



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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Horror stories

Royal commission told of rape threats, girls strip-searched with men present and more



MALE guards being present while teenage girls were stripped.

Young males threatened with rape and compelled to shower with adult inmates.

Youths forced to sleep naked or near naked in wet cells.

Detainees being labelled “dumb black kids”.

These are some of the stories of abuse, mistreatment and cruelty from former and current juvenile detainees told to the ongoing Royal Commission into Juvenile

Detention in the Northern Territory.

The inquiry, sparked by horrific footage of youth treatment at Darwin's Don Dale Youth Detention Centre and following media reports, including in the *Koori Mail*, sat last week in Alice Springs.

The inquiry heard from three current and former youth inmates who painted a disturbing picture of abuse and prolonged isolation.

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Isaiah our hope for Eurovision

HE stunned the country with some brilliant performances to take out last year's *X Factor* TV singing competition. Now Isaiah Firebrace is aiming to stun the world after being named Australia's entrant in this year's Eurovision Song Contest.

The 17-year-old Aboriginal singer from Victoria will jet to the Ukraine in May to compete in Eurovision, the most watched non-sporting event in the world. More than 35 countries are competing for musical glory this year.

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● **Ashleigh Barty makes top 100 tennis list – back page**

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Roper River has an 'Iron Throne'

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Tiwi rangers are saving fauna

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Kurtley Beale is heading home

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Harley, our new world champion

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My FAMILY Pat Egan – Shepparton, Victoria



THIS picture was taken at the Sir Douglas Nicholls Oval in Melbourne after a community football match three of my sons played in.

At the back are my nephews Chris Egan and Jarrah McCartney, my sons Leroy, Charles and Denzel Jackson (the baby), and another nephew Jordan Egan. I'm in the front with grand nephew Tjaegan Egan, either side of me are my Uncle Phillip Cooper and my daughter Lorraine Bamblett.

I also have another son Beau and two more daughters Lottie and Juanita Bamblett, who are away working in Canberra, and there was Claude Jackson, who we lost three years ago. He had a heart as big as Texas.

I was raised by a strong single mum, Lorraine Egan, and having five brothers I learnt to look after myself quite well.

For about three generations we have been a sporting family. It's like a legacy really. We've won championships in outdoor and indoor cricket, indoor softball, indoor dodgeball, football and basketball.

I got asked to play for Cricket Australia

when I was 16. I was honoured, but my mother was sick and I stayed home and helped her.

I think sport is something we've been gifted with and we just ran with it. We've excelled in everything we've done.

We're not little, and at the indoor cricket we've had people look at us and say 'we've got this in the bag'. I thought how rude and walked on to the court and told the kids so it put a bit of fire in the belly. Half the guys in the other team couldn't lift up their heads and look at us. Then we won and they're saying congratulations. We socked it to 'em.

Sport is our social life and I've put a lot of community children into sports too, and so have my children. It's been a chain reaction.

My children are my world. I bought them up myself and got them involved in sport to keep them out of trouble, and I can honestly say it works.

We don't waste days, we go out and have a barbecue and play volleyball or cricket, or go swimming.

And we also love our board games, too.

— As told to Jillian Mundy

OUR CHILDREN



THE Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre organised a camp to Preminghana in the north-west of the state to celebrate community, culture and country, over the state's Labor Day long weekend. There was a range of traditional and contemporary arts and crafts, both organised and spontaneous, at the camp. Here, Reeni Burgess, Keira Arnol, Tkarni Arnol and Billy Jennings show their tie-dye efforts, and Tarn Dennison the giant hammer he made. Full report, page 27. Picture: 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.

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A. B. Original claim music prize



A.B. Original's *Reclaim Australia* has won the \$30,000 Australian Music Prize. Ngarrindjeri man Trials and Yorta Yorta man Briggs released the album

last year, which includes the song *January 26*, a collaboration with Dan Sultan calling for a change to the date of Australia Day.

"That's the first step to doing something; it's the first big sign of solidarity that a nation can show with our people is acknowledging that that date is f***** up and it's not a date of celebration," Trials said.

Reclaim Australia was named in order to "piss off those rednecks", according to Briggs, referring to the racist movement of the same name. The album was also written in protest of the rise of the far right movement, according to the pair.

"Given the climate around now, it would be amiss if we didn't say something," Briggs said. "I think the rise in the vocal right was what we had to come back against, and they let Pauline Hanson in the Senate."

"They were parading around and we had to remind them 'We aren't just on the internet, we exist in your world. We live in your world. We walk on your stages, we walk on your streets.'"

The album has been praised not just for driving home a message against racism, but for its progressive sound, bringing Australian hip hop influences more in line with West Coast America.

The pair grew up listening to Public Enemy and Tupac, and while they could relate to their stories of dispossession and disenfranchisement, it still wasn't quite their story.

"We wanted to make the album that



A. B. Original's Trials, left, and Briggs.

didn't exist for us as kids," Briggs said.

"If we'd had this record growing up, who knows what we would be doing now," Trials said. "We didn't plan on solving any problems or winning any awards with this one, we just wanted to put the platform out there so our brothers, sisters and

cousins can do it next and easier."

Later this year, A.B. Original will be supporting Midnight Oil for their reunion show in Sydney's Domain.

However, the big concerts don't compare with the feeling they get playing for their own community.

"We've done arena shows, we've done massive 40,000-plus shows, and you come back and do the 400-plus shows and it's just all mob and they're the ones that hit you in the chest and give you the feels, and they remind you immediately that's what it's all about," Trials said.

Wyatt is WA Treasurer



YAMATJI man Ben Wyatt has become the first Aboriginal Treasurer after new Western Australian Labor

Premier Mark McGowan's Cabinet was sworn in last Friday.

Mr Wyatt, who won the southern Perth seat of Victoria Park, also took on the Aboriginal Affairs, Finance and Energy portfolios.

The first person to knock on his door and congratulate him was his uncle Ken Wyatt, the first Aboriginal person to be elected to the Federal Lower House, who also recently became the nation's first Indigenous minister when he was given the Indigenous Health and Aged Care portfolios.

"I'm incredibly proud of my Aboriginal background," Ben Wyatt told ABC Radio National.

"Ken and his two close cousins Brian and my father Cedric are from a generation that set some very important

firsts for Aboriginal people.

"Ken, of course, his record is very well known. My father was CEO of a department here in WA. I guess I hadn't appreciated the first Aboriginal Treasurer until after election day.

"It's wonderful, it's an important historical note, and it's something that I certainly take great pride in and I hope that

state – up from 20 before the election.

Kija woman Josie Farrer retained Kimberley for Labor.

Mr Wyatt told NITV news he had asked the Premier for the Aboriginal Affairs ministry.

"I want to keep Aboriginal Affairs and I've told Mark... because I think it's an opportunity for some real reform in WA," he said.

"It's an area that I think now, for the better part of 20 years perhaps, it has missed some opportunities."

Mr Wyatt said one of his first priorities would be to look at an Aboriginal custody notification service, similar to NSW, where police must notify the Aboriginal Legal Service when an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person is taken into custody.

"Clearly notifications are vital," Mr Wyatt said. "You can't have Aboriginal people in custody and not being notified, it's not a new concept and some states have been doing this for a long time with some success." – *With AAP*



Ken Wyatt, left, the first Aboriginal person to hold a Federal ministry, and Ben Wyatt, the first Aboriginal Treasurer. Picture: Marcus Alborn, ABC

other Aboriginal people do too."

The previously most Liberal-friendly state in Australia was completely re-cast as a Labor fortress in the recent election. Labor claimed 41 of 59 seats – with Kalgoorlie remaining the last undecided electorate in the



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Isaiah off to Eurovision

ABORIGINAL teenager Isaiah Firebrace (pictured) has been chosen to represent Australia in the Eurovision Song Contest.

Isaiah, 17, will jump on a 28-hour flight to Ukraine in May to be the third official Australian entry in the hugely popular music competition.

The Eurovision Song Contest is the most watched non-sporting event in the world, with more than 35 countries competing for musical glory.

Isaiah said he got the call when he was on the couch sipping a Coke and was left floored.

"It was so out of the blue and so unexpected," he said, adding that his dad nearly cried when he told him.

Isaiah, who won TV singing competition *The X-Factor* last year, is hoping he can channel his nerves into a powerful but stripped back performance.

"Nerves are good; it's all about how

you channel them into your performance and not get distracted by them," he said.

"You need to stay focused."

While Eurovision is known for its kitsch and kooky acts adorned with wind machines and odd props, Isaiah is keen to let his song make its impact without the pageantry.

"I don't really feel like it should be a very massive, Eurovisiony

extravaganza performance," he said.

"I think to keep it simple will be really interesting and cool, and will be a nice way to do it."

Isaiah will perform the ballad *Don't Come Easy*, a song based on his journey from rural kid to Australian recording artist.

The song is written by the same team that wrote last year's Eurovision Australian entry. It was sung by fellow

X Factor winner Dami Im, and came second.

The year before, Guy Sebastian took out fifth place.

Isaiah says the high standards set by his predecessors will be an inspiration, but won't intimidate him.

"I'm going to forget about all that and take it step by step, do my best, and that's all you can do," he said.

"If you think, 'Oh what if I'm going to place top 10 or top five?', all those thoughts are unnecessary."

Growing up in a rural Victorian town along the NSW border, the enormity of his endeavour is starting to sink in.

"I think most people go to Europe for a nice holiday, but I'm going to go over there to do something really amazing," he said.

"I feel really blessed about that."

Eurovision will begin in Kiev, Ukraine, on May 14. — AAP

Commission hears stories of abuse



NT FORMER and current juvenile detainees have shared harrowing stories of abuse, mistreatment and cruelty with the Royal Commission into Juvenile Detention in the Northern Territory.

Last week the royal commission held hearings in Alice Springs and heard from a young Aboriginal man that when he was a juvenile he had been threatened with rape by guards and was forced to shower with adult prisoners.

The young man said he was sent to Darwin's adult prison from Don Dale Youth Detention Centre after throwing a chair at a guard during a riot at Christmas 2011 and was kept in solitary confinement.

"While I was showering an adult prisoner was standing next to me. I was really embarrassed and scared and I turned to face the wall," he said.

The then 17-year-old said officers put a spit hood on him each time he left isolation to visit a nurse even though he hadn't been spitting.

"I couldn't breathe and I didn't know what was going on. I freaked out," he said.

The young man, who is still in

custody, said one guard asked when he'd turn 18 and return to the adult prison, saying, "I'll get some of the guys to rape you when you get back."

Once back at Don Dale, the young man said he and other children were chained to a fence for more than an hour with their arms above their heads in 2012 after one kid sprayed a fire extinguisher into the cells.

"One guard grabbed my arms and another put me in a headlock. I think I fainted, dropped to the ground and then they picked me up and they handcuffed me to the fence," he said.

The officers took the detainees' bedding and mattresses away after firefighters hosed out the cells.

"That night we were locked in our cells on the wet concrete with no bedding. I was only wearing jocks. I think some of the kids were naked," he said.

He said he had a sore shoulder after the incident but was denied medical treatment for two months.

The young man, who left school in Year 7, said his eyesight had been a problem since he was 12 but he was never tested in Don

Dale and had only recently been given glasses.

His grandmother told the inquiry she was shocked to discover the conditions at Don Dale, stating it was "very frightening, even as an adult".

"There was no privacy. The officers were always within earshot. I think he wanted to tell me things but he couldn't. He looked scared and down," she said.

At the hearings, a male former

"I think that 80% of the detainees like me needed someone to talk to... I saw some kids lost without culture."

Northern Territory prison guard who forcibly held a young girl down while she was stripped to her underwear called it standard "procedure".

Former Don Dale shift supervisor Trevor Hansen told the royal commission he restrained a misbehaving 15-year-old girl face down on a cement bed as a female colleague removed her

clothes to prevent self-harm.

Mr Hansen said at the time of the incident in 2009 there was no guidelines in place restricting a male guard from taking part in the undressing of a young female detainee.

"It was procedure," he said. "The clothing was removed so they couldn't use those garments to hang themselves."

The girl received a lump on her cheek when she hit her head while being held and wanted to press charges against Mr Hansen, but police never interviewed him.

In 2012, another 15-year-old girl claimed Mr Hansen threw her to the ground of a cell and locked the girl's legs behind her buttocks for refusing to leave an exercise yard.

The young inmate said she couldn't breathe properly, sustained injuries to her foot and bruising to her ribs.

Mr Hansen said the incident was investigated but no one in the chain of command had any issue with his conduct.

"The messy nature of the way we had to bring her inside makes you look at yourself in that regard, and the way things

were done," Mr Hansen said.

"There was a struggle and she was fighting all the way through. You want to take them in without injuring them, and that did not happen."

Mr Hansen denied ever directly strip-searching girl detainees or threatening to, but said chronic short-staffing meant he was needed to be in the same room to protect the sole female officer conducting the search.

The inquiry heard from three current and former youth inmates who painted a disturbing picture of abuse and prolonged isolation.

Former inmate Jamal Turner said there were no interpreters provided for children from Aboriginal communities who had difficulty speaking English, and some white guards called them "dumb black kids".

Another former detainee said when he broke his collarbone from a sports injury guards ignored his complaints, and it took three days for him to be taken to the hospital.

He called for culturally-informed activities and counselling.

"I think that 80% of the detainees like me needed someone to talk to... I saw some kids lost without culture," he said. — AAP

● Editorial, page 20

Report finds system failing



A CROSS-PARTY parliamentary inquiry has found the current NSW child protection system is failing Aboriginal kids and families.

The report, tabled in the NSW Legislative Council, has urged reform and a one-off injection of funding to supporting children and keeping families together, rather than more child removals and out-of-home care.

The NSW Greens welcomed the report, saying it was vital to invest in families.

The Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Care State Secretariat (AbSec) also praised the findings.

"The report has confirmed what AbSec, Aboriginal community controlled organisations and our communities more broadly have been saying for a long time – that the current approach to child protection has failed, and continues to fail Aboriginal children," AbSec chief executive Tim Ireland said.

"The report acknowledged the need for a surge in investment for early intervention and prevention, with particular attention on Aboriginal community-led and community controlled approaches to address the over-representation of Aboriginal children within the

statutory system, reflecting the advocacy of AbSec and other Aboriginal organisations.

"The report further praised the efforts of AbSec and other Aboriginal community stakeholders to design and advocate for practices which enhance self-determination for our communities."

Greens MP David Shoebridge said there were "deep systemic failings in the NSW child protection system despite a record annual budget of \$1.9 billion".

Resources

"Currently 83% of all child protection resources are focused on removing children and keeping them in out of home care and only 17% spent on assisting families through early intervention," he said.

"That's a funding mix that guarantees generations of lost children.

"With so many resources focused on removing children and putting them into care, there aren't the resources to do the crucial things that keep kids out of care in the first place.

"The only long-term answer is ensuring a move to early intervention combined with far greater Aboriginal self-determination in the child protection system such as is afforded through Grandmothers Against Removals."



Yugambeh Elders Ted Williams and Patricia O'Connor with Queensland Commonwealth Games Minister Kate Jones before their trip to London.

Games invitation by Yugambeh Elders



YUGAMBEH Elders Ted Williams and Patricia O'Connor joined Queen Elizabeth II in London last week to formally invite the

First Nations people of the Commonwealth to attend next year's Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast.

Speaking at the Buckingham Palace Forecourt during the launch of the Queen's baton relay, Mr Williams greeted the crowd in Yugambeh language.

"Jingeri Jimbelung (Hello, my friends)," he said.

"Our Commonwealth has many First Nations people, and as traditional custodians of the Yugambeh land on which the next Games will be held, we extend an invitation to all other First Nations people of the Commonwealth to join us in a 21st century-style celebration of the Commonwealth Games.

"We look forward to welcoming people from all over the Commonwealth to Yugambeh land in April 2018. These Games will afford a celebration of sport, in tandem with a celebration of all of the wonderfully diverse cultures that reside within our Commonwealth for both the enjoyment and the betterment of all.

"Excitement is high as we await your arrival.

"Nyah-nya-bu (Goodbye)."

Action plan

Commonwealth Games Minister Kate Jones said the Queensland Government had also approved a Commonwealth Games Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which identifies opportunities for Indigenous involvement and employment.

Ms Jones said Indigenous creative agency Gilimbaa would design the final RAP document that will reflect the diverse

cultures of the Gold Coast and Queensland.

"We acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional owners along with the Yugambeh Elders Advisory Group and Gold Coast Indigenous Working Group who have helped develop this plan," she said.

"Their contribution will ensure the Games nurture a rich and powerful sense of community pride and ownership throughout Queensland and particularly in our event cities of the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Townsville and Cairns."

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation (GOLDOC) chairman Peter Beattie said the GC2018 RAP was the first of its kind for an event of this scale and would contribute to the Games' legacy by setting a benchmark for all future major events in Australia and across the Commonwealth.



Yugambeh Elders Ted Williams and Patricia O'Connor on stage with Queen Elizabeth II in London.



Mardi Gras correction

ON page 27 of our previous edition this picture, taken at the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, was incorrectly described.

It should have read John Ridgeway and Alita Morgan. The *Koori Mail* apologises for the mistake.

Mutitjulu lease welcomed



THE Central Australian community of Mutitjulu has signed off on a community-driven township lease that traditional owners hope will put them firmly in control of their future.

At the signing ceremony last week, Central Land Council (CLC) director David Ross said it was a profoundly important agreement between residents and traditional owners.

"It's a negotiation about future roles and responsibilities for land use in a community that we hope will be widely copied," he said.

Traditional owner Judy Trigger said the sublease was a good idea that has been a long time coming.

"We was sitting down long time, asking government mob for help, we been to Canberra," she said.

"Today we was really happy because all government mob was helping us, and land council and all the members."

Ms Trigger hopes the new arrangement will help Mutitjulu "keeping kids strong and looking after community".

Former CLC chair Bruce Breaden called for new houses to be built.

"We been talking about that for many years," he said.

Mr Ross said the CLC worked with Mutitjulu since 2010 to devise a community-driven leasing model.

"Handing control over the community to a Commonwealth officer was never going to fly with our constituents," he said.

"Our model keeps decision-making in local Aboriginal hands, but also acknowledges the need to build community capacity and strong governance."



Bruce Breaden, Sammy Wilson and Reggie Uluru signing the Mutitjulu sublease, witnessed by Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion. Picture: CLC

The signing ceremony near Mutitjulu's 'handback hill' follows the ratification of the sublease by the board of the jointly managed Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park.

Last December, traditional owners and the CLC agreed to grant a sublease until 2084, when the head lease for the park expires.

Initially held by the Commonwealth's Executive Director Community Leasing (EDTL), the sublease must transfer to a

yet-to-be-established community corporation when the CLC is satisfied that the new corporation has the capacity to manage it. If the corporation runs into trouble, the sublease can be transferred back to the EDTL.

"From today, the EDTL must consult with a committee of residents and traditional owners before making any land use decisions in Mutitjulu," Mr Ross said.

For the first time, organisations such as

the health clinic, the school, the store, or a community housing provider will be given legal permission to occupy premises in Mutitjulu and start to pay rent.

"These rent payments will fund community-driven projects similar to the Mutitjulu pool and the many other successful projects pioneered by our community development program," Mr Ross said.

There will be no rent payments to individuals and Parks Australia will not charge rent for the sublease.

When the CLC first proposed its community leasing model in 2010 the Commonwealth rejected it.

"We persevered because traditional owners consistently opposed the Commonwealth's township leasing model and we are very pleased Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion has accepted our model at long last," Mr Ross said.

"We also welcome the additional benefits the Commonwealth has agreed to make available upon signing of the sublease, such as the \$10 million investment in community housing, modest accommodation for visiting traditional owners, and \$2 million for a community business centre."

Over the next two years, the EDTL and the community consultative committee must agree on a development master plan for Mutitjulu, and the CLC will remain closely involved.

The Mutitjulu Community Aboriginal Corporation (MCAC) asked for a sublease six years ago but the community's location inside a national park leased to the Commonwealth made the negotiations difficult and time consuming.

Cashless welfare trial is extended



THE Federal Government has decided to extend the trial of cashless welfare cards at Kununurra in

Western Australia and Ceduna in South Australia, despite nearly half of participants (49%) having said it made their lives worse.

Only 22% said it had made their lives better.

The cards quarantine 80% of welfare payments, which cannot be used to buy alcohol or gamble, but can pay for housing, food, clothing, household supplies and essentials.

The remaining 20% of a welfare payment is placed in a person's regular bank account and can be withdrawn as cash.

Both trial sites were chosen because of their high Aboriginal population. The trial was originally supposed to be for one year but will now continue in the two locations with six-monthly reviews.

An independent review found evidence indicates the debit card has had some minor success in reducing alcohol consumption, illegal drug use and gambling, but

that trial participants had limited awareness of local drug and alcohol support services, as well as financial and family support services.

The study found one in four participants who drank reported consuming alcohol less frequently.

Just under a third of gamblers in the trial reported reducing their habit, while 24% told of using illegal drugs less often.

The report also suggested that participants and their family members felt that the overall level of humbugging had increased.

Service providers and Aboriginal community leaders said that while they believed humbugging had been reduced, they felt people who were known to have access to cash, including aged pensioners, were more likely to be targeted.

Federal Social Services Minister Alan Tudge said the trials had shown "terrific outcomes".

"We have still got a lot more

work to do," he said. "Some of these places are pretty devastated places, largely because of the poison of alcohol to be honest, and this is just one tool to try to get on top of it, but it seems to be a tool which is working to date."

"I do have leaders from other regions who are requesting now of us a rollout of this initiative in their

"We heard of one stakeholder stating that prostitution was taking place to circumvent the card, which is extremely concerning."

area and obviously we are listening to them, but we simply haven't made any decisions as to what our next step might be."

Greens Senator Rachel Siewert said the trial's extension would come as a shock to many who were told they would only be on the card for a year, arguing there was no evidence to support a national rollout.

"Community leaders admitted that people are getting around the card and finding ways to access cash but couldn't comment on the scale; we heard of this happening and I suspect it will only get worse," she said.

"We heard of one stakeholder stating that prostitution was taking place to circumvent the card, which is extremely concerning."

"I would like to note that the most recent SA police statistics for the Ceduna area and surrounds did not make it into the report in full, and show in the last rolling year."

Senator Siewert pointed out that SA Police statistics for Ceduna showed robbery and related offences went up by 111%; aggravated robbery went up by 120%; non-aggravated robbery went up by 400%; serious criminal trespass went up by 20% and residential by 35%; and fraud, deception and related offences went up by 51%.

"Why was this not a key part of

the report?" she said.

"It clearly shows a huge jump in robbery, as well as other crimes."

"Instead, the report brushes these stats aside, saying that break-ins were committed by juveniles and people from out of town."

"The Government avoided these growing stats when they prematurely spruiked the card earlier this year, even though it's clear they need to be properly interrogated."

Ian Trust, the executive director of the Wunan Foundation, an Aboriginal development organisation in the East Kimberley, said there were clear differences before and after the trial.

"You could easily tell when there was money in town because there was wild parties everywhere, people drunk in the park during the day, the money manifested itself as more alcohol," he said.

"People are now buying more food, they're even going to the hardware store and buying pot plants for their houses, which has never happened before."



The cast and writer take a bow to a standing ovation in Hobart – Lisa Maza, James Slee, Luke Carroll, Tammy Anderson, Nathan Maynard, Kelton Pell, Nazaree Dickerson and Trevor Jamieson.

Truly great Season

By JILLIAN MUNDY



LAST Friday was a huge night for Tasmanian Aboriginal mutton-birders

and a cast of leading Aboriginal actors in *The Season* when the play hit home shores in Hobart.

Written by first time playwright and mutton-birder Nathan Maynard, *The Season* tells of the Duncan family during a mutton-bird season on Dog Island in the Bass Strait.

While the family is fictional, characteristics, yarns and lingo in the play were familiar to many in the audience. There were even a few lines that referenced actual people in the audience and a discussion about the Tasmanian Government's divisive Aboriginality policy.

The Season is a rich tapestry of storylines, many jovial, others deeply poignant, and an insight into the strongly held Tasmanian Aboriginal tradition of mutton-birding and politics of Aboriginal identity in Tasmania.

The story follows the highs and lows of the mutton-bird season; having no TV reception and basic living conditions results in a lot of shenanigans, with every problem being complicated by the island factor, dealing with extreme weather and 'family'.

"Traditions"

"I may have written this yarn, but the story is really a testimony to the old coes who carried our traditions through a time where they were being pressured to assimilate," Mr Maynard said.

"These old fellas deserve to be depicted on stage."

The cast had the chance to meet some of the people their characters were based on and hear plenty more yarns about birding at an Aboriginal community function after the show.

People had travelled from northern Tasmania and the Bass Strait islands to Hobart for the show, ahead of the real mutton-bird season, which starts at the end of the month.

The local storylines and attention to detail in mutton-bird harvesting technique, with birds represented by pieces of cloth, were not lost on them, with applause throughout the play, singing along to familiar songs and a standing ovation at the end.

"I'm so glad my community are proud of themselves," Mr Maynard told the *Koori Mail* after the show.

Actor Luke Carroll, who plays Larrikin Ritchie in the production, was overwhelmed by the response from the local Aboriginal community.

"Tonight reiterated why we do what we do as actors; that's to affect an audience and to be affected," he said.

"Subtleties"

"The audience got all of the subtleties within the script that Nathan Maynard had written and that, as an actor, is an amazing honour that all of us will never, ever forget."

The Season is produced by Tasmania Performs, directed by Isaac Drandic and features a cast of seven leading Aboriginal actors drawn from across the country.

Producer Annette Downs said to have a black writer, director and cast was rare.

"It is creatively and culturally controlled by the Aboriginal community," she said.

The Season premiered at the Sydney Opera House, to rave reviews, earlier this year.

Ms Downs confirmed the play will be in one more capital city this year and plans are under way to tour it in the second half of 2018.

She hopes it will also be picked up by a new collaborative First Nations touring circuit, between Canada, New Zealand and Australia.



Mutton-birders Rex Burgess, Lucy Gardner and Fiona Maher with *The Season* actor Trevor Jamieson and director Isaac Drandic.



Actor Kelton Pell with mutton-birder Buck Brown from Cape Barren Island.



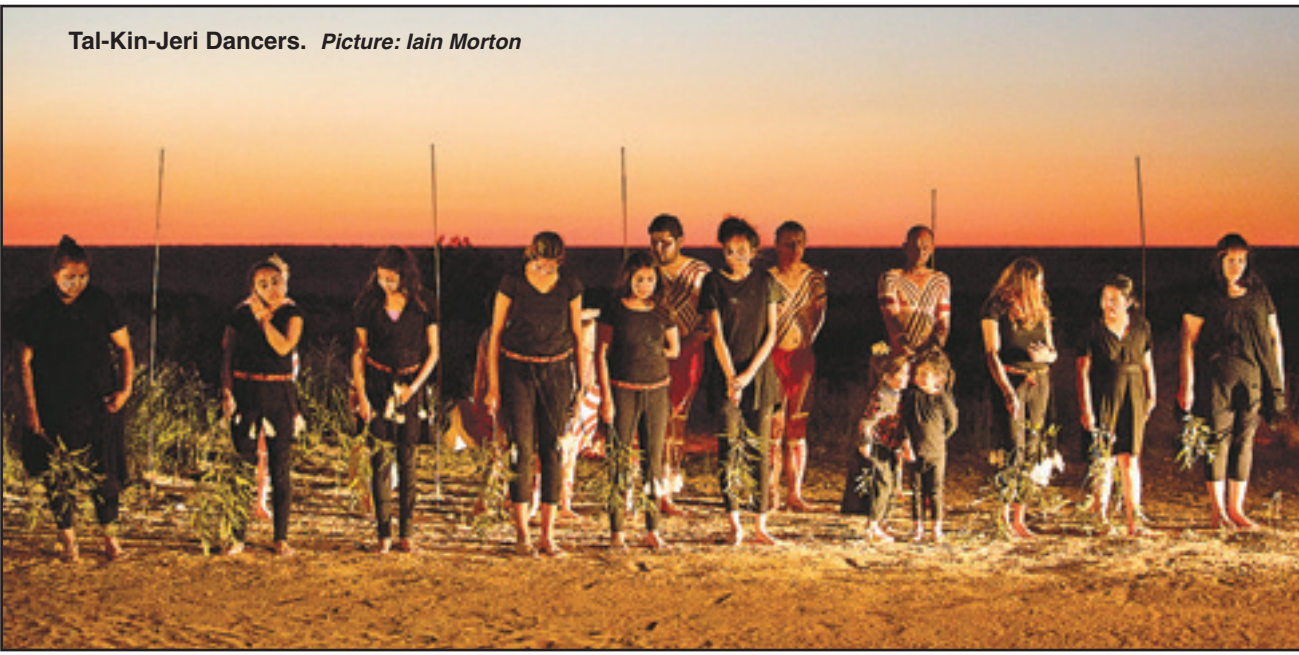
Tammy Andersen, from Melbourne, Carly Spotswood, from Launceston, and Rosie Smith, from Hobart.



Actor James Slee and Michael Mansell discuss mutton-birding in detail.



Nathan Maynard and Luke Carroll.



Healing ceremonies for ailing Murray-Darling river system



TRADITIONAL owners will perform age-old river ceremonies along the Murray-Darling river system this month in a continuing effort to heal the ailing waterways. Dancers from the Ngarrindjeri, Ngilyaampaa and Barkindji nations will perform ceremonies that tell the creation stories of the two great rivers.

Major (Moogy) Sumner, a Ngarrindjeri Elder and songman, decided to revive the practice in 2010.

"We've been doing the ceremonies for a long time, since way before the white man ever set foot on our country," he said.

"These waterways are our life blood. It breaks our hearts to see the degradation caused by people taking too much out of the rivers."

The ceremonies are open to the public and organisers hope they will unite the communities of the Murray-Darling Basin to focus on action that will restore the rivers to health and promote sustainable water use.

"We live on the Coorong at the very end of the river system and we know what happens when all the water is taken from us upstream," Mr Sumner said.

"Threatened"

"The river mouth closes up and all our birds and animals are threatened."

The Ringbalin Ceremony begins in Walgett on March 25 and travels to Bourke, Menindee, Mildura, Renmark, Murray Bridge and finishes at Goolwa on April 2. Everyone is invited to attend and there is a chance for the public to learn a traditional dance and

perform with the dancers in a closing ceremony.

The final performance at Goolwa will be introduced by Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes, and features the Tal-Kin-Jeri Dancers, Jack Buckskin and the Kuma Kaaru Dancers, Milan Dhiyaan, the Kunha Dancers and the River Warriors. Ngarrindjeri singer-songwriter Allan Sumner has written a new work specially for the performance and he will be joined by Rita Lindsay, who will sing traditional Ngarrindjeri songs before the corroboree begins at 6pm.

Native foods and bush tucker meals will be available from 5pm by celebrity chef Andrew Fielke and Creative Native catering, and there will be an art and craft display at the venue at the Bristow Smith Reserve on Barrage Road, Goolwa.



Aboriginal Heritage Mudies Creek on the Golden Highway, Whittingham

Roads and Maritime Services invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places to register to be consulted about a road work proposal on the Golden Highway starting at Mudies Creek through to the Putty Road at Whittingham, about one hour northwest of Newcastle in NSW.

The proposal is to build a new bridge at Mudies Creek, and widen the Golden Highway through to the Putty Road to alleviate flooding, improve traffic flow and road safety. It may result in Roads and Maritime:

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

To register your interest to be consulted, please contact Warren Steadman on (02) 4908 7610 or warren.l.steadman@rms.nsw.gov.au by Friday 7 April 2017.

For general information please contact the Project Manager, Tom McKenna, on (02) 4908 7813 or thomas.mckenna@rms.nsw.gov.au

A05856

Government is told of 'failure'

By RUDI MAXWELL



THE Close the Gap Campaign steering committee has delivered a stark message to government: Your approach is failing

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In delivering its response to the Federal Government's 2017 Close the Gap report – which showed that only one of the seven Close the Gap targets is on track – the steering committee called on all levels of government to do more than repeat empty platitudes.

"After 10 years and despite bipartisan support for closing the gap, Australian governments at all levels are failing Australia's First Peoples," the steering committee said.

The Close the Gap Campaign steering committee, chaired by National Congress of Australia's First Peoples co-chair Jackie Huggins and National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) chief executive Pat Turner, delivered its

progress and priorities report on Close the Gap Day, March 16.

It calls on governments to take a more holistic approach to Indigenous health, including consideration of social and cultural determinants and to initiate a national inquiry into racism in hospitals and other health care settings.

And, as in previous years, the report says all governments must work with and listen to Indigenous people and peak bodies, instead of continuing their historic "imposed, unengaged and often rushed service delivery".

"Treating people"

"At the moment what we call 'health' in the health system is about treating people who aren't well," Ms Turner told the *Koori Mail*.

"As Aboriginal people we look at our cultural approach to health as holistic. So you have to have your identity, know your mob, your cultural grounding. Your relationship with your family, community and country is as important as your spiritual fulfilment and happiness, so your mental health, all of those things fit together and things occur within our

society and they relate to what we call nowadays the societal and cultural determinants of health."

Ms Turner said that meant taking into consideration housing, education, racism and a range of other factors that affect Indigenous people's health, as well as their physical wellbeing.

Dr Huggins and Ms Turner called on the Federal Government to renew the relationship with First Nations peoples by engaging with Indigenous peak bodies and leaders, restoring funding to Congress and holding a national summit with First Nations leaders this year.

They echoed demands from the Redfern Statement – a blueprint for a better approach to Indigenous affairs delivered by a broad range of First Nations organisations during last year's federal election campaign – that government needs to listen to Indigenous people and start doing things differently.

"The reality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is that we have a life expectancy at least 10 years shorter than non-Indigenous Australians. We need urgent action," Dr Huggins said.

