implemented. Here, Amnesty International Indigenous rights campaigner JULIAN CLEARY writes about the state of Indigenous incarceration and the work the Change the Record Coalition is doing to make change. Amnesty International is committed to the rights of Indigenous people. Its five-year campaign Community Is Everything aims to end the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the justice system. Amnesty's Indigenous rights team consists of Palawa man and former Tasmanian ATSIC commissioner Rodney Dillon, Noongar woman Roxanne Moore and Julian Cleary. Rodney Dillon and Roxanne Moore will contribute future columns.

Prevention Legal Services Forum, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations, National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda, Victorian Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People Andrew Jackomos, Amnesty International, Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation, the Australian Council of Social Service, the Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic), Human Rights Law Centre, the Law Council of Australia, Oxfam

Australia and Sisters Inside. Change the Record co-chair Shane Duffy said on the day of the launch: "When these key organisations come together

unprecedented rates, and experiencing high rates of violence."

The launch, held at Parliament House, was attended by federal



Members of the Change the Record lobby contingent are at Parliament House, Canberra, to launch their blueprint.

with one voice, governments need to listen. There is no more time to waste. Australia's First Peoples are being locked up at

politicians from across the political spectrum.

Former Change the Record Coalition co-chair Kirstie Parker said at the launch: "This is more than bad statistics; these figures represent people – brothers, sisters, sons and daughters who are being separated from their families and need our support ... Our blueprint makes clear the steps that all levels of government must take to get Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people out of prison and improve community safety for us all."

At the launch we also heard from inspiring young Redfern man Keenan Mundine, who spoke about how he was supported to change his path and become a leader and mentor for other young Koori kids at Weave Youth and Community Services.

He said: "I didn't want to be another statistic" and highlighted that "with the right support, possibilities for kids are endless".

Keenan is living proof of this.

The blueprint urges governments to work together, to set justice targets, and to work in partnership with Indigenous communities, their organisations and representatives to drive locally tailored solutions to prevent contact with the justice system.

Following the launch of the blueprint and meetings with ministers, shadow ministers and other MPs, the Senate passed a motion supporting the Change the Record calls for change in the justice space.

The Senate motion is a step in the right direction. Cross-party support across the country is absolutely crucial to secure change.

The Change the Record Coalition will continue to work together to pool resources and expertise to build a movement to ensure that long-term change is secured.



Start your deadly journey at West Coast.

If you haven't finished Year 10, you can further your skills and knowledge at West Coast with the following courses:

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- ✓ 52443WA Certificate II in Building and Construction
- ✓ BSB20112 Certificate II in Business
- ✓ CHC20112 Certificate II in Community Services
- ✓ SIB20110 Certificate II in Retail Make-up & Skin Care
- ✓ SIS20513 Certificate II in Sport Coaching

If you have completed Year 10 take your skills to the next level with courses that can lead you to meaningful employment in your local community:

- ✓ CHC30213 Certificate III in Education Support for AIEO
- ✓ HLT32512 Certificate III in Health Services Assistance
- ✓ CHC40213 Certificate IV in Education Support for AIEO

Come down to **Yellagonga Kadadjiny Koort Boodjar** on our Joondalup campus and have a yarn with Abigail Ware, our Aboriginal Support Officer or call her on 9233 1247 to start your deadly journey today.



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AIATSIS

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL
AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES

Request for Information (RFI) for the provision of a high availability data storage system and associated services to AIATSIS

AIATSIS RFI 2016/01 | Site Location: AIATSIS, Acton Peninsula, Canberra
Vendor Briefing: AIATSIS Canberra – Jan 21st 2016 2pm
Closing Date: 5pm March 4th 2016

The Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) currently maintains a 340TB data storage facility containing mostly very large data files of digitised collection objects.

AIATSIS is seeking to explore available solutions that would ensure the continued provision of a high capacity, resilient data storage system with a starting capacity of approximately 500tb, and the extensibility to provide enhancements such as private/hybrid cloud or remote access portal capability.

Interested parties should register their interest via our website and attend a supplier meeting at AIATSIS on January 21st at 2pm.

The RFI information sheet can be found on the AIATSIS website at www.aiatsis.gov.au/tenders

Suppliers are encouraged to visit the Institute's facility in Canberra to familiarise themselves with the scope of the desired solution(s).

Project Contact

Mark Denbow 02 6246 1188
mark.denbow@aiatsis.gov.au
RFI2016-01@aiatsis.gov.au

Power of the sun is being harnessed at Yungngora



THE Aboriginal community of Yungngora in the west Kimberley is now powered partly by the sun. Solar panels delivering 200 kilowatts of power and a short-term energy storage system have been installed by Horizon Power at the community, formerly known as Noonkanbah station. Horizon built a diesel power station at

Yungngora in 2013 as part of the Aboriginal and Remote Communities Power Supply Project, at the same time as the community network was upgraded and pre-payment meters were installed.

The new solar farm has photovoltaic panels and a solar-smoothing energy storage system, which includes battery storage to allow the system to continue operating during cloudy

periods. The diesel generator is used only if solar power is lost.

Horizon project director Brett Whisson said the system had been welcomed by the community because it would reduce the amount of diesel being burned and cut greenhouse emissions.

● Pictured: The sun rises on the new Yungngora solar farm in the Kimberley region of Western Australia.

more give, less take

Tshala, Business Credit Analyst

all in

Building on thousands of Indigenous success stories



With the introduction of our seventh Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and third at Elevate level, we're raising the bar on how NAB celebrates and supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culture and achievements.

Backing Indigenous success

We're all in. Working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities for the long term, we're committed to empowering Indigenous Australia to be financially strong, progress careers, build capability and pursue their aspirations. We're also committed to building an inclusive organisational culture that drives innovation, collective impact and thought leadership.

Walking the talk

Our RAP results are independently assured. We encourage others to do the same, ensuring RAP commitments are honoured.

Queensland-based Tshala successfully completed her traineeship in 2013 and is now an Analyst in Business Credit and is recognised as a NAB Emerging Leader. Discover other success stories we've already played a part in and how we're planning to support thousands more.



Download the NAB Elevate RAP 2015-2017 at nab.com.au/indigenous

Play will be about life of Goolagong



NSW Aboriginal Arts Fellowship winner Andrea James will create a one-woman play about the life of Aboriginal tennis champion Evonne Goolagong Cawley.

Ms James, a theatre producer and curator, will use the \$30,000 fellowship to create the play during a one-year placement at Bangarra Dance Theatre in Sydney. It will explore Ms Goolagong Cawley's childhood, her move to Sydney to live with her coach's family and her rise to become the world's top-ranked female tennis player, winning 14 grand slam singles and doubles championships in the 1970s and early 1980s.

TSRA wins award for heritage work



THE Torres Strait Regional Authority has won a National Trust Heritage Award for interpretation and promotion of work completed at King Point, Horn Island.

TSRA chairperson Joseph Elu said the authority and Torres Shire Council were instrumental in the conservation work at King Point as part of the Torres Strait World War II Conservation Project.

The project has seen visitors, veterans and their families, and locals using King Point. The site now has signage explaining what happened on Horn Island, home to the 34 Australian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery during the war.

NT health service offers abuse leave



A DARWIN Aboriginal health service has made provision for leave for employees dealing with abuse at home. Danila Dilba Health Service chair Patrick Stephenson said the organisation was one of just a handful of employers around the country providing leave for staff dealing with abuse.

"As an Indigenous health organisation, we see the impact of domestic violence first hand and provide support to victims through our many services, such as the social and emotional wellbeing centre," he said.



At the official opening of the new premises are, from left, Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia chair John Singer, deputy chair Polly Sumner-Dodd, chief executive Shane Mohor, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Indigenous Affairs Warren Snowdon and NACCHO chair Matthew Cooke.

SA health council in new premises

By PETER ARGENT



MC for the opening Garry Goldsmith.



ABORIGINAL Health Council of South Australia staff have been settling into their new long-awaited premises in central Adelaide.

The peak SA Indigenous health organisation bought the headquarters, in Franklin Street, and celebrated last month with an official opening.

The building is the result of a long process for the council and its predecessor the Aboriginal Health

Organisation, and provides a permanent home in the city for its board, staff, students and members.

Established almost 35 years ago, the organisation has grown to have a health leadership, watchdog, training, advocacy and sector role, and a commitment to Aboriginal self-determination.

"This is a significant demonstration of our leadership for Aboriginal health in SA," council chief executive Shane Mohor said at the opening.

"It has taken many years of planning to get to where we are today."

Scholarships for Aboriginal Students

We are offering scholarships for Aboriginal students studying year 11 or 12 at high school or TAFE.

If you're interested in a job in Transport for NSW or an operating agency, why not apply for a scholarship worth up to \$5,000?

You can use the money to buy educational tools and services such as a new computer, text books or tutoring. A scholarship could help you get the results you need to go to university when you finish school.

Are you:

- Studying year 11 or 12 for the NSW HSC in 2016?
- Doing an Advanced or Extension subject as part of your study?
- Interested in a job in Transport for NSW or an operating agency?

You can apply for a scholarship now.

Applications close 29 February 2016

For more information email aboriginal.jobs@rms.nsw.gov.au



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Victory at Kingscliff



TWEED Byron Aboriginal Land Council members are delighted after winning a land title claim over the last piece of undeveloped Crown Land at Kingscliff on the NSW far north coast. The council will decide the future use of the 26ha coastal block after the land is transferred this year.

There had been doubt over the initial land claim after an amendment bill was introduced to the NSW

Parliament last year. But action by land councils and others led to its withdrawal.

Tweed Byron LALC denied some media claims that a secret deal had been done over the land.

"It was simply that the land became claimable under the legislation at the time the claim was made and it met the conditions for it to be granted," the council said.

● **Pictured: Paula Combo, Desrae Rotumah and Dale Williams celebrate the land title claim success.**

Grim findings on SA child deaths



ABORIGINAL children in South Australia were almost four times more likely to die than other kids over the past decade, a new report has found.

The state's overall child death rate steadily declined in the 10 years to December 2014, the Child Death and Serious Injury Review Committee says. But the mortality rate for Aboriginal children increased over the same period, with the majority of deaths caused by illness and disease. — AAP

WA sex offender denied freedom



A SEX offender whose crimes included raping a woman after the car they were travelling in ran out of petrol has been denied release by a Perth judge.

In a Western Australian Supreme Court judgment, Justice Bruno Fiannaca said Macker Joseph Dinah continued to be a danger to the community, particularly Indigenous women.

"I am satisfied that his risk of committing a serious sexual offence cannot be adequately managed for the protection of the community by a supervision order," the judge said.

Dinah was deemed a dangerous sex offender in 2009 after a series of sex offences dating back to 1984. — AAP

Evaluation move for OCHRE plan



THE Social Policy Research Centre at the University of NSW will undertake a 10-year ongoing evaluation of OCHRE, the NSW Government plan to achieve

improvements and long-term results for Aboriginal people.

"This long-term approach to evaluation is ground-breaking and a first for NSW," Aboriginal Affairs Minister Leslie Williams said. "It will deliver the evidence that will help to inform the Government about the future direction and expansion of OCHRE."

Morgue upgrades



REMOTE bush communities in the Northern Territory are to get upgraded morgue facilities.

The NT Government says upgrades will be done at Alekerange, Alpururulam, Alyangula, Borrooloola, Elliott, Jabiru, Kalkarindji, Kintore, Lajamanu, Ngukurr, Numbulwar, Nyirripi, Papunya, Wadeye and Yuendumu.

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CHANGE YOUR LIFE

GA032



Police liaison officers Deb DeBree, Michael Douglas and Moira Davis kept the laneways safe for festival-goers over the six-day event.



Carlee Franks (Wonnarua), Ali Cobby Eckerman (Yankunytjatjara), Uncle Noel Blair (Jinibara), Lionel George Fogarty (Wakka Wakka) and Crow Conlon (Kullali/Koa) catch up at the festival.



Human rights activist Kerianne Cox sings on stage.



Bundjalung woman Rhoda Roberts ran a series of conversations covering culture, traditions and music in politics.

Festival packs them in



THE Woodford Folk Festival, in south-east Queensland, again showcased a diverse range of First Nations acts and speakers while marking its 30th anniversary.

Dubmarine and Aotearoa (New Zealand) band Moana and the Tribe brought in the new year to a massive crowd that capped off the six-day festival which saw record crowds.

Nationally acclaimed artists including Briggs, Walkley Award winner Melissa Lucashenko and Kahl Wallis shared music and

conversations on the Songlines stage which has found a new home in the festival precinct.

Cape York campaigner Noel Pearson delivered his views on how Aboriginal people need to get behind constitutional recognition, while Albert Wiggan from Beagle Bay spoke about the need to get the Kimberley on the World Heritage List to protect the largest rock art gallery in the world.

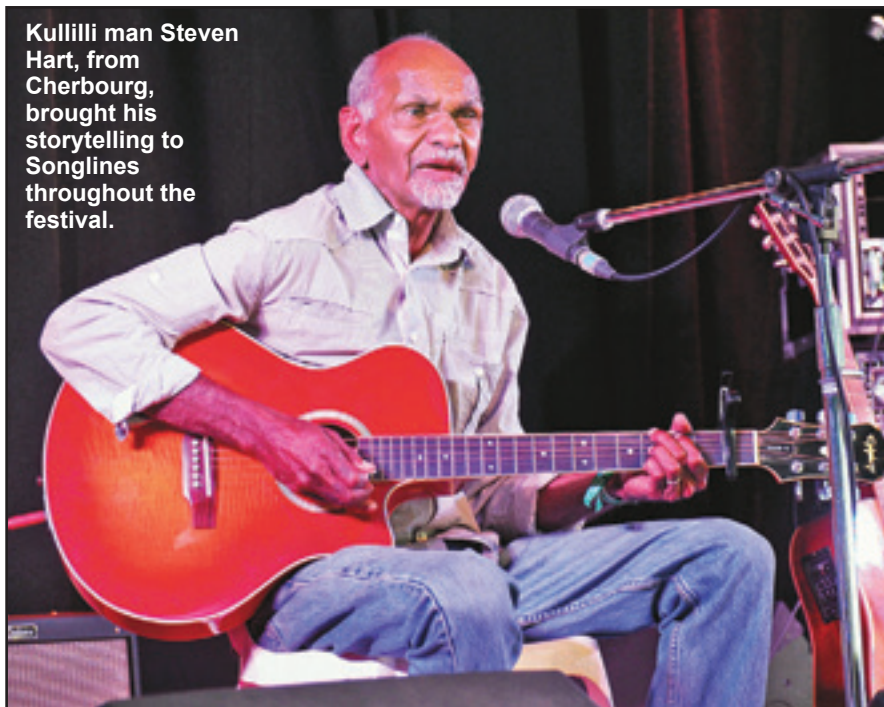
Elder Noel Blair says he is grateful for the good care the festival team takes in caring for the country on traditional land.



Writer Melissa Lucashenko tells of working with incarcerated women with Sisters Inside.



Gunditjmara (Victoria) man Richard Frankland speaks on how he shares through his writings and music.



Kullilli man Steven Hart, from Cherbourg, brought his storytelling to Songlines throughout the festival.



Fifteen years ago, Kooma man and poet Herb Wharton and Miriam Bauman, from Maryborough, met. They caught up again at Woodford this year.

Freedom Ride re-enactment a winner



THE Freedom Ride 50th anniversary re-enactment held last February has been named NSW Best Community Event at the 2014 Australian Event Awards. The re-enactment was a project between the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC), University of Sydney and Charlie Perkins Trust.

NSW Aboriginal Land Council chair Roy Ah-See said the communities in Walgett, Dubbo, Moree, Bowraville and Kempsey all helped with the win.

"To see the re-enactment honoured with a prestigious award is a credit to the local community members who made it such a success," he said.

The re-enactment involved some original

riders and current students travelling by bus to remember what was a pivotal moment in Indigenous Australian history.

"Local community members were able to revisit that moment in history, to discuss what changes they had seen over the last 50 years and what challenges remain.

The original Freedom Riders highlighted the segregation, discrimination and poor

living conditions faced by Aboriginal people in NSW.

Cr Ah-See said the original Freedom Riders and the local Aboriginal people who supported them had showed courage and bravery in the face of local hostility to give their children and grandchildren hope for the future. He believes the Freedom Ride laid the foundation for land rights in NSW.



At the site of the new Bendigo centre, from left, Federal Member for Bendigo Lisa Chesters, BDAC chief executive Raylene Harradine and BDAC chairperson Barry Fary.

Construction starts on Bendigo centre



WORK has started on Bendigo and District Aboriginal Cooperative's health and community centre.

The new centre is designed to provide essential services and support and become a central meeting place for the local Aboriginal community.

BDAC received \$5.7 million from the Department of Health

for stage one of the build, expected to be completed by the end of the year. It will include a new medical clinic, administration area, family and community services building, car parks and landscaping.

An existing building will also be renovated and turned into an Indigenous men's shed, through a \$60,000 Victorian Government grant.

BDAC chief executive Raylene Harradine said the

organisation now operated from three locations and provided services for almost 4000 Indigenous people locally.

"The needs of our community are growing, and our infrastructure must be able to support additional services, programs and staff," she said.

"The development of a multi-purpose centre will allow us to provide a service with the best of everything in one place."



AUSTRALIA'S top 500 Indigenous corporations employ more than 11,700 people, have a combined income of

\$1.74 billion and combined assets of \$2.1 billion.

That's according to the latest Top 500 Report released by Registrar of Indigenous Corporations Anthony Beven.

The report, the seventh released, details the contribution of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporate sector to the national economy.

The latest report examines data taken from 2013-14 annual reports submitted by the top 500 highest earning Indigenous corporations registered under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*.

The previous report showed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations generated more income, employed more people and derived more income from the businesses and services they ran. While the just-released report tells a similar story, it also shows some signs of flattening or contraction.

Key findings from the new report include:

- The combined income of the top 500 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations was \$1.74 billion (compared to \$1.71 billion in 2012-13).

- The combined value of assets held by the top 500 corporations was

\$2.1 billion (compared to \$1.98 billion in 2012-13, an increase of 6%).

- The average income of the top 500 corporations increased from \$3.42 million in the previous year to \$3.48 million.

- The Northern Territory produced the highest total income (\$754 million) of all the states and territories, with an average of \$4.7 million per corporation. It has maintained this lead since 2004-05.

- 11,721 people were employed by the top 500 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations.

The report showed the 2013-14 financial year was another boom year for Pilbara-based corporations, with their average income increasing by \$1.86 million to \$8.99 million.

In the same period the average income of the top 500 corporations increased by only \$60,000 to \$3.48 million.

Mr Beven said the impact of the fall in iron ore prices on the income of Aboriginal corporations in the Pilbara is not expected to be fully appreciated until the 2014-15 financial year, which will be reported in next year's report.

"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations play an important role in Australia," Mr Beven said.

"While corporations in some regions are facing particular challenges, I'm pleased to see the overall picture for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporate sector remains positive."

Campbelltown ready to get it all together



A COMMUNITY event designed to promote services available for Aboriginal people will be held on January 21 in Campbelltown, western Sydney.

Called Getting It Together, the event is being organised by Macarthur Gateway Resources Services/Marcia's Women's Refuge.

The organisation focuses on the needs of Aboriginal women and their families facing domestic violence, and other issues including homelessness.

Macarthur Gateway Resource Services executive officer Marilyn Fogarty says that even though the

area has a large Indigenous population, there has been a lack of contact between the service providers and the Aboriginal community.

"This is the first event of its kind in the area and we think it's going to be a fabulous day for families to have fun and at the same time find out what services are available in the community and make connections."

Up to 50 organisations are expected to be represented, with entertainment provided by Casey Donovan and the Koomurri Dancers.

Getting it Together will be at Bradbury Oval, Campbelltown, from 10am-3pm. More details at macarthurgateway.com.au/

SL black & write!



Indigenous Writing Fellowships

Win \$10,000 and a publication opportunity with State Library of Queensland's black&write! program.

Submit your unpublished novel, short stories, poetry, young adult or children's book manuscript for your chance to win.

Two winners will each receive \$10,000, manuscript development with black&write! editors, and a publication opportunity with Hachette Australia.

Open nationally to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander published and unpublished writers.

Entries close 5pm AEST Friday 26 February.

slq.qld.gov.au (entry form and guidelines)
indigenous.writing@slq.qld.gov.au | 07 3842 9484

2015 black&write! Indigenous Writing Fellow Alison Whittaker, photo by KiLN.

SL State Library of Queensland

Queensland Government



Adrian Bayley, Leanne Michael, Sandy James and Paul Bayley. Pictures: Tash Nannup



Sheree Narrier and Darryl Garlett with their daughter Ariana Garlett.



Tyrese Eades feeds this rabbit at the party.

Festive time at Midvale



PEOPLE from across Western Australia were at this year's Swan Aboriginal Community Christmas Party, held at Midvale in Perth.

More than 130 food hampers were handed out at this year's celebration.

Organiser Do Ryder said many families and children enjoyed the day, which was again sponsored by the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union.

"Other sponsors to make significant contributions were AnglicareWA, Mission Australia, Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service, Ngala, Shire of Mundaring, the Salvation Army Morley, West Coast Eagles Football Club and City of Swan," she said.

"A special thank you to local

artist Jeanette Garlett who donated five original paintings, four of which were given as gifts of appreciation, and to Harry and Pat Oakley for their donation of a pig and a lamb which were cooked on the spit for our families to enjoy.

"Thanks also to Sue Marsh from Parenting WA for the use of her building in Swan View for the week to organise the toys and hampers.

"Support was given by many agencies including the Swan Alliance, Department for Local Government and Communities, The Smith Family, Department for Children and Family Services, JTZ Authentic Signatures, Midland Women's Health Care Place, Midland Rotary and Ray White Real Estate Midland."

Organisers also praised the work of Jenni Brodie, from the Swan Alliance.



Jillian Smith, Jillian Watson, Briana Smith and Ethel Smith enjoy the day.



Jamahl Ryder with his son Jorrell.



Young Felix gets a spider painting on his hand during the party at Midvale.



Local band Moombaki provides entertainment.

Trust hosts Very Koorie Krismas

By JILLIAN MUNDY



A SMALL but enthusiastic group braved a scorching Melbourne day to celebrate 'A Very Koorie Krismas', an afternoon of Indigenous-inspired festive fun at the Koorie Heritage Trust's new Federation Square premises.

Aboriginal performers including James Henry, the Koorie Tiddas Choir and Jessie Lloyd's Mission Songs Project were on the bill for the festive celebration.

Visitors tried their hand at weaving and had a yarn with Gunditjmarra woman Bronwyn Razem and Yorta Yorta woman Donna Blackall at their weaving workshop.

Bush tucker was on offer thanks to Cassie Leatham-Harrup and her interactive workshop.

There were Koorie-



Koorie Tiddas Choir members, from left, Ayesha Lovett, Ameer-Jae Heffernan, Ronelle Tucceri-Cimini and Anese Lovett and choir mentor Monica Weightman.

inspired noughts and crosses and colouring-in stations, and storytelling in language with Mandy Nicholson.

The highlight was the emergence of Koorie (Kutch) Klaus, who donned

a stylish red, black and yellow suit to complement a lustrous curly black beard and mop of hair, and a large sack of goodies. He treated the children and adults alike to plenty of laughs, and handed out gifts

to the young ones.

Visitors also saw the Koorie Art Show 2015, an end-of-year showcase by Koorie visual artists which continues at the Koorie Heritage Trust's exhibition gallery until February 28.



Tiriki Onus, John Wayne Parsons, Monica Weightman and Jessie Lloyd (front) give a preview of the Mission Songs Project.



James Henry on stage.



Cassie Leatham-Harrup shares her knowledge of bush tucker with Breeanna Peachey and Myeesha Mohammed.

Nguiu Corporation in administration



THE Nguiu Club Aboriginal Corporation on the Tiwi Islands has been placed in special administration. The move follows serious financial problems at the Bathurst island-based club in recent years.

The management committee approached Registrar of Indigenous Corporations Anthony Beven for help, leading to the administration after the club's registration was transferred to the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006.

IBA home funding pool tops \$1 billion



THE pool of funds in Indigenous Business Australia's Indigenous Home Ownership Programme has topped the \$1 billion mark.

Started 40 years ago with \$5 million in Federal funding, the program now has more than 4500 home loans.

Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion said breaking \$1 billion showed what could happen when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people "were given access to opportunities and a fair go".

Resources cover cancer screening



A SERIES of new resources aims to remind Indigenous people in Cape York of the importance of breast and bowel cancer screening.

The free resources, which have been translated into traditional languages, are available through the National Cancer Screening Program.

Copies of the breast cancer and bowel cancer audio CDs, fact sheets, or key message cards are available by emailing screening@gilimbbaa.com.au

For more information on bowel cancer screening visit australia.gov.au/bowelscreening.

NT changes allow electronic tracking



AMENDMENTS to the NT Bail Act allow the potential use of electronic monitoring devices to track young offenders in the Northern Territory.

The amendments, recently passed through Parliament, give the NT's Youth Justice Court the option to use electronic monitoring as a condition of bail.

"These devices assist Northern Territory Police and the Department of Correctional Services in enforcing compliance with bail, providing real time information on the location of accused persons," Attorney-General John Elferink said.

"The location of accused persons can be monitored without the need for physical surveillance by law enforcement authorities."

Winangali, Ipsos form partnership



INDIGENOUS communications and research company Winangali and global research giant Ipsos have formed a partnership to jointly conduct market and social research studies. The goal is to increase

Indigenous economic participation and to help provide employment opportunities and business partnerships with Ipsos in Australia.

Ipsos and Winangali have been working together on projects involving research with Indigenous people for the past decade.

Brisbane-based Winangali works in Indigenous communications and research, covering areas including cultural awareness, Indigenous employment and recruitment, partnerships, corporate social responsibility, marketing and communications research.

Ipsos will provide access to research expertise as well as support for Winangali.

Poetry prize for young writers



NOMINATIONS for the 2016 Nakata Brophy Short Fiction and Poetry Prize for Young Indigenous Writers close on January 31.