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about
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Melbourne, 23 March 2017

10 am–3 pm OR 4 pm–7 pm

Aborigines Advancement League
2 Watt St, Thornbury

Online Message Stick

engage.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-representative-body

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Email: treaty.vic@dpc.vic.gov.au

Web: aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au

ABORIGINAL VICTORIA

Aboriginal Heritage Newell Highway Mungle Back Creek to Boggabilla

Roads and Maritime Services invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places for the Mungle Back Creek and Boggabilla Newell Highway upgrade project to register for consultation.

The proposal includes planning for up to 28 kilometres of new road surface, 3.5 metres wide lanes, intersection improvements and the provision of two new overtaking lanes. This would make the highway safer and more consistent with the adjoining sections of the Newell Highway.

Registrations must be received by phone or in writing by **Monday 17 April 2017**.

The proposal may result in Roads and Maritime:

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

AG5933

For further information or to register your interest, please contact Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officer, Western Region, Jeffery Charlton on (02) 6861 1658, 0428 463 258 or jeffery.charlton@rms.nsw.gov.au



NAIDOC GRANTS 2017

Aboriginal Affairs invites you to apply for funding to support NAIDOC Week celebrations across NSW.

Applications will be accepted until
5pm, 27 April 2017.

Grants from \$500-\$1,000 are available. For more significant events, applications up to \$3,000 will be considered.

We have an online application process through:
<https://aboriginalaffairs.smartygrants.com.au/>

If you have any questions about NAIDOC Week 2017, please contact your nearest Aboriginal Affairs regional office:

Dubbo:	02 6887 4402
Batemans Bay:	02 4478 2659
Coffs Harbour:	02 5622 8827
Sydney/Newcastle:	02 9561 8824

You can also call us on 1800 019 998 or email at
NAIDOC2017@aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au



www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au

Hair samples reveal history

By KEIRA JENKINS



RESEARCHERS working on the Aboriginal Heritage Project have finished analysing more than 100 hair samples collected from the Point Pearce (South Australia), Koonibba (NSW) and Cherbourg (Queensland) communities.

The project aims to reconstruct the genetic history of Aboriginal Australia from the historic hair samples stored at the South Australia Museum.

The original hair samples were collected by Norman and Dorothy Tindale between the 1920s and 1970s.

University of Adelaide Australian Centre for Ancient DNA population geneticist Raymond Tobler said the results from the hair samples have major implications.

"When we go to communities we collect information about songlines and genealogies," he told the *Koori Mail*.

"Then we can go to our records and compare. This DNA could help people get in touch with their families.

"What we've found is that Aboriginal people stayed on country until colonisation. A study like this hasn't ever been done in Australia because Aboriginal people were already subject to so much that there hasn't been great trust or goodwill towards scientists.

"That's why we felt it was so important to go to communities and get feedback from Elders and families. We wanted to talk to Aboriginal communities and tell them what could be done with the data."

Dr Tobler said the project's findings show the significance of Aboriginal people's relationship with the land.

"Aboriginal people have lived here longer than anyone has lived in Europe," he said. "Our research shows Aboriginal people tend to stay on country. That means their connection to the land goes deeper."

Dr Tobler said his interest in the project stemmed from his own family history.

"My grandfather was part of the Stolen Generations and I don't know where I'm from because he never used to talk about it," he said.

"Sparked interest"

"My father was born in Cairns and my grandfather grew up in Cherbourg, so that's what sparked my interest.

"My brother wants something he can tell his kids about our family. It's not for everyone; sometimes we'll go to a donor's family and they won't want to participate, but the vast majority are really keen."

Centre for Ancient DNA director, geneticist Alan Cooper, said researchers are keen to hear from descendants and people who remember being part of the original study.

He said the research, alongside information from communities, will allow them to make a 'map' of Aboriginal Australia before colonisation.

"We can see how different Aboriginal groups travelled for ceremonies, where they traded, and reconstruct as much of that information as possible," Professor Cooper said.

"We can gather that information from the DNA in the hair clippings that were collected and gather as much information as possible about life before European settlement.

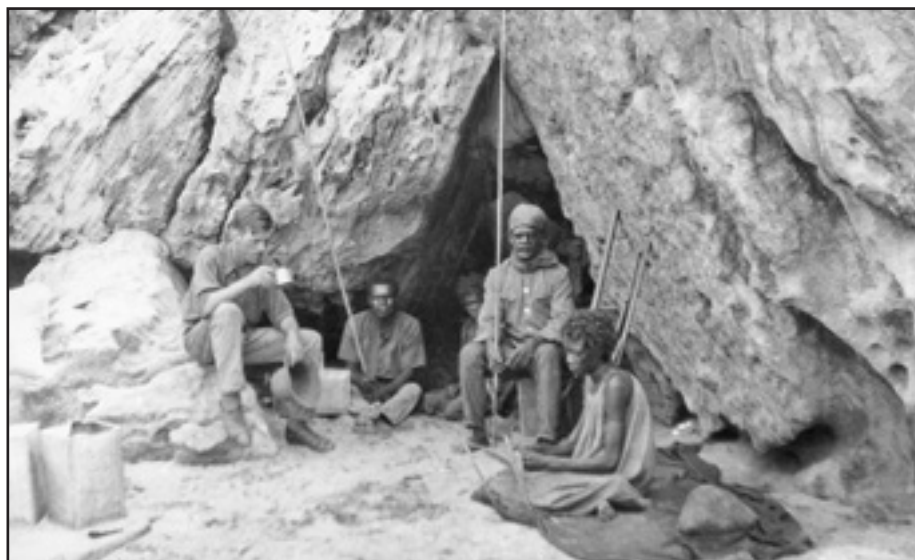
"As far as we can tell permission was given to take the samples. The diaries of the initial expeditions are quite detailed.



Norman and Dorothy Tindale and Joseph and Bee Birdsell in camp at Boggabilla, far northern NSW, in July 1938.



Party at work during the Harvard and Adelaide universities expedition 1938-39.



Rock shelter at Bathurst Head (Thartali) in Cape York Peninsula, occupied by the expedition during field work. Picture by Herbert Hale, February 1927.

"But it is still very important that we find the descendants of the original people who took part in the research to get permission for genetic testing, which couldn't have been given at first because there was no such thing as 'genetic testing' when the samples were collected."

The team in charge of the task of finding descendants and liaising with communities is SA Museum's community outreach officer Shane Agius, Aboriginal family history officer Ali Abdullah-Highfold, and community liaison officers Isabel O'Loughlin and Amy Donoghue.

Ms O'Loughlin said the team goes directly to family members to ask permission to test the hair samples.

"When we go into a community we build up a rapport with the people living there," she said.

"Most people are excited and really want the testing to happen because of what it could mean for their family."

Ms O'Loughlin said part of the project is making sure that communities can see the results of the study.

"People get very emotional to think 'that was my grandmother's hair or my mother's hair,'" she said.

"Even coming in to see the collection we have, people get very emotional."

Mr Agius said that although there is overwhelming support for the project among communities, there are always questions that need to be answered.

"Once people realise how it works and what it can mean they're likely to get on board," he said.

"I think we've only had one family not sign up out of about 110 so far."

Some of the concern about the DNA testing is if it can be used in native title claims, but Mr Agius said the team alleviates those fears.

"It can't be used in native title claims," he said. "Even if it could be used, we don't want to get involved in that."

Red Dust gets to heart of matter

By JILLIAN MUNDY



MORE than 100 people, many of them Aboriginal or workers from Aboriginal programs, attended a Red Dust Healing one-day seminar in Launceston.

Delivered by Waramanga man Tom Powell, Red Dust aims to help participants deal with violence, abuse and neglect in their lives. The Launceston event was a teaser to his company's three-day intensive workshop, and a six-day 'train the trainer' workshop.

Mr Powell said Red Dust Healing focuses on a holistic cultural approach, addressing identity, family dynamics, relationships, Aboriginal history and the impacts of colonisation, family violence, substance use, mental health, grief and loss.

"It's about moving away from our head and coming back to our heart; we were born to love," he said. "It may come from an Aboriginal perspective, but it is for everyone."

Mr Powell, a gently speaking, engaging and motivational speaker and storyteller, has delivered the seminar to 12,000 people in 370 communities in Australia and overseas.

"I'm no-one special; I'm humbled by my ability to communicate with people," he said. "This is not rocket science, it's about right, wrong, love, respect, families



At the seminar, from left, Bianca Templar, Dawn Blazeley, Wendal Pitchford, Dave Warrener, Hank Horton, Nola Hooper, Tom Powell, Martin Hay, Lorraine Beeton, Murray Everett, Greg Murray and Roseanne Davenport-West.

– the basics of life, the commonality of humanness.

"Life is and always will be about people. You look after the person and the rest of the stuff will look after itself. Unfortunately we started managing systems and left the people behind.

"Jealousy, insecurity and greed are ripping our communities apart."

Pakana man Dave Warrener, a counsellor/consultant for Relationship Australia's Aboriginal Services, attended the seminar.

"It's not just about learning new skills to work with Aboriginal men, but to do some important spiritual healing on myself," he told the *Koori Mail*.

"I've learnt so much about how you can

heal on country, our own land, so long as we are in tune with where we are.

"I don't think you can underestimate the power of healing through mindfulness and the connection to land."

The seminar was hosted by Colony 47's Aboriginal Community Pathways, in association with the Aboriginal Elders Council of Tasmania.

Coroner calls for changes



A WESTERN Australian coroner has recommended better mental health care in prisons after the deaths of two inmates, one of them Aboriginal, in separate incidents.

In her finding into the death of 20-year-old Aboriginal man Jayden Bennell, who hanged himself in a cleaning storeroom at Casuarina Prison in March 2013, Coroner Sarah Linton recommended that the Department of Corrective Services invest more resources in ensuring prisoners are given regular access to psychiatrists, and that overall an emphasis be placed on providing a more holistic approach to mental health care.

"Efforts should also be made where possible to hire some Aboriginal mental health workers to form part of the mental health team," she said.

Ms Linton noted Mr Bennell's family saw the need for the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody to be implemented.

"It is difficult, within the context of an isolated death, for me to consider many of these findings and recommendations and to make any assessment of what is necessary and practical," Ms Linton said.

"I am aware the Government has embarked on a widespread review of the coronial process in Western Australia, which will include specific

consideration of procedures for death in custody investigations.

"Accordingly, I propose to refer both this finding and the submissions filed on behalf of Jayden Bennell's family to the State Coroner, who can

consider them as part of all the overall process.

"I do not intend to imply that I endorse what is contained within those submissions, but I believe it is appropriate to refer them on so that they can be given due consideration."

Mr Bennell was the grandson of playwright and boxer Eddie Bennell, who was involved in establishing the royal commission more than 25 years ago.

"Efforts should also be made where possible to hire some Aboriginal mental health workers to form part of the mental health team."



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Have you left school? Do you want to go back to work? Are you thinking of a career change? This is your chance! We're looking for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians to join the Australian Public Service.

We offer opportunities across several government departments in regional and some city locations. You will receive on-the-job training while working full-time and earning a good salary.

The programme starts in late October and runs for 12 months. After successful completion of the programme you will have a nationally recognised certificate or diploma qualification.

Applications close on 11 April 2017.

For more information check out the Indigenous Apprenticeships Programme at humanservices.gov.au/indigenousapprenticeships

Affirmative measure - Indigenous: The filling of this employment opportunity is intended to constitute an Affirmative Measure - Indigenous under section 8(1) of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* and is open to only Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



Treaty calls at meets



DELEGATES to regional dialogues in Perth and Sydney organised by the Referendum Council have called for a

treaty – just like earlier meetings in Darwin and Dubbo.

At the WA meeting, more than 100 First Nations people from the Murchison, Gascoyne, Goldfields, Pilbara and South West agreed that a treaty would provide formal recognition of Aboriginal culture and also agreed that Aboriginal people were not properly represented in Parliament and that a formal 'voice to the Parliament' would help address the problem.

The group agreed that a statement of acknowledgement in the Australian Constitution, which recognises that Aboriginal people were in Australia first, was symbolic only and something more substantive is required.

The Sydney meeting came to the same position.

Perth dialogue co-convenor Gordon Cole said there are many countries with treaties with First Nations people, but Australia is the only nation in the Commonwealth that doesn't have a treaty.

Mr Cole said a formal voice in Parliament could take the form of some designated seats for First Nations people, as occurs in New Zealand, or a permanent body that feeds into Parliament, which would enhance First Nations people's participation in Australian democracy.

Mr Cole said the conference



Delegates to the Referendum Council's regional dialogues in Sydney (top) and Perth (above).

also spoke about people being referred to as First Nations people, rather than Indigenous, which many don't accept.

"First Nations reflect the 260-plus groups that were here in Australia prior to 1788, as part of the collective that is Aboriginal

Australia," Mr Cole said.

About 100 delegates from Sydney, the NSW north coast, central coast, Newcastle and

south coast attended the Sydney meeting.

Co-convenor of the Sydney dialogue Roy Ah-See, who chairs the NSW Aboriginal Land Council, said the meeting was challenging, but resulted in a shared sense of unity and optimism.

"We've been having this conversation about basic human rights, truth and social justice for decades," he said.

"There were differing opinions on what recognition means for delegates, their families and communities, but we got through it and came to a consensus. People in the room felt it was important we stand united, not divided, and that this process delivers a voice for First Nations people across NSW and the country."

The meetings were part of 12 regional dialogues being held around Australia by the Referendum Council to help advise on the next steps towards a referendum to recognise Indigenous people in the Constitution.

Participants at the Perth meeting also emphasised that WA is a large state with different and diverse cultural practices. Delegates also spoke of institutional and structural racism in the delivery of services in First Nations communities.

On the completion of the regional dialogues, 10 delegates from each region will meet at a national convention at Uluru in May to come to a consensus position which will be put to the Prime Minister and Opposition Leader.



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Energy

2018 INDIGENOUS GRADUATE PROGRAM

We are seeking Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander graduates from a range of disciplines who are motivated to establish their careers while contributing to the Australian community to join the Department's 16 month Graduate Program. The Department recognises the valuable and significant contribution that can be made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through their connection with and responsibility for land, water and heritage.

We have a committed, dynamic and positive workforce where people are supportive, energetic, respected and valued. You will develop your personal and professional skills with interesting and meaningful work through our one-on-one mentoring program. Learning and development is encouraged and innovation is critical to achieving our goals. You will be supported by a cohort of previous Indigenous graduates as well as the Indigenous Staff Network (ISN) who aim to:

- Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees working in the Department.
- Share information and experiences between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff in the Department.
- Inform the Department of trends or key issues identified through ISN business.
- Promote cultural awareness and respect across the Department.

While on the program you will complete four rotations of approximately 17 weeks, each in different areas to allow you to experience the diversity of our Department. While all graduate positions are located in Canberra, there is also the exciting possibility of work placements outside of the Canberra office environment, for your second, third and fourth rotation. Locations may include:

- the Australian Antarctic Division and the Parks Division (Tasmania)
- Christmas Island
- Booderee National Park (Jervis Bay)
- Kakadu National Park (Northern Territory)
- the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ACT)
- the Science Division and Parks Division (Darwin)

To be eligible to apply for the program, graduates must meet the following criteria:

- Be an Australian Citizen, or will be granted Australian citizenship before January 2018.
- Have completed at least a three-year degree by 31 December 2017 or have completed a degree in the last five years.
- Can provide evidence of your Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander Heritage.
- Be willing to relocate to Canberra, ACT.

We offer a competitive program with graduates engaged as full-time employees commencing at the APS3 level and progressing to the APS4 level part way through the program. On successful completion of the program graduates will advance to the APS5 level.

Graduates are encouraged to apply for the graduate program through the online application portal www.environment.gov.au/about-us/employment/current-vacancies

0032AD

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Hon Kyam Maher MLC, is calling for nominations to the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council.

The Council comprises up to ten members appointed by the Minister. It meets approximately six times a year.

The role of the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council is to:

- provide the Government with advice on existing programs and policies as they affect Aboriginal people
- identify and inform the Government of emerging issues that will affect Aboriginal people from both metropolitan and regional perspectives
- provide the Government with advice on the development and implementation of future policies and services concerning Aboriginal people
- provide advice to Government agencies about appropriate consultation processes with Aboriginal communities
- maintain links with other relevant advisory bodies.

In determining appointments to the Council, the Minister will be considering the following criteria:

- Aboriginal people who:
 - are resident in South Australia
 - possess a strong understanding of Aboriginal culture
 - have standing within the Aboriginal community
 - have policy and service delivery experience and
 - are able to strongly contribute to the functions of the Council.

All Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply. Applications are particularly welcomed from younger Aboriginal people.

Application packs can be downloaded from the Department of State Development's website at www.statedevelopment.sa.gov.au/saac

Alternatively, you can be sent a pack by contacting Mr John Wright on (08) 8226 8900 or by emailing john.wright@sa.gov.au

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 10AM ON MONDAY 10 APRIL 2017.



Government of South Australia
Department of State Development

Rangers saving bilbies



ABORIGINAL rangers from across the Kimberley met in Fitzroy Crossing last week in an effort to better understand and protect the bilby.

The workshop follows the successful Ninu (bilby) Festival at Kiwirrkurra in the Gibson Desert last year.

The workshop included field trips to active bilby sites on Gooniyandi and Ngurrara country.

Ngurrara rangers Marika Rogers and Kristy Jack look after bilbies.

"Bilbies plays a big role in the land," Ms Rogers said. "They move around a lot and when they leave their burrows it becomes another animal's home."

"Our old people used to have bilbies as food to give them energy and protein to survive in the desert. Bilbies are the last of all desert mammals and that's why it's very important to protect them."

Once found across 70% of Australia, bilby numbers are steadily declining and the small mammals are now listed nationally as a vulnerable species. They are now found mainly in the Central Desert region and in the Kimberley, in north-west WA.

The 10 ranger groups met as part of the Kimberley Bilby Project and worked with scientists to upskill, share knowledge, develop conservation plans, discuss data management and undertake field training, so they can look after and record data on bilbies.

Kimberley Nature Project



The ranger teams and organisers of the recent Kimberley bilby workshop on Ngumban cliff and, inset, Gooniyandi head ranger Virgil Cherel at a bilby burrow on Gooniyandi country, about an hour from Fitzroy Crossing.

coordinator Dr Malcolm Lindsay said bilbies are a highly ecologically and culturally significant species, but there is little current data about Kimberley bilby populations.

"We are not exactly sure why bilbies continue to have a strong presence in the Kimberley, but we believe it may be due to fewer introduced species including foxes and rabbits, as well as the relative intactness of the region," he said.

Ms Jack said a significant part of

her work protecting bilbies involved pest management.

"We help protect the bilbies by doing two-hectare plot searches and locating the bilbies' active habitats, and seeing if it's been damaged by cattle or pests," she said. "We will then build a fence to stop the cattle from hurting the bilbies."

The project involves the collaboration of WWF-Australia, Environs Kimberley, the Department of Parks and Wildlife, the Kimberley

Land Council and independent ranger groups.

"Working as a team across scientific and government sectors, and maximising the knowledge and skills of our local Indigenous rangers, is vital to the success of this research and the ongoing conservation of the bilby," Dr Lindsay said.

A public forum will soon be held in Broome and will provide information on research and management of bilbies across the Kimberley.

Bilbies: The facts

- The bilby is listed as vulnerable in Western Australia and nationally.

- The majority of remaining bilby populations occur on Aboriginal-owned or managed lands, making ranger groups integral to bilby conservation.

- Bilby populations in the Kimberley are vital to the species as they are some of the last wild animals.

- This regional partnership will result in targeted management solutions.

- Ranger groups attending include Ngurrara, Gooniyandi, Nyikina Mangala, Karajarri, Yawuru, Bardi Jawi, Bardi Jawi Oorany, Paraku, Nyul Nyul and Nyangumarta.



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning

Appointment of an Aboriginal Victorian as a Commissioner of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder

The Victorian Government is seeking a suitably skilled Aboriginal Victorian to contribute their experience and knowledge to improving the environmental health of rivers, wetlands and floodplains by registering an expression of interest for the role of Commissioner with the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH).

The VEWB is an independent statutory authority responsible for holding and managing Victoria's environmental water entitlements (the Water Holdings). The responsibilities of the VEWB include:

- making decisions on the most effective use of the Water Holdings, including use, trade and carryover
- liaising with other water holders to ensure coordinated use of all sources of environmental water
- authorising waterway managers to implement watering decisions
- commissioning targeted projects to demonstrate ecological outcomes of environmental watering at key sites
- publicly communicating environmental watering decisions and outcomes.

Applicants must be a Victorian resident with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage and have knowledge of or experience in one or more of the following:

- environmental management
- sustainable water management
- economics
- public administration

Understanding Aboriginal traditional ecological knowledge and values associated with environmental water will also be highly regarded.

Applicants are required to apply online. To apply and for more information, go to: www.delwp.vic.gov.au/onboard or www.getonboard.vic.gov.au.

Applications close: midday **Monday 10 April 2017**.

www.delwp.vic.gov.au
Customer Service Centre 136 186

No family should have to drown in tears.

Between Christmas and the 8th of January, 21 people in NSW lost their lives in the water. Where there's water there's danger – take precautions and avoid risk.

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EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER
Royal Life Saving

SLURP LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES

GET WATER SAFE NOT SORRY
watersafety.nsw.gov.au

NSW

NT custody laws appeal rejected by High Court



THE High Court has rejected a challenge against the Northern Territory's protective custody laws, dismissing an appeal by an Aboriginal man

who claimed he was wrongfully apprehended by police based on racial stereotypes.

Anthony Prior was arrested on New Year's Eve in 2013 while drinking on a footpath outside a shopping complex in Darwin, based on a police officer's belief he was intoxicated and likely to commit an offence involving

disorderly behaviour or drinking in a regulated place.

He was later charged and convicted of assaulting a police officer in the execution of duty and public indecency while in custody.

After failed appeals to the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, Mr Prior appealed to the highest court in the land to argue the officer did not have reasonable grounds to believe he was likely to commit an offence, having known nothing about his background.

But the High Court rejected the appeal.

While prejudice was irrational and unacceptable grounds for a police officer's decision-making, knowledge born of experience was not irrational, the court said.

Experience

It ruled it was fair to infer the officer's belief about how Mr Prior might behave was informed by his experience dealing with intoxicated people.

"The appellant was drunk, disinhibited, abusive and blatantly consuming liquor in a conspicuous public place in close proximity to licensed premises," the court said,

adding that particular spot was known to the officer as a site where alcohol was consumed illegally.

"It was reasonable for him to believe that Mr Prior was likely to continue drinking liquor in a regulated place."

The North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency (NAAJA), which ran the case for Mr Prior, said the powers were disproportionately used against Aboriginal people.

"The NT Government should be doing all it can to avoid the unnecessary locking up of Aboriginal people," principal legal

officer David Woodroffe said.

"Today we continue to see protective custody and paperless arrest laws being over-used, and more and more Aboriginal people are ending up in police cells."

Mr Woodroffe is calling on the NT Government to adopt an alternative approach, such as sobering-up shelters and rehab programs.

The Human Rights Law Centre says the powers are used about 10,000 times each year, with more than 90% of those locked up being Aboriginal. — AAP

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Splinter is coming? Binjari Community Development Project participant Ashley Farrell, seated, shows off this *Game of Thrones*-inspired wooden pallet chair as he is congratulated by fellow participants and another of the locals.

Pallets become an 'Iron Throne'



THE cult television series *Game of Thrones* has influenced creativity in every corner of

the globe, and now an Aboriginal community near Katherine in the Northern Territory can be added to the list.

After watching the hit program, Roper Gulf Regional Council Community Development Program (CDP) participant Ashley Farrell decided to take the sword to his latest project, literally.

CDP (the Federal Government's Work for the Dole program) participants in Binjari, 15km south-west

of Katherine, have been using recycled pallets to create a range of chairs over the past few months and have turned heads with their designs, which included one modelled on the famous throne in *The Phantom's Skull Cave*.

Wanting to set a new bar for ingenuity, Mr Farrell carved a range of knives, swords and daggers from leftover materials to adorn his inspired chair.

The 23-year-old said he "winged it" when asked about planning the stunning design.

"I've done chairs before, but I wanted to do something with knives, because I like *Game of Thrones*," he said. "I didn't

have a design in mind when I started building it."

The plan is now to have the head-turning chair, based on the show's Iron Throne, displayed in a Katherine art gallery.

The council's acting CDP regional manager, Barbara Maddern, said she was continually surprised by what participants came up with.

"These men have such creative and artistic minds, and it's fantastic to see them able to put that ability into incredible furniture," she said. "I'm so proud of what participants in our communities have been able to achieve as part of pallet furniture projects."

● 99-year lease, page 17



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning

Catchment management authority board appointments for 2017

Expressions of interest for appointments to the boards of Victoria's 10 catchment management authorities open on Wednesday 1 March 2017.

Victoria's catchment management authority boards play an important role in overseeing the management and delivery of Victoria's integrated catchment management framework.

The Victorian Government is committed to appointing boards that reflect the diversity of the Victorian community. Board directors come from all walks of life, including farmers, small business owners, Aboriginal Victorians and project managers.

Expressions of interest are encouraged from anyone with experience in one or more of the following:

- Financial management.
- Community engagement.
- Land and water management.
- Climate change adaptation.
- Strategy and business management.
- Primary production.
- Environment or natural resources management.
- Public administration and corporate governance.

Expressions of interest will be open until midnight Monday 3 April 2017 through Get On Board <http://getonboard.vic.gov.au> (under 'Vacancies').

New board appointments will commence on 1 October 2017.

Find out more about Victoria's catchment management authorities <http://delwp.vic.gov.au/water/governing-water-resources/catchment-management-authorities>.

Applicants with further enquiries or those with difficulties in accessing the documents should contact the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Customer Service Centre.

www.delwp.vic.gov.au
Customer Service Centre 136 186

Language plan in place



Involved in the language plan, from left, Gabriel Bani, Alo Tapim, TSRA chairperson Pedro Stephen, Ted Nai, Dana Ober and Stephanie Savage.



A PLAN to maintain and revitalise languages in the Torres Strait is under way with the launch of the Torres Strait Traditional Languages Plan and Charter (2016-2019). The plan and charter, the result of the 2015 Torres Strait Language Symposium, have been developed by the Language Reference Group with the community and the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA).
TSRA chairperson Pedro

Stephen said the symposium was a way of bringing communities together to discuss the state of the region's traditional languages.

"The symposium saw language specialists from across the Torres Strait come together to celebrate and plan for the future of the region's rich but endangered traditional languages," he said.

"A key outcome of this was the formation of the community-driven Torres Strait Language Reference Group – made up of elected representatives of each of the five language and dialect

groups in the Torres Strait.

"The importance of the group's work was underpinned by the knowledge that traditional languages of the Torres Strait were critically endangered."

Mr Stephen said the role of the regional language centre would be to provide resources to support language revitalisation in local communities through local community teams.

"Once the centre is operational, it is an aspiration that a new community-based organisation will assume responsibility for the implementation of the plan."

CAAMA has new chief executive



KARL Hampton has been appointed the new chief executive of the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA).

Mr Hampton had previously served as chair of Imparja Television and as a board member of the Indigenous Remote Communications Association (IRCA).

He was also the Member for Stuart in the NT Legislative Assembly from 2006-2012, serving in several Ministerial portfolios, and he has worked with organisations such as Ngurratjuta, Ninti One and the Central Land Council.

IRCA assistant manager Jennifer Nixon said it was good to see a prominent leader from a Central Australian family take over at CAAMA.

Family violence plan launched



WINNUNGA Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service's new Aboriginal domestic violence safety plan has been launched by ACT Women's Minister Yvette Berry.

The plan includes new resources created to better support victims and perpetrators of domestic and family violence in the ACT's Indigenous community.

"With its \$80,710 grant, Winnunga has taken a leading role in helping prevent abuse by developing six fact sheets for the ACT's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community," Ms Berry said.

"The resources provide invaluable information about the support services available to both the victims and perpetrators of domestic and family violence and will support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be better informed."

"There is much work still to be done as a community to provide more coordinated and effective support for victims, and to hold perpetrators to account."

Winnunga received the largest grant from the ACT Women's Safety Grant program, designed to assist community organisations to play their part in eliminating domestic and family violence.

Committee seeks NAIDOC interest



THE National NAIDOC Committee is seeking expressions of interest for the 2018 or 2019 national NAIDOC host city.

The committee has released a range of criteria essential to hosting the annual celebration, one of which is that the proposed location must not have hosted the National NAIDOC Awards within the past five years.

For more information and to apply (by April 10), email naidoc@pmc.gov.au or write to National NAIDOC Secretariat, The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, PO Box 6500, Canberra, ACT 2600.

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Women of honour

By LIINA FLYNN



WHEN she found out that she'd been included in the 2017 Victorian Honour Roll of Women, performer, musician and educator Dr Lou Bennett thought it was a practical joke.

"I thought it was spam," she told the *Koori Mail*. "I thought 'This looks fake', then two months later a colleague in the arts sector told me who had nominated me."

Dr Bennett is one of 25 women to have been inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women this year, along with Arrernte social justice campaigner and blogger Celeste Liddle.

Dr Bennett, from the Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung people in Echuca, Victoria, is the third member of her family to have been inducted into the honour roll.

"Maybe it's something in the water," she said. "We do come from a strong, articulate, provocative, protesting, activist people. I can't explain why we strive for justice, but the Yorta Yorta nation are prolific and innovative leaders."

Now co-founder and chief officer of the Black Arm Band, one of Australia's leading performing arts companies, she also has a long history of working in the arts industry, including being a part of the musical group Tiddas.

"Singing keeps me alive," she said. "I'll be singing when I'm six feet under."

"My family in Echuca threw me on stage in my first professional show when I was 18. I was in a band with my family called The Shades, then a band called Jambi, then Tiddas formed out of that band."

"A lot of young people tell me how much our music affected them. When Tiddas disbanded, I was at a loss and wasn't sure what to do and my cousin hounded me to audition as an actor and so I began working in theatre."

Dr Bennett credits her voice and musical talent to her musical grandmother.

"I had a tiny voice as a kid and I'd sit alongside my family at the campfire and sing Creedence Clearwater and the Andrew Sisters," she said. "My grandmother was an amazing singer and I do believe there would



Dr Lou Bennett, left, and Celeste Liddle being inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women by Minister for Women Fiona Richardson.

have been some songwomen in our family ancestry."

Dr Bennett has also had a passion for Indigenous languages since she was a child and followed this love in her music and eventually into the higher education system where she received a PhD.

She now continues to research reclaiming and regenerating Aboriginal languages through the arts, including looking at the obstacles and ethical issues related to retrieving and transmitting Aboriginal languages cross-culturally and across different generations.

"I love being transparent and truthful in words," she said. "I always had a passion for my own Yorta Yorta language and couldn't understand why the state school system wasn't teaching it at my school."

"We were told our languages were dead and there was no need to bring them back because

they had no economic value."

In 1996 her cousin gave her a cassette recorded in 1963 with the voices of Elders, including her grandmother Priscilla McKray, speaking Yorta Yorta.

"I cried as soon as I heard her voice," she said. "After that I recorded Waka Nini Yana with Tiddas. It was the first language retrieval I did."

"Performances"

"An academic kept coming to our performances and hounding me to do my Masters, which I eventually did at RMIT."

"When people heard I was doing a Masters, different Aboriginal communities pulled me in and I started composing in other people's languages."

"I'm not completely fluent but what I do know I use. The more languages you learn, it gets easier to remember the structure and how to use grammar and syntax. My great great grandmother spoke

seven different languages.

"Australian Indigenous languages are not like Indo-European languages. Latin is similar to many European languages, but Australian languages are called pama nyungan – and all have different but similar structures."

Dr Bennett is now researching how these Indigenous languages can be similar but so different at the same time.

"I think it's because of our cultural spirituality and how we see ourselves in the multi-verse of cultures," she said.

"Our religion is different with many creators and our languages represent culture and action."

Now she has been inducted into the honour roll, Dr Bennett is hailed by some as a role model for Australian women. Her advice to other women is "stick with your gut instinct".

"If it doesn't feel good in your body, then look further and find

that path that makes you feel good," she said.

"Keeping true to my own voice has brought me to the place I am now. Sometimes it's not popular and accepted, but if you feel comfortable, do it."

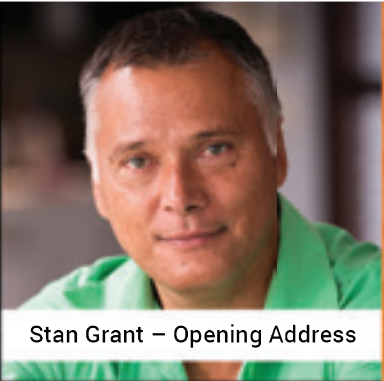
Also on this year's honour roll, blogger Celeste Liddle has been celebrated for her dedication to lifting the status, dignity and wellbeing of Aboriginal people, particularly women.

Through her involvement as national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organiser for the National Tertiary Education Union, Ms Liddle has been able to push and promote an agenda to highlight and tackle racism, 'white-streaming', discrimination and lateral violence in the Australian higher education sector.

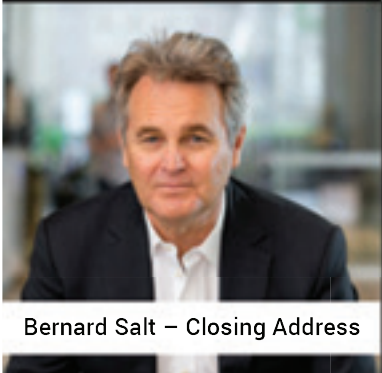
Through her blog Black Feminist Ranter, Ms Liddle has given a voice to Aboriginal women's experiences of sexism and racism.



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Eagles score in Karratha



Eagles players Mark Nicoski, Tom Gorter, Adam Selwood, Tarir Bayok, Tom Lamb and Kurt Mutimer with Bushlolly Cafe staff Kelly Grady, Jennifer Smith, Crystal Street and Priscilla Holborow in Karratha.



WEST Coast Eagles AFL fans were up close and personal with key players recently as team members visited Karratha as part of their community camp program.

The fans and players settled into Aboriginal concept Bushlolly Cafe for morning tea.

Long-time community camp participant and former Eagles player Adam Selwood said "the johnny cakes and damper kicked a few big goals".

"The Aboriginal art, the décor, it reflects what they are trying to achieve here; so that, along with the food, explains why it's so busy here," he said.

The West Coast Eagles visit regional WA once a year to promote the club and give back to the community.

Mr Selwood has been part of the community camp program for 15 years.

"To get up here and spend a couple of days getting to know the local community and how things operate shows what makes this state tick," he said.

"And being able to come here and eat some Indigenous food, meet some traditional owners, that's also really important.

"And the star players were more than impressed with what they found at the concept cafe, saying as soon as they walked through the door they could see how proud the family-run business is."

Community's 99-year lease first of its kind



A 99-YEAR lease over public housing in the community of Binjari in the Northern Territory has been created between the Binjari Community Aboriginal Corporation and Federal and NT Governments.

This is the first lease of its kind in the NT covering social housing lots, and Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion said it will secure long-term tradeable tenure arrangements over public housing in the area.

"As a result of this lease, 11 new houses will be built and there will be upgrades to 16 existing houses," he said.

"In addition, residents will also be able to access critical housing services like repairs and maintenance, as well as allowing for tenancy management reform."

The Federal Government has also provided \$300,000 to the Binjari Community Aboriginal Corporation to buy capital equipment to boost its building and construction business that employs local residents and delivers community-managed housing maintenance.

The lease also provides a mix of housing options in Binjari and will provide residents with the option to buy their own home if they want.

Warning over arctic sea ice

ARCTIC sea ice could vanish during summer time this century even if governments achieve a core target for limiting global warming set by almost 200 nations in 2015, scientists say.

Arctic sea ice has been shrinking steadily in recent decades, damaging the livelihoods of indigenous peoples and threatening wildlife such as polar bears while opening the region to more shipping and oil and gas exploration.

Under the 2015 Paris Agreement, governments set a goal of limiting the rise in average world temperatures to below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial times, with an aspiration of 1.5°C.

"The two degrees Celsius target may be insufficient to prevent an ice-free Arctic," James Screen and Daniel Williamson, of Exeter University in Britain, wrote in the journal *Nature Climate Change* after a statistical review of ice projections.

A 2°C rise would still mean a 39% risk that ice will disappear in the Arctic Ocean in summers, they said. Ice was virtually certain to survive, however, with 1.5°C of warming.

And they estimated a 73% probability that the ice would disappear in summer unless governments make deeper cuts in emissions than their existing plans.

They estimated temperatures will rise three degrees on current trends. — AAP

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Invitation to Register an Interest

The Bays Market District, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

On behalf of Urban Growth, Artefact Heritage is undertaking an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment of The Bays Market District (Pyrmont and Glebe), in advance of a proposed redevelopment. The proponent's contact details are: Greg Lin, UrbanGrowth NSW, Level 12, MLC Centre/19 Martin Place, Sydney NSW 2000.

We are inviting registrations of interest in the project from Aboriginal groups and individuals who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the locality. The purpose of the community consultation is to assist the proponent in the preparation of an AHIP application for the proposed development of the property, and to assist OEH in determination of the application.

Please register your interest in the project by 23 March 2017 by contacting:

Ryan Taddeucci, Artefact Heritage
Level 4, Building B, 35 Saunders Street, Pyrmont NSW 2009
02 9518 8411
ryan.taddeucci@artefact.net.au



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diversity of our people is, and rightly should
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Out-there comedy about 'down there'



AN absurdist comedy
series by Gamillaroi/
Torres Strait Islander
woman Nakkiah Lui
will soon begin filming
in and around Sydney.

Ms Lui, a writer, creator and actor,
has written the series *Kiki and Kitty*
for ABC iview and will play the pivotal
role of Kiki, the good black girl in a
bad white world, who stumbles
across her vagina in the
personification of Kitty (played by
Elaine Crombie) and realises there is
a lot more to life than she first
thought.

Commissioned by ABC
Indigenous and financed with the
support of Screen Australia's
Multiplatform Fund, the six-part
series is expected to air across
multiple platforms.

Screen Australia investment
manager Mike Cowap said the script
for *Kiki and Kitty* is completely
irreverent, cheeky and "distinctly
Australian".

The series also stars Christine
Anu as Kiki's Mum, Maria; Charlie
Garber as Kiki's love interest, Jack
the hire car driver; Tessa Rose as
Kiki's tenacious Nan; Lisa Flanagan
as Nan's vagina (yep, you read right);
Ryan Johnson as the incorrigible
office co-worker Brandon; and Rob
Carlton as Bryce the ice-skating king.

The series is Lui's first
commission following her previous
work with the ABC series *Black
Comedy*, plus an array of theatre
work including *Blaque Showgirls* for
Malthouse Theatre Company in 2016
and the upcoming *Black is the New
White* for the Sydney Theatre
Company.



Nakkiah Lui has written a new comedy for the ABC.

Group tackles youth crime

By ALF WILSON



TOWNSVILLE
Stronger
Communities
Action Group
member Sam
Reuben has
welcomed

Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander support for the
crime-tackling body.

The group was formed last
September as part of a
'Stronger Communities
Initiative' by the Queensland
Government in a bid to break
Townsville's youth crime cycle.

Mr Reuben, a Torres Strait
Islander man, said he was
pleased with how many local
Indigenous people wanted to
help tackle youth crime.

"The risk factors for youth
offending are well known and
include poor school attendance,
family dysfunction, a family
history of unemployment,
alcohol and other drugs, and
association with people
engaged in crime," he said.



Stronger Communities Action
Group member Sam Reuben.

"It's also well known that
if young offenders leave
detention and return to the
same unstable environment
they came from, they're unlikely
to change their behaviour.

"This is why we've been
tasked with tackling the causes
that lead some young people to
go down the wrong path.

"This means working closely

with families and coordinating
relevant government and non-
government services for them in
a range of areas, such as
housing, mental health and
substance abuse.

"What I'm really pleased to
see is just how many Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander
people want to be part of efforts
to reduce youth crime. Like all
of us, they want to see their
children be productive and
reach their full potential."

Mr Reuben said Elders and
others were actively reaching
out to the group, seeking
"ownership over trialling
culturally appropriate initiatives
with young offenders and
at-risk children".

"I also see this as a perfect
opportunity to improve the
relationship between police and
Indigenous people by breaking
down barriers in the name of a
shared goal," he said.

"Far more positive outcomes
can be achieved by working
together rather than against
one another."

Town square work completed

By ALF WILSON



PALM Island residents have a place to meet and yarn in comfort and shade after renovation

work at the town square.

The work took several months and culminated with a launch on March 7 where Deputy Premier Jackie Trad was a special guest.

After guests were welcomed to country by Elder Allan Palm Island, Archie Fraser held a smoking ceremony.

The Palm Island Aboriginal Shire and new mall were blessed by Peena Geia.

Hundreds of locals attended the opening, including students from Bwgcolman State and St Michael's Catholic schools.

Mayor Alf Lacey told those attending that the town square was a major asset for the community.

"People sit around here and talk to each other and we are happy that Deputy Premier Trad came here today," he said.

After the ribbon cutting to officially open the town square to the public there was a big feast.



Raoul Miller, Joiiji Dabea, Darryl Pearson, Fred Bulsey Jnr, Fred Bulsey Snr and Clinton Pearson in the new Palm Island town square.

Workshop focus on child abuse



BANDJALANG woman Belinda McElligott has lived in Coraki, northern NSW, all her life and was

excited to see more than 40 local Aboriginal people at a two-day Weaving the Net education workshop about dealing with child abuse.

"This is the first event like this we've had here in our community, where we all come together," Ms McElligott told the *Koori Mail*.

"It's not just about the great morning tea we put on, or the Deadly Bunarhms Dancers, jewellery making and the local preschool kids singing *Inanay*.

"Weaving the Net will help people to know what help is out there if they are dealing with child abuse. If it has happened to you, this is who you can go and see.

"It's about community empowerment and finding support, and healing each other through connections and relationships.

"There's been a lot of trauma and grief in our community. We are in quiet Coraki, but child abuse happens in every town, and all towns need to fight it."

Ms McElligott, an Indigenous childhood educator at the Coraki preschool, was instrumental in bringing the education program to the



The Deadly Bunarhms Dancers with, from left, Belinda McElligott, Sigrid Herring, Pam Greer, Janice Kapeen, Loretta Stanley and Russell Kapeen.

town. About a year ago, she created an Aboriginal steering committee to bring decision-making power back to the local community.

"We called the committee Naruyn Wajang Nugun (Happy Mother's Love)," she said.

"All mums have dealt with trauma and grief. We are all on the same page and we all came together.

"Now members of our community, and not the Country Women's Association, decides what our needs

are and controls our funding."

The Weaving the Net forum and workshop was delivered by the Education Centre Against Violence, with funding from the Federal Government's Indigenous Advancement Strategy. It is part of a series of five workshops in NSW this year, with a healing workshop planned for later in the year.

"This sort of event is a net under our kids to keep them safe," Ms McElligott said.

"People gain strength from attending this workshop and there's a domino effect where others see it and want to go to one too.

"We need everyone working together in a tiny community. Family and friends can support each other. Not just Aboriginal people, but everybody.

"Some people might feel shame, fear and judgment about what has happened and might be afraid to talk about what's going on, but there are people who can help you.

"Don't keep it to yourself – find someone you can talk to.

"It's a terrible thing, but it doesn't need to be a dirty secret.

"A lot of people are frightened of community services and we'd like to break down some of the existing barriers that stop people asking for help.

"There has already been removal of some of our children. All children need help. Don't leave it until it's too late.

"I work at the local preschool and the neighbourhood centre and would like to tell people if they have children at a preschool, then the educators and coordinators there can refer you and help you.

"Overcome your fear and say 'This is what's happening to me. Can you help?'"

Bicycle safety is goal



FREE bike safety courses for

Aboriginal people will be offered across NSW in April.

The course includes three hours of cycling skills tuition, a new bicycle helmet with an Indigenous design (40 helmets maximum available to give to participants), a bicycle safety check, water and refreshments. Bicycles can be repaired at no extra cost.

Dates and locations for the course are as follows: April 1, Cabbage Tree Island; April 10, Coffs Harbour; April 11, Macksville and Scotts Head; April 12, South West Rocks; April 13, Albert Park, Lismore; April 18, Tweed Heads; April 19, Tenterfield; April 20, Walcha; and April 21, Tamworth.

To book a place, phone 0418 150 217 or (02) 6622 5775.

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A Yarn With...



Neil Morris

Continuer of culture, Yorta Yorta man, Victoria

Favourite bush tucker?
Anything with black wattle seed.

Favourite other food?
Spinach.

Favourite drink?
All kinds, especially that which comes from the land.

Favourite music?
Anything that is spiritual and uplifting.

Favourite read?
I like reading the landscape around me.

Favourite TV show?
Anything educational.

Favourite holiday destination?
Back home to country and Dhungala (the Murray River).

Who would you most like to meet?
Any of our many Indigenous warriors.

If you could, what would you do to help Indigenous people?
I'd empower our mob to want to keep practising culture.

Quote



"We were told our languages were dead and there was no need to bring them back because they had no economic value."

– Victorian Honour Roll of Women inductee
Dr Lou Bennett

● See page 16

Unquote

Brave children tell their stories

THE stories coming out at the Royal Commission into Juvenile Detention in the Northern Territory are nothing short of devastating.

They reveal systemic abuse of, and cruelty towards, Aboriginal kids.

And a culture of covering up and not listening to children when they complained.

No wonder these kids are coming out of detention even more traumatised than when they went in.

And how is abusing them going to help with their rehabilitation?

It's not – it's going to exacerbate whatever issues they already had before being locked up and make them feel less valued.

And, given the horrible stories, less human.

Rape threats. Stripping kids naked. Chaining them up. Solitary confinement. Spit hoods. The list is so horrifying it reads like the illegal treatment of prisoners at the notorious US detention centre at Guantanamo Bay.

But it's not.

It's here in the Northern Territory – and it's overwhelmingly Aboriginal kids who are being abused.

The children who were brave enough to tell their stories of horrific abuse deserve respect and kudos for speaking out.

It doesn't really matter what they did to land in detention – because, no matter what, once they were there they



OUR SAY

didn't deserve to have their human rights violated in such violent and appalling ways.

It's no real surprise but still disappointing that the Federal Government is going to continue its income management program in Ceduna and Kununurra, despite half of participants reporting that it's made their lives worse.

This Government will take any chance it can to punish and demonise people on welfare.

It can spin reports to suit its own agenda but it doesn't change the reality – this is a policy that is hurting.

How much do we love young Isaiah Firebrace? Lots and lots. The 17-year-old singing sensation is going from strength to strength.

Last year he won TV singing competition *The X-Factor* and now he's off to Kiev, Ukraine, to represent Australia in Eurovision. How good would it be to see an Aboriginal kid winning Eurovision? Go Isaiah! Too deadly.

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).

Weaving grass roots like her ancestors

One woman's passion for her ancestors' ancient weaving and featherwork traditions has inspired her to bring them to the modern world.



TO describe Marilyne Nicholls' art as

grassroots is no exaggeration – quite literally.

The artist from northern Victoria hand-picks the grasses and plants, and collects the feathers and ochres she uses to create her award-winning weavings and artworks.

Preserving

In doing so, she is preserving an eons-old tradition of the people from her multi-clan connections to freshwater and saltwater people.

One of just a handful of women with extensive knowledge of Indigenous weaving and featherwork, Ms Nicholls is now using her skills to teach others in a bid to preserve endangered traditional weaving practices.

And if she has her way, Victoria will one day have a dedicated school or institute passing on the ancient weaving and featherwork traditions of her people.

Family lines

Ms Nicholls comes from strong Aboriginal family lines.

Her grandfather was Sir Doug Nicholls, the former sportsman and Governor of South Australia. His wife, Lady Gladys, was equally strong and proud in her culture.

Her mother's side of the family were staunch Ngarrindjeri mob, saltwater people from South Australia.

It is from them, her parents and their ancestors stretching back thousands of years, that Ms Nicholls says she has developed such a passion for her culture and a calling to carry on their traditions.

"That I win awards is only incidental. What's important is making sure the traditions continue and the culture lives on." – Marilyne Nicholls



She was born in Swan Hill on the Murray River, one of eight children to Letty and Bevan Nicholls.

Times were hard living on the farm, but Ms Nicholls says it helped to develop her love for the

environment and all that it offers.

It was at home that she started her 'artistic

training', watching her grandmother Emily Karpany (nee Pinkie) weaving mats and baskets

and making feather flowers. Ms Nicholls' mother Letty also took up the practice, so young Marilyne began to explore weaving.

Finishing school, Ms Nicholls moved to Melbourne and worked as a nurse for 16 years before returning to Swan Hill with her husband and two kids and taking up work as a liaison officer at the local hospital.

In all that time her artistic interest in weaving, featherwork and ochres never faded.

In fact, it grew.

Her liaison officer career over, Ms Nicholls now lives in a converted former schoolhouse at Wood Wood, in Victoria's north, and concentrates on her art.

Keen to expand

Recently that's involved a lot of teaching, something she's keen to expand.

"It's not easy, but it's something I feel a need to do," she told the *Koori Mail*.

"It's a calling and a passion. Working in the environment on country, using natural and introduced grasses, feathers and ochres, the way they have been for thousands of years, is what I must do.

"That I win awards is only incidental. What's important is making sure the traditions continue and the culture lives on."

Teaching

And, Ms Nicholls says, that's why a cultural teaching centre is so important.

"I'm one of very few people carrying this cultural knowledge and skills," she said.

"I want nothing more than to share this, and to make sure it continues.

"I know all of us involved in weaving want some sort of centre, hopefully where we can grow our own weaving plants as well as teach the skills.

"It's a dream I can only hope comes true."

In the meantime, Marilyne Nicholls will continue to practice her culture in true grassroots style.



A brush-tailed rabbit-rat.
Picture: Hugh Davies



Tiwi land rangers, from left, Kim Brooks Womatakimi, Colin Kerinaiaua, Willie Rioli, Jose Puruntatameri and Willie Roberts. Picture: Tiwi Land Council

Wildlife at risk

Cats take toll on island's native fauna



NT
TIWI land ranger Willie Rioli has a plea to pet owners around Australia: "Please desex your cat."

Mr Rioli was part of a recent collaboration between the Tiwi Land Council, Charles Darwin University and the University of Melbourne that checked the health and population of native animals on Melville Island, 80km north of Darwin.

The project found that native wildlife numbers are declining on the island, with brush-tailed rabbit-rats, black-footed tree-rats and northern brown bandicoots the worst hit.

The project team took surveys at almost 100 sites and compared them to results from 15 years ago.

Project ecologist Hugh Davies, from Melbourne University, worked with the Tiwi Land Rangers to undertake the latest surveys.

"Overall we caught about 40% less animals than in the 2002 surveys. So for every 10 animals caught last time, this time we only trapped six," Mr Davies said.



Land ranger Colin Kerinaiaua undertaking early burning. Picture: Tiwi Land Council

"The result for brush-tailed rabbit-rats was worse. We only caught about one-third the number as last time, and only found them at half the number of sites."

"Bandicoots also showed significant declines."

"We also found that the two factors most strongly correlated with finding mammals in an area were a thick shrub layer and an absence of cats."

Mr Rioli worked with Mr Davies on the surveys, which used a variety of trapping methods including camera traps.

"The result showing less native animals isn't good, and we are seeing more cats than before," Mr Rioli said.

"Fire management plays a big part; burning late in the season can do a lot of damage. We are trying to do burns early. It makes them patchy and leaves more

habitat for the native wildlife, more food for them, and more places to hide from cats."

"We found a lot more animals in the places with thick vegetation, and a lot more cats in the open country. Cats are a tough thing on the Tiwis and right around Australia."

Charles Darwin University wildlife researcher Dr Brett Murphy thinks everyone should be concerned about what is happening to the brush-tailed rabbit-rats and bandicoots on Melville.

"These species are a red flag," Mr Murphy said. "In other areas like Kakadu National Park, brush-tailed rabbit-rats and bandicoots were the first mammals to disappear."

"We had hoped that the Tiwi Islands would serve as a refuge for many animal species that have disappeared from the mainland, but that is not the case."

Northern Territory Government scientist Dr Graeme Gillespie is focusing on what can be done.

"We don't yet know whether cats or loss of habitat is the biggest contributor to the widespread mammal decline that we are seeing in Australia," Mr Gillespie said.

"But we do know that in areas with no good habitat animals don't stand a chance and are easy to pick off by cats."

"Until we work out effective ways to cull cats at large scales, our best hope is to maintain good vegetation in the landscape by using cool early burns and avoiding over grazing."

The survey findings have been published in the research journal *Diversity and Distributions*.

Matter of life and death

A GROUP of prominent South Australians has written to SA State MPs with a demand for a further push to investigate the 'viability' of importing international high-level radioactive waste into our state (*Adelaide Advertiser*, March 2). We wonder just how informed the signatories were of investigations made so far?

Regarding the positive economics case of \$257 billion leading to the 'transformation of the state'. Were they aware that royal commission's Jacobs MCM consultancy co-authorship included the heads of ARIUS, an advocacy group for the development of

international nuclear waste facilities?

Regarding the physical risks. Were they aware that this highly toxic waste would have to be 'isolated' for the incomprehensible time of 300,000 years?

In these troubled times we question the advocacy of a project adding to international insecurity with the transport of such toxic waste (a shipload every 28 days) thousands of kilometres – to be then left above ground for decades. That is until such time, if ever, that sufficient billions of dollars are raised to build an underground depository.

We wonder that prominent South Australians would push for a project to subject our lands and waters and the health and security of future generations to such obvious risks – forever.

This is not a political issue. This is a matter of life or death.

WANIWA LUCY LESTER
Yankunyjatjara Elder
MICHELE MADIGAN

For 10 other members of the Josephite SA Reconciliation Circle

Concern over plan for go-kart track

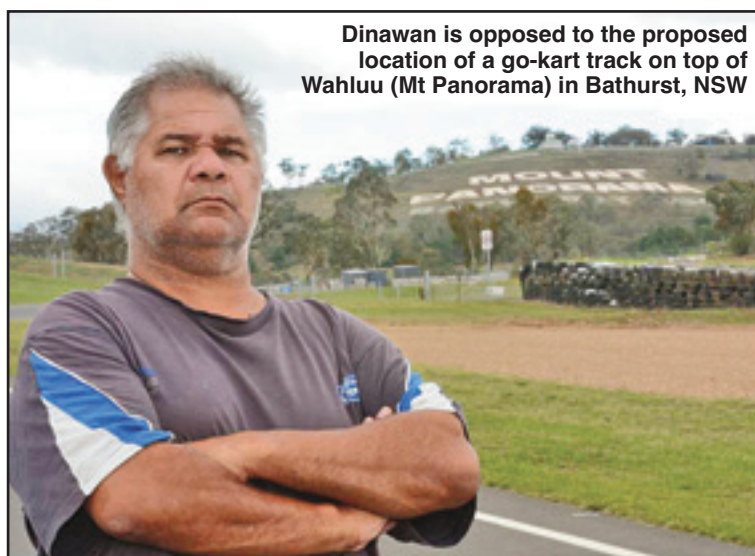
IF you can find one group or person who will truly represent and speak for the Bathurst Aboriginal community, we will give you a medal.

Currently we have an Aboriginal land council that we believe has no traditional owners from the Bathurst Wiradyuri/Wiradjuri Nation (glad to be proven wrong here, show us your lineage) speaking on behalf of all Aboriginal people who live in Bathurst.

A group of Elders including traditional owners have opposed the proposed location of a go-kart track on top of Wahluu (Mt Panorama) because the proposed site for the complex is recognised through the Office of Environment and Heritage as being culturally significant to Wiradyuri/Wiradjuri people as well as other neighbouring Aboriginal nations.

The group of Elders and TOs are opposed to its location only, not the prospect of Bathurst having a go-kart track. They simply want it in an area of lesser cultural significance.

It has also come to the attention of some traditional owners of the Bathurst Wiradyuri area via media reports that one of the councillors asserts that he has engaged with



Dinawan is opposed to the proposed location of a go-kart track on top of Wahluu (Mt Panorama) in Bathurst, NSW

the Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council regarding the placement of the go-kart track at the top of Wahluu. Bathurst LALC apparently had no objection to its placement.

Bathurst LALC was also engaged in the cultural heritage assessment done by Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, and the LALC sites officer (who is from Orange) noted that she was unable to make comment as the area is a men's site.

Some traditional owners believe the Bathurst LALC does not hold any traditional knowledge for this area, and therefore has no demonstrated cultural authority under traditional Wiradyuri lore/law to make comments about Wiradyuri country and what goes on regarding sacred registered and recognised Aboriginal sites in the Bathurst area.

The members of Wiradjuri Traditional Owners Central West

Aboriginal Corporation (WTOCWAC) recognise and support Bathurst Wiradyuri and Aboriginal Community Elders (BWAACE) and their efforts to maintain the integrity of Wahluu and other significant cultural sites in the Bathurst Regional Council area on Wiradyuri/Wiradjuri country.

The Wiradyuri Dreaming story of Wahluu is being taught in our schools, along with other important traditional stories that link to our songlines.

What responsible traditional owner would willingly allow the destruction and exploitation of sacred and important sites?

This is Wiradyuri/Wiradjuri Country and always will be.

We encourage Bathurst Regional Council to seriously look at who's who in the the Bathurst Wiradyuri/Wiradjuri cultural landscape.

Traditional owners need to be respected and listened to first, not as an afterthought.

MALLYAN and DINAWAN
Wiradjuri Traditional Owners
Central West Aboriginal Corporation
Bathurst, NSW

POETRY

Captain Crook's Crooks

A Familiar Face I Could
Not Find
As Captain Crook's
Puppet Had Me In A Bind
What Could I Do Or Even
Say
On The Aboriginal
People's Darkest Day
They Surrounded Me Like
I Was A Criminal
As They Stole My
Homeland Full Of Gold,
Wealth And Minerals
Mountains And Rivers,
Valleys And Streams
Like Heavenly Beauty That
Has Never Been Seen
What A Place And What A
Country
That Has Now Been
Ruined Like Humpty
Dumpty
They Took It All And Left
Me In Chains
Wounded And Bleeding In
Agonising Pain
I Knew I'd Survive To Help
All My Loved Ones
My Mother And Father My
Daughter And Son
Hiding In Caves Is Where
They All Were
And What We All Feared
Somehow Did Occur
But With The Help Of The
Almighty I Managed To
Escape
My Friend Stole The Keys
As He Was So Brave
A Prisoner I Was But Now
I Am Free
To Deliver My People That
Were Slaves Just Like Me.

Abi DRabi
Sydney, NSW

Unraped

Never pulled off the street
Never held against my will
Never tied up
Never had my clothes torn
off
Never touched
Never held down
Never threatened with
death
Never gagged
Never fought for breath
Never looked death in the
face
Never suffocated
Never violated by my
fellow human beings
Unraped and never
knowing anything different.

BRUCE DOCKER
Brisbane, Qld

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.

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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.

Culture and connections

THERE are so many opinions about our mob and what has to be done. That we need to become venture capitalists to take advantage of free market economies. That what denies us these opportunities, rather than exclusion, is that we retain a victim/welfare mentality that denies our true potential and creates a culture of welfare dependency and child abuse.

These highly emotive statements don't only come from non-Indigenous people but many of our own have started to repeat them. Those who make such comments have generally been very successful in their own right, from academics to politicians to lawyers to businessmen and women.

As individuals they have found a recipe for success and, as Aboriginal people, they don't want to see the mob caught in welfare, struggling with poverty and the issues that come with it – substance abuse, violence and neglect. It is only natural that people would want to share their own lived experiences and what helped them succeed with others.

The problem is that, in social and popular media, emotion is driving the debate, and rather than coming together as community we are splitting apart. The very human condition determines that our identity is established through both our sense of place and belonging, so community is essential.

The effects of Aboriginal people having moved out from what was once unique in our cultural space – shared material poverty and exclusion – and instead towards a position outside of our own cultural space in gaining personal agency,

is essential towards understanding the division and hate we are seeing expressed on social media.

Exclusion, be it of race, class or religion, by one group over another comes from this notion of belonging or, in this case, not belonging. It is about not only connection to a group and therefore identity but also how the individual is seen by others, and more importantly how the individual sees themselves.

This explains the absence of connection between those who see themselves as having succeeded above and beyond those of us, myself included, who rather than strive for acceptance or belonging within the non-Indigenous community, choose to retain values within local Aboriginal communities that depend on a common culture, identity, shared experience, language and/or world view.

Such values would include faith systems, income, social mobility or what some would perceive as advancement (between those who are willing to leave the past behind in order to secure personal agency and mobility and those who remain on the communities). I feel strongly that I belong to a third group who still choose to identify with past values but have left the communities to secure education and/or employment in trying to represent, or give voice to, those who stay within their localised communities.

As part of this third group we become a frayed single connection between the other two groups – those who appear to condemn those for remaining within their communities; and those who see the others as judgmental and, yes, assimilated.

My fear is that those of us who



Woolombi Waters

occupy this third space could split at any time and if we were to no longer exist the ramifications towards maintaining the connection of our culture through ceremonies tens of thousand of years could become severed.

Just consider the high-profile Aboriginal people who have claimed that rates of domestic violence among our mob are excused as a 'matter of culture' and that traditional law is denying women and kids their human rights.

Those who maintain survival in our own cultural space; who remain on the communities and speak language – and yes, many live in third-world conditions – maintain a strong connection to the past.

There is no doubt that we are seeing a concentrated effort to

remove people from these communities, with the threat of forced closure, cutting of water supplies, lack of infrastructure and funding, and closing down schools.

There have been countless articles in mainstream papers about successful students who had to leave the community to get an education – but also employment penalties forced on those desperate to try and stay and create some form of industry.

Every quarter since 2006, the Federal Department of Employment has published jobseeker compliance data. The latest release shows that in the September 2016 quarter, 54,997 financial penalties were applied to a group of about 34,000, mainly Indigenous, jobseekers in the Community Development Program (CDP), the Government's Work for the Dole scheme that operates only in regional and remote Australia.

So we can talk about employment and education as the answer, but seriously what is the price we have to pay? To leave our lands after tens of thousands of years occupying sacred country connected to songlines, dreaming paths, culture and kinship ties?

What we are witnessing is a war of attrition; the slow erosion of culture due to lack of funding and support with infrastructure that most Australians take for granted.

The Northern Australia White Paper forecasts the funding and infrastructure in billions of dollars to create the free-market economy that could have saved rather than destroyed these last remaining traditional communities. It clearly declares the Northern Territory as the last great pioneering frontier.

The fact that government and

private investment are waiting for these communities to die out before investing in these areas is nothing more than a form of cultural genocide and the final nail in the coffin of neo-colonialism killing off the last remaining survivors of an invasion that began more than 200 years ago.

Instead, we need sensitivity and counselling with long-term investment in infrastructure planning, education and employment to resolve the issues faced by these kids, their families and communities in remote areas. Not societal anger creating even more persecution against the children, their families and the third-world communities they come from.

The level of abuse revealed in our communities is only the tip of the iceberg, considering the exclusion our people face at every level of Australian society.

You only have to watch Australian television for a week or browse through magazines at the checkout of any major supermarket to see that we don't even exist. We are invisible in our own country – segregation is and always has been the problem in Australia.

And to those who bury their heads in that sand and continue to state that we are our own problem, unless you have demonstrated support for our struggle, together with an established critique of our oppression, then you should not target our community with the same parameters of accepted violence hidden from the safety of leafy suburbs that protect you from the horrors of the trauma our people are forced to live in.

● Dr Woolombi Waters is a regular Koori Mail columnist.

Keeping our kids safe

LAST month marked the ninth anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations. Former prime minister Kevin Rudd lamented the high numbers of Indigenous children being removed from their community and culture, saying: "We do not want another generation of Aboriginal children unnecessarily separated from their culture. We do not want to see the emergence of a second Stolen Generation, not by design, but by default."

On ABC's *The Drum*, Alice Springs councillor Jacinta Price rebuked Rudd saying: "Indigenous children's lives must come before anything else ... so if it means they have to go to a non-Indigenous family, who can give them the opportunities they deserve ... like any other child in Australia that should be the case."

She spoke of family members having "begged for children to be removed" and placed with non-Indigenous families they know and trust only to have child protection workers say, "No, no. It's their culture that's more important," or citing the Stolen Generation as justification for not removing them.

The fact is there are Indigenous children living in the grip of dysfunction, abuse, family violence and addiction. Report after report

confirms it. The Smallbone Report (2013), Little Children Are Sacred Report (2007), Breaking the Silence Report (2006), Gordon Report (2002) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Task Force on Violence Report (1999) found children exposed to some of the worst forms of violence, sexual assaults, psychological abuse and neglect imaginable.

Last year an NT Coroner described family violence there as out of control, with one child subjected to domestic violence and three seeing it every day. No child should live in such environments.

The Drum's official Facebook page posted Price's interview with the caption: "Indigenous children's lives must come before anything else ... even if it means taking them from their families. Jacinta Price shares her controversial view." Since when is putting a child's life first 'controversial'? It's the basis of Australia's child protection system, and Indigenous kids have as much right to protection as any other.

Of course children should know their culture and have the chance to be part of it. But it isn't more important than their right to live safely, free of abuse and violence, and he healthy, fed, clothed, housed, educated and loved.

If a child's extended family is rife



Nyunggai Warren Mundine

with dysfunction – and many are – no family member may be able to care for them. And it's not always possible for Indigenous children to be cared for in community.

I've fostered children. It's a big responsibility. These children require a focus and effort many people simply can't provide, given their own family responsibilities. And

if a child comes from a small, close-knit community, where everyone has a kin relationship with everyone else, it may be impossible to protect a child if they remain there.

Unfortunately, sometimes it's a choice between a child's individual interests and the child living in their family, community and/or cultural group. This isn't a hard choice. The child's interests come first.

Few people object to this principle when it comes to white children. When it comes to Indigenous children it's sensitive or 'controversial', as if their membership of a group is more important than their wellbeing.

This mentality is racist. Indigenous children are human beings, not museum pieces to be preserved in some exhibit. Today's situation is nothing like the Stolen Generation. Indigenous children aren't being removed to assimilate them into white society in anticipation of Indigenous extinction, but because of abuse and neglect at home.

Last year, Victoria's Commission for Children and Young People released its report on services provided to Aboriginal children in out-of-home care in Victoria. On the report's release the headlines spoke of Aboriginal children being let down by being removed from family, culture and community, often placed

in non-Aboriginal homes. Read the report and you'll find 88% had experienced family violence and 87% were exposed to parental alcohol/substance use.

Last November at the national launch of the Family Matters campaign, Senator Pat Dodson described the high levels of Indigenous children being removed from their families as "genocide".

I disagree. Even the Victorian report says: "Most Victorian Aboriginal children are cared for in loving families, where they are cherished, protected and nurtured, where their connection to community and culture is strong, their Koori identity is affirmed and they are thriving, empowered and safe." But if there's a "genocide", those who abuse or neglect Indigenous kids are responsible.

Price's statement that child protection agencies justify leaving children in unsafe environments because culture is more important is shocking. This must stop.

In the future there'll be another generation of Indigenous people deserving an apology from government, not for removing them, but for failing to protect them.

● Nyunggai Warren Mundine chairs the Yaabubii Institute for *Disruptive Thinking*.

Women deserve better

EVERY year the United Nations marks March 8 as International Women's Day, a day of celebration for women across the world and an opportunity to mark progress towards the realisation of gender equality.

Sadly the situation in Australia for Aboriginal women gives little cause to celebrate. The widespread incarceration of women experiencing very high levels of family or partner violence along with increasing removals of children shows that we have a long way to go to ensure human rights for Aboriginal women are respected.

Recently, the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women Dubravka Simonovic toured Australia to assess the 'systemic causes of gender-based violence against women and the situation of women who encounter multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence'.

Aboriginal women encounter multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence based on both race and gender.