Sponsored by cultural magazine *Overland* and Trinity College at the University of Melbourne, this prize, now in its third year, recognises the talent of young Indigenous writers across Australia.

This year the prize will go to the best poem (up to 88 lines) by an Indigenous writer aged 30 or younger at the closing date of the competition. Each year the competition alternates between poetry and short fiction.

The prize is \$5000, publication in *Overland's* print magazine, and a three-month writer's residency at Trinity College, the oldest student residence at the University of Melbourne. Two runner-up prizes may also be awarded.

"This opportunity allowed me the scope for further development as a young writer, and also as a young Indigenous writer," 2014 winner Jessica Hart said.

Trinity residential college is home to more than 300 students, including a number of Indigenous people.

Trinity says its Indigenous programs have been developing since Sana Nakata and Lilly Brophy became the first Indigenous students to attend the college. This prize is named for the two, who have gone on to successful careers in academia and veterinary science.

More details are at www.overland.org.au/prizes/

Silence at NSW Art Gallery



A NEW exhibition including the work of contemporary

Aboriginal artists is now on at the Art Gallery of NSW in Sydney.

When *silence falls* looks at cultural displacement, political oppression, ethnic cleansing and massacres.

Contributing Indigenous artists include Judy Watson, Naomi Milgrom, and Gene and Brian Sherman.

When *silence falls* is part of a new series of contemporary collection projects being run by the gallery.

For more information, visit www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au



Executed in Franklin Street curator Paola Balla.

Hanged warriors are not forgotten

By JILLIAN MUNDY



THE treatment of fallen Tasmanian Aboriginal warriors Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner is just as relevant today as it was when they were publicly executed amid carnival-like fanfare in 1842, according to artist Paola Balla. She's curating *Executed in Franklin Street*, an exhibition of paintings, writings, video and photography relating to the warriors now on show in the Melbourne Town Hall.

In what will be a national first, the Melbourne City Council has announced it will also fund a major memorial to the pair.

Artists Brook Andrew and Trent Walter have been selected to create the monument, titled *Standing by Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner*. When completed, it will be first major memorial to the 'Frontier Wars' in an Australian city.

Documents record 16 Tasmanian Aborigines were taken to Melbourne by 'Protector of Aborigines' George Augustus Robinson in 1839, to help 'rein in' Victorian Aboriginal people.

Five of the party, including Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner, absconded and became resistance fighters.

In 1842 the pair was tried and convicted of the murder of two whalers in south-east Victoria. It is understood the whalers were killed as revenge for abducting and murdering Aboriginal people in Tasmania.

At the trial questions of sovereignty,

jurisdiction and treaty were raised.

The warriors were tried with three women, Truganini, Planobeena and Pyterruner, who were acquitted and returned to Tasmania.

Sentenced to death, Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner's execution was the first public one in Melbourne. It was the leading news of the day, with between 4000 and 5000 people, mainly women and children, reportedly turned out for the spectacle. The scene was described as resembling a racecourse rather than an execution.

"These men were treated like animals on

"This was the first major case of (an Aboriginal) death in custody that we know about. For me it wasn't an historical story, it's a story of now."

display," Paola Balla, a Wemba-Wemba and Gunditjmarra woman, said.

"This was the first major case of (an Aboriginal) death in custody that we know about. For me it wasn't an historical story, it's a story of now.

"That callousness and that indifference to Aboriginal suffering, not connecting emotionally. I think it has just continued. You can see it in the race hate that's coming out at our people now with the protests over forced (community) closures."

Ms Balla refers to the 1842 execution as terrorism; authorities wanted other black people to see what would happen if they defended their country.

The push for the recognition of Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner started in 2006 when a group of 11 gathered for a commemoration, after Melbourne man Joe Toscano read the story of the pair in a second-hand book store.

Soon after, a committee was formed to campaign for the memorial and momentum has grown over the years. Dr Toscana even stood as lord mayor to draw attention to the campaign. He said the Melbourne memorial should act as a template for activists around Australia to emulate. "It is important for us as a nation and a people to ensure these struggles are acknowledged and remembered," he said.

"For far too long Australians have focused on remembering the exploits of troops fighting other people's wars in distant lands."

At noon on January 20 there will be a gathering on the corner Bowen and Franklin streets, Melbourne, the site where Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner were hanged, followed by a commemorative walk to the site at Queen Victoria Market where they are purported to be buried. Speakers will include Caroline Briggs and Gary Foley.

Dr Toscana asks participants to bring flowers, as on Anzac or Remembrance Day. Speeches will be broadcast live on Radio 3CR.

Executed in Franklin Street runs until February 1.

Roebourne films simply smashing



YOUNG Indigenous people from Roebourne in Western Australia's Pilbara have written, filmed and starred in their own films tackling major issues in their lives.

SMASHED, a project directed and produced by Roebourne youth, created 12 short films that focus on health and culture. The aim was to positively influence attitudes towards alcohol and nutrition.

The young people worked with social change company Big hART at the Ngurin Pilbara Aboriginal Centre. Mawarnkarra Health Service asked Big hART to work with local youth and design an innovative approach to addressing issues.

More than 40 young people joined after-school workshops led by IF Foundation and Big hART filmmakers Claire Leach and Curtis Taylor.

The films include bush cooking shows, music video clips, action films, satirical comedies and feel-good public service announcements.

More than 200 people gathered recently at the Roebourne Amphitheatre to see the results.

The films can be seen online via the Yijala Yala Project Vimeo channel: vimeo.com/channels/977075/page:1



Roebourne youth Jordan Coppin, Max Coppin and Jarried Ashburton and Big hART filmmaker Curtis Taylor enjoy themselves on location during the making of SMASHED cooking show *Gumbagay Jabaja*.



Tanith Glynn-Maloney and Dylan River accept their AACTA Award for Best Short Film. Picture: Brendon Thorne/Getty Images

Cousins win AACTA award



NORTHERN Territory filmmakers Dylan River and Tanith Glynn-Maloney have won the AACTA award for Best Short Film for their comedy *Nulla Nulla*.

AACTA is the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts and the awards recognise Australia's top screen professionals and the stories they tell.

Nulla Nulla, filmed in and around Alice Springs, tells the story of a young policeman fresh out of the police academy who gets his first taste of the complexities of community life in central Australia.

It features actors Audrey Martin Napanangka and Pamela Samson Nangala, as well as Khan Chettenden as the non-Indigenous

police officer. The Indigenous police officer is played by actor Wayne Blair, who directed *The Sapphires*.

Nulla Nulla was produced through CAAMA productions in Alice Springs.

River and Glynn-Maloney are cousins who were born in Alice Springs. Their grandmother, Freda Glynn, helped establish CAAMA Radio and Imparja Television. They both attended Centralian Senior College, before starting careers in film and television.

Other Indigenous-related 2015 AACTA winners were *Ready for This*, a TV series about a group of young Indigenous people co-produced by Blackfella Films and Werner Films (Best Children's TV Series), and *Redfern Now*, a Blackfella Films production (Best Editing in Television).



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Richard Bell / Kamilaroi/Jiman/Kooma people / *Glitter This 2015* / Image courtesy: The artist and Milani Gallery, Brisbane



Looking deadly: Shalom Christian College Year 12 graduates, from left, Cody Sturt (Townsville), Ananias Nundhirribala (Numbulwar), Gorden Garawirtja (Gapuwiyak), Aaron O'Brien-Johnson (Townsville), John Tom (Boigu Island), Lance Hudson (Kalumburu), Curtis Parry (Peppiminarti), Bethany Gondarra (Galiwinku), Sarima Laurie (Bulla), Litisha Baker (Galiwinku), Jodine Daisy (Townsville), Anita Johnson (Townsville), Pamai Dau (Boigu Island), Larina Wilson (Mornington Island), Lydia Smith (Woorabinda), Rikkisha Gaykamangu (Darwin) and Kiera Ryder (Santa Teresa).

Shalom students graduate



SHALOM Christian College in Townsville has celebrated the graduation of its Year 12 Indigenous students from 2015. College liaison officer Tom Hughes said it was great to see so

many students from such a wide area completing school. "It was fantastic to see students representing Western Australia, Northern Territory and across Queensland and the Torres Strait

achieve such fantastic academic, sporting and co-curricular achievements," he said. "A lot of the graduates were from Arnhem Land. "Many families, friends and

members of the Shalom community, came together to celebrate their achievements." Some of the students have already found work, while others will go on to tertiary education.



Some of the successful Community Night Patrol Certificate students with NT Deputy Chief Minister Willem Westra van Holthe, back left, and CDU's Professor Simon Maddocks.

40 complete new night patrol course



THE first students have completed Charles Darwin University's new Certificate III in Community Night Patrol training program. Forty people from across a wide area of the Northern Territory completed the nationally recognised course, which gives them formal qualifications to work on night patrols. Developed over five years, the course includes elements from public sector, local

government, correctional services, community and health training packages. CDU's Peter Hogan said students travelled vast distances to undertake the course.

Wide area

"They've come from Timber Creek near the Western Australian border, Numbulwar to the east and Ngukkur, Kalkaringi and many other communities in the Roper Gulf and Victoria Daly shires, as well as Kalano around

Katherine," he said. While congratulating all students, Mr Hogan noted two high-achievers. "We'd like to congratulate Davis Turner and Andrea Cameron, whose effort, commitment and determination were exemplary," he said. "Their work was of a very high standard and they also assisted other students and staff." Mr Hogan expects about 100 students will complete the course this year. **● CDU initiative under way, facing page**

Brisbane closes the gap



THE Queensland Government says Brisbane is the first capital city in Australia to close the gap on Year 12 attainment.

Education Minister Kate Jones said that last year more Indigenous students completed Year 12 than ever before.

"In the metropolitan region, more than 98% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (268) have successfully completed Year 12, compared to 94% of non-Indigenous students (7105)," she said.

"In Brisbane, when it comes to Year 12 attainment we have well and truly closed the gap."

Ms Jones said more Indigenous state school students were now completing Year 12 in Queensland.

"Typically, Queensland has more Indigenous Year 12 students than any other state or territory education system in Australia," she said. "We are seeing significant

improvements made by state schools throughout Queensland in narrowing the gap.

"In 2015, 94% of Indigenous state school students (1753) achieved a Year 12 certification compared to 95% of non-Indigenous (26,644).

"Last year, 86% of Indigenous state school students successfully completed Year 12, so we have seen a significant improvement.

"Improvement"

"This means an additional 209 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieving Year 12 certification (in 2015), up to 1753 from 1544 in 2014."

But Ms Jones said there was room for more improvement.

"For example, there is still more to be done to improve Year 12 retention rates," she said.

"We are working to turn this around by providing additional help from Year 11 to support students through the senior years of school."

ECU's Jason Barrow knows that mooja, commonly known as Christmas tree, means its the Nyoongar Birak season.



ECU shines light on Nyoongar seasons



EDITH Cowan University (ECU) campuses in Western Australia will light up throughout this year to celebrate the university's 25th anniversary as well as mark the six Nyoongar seasons.

The colours of red, orange, green, blue, pink and yellow symbolise a different Nyoongar season, and by illuminating the chancellery building at Joondalup (Perth), the library at Mount Lawley and the entrance at Bunbury campus, ECU will provide a visual cue for the community.

The Nyoongar seasons represent and explain the environmental changes seen annually in the south-west region of WA. They can be shorter or longer and are indicated by

changes in plants and animals, rather than by dates on a calendar.

It will be the job of ECU cultural awareness officer Jason Barrow to decide when it's time to change the colour of the lights.

"If you drive past our campuses and notice the buildings have changed colour you'll know a new season has begun," he said.

"Visit the ECU website and I'll tell you more about the Nyoongar traditions of each season, starting with Birak season, including which plants are blooming and what insects and animals are active, hatching or breeding.

"If you're listening carefully and watching the environment, you may be able to spot them all."

The names and colours that

represent each of the Nyoongar seasons are:

- Birak – Red (mirda) symbolises heat, sun and fire (December/January).

- Bunuru – Orange (yoornt mirda) symbolises abundance of fishing and lack of rain (February/March).

- Djeran – Green (nodjam) symbolises cooler weather and eucalyptus trees (April/May).

- Makuru – Blue (wooyan) symbolises rain and cold weather (June/July).

- Djilba – Pink (mirda mokiny) Pink (or purple) symbolises growth of wildflowers and plants (August/September).

- Kamarang – Yellow (yoornt) symbolises return of hot weather (October/November).

Engineer is studying at Cambridge



A CURTIN University engineering graduate is the first Indigenous Australian to study a postgraduate engineering degree at Cambridge University in England.

Perth-raised Judd Harris, who was inspired to apply for Cambridge after taking part in the Aurora Indigenous Scholars International Study Tour in 2014, is undertaking a Master of Philosophy in Engineering for Sustainable Development over 2015-16.

He is studying at Cambridge on a Roberta Sykes – Cambridge Scholarship, with support from global firm Arup, the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, the Melbourne School of Engineering Foundation, the Menzies Foundation and the Minerals Council of Australia.

Mr Harris said he planned to use the opportunity to expand his engineering knowledge in order to develop projects with the potential to improve the wellbeing of Indigenous people in regional Australia.

"As an Indigenous Australian, and an engineer, I am in a position to apply the expertise I would acquire from this course to contribute to Aboriginal communities," he said.

"I intend to use this degree to lead sustainable projects and to apply better facilitation and consultative processes with communities.

"My skills and education are in a technical and process field, and I believe that this degree can teach me best practice in the application of engineering."

Curtin University head of the School of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Professor Vishnu Pareek supervised Mr Harris's honours research project. "I will be on the lookout for him in the years to come, because Judd is destined to achieve great things," Prof Pareek said.

Since graduating Mr Harris has undertaken a two-year graduate program with BHP Billiton and has volunteered with the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation as a mentor.



Indigenous engineer Judd Harris is studying at Cambridge University in England.

NT program under way



AN initiative by Charles Darwin University aims to help Indigenous people undertake higher education.

The university has partnered with Indigenous organisations and community groups as well as the Northern Territory Government to offer the Whole of Community Engagement program.

It has been implemented in

the Territory communities of Yuendumu, Yirrkala, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Galiwinku and Tennant Creek.

Barriers

CDU pro vice chancellor – Indigenous leadership Professor Steven Larkin says there are many barriers to remote Indigenous people doing higher education.

"The WCE initiative is about removing these barriers by

adopting a bottom-up approach which listens and responds to community needs," he said.

"This means the vision and actions are owned by each community involved."

The initiative has been funded by the Federal Government.

Details are available at www.remotengagetoedu.com.au

● Night patrol course graduates, facing page



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Screening resources in language



RESOURCES promoting the importance of bowel cancer screening are now available in Indigenous languages.

The free resources include fact sheets, key message cards and audio segments in Alyawarra, Arrernte, Luritja, Pitjantjatjara, Torres Strait Islander Creole and Warlpiri.

They were produced through Indigenous creative agency Gilimbbaa and Indigenous Translations.

Bowel cancer is the second most common cause of cancer deaths in Australia, with about 80 people dying each week. Many Indigenous Australians are affected.

Ernest Brimm, an Aboriginal man from Cairns who is in his 50s, and whose family has been affected by bowel cancer, welcomes the translations.

"Screening is important because you can nip it in the bud," he said.

"It also sets a precedent for future generations. I'd like my grandchildren to say that their grandfather didn't shy away from medical tests."

Indigenous people should get a bowel screening kit with instructions and an information booklet in the mail, starting in the year they turn 50. By 2020 people will receive one every two years.

The test is free, will take a few minutes at two different times, and can be done privately at home.

The translated resources explain the importance of completing a bowel cancer screening test, and remind people that they shouldn't put off doing the test.

Free copies of the audio CD, fact sheet or key message card are available by emailing screening@gilimbbaa.com.au. It can also be downloaded from:

www.cancerscreening.gov.au/internet/

For more information, see australia.gov.au/bowelscreening, or call 1800 11 88 68.



Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation's Jade Griffiths, Dr Kannan and Summer Hunt in Dareton.



CHRISTMAS arrived a little early for the Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation in the form of a new doctor.

Dr Nadarajah Rajeshkannan (known as Dr Kannan) will be working full-time at Coomealla, based in Dareton, north of Mildura, from next month. He will provide a primary care service, with a focus on the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people.

Dr Kannan, a fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, is undertaking his Master of Family Medicine with Monash University.

"Aboriginal health is very important to me and I am looking forward to doing my part to close the gap (in Indigenous health)," he said.

Coomealla clinical practice manager Jade Griffiths says Dr Kannan's decision

New doctor a Christmas present for Coomealla

to join the corporation "is just like a Christmas gift".

"GP recruitment in rural and remote areas like ours is not always easy so we are thrilled to be able to share this news

with the community and we look forward to having Dr Kannan on the team," she said.

"It's really important for us as an Aboriginal community-controlled health organisation to be able to provide culturally appropriate services, so having a male and female GP ensures that community members have that choice."

Coomealla deputy chief executive Summer Hunt said that recruiting additional services like those of Dr Kannan was critical to the future of towns like Dareton.

"Access to services is important not only for the wellbeing of our Aboriginal community, but for the sustainability of towns like Dareton and Wentworth, so we are really pleased to be a part of the future by bringing new health professionals and services to town," she said.

For more details, see www.chac.org.au

Business win for Maari Ma



MAARI Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation was a winner at the 2015 Far West NSW Business Awards. The Broken Hill-based organisation won the Best Medium to Large Business and was subsequently named overall winner, taking out the Outback Spirit Award.

Maari Ma said the wins capped off a big year, which included 20th anniversary celebrations and the completion of a new state-of-the-art primary health care service in Broken Hill.

The health organisation employs 116 staff and offers services to communities across a region covering 195,000 square kilometres.



MAARI MA officials Kaylene Kemp and Bob Davis hold their business awards.

Excellent result for Peel centre



NIDJALLA Waangan Mia Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Centre was a winner at the 2015 Western Australian Health Excellence Awards.

The Mandurah-based organisation took out the Achieving Better Health Outcomes for Aboriginal People category at the statewide awards.

The centre has expanded greatly since opening in 2010, doubling its staff to keep up with demand.

Initially established by the South Metropolitan Health Service and not-for-profit, community organisation GP Down South, it provides a range of services including a general practice, allied health services such as dentistry and podiatry, specialist health services, and Aboriginal health promotion



Nidjalla Waangan Mia staff members attend the awards.

and education programs.

South Metropolitan Populations Health Unit Aboriginal health team manager Nola Naylor is proud of the centre. "Being able to consistently provide access to mainstream health services has benefitted the Peel Aboriginal community in many ways – particularly children," she said.

"Over the past three years we have seen a 22% increase in immunisation rates, which currently stand at 93%."

GP Down South chief executive Amanda Poller echoes those sentiments.

"Not only has the centre managed to increase immunisation rates, but over the last 12 months we have also

managed to improve chronic disease outcome measurements," she said.

"About 76% of our regular clients have a blood pressure within the normal range, and 85% had adequate glycaemic (blood sugar) control in relation to their diabetes.

"A major contributing factor to improving these measurements was a focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health checks and conducting GP management plans.

"We have managed to provide 70% of our regular clients with ATSI health checks and 89% of our regular female clients and 100% of our regular male clients with a GP management plan.

"These improvements are a testament to the hard-working clinical team, the coordination efforts of our admin team and the focus of our outreach team, including our transport officer."

Apunipima celebrates



TWENTY-ONE years ago last month the Apunipima Cape York Health Council was established to

serve the Indigenous people of far north Queensland.

That 'coming-of-age' landmark was celebrated by about 200 people at a party in Cairns, where the council's surviving original members were entered into the Apunipima Hall of Fame for Cape York people who have made a significant contribution to improving local health.

In 1994 at Pajinka Lodge, near Injinoo at the tip of Cape York, Elders and traditional owners from the 17 Cape York communities and others came together at a land and health summit to demand action on worsening health outcomes for our people.

Apunipima was the result.

In November of that same year, Apunipima was incorporated as an advocacy organisation with a membership of 34. Over the years membership has grown to 580, with just 15 of the 34 original members still alive.



At the Apunipima 21st anniversary celebration are, from left, Willie Gordon, Vicki Kennedy, Kaylene Bowen, Gina Nona, Meun Lifu (holding the plaque), Jenny Ropeyarn, Alice Tayley, George Ropeyarn and Gwen Schreiber.

Apunipima chief executive Cleveland Fagan said the 21st anniversary was a time to reflect and remember the brave

work of the original members. "A plaque was presented in recognition, commemoration and celebration of each member," he

said. "Their belief and enduring support has led Apunipima to become the leading health service delivery organisation for

Cape York, with health outcomes improving year on year. "May their faith never be forgotten."



Incoming WSU medical students Patrick Corcoran and Brandon Kober-Brown are with Indigenous placement support officer Ian Kennedy and Associate Professor Tim McCrossin. Picture: Rachel Ferrett

Bathurst pair on way to becoming doctors

By RACHEL FERRETT



TWO former Aboriginal high school students from Bathurst, NSW, have started their journey to becoming medical practitioners after being accepted into Western Sydney University's Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery double degree.

Year 12 students from 2015 Patrick Corcoran and Brandon Kober-Brown were among the 12 applicants selected from the UWS Aboriginal alternative entry program.

Both had to submit portfolios and attend a formal interview to determine their suitability.

WSU rural schools community

engagement officer Nathan Rollinson said the Bathurst students were exceptional young people who showed a high level of dedication to their studies and communities.

Mr Corcoran was selected for his ability to manage a work/life balance, while Mr Kober-Brown overcame major personal issues to maintain his school record.

"These two students displayed a high level of achievement academically and a high level of dedication," Mr Rollinson said.

"Both are very dedicated to improving the living conditions of Aboriginal people and improving the standard of Aboriginal health."

The five-year WSU degree course includes three years of clinical practice and a 12-month placement.

Graduates a boost for mental health



NINE NSW health workers have graduated from the Aboriginal Mental Health

Workforce Training Program at Charles Sturt University.

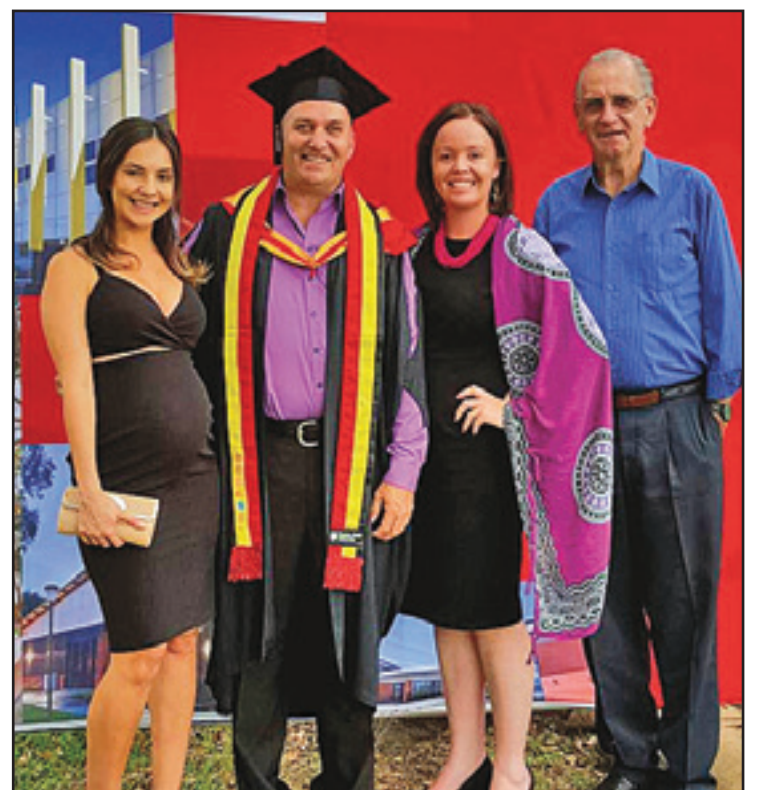
The program is designed to build the Aboriginal mental health workforce statewide, and reduce the rates of mental illness in Aboriginal communities across NSW.

The nine new graduates, who received a Bachelor of Health Science (Mental Health) degree, are among the 63 people to have completed the program since 2007.

NSW Aboriginal Mental Health Program coordinator Tom Brideson said it is important to have schemes like this because rates of mental illness are much higher in Indigenous communities.

"Aboriginal mental health workers can help to reduce these rates as they bring to the job both their cultural knowledge and an understanding of many of the mental health and social and emotional challenges their clients confront," he said.

Graduate Barry Fernando, a Gamilaroi man from Western NSW who works at the Bateman's Bay Community Health Centre, said he feels he has a greater understanding and



Course graduate Barry Fernando celebrates with family members at the Charles Sturt University graduation ceremony.

can better engage with his clients because of his own background.

"The course has given me the knowledge to pass on to individuals and give them the strength to access different services, have health checks

and seek early intervention," he said. "One of the main goals of the program is to close the mental health gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people – and early intervention and regular check-ups are the key."

NATIONAL CALENDAR



We welcome items for our National Calendar of Events. Keep them short and include a daytime telephone contact number. Send them to any of the addresses in the panel on page 23.

National

Ongoing: Lifeline – saving lives, crisis support, suicide prevention. For assistance 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

Indigenous Marathon Project (IMP) is seeking Indigenous Australians aged 18-30 for its program and to complete a Certificate III in Fitness. To apply visit www.imp.org.au or telephone (02) 6162 4750.

NSW-ACT

Ongoing: ACE Community College Aboriginal driver training. Held at ACE Community College, 59 Magellan St, Lismore. Details: (02) 6622 1903 or text 0429 423 116.

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.