This was most evident in the case of Ms Dhu, a 22-year-old Yamatji woman who died in a Port Hedland police cell just three days after being taken into custody for non-payment of fines. Ms Dhu sustained injuries at the hands of her de facto partner shortly before being arrested and, although both she and her grandmother (who contacted the police with her fears) told the police officers she had been 'flogged' by her partner and sustained rib fractures as a result, they refused to acknowledge her as a victim with injuries, deciding

against all the objective evidence that she was 'faking' it.

The circumstances of Ms Dhu's death, captured on CCTV, show the deadly consequence of gender-based violence amplified by individual and systemic racism that permeated responses from police.

The police did not act alone. Ms Dhu was taken to the hospital on three occasions but was barely assessed by the non-Aboriginal nurses or doctors who did not undertake basic medical procedures, such as the taking of a temperature or X-ray, which would have shown her serious infection and illness.

Medical staff accepted police opinion that her condition was merely 'behavioural' and sent her back to the cells, where her condition of sepsis infection deteriorated, causing her shocking but foreseeable decline and needless death.

This was not aberrant conduct on the part of the hospital as Aboriginal people across Australia have reported that racism in hospitals and health care responses is commonplace.

Ms Dhu's death has been examined by WA Coroner Rosalind Fogliano, who described the conduct of police and health professionals as "inhuman" and "unprofessional". Notwithstanding this, she failed to refer any of the police or health personnel to the WA prosecutor or any regulatory body. Most of the officers involved in Ms Dhu's death have since been promoted. No medical staff faced any disciplinary action.



Hannah McGlade

The Deaths in Custody Watch Committee made extensive submissions concerning gender-based violence and racism, Ms Dhu's intersectional identity and vulnerability – as Aboriginal, woman, victim, prisoner – however, this was ignored by the Coroner.

We do not agree with the lack of justice afforded to Ms Dhu. As the Aboriginal girls choir of the Pilbara 'Maaliya' sing: Now they're Whitewashing away the evidence asking us 'Did Dhu die for nothing?' No she didn't!

As Aboriginal and other women across Australia, the United States, New Zealand and Canada, we, the members of the First Nations Deaths in Custody Watch Committee, have made a stand in support of Ms Dhu's family, advocating for the dismantling of institutions perpetuating structural

and systemic forms of violence and abuse.

At the meeting hosted by Sisters Inside in Brisbane, the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women heard evidence from Aboriginal women of the violence experienced in communities and behind prison bars.

Aboriginal women in some parts of Australia are believed to constitute the most victimised group of people or women in the world. Aboriginal women are also the fastest growing prison population in Australia, and it is well known that incarceration rates for Aboriginal women are linked to the double discrimination that women face in the criminal justice system on the basis of race and gender.

Aboriginal women also spoke of the suffering resulting from child protection practices leading to widespread removal of Aboriginal children, including newborn infants, from their mothers at rates exceeding those that occurred under the discriminatory era of the Stolen Generations.

The removals have sparked a nationwide campaign, 'Family Matters', by the peak body for Aboriginal children, SNAICC. The campaign seeks to reduce the level of over-representation of Aboriginal children by increasing recognition and respect for Aboriginal human rights, such as self-determination, empowerment, Aboriginal healing processes and Aboriginal family-led decision-making.

In concluding her Australian tour, the Special Rapporteur commented that government strategies such as Closing the Gap are not closing the

gap on gender equality and violence against Aboriginal women.

She noted the high levels of Aboriginal child removal, policies that she thought were "belonging to the past", continued and in effect maintained the cycle of violence against Aboriginal women.

The National Action Plan on family violence is inadequate and the Australian Government should develop a specific national action plan on violence against Aboriginal women. This would be consistent with Article 22 and 23 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Imprisonment of Aboriginal women should only be a matter of last resort.

Contrary to human rights, the lives of Aboriginal women and girls nationwide are undermined on a daily widespread basis through entrenched practices of discrimination impeding the wellbeing of families, communities and cultures.

This year on IWD we call on all Australian women to stand in solidarity with us as we resist widespread human rights violations being witnessed.

● *Noongar woman Dr Hannah McGlade is the Senior Indigenous Research Fellow at Curtin University. She is a human rights lawyer, researcher and social justice activist, and chairs Aboriginal Family Law Services.*

● To read the statements from the First Nations Deaths in Custody Watch regarding Ms Dhu, go to www.deathsincustody.org.au/statements-ms-dhu

Press Council launches RAP



FORMER *Koori Mail* editor Kirstie Parker, a board member of Reconciliation Australia, spoke last week at the launch of the Australian Press Council's (APC) Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) about the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander presence in the media. The *Koori Mail* has recently become the first Indigenous publication to join the APC.

Ms Parker, a Yuwalarai woman who is now the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence (NCIE) chief executive, congratulated the APC on reaching out to Indigenous publications.

"You have grasped that Aboriginal representation in media extends beyond media outlets to representation on the adjudicatory body, the Australian Press Council," she said.

"The Press Council has recognised the importance of Aboriginal voices in media – of managers, editors, producers, journalists framing our stories our way.

"I cannot emphasise enough the importance of Aboriginal representation in media. It has been high on our agenda since the 1970s, when the first community controlled Aboriginal media outlets formed.

"That the *Koori Mail* – the most respected and successful Aboriginal newspaper in Australia – is now the first black media member of the APC is no accident. Media outlets come and go, I don't have to tell you it's a



From left, Reconciliation Australia's Savannah Roberts and Simone Proctor, *Koori Mail* general manager Naomi Moran, Press Council chair Professor David Weisbrot, NCIE deputy chair Terri Janke and chief executive Kirstie Parker.

cutthroat and ever-shrinking business.

"The *Koori Mail's* longevity is a result of strong leadership, in strong roots, with a strong sense of purpose and a strong commitment to our stories and our culture.

"The paper has never given up on that and you have a lot to learn from them, your newest member."

Press Council chair Professor David Weisbrot said developing a RAP was one way to ensure Indigenous voices are involved in shaping stories in the media.

"The challenge now is to make sure

that we implement these ambitious plans fully and effectively," he said.

"We have already taken the first steps. We recently welcomed the *Koori Mail* as our first Indigenous member publication. We will announce shortly the name of our first Indigenous Council member and we are now sourcing goods and services from Indigenous suppliers."

Koori Mail general manger Naomi Moran said the paper was thrilled to have joined the APC.

"For the past 25 years, we have been sharing news from our communities with the nation," she said.

"The DNA of our publication – what makes us the voice of Indigenous Australia – is our responsibility to cultural sensitivity and understanding. With our content as the heartbeat, a good standard of media practice ensures our newspaper continues to live and breathe authentic storytelling.

"We look forward to working closely with the Press Council to support other print media platforms to implement the same cultural care when reporting on Indigenous issues."

The Press Council RAP commits the organisation to:

● encouraging membership by Indigenous publication and news websites;

● engaging and consulting with Indigenous groups, individuals and organisations regarding the Press Council's work;

● promoting employment and internship opportunities for Indigenous people at the Press Council and among member publications;

● promoting Indigenous cultural competence among staff;

● encouraging the Australian news media to report issues of importance for Indigenous communities in a respectful way; and

● endeavouring to promote high quality reporting in relation to Indigenous peoples.



Jack Charles and friend Archie Roach in their artist in conversation session at WOMADelaide, titled 'Healing and Empowerment Through the Arts', hosted by former broadcaster Namila Benson. *Picture: Jack Grieve*

Top artists at WOMADelaide



A RANGE of Indigenous artists featured in this year's line-up of WOMADelaide, South Australia's annual celebration of world music. Award-winning hip hop duo A.B. Original – Briggs and Trials – rocked the crowd with their hard-hitting political lines.

Zaachariaha Fielding worked with Michael Ross for Electric Fields, a merging of pop, electronic and soul, sung in the Central Australian language of Pitjantjatjara and English. Yolngu performer Stanley Gawurra brought a snapshot of Arnhem Land, singing in his Gupapuyngu language.

Ekosdance Company, an untrained, all-male ensemble from Indonesia, performed Cry Jailolo, a contemporary interpretation of Javanese dance set to a hypnotic soundtrack. It is also an environmental commentary about Indonesia's North Maluku islands, home to some of the world's greatest diving, and an expression of hope that destruction of the coral reefs will stop and the 'soul of the ocean' will be restored.

In the Planet Talks section of the festival, broadcaster Miriam Corowa played host for 'Valuing Indigenous knowledge and language' with panellists Kurna Elder Lewis Yerloburka O'Brien, Arrernte Elder Veronica Perrurle Dobson, ethno-ecologist Fiona Walsh, and Zaachariaha Fielding.

The panel discussed how the future of Australian environmental conservation is linked to preserving and sustaining Indigenous cultures, heritage and languages.

Mr O'Brien is honorary fellow of the University of South Australia, where he researches wildfire mitigation and water sustainability, and the intersection of Indigenous and Western knowledge. He is one



A.B. Original, rappers Briggs and Trials. *Picture: Jack Grieve*



Zaachariaha Fielding of Electric Fields. *Picture: Paul Heck*

of the driving forces behind Kurna Warra Pintyandi, the Kurna language revival program.

Ms Dobson is also a linguist and

ecologist and has a commitment to preserving the Aboriginal language, culture and plant knowledge of Central Australia.



Ekosdance Company, from Indonesia, perform Cry Jailolo, a contemporary interpretation of Javanese dance, set to a hypnotic soundtrack and performed by an untrained, all-male ensemble. *Picture: Jack Grieve*



Yolngu performer Stanley Gawurra from Arnhem Land. *Picture: Jack Grieve*



Ngarrindjeri Elder Major (Moogy) Sumner welcomes people to country before A.B. Original's performance. *Picture: Jack Grieve*

Aboriginal heritage worker Buck Brown speaks about the rehabilitation of the land since it had been returned to the community and the Aboriginal heritage sites at Preminghana. He is pictured here with Annie Chenery, Mandy Green, Pakara Greaves and Jessie Wadley.



Back to country

By JILLIAN MUNDY



MORE than 150 people converged on Preminghana, returned Aboriginal land, in north-west Tasmania to celebrate community, culture and country, over the state's Labor Day long weekend.

Raylene Foster, chief operations officer of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre (TAC), the body that organised the camp, said there was a focus on the health and wellbeing of community while on country at this year's gathering.

She said the TAC made an effort to help people who access the centre's services to get to the camp.

"For people who might be struggling, going back on country can help get them feel grounded," Ms Foster said.

Preminghana, along 5km of breathtaking coastline, is home to plenty of bush tucker, craft resources and recreational opportunities, rock art thought to be between 2000 and 4000 years old, middens and stone tool sites, bearing testimony to the long and continued Aboriginal occupation of the area.

The first Preminghana camp was held a few years after the 525-hectare area was returned to Tasmania's Aboriginal community in 1995.



Raylene Foster, from Hobart, and others leave their mark at the camp.

Highlights of this year's camp included visits to Aboriginal heritage sites, walks, craft activities, swimming and diving, a cook-up of traditional food and, of course, lots of yarning and catching up.

There were also discussions about possible measures to protect the rock art or 'petroglyphs' from impending erosion from sea level rise as a result of climate change.

The meaning of the symbols, which are 'pecked' into sandstone, are often discussed but remain something of a mystery.



● Above: Jasmine Heald from Somerset, Samantha Facey and Roseanne Hughes from Burnie and Kylie Haywood from Devonport at the camp.



● Left: Antwuan and Hiyeleum Jackson, Locke and Melody White-Brown and Jkobi Hughes at the camp.



A group walk at Preminghana, in north-west Tasmania.



Dougie Mansell, Derek Peardon, Shane Thomas and Stella Hall enjoying some tunes and yarns around the Preminghana campfire.

International Women's



Perth International Women's Day event guest speakers Angela Ryder, Rizah Levi, Tonia Sambo, Kelly Clear, Alisha Roberts, Irene McNamara, Rishelle Hume and Tammy Solonec with Elder Betty Garlett (front) and MC Christine Ross (purple shirt). Pictures: Tash Gillespie



Students from Presbyterian Ladies College with guest speakers Rishelle Hume and Kelly Clear.



Doreen Nelson and Lorraine Woods.



Abby Ware, Cheryl Bradley and Paula Hume enjoying the IWD gathering at Kent Street Weir.



Sharon Ninyette from Crown Casino with Josie, winner of the Crown Casino major prize.

Day celebrated in Perth



Rizah Levi and Marissa Verma with students from Sevenoaks College at the IWD gathering. Pictures: Tash Gillespie

Voices heard, stories shared



IN celebration of International Women's Day (IWD) on March 8, more than 200 guests converged on the Kent Street Weir in suburban Wilson to listen to the inspirational stories

from eight strong Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women based in Perth.

After a networking lunch by the weir, guest speakers Angela Ryder, Tonia Sambo, Rizah Levi, Kelly Clear, Tammy Solonec, Alisha Roberts, Irene McNamara and Rishelle Hume shared their stories.

The women, all of different ages and language groups who have followed different career paths, embraced this year's theme 'Be Bold for Change' in their speeches.

MC and organiser Christine Ross said a specific event featuring First Nations women was a welcome addition to IWD.

"It's always been fabulous to see this important day recognised by our community, with a number of events planned around Perth over the years with some outstanding female speakers," she said.

"But what we noted is the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women were not being heard and we felt we had important stories to share with our community, particularly on International Women's Day.

"It was also fantastic to see several men and young women from Sevenoaks College and Presbyterian Ladies College also attend."

The second Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander International Women's Day Event in Perth was held in partnership



Samantha Holten, Zoe Maxted with Brooklyn, Stacey Maxted and Marissa Verma.



Marie Farrell, Sharee Inman and Lynette Coomer at the Perth celebration.

with Christine Ross Consultancy, City of Gosnells, City of Canning, Langford Aboriginal Association (LAA) and Richmond Wellbeing.

Kirrikin donated two scarves and Crown Casino Perth gave one night's accommodation at Crown Metropol to lucky door prize winners.



IWD Perth event MC Christine Ross.



Guest speakers Rishelle Hume, Angela Ryder and Tammy Solonec.



Sarah Stack and Rowena Graham.



Allira Ryder and Rekisha Eades with guest speaker Alisha Roberts.



Kamilaroi man Ike Bates turned 90 in February.

Footy to bowls, Uncle Ike has had a full life



ROSEHILL Bowling Club (Sydney) vice-president Isaac (Ike) Bates

celebrated his 90th birthday on February 17.

Mr Bates, a Kamilaroi man, grew up in Coonabarabran, north-western NSW, and worked as a shearer. He also had a go at burr-cutting, among other things, before going to Sydney for work.

In Sydney he drove a meat wagon for many years, delivering meat carcasses to butcheries around Sydney.

He later worked for Parramatta City Council.

Mr Bates was an original team member of the Redfern All Blacks Rugby League team, which he joined in 1944 and played in for 11 years.

In recent times, he has been invited to attend the Redfern All Blacks Presentation Day where he was warmly welcomed by the locals and current players who know him as 'Uncle Ike'.

But his passion later in life has been lawn bowls.

Mr Bates has been regularly invited back to his home town by the Coonabarabran Bowling Club president to play in his President's Day competitions where he enjoyed competing with representatives from other bowling clubs, along with the local bowlers.

In 2007, Mr Bates was presented with the Inaugural Senior Club Personality of the Year Award. There were 54 nominations for that honour.

In February 2016, Rosehill Bowling Club named Green No. 1 the Isaac (Ike) Bates Bowling Green in his honour.

Tyron's art helps young men stay out of trouble

By KEIRA JENKINS



WORIMI (NSW) man Tyron Lane is using his art and experience with the justice system to help young Aboriginal men "stay out of trouble".

Mr Lane said he's done his time "locked away" in juvenile detention and in an adult prison, and hopes he can show other young men how he's turned his life around and inspire them to do the same.

"I only got out of jail about a year ago," he told the *Koori Mail*. "I haven't had my licence so I haven't been able to get a job yet, but I've spent that time painting."

"I'm going to get my licence back very soon so that'll make it easier to get a job."

Mr Lane started painting when he found himself in juvenile detention as a teenager.

There are two people who sparked his passion for art and encouraged him to expand on his talents.

Mr Lane's cousin, Dane Varagnolo, was the person who first inspired him to paint. Mr Varagnolo was serving time alongside Mr Lane and taught him to paint, pushing him to excel.

Mr Lane also credits Uncle Tex Skuthorpe, a noted Aboriginal artist, for supporting his artistic endeavours.

Uncle Tex visited the young men in juvenile detention, giving them art lessons – and life lessons – and encouraging them to strive to do their best.

Mr Lane said he also couldn't



Tyron Lane with one of his paintings.

have made the changes in his life without the support of his partner Jade, and his mother, who encouraged him to pursue art.

"I got into a lot of trouble as a young fella," he said.

"But I've always loved painting. And when I was in jail I was always teaching the young ones to paint."

"I'd also give them a bit of talking to. A lot of the boys in there were great artist or great footy players."

"I'd say to them 'You shouldn't be in here wasting your life, sitting and watching the Indigenous All Stars on TV from prison, you should be out there playing.'"

"But I was sitting right next to them so it was hard because they'd say 'Why don't you get out there and make something good of yourself?' and now I have so it's easier for me to tell them they can get out and do good, because I've done it too."

Mr Lane said he hopes his

story will inspire the young men he met in prison, and other young people who have run into trouble.

He said he wants the young people he's met to do great things, and to be proud of themselves and their culture.

"I just tell the young fellas to keep painting," he said. "That's how we tell our stories, that's how we connect to our culture. I hope the young fellas are watching me and they say 'If he can do it, I can too.'"

Funding to help care for country



TEN Indigenous land and sea projects will share in more than \$630,000 of funding under the Queensland Indigenous Land and Sea Grants program.

State Environment and Heritage Protection Minister

Steven Miles said the program was designed to support communities caring for country with grants of up to \$75,000 for individual projects.

"It is encouraging to see the mix of traditional knowledge and new technology being brought to the management of country," he said.

"For example, the Mithaka cultural landscapes conservation and interpretation project will use drones as a cost-effective means of recording archeological evidence of ancient village sites. This will support future registration and management of these significant sites, including for exhibition and educational purposes."

Dr Miles said the projects will all deliver environmental and cultural heritage outcomes.

"Successful projects include traditional knowledge and cultural heritage site recording, weed management, and water management planning and monitoring in some of Queensland's most iconic locations," he said.

The projects will support a range of partnerships including with universities and research institutions, the Queensland Museum, National Resource Management groups and local government.

Database

Funding recipient Buda-du Aboriginal Development Association will undertake the project 'Looking after and caring for Djabugay Bulmba' and provide training to undertake flora and fauna surveys in Mona Mona Reserve, as well as establish a cultural heritage database to create a cultural map and work with stakeholders to

reinstate Djabugay language names in the public domain.

Other project funding recipients were: Olkola water plan and monitoring program; partnerships to protect, conserve and manage Gulnay coastal country for Maibin; Gummi Junga Aboriginal Corporation for Bonny Glen land management and planning; Ngragoonda Aboriginal Corporation for weed maintenance and recording of culturally significant areas; Watsonville Aboriginal Corporation for natural and cultural heritage resource management on Mbabaram country; Goorathuntha Traditional Owners Ltd for Mt Tabor cultural heritage program; Jaragun Pty Ltd for protection of Russell River National Park World Heritage Area from blue thunbergia; and Jahyilah Yahgilah Inc and Logan and Albert Rivers Catchment Association for protecting black bean forest and cultural sites.

More details about the successful projects can be found at www.ehp.qld.gov.au

Holly Days may be coming back



HOLLY Days, a program to encourage La Perouse (southern Sydney) children to be involved in group and community activities outside their local area, could be reintroduced thanks to volunteers of Tamarama Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC).

The Tamarama SLSC volunteers are working with Weave Youth and Community Services to evaluate the viability of reintroducing and extending the Holly Days Indigenous outreach program.

The original Holly Days program started with two participants in 2006 and grew to more than 20 young people in

2009, with the program winning a reconciliation award.

Tamarama SLSC spokesperson Guy Waddell said the club was evaluating the reintroduction of the program after a pause of several years. A two-week trial is being run with the support of Weave Youth and Community Services.

"We're delighted that one of the original participants, 16-year-old Ben Porter, is now an active patrol member at the club after completing his Bronze Medallion training," he said.

"Ben is a great role model for kids wanting to experience surf life saving and our members are looking forward to sharing their knowledge about beach safety and surf awareness

during the trial."

The club will evaluate the success of the trial with a view to including the children in the club's full nippers program next season.

The initiative comes as Tamarama SLSC works to upgrade its clubhouse facilities to enable the building to continue to be a hub for community groups and programs, such as the Holly Days program, as well as the club's operational headquarters.

The club hopes to raise \$4.5 million to provide fit-for-purpose facilities including updated change rooms, a conference room and a training hall.

● Pictured: Lifesaver Ben Porter on patrol.



Major prize to poet



WINNING a \$215,000 Windham-Campbell Literary Prize for poetry came as a surprise to Yankunytjatjara/

Kokatha woman Ali Cobby Eckermann.

"I've always been curious about where my work would end up," the poet told the *Koori Mail*.

"My dream was always that my poetry would create more friendship and kindness, because most Australian policy and practice do not have friendship and kindness embedded in them in any way. My poetry is a weapon in cultural love."

Winners of the Windham-Campbell literary prizes, created by an American philanthropist, are chosen after being secretly nominated by members of the literary community.

"This is the first year poetry was included in the prize," Ms Eckermann said. "The prize is about the impact your work is leaving on the world, and that's pretty amazing."

Ms Eckermann is a member of the Stolen Generations and was removed from her family when she was a child. Her mother was also removed from her family when she was young, causing generations of grief and sadness for the family.

Ms Eckerman attributes her poetry to her need to find the missing parts of her life and fight the racism she found in society.

"In primary school I was a bookworm and would read *Reader's Digest* and was fascinated with stories of survival," she said. "I look back now and see that's normal for someone always looking for her belonging place."

"I want to tell the story of the



Ali Cobby Eckermann

Stolen Generations and have it replicated around the world for other Indigenous people too. I feel how wrongly we've been treated and it could be happening for future generations."

Ms Eckermann said she was expelled from school at the end of Year 11 for standing up to racism.

"Someone was trying to flush my cousin's head in the toilet," she said. "Racism interrupted my education – I was a passionate scholar but let it go. I returned to a love of literature after doing a creative writing course in Alice Springs."

Ms Eckermann said much of her trauma healing came from spending 10 years living with Elders in the Central Desert.

"The energy from the desert and my reunion with the traditional land was very poetic," she said.

"I felt the beauty of sitting in family and language and I was the only one who couldn't speak it. It was like a multi-layered poem inside of me."

"All the wisdom, singing and dance is poetry, and all that

poetry saved my life."

Now reunited with her birth family after many years of separation, Ms Eckermann is happy to have two families in her life.

She hopes to buy a house, but she's happy to have the next six months to connect with her new-found family before she travels to Yale University in America to collect her award.

"I was 33 when I met my mum and four years later I got my son back. It was a big change for me," she said. "Now I can grow and my family can grow."

"A lot of the prizemoney will be spent keeping us together, and on excursions to country to enjoy cultural moments."

"It's a wonderful testament to reconciliation and friendship and kindness that can be shared in Australia."

High Court ruling talks continue



THE negotiating committee of the Northern Territory's Northern Land Council (NLC) has met for a second time to work toward resolving matters outstanding from the High Court's 2008 Blue Mud Bay decision.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the NLC, NT Government, Amateur Fishermen's Association, Seafood Council, Guided Fishing Industry Association

and Environmental Defender's Office.

NLC chief executive Joe Morrison said the committee was developing a position paper to be presented to the NLC's full council in May.

"Outstanding matters from the Blue Mud Bay decision include the management of fisheries across the Northern Territory, access to and management of the Aboriginal-owned intertidal zone and the future development of the NT coastline and the people

who own the coast," he said.

Mr Morrison said the paper will detail key issues that need to be addressed to ensure the rights and responsibilities of traditional owners are recognised in future fisheries access and management arrangements.

"It will also provide certainty and security to all user groups and help all parties work together to ensure our aquatic resources are managed sustainably and shared in a way that benefits all Territorians," he said.



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Culture camp for arts



Kids at the culture camp in WA.



IN the wake of the Western Australian state election Country Arts WA is reaffirming the need for funding in the arts.

In the lead up to the election, the organisation asked residents across Western Australia to write to their local MPs, asking them to commit to future arts funding.

Hundreds of people took up the task, outlining the importance of the arts to Western Australia – especially its remote and regional communities.

Arts organisations have also joined the 'Vote Arts' campaign, including Tjuma Pulka Original

Nations Media Corporation.

Creative producer Stephani Beck said the campaign is about creating awareness of the need for funding in the arts.

"I went on a cultural camp with 18 young adults recently, and the aim was to inspire them to learn language, and to introduce them to artists in the field," she told the *Koori Mail*.

"The kids then had to create a project. It was a platform for cross-cultural exercises, so the kids could start to see how arts connects to culture.

"I could see there was a need for this kind of thing. It was amazing how well the kids took to the camp.

"A lot of momentum and funding needs to be behind it so the project the kids created can come to life."

The project created at the camp is being produced to show at NAIDOC Week in Kalgoorlie.

Ms Beck said the large-scale puppet show is bringing together different forms of media.

"We're using digital imagery to go along with the puppets," she said.

"The kids heard a story from an Elder. That's now the script for our production. The story is about how language is created.

"We're using different imagery and digital media to go with the project as part of the stage play."

Ms Beck said the aim of the camp, and the project, was to get the participants to understand the arts process.

"It was about showing them what they're capable of," she said.

"The kids were coming up with great things, and once they put them down on paper they realised their ideas would work.

"There was also a lot of protection over their work, and we're planning on workshoping their artwork further.

"They just want to keep working on it. They felt like they just wanted to keep going with it. They've got a vision for the project, and I've got a vision to

create cultural awareness in society, using that work."

Ms Beck said the enthusiasm on the participants' part was what camp organisers had hoped for.

"We didn't have any expectations but we definitely aimed to have that kind of reaction," she said.

"We spent time creating things in workshops, but there was also time for the kids to go and have fun, go for a swim or whatever, because it's really important to have that balance when you're working with young people.

"They'll respect the work more if they have time for themselves too. The whole camp was just amazing."

Glenn sees the world



SINGER-SONGWRITER Glenn Skuthorpe wanted to change his sound for his fifth album, and that's exactly what he did with

See My World, which he is currently touring around the country.

He's on the road at the moment for his 'Taking It Home' tour, celebrating the release of his first self-produced album.

Mr Skuthorpe is touring through Western NSW, where he grew up, and country towns in Queensland.

But the capital cities won't be missed, with Mr Skuthorpe heading to Brisbane on March 24, Sydney on March 30 and Melbourne on April 6 for shows.

Mr Skuthorpe said he really focused on creating a different kind of music for *See My World*.

"It's got a different vibe than the last four," he told the *Koori Mail*.

"It's got a dirty 70s rock feel. It's like country and folk meets 70s rock."

Mr Skuthorpe said as a singer-songwriter he's always on the search for something different to add to his sound.

"My first four albums were produced by two really good producers so I learnt a lot from them," he said. "So when I wanted to create my own sound for this new album I thought I could create something myself."

Mr Skuthorpe will also be performing with a number of special guests throughout his tour including Clare O'Meara, Sue Ray and Kutcha Edwards.

The album and tour was supported by Arts South Australia and the Australian Council for the Arts, along with a crowdfunding campaign.

Although Mr Skuthorpe now lives in Adelaide, it is country NSW that is his home.

He said that's why the 'Taking It Home' tour focuses so heavily on country NSW and Queensland towns.

Mr Skuthorpe said those places are where he discovered his love of music.

"I've been playing music since I was about 10," he said.

"I'd listen to all the uncles sit around the campfire and that sound was electrifying. I thought I wanted to create my own music inspired by that."



Glenn Skuthorpe is getting ready to tour his new album *See My World*.

Unsettled exhibition opens



A MULTIMEDIA exhibition that questions the stories we tell ourselves about Australia's colonial past opens at the State Library of South Australia on March 24.

UNSETTLED explores colonial memories, untold mission stories, and insights into the passage of time in the Flinders Ranges and the ghost town of Beltana.

A major element of *UNSETTLED* is a series of portraits of Adnyamathanha people living at the Nepabunna Mission in the 1930s, taken by anthropologist Charles Mountford. Many of the photographs have not been exhibited publicly for years.

The portraits are accompanied by filmed interviews with Adnyamathanha people living in the region today, whose parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are depicted in the photographs. *UNSETTLED* runs until May 14.



Jack Thompson, Djal Gurruwiwi and South Australian Museum's John Carty.

Bringing the forest to art



THE South Australian Museum has launched a new exhibition, *Yidaki: Didjeridu and the Sound of*

Australia, which aims to challenge the way the world experiences Aboriginal culture.

Yidaki is the first exhibition curated by South Australian Museum's new head of anthropology John Carty.

Professor Carty said *Yidaki* signals a radical shift in the direction of the South Australian Museum.

"Having the best collection in the world means nothing unless you also work with the best people," he said.

"The experts on *Yidaki* are the Yolngu people of Arnhem Land.

"This exhibition is an expression of their authority, and their generosity in sharing their culture – through the museum's collection – with the world."

Twenty Yolngu artists and musicians travelled to Adelaide for the *Yidaki* opening.

Among them is 'yidaki master' Djal Gurruwiwi.

"Yidaki is the sound that brings everyone together," Mr Gurruwiwi said.

Yidaki presents an opportunity to experience Mr Gurruwiwi's expertise, and showcases yidaki/didjeridu as an 'iconic emblem of Australia'.

Professor Carty described Mr Gurruwiwi as a "cross between Miles Davis and the Dalai Lama".

"He is a musical pioneer with a vision of reconciliation in

Australia that is truly humbling," he said.

"This exhibition breaks most of the conventions of classical museum curation. We've gotten rid of things you tend to need, like labels, and we've introduced things you're supposed to keep out of museums – moisture, vibration and even termites.

"Rather than building an 'exhibition' we built a stringy bark forest, and in that forest you are led by Yolngu voices guiding through their system of meaning on their terms.

"Without these Yolngu voices, without music, without Yolngu breath, yidaki, didjeridu, didgeridoo – whatever label we give this instrument of power – is just a stick of wood."

The exhibition will be on display until July 16.



Desert divas Bronwyn Stuart, Casii Williams and Eleanor Dixon.

Divas singing songs from the NT desert



EIGHT Aboriginal women are featured on the new *Desert Divas* album, which celebrates talent from remote communities in the Northern Territory.

Each of the women was partnered with industry mentors and recorded by producer Anna Laverty.

"I had the opportunity to meet inspiring, vibrant women from all over Central Australia," Ms Laverty said. "We came together to make music but we ended up building friendships and lasting working relationships."

The eight women featured on the album are Shana Ray, Eleanor Dixon, Miranda Garling, Jillian Moody, Kiriz Oliver, Bronwyn Stuart, Rita Tomlins and Casii Williams.

"Having my song recorded by a professional producer and appearing on an album has always

been a dream of mine that is now finally achieved," Shana Ray said.

The album is the second compilation from Music NT's Desert Divas and Sista Sounds programs.

Over the past six years these programs have delivered workshops in communities across the NT including Darwin, Tenant Creek and Alice Springs.

Music NT Indigenous women's music program manager Adelaide Wood said the program is integral to the professional development of the 'divas'.

"This project was amazing," she said. "On the outside, it was about giving aspiring young female musicians the skills to walk into a professional studio and record their music. On the inside it was about friendship, culture and music creating something much richer than the sum of the individual parts."



AFTRS Indigenous students with staff: chief officer Neil Peplow (far left), Elder in residence Bruce Pascoe (third from left) and head of the Indigenous unit Kyas Sherriff (far right).

More of the mob learn film, TV and radio skills



A YEAR after the AFTRS Indigenous Unit was established, the school has announced that a record number of Indigenous students are enrolled in 2017.

Twenty-two Indigenous students are currently studying at AFTRS. Sixteen of these started at the school in 2017 and are enrolled in courses including Diplomas, the Bachelor of Arts Screen

Production, Graduate Certificates and the new Master of Arts Screen.

This year represents the highest intake of Indigenous students into the AFTRS BA program since it was introduced three years ago.

The AFTRS Indigenous Unit was established a year ago to identify and support pathways for talented Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to study across the school, and provide professional development opportunities for mid-career practitioners.

Over the past 12 months the unit has introduced a number of initiatives and its impact is already being felt, particularly the significant jump in enrolment of Indigenous students.

"It's very exciting that AFTRS is attracting students starting their careers with the new Bachelor of Arts Screen Production, as well as more experienced students with the school's postgraduate courses focused on creating industry leaders who will have impact on the

country's national voice," says Head of the Indigenous Unit Kyas Sherriff.

During the AFTRS orientation week, the incoming Indigenous cohort met with AFTRS' inaugural Elder in residence, Bruce Pascoe. An acclaimed Indigenous novelist and teller of stories, Uncle Bruce Pascoe identifies with his Yuin and Bunurong Tasmanian heritage.

The AFTRS Elder in residence role has been created to encourage an Indigenous perspective across

the entire school.

"As the Elder in residence at AFTRS for 12 months, Uncle Bruce offers the school's staff and students an opportunity to engage with First Nations perspectives," Ms Sherriff said. "AFTRS is a leader in this space, and it is exciting that respected Elder Uncle Bruce has agreed to work with AFTRS. I hope his presence will help AFTRS staff and students gain a deeper understanding of the longest living culture in Australia and the world."

Scholarships open up higher education to Indigenous students



A LAW student from the Hunter region and a medicine student from Tamworth have been awarded Freddy Fricke scholarships from the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC).

Sapphire Dawson and Russell Thompson will use the scholarships to help pay for university fees, textbooks and other course-related expenses.

Sapphire, a Yuin (southern NSW) woman, is studying law at the University of Newcastle, and hopes other Aboriginal students will be inspired by her academic journey.

"Completing my law degree and becoming a lawyer is important to me. I have overcome many hurdles to get where I am today.

"People told me I was not good enough for university because of my skin colour and heritage. After I became a mother at 18 years, I was also told I was destined to be stuck in the Centrelink cycle," she said.