Ongoing: Courses in Aboriginal languages at Grafton, Maclean, Lismore, Casino, Kingscliff, Ballina, Coffs Harbour, Macksville, Kempsey, Port Macquarie, Taree and Forster. Register interest at www.nctafe.aboriginallearningcircle.com

Until January 31: *Koori Art Expressions 2015* exhibition, a selection of artworks created by students from 36 public schools across Sydney. With almost 70 works inspired by last year's NAIDOC theme 'We All Stand On Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate'. Held at the Australian National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour daily from 9.30am-5pm. Free gallery entry. Details: (02) 9320 6000 or visit www.australianmuseum.net.au

Until January 29: *Milingimbi* exhibition, showcasing the works of three artists from the small island off Central Arnhem. Held at the Art Gallery of NSW, Art Gallery Road, The Domain, Sydney. Free gallery entry. Details: (02) 9225 1744 or visit www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/

Until January 31: *Saltwater Country* exhibition, featuring imagery of some of Australia's most beautiful coastlines. It includes more than 50 works by 16 Queensland Indigenous artists. Held at Grafton Regional Gallery, 158 Fitzroy St, Grafton, Tues-Sun, 10am-4pm. Cost: Gold coin donation. Details: (02) 6642 3177 or visit www.graftongallery.nsw.gov.au

Until February 5: Boomalli Annual Members Show. Held at Boomalli Aboriginal Artist Co-op, 55-59 Flood St, Leichhardt, Sydney from Wed-Sun, 11am-4pm. Free gallery entry. Details: (02) 9560 2541 or visit www.boomalli.com.au

January 19-20: Boats and Bush Tucker TAFE course information days. The course includes building a canoe/small vessel, survival skills, team work and more for ages 17 to 24. Held at Aunty Fay Room, Lismore TAFE Campus on January 19 from 3.30-4.30pm and Casino TAFE on January 20 from 3.30-4.30pm. More details from Sharon Taylor on 0409 122 933.



Zac Campbell, Milo Campbell and Harley Ladmore perform at the 2015 Cobargo Folk Festival as part of the Grow the Music program at Wallaga Lake Koori Village.

Wallaga Lake to Grow the Music



WALLAGA Lake Koori Village can look forward to another feast of sounds with the return this year of **Grow the Music**. The month-long **Grow the Music** program, in March, will culminate in a public concert at the community on the NSW south coast. It follows on from a similar program last year, where locals took part in intensive music, recording, film and language retrieval workshops. This year, new government funding

means **South East Arts** can bring back professional music educators from **Grow The Music** to build on the 2015 program.

Award-winning Australian songwriter **Neil Murray** will take part this year, exploring songwriting and language retrieval with local Aboriginal musicians, and with a view to developing songs in language for performance and recording.

For more details, call **South East Arts** Aboriginal creative and cultural engagement officer **Jazz Williams** on 0497 281 464.

January 19-22: Goori Ngubuyah (Holiday Program). Targeted for Indigenous high school students from Years 7 to 12 in the Ballina Shire. Includes beach activities, tenpin bowling, sport activities, cultural tour and more. Details: Les or Amanda at Bunjum Co-op on (02) 6686 5644.

January 21: 'Getting it Together' community event. Highlights services available to Indigenous people in the Macarthur region of western Sydney. Held at Bradbury Oval, Campbelltown, from 10am-3pm. Details: macarthurgateway.com.au

January 24-26: Events at the Tent Embassy in Canberra to mark Survival Day including a march from Garema Place and a rally outside Parliament House. Details at 0420 394 146.

January 26: Yabun 2016: Celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, includes art and craft stalls, information stalls, activities for kids, live entertainment and more. Held at Victoria Park, Broadway, Sydney from 10am. Free. Details: (02) 9384 4000 or visit www.gadigal.org.au

February 6-7: Bundjalung 9s Rugby League Carnival. \$750 team entry, \$9000 cash prizes. Held at Ballina Seagulls, Kingsford Smith Park. Details: Lenkunyar Roberts Hickling on 0412 463 730 or email ctidaboriginalcorp@yahoo.com.au

Queensland

Until January 16: *Mwerr-angker Alpert* (Pretty Flower) exhibition. Artists from Ampilatwatja return to Brisbane with their distinctive paintings of Central Australia. Held at Woolloongabba Art Gallery, 613 Stanley St, Tues-Sat, 9am-5pm. Free gallery entry. Details: (07) 3891 5551 or visit www.wag.com.au

Until January 22: *Pathways 6* group exhibition. Features the work of five artists from north Queensland. Held at UMI Arts Gallery of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, 335 Sheridan St, North Cairns, Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm. Free entry. Details: (07) 4041 6152 or visit www.umiarts.com.au

Until February 15: *Walan Giiny* (Strong Heart) exhibition. Indigenous artists with disability tell their stories through creative pieces of art on canvas, wheelchairs, wheelie-walkers and canoe. Held at Kuril Dhagun, Level 1, State Library of Queensland, Stanley Pl, South Bank, Brisbane from Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm. Free. Details: (07) 3842 9824.

Until April 9: *Brutal Truths* exhibition. Showcasing three major installations of works encompassing drawings, paintings, text works and videos. Held at Griffith University Art Gallery, Queensland College of Art, 226 Grey St, South Bank, Tues-Sat, 11am-4pm. Free. Details: Lauren on 0418 799 544 or visit www.griffith.edu.au/visual-creative-arts/

Victoria

Until February 1: *Executed in Franklin Street* exhibition, examining the lives and execution of Tasmanian Aboriginal warriors Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner. Details: www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture

At noon on January 20 there will be a gathering on the corner Bowen and Franklin streets, Melbourne, the site where the warriors were hanged, followed by a march.

Until February 28: *Koori Art Show* exhibition. A non-acquisitive award exhibition presenting the work of emerging to senior Koorie and Victoria-based Indigenous artists. Held at the Koorie Heritage Trust, Federation Square in Melbourne. Open daily from 10am-5pm. Free. Details: (03) 8662 6300 or visit www.fedsquare.com/events

Until March 5: *Open Your Eyes* exhibition. Features works from the men's group Pitcha Making Fellas, inspired by the environment, Koorie history and South Eastern mark-making. Held at Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Melbourne Museum, 11 Nicholson Street, Carlton. Open daily 10am-5pm. Cost: Adults \$14, concess and kids free. Details: 13 11 05 or visit www.museumvictoria.com.au/bunjilaka

January 15-17: Wominjeka Festival. Includes a lineup of Indigenous artists from around the country, including The Pigram Brothers, Bart Willoughby, Briggs and more. Held at Footscray Community Arts Centre, 45 Moreland Street, Footscray. Free. Details: Jirra on 0475 230 880 or visit www.footscrayarts.com

February 19-21: Riverboats Music Festival, includes an all-Australian lineup including Emma Donovan and The Putbacks. Held at Echuca-Moama. Details at www.riverboatsmusic.com.au

Western Australia

Until February 7: *Indigenous Australians at war from the Boer War to the present* exhibition. Covers Indigenous people's wartime contributions in the Boer War, World Wars I and II, Korean War, Vietnam War and subsequent conflicts and peacekeeping. Held at the WA Museum, Perth Cultural Centre, James Street. Open daily 9.30am-5pm. Details: (08) 9212 3700 or 1300 134 081 or visit www.museum.wa.gov.au/museums/perth

Until February 21: *Resistance* exhibition. A presentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices and world views about contemporary Indigenous life.

It features Indigenous knowledge systems and commentary on Indigenous experiences, histories, cultures and people. Held at Art Gallery of WA, Perth Cultural Centre, Wed-Mon, 10am-5pm. Free. Details: (08) 9492 6600 or visit www.artgallery.wa.gov.au

South Australia

February 12: Community morning tea and gathering. An Apology Day celebration of the anniversary of Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's national Apology to the Stolen Generations, including the launch of Circle of Hope Inc. Held at the Reconciliation Room, Adelaide Town Hall, 128 William St, (Pirie Street tram stop) Adelaide from 9am-Midday. Details: (08) 8203 7590.

Northern Territory

Until March 20: *We Don't need a Map: a Martu experience of the Western Desert* exhibition. Celebrates the distinct visual language of the Martu, the traditional owners of a vast area of WA's Western Desert.

Held at Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs Desert Park, Larapinta Drive, Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm, and Sat-Sun, 11am-4pm. Entry fees apply. Details: (08) 8951 1122 or visit www.artsandmuseums.nt.gov.au/

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT



Apprentice Laura Kirby on the job at The European restaurant in Melbourne.

Jobs on the menu

SIX Indigenous apprentices are now working in award-winning restaurants across Melbourne after completing the first stage of the National Indigenous Culinary Institute's pre-employment program.

The culinary institute has partnered with the William Angliss Institute of TAFE for the program, which aims to train skilled Indigenous chefs by providing

them with mentoring and support.

The apprentices made up the first group to graduate from the course in the Victorian capital. One of them, Laura Kirby, is now working in Melbourne's The European restaurant.

"I was really excited when I saw the program and it is a great opportunity for me to work in an area that I am passionate about," Ms Kirby, from

north-western Victoria, said. "I also want to show other members of my community that there are programs like this that can help us reach our goals."

"I have grown up eating a whole range of native Australian animals including kangaroo, emu, goanna and fish, and through my training I am learning new ways to cook them."

The European's executive chef, Ian

Curley, said the initiative is a fantastic way to empower Indigenous chefs in Melbourne.

The program has been operating in Sydney, with seven graduates completing their three-year apprenticeships last year.

It will run again this year in Sydney and Melbourne, with new groups of apprentices.

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.

Diversity and Inclusion Advisor

- \$74,962 - \$85,052 (Plus Superannuation)
- Full Time / Ongoing
- Melbourne, CBD

The position of Diversity and Inclusion Advisor forms a part of the Organisation Development & Human Resource Business Partnership division under People and Executive Services group.

The People and Executive Services (PES) group actively supports Ministers and DEDJTR portfolio groups to create the conditions for sustainable economic development and employment growth.

PES works collaboratively to deliver integrated functions across the department, including people and workplace services; emergency management coordination; strategic communications; legal and legislation; Cabinet and ministerial services; and corporate governance.

The Diversity and Inclusion Advisor will take a lead role in planning, promoting, delivering and evaluating a range of services, projects and programs to create a diverse and inclusive culture in DEDJTR. In working to strengthen DEDJTR's responsiveness in these areas, the successful applicant will need to be an excellent communicator and demonstrate strong consultancy skills.

To be successful in this role you will have sound knowledge and/or demonstrated capacity to develop sound knowledge of legislation, regulations, policies and processes relating to Equal Employment Opportunity and diversity. You must have an ability to work inclusively with Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, demonstrating self-awareness and the capability to work with others.

For a confidential discussion, please call **Katrina Carlton, Team Leader, Diversity and Culture** on (03) 8392 7009.

Successful candidates will be required to comply with the 100 point Proof of Identity Check prior to commencing employment with the Department.

For further information on the position, including a position description, and to apply please visit www.careers.vic.gov.au

Applications close at **midnight on 26 January 2016** and must address the Key Selection Criteria outlined in the Position Description.

www.economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au

Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Spring Street, Melbourne



Team Manager - Population Health (Tobacco) Adelaide, SA

- * Enjoy fantastic work/life balance with generous leave entitlements!
- * Attractive remuneration package of \$71,296 - \$74,543 based on skills and experience, PLUS super and salary sacrifice!
- * Enjoy the convenience of working in Adelaide's CBD!

Nunkuwarrin Yunti are seeking a Team Manager - Population Health (Tobacco) to lead their Tackling Indigenous Smoking team in Adelaide, SA, on a full-time basis. You'll be leading a team of seven staff within the Adelaide office, with a view to move to the Kilburn office by June, 2016

Reporting to the Middle Manager - Community Health Promotion and Education, you'll be responsible for developing and implementing multi-level approaches to tobacco control that reduce smoking prevalence and focus on prevention and early intervention, within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, to promote a smoke-free lifestyles.

Through joining this welcoming team, you'll receive ongoing opportunities for career progression and growth, with the organisation committed to encouraging professional development and training. You'll also continue to expand your experience in Aboriginal Health, whilst truly making a difference within the Indigenous communities in Adelaide - Apply Now!



Apply Online
ApplyNow.com.au/job74518



PIUS X ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST EXTERNAL FINANCIAL AUDIT SERVICES

Pius X Aboriginal Corporation, Moree, invited eligible and appropriately Qualified Accountants and Auditors to express interest in providing financial audit services for the period 2016-2019, subject to ongoing satisfactory performance.

Pius X Aboriginal Corporation is a community controlled, not for profit organisation with an annual turnover in excess of \$4m. Funded by the Department of Health, the NSW Ministry of Health, the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Department of Family and Community Services, the service provides for Primary Health Care to the Aboriginal people of the Moree and surrounding districts; childcare services, dental services, substance abuse and mental health services and services to vulnerable families.

Expressions of interest shall contain the following information:

- A summary of experience, qualifications and a list of organisations for whom you have conducted audit work, particularly of similar organisations.
- A business profile of the organisation submitting the expression of interest
- A proposed timeline for the audit work and a statement that the audit will be complete by the required deadline;
- A proposed audit fee; and
- At least 3 references/referees for previous audit work conducted.

Interested organisations should contact
admin@piusx.com.au
for the detailed Terms of Reference.

Submissions of Expressions of Interest to be emailed or delivered to Pius X no later than close of business on
Friday 29th January 2016

NOWRA LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Aboriginal Identified

(Attractive Remuneration Package Negotiable)

The Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council (NLALC) is seeking applications from experienced and motivated people interested in a rewarding career undertaking a new and challenging role of Chief Executive Officer.

This position holder will provide an extensive range of assistance and support to the elected Board through the day-to-day management of the NLALC's affairs in accordance with delegated authorities; the provision of sound and accurate advice and the implementation of the Board's resolutions in a timely and appropriate manner.

The successful applicant will have knowledge and understanding of the ALRA, the capacity to interpret and implement legislation and sound communication skills. Organisational and management experience is essential together with an understanding of accounting practices and principles. A sound knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal issues would also be required.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the Position Description and selection criteria and address the selection criteria for their application to be considered. For a recruitment package contact the Deputy Chairperson Noleen Clarke, on 0432 114 123.

Applications can be forwarded to nowralalc@bigpond.com or marked "Confidential" and posted to:

The Chairperson
Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 528
Nowra NSW 2541

Applications close Friday 20th January 2016

Correctional Officers

A career that changes futures: yours and others

As a Correctional Officer you will be working as part of a team that is responsible for the safe, secure and humane management of prisoners. We are recruiting both experienced and trainee Correctional Officers. Benefits include:

- Salary up to \$72,334 incl. allowances, following training
- Excellent conditions of employment
- Paid training for nationally accredited qualifications
- Up to 7 weeks annual leave

Applications close 24th January, 2016.

To find out more and to apply visit

www.correctionalservices.nt.gov.au/Careers

The NTPS values diversity in the workplace.

Therefore under an approved Special Measures plan, Indigenous applicants will be given priority consideration and preference in selection for this vacancy if they meet all essential selection criteria and are suitable at the level of the position.



Careers with Queensland Health

Manager (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health)

Division of Family and Community Health, Bundaberg, Hervey Bay and Maryborough Hospitals, Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service.

The total remuneration value up to \$128 926 p.a., comprising salary between \$105 291 - \$112 998 p.a., employer contribution to superannuation (up to 12.75%) and annual leave loading (17.5%) (A07) (Applications will remain current for twelve months)

Duties / Abilities: Improve the patient journey and continuity of care by leading positive change and optimising the delivery of comprehensive, culturally safe and coordinated health services including service planning, coordinated care planning of referral pathways across the continuum of care, and all entry and exit points into and out of the hospital facilities. Contribute to improved health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by increasing the cultural competence of the hospital and health service workforce.

Enquiries: Stephen Bell 0407 026 418.

Job Ad Reference: H1512WB201416

Application Kit: (07) 4150 2066 or www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Monday, 25 January 2016.

You can apply online at www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au

A criminal history check may be conducted on the recommended person for the job.
A non-smoking policy applies to Queensland Government buildings, offices and motor vehicles.



I can influence positive changes towards the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people in South Australia. My cultural knowledge and life experience will help to break down barriers and improve an understanding of the challenges facing Aboriginal people. At SA Health, my career is varied and diverse, enabling me to do truly meaningful and interesting work.

Social Worker

Women's & Children's Health Network
Elizabeth
Job Ref: 578431

Community Nurse

Women's & Children's Health Network
Metropolitan Youth Health
Job Ref: 570004

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers
1300 882 992



Blaze083750



Australian
National
University

FELLOW or SENIOR FELLOW

The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research
ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences
\$110,611 - \$141,336 pa plus 17% superannuation
Work type: Continuing
Reference: 507568

The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) invites applications for the position of **Fellow or Senior Fellow (Academic Level C or D)** to carry out social science research on Australian Indigenous policy that is of the highest international and disciplinary standard and informs intellectual understanding, public debate, policy formation and social action.

The area of specialisation is open but we are looking for a colleague who will complement the Centre's existing disciplinary mix which includes anthropology, economics, political science and development studies.

We are seeking someone with high level quantitative and/or qualitative skills, a strong record of publications in peer-reviewed books, journals and policy-focused reports, plus a demonstrated capacity to build strong relationships with Indigenous communities and organisations, researchers, and policy makers.

The successful candidate will also have demonstrated success in applying for competitive grants and carrying out commissioned research. CAEPR is a highly collaborative research environment and we are seeking a colleague with commitment to this research philosophy. We would particularly welcome applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

For details and to apply: anu.edu.au/jobs
Closing Date: Sunday, 31 January 2016

Enquiries: Denise Steele
T: 02 6125 2053
E: denise.steele@anu.edu.au

CCOS#00120C



POLICY OFFICER

Full time position. 12 month contract, possible ongoing.

Location: Canberra, ACT

Salary range: \$78,000 – \$84,000 per annum, plus superannuation and salary sacrifice.

Closing date: COB 3 February 2016

AIDA's ultimate goal is to reach population parity in the medical profession of Indigenous doctors, and to inform and support a culturally safe health care system.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

Duty statement and selection criteria online: www.aida.org.au/our-work/vacancies

Enquiries: jobs@aida.org.au

Public Interest Advocacy Centre

SENIOR SOLICITOR

Indigenous Justice Program
2 year contract

PIAC is an independent, non-profit law and policy centre that seeks to promote a just and democratic society by taking strategic action on public interest issues.

PIAC is seeking a Senior Solicitor to identify, develop and undertake public interest litigation and casework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients in PIAC's key strategic areas, including policing and detention, equality and discrimination and promoting accountable government. The role will also contribute towards legal and systemic advocacy to influence law reform and develop high-quality public policy to achieve improved social justice outcomes for Indigenous clients and communities.

This is a challenging and rewarding position requiring strong legal, writing and communication skills and experience in working with Indigenous people and communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

Further inquiries should be directed to Deirdre Moor or Alexis Goodstone on (02) 8898 6500. All applications must address the selection criteria included in the position description that can be downloaded at <http://www.piac.asn.au/about/careers>.

Applications close 5pm on Monday 8 February 2016.



Producers Speaking Out Radio Program

Please note: these vacancies
are open only to Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander applicants

ABC Radio currently has two Producer opportunities available in Sydney.

Were looking for creative and motivated Producers for ABC Radio's weekly program 'Speaking Out' focussing on Indigenous politics, news, culture and issues.

You will research, record and create cross media content for the new one-hour program hosted by Larissa Behrendt.

For details visit abc.net.au/careers

GT19092

Communications & Promotions Officer (Tobacco) Adelaide, SA

- * Enjoy fantastic work/life balance with generous leave entitlements!
- * Attractive remuneration package of \$63,777 - \$67,978 based on skills and experience, PLUS super and salary sacrifice!
- * Enjoy the convenience of working in Adelaide's CBD!



Nunkuwarrin Yunti have an exciting opportunity for a Communications & Promotions Officer (Tobacco) to join their friendly team in Adelaide, SA, on a full-time basis.

Reporting to the Team Manager, this position will see you assisting with the development and implementation of a number of culturally appropriate health promotion initiatives aimed at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, to encourage a movement towards a smoke-free lifestyle.

By joining the supportive Nunkuwarrin Yunti team, you will receive career and personal growth opportunities, through working within a multicultural workforce, and ongoing professional development and training. The benefits of working for South Australia's largest Aboriginal primary healthcare service will become apparent as you experience genuine opportunities to advance your career within the organisation!

Don't miss this chance to make a real difference within the community of South Australia - Apply Now!



Apply Online
ApplyNow.com.au/job74519

Senior HR Consultant (Aboriginal Employment)

Human Resource Services

Reference No: 215126

For further information and to apply visit:
www.une.edu.au/jobs-at-une

Equity principles underpin all UNE policies and procedures



Aboriginal Health Worker/Practitioner Carnarvon, WA

- * Fantastic opp. to join a well established org. making a real difference in Aboriginal health!
- * Great salary package + salary sacrifice!
- * Stunning coastal town location!



Great opportunity for an experienced **Aboriginal Health Worker / Practitioner** to be responsible for actively contributing to the delivery of clinical services in a supportive, quality, effective and efficient manner to meet the health care needs of the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Unmissable opportunity to join a fantastic organisation in improving mental health outcomes within remote Aboriginal communities. **Apply Now!**



Apply Online
applynow.net.au/jobs/74457

Aboriginal AOD Worker (Male) Bega, NSW

- * Excellent remuneration of \$57,786 - \$65,119 plus salary sacrifice options, mobile and laptop!
- * Enjoy real job security in the healthcare sector and make a difference to local Aboriginal communities!



The Lyndon Community has a fantastic opportunity for a full-time **Male Aboriginal AOD Worker** to join the Wandama Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Service in Bega. Reporting to the Program Manager, you will deliver drug and alcohol services and programs to Aboriginal individuals, families, groups and communities on the south coast.

You'll be rewarded with an attractive remuneration package circa \$57,786 - \$65,119 based on experience, PLUS salary packaging, a mobile, and a laptop!



Apply Online
ApplyNow.net.au/Job74579



Health
Western NSW
Local Health District

Administration Officer (Aboriginal Trainee)

Classification: Training Wage/Trainee Year 10 Level A or Trainee Year 12 Level A

Salary: Dependent on Qualifications

Employment Status: Temporary Full-Time
(up to 31/01/2017)

Location: Dubbo

Enquiries: Lauren Nott, (02) 6841 2217

Email: lauren.nott@health.nsw.gov.au

Reference Number: 296724

Closing Date: 20 January 2016

Please apply online by visiting:
ynotmakeityou.com.au
(click on *Our Vacancies*)

Z08229

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



Justice
Juvenile Justice

Juvenile Justice Caseworker, Community Office

Clerk Grade 6/7
Ongoing Full-Time (Aboriginal Identified)
Lismore

Salary Range \$83,022 pa – \$90,646 pa, plus employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading

Role description:

Front line delivery functions of a community office, providing a quality range of externally and internally sourced services to youth justice conferencing clients, victims of crime, court mandated young people and their families, as part of a multi-disciplined team.

The primary focus is to reduce re-offending of young people and enhance their functioning and reintegration into their families and the community.

Aboriginal Identified, "An applicant's race is a genuine occupational qualification and authorised by Section 14(d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*".

To apply, please visit jobs.nsw.gov.au
Reference: 00004597

Enquiries: Jodie Scott on (02) 6643 5674

Closing date: Sunday, 24 January 2016

Z08217



THE SALVATION ARMY
crisis services

Access Health

The following opportunity exists to join a highly motivated and innovative team of professionals at Access Health. Access Health is a Primary Health Service for people who street sex work, inject drugs or experience homelessness.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Care Coordinator

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm (Flexible working arrangements are available).
This is a fixed term contract position until 30th June, 2016.

Position Purpose:

The health status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people continues to fall well below that of the non-Indigenous community. Indicators of health, (such as poverty, family violence, social dislocation, homelessness and substance use) combined with diminished access to culturally relevant primary health care contribute to this.

The Commonwealth is contributing \$805.5 million over 4 years for an Indigenous Chronic Disease Package that aims to reduce chronic disease risk factors and assist with earlier detection and management of chronic disease in primary care, including more and better coordinated follow-up services for at-risk patients. The Care Coordination & Supplementary Services (CCSS) is one of the measures under the package that seeks to improve access to chronic disease management and follow-up services.

Access Health, in partnership with Inner South Community Health, has been funded by the South Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network (SEMPHN) to deliver the care coordination function of CCSS. The care coordination function involves working collaboratively with clients, general practices, allied health and Aboriginal-controlled services to broker access to services that help facilitate patient self-management of their chronic condition, to achieve optimal health outcomes.

Depending on the qualifications of the successful applicant the position will be employed by:

- The Salvation Army Crisis Services under the Social, Community, Home Care & Disability Services Industry Award 2010 - Social & Community Services Stream Level 5 Pay Point 3; Or
- The Salvation Army Crisis Services in partnership with Inner South Community Health under the Nurses and Midwives (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2012-2016, Registered Nurse, Division 1, Grade 3B.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

All applicants are required to complete The Salvation Army Crisis Services Employment Application Form including a response to the key selection criteria, and submit together with a covering letter and curriculum vitae. The relevant documents are available on the jobseeker.org.au and ethicaljobs.com.au websites.

This position is subject to the satisfactory completion of Police Check and a Working with Children Check. All applicants must hold a Victorian Driver's licence during the period of employment.

Applications should be received by 5:00pm Monday 18th January, 2015, via email paul.bourke@aus.salvationarmy.org, or addressed to "Health Services Management" The Salvation Army Crisis Services, PO Box 2027, St Kilda VIC 3182.

Paul Bourke will be available for enquiries from 11th January, 2016 on 9536 7780 or paul.bourke@aus.salvationarmy.org.



SPECIAL CONSTABLE (SECURITY)

Aboriginal targeted position
Security Management Unit
Counter Terrorism & Special Tactics
Various Metropolitan locations
Permanent Full-Time
Jobs.NSW Requisition No.0000455H

Salary Package: \$49,063. Salary: Package includes salary (\$940.30 – \$974.90) per week), employer's contribution to superannuation, shift loading (\$62.60) and weekend loading (\$176.90).

Job Description:

Special Constables provide security services to assist in ensuring a safe and secure work environment for personnel, property and information at selected NSW Police Force and external agency establishments/buildings. The position is accountable to Senior Special Constables.