Sapphire said she looked forward to working in the community to help Aboriginal people negotiate the justice system.

Kamilaroi man Russell Thompson is studying medicine at the University of New South Wales in Sydney but plans to return home to Tamworth to contribute to the local community.

"Helping close the life expectancy gap is very important to me. At the moment, I'm actively involved in several organisations that promote Aboriginal health.

"As a student representative of the Australian Indigenous Doctors Association, I've been involved in education and advocacy."

Invest

NSWALC Chair Roy Ah-See said NSWALC understood the need to invest in Aboriginal education through the Freddy Fricke scholarships.

"We hope the scholarships will not just help students complete their degrees but also their home communities by acting as role models for other Aboriginal students," Mr Ah-See said.

Since 2002, 49 Aboriginal university students have been awarded Freddy Fricke scholarships.

Applications for the Freddy Fricke scholarship program will reopen later this year.

CDU researcher to take on the world



A Charles Darwin University (CDU) researcher will represent Australia at one of the world's largest Indigenous education conferences held in Canada this year.

Indigenous Knowledges lecturer Tracy Woodroffe said she would bring the Northern Territory's Indigenous education system to a world stage during the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education in Toronto.

"It is exciting for me as an Indigenous person to have this opportunity to connect and share ideas with other Indigenous people from around the world," Ms Woodroffe said.

"The conference will be a celebration of Indigenous education."

She said her conference presentation would be based on her PhD research into the ways that non-Indigenous educators could benefit from understanding Indigenous knowledge systems and approaches to education.

"My PhD research is starting to show that non-Indigenous pre-service teachers want to make a connection with Indigenous students, but in reality it can be quite difficult," she said.

"One way to strengthen that connection could be to gain awareness about Indigenous knowledge systems and what is respectful in different cultures."



Indigenous Knowledges lecturer Tracy Woodroffe is taking the NT's Indigenous education system to the world.

Ms Woodroffe has been teaching in the NT for more than 20 years and is completing her PhD thesis at CDU. She will attend the conference in July.

Alison Whittaker



Alison is fully bright in the field of law



Law scholar and author Alison Whittaker has been awarded the 2017 Fulbright Indigenous Postgraduate Scholarship.

It's been a year and more of achievement for the recent University of Technology Sydney graduate in Writing and Cultural Studies/Law, launching her debut poetry collection *Lemons in the Chicken Wire* last April and being announced joint winner of the Judith Wright Poetry Prize for New and Emerging Poets last month.

A Gomeroi woman from Gunnedah in NSW, Alison was the inaugural recipient of the UTS Faculty of Law's Equity Scholarship and in 2015 was named the National Indigenous Law Student of the Year by the Federal Government.

Alison intends to use the Fulbright Indigenous Postgraduate Scholarship to complete a Master of Laws (LLM) program at Harvard University in the US.

She hopes to spend her time in the LLM program exploring similarities and tensions in the enforcement and development of Indigenous lawmaking alongside emerging responses by Indigenous women against gendered violence.

In doing so, Alison hopes to foster relationships between the Indigenous Australian and Native American scholarship that makes governance and violence its focus, and contribute to implementing it locally.

"A Fulbright is an opportunity to extend and share reciprocal knowledge across the Pacific Ocean to Turtle Island (North America) in a time where collaboration between First Nations lawyers, scholars and thinkers is urgent and exciting," Alison said.

"The Fulbright lets me contribute to this, and to emerge from the program with perspective and a clearer vision for what is possible between law and Indigenous peoples, and what must be done. I hope this will make me a better practitioner, researcher and advocate for my mob."

"The UTS Law Equity Scholarship made my undergraduate study possible, for one. It bought essentials for study and living in the first four years of my undergraduate coursework. With it, just as importantly, it bought me time and space to study that might have otherwise been taken up by intense work and stress."

"The equity scholarship means that students from disadvantaged backgrounds not only access UTS Law, but begin to shape the law and their study of it on their own terms and for their communities."

"Before I started at UTS Law, I didn't even know what legislation was – I like to think I'm in a better position now!"

UTS Indigenous law researcher Associate Professor Thalia Anthony said Alison was a worthy recipient of the Fulbright scholarship.

"She is already an accomplished writer and contributor to academic debate, with books and articles published in creative and intellectual fields," Associate Professor Anthony said.

"Alison's time studying in the US will poise her to become a leader in her field of study and research on Indigenous justice. If her successes at an undergraduate level are anything to go by, her postgraduate candidature will produce a scholarly contribution that is likely to give her an international profile."

Engineering his future



Inspiring others to achieve their dreams in the face of adversity is a key motivator for QUT engineering student Josh Loyd, who has been named one of Australia's top 100 future leaders in the GradConnection Top 100 Future Leaders national award program.

Josh was a finalist in the Jacobs Engineering Consultant Award category of the awards, which attracted more than 8500 applications.

The 26-year-old Indigenous Australian has also been nominated for this year's QUT Student Leadership Awards and is a semi-finalist in the Queensland Young Achiever Awards. He combines his studies with work as an undergraduate engineer at WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff, tutoring, and working with QUT's



Josh Loyd

Oodgeroo Unit as a program manager and student ambassador.

The first in his family to go to university, Josh said he continually strived to inspire people who thought they didn't have what it took to achieve their dreams.

"I've faced a number of personal hardships that could have derailed my direction in life and from that I've found that I need to work in areas that give me meaning," he said.

"I was not able to develop an appreciation for higher education

until I was 23 years old, after I met an uncle who is an engineer. Since that day I have striven to achieve greatness through continuous personal improvement, and channel that drive into my community."

Josh is on track to graduate mid-2018 and hopes to develop a fulfilling career, starting in the water sector in Australia or overseas.



Students and staff in Townsville at the new NRL Cowboys House, along with Federal Minister Nigel Scullion, Minister Coralee O'Rourke and educator Professor Chris Sarra.

NRL Cowboys House opens



A new facility built in Townsville will help young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders from remote areas in

Queensland to complete their secondary education and access school-aged apprenticeships.

The \$9.5 million NRL Cowboys House, funded by the Australian Government, has already seen its first 25 students settle into the facility, which is built on land near the Pimlico TAFE College.

Managed by the Cowboys Community Foundation, the house will provide a home for young men, aged 12 to 16, as they move toward completing Year 12 in schools across Townsville.

Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs Nigel Scullion said that NRL Cowboys House

would give students from remote communities an opportunity to fulfil their dreams.

Mr Scullion said Cowboys House had been developed in partnership with Indigenous communities.

"The land was provided by the Queensland Government, which also project managed the construction and funded the house's covered basketball court," he said.

The Queensland Government will also build a multi-purpose, all-weather sporting facility, and will contribute an estimated \$5.5 million in ongoing maintenance costs over the next 30 years.

Minister Assisting the Premier on North Queensland and Member for Mundingburra Coralee O'Rourke said NRL Cowboys House also showed that sporting clubs and organisations like the Cowboys and the NRL knew how

important their roles in the community were.

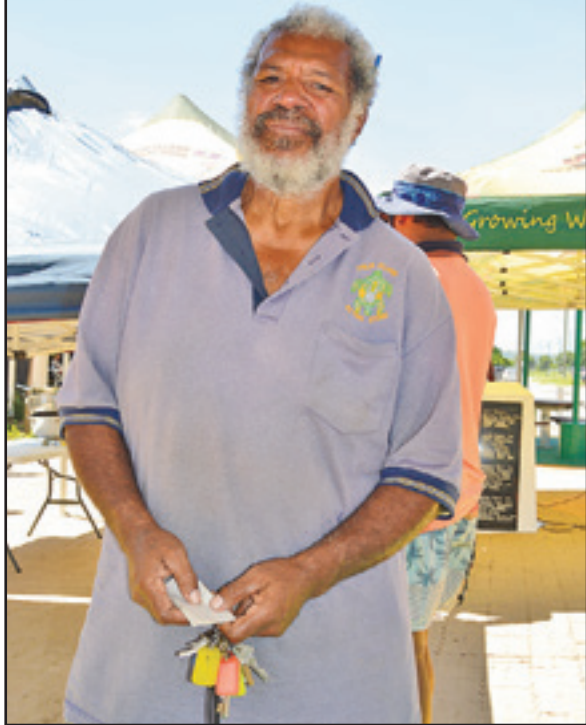
"Projects like NRL Cowboys House prove how willing our local sporting stars are to be a part of their communities," Ms O'Rourke said.

"The Cowboys do great work on and off the field, and NRL Cowboys House is another way they will make a difference to young people across the north."

Educator Professor Chris Sarra said the new Townsville facility would provide the quality of care and support needed to ensure participating students reached their potential.

"Far North Queensland is rugby league heartland and students at NRL House can follow role models such as the Cowboys' Johnathan Thurston and be anything they want to be," Professor Sarra said.

Ili Dabea on Palm Island after losing 70kg.
Picture: Alf Wilson



Willpower wins again

BY ALF WILSON



AMAZING willpower has been responsible for Palm Island man Ili Dabea losing 70kg of body weight.

The 54-year-old weighed in at 185kg just 18 months ago and is now down to 110kg, which has given him a new lease of life.

His effort has been noticed by many Palm Island residents who want to also shed some weight. Mr Dabea said the secret to his achievement was giving up most fatty foods.

"I started walking a lot," he said.

"I eat more vegetables and not much meat and I don't have soft drink, just water."

The weight loss has been beneficial for Mr Dabea, who has worked at the Palm Island Retail Store for 15 years.

"I now enjoy life a lot more," he said. "Anybody can do it but it requires a lot of willpower."

Mr Dabea is a former president of the Palm Island Rugby League and also a volunteer for the local Rural Fire Brigade.

Healthy awards



for applications.

The awards of up to \$9000 in total are available for a 12-month period to provide support for:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) medical students.
- Medical students to gain experience in ATSI health.
- ATSI medical graduates undertaking GP training.

- GP registrars and GPs undertaking research and educational projects in ATSI health.
- Other activities supporting the provision of high quality health care to ATSI people.

Applicants for the RACGP Indigenous Health Award must be a medical student, a general practitioner or general practice registrar.

For more information and to apply, visit www.racgp.org.au

For enquiries, email research@racgp.org.au or phone 03 8699 0497. Applications close May 8.

Partnership aims to help Close the Gap



A partnership between the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH) and the Queensland Government could help to Close the Gap.

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Mark Furner signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on national Close the Gap Day, which he said would create employment opportunities and better health outcomes for Indigenous Queenslanders.

"Up to \$150,000 in funding over two years will be delivered to IUIH to encourage and prepare more Indigenous Queenslanders to take up careers in health care," he said.

Institute for Urban Indigenous Health chief officer Adrian Carson said the new partnership would strengthen the organisation's commitment to Indigenous Queenslanders.

"With almost 500 Indigenous

employees, the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health and its four founding member organisations – Brisbane ATSIHCS, Kambu Corporation for Health, Yulu-Burri-Ba and Kalwun Health – is the biggest employer of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the south-east Queensland region," Mr Carson said.

"Up to \$150,000 in funding over two years will be delivered to IUIH to encourage and prepare more Indigenous Queenslanders to take up careers in health care."

"As a national leader in Indigenous health care service and employment, the Institute for Urban and Indigenous Health is perfectly positioned to generate meaningful outcomes in health, employment and economic participation.

"Quality of health is directly related to quality of life – all sectors must work together to help Indigenous Queenslanders live healthier, happier and longer lives."

The MOU covers supporting 10 school-based trainees per year; creating pathways to increase numbers of Indigenous trainees; delivering post-traineeship placement and employment programs; increasing retention rate of post-traineeship Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees; assisting IUIH to develop and deliver south-east Queensland trainee models aimed at increasing the number of school-based traineeships; and assisting

IUIH to develop its Procurement Strategy and Evaluation Framework.

The IUIH leads the planning, development and delivery of comprehensive primary health care services to the Indigenous population of south-east Queensland.



North Coast PHN chief executive Vahid Saberi, Namatjira Haven team leader Dian Edwards, Federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan and Rekindling the Spirit service manager Jeff Richardson.

Building mental health services



Federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan announced more than \$115,000 of new funding for Namatjira Haven Drug and Alcohol Healing Centre to expand its existing services and offer new mental health services.

"In partnership with Rekindling the Spirit, the funding will be used to train local staff in Aboriginal mental health first aid to provide assistance to Indigenous people with mental health issues in Casino and Richmond Valley, Kyogle and district as well as Tweed Heads," he said. "This

is great news for our Indigenous community.

"The additional funding will also, among other things, provide more residential rehabilitation beds for those dealing with drug and alcohol abuse.

"Mental health is an issue for our entire community that I take very seriously and will

continue to lobby to make sure we get the resources we need to help our Indigenous community.

"This funding will help build the skills of our local mental health and drug workforce so that they can more confidently respond to clients and build community resilience."

Markas prepared for success with osteopathy scholarship



Southern Cross University Indigenous student Markas Jacobsen has been awarded the prestigious Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship to study osteopathy.

The first-year Bachelor of Clinical Sciences student completed the Preparing for Success Program last year to gain university entry and has now received the competitive national, externally-awarded Indigenous scholarship worth up to \$15,000 a year.

The Australian Government initiative is designed to encourage and assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander undergraduate students in health-related disciplines to complete their studies and join the health workforce.

The scheme was established in recognition of Dr Arnold 'Puggy' Hunter's significant contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and his role as Chair of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

"I decided to study osteopathy after I injured myself playing sports and a mate recommended I should come to the SCU Health Clinic at the

University's Gold Coast campus," Markas said.

"The osteopathy student I was seeing at the clinic on campus was telling me about the course at Southern Cross which initially got me really interested in it."

The rigorous scholarship application included in-depth questioning regarding career ambitions, sacrifices for study and how Markas would benefit from the support.

"...I want to one day use my role as an osteopath to promote health in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities."

"I wrote about how I have to give up fulltime employment to study and how I want to one day use my role as an osteopath to promote health in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities," the Tugun local said.

"I have experience and training as a personal trainer and I am interested in helping people with their overall health and wellbeing.

"Osteopaths treat all kinds of joint and muscular pain but also look at the client's whole lifestyle, including how

long they sit or stand in their job and making subtle adjustments to promote better overall health, which extends beyond the treatments in clinic."

The 24-year-old is on the Young Leaders Embracing 2018 reference group, established through the City of Gold Coast as a legacy initiative of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

"It's exciting to be part of a group which is so passionate about helping create a sporting and cultural legacy in the city after the Games," he said.

Markas is also passionate about helping other students find the best career path for them, volunteering as a Southern Cross University careers ambassador during Orientation.

"The careers team narrowed it down and helped me so much when I was still trying to decide between three different courses," he said.

"Now I've been telling new students about what the careers team offers and how they can help.

"I completed the Preparing for Success Program at SCU and am now studying the Bachelor of Clinical Sciences as a pathway to graduate entry osteopathy."



Markas Jacobsen

NT Telehealth service delivery set to expand



The Central Australia Health Service is working with the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) to improve Telehealth service delivery in remote Australia.

Representatives from ADHA, headed by chief officer Tim Kelsey, were recently in Central Australia to meet with health professionals and agencies to develop strategies that will see Telehealth opening up further specialties in the region and enhance IT systems to incorporate Telehealth appointments.

Department of Health chief officer Stephen Moo said the National Telehealth Connection Service had been deployed in the Northern Territory to expand the footprint for health service delivery.

"It enables connections with non-government agencies, such as Aboriginal Medical Services, and interstate tertiary hospitals such as Royal Adelaide Hospital," he said.

The benefits of the National Telehealth Connection Service are to promote clinical collaboration across jurisdictional boundaries for health service providers, improve access to health services, better manage costs and optimise

resources, increase information exchange within and between jurisdictions and establish a Telehealth scheduling system.

"This collaboration between the Australian Digital Health Agency and the Northern Territory government will build on the success of the earlier project," he said.

In December 2009 the NT was successful in a bid to the Digital Regions Initiative for implementing Telehealth across regional and remote Northern Territory.

"This laid the foundation for Telehealth NT and as a result there are now more than 50 Telehealth enabled centres in major cities and towns, regional areas and remote locations," Mr Moo said.

The focus of this visit will be to encourage understanding of the context of providing health services within a challenging environment and to share emerging themes from recent ADHA national consultations.

"This can only be of benefit to people living in the NT, most particularly those people in remote communities who rely on Telehealth for treatment of chronic disease so they can live on their own country," Mr Moo said.

Online health portal to help Close the Gap



'My Life, My Lead' is a new online public consultation portal to highlight the

issues that support or impede Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to have good health.

The Minister for Indigenous Health Ken Wyatt said that the launch of the new portal will give more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people an opportunity to lead the discussion about the life they live now, and the life they want in the future for themselves, their families and their communities.

The portal will support shaping the next iteration of the Implementation Plan for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan (2013-2023), the Government's key blueprint to help Close the Gap. A number

of face-to-face forums will also be held across Australia.

"While governments have a critical role in setting policies and implementing programs, true and lasting gains are made when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have the resources to work with government to set the agendas that impact on their wellbeing," Minister Wyatt said.

"We will use feedback from the consultation portal to consider factors that impact on the social determinants of health like education, employment, justice, income and housing, as well as the important role cultural determinants play in supporting better health outcomes.

"We know that these factors in particular have a significant bearing on a person's future health and wellbeing, and I want to

understand how we can work in partnership across government and communities to deliver effective integrated services that support our people to lead happy, healthy lives."

The Implementation Plan for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan is built on a partnership between the Australian Government and the Aboriginal health sector.

The plan outlines the concrete actions to be taken by the Australian Government, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled health sector and other key stakeholders to improve the health and living standards of Indigenous Australians.

For information about the Implementation Plan or to leave a comment on the 'My Life, My Lead' consultation portal, visit www.health.gov.au

We welcome items for our Calendar of Events. Send them to any of the addresses in the panel on page 23.

National

Ongoing: Lifeline – saving lives, crisis support, suicide prevention. For assistance telephone 13 11 14.

Ongoing: 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. Call 1800 242 636, Monday to Friday.

Ongoing: WGAR – Working Group for Aboriginal Rights (Australia). Prioritising grassroots Aboriginal voices and voices in solidarity with Aboriginal people's rights with information and opinions from a range of sources. Details: www.groups.google.com/group/

Now Open: Registrations are now open for National Close the Gap Day 2017 events. To find or host an event visit www.oxfam.org.au/nctgd Details: 1800 088 110.

Now Open: Nominations for National Indigenous Human Rights Awards (NIHRA). NIHRA recognises and celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have significantly contributed to the advancement of human rights and social justice in Australia. To nominate someone, go to: <https://shaoquett.wufoo.com/forms/z4qw7zc1i3yvw6>

Until March 27: Applications to the Innovative (Disability) Workforce Fund now open. For details email Leila Wright at leila.wright@nds.org.au or visit www.workforce.nds.org/innovation

Until April 11: Bangarra's 2017 youth outreach Rekindling program registrations open. Held at Warrnambool (Vic), Grafton (NSW), Docker River (NT), Umuwa (SA) and Townsville (Qld). Register at www.bangarra.com.au/youth-outreach/rekindling. Details: (02) 9251 5333.

NSW-ACT

Ongoing: ACE Community College Aboriginal driver training. Held at ACE Community College, 59 Magellan Street, 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: Lismore women's and men's healing groups, held from February to December all year. Women's groups stop during school holidays. Held at Rekindling The Spirit, Lismore, Monday and Wednesday, 11am-2pm. Details: (02) 6622 5534.

Now Open: Aboriginal Go4Fun, a 10-week healthy lifestyle program for kids aged seven to 13 who are above a healthy weight. A parent or carer is required to attend each session. Details: 1800 780 900 or SMS 0409 745 645 for a call back.

Now Open: Indigenous Police Recruitment Our Way Delivery (IPROWD) program applications. Details: 1300 832 939 or email IPROWD@tafensw.edu.au or visit www.iproud.tafensw.edu.au

During school term: Aboriginal Women's Wellbeing Group. Reflect and connect with others, learn tools for self care. Held at YWCA, Goonellabah, every Tuesday on school term from 9.30am-1pm. Details: Briony on (02) 66255 810 or email brionyl@ywcansw.com.au

Until March 25: *Women of Yulgilbar* exhibition. This exhibition celebrates the lives and contributions of six Yulgilbar women. Held at Grafton Regional Gallery, 158 Fitzroy Street, Grafton, from Tue-Sat, 10am-4pm. Cost: Gold coin donation entry. Details: (02) 6642 3177 or visit www.graftongallery.nsw.gov.au

Until March 26: *Good Looking* exhibition

Yirmal Marika, from north-east Arnhem Land, will be one of the star performers at this year's Boomerang Festival on the NSW North Coast.



Boomerang at Bluesfest



THE Boomerang Festival will be back at Bluesfest from April 16-17 in far northern NSW.

This festival inside a festival will feature Indigenous artists from around Australia and the world. The program includes arts, culture and rituals, along with workshops and interactive experiences and an array of music and dance,

cultural knowledge exchanges and conversations.

Artists playing at Boomerang Festival this year include OKA from the Sunshine Coast, Yirmal Marika from north-east Arnhem Land and the Jannawi Dance Clan from Sydney.

The Boomerang Festival is curated by Bundjalung woman Rhoda Roberts.

For more details, visit www.boomerangfestival.com.au

opening night. Showcasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists from the LGBTQI community. Held at Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-op, 55-59 Flood Street, Leichhardt, from 6-8pm. Details: (02) 9560 2541.

Until April 27: NSW funding for NAIDOC Week events now open. Details: www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au

March 25-April 1: Ringbalin 2017 Three Nations! Two Rivers! One Corroboree! Bringing together traditional dancers from five Aboriginal nations to celebrate the creation stories of the river tribes, travelling down the Murray-Darling River system, starting in Walgett on the Barwon River and finishing in Goolwa. Includes storytelling and performance. All performances start at sunset. Event details are available from Carmel Young on 0411 534 913 or visit www.tal-kin-jeri.org for full itinerary.

March 27: 'Tulladunna' Wee Waa cultural celebration community event. Help decide on protecting sites and celebrate Aboriginal cultural heritage. Held at Wee Waa from 10am-2pm. Details: Jamie Day on (02) 6764 5925 or Robyn Keefe on (02) 6795 3735.

March 29-30: 2017 National Aboriginal Wellbeing Conference. Details at www.aboriginalwellbeingconference.com

March 31: Tobacco-free Day event: A fun, safe and smoke-free event for the family. Includes sausage sizzle, jumping castle and special guest comedian Sean Choolburra. Held at Colley Park, Casino, from 10am-2pm. Details: Solid Mob on (02) 6686 3607.

March 31-April 30: Plunge festival. A series of exhibitions and programs featuring works by Yaegl artist Frances Belle Parker titled *If These Halls Could Talk*. Held at Grafton Regional Gallery, 158 Fitzroy Street, Grafton, from Tue-Sat, 10am-4pm. Entry by gold coin donation. Details: (02) 6642 3177 or visit www.graftongallery.nsw.gov.au

March 31: D.A.L.E Young Parents' School Welcome Day 2017. Includes smoking ceremony and Aboriginal dancers. Held at 98 Georgetown Road, Waratah, Newcastle, from 10.45am-12.15pm. Please reply. Details: Belinda Simon on (02) 4949 2949 or email belinda.simon@spcc.nsw.edu.au

April 1-April 21: Free Aboriginal bike safety course. A three-hour bike safety program includes bike check, minor repairs, bike skills. Held at Cabbage Tree Island, Coffs Harbour, Macksville, Scotts Head, South West Rocks, Lismore, Tweed Heads, Tenterfield, Walcha and Tamworth. Book now. Details: (02) 6622 5775 or 0418 150 217.

April 3-4: Money Counts Information Session. Get free legal help with fines, bills and debts, Centrelink and more. Held at Birrigan Gargle Local Aboriginal Land Council, Ngaru Village (Pippi Beach), Yamba, from 10am-2pm and Nungera Aboriginal Co-op, Maclean, from 1pm-3pm on April 3 and Barnook Centre, Clarence Way, Baryulgil, from 10am-2pm on April 4. Details: Grafton ALS on (02) 6640 1400 or Legal Aid on (02) 9219 5057.

April 1-2: Bundjalung and Kunwinjku Women's Weaving and Culture Workshop. The two-day workshop offers an opportunity for participants to engage and meet with both groups of women, to share their culture and wisdom and learn the respective techniques of each group. At Old School Site, 17 Walker Street, Clunes, from 10am-4pm. Cost: \$245 a person. Details: Deb McBride on (02) 6628 8120 or 0412 455 512 or metal communications@artsnorthernrivers.com.au

April 15: Ngarabal People meeting. Held at Deepwater School of Arts Building, New England Highway, Deepwater, from 10am. Bring along a plate of food. Details: Ricky Pascoe on 0411 645 116.

April 23: Appin Massacre memorial ceremony – Remembering, Healing, Reconciliation. Held at Cataract Dam Picnic

Area, Appin, from 11am-3.30pm. Details: Uncle Ivan Wellington on 0447 581 306 or Ann Madsen on 0408 297 056.

Victoria

Until April 3: Community HART Awards call for nominations. The awards recognise local governments and community organisations that are helping to achieve reconciliation. Details: (03) 9394 7999 or visit www.vlga.org.au or www.reconciliation.org.au and apply.

Until April 9: Australian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM) Conference Foundation Conference Grant available. It supports Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Maori medical practitioners, students and other health professionals to attend the ACEM Winter Symposium or the ACEM Annual Scientific Meeting. Applications: www.acem.org.au/home-about-ACEM-ACEM-Foundation. Details: (03) 9320 0444.

Until May 14: *Weaving the Waterways: Women and Fishing* exhibition. Weaving a connection of river life, from the Murray to the Birrarung. Held at Koori Heritage Trust, Federation Square, Melbourne. Details: (03) 8662 6300 or visit www.kooriheritagetrust.org

March 23-25: Women of the World (WOW) Festival. Three-day festival at Footscray Community Arts Centre. Cost: Full three-day pass \$320/\$220. Details: (03) 9362 8888 or visit www.footscrayarts.com

March 25: 'The Day After Tomorrow' – A CASSE Symposium on Recognition. Held at the Melbourne Brain Centre, Kenneth Myer Building, The University of Melbourne, from 9am-5pm. Cost: \$150 a person, \$100 concession, group bookings and student special prices available. Bookings: www.trybooking.com/OFOA Details: 0450 540 366 or visit www.casse.org.au/events

Queensland

Until April 14: Call for applications for the Queensland Indigenous Youth Leadership Program 2017. Forty participants from around Queensland will be selected to join the program. Applicants can apply online at www.qld.gov.au/atsi/education-training/indigenous-youth-leadership-program or email iylp@communities.qld.gov.au

South Australia

Until May 29: *Whyalla Art Prize 2017*. Entries now open. A biennial award and national showcase of contemporary Australian art. Details: Joy Lothian 0423 828 035 or visit www.countryarts.org.au

March 24-May 14: *Unsettled* multimedia exhibition. Explores colonial memories, untold mission stories and insights into the Flinders Ranges and the ghost town of Beltane. Held at the State Library of South Australia, Adelaide. Details: (02) 6659 3006 or (02) 66203 508 or visit www.scu.edu.au/scunews

Western Australia

Until March 31: *Kulini – Listen* exhibition. Showcasing works by the artists of Amata. Held at Short Street Gallery, 7 Short Street, Chinatown, Broome. Details: (08) 9192 6118 or visit www.shortstgallery.com

March 24-April 30: *The Gurawu Collection: Yamaji Artists* exhibition. Celebrating the wildflower stories and landscapes of the Yamaji region in mid-west Western Australia. Held at Mundaring Arts Centre, 7190 Great Eastern Highway. Details: (08) 9295 3991 or visit www.mundaringartscentre.com.au

Tasmania

From March 27: Takamuna Diabetes-tu program. A 10-week program for people with diabetes who want to be active, reduce their sugar intake levels and generally feel better. Details: Kira at the Aboriginal Health Service, Tasmania on (03) 6234 0777.

Ambulance move to increase jobs



THE NSW Ambulance has pledged to increase Aboriginal employment and work with communities to maintain Aboriginal health equality. Speaking on the 11th anniversary of Close the Gap Day, NSW Ambulance Commissioner Dominic Morgan said the organisation's corporate priorities are two-fold.

"We are aiming to increase Aboriginal employment opportunities and to support more of our Aboriginal staff into senior leadership roles within the organisation," he said.

Mr Morgan said addressing ways to further improve Aboriginal health equality is also a core focus of NSW Ambulance.

"Employing Aboriginal people into our organisation allows our corporate staff, paramedics, flight nurses and control centre teams to deliver better care to Aboriginal communities and provide more culturally respectful and safe health services for Aboriginal patients," he said.

NSW Ambulance said it has acted in light of limited progress towards the national Close the Gap targets in health, life expectancy, education and employment.

NSW Ambulance superintendent Brad Goodwin, the Sydney Zone manager, is one of NSW Ambulance's Aboriginal staff members.

In 2006 he learned part of his ancestry dated back to an Aboriginal child from Brewarrina who was adopted by a Gulgong family in the mid-1800s.

Supt Goodwin and his family have since been recognised and accepted by the region's Wiradjuri community.

"For me, once I discovered my Aboriginal heritage a few things made a lot more sense," he said.

"I felt a real connection. It's something very powerful; internal; a sense of belonging."

Supt Goodwin has used his role as a manager with NSW Ambulance to influence decisions that lead to better employment and health outcomes for Aboriginal people.

NSW Ambulance superintendent Brad Goodwin: "As our own workforce has shown, Aboriginal people can be successful – they already are successful."



"I'm in there with my voice and influence – not just to have consumers have confidence in the system, but to build the capability of managers to provide a system that's culturally sensitive," he said.

"We can all do something to close the gap – one of the easiest is to acknowledge the inequality. While some people may not perceive it, Aboriginal people absolutely live it."

Supt Goodwin said he felt particularly

supported by NSW Ambulance, and commended the organisation for its commitment to closing the gap.

"As our own workforce has shown, Aboriginal people can be successful – they already are successful," he said.

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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Privacy Policy: Budsoar Pty Ltd collects your personal information to assist us in providing the goods or services you have requested, to process your

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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.



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

The Marketing and Communications Coordinator is responsible for assisting the Marketing and Communications Director in the implementation of the marketing strategy for all Circus Oz activities.

Applications close Friday 24 March 2017.

For full job description and contact details go to www.circusoz.com/employment

Circus Oz is an equal opportunity employer.



COUNTY COURT OF VICTORIA COUNTY KOORI COURT OFFICER Reference Number CC0806

- Melbourne, CBD
- Ongoing, full time

The County Court is the middle tier of the Court hierarchy.

The Koori Court Officer plays a major role in the ongoing successful operation of the County Koori Court in Melbourne and Mildura.

The County Koori Court Officer will:

- Coordinate the preparation of all County Koori Court sittings in Melbourne and Mildura including contact with Elders and Respected persons and relevant support people/agencies and ensuring all relevant files are available to Elders.
- Provide advice and support to the Judiciary on appropriate services and programs available to assist Koori accused coming before the County Koori Court.
- Provide assistance and support to Aboriginal accused persons before the County Koori Court with their court outcomes and obligations.

This is an Aboriginal Designated Position, classified under 'Special Measures' of section 12 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. Only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply.

Applications including full curriculum vitae and completed Application form should be submitted on line at www.careers.vic.gov.au

For further information please contact Terrie Stewart on (03) 8636 6083

Applications close on Sunday 2 April 2017

GOVERNMENT

Hudson
Great people. Great performance.

Opportunities that will help drive Victorian Renewable Energy Targets

- ▶ **Be Part of a High Performing Team**
- ▶ **Melbourne CBD**
- ▶ **2 to 3 Year Fixed Term Contracts**

In June 2016 the Victorian State Government committed to renewable energy generation targets of 25% by 2020 and 40% by 2025 that will ultimately achieve sustainable jobs and environmental benefits for all Victorians. The Renewable Energy Policy Team within the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) are working to achieve these targets and re-establishing Victoria as a leader within renewable energy.

They are now seeking to engage passionate, committed and resilient Policy, Project and Executive Assistant professionals to work within their high performing and dedicated team in Melbourne CBD.

Working in partnership with DELWP Hudson are now seeking to recruit the following:

- **2 x Manager, Renewable Energy Policy (VPS6)**
- **Project Manager (VPS5)**
- **Senior Policy Officer (VPS5)**
- **2 x Policy Officer (VPS4)**
- **Policy Officer (VPS3)**
- **4 x Executive Assistants (VPS3 & 4)**

To be successful you may have relevant experience from either Federal / State Government or private industry and will ideally be able to demonstrate a track record within and knowledge of the energy or renewable energy sectors.

Those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander are particularly encourage to apply.

For further information and to request a copy of the relevant position descriptions please contact Byron Ellis on 03 9623 6523 or email delwpenergy@hudson.com

jobs.hudson.com

Specialist Recruitment | Talent Management | RPO

Department of
National Parks, Sport and Racing

Senior Advisor (Ind Id)

Sport And Recreation Services

(Identified - Applicants must identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.)

Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

Salary: \$89 940 - \$96 230 p.a.

Location: Cairns

REF: QLD/233442/17

Key Duties: An exciting opportunity for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person to lead and coordinate teams in the delivery of sport and recreation programs and services to regional clients across FNQ

Skills/Abilities: Strong skills in strategic advice, project management, writing briefs, computer systems, coordinating teams and working with Indigenous communities. Sound sport and recreation industry knowledge.

Enquiries: Ian Lowth (07) 4222 5225

To apply please visit www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Friday, 31 March 2017



Blaze112006

Aboriginal Play Facilitator Get a career that matters.

We are seeking an Aboriginal Playgroup Facilitator to join our team in Wyong, NSW on a Permanent Part Time Basis

Aboriginal Playgroup Facilitators provide culturally appropriate activities for Aboriginal & non-Aboriginal children 0-5yrs that develop their play and social skills while also providing their parents with support, information, community referrals and opportunities to develop their parenting skills.