- Provide safety and security services to NSW Police Force and External Agency sites and facilities as directed.
- Respond to all breaches of safety and security including the monitoring of alarm systems and investigate when activated taking the appropriate action.
- Provide Customer Service and reception duties for various sites within the metropolitan area.
- Report any suspicious activity to the Shift Supervisor, Field Supervisor, Coordinator or local police.
- Perform security duties in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures.
- Prepare and submit reports relating to disturbances and other incidents.
- Carry a firearm and associated appointments and undertake the necessary training.
- Assist with evacuation procedures in cases of an emergency.
- Perform other security services in support of police events and incidents across NSW.

Job Notes:

- Applications will only be accepted electronically via the Jobs.NSW website.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Satisfy the criteria of Aboriginality
- Be of an acceptable health standard, capable of excessive periods of standing
- Have a current First Aid Certificate (or equivalent)

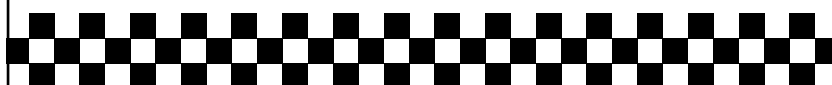
For your application to be considered, you must:

- Scan, upload and submit all requested documentation with your application.
- Address each of the selection criteria using the text boxes provided in the online application or by attaching a document addressing each of the selection criteria to your application.
- Provide three (3) references.
- It is a requirement to obtain and maintain a security clearance as determined by the NSW Police Force at the level appropriate to the position held and/or information/data accessed.
- Successful applicants will be subject to a rigorous National Police Check (criminal history) prior to commencement.

Enquiries: SMURecruitment@police.nsw.gov.au

For the selection criteria, a full downloadable position description, information package and to apply, please go to Jobs.NSW (www.jobs.nsw.gov.au) and search for Requisition Number 0000455H

Closing Date: SUNDAY 24 JANUARY 2016



Z08274

Team Support & Support Workers

Work Type: Full Time

Location: Newcastle and Lake Macquarie, NSW

These positions are Aboriginal identified.

We are seeking applications from enthusiastic and suitably experienced people to join the HWNS team within our Hunter Region Aboriginal Services for the positions of Team Support and Support Workers.

If you have a passion for supporting the human rights of people with disabilities, we look forward to receiving your application.

For information on these roles and on how to apply, please visit our website www.hwms.com.au

HWNS is an EEO employer. The role is an Aboriginal identified position under Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).



Passionate about helping children & families?

At Interrelate, we have been delivering quality relationship services to individuals, couples, families and schools since 1926.

We are seeking experienced **Relationship Counsellors, part-time or full time in Orange** to provide counselling to individuals or couples, facilitate group seminars and conduct case planning. Permanent full-time or part-time (22.5 or 37.5 hpw) roles are available, negotiable after interview.

We offer competitive salary packaging arrangements and support your professional development through supervision and mentoring. Join a team making a real difference in the community for children, young people and families.

To view the full position requirements, key criteria and to apply, go to

www.interrelate.org.au/careers

Applications close: 5pm
Monday 25 January 2016

All positions require satisfactory completion of a National Police check and NSW Working with Children Check

Respect | Equity | Leadership | Accountability | Transparency | Empowerment

Department of Justice and Regulation

Great opportunities within the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre



The Dame Phyllis Frost Centre (DPFC) is a 340 bed medium-to-maximum security facility for female offenders located within Melbourne's western suburbs.

Team Leader – Records and Property

- Ongoing, full-time position
- Salary range \$60,551 - \$73,521 plus superannuation

In this role, you will supervise a team in the delivery of all administrative functions pertaining to records and property, including the maintenance of accurate data of prisoner property and records and the preparation of all documentation relating to a prisoner's transfer, classification, release or court appearances.

As our ideal candidate, you will have demonstrated experience in or understanding of working and managing staff within a correctional environment. You will have excellent interpersonal and stakeholder management skills to achieve team goals.

Justice Officer – Records and Property

- Ongoing, full-time position
- Salary range \$46,143 - \$59,255 plus superannuation

As the Justice Officer – Records and Property, you will maintain accurate data of prisoner property and transfer of property to other prisons and undertake accurate investigations of prisoner property claims within a timely manner. You will maintain accurate prisoner records information and provide routine information and advice to staff, management, clients and stakeholders.

To be successful in this role, you will have well-developed computer literacy and excellent stakeholder management skills, with the ability to solve problems based on operational knowledge and experience.

For further information on these positions and to submit your application, please visit careers.vic.gov.au by Sunday 24 January 2016.

Z0680014

SENIOR SOLICITOR



Looking for a change from your hectic lifestyle? Live and work in sunny Townsville.

Townsville boasts the fantastic seaside foreshore promenade known as The Strand. From here you will be able to see Magnetic Island and experience the walkways, beaches, picnic spots, bars and restaurants and also enjoy the free family water park. Townsville is known to have around 320 days of glorious sunshine each year and offers plenty of things to see and do on your days off.

About Us

QIFVLS has recently appointed a new CEO who brings focus and energy to deliver our service to our clients. We are a not-for-profit organisation providing free legal and support services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims of family violence and/or sexual assault.

Part of your role will be attending outreach and visiting the beautiful surroundings of Townsville and its communities whilst making a difference to victims.

We are looking for an experienced, unrestricted solicitor, preferably in the area of family law, who is personable, understanding, respectful, and wants to make a difference. A cultural appreciation/understanding of Indigenous people is essential or having worked previously with Indigenous clients would be advantageous. A willingness to attend cultural training is also favourable.

Some of the benefits you will enjoy when working for us are:

- optional salary sacrifice scheme to increase your take home pay
- 5 weeks paid annual leave
- employee assistance program
- travel to rural and remote Qld with travel allowance
- relaxed office environment
- relocation costs negotiated with the right applicant

For further information, a position description, or to apply to join our dynamic team, send your cover letter and resume to careers@qifvls.com.au by **COB 28 January 2016**.

Aboriginal Liaison Officer
Newman & Jigalong, WA.

- * Excellent remuneration package plus 5 weeks leave & access to the Employee Assistance Program!
- * Join an organisation focused on providing medical services to remote Aboriginal communities!



Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service is currently seeking a highly motivated **Aboriginal Liaison Officer** to join their team working across Newman, Jigalong, Parnngurr, Punmu, and Kunawarrtji, in WA.

You'll be working closely with Patient Journey Transport Officers and medical teams to coordinate patient transport and accommodation options for clients, ensuring culturally appropriate arrangements are in place.

You'll be rewarded with an **attractive remuneration package based on skills and experience, PLUS 5 weeks annual leave and career advancement opportunities!**

EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

Apply Online
ApplyNow.net.au/Job74666



Aboriginal Employment Strategy Ltd

CAREER RECRUITMENT OFFICER CAMPBELLTOWN

Core elements of the role include:

- Interviewing, assessing and referring Aboriginal career seekers into a career and training.
- Develop and implement employment career action plans
- Networking with community organisations and local businesses to generate new career opportunities
- Preparation and coaching of Aboriginal career seekers

Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrated ability to successfully engage with Aboriginal people and communities
- Proven track record in delivering tangible outcomes for Aboriginal people
- Highly developed time management skills
- Ability to work autonomously and as part of a team
- Proficiency in MS Office suite including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to work to compliance processes
- A valid driver's license
- Working with children's check

Desirable Criteria:

- Experience in Employment Services Industry

Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply.

Applications close 5:00pm on Monday 25 January 2016

Please forward written applications addressing the selection criteria and a copy of your CV to
Email: loretta.roberts@aes.org.au

For further information
please call Loretta Roberts on 02 4621 5900

For all your advertising needs email: advertising@koorimail.com or call 02 6622 2666



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Families As First Educators Project Manager

Catholic Education Western Australia is the second largest education provider in the state, catering for more than 77,000 students from Kununurra to Esperance and employing more than 11,000 people in 163 schools.

We are currently seeking an experienced professional for the role of **Project Manager for the Families As First Educators program**. The successful candidate will be based in Broome, will be required to travel, and will work in partnership with the Perth based Project Manager and Early Years Learning and Care Team.

To be considered for this exceptional opportunity, candidates must have highly developed communication skills, a commitment to developing positive relationships, and demonstrated experience in both project management and early childhood education.

Aboriginality is a pre-requisite for the role under Section 50D of the WA Equal Opportunity Act.

Catholic Education offers a range of excellent employee benefits including a competitive salary, location allowance and the opportunity to salary package.

All relevant information and documentation can be found on the CEO website <http://employment.ceo.wa.edu.au>

Applications close no later than **4pm Monday, 25 January 2016**.

Looking for a meaningful new role?



Area Manager Hunter, Permanent

The **Benevolent Society** provides a range of child, family and community programs for the local community. To better meet the needs of our clients we have a senior management position vacant that will manage our service delivery/programs in the Hunter area including Upper and Lower Hunter and the Port Stephens area.

Reporting to the Regional Director, you will be responsible for the development and performance of these services to deliver outcomes focused, strengths based practice. You will be actively involved in community engagement and developing networks with all relevant partners including the local Aboriginal Community.

TBS has a demonstrated commitment to providing a culturally safe environment through our Reconciliation Action Plan and a regional Aboriginal Staff Reference Group. For more information, including the Position Description, please go to www.benevolent.org.au/jobs

Email applications to CCHMNCRecruitment@benevolent.org.au. For enquires call Robyn Blackwell on 02 4922 6506.

Closing date 27th January 2016.

Join our passionate team and make a real difference

The Benevolent Society is a not-for-profit and non-religious organisation and we've helped people, families and communities achieve positive change since 1813.

CLIENT SUPPORT OFFICER



Looking for a change from your hectic lifestyle? Live and work in sunny Townsville.

Townsville boasts the fantastic seaside foreshore promenade known as The Strand. From here you will be able to see Magnetic Island and experience the walkways, beaches, picnic spots, bars and restaurants and also enjoy the free family water park. Townsville is known to have around 320 days of glorious sunshine each year and offers plenty of things to see and do on your days off.

About Us

Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service is a not-for-profit community based family violence prevention legal service that offers legal, practical support and casework services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims and/or survivors of Family Violence and Sexual Assault.

QIFVLS has recently appointed a new CEO who brings focus and energy to deliver our service to our clients. Part of your role will be attending outreach and visiting the beautiful surroundings of Townsville and it's communities whilst making a difference to Indigenous victims of Family Violence and/or Sexual Assault.

We have a vacancy for a Client Support Officer. Your duties will include:

- Assisting legal staff in providing a service that is culturally sensitive and responsive to the needs of our clients
- Liaising with clients and our Solicitors in the provision of casework support, legal documentation and referrals
- File management duties to assist legal staff to focus on delivering legal services
- Ensuring client confidentiality is maintained at all times
- Networking and liaising with relevant community organisations to promote and target service delivery effectively and appropriately
- Organising and delivering culturally appropriate community education programs

We are looking for a person who is engaging, professional, organised, respectful, and possesses excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Some of the benefits you will enjoy when working with us include:

- 5 weeks annual leave
- Travel to rural and remote Qld with travel allowance
- Access to Employee Assistance Program
- Optional tax-free salary sacrifice scheme to increase your take home pay
- Relaxed office environment

Please note this is an identified Indigenous position.

For further information, a position description, or to apply to join our dynamic team, send your cover letter and resume to careers@qifvls.com.au by **COB 28 January 2016**.

ABORIGINAL MEDICAL SERVICE

Proudly serving our community since 1971



Aboriginal Health Workers

Various roles focusing on general, mental and sexual (female) health which will work collaboratively with the nurses, GP's and other health workers in delivery of primary health care and psycho-social needs.

- Full time or Part-time
- Certificate IV in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care or willingness to obtain
- Experience in or knowledge of ACCHO's
- Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1997.

Chronic Care Clinical Nurse Consultant

The CNC position will be responsible for co-ordinating multidisciplinary care and services. The CNC assists with care coordination functions in accordance with patient's care plan.

- Full-time
- Proven clinical leadership skills and an ability to work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary framework
- Strong knowledge of ACCHO's and other Aboriginal Primary Health Care services
- Ability to provide culturally safe care

Psychologist

Provision of high quality, consumer-focussed, evidence based psychological services to improve social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal People. Desirable focus on Child Health

- Part-time (hours negotiable)
- Tertiary qualifications
- APHRA Registration
- Sound knowledge of social, cultural, political and health issues affecting Aboriginal people, families and communities

We can offer you attractive remuneration & benefits including great Salary Packaging options and an inner city location easily accessible by public transport.

For a full Position Description or to apply please contact Workforce Services at the AMS via email at recruitment@amsredfern.org.au



Premier and Cabinet

Manager, Ancestral Remains Unit (OFFICE OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS VICTORIA)

The Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (OAAV) takes a co-ordinated end to end approach to deliver the Victorian Government's agenda for Aboriginal policy reform, community strengthening and engagement and cultural heritage management and protection. The OAAV works with Victorian Aboriginal communities and other partners to lead the whole of government reform strategy to improve the lives of Aboriginal Victorians. It is also responsible for the effective implementation of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and the *Aboriginal Lands Act 1970*.

This role will lead and manage a new team that will oversee all work relating to Ancestral Remains on behalf of the Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. This small team will work closely with key staff in the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council, Registered Aboriginal Parties and Traditional Owner Organisations across Victoria.

The successful applicant will demonstrate:

- The ability to lead and manage complex and sensitive work relating to the repatriation and in situ protection and management of Ancestral Remains;
- Ability to provide sound strategic advice taking the broader context and environment into account; and
- Outstanding leadership, management, communication and interpersonal skills.

Only Aboriginal Australians and Torres Strait Islanders are eligible to apply as this position is exempt under the Special Measures Provision, Section 12 (1) of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)

Closing date for applications: 28 January 2016

For further information, including a detailed position description, and to apply online visit www.careers.vic.gov.au (position reference 1194358). All applications should include a cover letter addressing the key selection criteria which should not exceed a total of 3 pages.

The department promotes diversity and equal opportunity in employment and is committed to a more diverse workforce.

Z0541158

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Engagement and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership

Executive Assistant

Ref No. 1988/15

Parramatta Campus

Full-Time, Ongoing Position

*****This is an identified position and applicants must be an Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander person. Being an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person is a genuine occupational qualification as authorised under Section 14(D) of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977 NSW.*****

Are you an organised, communicative and highly-motivated individual with an aptitude for challenges and success? Then this opportunity may be one for you! Western Sydney University is looking to recruit an Executive Assistant to the Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (Engagement and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership).

The Executive Assistant will be responsible for managing all aspects of the PVC's private office. If successful, you will provide confidential administration and executive support, including:

- extensive diary management including; meetings, teleconferences, travel and events;
- producing minutes, briefing notes, presentations, agendas, and other correspondence as required;
- managing financial tasks and travel arrangements;
- screening telephone calls and enquiries, and maintaining effective document filing;
- providing general human resources support and develop, manage and maintain administrative systems.

To fulfil these vital tasks, you will possess the following:

- experience in providing administrative support at an executive level in a busy environment;
- highly developed administrative skills, including computer literacy and excellent attention to detail;
- excellent organisational skills with a record of organising priorities to meet deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- highly-developed analytical, research, problem-solving and communication skills;
- demonstrated ability to work efficiently both independently and as a member of a team.

If you think you have the necessary disposition and qualifications to fulfil this role, we encourage you to apply to join our team.

This position is based at the Parramatta Campus.

Remuneration Package: Higher Education Worker Level 6 \$85,033 to \$91,177 p.a., (comprising Salary \$71,854 to \$77,046 p.a., plus 17% Superannuation and Leave Loading).

Position Enquiries: Talita Ottoson, (02) 9683 8116 or email: t.ottoson@westernsydney.edu.au

Closing Date: 31 January 2016

Full details on how to apply for these positions can be found at our website. Western Sydney University values workplace diversity.



WESTERNSYDNEY.EDU.AU/VACANCIES

EXCITING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT SNAICC



Are you passionate and committed to working with and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, families and communities?

The Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care is growing and we are seeking experienced and dedicated people for the following positions:

- **Chief Executive Officer** to provide strong leadership and play a key role in building the future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families
- **Senior Policy Officer** to support SNAICC's policy outcomes by enhancing the research and policy development capacity of the organisation (Brisbane based)
- **Organisational Services Coordinator** to manage internal organisational areas including: administration, human resources and our student and intern program (0.6)

- **Senior Training Administrator** to support the development and delivery of training programs in the early years and/or child & family welfare sectors
- **Training and Resource Officer** to contribute to the delivery of current SNAICC training programs for staff in the early childhood and child and family welfare sectors

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

For more information and to apply please visit www.snaicc.org.au or call (03) 94898099



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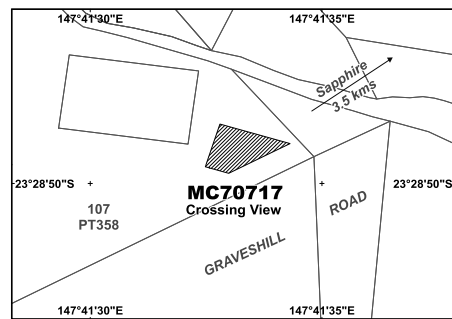


NOTICE OF PROPOSED RENEWAL AND GRANT OF MINING CLAIMS

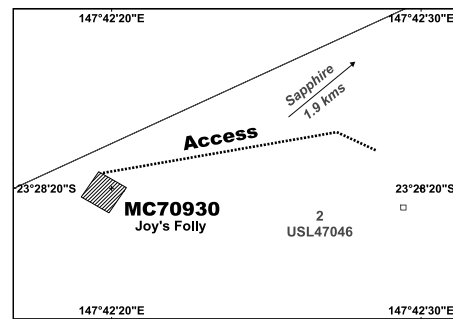
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) of the proposed renewal of MC70717, MC70930, MC71037, MC71051, MC71129, MC71132, MC71237, MC71291, MC71316, MC71319, MC71320, MC71326, MC71347, MC71348, MC71356, MC71358, MC71360 and MC71362 and grant of MC300047 and MC300050 shown below under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

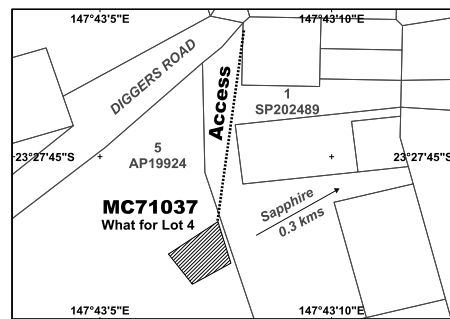
Mining Claim 70717 renewal sought by Susan Rose Middleton, over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 3.5 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



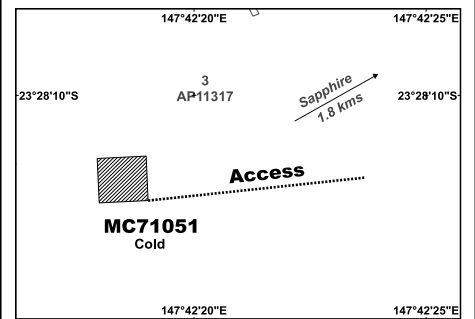
Mining Claim 70930 renewal sought by Sophira Milley Byrnes, over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 1.9 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



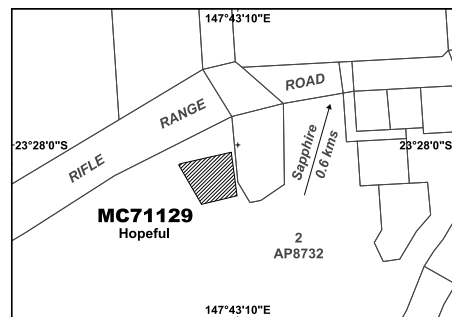
Mining Claim 71037 renewal sought by Karen Anne Hadgkiss, over an area of 854 m² centred approximately 0.3 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



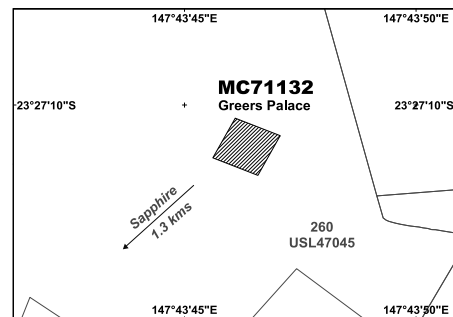
Mining Claim 71051 renewal sought by Morgana Starwolf, over an area of 895 m² centred approximately 0.3 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



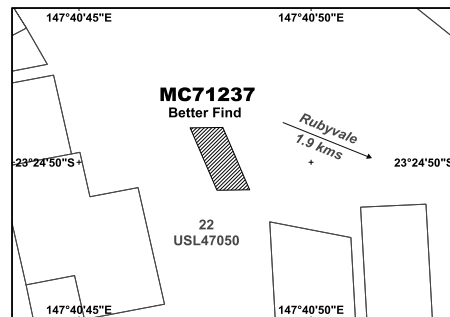
Mining Claim 71129 renewal sought by Sylvester Augustus Liddane, over an area of 826 m² centred approximately 0.6 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council



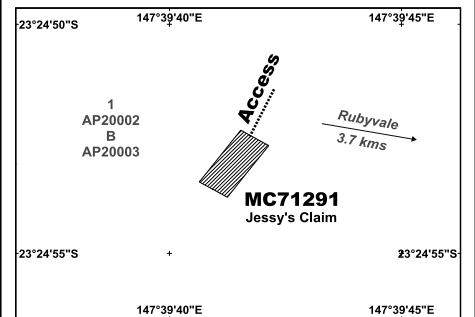
Mining Claim 71132 renewal sought by Neale Reginald Greer, over an area of 898 m² centred approximately 1.3 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



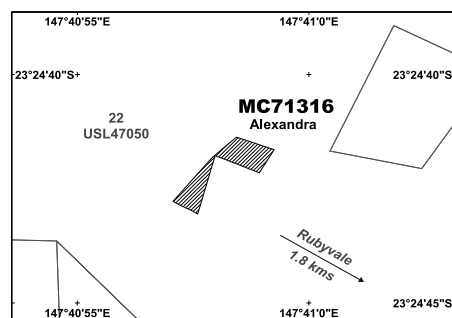
Mining Claim 71237 renewal sought by Colleen Bergin, over an area of 843 m² centred approximately 1.9 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



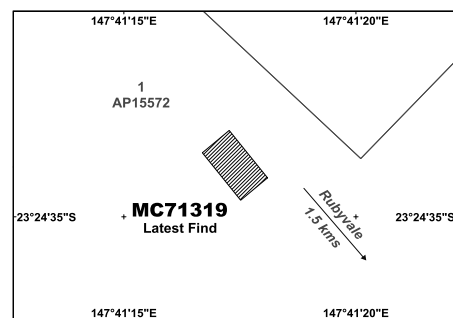
Mining Claim 71291 renewal sought by Gregg Edward Smith, over an area of 857 m² centred approximately 3.7 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



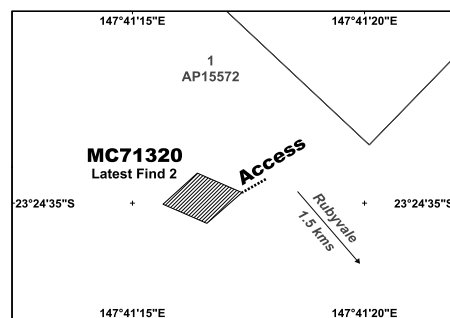
Mining Claim 71316 renewal sought by John Leighton Watson, over an area of 820 m² centred approximately 1.8 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



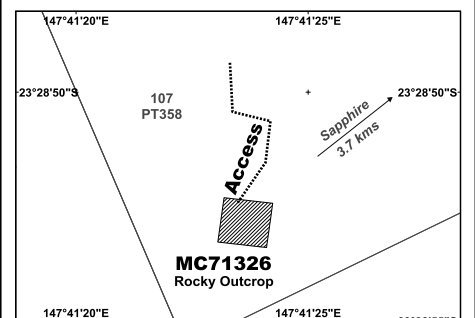
Mining Claim 71319 renewal sought by James Bryon Buhlmann, over an area of 876 m² centred approximately 1.5 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



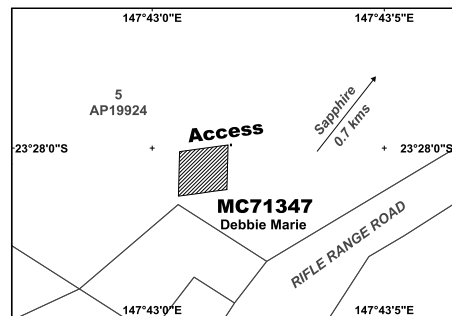
Mining Claim 71320 renewal sought by James Bryon Buhlmann, over an area of 839 m² centred approximately 1.5 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



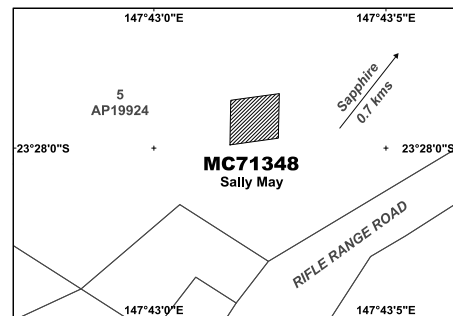
Mining Claim 71326 renewal sought by Mark Fajdiga, over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 3.7 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



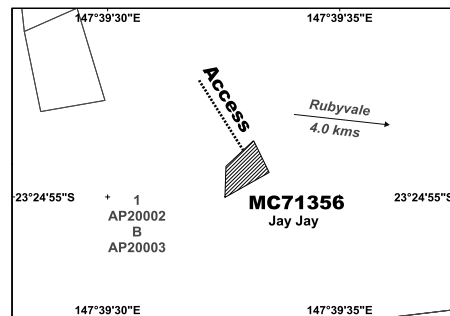
Mining Claim 71347 renewal sought by Janice May Lynette Ross, over an area of 886 m² centred approximately 0.7 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



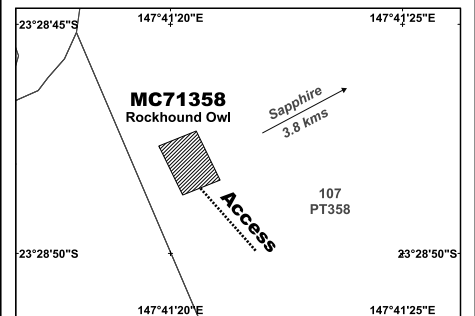
Mining Claim 71348 renewal sought by Janice May Lynette Ross, over an area of 886 m² centred approximately 0.7 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



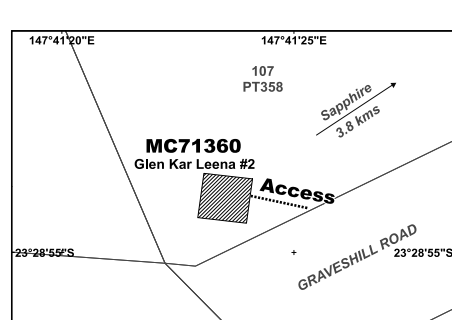
Mining Claim 71356 renewal sought by Ilona Marion Elstob, over an area of 540 m² centred approximately 4.0 km West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



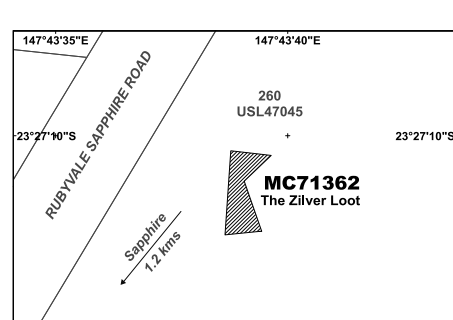
Mining Claim 71358 renewal sought by Roderick Neil Byron, over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 3.8 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



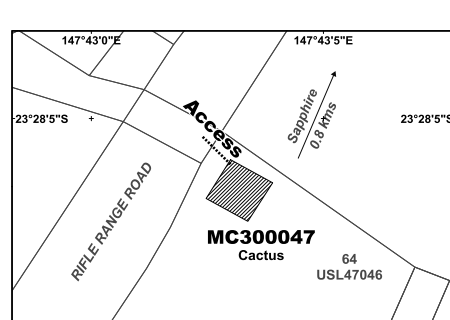
Mining Claim 71360 renewal sought by Tracy Lee Frances Morgan, over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 3.8 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



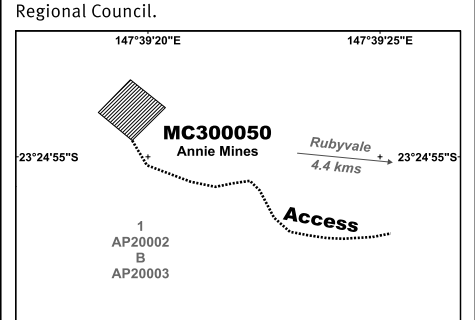
Mining Claim 71362 renewal sought by Anneke Souilljee, over an area of 897 m² centred approximately 1.2 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



Mining Claim 300047 sought by Glen Richard Isaac, over an area of 897 m² centred approximately 0.8 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



Mining Claim 300050 sought by Issaac Scott Hughes (50%) and Zoe Renee Allen (50%), over an area of 840 m² centred approximately 4.4 km West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



Nature of Act(s): The renewal or grant of Mining Claims under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), authorises the holder to mine and carry out associated activities subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), for a term not exceeding ten (10) years, with the possibility of renewal for a term not exceeding ten (10) years.

Name and address of person doing acts: It is proposed that the Mining Claims be renewed or granted subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources & Mines, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

Further Information: Further information about the proposed renewal or grant of Mining Claims, including extract of plans showing the boundaries of the Mining Claim Renewals or Applications may be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Principal Mining Registrar, Small Scale Mining Hub, State Government Offices, 99 Hospital Road, Emerald, Queensland 4720, Telephone: (07) 4987 9373.

Native Title Parties: Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) any person who is a "native title party" is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed renewal or grant of Mining Claims. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au

Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000, Telephone: (07) 3307 5000 or 1800 640 501.

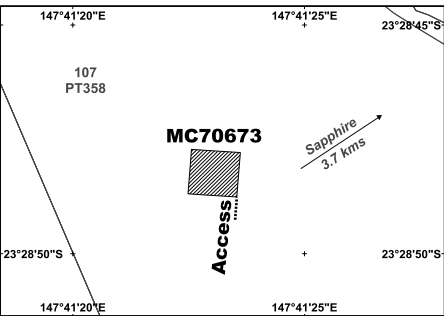
Notification Day: 17 February 2016

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RENEWAL AND GRANT OF MINING CLAIMS

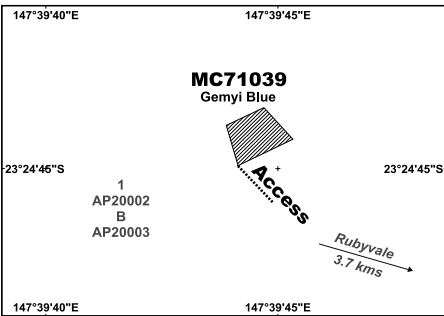
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (Cth) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) of the proposed renewal of MC70673, MC71039, MC71040, MC71241, MC71293, MC71332, MC71333, MC71336, MC71346, MC71392, MC71402, MC71432, MC71436 and MC72136 and grant of MC300055, MC300056, MC300057, MC300058, MC300061 and MC300062 shown below under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

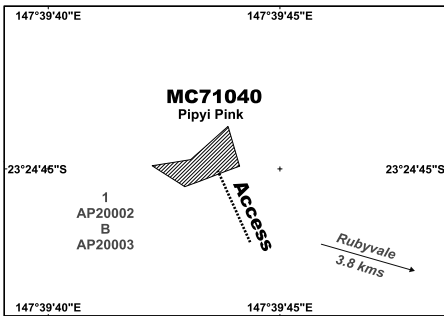
Mining Claim 70673 renewal sought by Lynda Jennifer Richards (50%) and Mr Paul Stevens (50%), over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 3.7 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



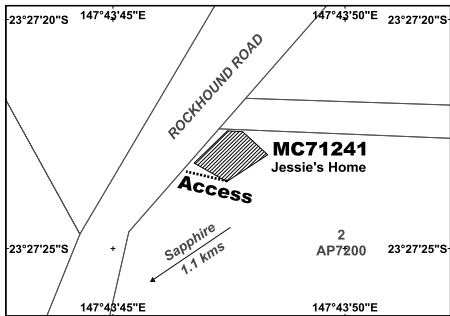
Mining Claim 71039 renewal sought by Peter John Sawyer, over an area of 869 m² centred approximately 3.7 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



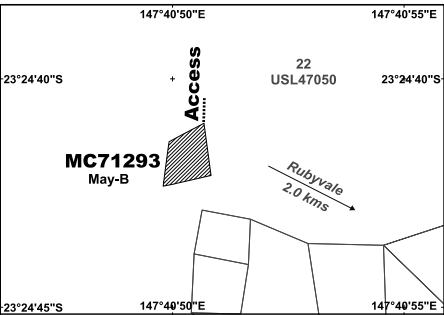
Mining Claim 71040 renewal sought by Peter John Sawyer, over an area of 875 m² centred approximately 3.8 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



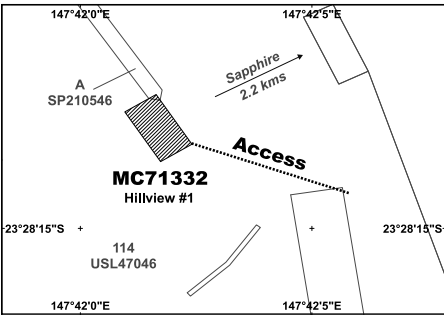
Mining Claim 71241 renewal sought by Robyn Marie Paulsen, over an area of 832 m² centred approximately 1.1 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



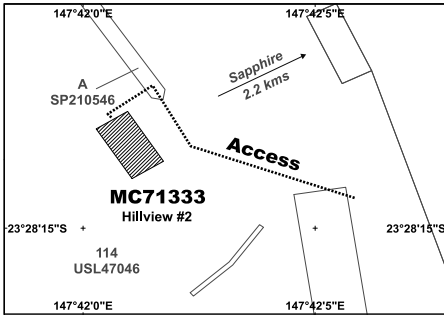
Mining Claim 71293 renewal sought by Neville Edwin Vinall, over an area of 833 m² centred approximately 2.0 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



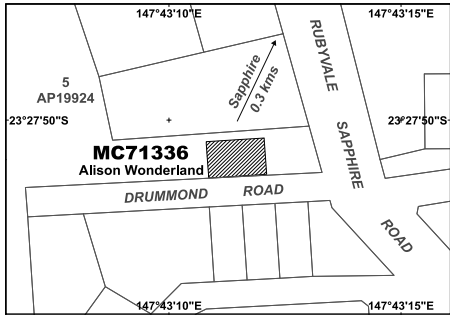
Mining Claim 71332 renewal sought by Ross Peter Jameson, over an area of 899 m² centred approximately 2.2 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



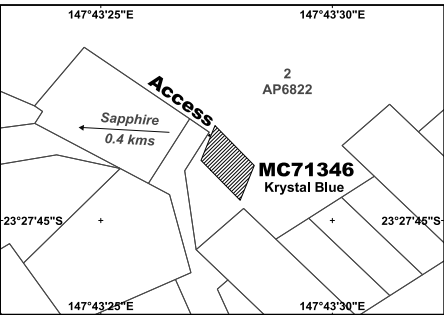
Mining Claim 71333 renewal sought by Ross Peter Jameson, over an area of 899 m² centred approximately 2.2 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



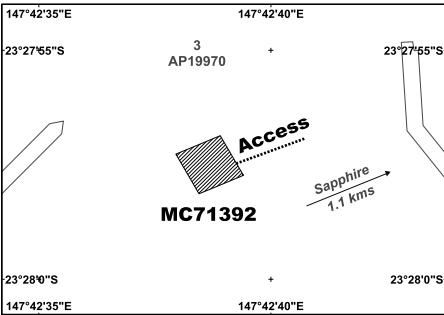
Mining Claim 71336 renewal sought by Susan Lilian Ansford (50%) and Bevan Ansford (50%), over an area of 870 m² centred approximately 0.3 km South West of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



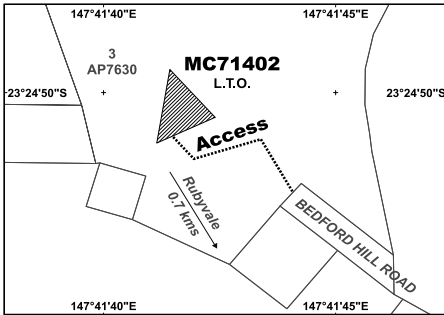
Mining Claim 71346 renewal sought by Sandra Elizabeth Read, over an area of 795 m² centred approximately 0.4 km East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



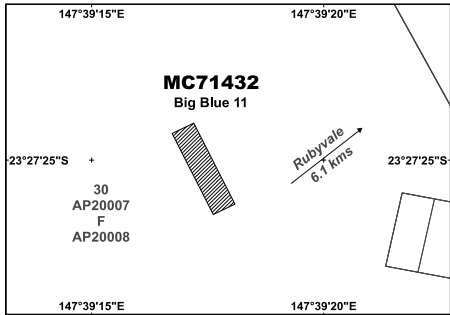
Mining Claim 71392 renewal sought by Neil Thomas McDuff (50%) and Sally Ann McDuff (50%), over an area of 899 m² centred approximately 1.1 km South West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



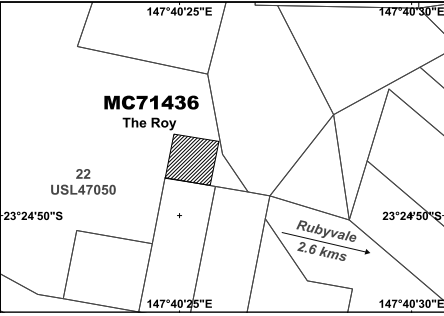
Mining Claim 71402 renewal sought by Ronald Jeffrey McIntosh (50%) and Melva Joy Rayner (50%), over an area of 812 m² centred approximately 0.7 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



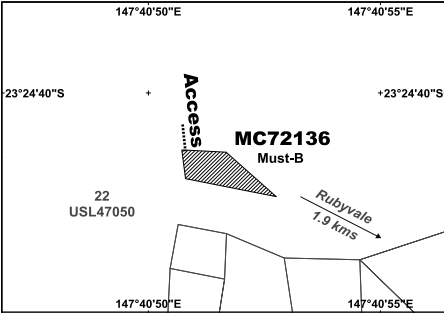
Mining Claim 71432 renewal sought by Phillip John Warren, over an area of 896 m² centred approximately 6.1 km South West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



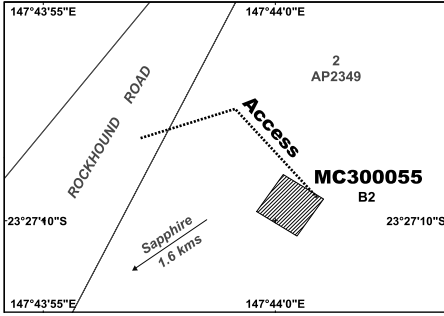
Mining Claim 71436 renewal sought by James Allan Gadd, over an area of 840 m² centred approximately 2.6 km West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



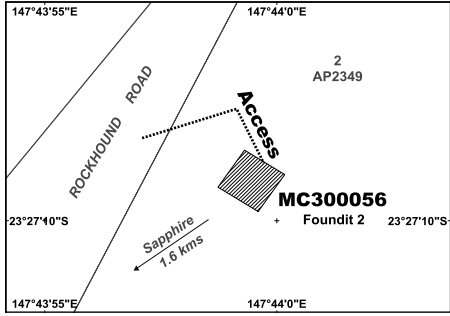
Mining Claim 72136 renewal sought by Neville Edwin Vinall (50%) and Yvonne Elizabeth Vinall (50%), over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 1.9 km North West of Rubyvale, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



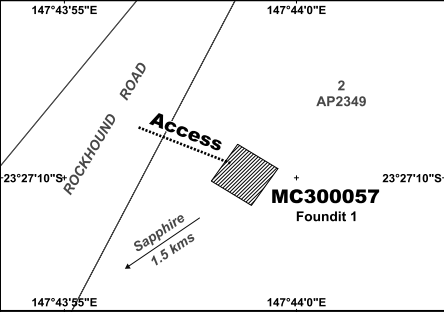
Mining Claim 300055 sought by Beverley Anne Allwood, over an area of 879 m² centred approximately 1.6 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



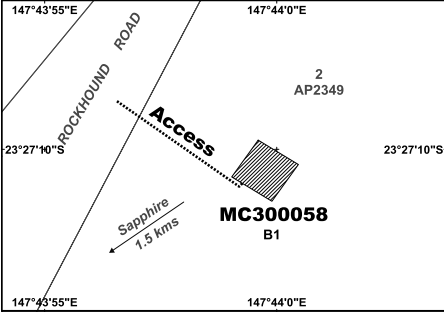
Mining Claim 300056 sought by Edward John Allwood, over an area of 879 m² centred approximately 1.6 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



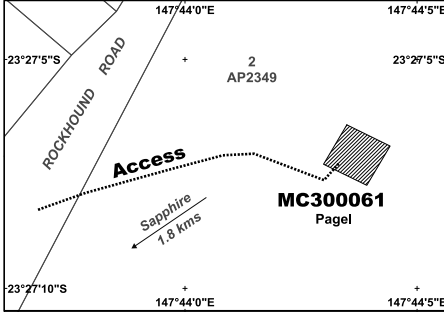
Mining Claim 300057 sought by Edward John Allwood, over an area of 870 m² centred approximately 1.5 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



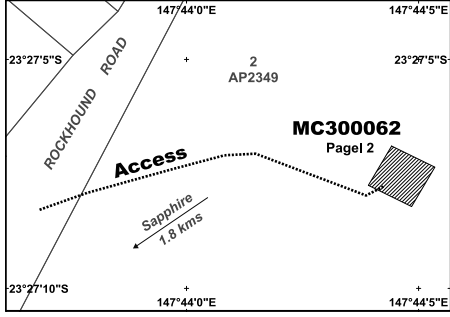
Mining Claim 300058 sought by Beverley Anne Allwood, over an area of 870 m² centred approximately 1.5 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



Mining Claim 300061 sought by Kennelene Gramae Pagel, over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 1.8 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



Mining Claim 300062 sought by Kennelene Gramae Pagel, over an area of 900 m² centred approximately 1.8 km North East of Sapphire, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.



Nature of Act(s): The renewal or grant of Mining Claims under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), authorises the holder to mine and carry out associated activities subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), for a term not exceeding ten (10) years, with the possibility of renewal for a term not exceeding ten (10) years.

Name and address of person doing acts: It is proposed that the Mining Claims be renewed or granted subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources & Mines, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

Further Information: Further information about the proposed renewal or grant of Mining Claims, including extract of plans showing the boundaries of the Mining Claim Renewals or Applications may be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Principal Mining Registrar, Small Scale Mining Hub, State Government Offices, 99 Hospital Road, Emerald, Queensland 4720, Telephone: (07) 4987 9373.

Native Title Parties: Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) any person who is a "native title party" is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed renewal or grant of Mining Claims. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au

Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000, Telephone: (07) 3307 5000 or 1800 640 501.

Notification Day: 17 February 2016





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	04/2426	INDIA BORE DIAMOND HOLDINGS PTY LTD	5BL	86km NW'ly of Fitzroy Crossing	Lat: 17° 44' S Long: 124° 55' E	DERBY-WEST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/2659	NORTHERN STAR RESOURCES LTD	18BL	108km S'ly of Pannawonica	Lat: 22° 35' S Long: 116° 6' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/2775	SQUADRON RESOURCES PTY LTD	125BL	160km E'ly of Coral Bay	Lat: 23° 6' S Long: 115° 20' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/2783	SQUADRON RESOURCES PTY LTD	41BL	153km S'ly of Onslow	Lat: 22° 58' S Long: 115° 31' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/2791	NORTHERN STAR RESOURCES LTD	18BL	114km S'ly of Pannawonica	Lat: 22° 40' S Long: 116° 14' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/2793	SLATER, Anthony Warren	2BL	20km SE'ly of Onslow	Lat: 21° 46' S Long: 115° 14' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2154	KALLENIA MINES PTY LTD	89BL	139km N'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 23° 50' S Long: 115° 35' E	CARNARVON SHIRE, UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2157	HURRICANE PROSPECTING PTY LTD	10BL	147km E'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 24° 51' S Long: 116° 39' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2158	HURRICANE PROSPECTING PTY LTD	6BL	137km E'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 25° 30' S Long: 116° 28' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2159	HURRICANE PROSPECTING PTY LTD	3BL	109km E'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 25° 2' S Long: 116° 17' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2160	HURRICANE PROSPECTING PTY LTD	6BL	126km E'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 25° 23' S Long: 116° 24' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2161	HURRICANE PROSPECTING PTY LTD	8BL	144km E'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 25° 0' S Long: 116° 38' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2163	NEW FOREST EXPLORATION PTY LTD	22BL	133km N'ly of Mullewa	Lat: 27° 20' S Long: 115° 35' E	MURCHISON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	27/548	PIONEER RESOURCES LIMITED	30BL	56km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 24' S Long: 121° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	31/1092	HERON RESOURCES LIMITED	5BL	88km E'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 32' S Long: 121° 56' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	31/1113	KAILI GOLD PTY LTD	34BL	86km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 4' S Long: 121° 55' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	31/1114	KAILI GOLD PTY LTD	47BL	59km E'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 29' S Long: 121° 36' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	36/862	MIKO MINES PTY LTD	10BL	73km N'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 18' S Long: 120° 58' E	LEONORA SHIRE, WILUNA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1224	EPIS, James Gregory	1BL	57km N'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 24' S Long: 121° 7' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1246	SHUMWARI PTY LTD	54BL	24km N'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 40' S Long: 121° 23' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3093	PELLEGRINI, Alan Archibald				
Exploration Licence	38/3093	MB EXPLORATION PTY LTD	188BL	128km NE'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 26° 58' S Long: 123° 29' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, WILUNA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/1898	INDEPENDENCE GROUP NL	61BL	207km N'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 29° 11' S Long: 124° 53' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	40/354	KAILI GOLD PTY LTD	22BL	42km S'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 16' S Long: 121° 20' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/4369	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	2BL	94km SE'ly of Shay Gap	Lat: 20° 52' S Long: 120° 57' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/4555	EPMINEX PTY LTD	9BL	12km SE'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 16' S Long: 119° 48' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/4620	GRANT'S HILL GOLD PTY LTD	25BL	58km N'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 24' S Long: 120° 18' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1020	PROCESS MINERALS INTERNATIONAL PTY LTD	200BL	72km NE'ly of Newman	Lat: 22° 49' S Long: 120° 7' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1082	HANNANS RESOURCES PTY LTD	11BL	56km E'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 42' S Long: 120° 37' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1083	HANNANS RESOURCES PTY LTD	24BL	117km SW'ly of Telfer	Lat: 22° 12' S Long: 121° 13' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	47/3014	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	4BL	31km E'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 7' S Long: 117° 58' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	47/3232	STONEFORM HOLDINGS PTY LTD	6BL	5km SE'ly of Karratha	Lat: 20° 45' S Long: 116° 54' E	KARRATHA CITY
Exploration Licence	47/3370-I	HAMERSLEY IRON PTY LIMITED	16BL	26km W'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 9' S Long: 117° 25' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	47/3396	NORTHERN STAR RESOURCES LTD	5BL	113km S'ly of Pannawonica	Lat: 22° 40' S Long: 116° 21' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	47/3399	VANMARIS, Mathew Gordon	4BL	88km SW'ly of Port Hedland	Lat: 21° 0' S Long: 118° 11' E	KARRATHA CITY
Exploration Licence	52/3326	HANNANS RESOURCES PTY LTD	70BL	56km SW'ly of Newman	Lat: 23° 47' S Long: 119° 26' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2077	YALGOO EXPLORATION PTY LTD	45BL	11km N'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 28° 14' S Long: 116° 41' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2158	SHUMWARI PTY LTD	51BL	73km SE'ly of Mount Magnet	Lat: 28° 31' S Long: 118° 23' E	MOUNT MAGNET SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2159	EASTERN GOLDFIELDS EXPLORATION PTY LTD	57BL	36km SW'ly of Mount Magnet	Lat: 28° 21' S Long: 117° 42' E	MOUNT MAGNET SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2160	MAXIMUS RESOURCES LTD	70BL	74km NE'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 28° 50' S Long: 118° 16' E	MOUNT MAGNET SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2161	MAXIMUS RESOURCES LTD	70BL	80km NE'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 28° 46' S Long: 118° 17' E	MOUNT MAGNET SHIRE, SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/4776	SIMCOA OPERATIONS PTY LTD	6BL	10km NE'ly of Moora	Lat: 30° 31' S Long: 116° 3' E	MOORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2310	CORONA MINING PTY LTD	12BL	12km NW'ly of Koolyanobbing	Lat: 30° 43' S Long: 119° 27' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/4980	SAMMY RESOURCES PTY LTD	2BL	89km N'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 17° 27' S Long: 127° 55' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/4981	SAMMY RESOURCES PTY LTD	3BL	79km N'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 17° 32' S Long: 127° 51' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/4985	PATHFINDER EXPLORATION PTY LTD	7BL	53km N'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 17° 45' S Long: 127° 40' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5010	BLACK MOUNTAIN GOLD LIMITED	16.50HA	18km NW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 38' S Long: 121° 19' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5011	RAVEN RESOURCES PTY LTD	200.00HA	29km N'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 29' S Long: 121° 24' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2338	MINERAL & GOLD RESOURCES OF AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	49.05HA	30km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 47' S Long: 121° 46' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2339 & 2341	SAUNDERS, Frederick Charles	296.66HA	45km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 52' S Long: 121° 56' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2340	SAUNDERS, Frederick Charles	151.47HA	43km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 53' S Long: 121° 57' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2342	SAUNDERS, Frederick Charles	121.03HA	44km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 51' S Long: 121° 54' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4069-70	GIANNI, Peter Romeo	242.08HA	26km N'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 59' S Long: 121° 33' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4074-7	ANGLO AUSTRALIAN RESOURCES NL	778.63HA	25km N'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 58' S Long: 121° 38' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4078	BLACK MOUNTAIN GOLD LIMITED	170.87HA	14km W'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 43' S Long: 121° 19' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4080	BLACK MOUNTAIN GOLD LIMITED	28.09HA	8km W'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 44' S Long: 121° 22' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4081	BLACK MOUNTAIN GOLD LIMITED	79.88HA	5km NW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 43' S Long: 121° 25' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4082	SMITH, William John	8.65HA	31km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 59' S Long: 121° 52' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4083	PHILLIPS, John				
Prospecting Licence	26/4083	SMITH, William John	6.03HA	31km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 59' S Long: 121° 52' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	29/2366	ZINFANDEL EXPLORATION PTY LTD	135.28HA	12km S'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 47' S Long: 121° 3' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	30/1127	PIXLEY, Michael Grant	93.67HA	58km SW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 30° 3' S Long: 120° 37' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	31/2085	GIANNI, Peter Romeo	19.42HA	128km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 46' S Long: 122° 21' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	31/2086	GIANNI, Peter Romeo	6.07HA	124km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 44' S Long: 122° 21' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	31/2087	GIANNI, Peter Romeo	9.71HA	121km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 42' S Long: 122° 20' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	31/2088	MCCLAREN, Kym Anthony	111.34HA	130km E'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 48' S Long: 122° 22' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	31/2090	MANSEN, James Karl				
Prospecting Licence	31/2090	MCCLAREN, Kym Anthony	179.85HA	123km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 43' S Long: 122° 21' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	31/2090	MANSEN, James Karl				
Prospecting Licence	38/4190	GSM MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	132.20HA	17km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 46' S Long: 122° 22' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4191-2-S	FENTON, Michael	17.28HA	17km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 43' S Long: 122° 15' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/5578-9	WESTCAPE NOMINEES PTY LTD	395.15HA	45km W'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 39' S Long: 121° 56' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/5585	JENKINS, Scott Andrew	12.20HA	50km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 56' S Long: 121° 50' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	40/1378	CHAPMAN, Mark James	24.46HA	44km S'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 15' S Long: 121° 28' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	40/1379	WILTSHIRE, Peter Andrew	80.26HA	49km S'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 18' S Long: 121° 27' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	45/2977	NELSON, Thomas Charles	120.12HA	38km S'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 29' S Long: 119° 37' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/2964	LEYLAND, Michael Terrence	10.09HA	40km S'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 56' S Long: 118° 37' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/2965 & 2970	BARNES, Gregory	149.50HA	15km SE'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 40' S Long: 118° 36' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/2966	TAN, Soh Cheng				
Prospecting Licence	51/2966	KING, Trent Nathan	9.71HA	24km NW'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 24' S Long: 118° 21' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/2966	DAVIES, Todd				
Prospecting Licence	51/2968	BARNES, Gregory	125.02HA	20km SE'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 43' S Long: 118° 37' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/2968	TAN, Soh Cheng				
Prospecting Licence	51/2969 & 2971	KING, Trent Nathan	259.53HA	22km SE'ly of Meektharra	Lat: 26° 45' S Long: 118° 37' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/2969	DAVIES, Todd				
Prospecting Licence	77/4344	WEST AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTORS PTY LTD	171.02HA	58km N'ly of Hyden	Lat: 31° 57' S Long: 119° 3' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4345	WEST AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTORS PTY LTD	9.99HA	69km N'ly of Koolyanobbing	Lat: 30° 13' S Long: 119° 17' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Retention Licence	04/1	SPINIFEX ABRASIVES PTY LTD	1252.22HA	111km E'ly of Derby	Lat: 17° 0' S Long: 124° 37' E	DERBY-WEST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Retention Licence	45/4	GLOBAL ADVANCED METALS WODGINA PTY LTD	2919.34HA	101km S'ly of Port Hedland	Lat: 21° 13' S Long: 118° 40' E	PORT HEDLAND TOWN