If you have relevant qualifications and/or experience in facilitating early childhood activities with children and families please apply using the link:

uniting.org/join-our-team/current-vacancies

Applications close 30/03/2017

For further information please view the position description online

We are an EEO Employer and are committed to principles of Diversity.

Uniting



Police & Justice



General Administrative Support Officer

- NSW Police Force
- Aboriginal Targeted Position
- Leichhardt Local Area Command, Glebe
- Clerk Grade 1/2
- Permanent Full-Time
- *I Work for NSW* Requisition No.00005452

Salary Package: \$72,164. **Salary:** \$60,154 - \$65,396. Package includes annual salary, employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Job Description:

The General Administrative Support Officer provides the delivery of efficient and effective general administration, clerical support, and receptionist services with a focus on quality services to commands/business units.

Job Notes:

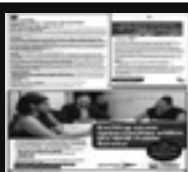
- Applicants **must** satisfy the Aboriginality criteria listed in the advertisement.
- Applicants **must** hold a current driver's licence with no traffic offences recorded on their driving history within the last six (6) months.
- **An information session for this position will be held at Glebe Police Station, 1-3 Talfourd Street, Glebe on Monday 27 March 2017 at 5pm.** If you wish to attend the Information session, please email the Aboriginal Employment Programs Unit at hraboriginal@police.nsw.gov.au or contact **Georgina Munro on (02) 8835 6257.**
- This position operates under the non-continuous shift award with rostering undertaken in accordance with Flexible Rostering Guidelines. The position will generally be rostered to perform work in business hours on weekdays and may be rostered to perform afternoon shifts and weekend shifts on the front counter.
- 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. The successful applicant will also be subject to a rigorous National Police Check (criminal history) prior to commencement.
- For assistance in completing your application or for information regarding the National Police Check, Security Clearance or Information Sessions, please contact the Aboriginal Employment Programs Unit on (02) 8835 6257 or via email hraboriginal@police.nsw.gov.au
- Applications can only be submitted electronically online via the *I Work for NSW* website (iworkfor.nsw.gov.au)

Applications Close: Sunday 9 April 2017

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further contact Ashley Toole, Local Area Manager on (02) 9552 8021.

Applications must be lodged electronically.
Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number 00005452

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**For all your
advertising needs**
email:
advertising@koorimail.com
or call
02 6622 2666





Screen Australia is a Federal Government agency charged with supporting Australian screen development, production and promotion. We aim to inspire, inform and engage audiences through compelling Australian storytelling.

We are seeking applicants for the following employment opportunity:

Development Associate, Indigenous Sydney

As the Federal Government agency charged with supporting Australian screen development, production and promotion, Screen Australia offers a unique vantage point on the screen industry in Australia. Screen Australia's Indigenous Department, has partnered with our Development Unit, to offer an exciting 6-month professional development opportunity for an emerging Indigenous producer or screen development professional to join us in the role of Development Associate.

During your time with Screen Australia, you will have the opportunity to build on your creative judgement and industry knowledge of script development and financing by participating in and supporting the assessment processes undertaken by both the Indigenous and Development teams. You will be provided with experience opportunities in the Documentary and Production Investment units, and also have exposure to other areas across the agency.

This position will commence on 3 July 2017 and conclude on 15 December 2017.

Please note that this is an Indigenous identified position. Applicants must be of Indigenous Australian descent, identify as an Indigenous Australian and be accepted as such by the community with which he/she is associated.

The filling of this employment opportunity is intended to constitute a special measure under section 8(1) of the Racial Discrimination Act.

Job Information: For further information on this position and to apply, visit the Screen Australia website: <http://www.screenaustralia.gov.au/jobs>

For any enquiries, please call Screen Australia's HR team on (02) 8113 5800.

Closing Date: 5pm, Thursday 20 April 2017



DIRECTOR Client Service Practice and Development Contract Full time

The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) operates within the context that Aboriginal children continue to be significantly over-represented in the protection and care system within Victoria. VACCA considers that it has the responsibility and the opportunity to promote, advocate for and achieve positive changes in the lives of Aboriginal children, their families and the broader Aboriginal community.

Reporting to the Executive Director Strategy and Services you will provide leadership advice, advocacy and transformational management in the successful delivery of a range of diverse and new project initiatives and reform projects

This new position has been created as part of expanded program opportunities for VACCA and the current and expected growth of organisation wide services related to the recent State Government reforms. The environment in which VACCA is working is undergoing significant change.

The position has direct responsibility for the following units: CQI, internal staff development and training, clinical healing programs and projects and evaluation and research. Furthermore it has responsibility for the coordination of VACCA's foster care program

as well as direct management of the State-wide Co-ordinator Cultural support planning and management of the cultural portal.

To be considered you will be an accomplished Executive experienced in driving transformational change and utilizing your superior leadership ability to achieve results. You will be aware of activities within the external context and able to maximise opportunities as they arise. The Director will provide leadership advice, advocacy and transformational management in the successful delivery of a range of diverse and new project initiatives and reform projects.

A salary package commensurate with skills and experience will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

For a confidential conversation about this job opportunity please contact Connie Salamone on (03) 9287 8821 or email connies@vacca.org

Applications including a cover letter addressing the key selection criteria and a resume should be forwarded to www.vacca.recruitment.com.au

Application deadline is Sunday 2nd April 2017

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply

Aboriginal Health Worker Casual Charlestown Square Medical Centre

Looking For A Lifestyle Change? Consider General Practice!

Rewarding opportunity for experienced Registered Aboriginal Health Worker to work with team of busy GPs & friendly staff in a Multi-site Practice.

Cert III or above and flexible hours required.

Please apply to Charlestown@ipn.com.au



The Australia Council is seeking applications for the following position based at their offices in Surry Hills, NSW:

Project Officer Residencies

Full time, 2 year contract

Support the development and delivery of Council's residency programs to enable the artistic development of Australian artists in Australia and internationally.

Applications close 29 March 2017 at 5.00pm AEDT

For further information please visit our careers page: <http://australiacouncil.gov.au/about/careers/>



Health
Western Sydney
Local Health District

Aboriginal Assistant Policy Analyst

Classification: Health Manager Level 1

Location: Westmead Hospital

Employment Status: Temporary Full-Time

Enquiries: Boe Rambaldini (02) 8821 4312

Email: boe.rambaldini@health.nsw.gov.au

Reference Number: 372748

Closing Date: 29 March 2017

Aboriginal Child Sexual Assault Counsellor

Classification: Counsellor Level 1/2/3, Social Worker

Level 1/2/3, Sexual Assault Worker Level 1/2/3,

Health Education Officer - Graduate, Psychologist

Location: Primary and Community Health, Blacktown

Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time

Enquiries: Sharon Peterson 0418 401 148

Reference Number: 371649

Closing Date: 31 March 2017

**Closing Date:
see above**

**Applications must be
lodged electronically. Please go
to nswhealth.erecruit.com.au and
search Job Reference Numbers above.**

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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Education

Aboriginal Student Liaison Officer

- Education Officer
- Temporary full-time role up for a period up to three (3) years from entry on duty date
- Position number and location: 174201

Total remuneration package valued to: \$105,824 pa. (salary \$57,720 - \$95,466 + allowances pa) including employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Aboriginal Student Liaison Officers work as part of a team to liaise with community and schools to support the regular attendance of students, with a particular focus on Aboriginal students.

Selection criteria:

- Aboriginality.
- Understanding of issues affecting the regular school attendance of Aboriginal students.
- Knowledge of the Home School Liaison program and demonstrated involvement in student welfare programs.
- Demonstrated ability to liaise with schools, students, parents and outside agencies.
- Effective written and oral communication and liaison skills and ability to work as part of a team.
- Knowledge of and commitment to the Department's Aboriginal education policies.

Note: Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977*.

This is a child-related position. If you are not currently employed in a child-related position in the Department of Education and Communities, you will be required to obtain a *Working with Children Check (WWCC) Clearance number* as a condition of employment (if you do not already have this). For more information, visit www.kids.nsw.gov.au/Working-with-children/New-Working-with-Children-Check In addition, your employment may be subject to the Department's *National Criminal Records Check* to determine your suitability for employment.

Note: Under new provisions for permanent teachers taking up non- school based temporary appointments, the right of return to their substantive position has been extended to up to 3 years. Current Non School Based Teaching Service officers are advised that the 3 year right of return period is accumulative and is inclusive of both **higher duties** and/or **temporary periods of appointment** in existing Non School Based positions.

Note: Recent school based experience is either direct classroom teaching within the past three years or school executive experience within the past three years. Direct classroom teaching or school executive experience is full time service in a school based position in a departmental preschool, infants, primary, central/community, secondary, environmental education centre or special school for a continuous period of one (1) year. For more information please review Rules Oct 2015.

Special Notes: It is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online via Jobs. NSW. No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted. Applicants must address their suitability to the selection criteria/pre-screening questions.

Applications Close: 5 April 2017

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further contact Natalie Pierson on (02) 9203 9930.

**Applications must be lodged electronically.
Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search
Job Reference Number 174201**

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**Health
and Human
Services**

Senior Program Adviser

- West Division - Health - Aboriginal Engagement Unit - Footscray
- Salary Range - \$90,890 - \$109,969 pa + Superannuation
- Position is Full-time/Ongoing

The position works collaboratively across the West Division Aboriginal Engagement Unit, Aboriginal communities and organisations along with mainstream health service providers to address the broad range of health and wellbeing issues experienced by Victorian Aboriginal communities.

Are you:

- An Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person with skills and experience in engaging with communities to achieve health outcomes?
- Committed to implementing and influencing the development of public policy?
- Capable of leading and inspiring change?
- Effective at communication and negotiation?

For further information on the position description and the selection criteria visit: www.careers.vic.gov.au or contact **Marcus Clarke** on 0428 428 552.

Job Reference number: **DHHS/WWD/369274**

Applications close: **Midnight Wednesday, 29 March 2017**

For more information about the Department of Health and Human Services visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au

To apply online and for other DHHS and Victorian Government job opportunities please visit www.careers.vic.gov.au

Police Checks form part of the Department of Health and Human Services recruitment process.

The department promotes diversity and equal opportunity in employment and is committed to a more diverse workforce.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicant, or if you have a disability, and require advice and support with the recruitment process, please contact our Diversity Unit on DiversityInclusion@dhhs.vic.gov.au



Premier
& Cabinet

Cadet – Office Administration (Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander)

- Have you recently completed your HSC or a certificate III or IV qualification?
- Are you under the age of 25 and looking to start a career in the NSW public service?

The NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) works for the people of NSW to enhance the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of NSW. Working in the Department will give you a broad overview in areas such as public policy formulation, public administration and state administrative matters and an opportunity to be involved in a range of state-wide policies, issues and projects.

We are currently seeking to appoint a **Cadet – Office Administration** to provide timely, effective administrative support to facilitate the efficient delivery of day to day operations and services of the Office of the Secretary.

Salary: Clerk General Scale package includes base salary (\$42,495 – \$45,800) plus superannuation and leave loading.

Note: This is a targeted role in accordance with (Section 126 and/or Section 14d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply and greater consideration will be given to suitable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants, in order to improve access to employment and career opportunities. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants must confirm their Aboriginality in addition to the capabilities.

A05640

Applications Close: 27 March 2017 (11:59pm)

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number 00005463

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Family &
Community
Services

Aboriginal Child Protection Caseworker

NSW Family and Community Services aims to transform the lives of vulnerable children by recruiting and developing outstanding individuals to be leaders in child protection practice.

As an Aboriginal Child Protection Caseworker you will be working with vulnerable children and young people who are at risk of abuse and neglect, their families and communities and interagency partners to be agents of change in the lives of children.

***Being an Aboriginal Child Protection Caseworker is tough.
It takes a special kind of person. But the rewards are huge.***

We are looking for people with a strong commitment to children, families and community capacity building, people who possess a high level of resilience to become part of a team of skilled and dedicated professionals.

***Do you identify as Aboriginal and have two years experience working with
Aboriginal children, young people and families or communities?***

If so apply now! Please visit www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and enter job reference no: 000041OM to join a team of dedicated and professional FACS caseworkers in your area and benefit from:

- Professional support and training
- Flexible working conditions
- Great career opportunities

Aboriginal Caseworkers must identify and be recognised as Aboriginal.

More information available www.facs.nsw.gov.au/careers/caseworker

A04813

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further
Please call Recruitment on 1800 203 966 or email
caseworker.screenings@facs.nsw.gov.au



**Applications must be lodged electronically.
Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search
Job Reference Number 000041OM**

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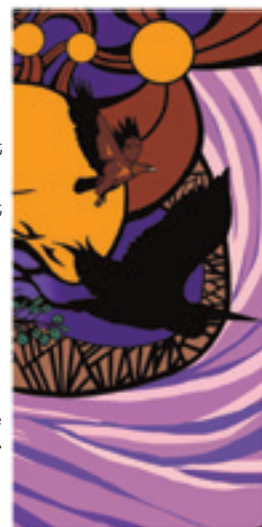
BARRING DJINANG

ABORIGINAL PATHWAY TO THE VPS GRADS

A deadly opportunity for Aboriginal Graduates!

Commencing in January each year, the Victorian Public Service Graduate Recruitment and Development Scheme is a 12-month graduate program offering three work placements and a learning and development program. Successful graduates are offered ongoing employment with their home department at the end of the VPS GRADS.

The Aboriginal Pathway to the VPS GRADS provides culturally appropriate guidance and support to Aboriginal applicants. You'll be supported by experienced professionals, Aboriginal staff and the VPS Aboriginal Graduate Network during the recruitment process and your VPS Career.



Applications for the 2018 VPS GRADS are now open and close 17 April 2017

For more information or to apply, please contact the Victorian Public Sector Commission's Aboriginal Employment Unit:
(03) 9651 0837
aboriginal.employment@vpssc.vic.gov.au



Lecturer/Senior Lecturer – Medical Education in Indigenous Health

Melbourne Medical School, Department of Medical Education

Unique opportunity for an experienced Indigenous health educator to lead the further development and delivery of Melbourne Medical School's Indigenous health curriculum within the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree. This is an exciting role for a person with a strong record in Indigenous health teaching and curriculum development, and experience in healthcare. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are very strongly encouraged to apply.

The successful applicant will have the specific task of working with the Department of Medical Education (DME) in the Melbourne Medical School to further develop and implement an Indigenous health curriculum in the Doctor of Medicine (MD).

The Lecturer or Senior Lecturer (Medical Education in Indigenous Health) will liaise with academic and professional staff in the DME and associated clinical schools of the Melbourne Medical School, and other key stakeholders in the area of Indigenous health to promote and facilitate the implementation of an effective, coordinated and integrated program of Indigenous health in the MD. The incumbent will also work closely with staff of the School of Population and Global Health and other Schools and Centres in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences.

The Faculty and the Melbourne Medical School are committed to actively implementing the Reconciliation Action Plan and this position would be expected to contribute to these aims.
http://murrupbarak.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/2066837/RAP-FINAL.pdf

The position is responsible to the Head, Department of Medical Education.

As this is a part-time position (0.5 FTE), there is potential flexibility for this role to be undertaken remotely where the successful candidate is located outside of metropolitan Melbourne. Some onsite attendance will be required for various activities.

Salary: \$95,434 – \$113,323 (Level B) or \$116,901 – \$134,792 (Level C) p.a. (pro rata) plus 17% superannuation

Job No: 0031819

For position information and to apply online go to <http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers>, and under the relevant option ('Current Staff' or 'Prospective Staff') search by the job title or number.

An Equal Opportunity employer.

<http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers>



20740449 CRICOS:00116X



Rewarding opportunities exist with an Aboriginal Community Controlled, Child, and Family Agency for experienced and qualified individuals who are Aboriginal and have the time, passion, energy and commitment to see children in Out of Home Care achieve their best within stable and supported placements. These positions are based in our Taree Out of Home Care Service

CASEWORKER - Foster Care Support

This person will have highly developed skills in being able to lead, mentor and support carers in caring for children and young people in our program. The successful applicant will have the skills and knowledge to inspire and motivate foster carers to try new ways of parenting children and young people through trauma informed practice. This person will be able to demonstrate innovation and lateral thinking in their problem solving and be able to communicate for success at different levels.

CASEWORKERS – Out Of Home Care

The successful applicants will be highly self-motivated and have excellent time management skills. Attention to record keeping is essential along with strong computer skills and experience in using databases for case-management. Demonstrated ability to develop, maintain positive and supportive relationships with children, young people, carers, families and team members is also required.

TRANSPORT/FAMILY CONTACT WORKER

Applicants need to be self-motivated, enthusiastic and have good time management skills. The ability to build rapport with children and their families is also essential to ensure the best outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people in care.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST HAVE A CURRENT WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK.

All applicants must obtain a package and must address ALL criteria, failure to do so will result in applications being culled. Enquiries and job packages please contact Cheryl Holden Ph. 6552 4194 email cheryl@burrundalai.org.au.

Applications Close
Friday 14th April 2017 at 4.30pm



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

Aboriginal Health Worker

Muswellbrook District Hospital
Enquiries: Janelle Alexander (02) 6542 2023

This is an identified Aboriginal Position.
Applicants must be of Aboriginal descent.
Exemption is claimed under Section 14d of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Applicants must be female. This is a genuine qualification under Section 31 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Closing Date:
2 April 2017

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to nswhealth.erecruit.com.au and search Job Reference Number 382105

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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A05855



Lifeline
Saving Lives
Crisis Support. Suicide Prevention.



Police
& Justice



Records Officer

- NSW Police Force
- Aboriginal Targeted Position
- Shared Services, Parramatta
- Clerk Grade 1/2
- Permanent Full-Time
- *I Work for NSW* Requisition No.00005496

Salary Package: \$72,164. **Salary:** \$60,154 - \$65,396. Package includes annual salary, employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Job Description:

The role undertakes activities to support the secure storage, retrieval and management of corporate records.

Job Notes:

- **Applicants must** satisfy the Aboriginality criteria listed in the advertisement.
- **Applicants must** hold a current driver's licence with no traffic offences recorded on their driving history within the last six (6) months.
- **An information session for this position will be held at Police Headquarters, 1 Charles Street, Parramatta on Thursday 6 April 2017 at 6pm.** If you wish to attend the Information session, please email the Aboriginal Employment Programs Unit at hraboriginal@police.nsw.gov.au or contact **Georgina Munro on (02) 8835 6257.**
- This position operates under the non-continuous shift award with rostering undertaken in accordance with Flexible Rostering Guidelines. The position will generally be rostered to perform work in business hours on weekdays and may be rostered to perform afternoon shifts and weekend shifts on the front counter.
- 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. The successful applicant will also be subject to a rigorous National Police Check (criminal history) prior to commencement.
- For assistance in completing your application or for information regarding the National Police Check, Security Clearance or Information Sessions, please contact the Aboriginal Employment Programs Unit on (02) 8835 6257 or via email hraboriginal@police.nsw.gov.au
- Applications can only be submitted electronically online via the *I Work for NSW* website (iworkfor.nsw.gov.au)

Applications Close: Sunday 9 April 2017

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further contact Sandra King, Business Consultant on (02) 8835 6444.

Applications must be lodged electronically.
Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search
Job Reference Number 00005496

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A05671



NGULINGAH LOCAL
ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL

Chief Executive Officer (Remuneration Package Negotiable) Full Time/Permanent

The Ngulingah Local Aboriginal Land Council (NLALC) is seeking applications from experienced and motivated people interested in a rewarding career undertaking the challenging role of full-time 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 demonstrable knowledge and understanding of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ALRA) (or the ability to rapidly acquire), 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 Contact Officer Wesley Fernando, by email: wesley.fernando@alc.org.au or on (02) 6659 1200.

Applications can also be marked "Confidential" and posted to:
The Ngulingah LALC CEO Recruitment Panel
PO Box 1912, COFFS HARBOUR, NSW 2450

Applications close 4th April 2017
Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply



- **Do you have a passion for learning and a desire to use your expertise to support organisational development?**
- **Are you committed to supporting a relevant and sustainable community sector?**

The ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS) is the peak representative body for the social and community services sector and people living with disadvantage and inequality in the ACT. ACTCOSS aims to ensure that government policy improves the lives of disadvantaged people and develops a well-resourced, cohesive and sustainable community sector. ACTCOSS is a member of the nationwide COSS network, made up of each state and territory COSS and our national body, the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS).

Capability Development Officer

This position is ideal for someone with a passion for the work of the community sector, a desire to support organisational and sector development and a keen eye for detail. If you love connecting with people, have a knack for connecting 'big picture' ideas with details and a well-developed sense of curiosity, then we'd love to hear from you. As part of a small team within ACTCOSS you will be responsible for administration related to workshops and seminars including promotion, stakeholder engagement, data entry and analysis of trends; supporting & facilitating peer network meetings and workshops; researching & initiating projects; and contributing to the identification of emerging needs and developing solutions to grow capability.

The Capability Development Officer will work under the direction of the Capability Manager and is expected to manage their own workload while working independently and as part of the team.

ACTCOSS has above-award pay and conditions as part of the ACT community sector multiple enterprise agreement (MEA). This position is full-time, but a part-time position of 4 days per week would be considered and is classified at SCHADS level 5.1.

Please phone (02) 6202 7200, email actcoss@actcoss.org.au or visit www.actcoss.org.au for more information, or a copy of the position description and selection criteria.

Applications need to include a covering letter which addresses the selection criteria and a current CV. All enquiries and applications for this position will be treated confidentially.

Applications close 5pm, Thursday 6 April 2017

ashurst

BOARDROOM WAITER

- Part time opportunity
- 12 month fixed term contract
- Brisbane CBD location

Ashurst is a leading global law firm with a history spanning almost 200 years, and clear strategy for our future growth. Our in-depth understanding of our clients and commitment to providing exceptional standards of service have seen us become a trusted adviser to local and global corporates, financial institutions and governments in all areas of commercial law.

We currently have 25 offices in 15 countries with 420 partners and 1,450 lawyers working across 10 different time zones, a further 1,430 support staff working across a variety of Business Support teams.

The Role:

A part time (20 hours per week) 12 month fixed term contract is available within our catering team as a Boardroom Waiter. This position is to provide efficient, effective and professional waiting and function service for Ashurst in order to assist both internal and external client needs.

- Supporting the running of daily meetings, functions and client events
- Stock control of goods and culinary wares for the kitchens, conference rooms and break out areas
- Provision of beverage service (including tea and coffee), together with any catering requirements to all client and internal meetings, seminars, functions etc.

The Person:

- Barista experience is essential
- Excellent customer service skills
- A high standard of grooming and personal presentation
- Excellent organisational skills and attention to detail
- Initiative to work on tasks without instruction and unsupervised

This role will suit someone who is energetic, well presented, enjoys working in hospitality and loves being part of a team.

Ashurst is proud of its commitment to building a diverse and inclusive workplace culture. We encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander – and people from all backgrounds – to apply.

To apply or for further details and a full job description please contact Leanne Price at leanne.price@ashurst.com



BOURKE ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICE

COMPANY SECRETARY/EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Established 30 years ago, Bourke Aboriginal Health Service is a fully accredited primary health service situated in the township of Bourke in outback NSW. BAHS provides a range of services including: GP, Healthy 4 Life, Dental, Eye Health, Family Health, as well as AOD and Social and Emotional Wellbeing. If you are looking to join a proactive organisation committed to Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health, BAHS has the following position vacant on a full time, permanent basis up until 30th June 2018. Further extensions are reliant on continued funding.

Bourke Aboriginal Health Service is seeking a suitably qualified enthusiastic and committed person to fill the position of Company Secretary/Executive Administration Assistant to facilitate BAHS Corporate Governance processes and hold primary responsibility for ensuring that the Board processes run efficiently and effectively and providing administration support to executive management. This position reports to both the Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer.

Applications will not be accepted if the following criteria is not addressed.

- Aboriginality – an Aboriginality assigned declaration by a relevant Aboriginal organisation is required with the application.

Applicants must be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (N.B. An applicant's race is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977, NSW); (Proof in writing of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent which has been passed by a resolution at a Board meeting by an Aboriginal Incorporated Organisation will be required).

- A minimum of 2yrs senior administration experience.
- Demonstrated ability to record and maintain and distribute minutes for both board and company.
- Demonstrated ability to organise meetings for Board, AGM and general company meetings including setting agendas compiling and circulating relevant documentation to Directors/Staff as appropriate.
- Previous corporate governance experience and knowledge of company legislative obligations.
- Commitment to adhering to confidentiality and policies and procedures of BAHS.
- Demonstrated excellent computer and literacy skills including a range of Microsoft Office programs.
- Minimum of P2 licence.

All BAHS positions are subject to National Police and Working with Children's Checks.

The Salary range for this position is \$62,955.36

To apply for this position, you must address the essential criteria as above and submit this to BAHS ACEO, Reg Kelly, at - email regk@bahs.com.au.

Applications that address the selection criteria must include a current resume, copies of qualifications and contact details of 2 referees, are to be received at BAHS by 4pm on Friday 3rd April 2017.



EXCITING MEDIA MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY

OPERATIONS MANAGER

**Torres Strait Islanders Media Association Incorporated
Radio 4MW/Regional Indigenous Media Organisation**

The position is located on Thursday Island, Queensland. A remuneration package inclusive of base salary and superannuation will be negotiated with the preferred applicant according to qualifications and experience.

The key roles of the Operations Manager is to implement the policies and strategic direction of the TSIMA Board of Management, to manage the day to day operations of Radio 4MW (including generation of advertising and other fee for service revenue) and to manage the Remote Indigenous Media Organisation (RIMO) functions in support of the Remote Indigenous Broadcasting Service (RIBS) operations in the outer Torres Strait Islands. The Operations Manager must ensure Torres Strait Islanders Media Association Incorporated (TSIMA) continues to meet the performance and financial requirements of the Torres Strait Island Regional Authority (TSRA) as its principal funding body and achieve core broadcast outputs that comply with TSIMA's Indigenous Broadcasting licence requirements.

Applications Close COB Friday 21st April 2017

For more information or to obtain an application package contact Daisy Aniba – Administration Officer, Torres Strait Islanders Media Association on 07 40691524 or email daisy@tsima4mw.org.au

Margaret Cowley, President

Department of
Justice and Attorney-General

Adventure Intervention Officer

Youth Justice

(Specified - Applicants will need to provide a reference from a member of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community.) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants are encouraged to apply. Three permanent full-time positions available

Department of Justice and Attorney-General

Salary: \$78 390 - \$85 205 p.a.

Location: Boonah

REF: QLD/235661/17

Key Duties: Deliver Adventure Based Learning (ABL) programs for young offenders or those at risk or offending behaviours.

Skills / Abilities:

Technical/Role Specific Capabilities - non mandatory Certificate IV in Outdoor Recreation or equivalent. Certificate IV in Work Place Training and Assessment. Certificate IV in Youth Justice.

Enquiries: Scott Burgess 0754606900

To apply please visit www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Friday, 31 March 2017



Blaze111980



Education

Manager Languages, Culture Communities

- Clerk Grade 11/12
- Temporary Full-time appointment up to: 30 June 2017
- Position number and location: 192520 - Oxford Street, Darlinghurst

Total remuneration package: \$152,482 Package includes salary (\$118,943 to \$137,557), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

The NSW Department of Education serves the community by leading the provision of world-class education. The department protects young children by regulating preschool and long day care providers. Once children move into school, we provide them with a world-class primary and secondary education. We also work to advance the wellbeing of Aboriginal people.

About the role

This role manages the statewide development and implementation of Aboriginal languages and culture programs and initiatives in schools.

Talent Pool

A talent pool may be created through this recruitment process. A talent pool is a group of candidates who have undergone an assessment process and have identified suitable for this role or similar roles for a period of 12 months. Being part of a talent pool means that you may be considered for ongoing, temporary or term employment for a range of similar roles by submitting only one application. This offers exciting opportunities for you to gain a wide range of experiences to build your public service career.

How to apply

If you are interested in this role please apply online and include, a covering letter (maximum of 2 pages) and your resume (maximum 5 pages) which clearly details how your capabilities, knowledge and experience can contribute to the success of the Directorate. Please also include the name and contact details of two referees.

Note: it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online via iworkfor.nsw. No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

Note: the selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Notes: Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977.

Pre-screening questions:

1. Reflect on a time when you were implementing a major strategic project. Describe the ways in which you balanced the competing needs of stakeholders, department personnel and Aboriginal community members. What strategies did you employ to encourage Aboriginal community engagement? (300 words)
2. Describe your previous experience using research and data to provide strategic advice. (300 words)

Essential Requirements:

- Aboriginality
- Knowledge of and commitment to the Department's Aboriginal education policies.

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Applications Close: 5 April 2017

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further contact Mary Senj on (02) 9244 5866.

Applications must be lodged electronically.
Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number 192520

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A05810

Executive Director Economic Participation

The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships has a lead role in enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to contribute to and enjoy Queensland's prosperity and lifestyle through the delivery of whole of Government policies, programs and services.

The Department is seeking experienced leaders to fill the role of Executive Director Economic Participation to take a leadership role in developing partnerships and opportunities to increase participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Queensland economy by developing policies and delivering programs that result in our customers acquiring in-demand skills, entering and actively participating in the workforce, and providing access to government procurement opportunities.

Reporting to the Deputy Director-General, Culture and Economic Participation the role will actively build partnerships with private and public sector agencies to influence the delivery of services aimed at increasing economic participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland. You will engage closely with the community and individuals to increase the economic participation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the workforce and work collaboratively with all partners to deliver successful outcomes aimed at the full range of economic development opportunities. This role also works across government to build the cultural capability of Queensland Government staff as a key enabler of effective service provision to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities.

The role requires a collaborative leader with proven experience engaging with stakeholders across government and the community to deliver positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. An exceptional communicator and influencer with well developed leadership capabilities and high level project management skills you will be able to lead a team and work across multiple priorities and agendas to achieve the best outcomes.

This is an opportunity to lead a team that will deliver innovative programs and policies to support the increased economic participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland.

Confidential enquiries can be directed to Ryan Webster on 07 3003 7731. To apply or request an information pack, email ExecutiveQLD@chandlermacleod.com.

Applications close on Monday 3rd April 2017.

CHANDLER MACLEOD
UNLEASHING POTENTIAL





Health
Justice Health &
Forensic Mental Health Network

Aboriginal Health Worker Primary Health Care (Aboriginal Identified)

Classification: Aboriginal Health Education Off Non Grade
Location: Silverwater Correctional Complex
Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time
Salary: \$49,121 - \$72,346 pa
Enquiries: Leo De Jesus (02) 9700 2233
Email: cornelio.dejesus@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au

This is a dedicated Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander position. Applicants must be able to prove Aboriginal descent through parentage, identification as being an Aboriginal person and being accepted in the community as such. Exemption is claimed under Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act*. JH&FMHN deems it appropriate to seek confirmation of Aboriginal status from applicants applying for Aboriginal identified positions or targeted positions either during the interview process or prior to commencement of the position.

Closing Date: 24 March 2017

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to nswhealth.erecruit.com.au and search Job Reference Number 380069

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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A05634



Television Internship

This vacancy is open only to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants, reflecting our commitment to the ABC's Reconciliation Action Plan, ABC Equity and Diversity Plan and the Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act 1987.

For the first time, ABC Television invites applications for a new internship position located in Sydney.

The successful applicant will receive a paid two-year internship in television production (which includes 15 weeks of work each year), with the possibility to apply for an ongoing position at the end of the two years. Through the internship, you could gain experience in TV Operations, Programming, Digital, Scripted and Non-Scripted Production.

To be successful, you will be enrolled in a relevant tertiary course and have a passion for Television Production.

If you are committed to a career in Television Production, enjoy working in a team and are enthusiastic, apply now!

For details visit abc.net.au/careers

0653LM

New Lawyers PROGRAM

- Undertake case work and regularly appear in courts and tribunals
- Two designated positions for applicants who are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

We are seeking versatile lawyers who embody our values of fairness, care and courage to join our New Lawyers Program (NLP). This is a unique opportunity to learn on the job while being supported through a customised professional development program. You will undertake up to four six-month placements in our offices and program areas throughout Victoria including at least one placement in a regional/rural office.

We invite applicants from diverse backgrounds and work experience who are pursuing a career in social justice, and who can work under pressure in often difficult circumstances.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Graduate Law Program

- Progress your career in social justice and human rights
- Gain valuable experience and mentoring while completing your practical legal training

We have established our new Graduate Program to improve pathways for aspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander law students seeking a career in social justice and human rights. The program is aimed at law graduates who are yet to complete their Practical Legal Training (PLT), and provides you with the opportunity to learn on the job while developing your practical legal skills and knowledge.

You will have an interest in criminal, family, civil or administrative law, with good interpersonal skills, and the ability to communicate clearly with people from diverse social and cultural backgrounds.

For further information about these roles, how to apply and employee benefits please visit www.legalaid.vic.gov.au
Applications close at midnight on Sunday 2 April 2017.

Victoria Legal Aid



**Police
& Justice**



Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer

- Richmond Local Area Command, Lismore
- Clerk Grade 3/4 - Permanent Full-Time
- *I Work for NSW* Requisition Number: 000053WL

Salary Package: \$81,256. **Salary:** \$67,248 - \$73,635. Package includes annual salary, employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Job Description:

The Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer (ACLO) is responsible for providing advice and support to Police in the management of local Aboriginal issues. They assist in establishing and maintaining close personal rapport with Elders, Leaders and the grass roots members of the Aboriginal community by developing network contacts to strengthen cooperation and communication and to assist community members in their dealing with local policing issues and their contact with other statutory bodies.

Job Notes:

Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification as authorised by *Part 6, Clause 23 of the Government Sector Employment Rules 2014*.

This position is 35 hours per week on a rotational roster system and may include overtime/shift allowances.

Applicants must include/attach date and place of birth, drivers licence number and other supporting documentation.

In accordance with the *NSW Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998*, applicants for this position will be required to sign a Prohibited Employment Declaration and the preferred applicant will be subject to criminal record, probity and prior employment checks.

The position is subject to the terms of the *NSW Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998*. Under the terms of the Act, persons who have been convicted of certain serious sex offences are prohibited from applying for this position as it involves child-related employment.