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 retention licences which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 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: 13 January 2016

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 **13 April 2016**. 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. 13 May 2016**), 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

adcorp WG13753

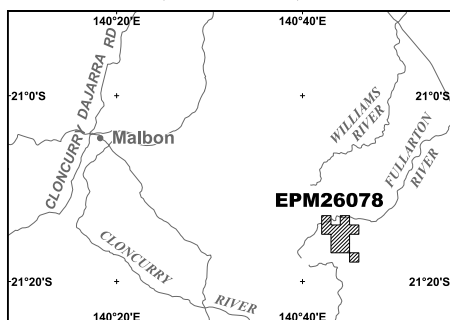
Bird is keen to lead

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION PERMITS FOR MINERALS

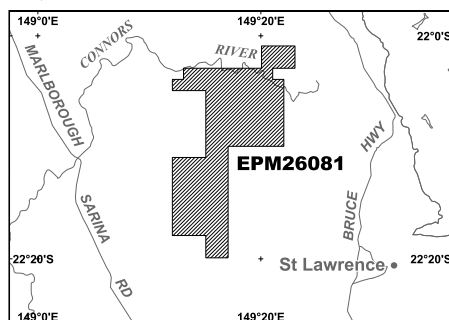
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) of the proposed grant of the Exploration Permits for Minerals shown below under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

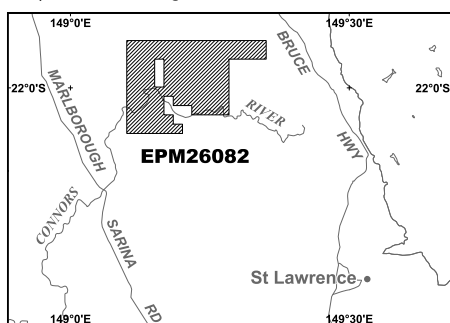
Exploration Permit 26078 sought by Newmont Exploration Pty Ltd, ACN 006 306 690, over an area of 11 sub-blocks (35 km²), centred approximately 50 km South East of Malbon, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



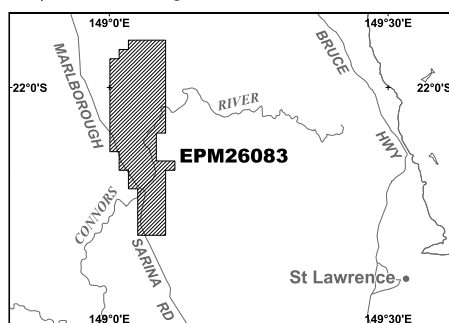
Exploration Permit 26081 sought by Orion Gold NL, ACN 098 939 274, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (317 km²), centred approximately 30 km North West of St Lawrence, in the locality of the Isaac Regional Council.



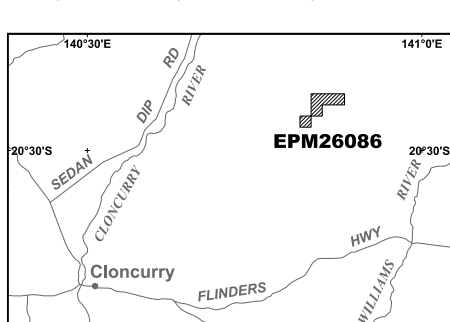
Exploration Permit 26082 sought by Orion Gold NL, ACN 098 939 274, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (317 km²), centred approximately 50 km North West of St Lawrence, in the locality of the Isaac Regional Council.



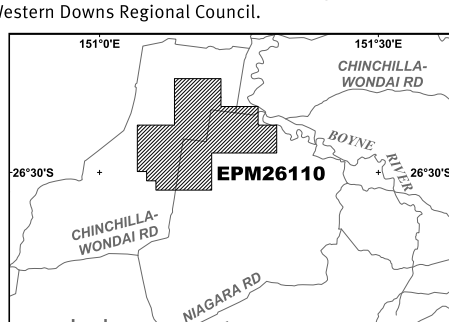
Exploration Permit 26083 sought by Orion Gold NL, ACN 098 939 274, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (317 km²), centred approximately 58 km North West of St Lawrence, in the locality of the Isaac Regional Council.



Exploration Permit 26086 sought by Newmont Exploration Pty Ltd, ACN 006 306 690, over an area of 5 sub-blocks (17 km²), centred approximately 45 km North East of Cloncurry, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



Exploration Permit 26110 sought by Eastern Exploration Pty Ltd, ACN 124 088 857, over an area of 107 sub-blocks (328 km²), centred approximately 38 km North of Jandowae, in the localities of the South Burnett Regional Council and Western Downs Regional Council.



GSO16ANTS/KMEP26078(6)

Nature of Act(s): The grant of an Exploration Permit under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), authorises the holder to explore for minerals specified for a term not exceeding five (5) years and to seek renewals for a term not exceeding five (5) years. It is proposed to grant Exploration Permits subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) and also subject to the Native Title Protection Conditions Version 3, June 2014.

Native Title Parties: Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) any person who is a "native title party" is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed grant of Exploration Permits. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au

Expedited Procedure: The State of Queensland considers the grant of each Exploration Permit to which this notice applies is an act attracting the Expedited Procedure. Each individual Exploration Permit may be granted unless, within a period of four (4) months after the Notification Day a native title party lodges an objection in respect of the individual Exploration Permit with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of that Exploration Permit is a future act attracting the Expedited Procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3307 5000 or 1800 640 501.

Further Information: Further information about the proposed grants may be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, 61 Mary Street, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3008 5742.

Notification Day: 3 February 2016



A CONTRITE Greg Bird says he is trying to earn back the Gold Coast rugby league captaincy and

promised to make amends for his wayward behaviour.

Bird is in the running to lead the Titans next National Rugby League (NRL) season just 12 months after being stripped of the role for off-field misdemeanours.

The NSW State of Origin star was dumped as co-captain last December after urinating in public while on his honeymoon in Byron Bay.

Bird was also embroiled in the club's cocaine scandal, but had his charges thrown out of court in October because of a lack of evidence.

His forgettable 2015 campaign was capped when he was forced to miss the entire State of Origin series for NSW after he was suspended for

eight weeks for his fourth dangerous throw charge in 12 months.

The departure of Nate Myles to Manly and a leadership void has seen Bird re-emerge as a viable leadership option for coach Neil Henry next year.

Ryan James and Luke Douglas led the club at various points during last season, but neither have the big game experience of Bird.

Bird said it was up to him to earn back the respect of the club's fans, board and his teammates and wanted a second crack at the captaincy.

"It's something I'm trying to earn," Bird said.

"It's no secret that the club went through a few dramas last year and I'm real sorry the club, the fans, the players were all put in that situation.

"But we're moving forward now and I'd like to make amends from the front. But I have to earn that position and it's up to Neil and the board to make that choice." – AAP



Greg Bird attends the 2013 Indigenous camp on the Sunshine Coast – part of the build-up to the All Stars game. Picture: nrlphotos.com

New cricket partnership



CRICKET is being used as a vehicle to help young Indigenous girls in the Northern Territory achieve education outcomes.

Cricket Australia and the Stars Foundation are in a partnership that focuses on Indigenous girls in schools across the Territory.

The initial 12-month partnership, which was announced at Sanderson Middle

School in Darwin late last year, will reach 500 girls, helping them gain education and training qualifications.

Cricket will be used to increase student engagement and attendance, and promote health and wellbeing.

The partnership with the Stars Foundation runs parallel with Cricket Australia's partnership with the Clontarf Foundation that has cricket in 61 schools reaching 3838 Indigenous boys.



Sanderson Middle School students took part in the launch of the cricket program to help Indigenous girls achieve education outcomes in the Northern Territory.



The AFL Woomeras (red shirts) are pictured with the NZ Tahus before one of their matches in Auckland.

Woomeras undefeated



THE Australian Football League (AFL) Indigenous Woomeras returned from their tour of New Zealand after holding the New Zealand under 18 Kahus scoreless in both games of the series.

It was the second time the Woomeras had toured NZ.

This time, they spent 10 days travelling around the North Island and visiting

places such as Rotorua and completing the Tongariro Crossing.

The Tongariro National Park is a World Heritage site that passes over the volcanic terrain of the active volcano Mount Tongariro.

The trip was designed to encourage leadership while testing the girls physically and mentally.

Parrs Park, in Auckland's south-west, hosted game one of the Woomeras' tour.

Goals flowed for the Woomeras, with the electric Delma Gisu cutting through the middle of the park and Madison Yarran leading the scoring with six goals.

The Woomeras forwards were supported by a fantastic midfield, in particular Pamai Dau, who provided plenty of assists for the team's goalscorers.

The Woomeras won 20-17 (137) to 0.0 (0).

The Kahus were also held scoreless in the second game at north-west Auckland's North Harbour Stadium.

The match started with a flurry of points to the Woomeras. They were again classy when given opportunities, running excellent lines and playing skilfully.

The Woomeras won 16.17 (113) to 0.0 (0).

Tyeisha Tighe (NSW) was presented with the Woomeras Leadership Medal.

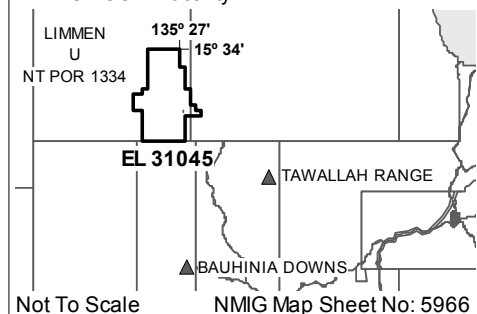
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

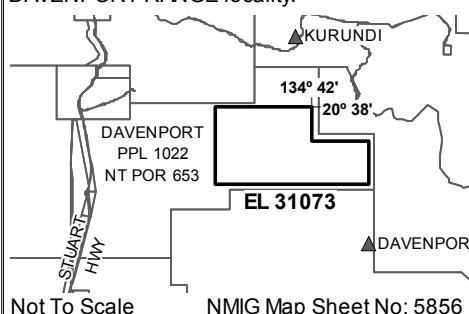
The Honourable David William Tollner MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mines and Energy, C/- Department of Mines and Energy, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of his intent to do an act, namely to grant the following exploration licence applications.

Applications to which this notice applies:

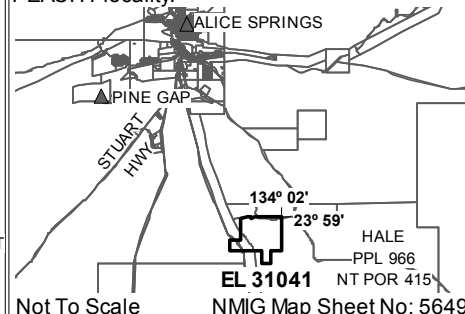
Exploration Licence 31045 sought by ENERGIA MINERALS LIMITED, ACN 078 510 988 over an area of 140 Blocks (444 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the MANTUNGULA locality.



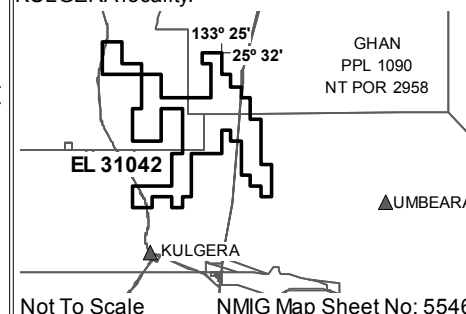
Exploration Licence 31073 sought by KEVIN DUNNELL and ALISON SKELDON, over an area of 143 Blocks (460 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the DAVENPORT RANGE locality.



Exploration Licence 31041 sought by TERRITORY MINING PTY LTD, ACN 122 356 398 over an area of 14 Blocks (44 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the PEACHY locality.



Exploration Licence 31042 sought by TERRITORY MINING PTY LTD, ACN 122 356 398 over an area of 91 Blocks (282 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the KULGERA 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, GPO Box 9973, Melbourne VIC 3001, or telephone (03) 9920 3000.

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: 13 January 2016

Meninga plans to take Kangaroos to the top



MAL Meninga is intent on restoring the Kangaroos' aura of invincibility after being ushered in as Australia's new national rugby league coach.

Declaring himself 'unbiased' after ending his hugely successful 10-year stint as Queensland State of Origin coach, Meninga vowed to return the Kangaroos to their glory days after being knocked off their perch by New Zealand.

Australia won six straight World Cups between 1975 and 2000, with Meninga front and centre during the most dominant reign of any nation in rugby league history as one of only five players to feature on the undefeated 1982 and 1986 Kangaroos tours of Britain and France, famously dubbed The Invincibles and The Unbeatables.

But after losing the 2008 World Cup final to New Zealand as well as the 2010 and 2014 Four Nations deciders to their trans-Tasman rivals, Australia's 40-year run as the kings of rugby league officially came to an end this year following three successive defeats at the hands of the Kiwis for first time since 1953.

Record straight

The only player ever to make four Kangaroos tours says it's time to set the record straight.

"I want to bring the Australian team back up to the No 1 spot and there's a lot of things we need to do," Meninga said after his appointment on December 3.

"We need to inspire players to put on the Kangaroos jersey. We need to build a program where they want to play in it as well.

"I'll pick the best players whether that's Queensland or NSW players.

"I'm unbiased. I'm in an Australian position with a job to do."

Meninga takes over from long-serving national coach Tim Sheens on a four-year deal concluding at the end of 2019.

The NRL's head of football Todd Greenberg said Meninga's was a "dedicated role but certainly not a full-time" one despite the 55-year-old not being allowed to coach any club or state side during his tenure.

ARL Commission chairman John Grant



Mal Meninga is pictured during his time as Queensland State of Origin coach. Picture: AAP

said Meninga, widely considered a future rugby league Immortal who also captained Canberra to three premierships, was undoubtedly the best credentialled man for the job.

"What we've got is one of the greatest players of all time and the most successful coach at that sort of top tournament level ever," Grant said.

"Nine series wins out of 10 with that Queensland State of Origin side, he's absolutely the right person."

Meninga's appointment was also made with the support of current Queensland and Australian captain Cameron Smith.

"I couldn't think of a coach more suited to this role, given Mal's achievements as a former Kangaroos captain and his understanding of what representing Australia means," Smith said.

Proven record

"He has a proven record at representative level, as well as a tremendous ability to help his players perform at the highest level."

Meninga admitted it was a difficult decision to leave his Maroons role, but said the timing was perfect.

"It's been a fantastic time and highly

successful year for Queensland in general, but I felt this is the time," he said.

"It was a huge decision. It rounded off my footy career.

"I've now played and coached at the top level. It's something I've always wanted to do."

Queensland Rugby League (QRL) chairman Peter Betros said filling Meninga's boots would be a "hard act to follow".

"We owe him a heck of a lot," Betros said.

"The next few years aren't going to be easy. There'll be a transition of players."

— AAP

Roberts primed for NSW call-up



THESE days James Roberts can joke about his troubled National Rugby League (NRL) past. But the former Gold Coast flyer is serious about a "fresh start" in Brisbane that he hopes leads to NSW Origin selection this year.

The once wayward 22-year-old is at his fourth NRL club after leaving the Titans due to an off-season contract forgery scandal.

Asked how he felt meeting his new Brisbane teammates, Roberts laughed: "I've been to about three (clubs) before so I am used to it by now.

"But no, I was pretty excited to

get back into training – it's a fresh start, a new beginning."

At their first pre-season training session of the year, Broncos coach Wayne Bennett compared Roberts with Brisbane great Steve Renouf.

And he guaranteed Roberts would replace another legendary Broncos centre – retired captain Justin Hodges – in their starting line-up.

But Roberts was hoping to make a name for himself in Broncos colours after being earmarked for NSW honours by Blues coach Laurie Daley.

Daley – also the Indigenous mentor – said he would use next month's All Stars clash in Brisbane to gauge Roberts' NSW claims.

"Obviously that's good to hear," Roberts said of Daley's praise.

"But I will just try to do my best for the team and myself, but hopefully that (opportunity) shows itself later this year."

The reigning Dally M Centre of the Year knocked back offers from South Sydney and the Dragons in order to blossom further under Bennett.

"I would love to be coached under him," Roberts said of Bennett.

"Last year I had a good year so staying in Brisbane is the best option for me.

"They are a special team with a special coach."

Roberts said he looked forward to combining with Brisbane's 2015 revelation, young

pivot Anthony Milford.

"He's exciting to watch. I can't wait to run off him," he said.

Bennett also couldn't wait.

"He (Roberts) has that X-factor," he said.

"We have always had one of those players here.

"Anthony Milford has probably got that factor too, all the good teams have got one.

"They have got to do the team thing but they can make the difference."

Bennett could not hide his delight over Roberts landing in his lap.

"It was totally unexpected. It was not part of our plans but we didn't want to miss that opportunity. We are very grateful," he said.

Roberts, a 2016 Indigenous All Stars selection, became one of the league's hottest properties after scoring 16 tries in 24 games for the Titans last season.

Roberts is a South Sydney junior and played 10 NRL games for the Rabbitohs in his 2011 debut year, before switching to Penrith for 2013, where he played six games.

He was eventually sacked by both clubs for disciplinary reasons. Broncos boss Paul White said signing Roberts as Hodges' replacement was a pleasant surprise.

"We certainly did not expect this opportunity," he said.

● **Preston Campbell**
comments on Roberts' move to Brisbane – see page 57

Marmin Barba bails on league for late Rio bid



SPEEDSTER Marmin Barba won't have long to prove he's worth persisting with all the way to the Rio Olympics after being handed just a six-week deal with the Australian sevens rugby team.

The 24-year-old revealed on Instagram last month that he had quit rugby league with Queensland Cup

side Ipswich to pursue the abbreviated rugby format after failing to secure an NRL deal.

It was later confirmed that Barba, a utility back who scored 52 tries in two seasons for the Jets, had agreed to a short deal with the Australian Rugby Union.

"Marmin Barba has signed a six-week contract with the Australian Sevens program, effective

immediately," tweeted Aussie 7s.

With no World Rugby Sevens series tournaments in the six-week period after the second round in Cape Town ended last month, Barba will have to train the house down to secure a longer deal that could take him all the way to the sport's debut in Rio de Janeiro next year.

Barba's contract will take him to January 24, with the third round of the

world series set down for the New Zealand capital of Wellington on January 30-31.

Barba is the younger brother of Cronulla National Rugby League (NRL) utility Ben.

Former Rugby 7s player Shannon Walker late last year turned his back on rugby and returned to rugby league, announcing he would trial with the Gold Coast Titans. – AAP

Bucking bulls to challenge riders



NATIONAL Rugby League (NRL) squads could be increased to 36 players, and youngsters banned from making their debut until age 19 in changes being considered by rugby league's governing body.

The proposals, which will be discussed with the Rugby League Players Association and state bodies before being potentially enacted in 2017, also address the game's second-tier level.

A national reserve-grade system will be implemented in the form of a northern and southern conference, while the current under-20s competition would revert back to state-based competitions.

NRL strategy and development boss Shane Richardson stressed however that did not automatically mean clubs such as Canterbury, St George and Cronulla would be forced to merge at a reserve-grade level as had been suggested earlier.

Instead, a committee would decide how to best determine the make-up of teams.

"We want to give everyone the opportunity to play in the NRL whether they come from the country, New Zealand, the affiliated states, Pacific or anywhere else in the world of rugby league," Richardson said.

More participants

"This strategy is not intended to squeeze anyone out of the game – it is designed to include more participants than ever before."

The process by which rookies are signed by clubs would also change, with each team allowed to sign three rookies each season on two-year contracts.

Each club's 36-man squad – a significant increase from the current 25 counted in the salary cap – would then include six players on rookie contracts.

Meanwhile, additional leave would be granted to players, and a formal international window implemented through an eight-year period. – AAP

By ALF WILSON



COMPETITORS from many Aboriginal communities are expected at the first Bucko Billy 'Thunder Down Under' Queensland and Northern Territory Indigenous Bull Riding Championships.

It will be held on January 23 at Charters Towers during the world's biggest cricket carnival, the Goldfield Ashes.

Organiser is Townsville-based John Moss, who has been involved in rodeos around North Queensland for more than 20 years.

"I have run several rodeos on Palm Island and another at Mungalla Farm, near Ingham, during the past 10 years and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander riders who took part were so good, so I decided to run the first Indigenous bull-riding championships," Moss said.

There will be open, novice and juvenile sections with prizemoney on offer.

Already, Moss has contacted Cherbourg, Woorabinda, Palm Island, Kowanyama, Doomadgee, Aurukun, Hope Vale and Arnhem land communities about the event.

Moss said he would be contacting NPA communities Bamaga, Injinoo, Umagico, Seisia and New Mapoon.

It wouldn't surprise Moss if many riders from Palm island had a crack at



There were thrills and spills at a Palm Island rodeo run by John Moss.

the prizemoney, including some who competed in the 2008 and 2009 events on their home soil.

Moss will be able to access Charters Towers' best bulls for the big event and is hopeful of a big crowd.

"The bulls will weigh between 500kg and 700kg and riders will have to stay on for eight seconds, which will be no easy task," he said.

Some of the open bulls have names such as Turbulence, Rampage, Stock

Squad, Gun Metal, Sirius, Sister Fury, Little Bird, Romeo, Nasa, Telstra and Mexican Gunslinger.

Coming from NT

While many of the riders will be from Queensland, Moss said some would travel from the NT.

Competitors who want to enter will have to do so through Queensland Rodeo Association central booking on phone (07) 4627 5687.

Charters Towers readies for Goldfield Ashes

By ALF WILSON



A TEAM consisting of mostly players of Darnley Island descent is preparing to compete at the world's biggest cricket carnival – the Goldfield Ashes at Charters Towers.

The Garbutt Magpies side, with a majority of players of Torres Strait descent, will contest the January 22-24 Ashes in the B-2 division.

More than 500 Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander players are expected to compete at the big event.

Last year Garbutt Magpies had arguably the biggest number of supporters of any of the 223 teams at the carnival.

It was the first appearance at the Ashes by the side in almost 30 years.

Many of the players are Townsville-based, and supporters of Torres Strait descent from

around North Queensland will travel to Charters Towers.

While most of the players have Darnley heritage, there will be others with Mer, Stephen Island and Thursday Island descent.

Last year seven teams competed in A grade, 28 in B-1, 130 in B-2, 48 in social and there were 10 women's sides. Games were played on a total of 78 fields around Charters Towers in a carnival which started in 1948 with just six teams.

Numerous other teams will have players of Torres Strait descent, including men's B-2 team West Indigies, who won all three matches at the 2015 Goldfield Ashes.

If the Garbutt Magpies fail to win the trophy at Charters Towers, they will have another chance at another cricket carnival.

They will enter a side in the Canefield Ashes carnival at Home Hill in April.

The two-day contest is held over a weekend and attracts teams from the Burdekin as well as Bowen, Proserpine and Charters Towers.



Garbutt Magpies XI players at the last Goldfield Ashes. Picture: Alf Wilson

Big man, big dream

Nathan Jawai works up a sweat for the Perth Wildcats.
Picture: Jack Thomas



FATE landed Nate Jawai at the Perth Wildcats, but it's hard work that's inching him closer towards his Olympic dream.

Two years ago, Jawai thought his basketball career was over as he lay in hospital following a serious head injury.

The cut on his brain left him temporarily blind in one eye, while the numbness he suffered in other parts of his body meant he struggled to even dribble a basketball once he got out of hospital.

"I thought I was about to die," Jawai says.

"The funny thing is, I wasn't even unconscious."

Jawai eventually recovered from the injury following six months of intense rehabilitation at the Australian Institute of Sport.

But with the weight piling on, his Olympic dreams seemed just that – a dream.

Then fate – or rather the sexy lure of the AFL – intervened.

The Wildcats were left shellshocked on the eve of the NBL season when star recruit Hugh Greenwood announced he would be quitting the club in order to chase his AFL dream.

Replacement

Greenwood's decision meant the Wildcats faced a scramble to find an adequate replacement.

Initially, a classy guard was on Perth's hit list.

But when they realised a 209cm giant in the form of Jawai was on the market, the Wildcats scrapped their original plan in order to lure the former NBA centre their way.

"You never thought we would be replacing a point guard with a centre, did you," Wildcats coach Trevor Gleeson says with a laugh.

"It worked out well. He's been an added bonus. He's a good teammate to be around."

Although he's reluctant to give an exact figure, Jawai is the first to admit he was clearly overweight when he arrived at the Wildcats.

Official stats listed him at 143kg when he arrived.

But with the lure of Olympic selection driving him on, Jawai has worked hard in slimming down.

"I've lost six or seven kilos. That's good, but I've got some more to do," Jawai says.

"Another six or seven kilos more would be good. It would be a bonus if I get to 10 kilos.

"I've seen a dietitian, and diet is the main thing. There's been some collapses throughout the time. You get too excited when you go out and eat whatever when you're in the restaurant.

"But I feel a bit more light on my feet now. Hopefully I get to that (weight goal) by the time of the playoffs."

Jawai has dreamed of playing at the Olympics since he was a youngster.

He wasn't available for selection in 2008 while he chased an NBA career, and he was snubbed by then-Boomers coach Brett Brown for the 2012 Games.

Jawai faces stiff competition to win a spot for the Rio Games.

Golden State centre Andrew Bogut is a certain selection if fit, while Aron Baynes, David Andersen, Andrew Ogilvy, Cameron Bairstow, and Brock Motum are other big guys who are arguably ahead of Jawai in the pecking order.

But Jawai hopes some hot form for the Wildcats will get him well and truly in the selection mix.

"When you put on the green and gold, you're so proud to wear it," Jawai says.

"To have that feeling of representing your country on the biggest sporting stage, it's special.

"All the great athletes go to the Olympics. And you want to be in that class. It would mean a lot to me. I hope I do get the chance to go."

But Jawai wants to make one thing clear: He's not merely using the Wildcats as a stop-over club.

Jawai says he'll forever be indebted to the Wildcats for getting him back in shape.

And it's a club where Jawai hopes he'll be able to play for several more seasons in between his stints in Europe.

"I'd love to come back here. It's my preferred option to end my career here," says Jawai, who has formed a special bond with Wildcats chief executive Nick Marvin and coach Gleeson.

"The whole organisation is like a family.

"But my main goal is to also go back to Europe once the NBL season is over.

"Because the Olympic campaign is in July, I don't want to sit around here and be fat once the NBL season finishes.

"I want to go back to Europe and continue my progress, and keep up my sharpness." – AAP

Aussie under 19s pull out of World Cup



JONTE Pattinson's dreams of playing for Australia in the 2016 under 19 World Cup have been dashed – Australia has pulled out of the

tournament. Cricket Australia announced last Wednesday that Australian had pulled out of the tournament in Bangladesh because of security concerns.

The tournament will start on January 27.

Cricket Australia (CA) boss James Sutherland suggested there was no alternative but to stay home, as was the

case when a Test tour of the country was postponed last October.

CA's head of security Sean Carroll travelled to Dhaka a week earlier with International Cricket Council security advisers.

Carroll looked over the event's security plan and sought further advice from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) officials in Bangladesh.

"The advice from our Government suggests that the security threat to Australians travelling to Bangladesh remains as high now as it was when we postponed the Test team's tour,"

Sutherland said.

"Included in that is reliable information suggesting there is a high threat to Australian interests in Bangladesh.

"The Australian Government has authorised the dependants of posted diplomatic staff in Bangladesh to return home to Australia.

'No alternative'

"With all of the information and advice we have received, we feel we had no alternative other than to make this difficult decision."

Sutherland apologised for the

"inconvenience this may create" for the International Cricket Council and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB).

Australia's squad will still compete in a tri-series involving Pakistan and New Zealand, which is being hosted by the United Arab Emirates this month.

Jonte Pattinson was named in the Australian 21-man provisional squad after leading ACT-NSW Country into the final of the Australian under 19 championships in Adelaide last month.

Ireland has been invited by the ICC to replace Australia in the under 19 tournament. – AAP

Demons still there, but Buddy fights on



SYDNEY Swans Australian football star Lance Franklin continues to battle the mental health issues that saw him sit out the Swans' finals campaign, but the

club's general manager of football Tom Harley said the power forward set an example for young players going through their own troubles.

The Australian Football League (AFL) Players Association was set to host its two-day induction camp for first-year players from last Monday at Etihad Stadium, Melbourne, which again was to feature an update for club psychologists on

the best support programs for players dealing with mental illness.

Harley said that while Franklin's battle was ongoing, he had presented as a picture of fitness following the Christmas break.

"It is (ongoing), absolutely," he said on SEN.

"He has been one of the really impressive ones on the track this week. So fingers crossed — Bud's got a few things to work through, but he hasn't missed a physical session.

"The story with Lance towards the end of last season highlights that (mental illness) doesn't discriminate, and he was brave enough to confront that.

"Hopefully, by him doing that, if there are younger players without the same profile as Lance challenged by a few things, that they can get on the front foot and deal with it."

It is understood Franklin underwent finger surgery during the Christmas break.

He rejoined the Swans in early December after missing last year's finals series to undergo treatment for an ongoing mental illness and has been hampered by a bone spur on his right hand.

"It is bothering him with marking and tackling work that he's been doing this pre-season," said the Swans' physiotherapist Matt Cameron late last year.

"There's a little bone spur irritating the nerve and the tendon isn't quite working properly."

Following a two-week hiatus to celebrate Christmas and the New Year, pre-season resumed for the entire playing list on Monday, January 4, with a short and sharp 40-minute run at the University of NSW.

The rain was relentless, never easing throughout the two-hour session with a majority of the group having to contend with a heavy ball, slippery hands and sodden boots.

The Swans will play Port Adelaide at Blacktown on February 20 in the first of three NAB Challenge matches in 2016.

New Year resolve

Magic's Moments



With **MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN**

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WHILE most of us made our New Year resolutions while we watched the fireworks, all the Australian Football Club (AFL) clubs have been working on their commitments since returning to training in November.

All squads will be aiming to be bigger, stronger and faster in their attempt to ensure finals success in 2016.

It might be weeks away from the first bounce of the home and away season, but plots are already beginning to form around the fortunes of AFL teams.

It's hard to discount any team, but by any fair assessment, there's at least 14 clubs with genuine claims on a 2016 finals spot.

But come September, only eight will survive.

There's plenty to play out in between, but I believe we can make some early predictions.

After three straight elimination finals exits, Richmond are ready to take the next step this year.

I am not saying they will win the flag, but they will win a final and that's progress for long-suffering Richmond fans.

The Tigers showed maturity

in the second half of last year and have experience winning big games.

Their ability to beat the Hawks last year on the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), and in the coaches' box, shows they also have the tools.

If Richmond are to have a better season, that means that another team's fortunes will decline.

As impressive as the Dogs were last season, I believe they may well be one of the teams to drop down the ladder.

It was a fairytale 2015 campaign, but backing it up with another finals appearance will be a huge challenge.

Progress with a young side is not always a simple equation, especially when the rise has been dramatic.

Intense pressure

Opposition clubs will have done their homework on the rising stars and the pressure will be intense.

The draw for the Bulldogs is certainly not as friendly as it was last season.

After coming within a whisker of a grand final berth in 2014, Port Adelaide was one of the major disappointments from last season.

The club's absence from finals action forced coach Ken Hinkley to concede he needed to do some off-season tinkering.

Once devastating with the ball, the Power became easy to play against last season when its run and gun game style was routinely unlocked by the opposition.

The addition of Charlie Dixon is a game changer.

Expect a potent Port Adelaide to climb back into the eight and even the top four in 2016.

Another team with high expectations are the GWS Giants.

I believe they will live up to these hopes and the 2016 season will see an expanded side play finals for the first time in its history.

The Giants' ascent is permanent.

GWS won 11 games last

season and were on track to feature in September until an injury-forced fade-out.

Their talented crop continues to improve with every pre-season and the addition of Steve Johnson provides invaluable experience.

Competing with GWS will be Geelong, who I believe are on the up again.

With the addition of Patrick Dangerfield and Lachie Henderson, they are rebuilding their list.

Scott Selwood and Zac Smith will be handy, while Steven Motlop's signature was another key off-season move.

The Cats' best 22 look seriously good on paper and it's hard to find a weakness.

The round one clash against Hawthorn will be a beauty.

The same cannot be said for one of the former powerhouse clubs in Carlton.

It's hard to see them winning more than four games and climbing off the bottom of the ladder to avoid back-to-back wooden spoons.

The Blues brought in 15 new players during the off-season and while they aren't short on talent, they are on experience.

Brendon Bolton will be given time to mould the list into a premiership outfit and 2016 will about giving them exposure.

Limited experience

Carlton took four key position players from its five national draft picks, with Jacob Weir being the only one equipped to step straight into senior footy.

Harry McKay, Charlie Curnow and Jack Silvagni will all take time.

Speaking of recruitment, I hold high hopes for Harley Bennell this year.

For all of Harley's reported shortcomings, there's no doubt he's an elite football talent.

He's not just a player with potential, either.

He's already won games off his own boot.

The 23-year-old will benefit enormously from playing on Ross Lyon's terms in a team with strong leadership.

If Bennell buys into the



Harley Bennell will turn out in new colours this year and Michael O'Loughlin thinks he will have a big season now that he's back home in the west.

system and stays fit, there's no doubt he's going to become one of the best midfield/forwards in the competition.

He'll be the recruit of the year. Another player to watch will be at the Swans.

Injury stopped Isaac Heeney from launching a serious assault at the Rising Star award last year.

Star of NEAFL

The Swans Academy graduate was the first midfielder picked in the national draft and has already dominated at NEAFL level.

Mills, 18, is hard as nails and

wins plenty of the footy.

A shin injury kept him on the sidelines for most of last season, but Swans medical staff took a conservative route to prepare him for 2016.

Fitness permitting, lock him in for round one.

Another player returning from injury is Gary Ablett — his return may well define the season for the Suns.

At the moment, all clubs will be optimistic about their chances.

But only eight will ultimately be playing in September.

Until Next time.... Keep Dreaming!

North keen to stay



Socceroo Jade North (left) competes for the ball with Japan's Keisuke Honda during the 2014 FIFA World Cup Asian qualifier match at Lang Park, Brisbane, in June 2012.
Picture: AAP



COACHING and indigenous player development roles form part of the contract discussions veteran soccer star Jade North is having with Brisbane A-League Club Brisbane Roar.

Socceroo defender North has played 13 matches for the Roar since joining the club in 2013.

His agent Buddy Farah has been in discussions with Brisbane Roar coach John Aloisi and football operations manager Craig Moore.

The Courier Mail last year reported that Aloisi was hopeful North, 34, would sign a new deal with the club.

North has plenty of bargaining power, being the cornerstone of the Roar's defensive unit alongside fellow centre-back Daniel Bowles.

Ahead of the Roar's away clash with Wellington Phoenix last Sunday, North and Bowles had played every minute of every game for top-of-the-table Brisbane this season.

Two more seasons

Farah said North hoped to play for Brisbane for at least another two seasons, and wanted to remain with the club beyond his playing days in a coaching and player development capacity.

"He's only gotten better this season as a player and his passion is developing indigenous players," Farah said.

North is among a host of Roar players whose contracts expire at the end of the season.

The Roar have started the New Year with a sharp training session amid a growing optimism and confidence for the remainder of the Hyundai A-League season.

"We're building something special here," North told media as the curtain came down on a year where the first six months tested the character and strength

of the entire club.

The arrival of new Aloisi in July began a massive turnaround that saw the club finish 2015 with three consecutive wins.

North said Aloisi and his coaching and medical team had brought stability to the playing group and revived their confidence.

"We can all play with a smile on our face and enjoy the team efforts that we have produced so far," North said.

"Everyone has been talking about how good the other teams are and we have just been going under the radar.

"We are happy with that ... I hope they keep pumping the other teams up because we have a lot of confidence in this team, there's a lot of winners in this team ... we've just got to go and get the job done."

North said the Roar players had weathered the off-season storm by sticking together and working for each other.

"We have come a long way in such a short time. We can only get better and better," he said.

"The bigger teams, your Sydneys and Melbourne, have got the money obviously. We've got the heart, we've got the pride.

"In previous years we've got three championships and that's more to build on. Brisbane is a big club in itself and we can really build some positive things here."

Aloisi said he was proud of the way his squad of winners had turned around 2015.

"I knew when I first arrived here that even though they had a really disappointing season last year, we got players here that have won trophies in the past," Aloisi said.

"They want to win, they are motivated to win, so they worked really hard in pre-season because they didn't want to have another season like the last one.

"I knew that bringing in a few new faces would revitalise the team as well. The coaching department is different so that also changes and the players are learning still.

"We can see that we are on the right track, but we still have a long way to go."

Blues revamp jersey



THE NSW Blues have unveiled a new-look State of Origin jersey for the 2016 series.

Coach Laurie Daley and captain Paul Gallen were on hand to show off the jumper.

The new playing strip, incorporating the (v-shaped) 'chevrons' that have become synonymous with rugby league, will run down the front and back of the jersey and on the side panel of the playing shorts. The jersey will also feature a white side panel, while keeping

in line with the traditional sky blue.

"It's always exciting when the latest jersey arrives and I think the 2016 playing strip looks wonderful," Blues coach Daley said.

Blues captain Gallen said: "I think the jersey looks outstanding. It has a modern look with the chevrons down the middle and it also has the tradition of the sky blue colour."

The 2016 jersey is now available at all major sporting outlets.

Tickets are on sale for the two Sydney games – Origin I and Origin III – which will be held at ANZ Stadium on June 1 and July 13.

NSW rugby league skipper Paul Gallen wears the Blues' State of Origin jersey.



Cap featured Indigenous design



A SPECIAL edition cap with an Indigenous design featured in cricket's Big Bash League (BBL)

clash between the Melbourne Stars and the Sydney Thunder at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on December 20.

The Thunder (6-178), led by former Test star Michael Hussey, beat the Stars (5-177), led by Hussey's brother David.

The match had a Harmony in

Cricket theme and featured the special edition cap (pictured above) with the Indigenous design on the peak.

Each cap was signed by the player wearing it and auctioned off with proceeds helping to send the women's Victorian Indigenous Cricket team to the national Imparja Cup tournament in Alice Springs next month.

The Harmony in Cricket philosophy celebrates the message that cricket is a game for everyone.

James Roberts scores for the Gold Coast Titans during round 14 last year against the Canterbury Bulldogs at Robina, on the Gold Coast.
Picture: AAP



Great expectations

RUGBY LEAGUE



With PRESTON CAMPBELL

THE signing of rugby league star James Roberts to the Brisbane Broncos was a relief to all involved following the saga surrounding his release from the Titans over a forged signature on his contract.

Moving to a strong club like the Broncos and being under the guidance of Wayne Bennett could be the making of Roberts, who is undoubtedly one of the most exciting talents in the National Rugby League (NRL).

At the same time, for a player who is yet to establish himself at the representative level, there are high expectations being

placed on him by the club and the media.

I think he will be able to cope with these pressures within the structures of a professional club such as the Broncos, but I hope the expectations placed on him are not premature.

He will still need time to settle in to a new club and build on-field partnerships with the players who will also need time to adjust to James' ability to create opportunities out of nothing.

James will also have the advantage of the off-field mentoring of Sam Thaiday and I am certain he will have the opportunity of learning from club greats such as Steve Renouf and Justin Hodges.

Another pearl

Bennett paid James the highest compliment by comparing him to all-time great Renouf.

It is very rare for Wayne to place public expectations on players or to even praise them through the media.

Bennett said he hoped Roberts would finish his career at Brisbane after seeing similarities with the 'Pearl'.

"They are all different, but he has the qualities that excite people – he has that X-factor," Bennett said.

"Steve had those qualities and he (Roberts) has them as well."

Bennett guaranteed Roberts would slot into retired captain Justin Hodges' centre vacancy.

"We do see him as a

life-contracted player," Bennett said.

"As we have done with players here in the past, once they perform and play to their potential, they have no fear about their future.

"He realises that he needs to settle down now and make some good choices."

Bennett furthered his comparisons with the great Renouf after James struggled with his first endurance training session at his new club.

Blessed with blistering speed that can turn opposition defences inside out and back to front, Roberts was a straggler behind returning Kiwi internationals Alex Glenn, Jordan Kahu, Adam Blair and Kodi Nikorima as they did laps.

But rather than question his purchase – like a racehorse owner who watches a yearling take its first tentative steps on the racetrack – Bennett felt vindicated that Roberts shared the qualities of some of the game's most dynamic centres.

Short on endurance

"He's obviously not an endurance athlete watching him this morning, but the good ones never are unfortunately," said Bennett.

"It is about the power and the agility that he has and that's what he brings.

"If you put Justin Hodges and Steve Renouf on that trip this morning, they would have run about the same time I reckon. That was reassuring for

me to see that.

"I remember Steve's training sessions were never great, but he was a wonderful player and a great player for this club.

"I'm not saying James is Steve Renouf because they're all different, but he's got the qualities that excite people. Steve had those qualities and he's got them as well."

"He's just got that unpredictability about him, that x-factor that not all players have.

"Pretty much God-given actually, to be honest with you, but he's got it and it's something that will complement what we've already got here.

The unexpected

"When it's 10-all and they are two quality teams and there's nothing in it, it's people like him that produce that totally unexpected moment.

"Not every club has them, but they are very valued players and they've got to become part of the team and do the team things, but the bottom line is that you really appreciate what they bring.

"They can be the difference when it's really tight and close and everyone's playing their best."

Showing how far he has matured in recent times, Roberts tried to deflect some of this praise by focusing on the reasons he decided to join the Broncos.

He said he knocked back interest from South Sydney and the Dragons in order to play under special coach Wayne

Bennett and still embrace the Queensland lifestyle.

"It's a fresh start, a new beginning," Roberts said.

"I intended to do that at the Gold Coast, but things didn't happen the way I planned, but I intend to finish off here.

"Money was never a dilemma. It's the lifestyle and where I am going to be most happy off the field – it's a special team, a special coach."

He also said he expected to cop some stick from former Gold Coast teammates on the field, but says there are no hard feelings with the Titans off it.

"I am sure they will try to get into me, but it's all good off the park – I hope they do well this year," said Roberts of the club that helped resurrect his career.

Wendell Sailor has also endorsed Roberts as a potential Origin star who will benefit from his time with the Indigenous All Stars.

"What will help will be for him to be coached by a bloke like Laurie Daley who is a very humble guy and the NSW coach," Sailor said.

"I've got no doubt that he's going to put a lot of pressure on Michael Jennings and Josh Morris for their centre spots, and so he should.

"As an outside back, I love watching this kid play."

I don't always agree with Big Dell, but on this occasion he is spot-on.

James Roberts is a born footballer and the big stage awaits his presence.

Beale's yacht race experience short-lived



KURTLEY Beale's yachting adventure aboard Perpetual Loyal in the Sydney to Hobart yacht race was short-lived – the yacht was

one of the first to retire from the race.

It was the second year in a row that skipper Anthony Bell's super maxi was forced to turn back to Sydney, having also re-docked following damage to the hull the previous year.

This time, she burst first out of Sydney Heads on Boxing Day, but experienced some spinnaker issues in the open sea.

The crew managed to stay in touch

with the rest of the big boats, only to then succumb to boat damage.

The 100-foot Perpetual Loyal was back in Sydney the afternoon after Boxing Day.

"It's obviously pretty disappointing," Bell said.

"We started pretty well; we were up with the frontrunners again.

"But unfortunately we had a breakage on the boat and it was a safety issue so we had to pull out."

Rugby union star Beale was one of several sporting personalities on board Perpetual Loyal.

Former Test cricket captain Michael Clarke was another, as were former

Wallaby Phil Waugh and former Sydney Roosters rugby league captain Anthony Minichiello.

Perpetual Loyal's coach Joe Akacich rated Beale as the fastest learner of sailing he's ever encountered.

"Right place, right time, super footwork, super strong and he's right into it too," Bell said of the Wallabies ace.

"Natural"

"So Kurtley's the most natural."

Given the unpredictable nature of the sport and the weather, Bell said Michael Cheika was the first person he sounded out about getting

Beale on board.

The Wallabies coach didn't hesitate in giving the green light.

"The thing is, most of them go back into their sporting careers and they say they're richer for the experience because they've taken themselves out of their comfort zone," Bell said.

"They say it actually enhanced their training, enhanced their thinking, enhanced their dealing with pressure situations in rugby union or cricket or whatever.

"So there's a common thread between all of them when they get off the boat and say 'this was good for me personally'." – AAP

Oztag teams shine in 2015 World Cup



AUSTRALIAN Indigenous Oztag teams finished in the runners-up position in three divisions of the 2015 World Cup on Queensland's Sunshine

Coast. The boys' 16s, men's over 35s and the men's over 45s finished second in their divisions.

A record 15 Indigenous teams entered the carnival.

There was a total of 170 teams in the four-day event.

The Indigenous girls' 16s, girls' 18s, boys' 18s, men's 40s and men's 50s made their semifinals.

Meanwhile the mixed opens, women's opens, men's opens, women's Masters and men's 30s reached the quarterfinals.

Convenor of Australian Indigenous Oztag Jeff Hardy said there was a number of Indigenous legends in the teams. They included Cliff Lyons, Andrew Walker, Nathan Blacklock, Rod Silva, Kevin McGuinness, John Simon, Craig Simon, Will Robinson, Brendan Williams and

actor Luke Carroll.

"The World cup was a fantastic event; the colour, culture and competition was something our players will never forget," Hardy said.

"The impact of the World Cup experience cannot be underestimated and will have far reaching positive effects on the Indigenous community," Jeff Hardy said.

Teams came from as far afield as England, Ireland, South Africa, Japan and Pacific islands.



Former rugby league and rugby union star Andrew Walker runs the ball for one of the Indigenous teams.



The Indigenous over 45 team with a New Zealand Maori team after a match. The Indigenous team included former rugby league stars Cliff Lyons, Jeff Hardy and Rod Silva.



Actor Luke Carroll shows he is no slouch on the footy field.



Jae Withers in action for the Indigenous girls' 18s.

Matthew's exciting US experience



PERTH secondary school student Matthew McDonald has been in the United States on a basketball tour.

Matthew is the third in a family of five boys and is a sporting natural, according to his mum Loretta McDonald.

He featured in the recent edition of the *Koori Mail*, where he was pictured with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull after winning an essay competition titled 'What I would do if I was Prime Minister'.

After his trip to Canberra to meet the PM, Matthew left for the US on December 3.

His sporting passions are basketball and Australian football, and he's a mad Dockers supporter.

He attends Scotch College, Perth, where he excels in sport such as track and field, football and basketball. He holds the school record for the triple jump.

His family has moved around a lot – places such as Wyndham, Karalundi, Meekatharra, Wiluna and Paraburdoo.

Living in such remote places, Matthew did not have a lot of opportunity in the sporting activities, so when he landed the scholarship through AIEF, he took advantage of the sporting program.

His earliest footy games were scratch matches against other communities and usually on the dirt oval full of boulders, and his basketball games were scratch matches – plus a game of '5 live' against his brothers.

While in the US, Matthew attended a five-day basketball tournament in Santa Monica and watched an NBA game and attended coaching clinics.

His parents say Matthew has a big commitment to his sports, spending many hours practising with his teams and alone.



Matthew McDonald with the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull.

Williams looks overseas

By CHRIS PIKE



THE Newcastle Jets desperately need goals in soccer's A-League and David Williams is looking for more ground time, meaning it appears a

perfect match as the striker looks to be on the move from Melbourne City.

Williams had a slow start to the season because of injury and since being fit, has managed just eight appearances with Melbourne City.

He has starred in two of those, but is yet to add to his 29 career goals in the A-League and doesn't appear to be in the plans of coach John van't Schip.

With Melbourne City gearing up for a finals appearance and looking to free up some salary space, particularly given they aren't short on attacking options, Williams appears set to finish the season elsewhere.

Turned down offer

Initially, it appeared a straight swap with Adelaide United for central defender Osama Malik would benefit both clubs, but Williams turned down the offer presented to him by the Reds.

Newcastle coach Scott Miller confirmed interest in Williams, but those plans may be scuppered by Williams' ambitions to go overseas.

Remarkably and discouragingly, the Jets have not scored a single goal in their past five matches, including a 4-0 loss at home to Williams and Melbourne City in December. Williams, however, didn't make an appearance off the bench.

The 27-year-old is too good a player to be given limited minutes in the A-League and that's exactly why it appears that his move to the Jets would suit him perfectly and in turn give Newcastle a player who can provide them with some

David Williams pushes through a tackle by Shanghai Shenhua's Dai Lin while David was on loan to Sydney FC in 2011 in the AFC Champions League match at the Sydney Football Stadium. Picture: AAP



desperately needed goals.

Following a successful youth career where he made 30 international under-age and Olyroos appearances for Australia, Williams began his professional career with the Brisbane Roar before a stint in Denmark.

He returned to Australia in 2009 and joined the now-defunct Townsville-based North Queensland Fury in the A-League.

He was on loan to the Sydney FC for a short period before joining Melbourne Heart (now City) in 2011.

He was the first player of Indigenous descent to play for a Melbourne club.

Mainstay

He has been a mainstay of the club in their move to the City name under the guidance of English Premier League

powerhouse Manchester City, including being the leading goal scorer and their best player for the 2013-14 season.

Along the way, Williams played two games for the Socceroos.

He hasn't forgotten his roots, and continues to be proud of his heritage, working in Aboriginal mentoring programs in the A-League, at Mildura United Soccer Club and with Leadership Victoria.