The successful applicant will be subject to a rigorous National Police Check (criminal history).

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.

A Working with Children Check (WWCC) is a prerequisite for this position.

- The applicant is responsible for applying his or her own WWCC (**an employer cannot apply on behalf of a worker**) and if the outcome is a clearance, the Check is valid for five years and may be used for any child-related work in NSW.
- You can apply for your Working with Children Check here:
www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check

For assistance in completing your application or for information regarding the National Police Check or Security Clearance, **please contact the Aboriginal Employment Programs Unit on (02) 8835 6257 or (02) 8835 9093 or hraboriginal@police.nsw.gov.au**

Applications Close: Sunday 2 April 2017

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further contact Shelley Smyth - Local Area Manager on (02) 6626 0799 or Detective Chief Inspector Cameron Lindsay on 0427 010 048.

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number 000053WL

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A05737



Health
and Human
Services

Psycho Educational Trainer

- Region: North Division
- Program: Secure Services
- Salary: \$51,828 - \$69,906 (+ Superannuation)
- Full-time / Ongoing

Psycho Educational Trainers contribute to the delivery of psycho educational programs for forensic clients which includes both individual and group based interventions. Psycho Educational Trainers are also required to prepare progress reports and program evaluations on their clients for key stakeholders of the organisation and includes the need the work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team environment across residential, custodial and community based settings. This role operates within a complex and dynamic environment across a range of settings and requires the capacity to understand the complexities of the service delivery environment and the concerns of stakeholders and the broader community.

To be eligible to apply for this position you must have an Advanced Diploma in Community Services (Disability Work), Bachelor of Applied Science (Intellectual Disability) or other relevant tertiary qualifications recognised within Departmental guidelines as being equivalent.

For further information on the position description and the selection criteria visit; www.careers.vic.gov.au or contact

Gayani Maddumage. Phone no: 03 9280 2752

Position Reference number: **DHHS/SS/374874**

Link to job advertisement:

<https://jobs.careers.vic.gov.au/jobs/VG-DHHS-SS-374874>

Closing date for applications: **29 March 2017**

For more information about the Department of Health and Human Services visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au

To apply online and for other DHHS and Victorian Government job opportunities please visit www.careers.vic.gov.au

Police Checks form part of the Department of Health and Human Services recruitment process.

The department promotes diversity and equal opportunity in employment and is committed to a more diverse workforce.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicant, or if you have a disability, and require advice and support with the recruitment process, please contact our Diversity Unit on DiversityInclusion@dhhs.vic.gov.au

ZOT20274



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Lifeline 13 11 14



WACHS is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation which strives to provide holistic health care to enhance the health and emotional well-being of the Aboriginal communities of Wellington, Mount Druitt, Penrith and Nepean Blue Mountains.

We are currently seeking applications for the following positions:

Executive Manager of Clinical Services Wellington NSW

Team Leader of Clinical Services Sydney West Aboriginal Health Service, Mt Druitt

Please refer to our website for full details and position descriptions – www.wachs.net.au

Applications close: 5pm, Friday 31st March 2017

Illawarra Aboriginal Medical Service

Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Worker Full Time (May consider 2x Part time)

Essential Criteria:

- Minimum of Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Minimum 2 years' experience working in the Community Services field specific to Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Proven ability in counselling single clients, couples and families inclusive of youth
- Demonstrated knowledge of case management
- Demonstrated knowledge of treatment models
- Proven ability in delivering presentations and facilitating group work
- Demonstrated ability to use computer programs such as Microsoft Office, as well as the ability to gain necessary skills to utilise position specific programs
- Current Drivers Licence
- Working with Children Check

Desirable:

- Knowledge of local AOD issues for Indigenous people

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

To apply for this position, please forward your Cover Letter, Selection Criteria Statement and Resume to
klawlor@illawarraams.com.au.

Applications will close at 5pm on Friday 31st March 2017

A criminal record check will be carried out on successful applicant

Applications that do not address the Selection Criteria will not be considered

Previous applicants need not apply

Chronic Conditions Clinical Workers

Adelaide, SA

***Join a well-respected Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation!**

***Enjoy ongoing training to support your professional development!**



Nunkuwarrin Yunti is seeking a number of **Chronic Conditions Clinical Workers** to join their team in Adelaide, on a full-time basis.

You will be responsible for providing services for clients with chronic health conditions engaged with the Chronic Conditions Management Team. Working alongside a range of service providers, you will ensure coordinated, flexible and accessible care for individual clients.

The successful candidate will be rewarded with a **competitive remuneration circa \$59,045 - \$66,566** (commensurate with skills and experience) **plus super**. You'll also enjoy **extensive salary packaging options that greatly increase your take home pay!** You'll also be granted a number of opportunities for career advancement, alongside the chance to build your experience within Aboriginal Health.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are encouraged to apply.



**EMPLOYMENT
OFFICE**

Apply Online
ApplyNow.net.au/jobs/87409



Government of
Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service

Aboriginal Mental Health Officer

Permanent Full Time

Level/Salary: HSO Level G6 \$89,737 - \$97,790 p.a.

Web Search No: 00110600

Location: Success, Western Australia

YouthReach South is looking for a passionate and suitably experienced individual, to enhance the mental health status of at-risk and marginalised indigenous youth. The Aboriginal Mental Health Officer provides mental health interventions, supportive counselling and psychosocial support.

This is achieved through clinical and cultural consultation, community development, and education and training services to health professionals, community based workers, and other service providers.

To Access Detailed Information: visit www.jobs.wa.gov.au and key in the Web Search No. or phone 08 6444 5815 to be mailed an information pack.

For Specific Inquiries: Please contact Polly McCann on 08 9499 4274.

Closing Date: Monday 3 April 2017

adcorp WG19630



Education

Languages and Culture Advisor

- Senior Education Officer 2 (ETS)
- Temporary Full-time appointment for a period up to: 3 years
- Position number and location: 192521 - Darlinghurst

Total remuneration package valued to: \$146,478 pa. (salary \$132,141) including employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the role:

Providing high level support and advice to support the implementation of Aboriginal languages and culture programs in NSW public schools.

Please address the selection criteria in relation to the Statement of Duties for the position in your application. Please note that it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online. No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

This is a child-related position. If you are not currently employed in a child-related position in the Department of Education, you will be required to obtain a Working with Children Check (WWCC) Clearance number as a condition of employment (if you do not already have this). For more information, visit www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check. In addition, your employment may be subject to the Department's National Criminal Records Check to determine your suitability for employment.

Note: Under new provisions for permanent teachers taking up non-school based temporary appointments, the right of return to their substantive position has been extended to up to 3 years.

The maximum continuous period of time in **temporary Non School Based Teaching Service appointments at-level is for 3 years (cumulatively)**. Successful applicants currently employed in an SEO1 (ETS), SEO2 (ETS) or PEO (ETS), who still meet the definition of recent school based experience (where it is required in the advertisement) and apply for a position at the same level, will be offered the new at-level position for the remaining balance of their existing period(s) of appointment (being a cumulative period in any at-level positions, inclusive of higher duties and/or temporary appointments to a maximum of 3 years).

Note: Recent school based experience is either direct classroom teaching within the past three years or school executive experience within the past three years. Direct classroom teaching or school executive experience is full time service in a school based position in a departmental preschool, infants, primary, central/community, secondary, environmental education centre or special school for a continuous period of one (1) year. For more information please review Rules Oct 2015.

Note: Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.

Selection Criteria:

- Aboriginality.
- Teaching qualifications and recent school based experience within the K-12 range.
- Demonstrated commitment to participating in and managing accreditation processes.
- Experience in leading curriculum implementation and demonstrated understanding of current trends, resources, quality teaching & assessment practice, relevant legislation and policies.
- Demonstrated ability to build the capacity of staff through the development and delivery of innovative programs and services that support Aboriginal education and engagement.
- Demonstrated ability to lead, develop, plan and implement strategic initiatives and innovative practices that support education change for improved student learning outcomes for Aboriginal students.
- Proven ability to liaise and negotiate with a range of stakeholders and work collaboratively within and across teams, with internal and external stakeholders, particularly with the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc.
- High level written and oral communication and interpersonal skills and experience in the preparation of documents including briefings, reports and correspondence.
- Demonstrated capacity to ensure that projects are delivered on time, within budget and in accordance with agreed quality standards.
- Knowledge of and commitment to the Department's Aboriginal education policies and the key deliverables and collaborative actions of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education strategy.

Applications Close: 5 April 2017

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further contact Mary Senj on (02) 9244 5417.

Applications must be lodged electronically.
Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number 192521

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A05796

Community Engagement Officer St Teresa's College, Abergowrie



St Teresa's College is a boys secondary boarding College with 200 students. The College has a strong commitment to educating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

St Teresa's College is seeking a Community Engagement Officer who will liaise with and support families and students from remote communities. You will work closely with key stakeholder groups including Townsville Catholic Education Office, the College Leadership Team and State and Federal Government agencies. You will possess strong interpersonal skills and excellent organizational skills.

Successful applicants must be willing to support the Catholic ethos.

Applications should include a resume and contact details of 3 referees. Applications can be sent to: admin@abergowrie.catholic.edu.au or posted to 3819 Abergowrie Road, Abergowrie QLD 4850.

Applications close Friday 31st March 2017.



www.tsv.catholic.edu.au/employment



AHLO in Badjurr-Bulok Wilam at the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne Full time, permanent position

The Women's is Australia's leading independent specialist hospital for women dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of women of all ages and cultures, and new born babies. The Women's is recognised as a leader in its field, with expertise in maternity services and the care of newborn babies, gynaecology, assisted reproduction, women's health and cancer services. We are seeking an experienced AHLO to provide supportive care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their families.

Badjurr-Bulok Wilam "Home of many women" is crucial in improving the ability of the Women's to meet the needs of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander women and their families.

The key tasks of this position will be to:

1. Provide support and advocacy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their families receiving care at the Women's
2. Support and assist all staff in providing high quality, culturally appropriate health care and services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their babies
3. Promote indigenous women's health issues across the Women's and in the community
4. Build and strengthen relationships with community based service providers and key Aboriginal controlled health organisations, especially those in our catchment area.

- Do you have experience working in healthcare?
- Do you have skills and training to make a difference to the care and support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their babies?

We would love to hear from you if you answered yes to the above questions.

This is an Aboriginal Identified position. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

For more information, please call Gina Bundle, AHLO Coordinator, Badjurr-Bulok Wilam on 03 8345 3047 or please see www.thewomens.org.au/careers and apply on line. Applications close Wednesday 29th March 2017.

****All employment with the Women's is subject to and conditional upon a satisfactory clearance of Working with Children Check and Police Check.**



Senior Project Officer, Priority Child and Family Projects

Working in the Priority Child and Family Projects Unit, this 12 month fixed-term Aboriginal identified position will provide project and policy support on the development of an Aboriginal children and families strategic action plan. The position will also be required to support the transition of the plan into an implementation phase. The role will be required to work as part of a small project team and in partnership with Aboriginal communities, including through Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and other key Victorian organisations supporting Aboriginal children and families.

The Aboriginal children and families strategic action plan will also be a component of the government's response to a key recommendation by the Royal Commission into Family Violence, which calls for 'the Victorian Government to work in partnership with Aboriginal communities to develop a state-wide strategic response to improving the lives of vulnerable Aboriginal children and young people'.

Are you

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, with a good understanding of the issues facing Aboriginal communities, children, young people and/ or families across Victoria?
- A good written and verbal communicator and/or capable of providing strong project management support?
- A team player, who enjoys working collaboratively and effectively to help meet objectives?

Applications close **Monday, 3rd April 2017**

For further information, please contact **Georgie Enright** for position requirements on **(03) 9096 1240** and quote **DHHS/PSR/500745**

For more information about the Department of Health and Human Services visit **www.dhhs.vic.gov.au**

To apply online and for other DHHS and Victorian Government job opportunities please visit **www.careers.vic.gov.au**

Police Checks form part of the Department of Health and Human Services recruitment process.

The department promotes diversity and equal opportunity in employment and is committed to a more diverse workforce.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicant, or if you have a disability, and require advice and support with the recruitment process, please contact our Diversity Unit on DiversityInclusion@dhhs.vic.gov.au

Z0720275



Job opportunities – Aboriginal Housing Office

At the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO), we're changing the way we do things to deliver better housing solutions to our Aboriginal clients and the community.

Our vision is to ensure that every Aboriginal person in NSW has equal access to and choice in affordable housing.

We are looking for passionate people who like to work in a positive team environment and want to end every day knowing they have made a difference in the lives of the clients they serve.

We are seeking candidates with a wide range of skills for roles such as:

Aboriginal Housing Office Assets Team Grade 7/8 roles with a salary range of \$90,215 - \$99,862 + superannuation		
The Asset area works on a broad range of projects including property refurbishment, portfolio management, asset acquisition, development and revitalisation and stakeholder relationship management.		
Roles available		
Senior Client Relationship Officer – Assets (Identified)	Ref: 000053S6	Dubbo
Project Officer – Asset Strategy and Portfolio Development (Targeted)	Ref: 000053SG	Parramatta

**Policy, Program and Design Innovation – Policy
Grade 9/10 role with a salary range of \$102,838 - \$113,324 + superannuation**

The Policy area manages the full range of policy initiatives including research, policy development through consultation, stakeholder engagement and implementation.

Roles available

Senior Policy Officer – (Identified)	Ref: 000053SD	Parramatta
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**Policy, Program and Design Innovation – Strategic Programs
Grade 7/8 role with a salary range of \$90,215 - \$99,862 + superannuation
Grade 9/10 role with a salary range of \$102,838 - \$113,324 + superannuation**

The Strategic Programs team work on a diverse range of AHO projects including funding proposals, program design, implementation and evaluation

Roles available

Project Officer – Strategic Programs	Ref: 000053S7	Parramatta
Senior Project Officer – Strategic Programs	Ref: 000053S8	Parramatta

Staff with the skills, experience and passion for making a difference to Aboriginal people's housing choices and outcomes, are strongly encouraged to apply for these opportunities. Applications close 5pm Wednesday 5th April 2017.

For a further information and to apply please visit our website at www.ourmobneedsyou.com.au



**Police
& Justice**



Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer

- Redfern Local Area Command, Redfern
- Clerk Grade 3/4 - Permanent Full-Time
- *I Work for NSW* Requisition Number: 000054ZJ

Salary Package: \$81,256. **Salary:** \$67,248 - \$73,635. Package includes annual salary, employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Job Description:

The Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer (ACLO) is responsible for providing advice and support to Police in the management of local Aboriginal issues. They assist in establishing and maintaining close personal rapport with Elders, Leaders and the grass roots members of the Aboriginal community by developing network contacts to strengthen cooperation and communication and to assist community members in their dealing with local policing issues and their contact with other statutory bodies.

Job Notes:

Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification as authorised by *Part 6, Clause 23 of the Government Sector Employment Rules 2014*.

This position is 35 hours per week on a rotational roster system and may include overtime/shift allowances.

Applicants must include/attach date and place of birth, driver's licence number and other supporting documentation.

In accordance with the *NSW Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998*, applicants for this position will be required to sign a Prohibited Employment Declaration and the preferred applicant will be subject to criminal record, probity and prior employment checks.

The position is subject to the terms of the *NSW Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998*. Under the terms of the Act, persons who have been convicted of certain serious sex offences are prohibited from applying for this position as it involves child-related employment.

The successful applicant will be subject to a rigorous National Police Check (criminal history).

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.

A Working with Children Check (WWCC) is a prerequisite for this position.

- The applicant is responsible for applying his or her own WWCC (***an employer cannot apply on behalf of a worker***) and if the outcome is a clearance, the Check is valid for five years and may be used for any child-related work in NSW.
- You can apply for your Working with Children Check here:
www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check

For assistance in completing your application or for information regarding the National Police Check or Security Clearance, **please contact the Aboriginal Employment Programs Unit on (02) 8835 6257 or (02) 8835 9093 or hraboriginal@police.nsw.gov.au**

Applications Close: Sunday 9 April 2017

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further contact Maria Jennings - Local Area Manager on (02) 8303 5101.

Applications must be lodged electronically.
Please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number 000054ZJ

*I work
FOR
NSW*

A05738

Z0720276

Principal Project Officer, Priority Child and Family Projects

Working in the Priority Child and Family Projects Unit, this 12 month fixed-term Aboriginal identified position will be responsible for leading the development of an Aboriginal children and family strategy with support from a small project team and in partnership with Aboriginal communities.

The commitment to develop the strategy is set out in the Roadmap for Reform: strong families, safe children – the government's long term vision for the child and family services system. The strategy will be developed in line with the principles of self-determination, and will aim to increase Aboriginal self-determination and self-management in decision-making relating to Aboriginal children, young people and families. The strategy will also be the key vehicle for the government's response to a recommendation by the Royal Commission into Family Violence, which calls for 'the Victorian Government to work in partnership with Aboriginal communities to develop a state-wide strategic response to improving the lives of vulnerable Aboriginal children, young people and families.'

The role will be required to build strong working relationships with key internal and external stakeholders, including working across the Department of Health and Human Services and other government agencies, and successfully engage with Aboriginal communities on draft strategy content at key points of project development. The successful applicant for this position will demonstrate a deep understanding of the experience of Aboriginal children and families in Victoria, and be capable of identifying opportunities for realising system and program change capable of supporting better outcomes for Aboriginal children and families in Victoria.

Are you

- Aboriginal, with a good understanding of the issues facing Aboriginal communities, children, young people and/ or families across Victoria?
- A strategic thinker, ready to identify opportunities for better ways of doing things?
- A team player, who enjoys working collaboratively and effectively to help meet objectives?

Applications close **Monday, 3rd April 2017**

For further information, please contact **Georgie Enright** for position requirements on **(03) 9096 1240** and quote **DHHS/PSR/500709**

For more information about the Department of Health and Human Services visit **www.dhhs.vic.gov.au**

To apply online and for other DHHS and Victorian Government job opportunities please visit **www.careers.vic.gov.au**

Police Checks form part of the Department of Health and Human Services recruitment process.

The department promotes diversity and equal opportunity in employment and is committed to a more diverse workforce.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicant, or if you have a disability, and require advice and support with the recruitment process, please contact our Diversity Unit on DiversityInclusion@dhhs.vic.gov.au

**For all your advertising needs
email: advertising@koorimail.com
or call 02 6622 2666**



BOURKE ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Bourke Aboriginal Health Service has an exciting opportunity for a Chief Executive Officer to lead its professional, multi-disciplinary team, based in Bourke, in Western NSW. This is an identified position under Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).

- Use your senior management experience to lead organisational change as CEO of a highly respected Health organisation
- Pivotal role for a Senior Manager passionate about closing the gap in Indigenous Health
- Excellent remuneration package + salary sacrificing + work vehicle
- Enjoy the relaxed, laid back country lifestyle

BAHS is a community controlled health organisation funded by different levels of Government and other agencies. It delivers a range of services including GP services, chronic disease care, child health services, oral health services, Social and Emotional Wellbeing, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Population Health and a range of other services.

Reporting directly to the BAHS Board of Directors, this varied and rewarding role will see you responsible for the strategic and operational management of the organisation, including staff, finances, assets and other resources. Our organisation has approximately 30 employees and several contractors.

To succeed in this management role you will need extensive senior management experience in a healthcare environment, you will consider yourself a natural leader, with coaching and relationship management experience as well as a demonstrated ability to effectively manage organisational change. A relevant tertiary qualification, in a field such as Management, Health or Business is essential, and candidates with experience leading a multi-model service organisation will be highly regarded.

If you are looking for a change of routine, a change of lifestyle or new adventure, this is the role for you. This is an influential 'hands-on' role, and offers you the opportunity to advance your career as the leader of a highly respected Health organisation. In addition you will receive ongoing professional training opportunities to ensure your career excels. The organisation is passionate about providing quality health care solutions to Indigenous Communities, and will give you the opportunity to significantly impact the lives of local residents.

Don't miss this opportunity to consolidate your career in senior management and directly affect the success of a vital community organisation — Apply Now!

An information package can be obtained by contacting Lillian Lucas, Chairperson of Bourke Aboriginal Health Service by emailing Lillian Lucas at lillianl@bahs.com.au or by phone on 02 68723088. It is recommended that interested applicants discuss the position requirements with Lillian on the number provided above.

Applications close Tuesday, 18th April 2017 at 5pm.

Late applications will not be considered.

Warrabal People's Native Title Authorisation Meeting

Persons who are descendants of Mary Ann Lamb (nee Crooke), Sarah (mother of Harry Williams and George Williams), Big Tommy, Mary (mother of Cissie Jones) and who assert native title in areas shown on the map below as Warrabal People ('collectively the Claim Group') are invited to attend a meeting to authorise a native title determination application (the Authorisation Meeting).

The date, time and location of the Authorisation Meeting is as follows: -

Date: Saturday 22 April 2017

Venue: Welfare Bowls Club, Thompson Avenue Mt MORGAN 4714

Time: 10:00am – 4:00pm (registration 9.15am)



The purpose of the Authorisation Meeting is to: -

1. Authorise the making of a native title determination application ('the Proposed Claim') on behalf of the Claim Group over the area shown on the map below;
2. Authorise members of the Claim Group to make the Proposed Claim and deal with all matters arising in relation to it for the purposes of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) ('the Applicant'); and
3. Direct the Applicant as to how it exercises its duties.

Registering Attendance

Attendees must register their attendance with Kylie on **0432 087 212 by Thursday 13 April, 2017.**

Financial assistance will not be provided to travel to or attend the Authorisation Meeting, but lunch and refreshments will be provided.

WATERNSW

LACHLAN REGULATED RIVER WATER SHARING PLAN LACHLAN REGULATED RIVER WATER SOURCE THAT PART OF THE WATER SOURCE UPSTREAM OF LAKE CARGELLIGO WEIR

An application for a NEW WATER SUPPLY WORKS AND/OR WATER USE APPROVAL has been received from **JANET MOXEY** for a 250mm centrifugal pump, capacity 17ML/day on Lot 13 DP752950, Parish Trajere, County Ashburnham, for Irrigation purposes on Lots 13-14 DP752950 AND Lot 41 DP1211243, and a Turkeys Nest Storage, capacity 150ML, both .

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered

in writing to Water NSW, PO Box 291, Forbes NSW 2871 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. (A009562).

Any queries please call (02) 6850 2808, Andrew Glasson, Senior Water Regulation Officer.

A05697

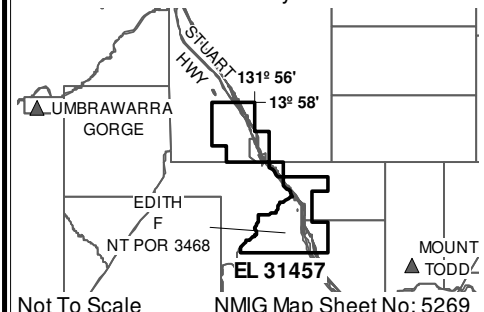
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

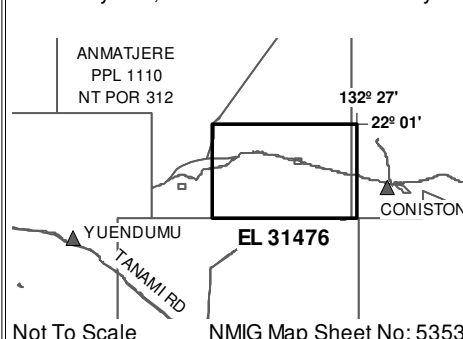
The Honourable Kenneth Edward Vowles MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Primary Industry and Resources, C/- Department of Primary Industry and Resources, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of his intent to do an act, namely to grant the following exploration licence applications.

Applications to which this notice applies:

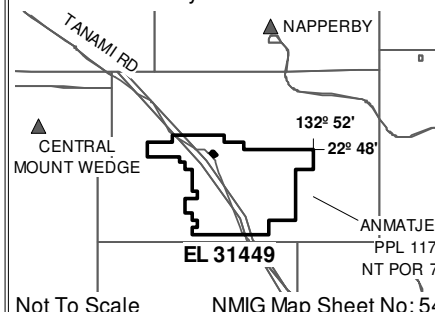
Exploration Licence 31457 sought by BACCHUS RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 606 340 872 over an area of 35 Blocks (109 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the FERGUSON RIVER locality.



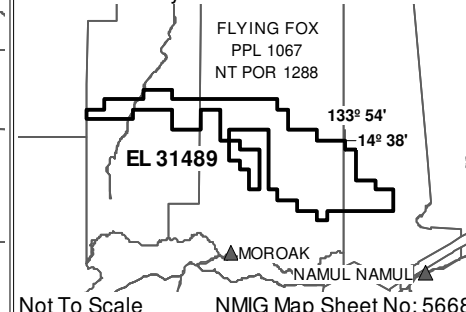
Exploration Licence 31476 sought by BMEX PTY LTD, ACN 615 217 680 over an area of 240 Blocks (764 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the DENISON locality.



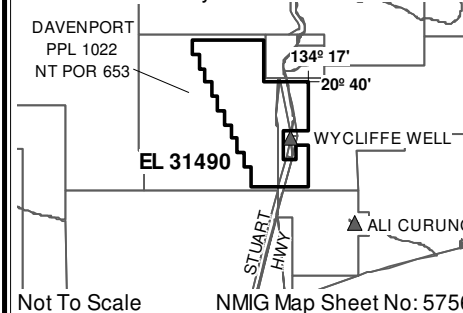
Exploration Licence 31449 sought by DBL BLUES PTY LTD, ACN 140 024 442 over an area of 226 Blocks (714 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the NAPPERBY locality.



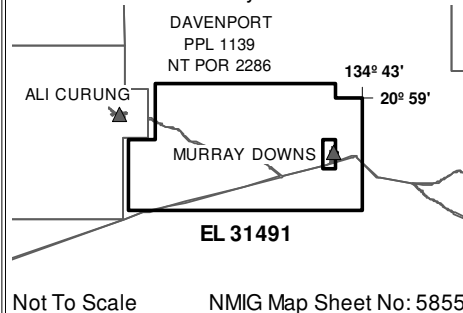
Exploration Licence 31489 sought by MOROAK RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 616 553 014 over an area of 129 Blocks (428 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the MOROAK locality.



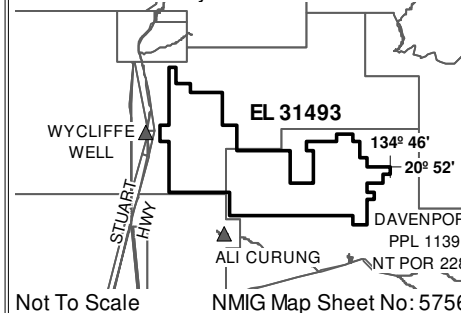
Exploration Licence 31490 sought by MOROAK RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 616 553 014 over an area of 225 Blocks (723 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the WAUCHOPE locality.



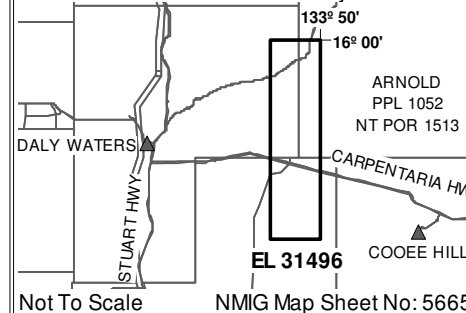
Exploration Licence 31491 sought by MOROAK RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 616 553 014 over an area of 150 Blocks (481 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the MURRAY DOWNS locality.



Exploration Licence 31493 sought by MOROAK RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 616 553 014 over an area of 250 Blocks (803 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the WAUCHOPE locality.



Exploration Licence 31496 sought by NORTHERN EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 092 403 506 over an area of 240 Blocks (792 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the SCARLETT HILL 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 Primary Industry and Resources, 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: 22 March 2017

WATERNSW

YASS CATCHMENT GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from **R & S BRUCE** for 2 x bores, for irrigation purposes on Lots 23 & 99 of DP754868. (Bedulluck/Murray)

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW,

PO Box 156, Leeton NSW 2705 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. (A009688)

Any queries please call (02) 6951 2576, Paul Morsanuto, Water Regulation Officer.

A05828

WATERNSW

BOTANY SANDS GROUNDWATER SOURCE (MANAGEMENT ZONE 2)

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORKS APPROVAL has been received from **THE TRUST COMPANY (AUSTRALIA) LIMITED** for an excavation and pump on Lot 17 DP11500018, Parish of Botany, County of Cumberland for groundwater (dewatering) purposes.

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to Water NSW, Locked Bag 5123, Parramatta NSW 2124 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address to specify the grounds of objection. (A009694)

Any queries please call (02) 8838 7531, Wayne Conners, Senior Water Regulation Officer

A05846

WATERNSW

CUDGEGONG ALLUVIAL GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for an AMENDED COMBINED WATER SUPPLY WORK AND USE APPROVAL has been received from **DEON GILES MOORE** for one replacement groundwater well, to be located on Lot 2 DP 1029859, Parish of Derale, County of Phillip.

Objections to the granting of the approval must be forwarded to WaterNSW, PO Box 717, DUBBO NSW 2830 or richard.wheatley@waterNSW.com.au within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. (A009691)

Any queries please call (02) 6841 7414, Richard Wheatley, Senior Water Regulation Officer.

A05831

WATERNSW

UPPER NAMOI ZONE 7 YARRAMAN CREEK (EAST OF LAKE GORAN TO MOOKI RIVER) GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for amendment of an existing WATER SUPPLY WORK AND USE APPROVAL (90CA807379 1 X additional Work/Bore and additional irrigation area) has been received from **G W AND S L BROWN** for 1 X Groundwater Work/Bore for irrigation purposes on Lot 2, DP 628296 County of Pottinger, Parish of Springfield.

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, P O Box 550, Tamworth NSW 2340 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. (A009617)

Any queries please call (02) 6763 1467 Ben Hutt, Water Regulation Officer.

A05780

WATERNSW

MURRAY REGULATED RIVER WATER SOURCE

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORKS and WATER USE APPROVAL has been received from **GOL GOL CREEK GROWERS ASSOCIATION LIMITED** to authorise 2 x regulators and earthen embankments on the Gol Gol Creek (known locally as the Three Way Split) on Lot 7314 DP 1207246, Parish of Gol Gol, County of Wentworth. The purpose of the proposed works is for environmental rehabilitation of the Gol Gol Swamp. The application is to amend current approval 60CA582579. Application No. A9671.

Objections to the granting of this approval must be lodged in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 363, Buronga NSW 2739 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name, address and specify the grounds of the objection. Any queries please call (03) 5051 6210, David Kernebone, Water Regulation Officer.

A05804

WATERNSW

MID MURRUMBIDGEE ALLUVIAL GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from **STACEY STONE** for a bore for irrigation purposes on Lot 1 DP1127086. (Mundowry/Mitchell)

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 156, Leeton NSW 2705 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. (A009623)

Any queries please call (02) 6951 2576, Paul Morsanuto, Water Regulation Officer.

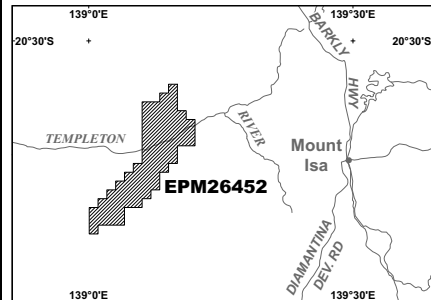
A05788

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANTS OF EXPLORATION PERMITS FOR MINERALS

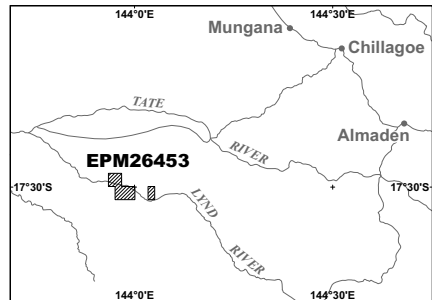
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

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 grants of the Exploration Permit for Minerals shown below under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

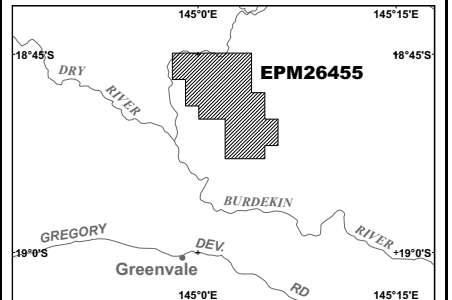
Exploration Permit 26452 sought by Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Limited, ACN 000 057 125, over an area of 70 sub-blocks (224 km²), centred approximately 40 km West of Mount Isa, in the locality of the Mount Isa City Council.



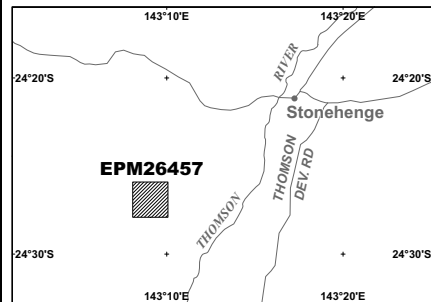
Exploration Permit 26453 sought by CTM Alluvial Mining Pty Ltd, ACN 137 305 947, over an area of 12 sub-blocks (39 km²), centred approximately 60 km South West of Mungana, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



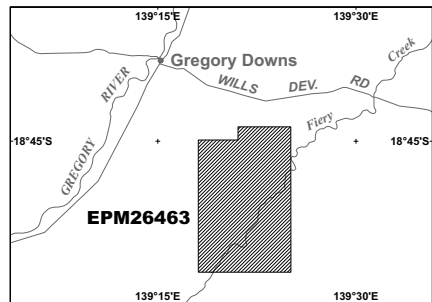
Exploration Permit 26455 sought by Moggie Mining Pty Limited, ACN 104 324 576, over an area of 39 sub-blocks (126 km²), centred approximately 22 km North North East of Greenvale, in the locality of the Charters Towers Regional Council.