Cedar receives NBL lifeline at Crocs

By CHRIS PIKE



CHRIS Cedar has almost had three seasons out of the National Basketball

League (NBL), but is set to receive an opportunity again with the Townsville Crocodiles that will allow him to showcase himself in the hopes of earning a contract next season.

Cedar played the last of his 86 games with the Crocodiles to end the 2012-13 season alongside older brother Michael, but since the arrival of coach Shawn Dennis, the Indigenous siblings haven't been part of the Crocs.

However, the younger Cedar has developed and matured his game nicely as a point guard leading the Mackay Meteors to a Queensland Basketball League title last year as one of the best players in the competition.

As a result, when Townsville guard Corey Maynard suffered an ankle injury, it was Cedar who was quickly offered the chance to train with the Crocs with an eye to signing him while Maynard was sidelined.

It's not quite as simple as that because the financially struggling

Crocodiles need NBL approval to spend the extra money to sign Cedar as a replacement player.

But provided the NBL gives the all clear, Cedar will be flown straight in to play for the Crocs until Maynard is right to return and Dennis is hoping that isn't far from eventuating.

"We are hopeful that we can bring Chris Cedar in, but we are just going to have to wait and see," Dennis said.

"We are hopeful he will be able to play, but we just have some things we need to work through with the NBL to work out if we can or can't do it. Once we do have that information, we will or we won't bring him in."

Dennis might have decided to not offer a new contract to the Cedar brother once he took over as coach of the Crocs, but he knew the pair well, having worked on plotting their downfall as an assistant coach at the Perth Wildcats.

While Michael Cedar's 219-game NBL career appears over, having not been in the mix since the 2012-13 season ended despite some terrific form in the QBL, most recently at the Port City Power, his younger brother Chris has plenty ahead of him.

In his previous five seasons in the NBL with Townsville, Chris



Chris Cedar, left, and his older brother Michael.

was a talented point guard, but perhaps still had some maturing to do and hadn't quickly developed a game where he could maximise his strengths as a creative ball handler, and minimise his turnovers.

However, in the two years since, he has become a more mature person off the court and a significantly better player on it.

Dennis has kept a close eye on him and he wasn't far off being

offered a spot with the Crocs at the start of the 2015-16 season.

Now that a place has opened up, Dennis is willing to back Cedar to perform well which not only would help the Crocodiles in the short term, but it could put him in the mix to earn an NBL contract next season in Townsville or elsewhere if he impresses.

"Chris has shown in his training sessions that he's had

with us that he can contribute and I definitely think that he's one of those unlucky guys who is an NBL player and in the next year or so will be back in the league full-time," Dennis said.

"It's an opportunity for him to show what he can do. The thing that happens to guys is that you don't realise what you need to do until you've lost it. Chris is at a stage now where he's 26, he is a mature young man with a family and there's no doubt he believes he can play in the NBL."

Right space

"I believe he can play in the NBL," Dennis said, "and I think now he is in the right mental space to take that opportunity and grab it with both hands. I have no doubt that if an opportunity does arise over our next couple of games, he will do very well."

"I watched Chris quite a bit with Mackay last year and there was a distinct difference with the way he went about the game."

"No one ever doubted his talent, he's always had the talent, but I thought last year he really started to show some maturity with the way he ran the point and I think that will only go well for him securing another contract in the NBL."

Bundjalung nines new for Ballina



A RUGBY rugby league nines tournament will be held at Ballina on February 6-7.

The Bundjalung 9s is open to Indigenous and non-Indigenous teams and is being organised by the Cabbage Tree Island Descendants Rugby League Club.

The Descendants reached the final 16 of last year's NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout carnival at Dubbo.

The carnival will be held at the Ballina Seagulls' Kingsford-Smith Park, Ballina.

Entries will be capped at 18 teams and will be placed in pools for a round-robin on the first day. Each team will play three games.

Pool winners will contest quarterfinals, semifinals and the final on the second day.

Spokeswoman Lenkunar Roberts Hickling said the team entry fee would be \$750, with \$7000 going to the winners, and \$2000 to the runners-up.

Details: Email ctidaboriginalcorp@yahoo.com.au or call Lenkunar Roberts Hickling on 0412 463 730.

The carnival is being sponsored by Ballina Shire Council.



Cabbage Tree Island Descendants centre Brian Kelly barges through Walgett's defence at the NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout at Dubbo.

Rugby's \$285m TV rights deal



RUGBY union's TV rights deal of \$285 million falls well short of the deals negotiated by rugby league and Australian football, but the code's administrators say it will re-energise the sport.

The Australian Rugby Union (ARU) will receive a total of \$285 million in 2016-2020 media rights revenue from the total package of SANZAAR agreements – a 148% increase on revenue achieved from the previous media rights arrangements (2011-15).

Fox Sports retained the Australian rights for Test matches played in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, as well as the expanded 18-team Super Rugby competition that will for the first time feature teams from Argentina and Japan in 2016.

All Wallabies domestic Tests, New Zealand and South Africa domestic Tests, all matches in the Rugby Championship, and every Super Rugby match will be broadcast Live on Fox Sports.

Network Ten will remain the Australian free-to-air broadcaster, finalising a deal with Fox Sports to simulcast all Wallabies domestic Tests, the Bledisloe Cup, and all matches played by the Wallabies in the Rugby Championship.

Ross in hall of fame

By PETER ARGENT



JOSH Ross, Australia's only athlete to win the Stawell Gift and the Bay Sheffield off scratch, was

further honoured by being inducted into the Bay Sheffield Hall of Fame.

The induction was at the breakfast on the morning of the 2015 event on Monday, December 28.

The Sheffield also marked his return to competitive running after an enforced two years on the sidelines.

"Gaining this honour is one of the highlights of my career," Ross told the *Koori Mail* at the 2015 Bay Sheffield at Colley Terrace, next to the beach in the Adelaide suburb of Glenelg.

"I'm happy and honoured to accept this acknowledgement.

"It is pleasing that my hard work and dedication towards this sport has been recognised."

Maintained training

While Ross, who will turn 35 on February 9, has been unable to compete, he has kept training with an eye to Rio de Janeiro and a place in the 2016 Australian Olympic team.

He is highly respected by his peers and gives back to his sport.

Before the Bay Sheffield, he lent a hand to sprinter Christine Wearne as she attempted to win the women's event (120m open) from scratch.

Ross has a record-equalling seven national 100-metre sprint crowns, two Stawell Gifts (2003 and 2005 – the latter one off scratch), a couple of Burnie Gifts and Olympic representation among his host of accolades.

"It is quite humbling to have fellow competitors look up to me



Josh Ross pictured at the 2015 Bay Sheffield late last month.
Picture: Peter Argent

and be seen in that way," Ross said.

"Before our heat, Dylan Panizza came over and said it was an honour to be racing against me.

"If I can inspire colleagues to make the most of the sport, that's a great bonus and legacy from my time in the sport."

In December 2013, Ross received a two-year ban by

Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) for missing a drug test.

Impressive comeback

He returned to competitive running, amazing from the mark of minus one metre, in heat 12 of the 2015 Bay Sheffield.

While he finished a creditable third in 13.175 seconds, but felt flat and lethargic.

"It would be good the break the record I currently hold with the great Hec Hogan of seven 100-metre Australian championships," Ross said.

"That is among my goals for the year.

"I'm keen to get an A-qualifying time and make the 100-metres in Rio.

"If I can't achieve that in Australia, I will travel to Europe

and try to qualify while abroad."

After the Bay Sheffield, Ross ran in the Burnie Gift in Tasmania on New Year's day, an event considered one of the 'big three' professional Gifts in Australia.

He won this race in 2004 and 2007.

Running from scratch, he finished second in his heat in a time of 13.24, but was knocked out in his semifinal.



Dan Christian
Picture: Peter Argent

Dan's big bash



HOBART
Hurricanes
cricket
allrounder Dan
Christian
belted his

former Brisbane teammates all around – and out – of the Gabba in their December 29 Big Bash League clash.

Christian smashed an unbeaten 56 off just 24 balls to lift the Hurricanes to an imposing 4-194 in their 20 overs.

The former Heat player went berserk in the penultimate over of the innings, smashing Luke Feldman for three monster sixes, including one which travelled 117 metres to land on the Gabba's roof.

The blockbusting all-rounder's incredible shot over mid-wicket ended up on the roof of the famed Brisbane Test venue, and had commentators Damian Fleming and Adam Gilchrist declaring it the biggest hit they'd ever seen at the ground.

Christian followed up his astonishing assault with another two sixes as he plundered 25 runs from the 18th over delivered by Luke Feldman, helping the Hurricanes to an imposing total of 4-194.

Christian's big-hitting lifted the Hurricanes to a fine score after the Heat had looked likely to restrict the visitors with some consistent bowling.

The massive crowd of 29,876 went home disappointed as the Heat collapsed to finish 9-176.

Admitting his monster six was comfortably the biggest of his career, Christian said the thought pattern for his assault had been a simple one.

"I swung as hard as I could and it landed exactly where I wanted it to and came out of the middle of the bat," he said.

"I was waiting for it to come down in front of the sails and it kept going and that's when I realised it was obviously a decent one."

\$10,000 to benefit Bendigo children



The Bendigo and District Aboriginal Co-operative (BDAC) is rolling out a new sports and activity project thanks to a \$10,000 grant from carmaker Holden. Pictured at the cheque presentation are BDAC CEO Raylene Harradine, Greater Bendigo mayor Rod Fyffe (white shirt), Holden officials and local children. Ms Harradine said the money would be used to engage up to 60 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from the Bendigo region to become involved in sport.

Chad stays put

Wingard signs on for another three years at Port Adelaide

By PETER ARGENT



CHAD Wingard has signed a contract extension with Port Adelaide that ensures he will stay with the Australian Football League (AFL) club until the end of 2019.

Wingard, from the South Australian country town of Murray Bridge, is a game breaker and the type of footballer who brings patrons through the gates.

His three-year deal comes after another dynamic season where 22-year-old kicked 53 goals, played all 22 games and was runner-up to Robbie Gray in the Jack Cahill Medal (the Power's best and fairest award).

Wingard said he was pleased to commit to Port Adelaide, citing his enjoyment of his football, the playing group and the direction the club as travelling.

"There is such a great feeling among the players and the club in general, I couldn't imagine being anywhere else," Wingard said.

Family comes first

"Family is everything to me and the boys are like my second family.

"I also value the work the club is doing with our Aboriginal and community programs and I'm looking forward to continuing to work with all the boys in growing that."

Port Adelaide coach Ken Hinkley said he was thrilled to have Wingard join other elite players Robbie Gray and Travis Boak in recommitting to the club for the next four years.



Chad Wingard
Picture: Peter Argent

"We've got a good group of players here who are prepared to work hard for each other and they're showing that on the field," Hinkley said.

"Chad has already reached a high standard in his first few seasons and I look forward to him raising that bar further in the years ahead."

Wingard told the *Koori Mail* that playing football was about being in finals contention and from that perspective, it was an unsuccessful year.

"I'm confident that, with hard work, we can rebound and make our mark on the competition," he said.

"Personally, it is about becoming more consistent over the course of games.

"On reflection, I thought 2013 season was a better year overall than the 2015 campaign.

"My job is simply to play my role for the team."

Along with his pair of All-Australian honours (2013 and 2015) and an International Rules game in 2014, his football resume is already outstanding.

Recruited from SANFL club Sturt in the 2011 draft, after being snubbed by Greater Western Sydney, he was a AFL Rising Star nominee in his first season, won a Showdown Medal (Round 19) and John Cahill Medal (Best and Fairest) in 2013, took the Mark of the Year in 2014 and was Port Adelaide's AFL leading goal kicker in 2015 (53 goals).

Still just 22, Wingard has now played 89 games in his four seasons in the AFL and has kicked 148 goals.

He is destined to become one of the greats of Port Adelaide.

Cricket's big week



WITH elite-level T20 cricket in full swing, most of Australia's top Indigenous cricketers are getting plenty of experience ahead of next month's revamped National Indigenous Cricket Championships (NICC) in Alice Springs.

The NICC will be held simultaneously with the Imparja Cup carnival in Alice Springs, with the Imparja Cup reverting to its original format catering for a major centres competition.

Leading Indigenous cricketers involved in Cricket Australia's Big Bash League (BBL) and Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) include Dan Christian, Josh Lalor, Brandon King, Nathan Gardner, Brendon Doggett, D'Arcy Short, Ash Gardner, Ash Barty and Natalie Plain.

Christian and Lalor won't be at Alice Springs, but most of the others should be.

Ash Gardner (NSW), Nathan Gardner (Victoria) and King (Northern Territory) are confirmed starters for the NICC.

They are likely to be joined by Doggett (Queensland), Short (WA) and Plain (Victoria).

The NICC carnival will run from February 8-15, while the Imparja Cup (majors centres) final will be played on February 13.

The presentation night will be on February 14.

Meanwhile Ash Gardner's Sydney Sixers are struggling in the inaugural WBBL series being played around Australia.

The Sixers' hopes of reaching the final on January 24 have just about disappeared.

They sit near the bottom of the competition dominated by the Sydney Thunder, the Hobart Hurricanes and the Brisbane Heat.

Until last week, the Sixers had won only one of their seven games.

That win came at the Sydney Cricket Ground on December 20 when they beat the Perth Scorchers by five wickets.

Scores: Sixers 5-108 (18.5 overs), Scorchers 8-107 (20 overs).

Gardner scored 11 from 10 deliveries.

A day earlier, at Drummoyne Oval, Sydney, the Sixers (9-80) went down to the Melbourne Stars (3-81) by seven wickets.

First-ball duck

Gardner was out for a first-ball duck.

Against the Melbourne Stars at Drummoyne Oval on December 18, Gardner was run out for four (four balls).

The Stars (1-104 off 16.1 overs) won that game after the Sixers finished with 9-101 off 20 overs.

The Sixers played three games at Aquinas College, Perth, on December 12-13.

On December 12, they went down to Brisbane Heat, who scored 3-190 from their 20 overs.

The Sixers managed 7-155 in reply to lose by 35 runs.

Gardner scored seven from five deliveries.

The teenager was one of the Sixers' stars in their other

December 12 game – against the Perth Scorchers.

She scored 23 from 22 deliveries as the Sixers (81 off 18.4 overs) lost heavily to the Scorchers (1-82 off 13.2 overs).

The next day, the Sixers suffered another heavy loss, this time to the Brisbane Heat.

Scores: Sixers 7-114 (20 overs), Heat 1-115 (18 overs).

Gardner scored 10 from 14 deliveries.

Across-town rivals the Sydney Thunder thumped the Sixers in the opening game of the competition at Penrith on December 6.

Gardner did not play in that game, where the Sixers scored 9-101 from their 20 overs and the Thunder replied with 1-103 from just 13.2 overs.

Former tennis star Ash Barty has found the going tough since her stunning debut in the WBBL.

Her cricketing career began with a bang when she scored 39 off just 27 balls in the Brisbane Heat's first game of the competition.

That was against the Melbourne Stars at Junction Oval, St Kilda.

The Stars won the game by 20 runs.

Barty's debut came just four months after the 19-year-old's first net session.

But Barty has not been able to cement a permanent place in the Brisbane Heat line-up.

In the second game against the Stars at the same venue on the same day, Barty scored one run from five deliveries as the Stars (4-147) beat the Heat (7-137) by 10 runs.

Barty did not play in any of the Heat's next four matches – three of them during cricket's big week at Aquinas College, Salter Point (Perth).

On December 11, the Perth Scorchers (9-106) beat the Heat (104) by 20 runs.

On December 12, the Heat (3-190) beat the Sydney Sixers (7-155) by 35 runs.

The next day, the Heat (1-115) defeated the Sixers (7-114) by nine wickets.

Later in the day, at the West Australian Cricket Association (WACA) ground, the Heat (5-122) beat the Perth Scorchers (8-119) by five wickets.

Barty was not in the Heat team that beat the Melbourne Renegades by five wickets at Allen Border Field, Brisbane, on December 18.

Scores: Heat 4-151, Renegades 124.

She also missed the December 19 game at the Gabba, Brisbane, where the Heat (2-128) beat the

Adelaide Strikers (9-125) by eight wickets.

In the December 20 game against the Melbourne Renegades at the Gabba, Barty was out for a first-ball duck as the Renegades (2-112) cruised to a seven-wicket win over the Heat (110).

The same day, she scored one run against the Sydney Thunder at the Gabba as the Heat (8-141) won by 14 runs.

Barty did not play in the New Year's Day game against the Hobart Hurricanes at Blundstone Arena, Hobart.

The Hurricanes (5-130) won that game by 33 runs.

She did not get a bat against the Hurricanes in the January 3 game at Kingston, Tasmania. The Heat (4-11-) won that game by six wickets with 1.1 overs to spare.

On January 2, Barty scored 17 from 17 deliveries as the Sydney Thunder (5-97 off 12.4 overs) stormed to an easy win over the Heat (94 off 20 overs).



D'Arcy Short

Short a BBL rookie



D'ARCY SHORT is the latest Indigenous cricketer to receive a rookie contract with a cricket Big Bash League (BBL) team.

Short has signed on with the Perth Scorchers.

He joined a growing list of Indigenous players associated with the BBL.

Dan Christian (Hobart Hurricanes) and Josh Lalor (Brisbane Heat) are playing in the men's BBL and Ash Barty (Brisbane Heat) and Ash Gardner (Sydney Sixers) are playing in the inaugural Women's Big Bash League (WBBL).

Other Indigenous cricketers – Brendon Doggett (Brisbane Heat), Nathan Gardner (Melbourne Stars) and Natalie

Plain (Melbourne Stars) have rookie or community contracts.

Short, 25, originally from the Northern Territory, but now based in Western Australia, is one of three rookie program players with the Scorchers.

He was later named in two West Australian teams that took on the touring Indians last Friday and Saturday at the WACA ground.

Western Australia played India in a T20 match on Friday and a 50-over game on Saturday.

He made his limited overs debut for the Warriors in 2011 against NSW and has previously been named the Lord's Taverners Indigenous Cricket of the Year.

Short does not form part of the Scorchers' contracted players list, but can be called upon as a local replacement player in case of injuries.

FREE ABORIGINAL BIKE SAFETY PROGRAM

An initiative of:

Date
Monday 18th January 2016

Venue
Redfern Community Centre
29-53 Hugo St, Redfern NSW

Time
3pm - 6pm

A 3HR PROGRAM THAT TEACHES:

- Practical bike skills
- Basic bike maintenance
- Where to ride in your community
- Program will also include snacks

Participants will also get a **FREE Helmet & bike service** so bring your bike with you!

If you want to be involved email projects@letsride.com.au to register your interest and find out more information

Jett's new career about to take off



FIFTEEN-year-old Jett Bennett is about to face the next challenge in his brief, but exciting motor racing career – he is to contest the NSW Formula Ford series.

The former kart champion has signed with Synergy Motorsport and will drive one of their Formula Ford cars.

Formula Ford is described as an entry-level class of single-seater, open-wheel formula racing. The class can form an important step for many prospective Formula One drivers. It is regarded as the first major stepping stone into formula racing after karting.

Bennett, from McGraths Hill, can't wait for his debut season.

After racing karts for a number of years, 'The Koori Rocket' signed the dotted line with Synergy Motorsport mid-season and has patiently been biding his time to get behind the wheel of a Formula Ford.

The youngster has already logged numerous laps at Wakefield Park, a 2.2km circuit near Goulburn, over the past few months, while getting guidance from his more experienced teammate Anthony Colombrita and team boss Justin Cotter.

"I will race wherever the competition is next year and I'm looking forward to working with Justin from Synergy Motorsport in 2016," Bennett said.

V8 Supercar driver Chaz Mostert's manager David Ellis will be keeping a close eye on him in 2016.

The very successful Synergy Motorsport Team is managed by team owner Justin Cotter. Jett will contest the 2016 NSW Formula



Jett Bennett stands beside a Synergy Motorsport tubular space-frame Formula Ford open-wheel car, powered by a 600cc 125hp Ford Fiesta engine.

Ford Championship with Synergy.

The *Koori Mail* reported last August that Gamilaroi lad Jett would race in the Victorian series because he was too young to contest the NSW series.

Since then, NSW has dropped

its age limit from 16 to 15, allowing Jett to drive in NSW.

Jett was a finalist in the 2013 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Deadly Awards for the most promising new talent in sport. He is the youngest finalist in the

history of the prestigious awards.

Jett started kart racing at the age of seven and in his very first race finished second.

That developed into passion and since then it's been full speed ahead.

All Stars: how the teams line up

THE Indigenous All Stars and the National Rugby League (NRL) World All Stars will meet at Lang Park, Brisbane, on February 13, in a match that opens the 2016 rugby league season.

Indigenous All Stars:

- 1 Greg Inglis
 - 2 Alex Johnston
 - 3 Will Chambers
 - 4 Blake Ferguson
 - 5 Dane Gagai
 - 6 Ben Barba
 - 7 Johnathan Thurston (c)
 - 8 Ryan James
 - 9 Nathan Peats
 - 10 Sam Thaiday
 - 11 Greg Bird
 - 12 Joel Thompson
 - 13 Chris Grevsmuhl
 - 14 Andrew Fifita
 - 15 Wade Graham
 - 16 Tyrone Peachey
 - 17 James Roberts
 - 18 Tyrone Roberts
 - 19 Ray Thompson
 - 20 Jack Wighton
- Coach: Laurie Daley

World All Stars:

- 1 Roger Tuivasa-Sheck
 - 2 Semi Radradra
 - 3 Jarrod Croker
 - 4 Josh Morris
 - 5 Antonio Winterstein
 - 6 Gareth Widdop
 - 7 Trent Hodkinson
 - 8 James Graham
 - 9 Cameron Smith (c)
 - 10 Paul Gallen
 - 11 Tyson Frizell
 - 12 Simon Mannering
 - 13 Sam Burgess
 - 14 Tom Burgess
 - 15 Kane Evans
 - 16 Robbie Farah
 - 17 Lachlan Maranta
 - 18 Nene McDonald
 - 19 Trent Merrin
 - 20 Martin Taupau
- Coach: Wayne Bennett

New sport lifts Bernard's spirits

By CHRISTINE HOWES



BADU Island man Bernard Sabadi hasn't let his two newly reconstructed knees and a full-time job keep him from a keen focus on powerlifting.

Last month the 31-year-old lifted a personal best of 165kg.

While low by competition standards, the Torres Strait Islander described the effort as 'awesome' just 12 months after his second knee surgery.

"I'm really proud of that," the father of four said of his squat lift.

"I didn't expect to get a number like that when they first asked me to compete. I would have been happy to even get 100kg."

Sabadi said powerlifting was about the three big movements in

weightlifting – squat, bench and dead lift – and involved specialised strength training.

He said he took on the sport because he wanted to change his lifestyle and become healthy.

"I've got to take care of me so I can take care of my family, my work and then my community," Sabadi told the *Koori Mail*.

"I'm an ex-smoker and I've been off the cigarettes for four years now and this kind of lifestyle doesn't give me time to drink alcohol."

Sabadi says his new lifestyle is perfect for his work as a mentoring and transition coordinator in the Leader's Program at Cape York Partnerships.

Readers can check out what Bernard Sabadi is up to through his Facebook page 'Mob-lvators', about motivating, inspiring and sharing knowledge about healthy lifestyle choices.



Powerlifter Bernard Sabadi.

Picture: Tamara Katai



**Josh Ross
eyes ticket
to Olympics**
● See page 62



To subscribe to the
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(02) 66 222 666

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

Bernard powers ahead after knee reconstructions



HE may not be setting any records, but Badu Island man Bernard Sabadi is thrilled with his progress as a powerlifter. Fresh from two knee reconstructions, the 31-year-old Sabadi has lifted a personal best of 165kg. While low by competition standards, the Torres Strait Islander described the effort as “awesome” just 12 months after his second knee surgery. “I’m really proud of that,” the father of four told the *Koori Mail*. He is pictured here doing a bench press. *Picture: Tamara Katai*

● Read about him on page 63.

Aiming for hat trick



Johnathan Thurston in action for the Indigenous All Stars in 2015.
Picture: NRLPhotos.com



THE Johnathan Thurston-led Indigenous All Stars rugby league team will be aiming for a hat trick when they take on the World All Stars at Lang Park (Suncorp Stadium), Brisbane, on February 13.

The Indigenous All Stars have won the previous two encounters against the National Rugby League (NRL) All Stars.

But the series has a new twist this year, with the NRL deciding to pick a World All Stars team that includes some of the NRL’s best international players like Sam Burgess, James Graham, Tuivasa-Sheck, Semi Radradra and Martin Taupau.

Rabbitohs star Burgess will make his official return to rugby league via the All Stars match.

Cameron Smith will captain the World All Stars, which includes players from Australia,

New Zealand, Fiji, England, Wales, Samoa and Papua New Guinea.

Thurston will again captain the Indigenous side.

Indigenous All Stars coach Laurie Daley and World All Stars coach Wayne Bennett named their teams in Brisbane last month, with both expecting it to be one of the best in the six years of the match.

“This is such a special game for our players,” Daley said.

“The online voting and competition for positions was so intense – and the players want to be part of this match.

“We have picked a strong side full of players who have represented at the highest level for years.

“And it never hurts to have the Dally M Player of the Year and grand final hero as your captain.” Bennett was also full of praise for his side.

“The extended option to pick a World All Stars team means our fans will get the chance to see two high-quality teams in the 2016 event,” Bennett said.

“It is a new challenge for these guys to be playing alongside each other rather than against, and one that I am sure they will relish.”

Both teams will be in Brisbane in the week leading up to the match, with a range of community activities planned, including an Indigenous Youth Summit and open fan sessions to meet players.

Tickets are on sale at www.nrl.com/tickets, with prices starting at \$20 for an adult and \$50 for a family pass.

Fans can purchase their All Stars merchandise at www.nrlshop.com and click on ‘teams’.

Details: www.nrl.com/allstars.

● All Stars teams – page 63

● Indigenous teams shine in oztag World Cup: page 58