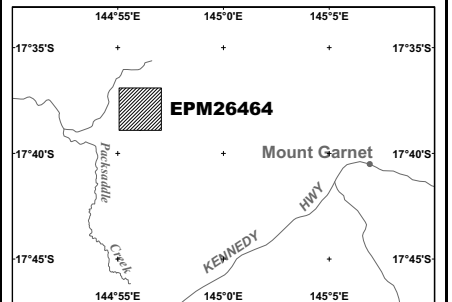
Exploration Permit 26457 sought by Apartment Enterprises Pty Limited, ACN 096 433 706, over an area of 4 sub-blocks (13 km²), centred approximately 17 km South West of Stonehenge, in the locality of the Barcoo Shire Council.



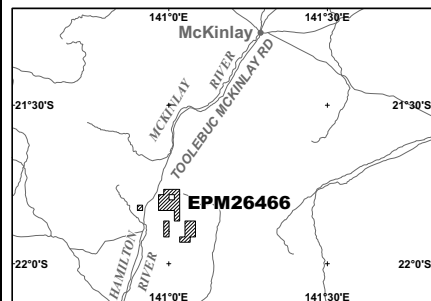
Exploration Permit 26463 sought by XDM Australia Pty Ltd, ACN 614 053 164, over an area of 74 sub-blocks (240 km²), centred approximately 22 km South East of Gregory Downs, in the locality of the Burke Shire Council.



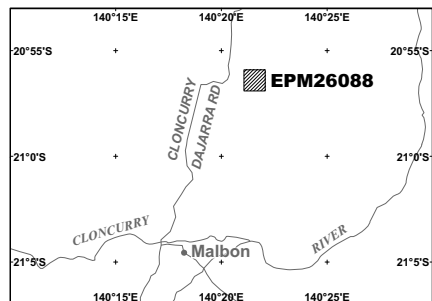
Exploration Permit 26464 sought by BMAX Holdings Pty Ltd, ACN 155 625 835, over an area of 4 sub-blocks (13 km²), centred approximately 20 km West North West of Mount Garnet, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



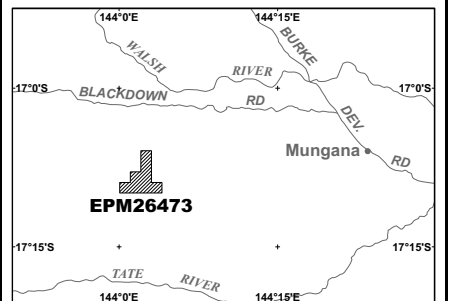
Exploration Permit 26466 sought by Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Limited, ACN 000 057 125, over an area of 28 sub-blocks (89 km²), centred approximately 70 km South South West of McKinlay, in the localities of the Cloncurry Shire Council and McKinlay Shire Council.



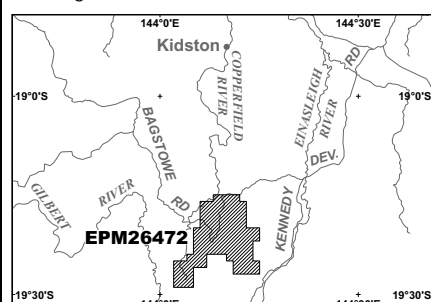
Exploration Permit 26088 sought by Manganese Australia Corporation Pty Ltd, ACN 132 363 207, over an area of 1 sub-blocks (3 km²), centred approximately 16 km North North East of Malbon, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



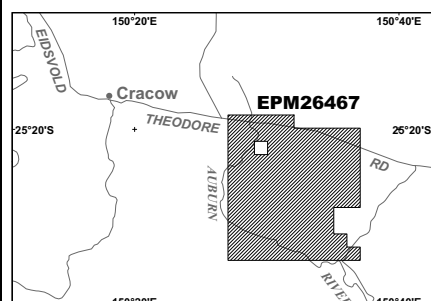
Exploration Permit 26473 sought by Chillagoe Resources Pty Ltd, ACN 617 386 357, over an area of 8 sub-blocks (26 km²), centred approximately 38 km West of Mungana, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



Exploration Permit 26472 sought by Mawson Canada Pty Ltd, ACN 617 551 667, over an area of 99 sub-blocks (320 km²), centred approximately 52 km South of Kidston, in the locality of the Etheridge Shire Council.



Exploration Permit 26467 sought by Dreuilin Pty Limited, ACN 133 377 287, over an area of 99 sub-blocks (307 km²), centred approximately 26 km South East of Cracow, in the locality of the North Burnett Regional Council.



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, Level 4, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3199 8082, nativetitleservices@dnrm.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 12 April 2017

NOTICE TO GRANT AMALGAMATION APPLICATIONS

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following amalgamation applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Exploration No.	Applicant	Amalg No	Area	Locality	Centroid	Shire
09/2121	COSMOPOLITAN MINERALS LIMITED	490010	64.73HA	158km NE'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 24° 14' S Long: 116° 28' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
36/877	ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI AUSTRALIA LIMITED	500429	130.00HA	32km E'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 54' S Long: 121° 1' E	LEONORA SHIRE
37/1242	EASTERN GOLDFIELDS MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	500960	61.57HA	46km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 32' S Long: 120° 58' E	LEONORA SHIRE
38/1689	DUKETON RESOURCES PTY LTD	501062	33.93HA	71km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 39' S Long: 122° 14' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/2834	DUKETON MINING LTD	501085	7.48HA	98km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 27' S Long: 121° 57' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/2834	DUKETON MINING LTD	501086	16.09HA	98km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 27' S Long: 121° 57' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/2916	DUKETON MINING LTD	501135	122.01HA	110km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 25' S Long: 121° 56' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, LEONORA SHIRE
38/3100	MAGNETIC RESOURCES NL	501031	6.50HA	14km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 43' S Long: 122° 20' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3137	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	500936	118.66HA	55km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 44' S Long: 122° 24' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3137	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	500937	9.86HA	55km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 44' S Long: 122° 24' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3142	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	501060	131.48HA	112km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 26' S Long: 121° 57' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3142	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	501171	124.82HA	112km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 26' S Long: 121° 57' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3142	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	501172	200.65HA	112km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 25' S Long: 121° 55' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3142	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	501173	191.45HA	112km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 26' S Long: 121° 55' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3142	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	501174	166.36HA	112km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 26' S Long: 121° 55' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3142	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	501175	195.18HA	112km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 26' S Long: 121° 56' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3142	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	501176	189.86HA	112km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 26' S Long: 121° 56' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
38/3142	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	501177	175.39HA	112km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 27' S Long: 121° 56' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
39/1292	HAWTHORN RESOURCES LIMITED	500495	2.01HA	80km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 20' S Long: 122° 16' E	LEONORA SHIRE
39/1292	HAWTHORN RESOURCES LIMITED	500496	21.58HA	80km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 20' S Long: 122° 17' E	LEONORA SHIRE
39/1673	HAWTHORN RESOURCES LIMITED	500493	47.03HA	82km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 21' S Long: 122° 16' E	LEONORA SHIRE
39/1810	HAWTHORN RESOURCES LIMITED	500494	48.92HA	89km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 23' S Long: 122° 19' E	LEONORA SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
39/1866	MONUMENT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	500754	87.54HA	48km W'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 36' S Long: 121° 54' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
39/1866	MONUMENT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	500755	116.22HA	48km W'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 36' S Long: 121° 54' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
39/1881	HAWTHORN RESOURCES LIMITED	500492	45.14HA	80km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 20' S Long: 122° 15' E	LEONORA SHIRE
51/843	AUSTRALIAN VANADIUM LIMITED	499781	100.30HA	47km S'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 56' S Long: 118° 36' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
52/2594-I	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	501546	23.57HA	97km W'ly of Newman	Lat: 23° 25' S Long: 118° 46' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE, MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
77/1535	MONTAGUE RESOURCES AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	501499	31.76HA	87km E'ly of Hyden	Lat: 32° 20' S Long: 119° 45' E	KONDININ SHIRE
	HANKING GOLD MINING PTY LTD					
77/1535	MONTAGUE RESOURCES AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	501500	24.62HA	87km E'ly of Hyden	Lat: 32° 19' S Long: 119° 45' E	KONDININ SHIRE
	HANKING GOLD MINING PTY LTD					
77/2207-I	REED EXPLORATION PTY LTD	493689	133.04HA	75km E'ly of Hyden	Lat: 32° 32' S Long: 119° 39' E	KONDININ SHIRE
77/2365	EXTERRA RESOURCES LIMITED	501613	23.59HA	140km E'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 29° 29' S Long: 119° 6' E	MENZIES SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 22 March 2017

Native title parties: Under Section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to the applications. The 3 month period closes on **22 June 2017**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each amalgamation application may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 22 July 2017**), a native title party lodges an objection with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of the licence is an act attracting the expedited procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9425 1000.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

adcorp WG19681

 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 <i>Mining Act 1978</i> :						
Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	08/2868	NORTH WEST SOLAR SALT PTY LTD	25BL	9km SE'ly of Onslow	Lat: 21° 41' S Long: 115° 10' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1561	GOLDEN EAGLE MINING LTD	34BL	37km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 1' S Long: 120° 47' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1571	JINDALEE RESOURCES LIMITED	10BL	20km S'ly of Widgeemooltha	Lat: 31° 40' S Long: 121° 30' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	20/908	POZ MINERALS LIMITED	17BL	22km SE'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 32' S Long: 118° 4' E	CUE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	26/193	LEFROY EXPLORATION LTD	7BL	17km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 4' S Long: 121° 46' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2671	MRG METALS (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD	11BL	143km W'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 31° 1' S Long: 123° 43' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2675	LEGEND MINING LIMITED	4BL	91km NW'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 30° 34' S Long: 124° 26' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2676	LEGEND MINING LIMITED	2BL	112km NW'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 30° 16' S Long: 124° 28' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2677	LEGEND MINING LIMITED	2BL	85km NW'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 30° 34' S Long: 124° 31' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	36/856	COVENTRY ENTERPRISES PTY LTD	2BL	5km E'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 56' S Long: 120° 44' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1294	EXTERRA RESOURCES LIMITED	5BL	13km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 54' S Long: 121° 27' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1295	MONTEZUMA MINING COMPANY LTD	16BL	30km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 54' S Long: 121° 38' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1300	KIN MINING NL	4BL	8km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 54' S Long: 121° 24' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1302	MAGNETIC RESOURCES NL	4BL	17km SE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 58' S Long: 121° 29' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3193	ROX RESOURCES LIMITED	34BL	139km E'ly of Wiluna	Lat: 26° 52' S Long: 122° 12' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, WILUNA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/1953	NARNOO MINING PTY LTD	20BL	169km SE'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 47' S Long: 123° 31' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1115	MACARTHUR LITHIUM PTY LTD	21BL	35km SE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 22° 2' S Long: 120° 25' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/1639	CORPORATE & RESOURCE CONSULTANTS PTY LTD	46BL	25km S'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 49' S Long: 118° 31' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
		LEGENDRE, Bruce Robert				
		T.E. JOHNSTON & ASSOCIATES PTY LTD				
Exploration Licence	52/3494	RACHLAN HOLDINGS PTY LTD	102BL	136km NW'ly of Wiluna	Lat: 25° 36' S Long: 120° 2' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE, WILUNA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1062-4	PIPER PRESTON PTY LTD	158BL	70km S'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 37' S Long: 119° 18' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1065	PIPER PRESTON PTY LTD	39BL	70km SE'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 23' S Long: 119° 50' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2221	CAPITAL MINING LIMITED	20BL	66km W'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 38' S Long: 117° 15' E	CUE SHIRE, YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	63/1841	GIANNI, Peter Romeo	28BL	118km SE'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 56' S Long: 120° 14' E	DUNDAS SHIRE
Exploration Licence	69/3478	MONTEZUMA MINING COMPANY LTD	150BL	109km NW'ly of Wiluna	Lat: 25° 48' S Long: 120° 10' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE, WILUNA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5028	ORDRIVER MINING PTY LTD	2BL	13km N'ly of Kununurra	Lat: 15° 39' S Long: 128° 42' E	WYNDHAM-EAST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5058	GLAMORGAN DOZING PTY LTD	10BL	88km S'ly of Wyndham	Lat: 16° 23' S Long: 128° 8' E	WYNDHAM-EAST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5064	IRONRINGER (INDUSTRIAL MINERALS) PTY LTD	49BL	141km S'ly of Kununurra	Lat: 17° 2' S Long: 128° 47' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5066	LEGACY IRON ORE LTD	11BL	87km SW'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 18° 55' S Long: 127° 17' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5067	LEGACY IRON ORE LTD	43BL	27km E'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 18° 9' S Long: 127° 54' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5068	LEGACY IRON ORE LTD	5BL	32km S'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 18° 30' S Long: 127° 35' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6091	GOLDEN EAGLE MINING LTD	10.00HA	9km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 57' S Long: 121° 4' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3022-S	POOLE, Lawrence Robert	2.18HA	67km NW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 28' S Long: 120° 44' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/8845-53	TORIAN RESOURCES LIMITED	1644.62HA	37km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 38' S Long: 121° 4' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/8854-61	TORIAN RESOURCES LIMITED	1455.84HA	32km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 41' S Long: 121° 5' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4317-8	MAGNETIC RESOURCES NL	251.08HA	13km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 43' S Long: 122° 21' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4319-23	MAGNETIC RESOURCES NL	875.33HA	20km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 47' S Long: 122° 19' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4324	MAGNETIC RESOURCES NL	18.72HA	24km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 122° 18' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4387-8	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	319.00HA	88km NW'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 27° 34' S Long: 122° 7' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/5717	FEDEC, Bradley David	119.92HA	76km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 18' S Long: 122° 28' E	LEONORA SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/5812	MCA NOMINEES PTY LTD	189.13HA	61km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 6' S Long: 122° 6' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	40/1448	MALATESTA, Nathan	9.43HA	48km S'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 17' S Long: 121° 28' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4413-6	STRANGE, Vernon Wesley	660.80HA	46km SE'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 36' S Long: 119° 32' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Retention Licence	47/15-I	BROCKMAN EAST PTY LTD	870.01HA	19km N'ly of Newman	Lat: 23° 11' S Long: 119° 47' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Retention Licence	47/16-I	BROCKMAN EAST PTY LTD	3504.87HA	14km N'ly of Newman	Lat: 23° 14' S Long: 119° 46' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE

Tom mixes two passions



NSW North Coast surfer and musician Tom Avery is in the middle of a busy schedule, but

one that he loves – competing in longboard events and playing at gigs.

He is in New Zealand at an event that combines both – competing in the Duke New Brighton Festival of Surfing near Christchurch, and performing on stage at the festival's closing celebrations.

The Duke New Brighton Festival of Surfing is put together by the New Brighton Pier and Foreshore Society and helps raise community spirit and participation in the east of Christchurch.

It has national and South Island-wide sanctioning and recognition, and runs from March 17-26.

Avery told the *Koori Mail* he would be surfing the 9ft open and the logger division (single-fin Malibus 9ft and over) and playing at the closing concert.

"I'm super excited to be travelling back to the country where my mum and sisters were born. I know the surf pumps in NZ and the people are so welcoming," he said.

"I will be travelling with my Maori brother Dan Croskery and also with a photographer from Australian surf magazine *Pacific Longboarder*, so I will get a few photos and an article in the mag."

Last month Avery finished

second in the Wandiyali Indigenous Surf Classic at Newcastle behind surf legend Robbie Page. Also in the final was Jamie Archibold and Matt Malony.

"The Wandiyali is the first event for the year and is always a great time to catch up with my saltwater brothers and sisters from all over Oz."

More recently, Avery finished 11th at a Noosa surfing competition where he was up against surfers from Hawaii, Japan and Australia.

He has recently gained sponsorship from Byron Bay surfboard maker Ed Sinnott and now proudly surfs boards with a resin tint of red, black and yellow.

Proud of colours

"My boards look unreal and I'm so proud to have our colours on my new spears (boards)," he said.

On stage, Avery will be appearing in his first international performance as Blakboi.

His music will take him to New Zealand, Canada and Hawaii, in addition to gigs in Perth, Melbourne and Tasmania.

"I can't wait to play my music overseas. It is really groovy to think that my dream of becoming a world-class performer is coming true. I guess the saying 'follow your dreams' is true.

"The best thing though is playing my tunes while still dripping wet."

Blakboi has played live for five years in pubs, clubs and festivals.



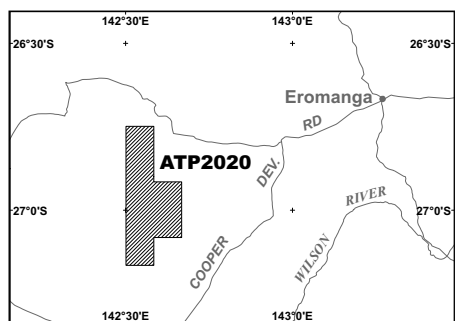
Tom Avery, the surfer, and (inset) Tom Avery as Blakboi, the muso.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF AN AUTHORITY TO PROSPECT

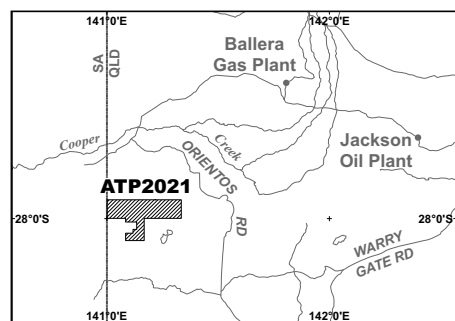
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

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 Authority to Prospects shown below under the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 (Qld)*.

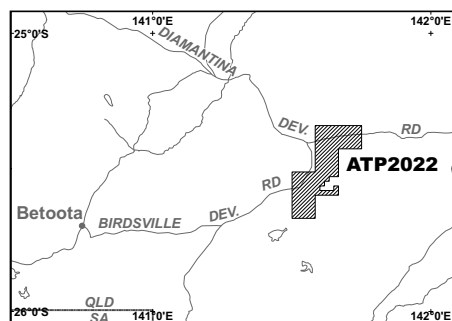
Proposed Grant of ATP2020 sought by Metgasco Ltd, ACN 088 196 383, over an area of 175 sub-blocks (535 km²) centred approximately 75 km South West of Eromanga, in the localities of Bulloo Shire Council and Quilpie Shire Council.



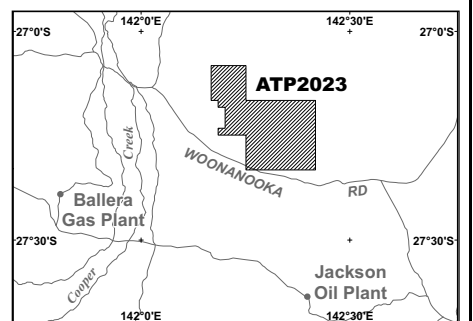
Proposed Grant of ATP2021 sought by Metgasco Ltd, ACN 088 196 383, over an area of 122 sub-blocks (369 km²) centred approximately 90 km South West of Ballera Gas Plant, in the locality of Bulloo Shire Council.



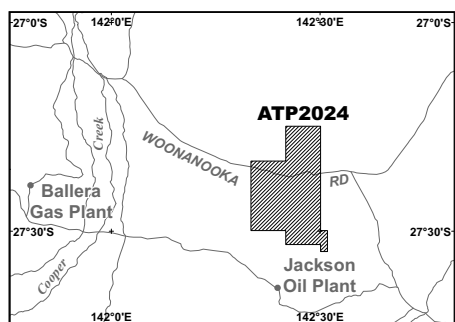
Proposed Grant of ATP2022 sought by Bridgeport Energy (QLD) Pty Limited, ACN 138 114 637, over an area of 142 sub-blocks (440 km²) centred approximately 90 km East North East of Betoota, in the locality of Barcoo Shire Council.



Proposed Grant of ATP2023 sought by Bridgeport Energy (QLD) Pty Limited, ACN 138 114 637, over an area of 142 sub-blocks (432 km²) centred approximately 45 km North North West of Jackson Oil Plant, in the locality of Bulloo Shire Council.



Proposed Grant of ATP2024 sought by Bridgeport Energy (QLD) Pty Limited, ACN 138 114 637, over an area of 138 sub-blocks (420 km²) centred approximately 25 km North of Jackson Oil Plant, in the locality of Bulloo Shire Council.



Nature of Act(s): Grant of an Authority to Prospect under the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 (Qld)* authorises the holder to explore for petroleum for a maximum term not exceeding twelve (12) years. Under the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 (Qld)* a holder of an Authority to Prospect is entitled to apply for a Petroleum Lease over land that is the subject of the Authority to Prospect. A Petroleum Lease entitles the holder to undertake regulated activities in order to develop and produce payable deposits of petroleum.

It should be noted that this land will not be granted over a National Park (scientific), National Park, National Park (Aboriginal Land), National Park (Torres Strait Islander Land), National Park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal Land) or conservation park that are in existence on the date of grant.

Native Title Parties: Under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* any person who is a "native title party" is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed grant of an Authority to Prospect. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au

Further Information: Further Information about the proposed grant of the Authority to Prospect, including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the Authority to Prospect applications may be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Level 4, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3199 8082, nativetitleservices@dnrm.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 5 April 2017

Jerkic's title bid fails in split decision



ROCKY Jerkic's undefeated professional boxing career has been ended by Anthony Buttigieg after Jerkic was beaten in a split decision in a Commonwealth super welterweight title fight in Melbourne on March 3.

The Gladstone-born Jerkic, 29, who now lives in Newcastle, was in the tick of things right to the end at the Melbourne Pavilion at Flemington.

Two of the three judges had Melbourne's Buttigieg ahead 115-113 and 114-113, while judge Tony Marretta had scored it 115-113 in Jerkic's favour.

Jerkic had a height and reach advantage over Buttigieg, 28, and went into the fight with a more impressive record, having been undefeated after 15 fights, winning 12 of them inside the distance.

Buttigieg's record had been 12 fights for 12 wins, three by knockout.

They were fighting for a vacant title. Wikipedia says Jerkic was born in Darwin to an Indigenous Australian mother and Croatian father. He was raised by his father; his mother leaving when he was two months old. Wikipedia says that in 2015, he made contact with his mother for the first time since her departure.

GWS team to beat



GREATER Western Sydney (GWS) is the team most favoured by Australian

Football League (AFL) captains to win the 2017 premiership.

The AFL last week released the results of its annual poll of AFL captains on their thoughts on the looming season.

The captains see St Kilda ahead of Melbourne as the best emerging team hoping to force its way into finals action.

As has been the case recently, the club captains were confidentially polled on five key questions on the season ahead and 11 captains saw the Saints playing finals this year, compared with six captains plumping for Melbourne.

The Sydney Swans were the only unanimous choice of every other club to reach the finals.

But the GWS Giants were viewed as the clear team to beat for the premiership.

The captains were asked which seven other teams, apart from their own, could make the finals and which other club, apart from their own, could make the grand final.

A total of 11 different clubs

were considered possible chances to contest the finals and four clubs were considered for a grand final berth. Two rival captains held the view that reigning premiers the Western Bulldogs would miss the finals this year, with the Dogs drawing 15 of a possible 17 votes to reach September action.

Geelong's Patrick Dangerfield was the choice of five captains to win a second consecutive Brownlow Medal, with Marcus Bontempelli, Dan Hannebery and Dustin Martin each drawing two votes apiece.

Reigning John Coleman Medallist Josh Kennedy received four votes as the choice to lead the goalkicking again this season, but Gold Coast's Tom Lynch and the Sydney Swans' Lance Franklin were the choice of six captains each.

Sydney's Callum Mills was correctly nominated by seven captains last year to win the Rising Star Award and claim the Ron Evans Medal and the lead contenders for this year were Essendon's Andrew McGrath (four votes), GWS Giants' Tim Taranto (three votes) and Port Adelaide's Sam Powell-Pepper (three votes).



Sydney Swans' Lance Franklin (pictured) and Gold Coast Suns' Tom Lynch are favoured by six AFL captains to be the leading goalkickers in 2017.

Give Barty time, urges coach

● From back page

"Ash has always been a player who's had a lot of hype around her from an early age.

"I personally just want to see her continue to enjoy the game and I think if she does that, the sky's the limit."

Barty's comeback to tennis took a significant step when she breezed past Japan's Nao Hibino 6-3, 6-2 in a rain-hit Malaysian Open final to win her first WTA singles title in Kuala Lumpur.

The 20-year-old, who only recently returned to tennis after taking time out to play cricket, served seven aces during the match, which was halted for more than an hour in the first set due to rain.

Mentally tough

Barty, who qualified for the main draw, showed her mental tenacity against world number 106 Hibino 6-3, 6-2 in a rain-hit Malaysian Open final to win her first WTA singles title in Kuala Lumpur.

Barty fired on all cylinders. She had come through the qualifiers and only dropped a set en route to the final.

She cut a ferocious figure from the get-go with her powerful ground strokes, which left Hibino reeling on most occasions.

A heavy downpour saw play suspended for almost 90 minutes with Barty leading 4-1 in the first set.

When play resumed, Barty did not let off, resuming in the same attack mode to take the first set 6-3.

She was even more dominant in the second set, working her opponent deep into the baseline with powerful forehand returns to win 6-2 and capture her first professional title.

"It's amazing to have won, it truly is. I am a bit speechless," Barty said.

"I was just happy to come out and play some good tennis today.

"I think it's been a success for us, the start (of 2017); more successful than we thought.

"It's a tribute to all the work we did in the off-season, and last year, coming back. It hasn't quite been 12 months since I started playing singles again. I'm certainly happy to be back."

Barty pocketed \$43,000 for her maiden senior title, while Hibino took home \$23,400.

Barty backed up her singles triumph, winning the doubles final alongside fellow Australian Casey Dellacqua.

The pair beat Nicole Melichar and Makoto Ninomiya 7-6 (7-5), 6-3 after fighting back from 5-1 down in the tie-break in the opening set.

"It's been a monster week for me," Barty said.

'Fantastic tournament'

"I don't think I could have physically played any more matches. I'm very happy to come away with two titles today, but even if we didn't, it would have been a fantastic tournament anyway.

"Now it's just an absolute bonus."

Barty, a Wimbledon junior champion, turned her attention to earning a wildcard entry for the doubles with Casey Dellacqua at Indian Wells last week before contesting the singles and doubles of the Miami Open a week later.

The revival of Barty's career has been one of the more positive stories in Australian tennis during the past 12 months.

She had compiled a glittering junior record, highlighted by winning the

Wimbledon girls title in 2011 when she was 15, but took an indefinite break from the sport before signing a contract with Brisbane Heat in cricket's Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) in 2015.

Barty played nine WBBL matches for the Heat in the 2015/16 season, scoring 68 runs at an average of 11.33, however the switch of sports was short-lived, with Barty announcing her intention to return to tennis in February last year.

She appeared at the Eastbourne grass court event in May where she advanced to the semi-finals of the main draw after going through qualifying.

Barty then made the quarter-finals in Nottingham, but could not progress past qualifying for Wimbledon.

She finished 2016 ranked 325 in the world, but improved on that ranking following a bright start to this season.

She reached round of 16 at the Brisbane International before losing in three sets to then world number one Angelique Kerber.

Barty then launched a spirited run to the third round of the Australian Open, her best finish at her home major. — AAP and Reuters/ABC

Marngrook returns for 2017 AFL season



NITV'S Marngrook Footy Show will return on Thursday, March 23.

Its return will come on the eve of the first Australian Football League (AFL) women's grand final and the beginning of the AFL premiership season.

Marngrook will celebrate its 10th anniversary on air.

Marngrook is a footy show with a difference that celebrates and embraces Australia's diverse multicultural society and champions Indigenous achievement in AFL.

This year, three new match analysts will join hosts Grant Hansen and Gilbert McAdam on the panel, including retired Blue and newly appointed Carlton development coach Andrew Walker, 1996 premiership player and North Melbourne great Wayne Schwass, and Collingwood legend Peter Daicos.

Senior football writer with *The Age* and SEN radio commentator, Rohan Connolly will also join the show to give

his take on all the the latest footy news and events.

Richmond royalty Kevin Bartlett will return in 2017, sharing his invaluable insights and analysis.

Other regular panellists that will shake up the Marngrook desk in 2017 include Doug Hawkins, Robert Dipierdomenico, Robert Walls, Phil Krakouer, and current AFL players Shaun Burgoyne, Daniel Wells, Neville Jetta and Shane Savage.

Leila Gurruwiwi and Shelley Ware return, leading two new segments – Footy Fanatics and Footy Stalwarts.

Footy Fanatics will showcase some of the game's biggest fans and the incredible dedication and support they show their team.

Gurruwiwi and Ware will also highlight the unsung heroes of the game and share stories of the coaches, umpires, medical staff and others who play an important role behind the scenes.

The first episode will preview the games and teams for the first round of the 2017 AFL



The faces of the Marngrook Footy Show, from left, Leila Gurruwiwi, Grant Hansen, Shelley Ware and Gilbert McAdam.

premiership season as well as take a look at the first ever AFL women's grand final. AFL women's players will join Gurruwiwi and Ware on the panel to discuss the success of

their history-making debut season.

The Marngrook Footy Show began as a radio program on community radio in 1997 as an initiative to remedy the under

representation of Indigenous commentators in the football media. The show was broadcast around Australia on the National Indigenous Radio Service.

Foley Shield set to return

By ALF WILSON



THE iconic Foley Shield will again be up for grabs in the 2017 season after a four-year absence.

Hundreds of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander players have lined up for various Foley Shield sides over the decades.

The Foley Shield was named after the late and great Arch Foley and started in 1948 and had a proud history until scrapped because of cost factors.

In the initial grand final three years after World War II ended, Babinda defeated Ayr 7-2 and in the last decider held in 2012, Cairns beat Townsville 30-28.

It was announced in Townsville on February 20 that clashes between Queensland Super Cup teams the Cairns-based Northern Pride, Townsville Blackhawks and Mackay Cutters, and their under 18 and under 20 sides, would count

towards the overall winner of the 2017 Foley Shield.

Legendary Foley Shield players Vern Daisy and Marshall Colwell were among the champion players to line up in many Foley Shield matches and were at the official re-launch.

Next year the QRL Northern Division hopes to again have teams consisting of representative sides from A grade competitions around North Queensland contesting the Foley Shield.

In 2011, a combined Palm Island-Bowen team was part of an eight-side Foley Shield.

A side from Torres Strait-Cape York entered the competition in 2009 at the Townsville Sports Reserve.

Many thought that the side would be thrashed in all its three games.

Torres-Cape cruised into the 2009 grand final with upset qualifying wins over Cairns, a combined Mid West-Mount Isa and 2008 title holder Townsville before losing the decider 32-22 to Innisfail-Eacham.



Vern Daisy, who now lives on Palm Island, was at the re-launch of the Foley Shield. Picture: Alf Wilson

Alby wants recognition for his trifecta of feats



AT 82, Alby Clarke just can't keep still. The Warrnambool Aboriginal athlete is now seeking recognition for his

three major sporting achievements – completing the 2001 275km Melbourne-Warrnambool cycle race at the age of 66, finishing the Cliff Young Ultra-Marathon at the age of 70 in Colac in 2005 (347km in six days around an oval), and being the only person over the age of 80 to complete the 2015 21km Adelaide Masters Half-Marathon.

Alby is the recipient of the

Australia Day Order of Australia Medal (General) for his contribution to Aboriginal health.

But he reckons the OAM recognition made no reference to his trifecta of personal achievements and he says the people who deal with Australia Day awards are revisiting his award.

Alby told his local Warrnambool newspaper that he started running 12 years ago "and I haven't stopped".

"I used to be a bike rider. I rode the Melbourne to Warrnambool in 2001, but when I retired from that, I took up running," he said.



Alby Clarke in his cycling days.

Brooke Peris to be rested



BROOKE Peris will sit out the Hawkes Bay Cup hockey tournament in Hastings, New Zealand, next month.

She and another couple of regular senior players are being rested ahead of a hectic international schedule.

Another Indigenous player, Mariah Williams (Parkes, NSW), is in the Hawkes Bay Cup squad.

Hockey Australia last week announced four new members to the 2017 Hockeyroos squad, in addition to the touring team that will contest the Hawkes Bay Cup.

The selections followed a week-long camp at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) in Canberra.

Our 10.3% of AFL

AS the Australian Football League (AFL) reaches a massive total of 85 Indigenous players (or 10.3% of the player population across its landscape) for the 2017 campaign, the *Koori Mail's* Peter Argent navigates through the breadth of talent that will excite fans this year.

Adelaide Crows (6)

Eddie Betts, Charlie Cameron, Ben Davis, Cam Ellis-Yolmen, Curtly Hampton, Wayne Milera

Eddie Betts is now a bona fide superstar of the game, having taken his game to All-Australia levels over the past couple of seasons. Runner-up to the club champion last year, Betts is a critical component in the Crows' success this year.

Charlie Cameron, now regarded as a first choice player, is a potent part of the midfield/forward options.

With strong pre-season form and after spending the 2016 campaign in the SANFL, this is a big year for Curtly Hampton.

Wayne Milera is expected to build from his promising first season, while it was a heartbreaking start to 2016 in a critical year for Cameron Ellis-Yolmen, who injured his ACL in the first pre-season fixture against Richmond.

For Ben Davis, a key forward from Sydney, his first season will be a development year.



Eddie Betts

Brisbane Lions (2)

Allen Christensen, Cedric Cox

Allen Christensen, a premiership player with Geelong in his first season (2011), will enter his third year with the Lions. He played 11 games in 2016 before a collarbone injury finished his campaign.

Cedric Cox, a classy and balanced first-year Lion, will be looking for opportunities. His chances will be helped by a new management structure at Brisbane.

Carlton (4)

Liam Jones, Kym LeBois, Sam Petrevski-Seton, Jarrod Pickett

Liam Jones, a second-generation AFL footballer at his second club, has played just 19 games in his first two seasons at the Blues after 64 games in five years at the Bulldogs. At 26, the 197cm forward must now deliver on his potential in this pivotal year.

Sam Petrevski-Seton, who was collected at number six overall in the 2016 draft, is a dynamic player who will work his way into the cut and thrust of football at the top level.

Jarrod Pickett, coming from the Giants as the number four selection 2014 AFL draft, is yet to play AFL football. Pickett now needs to deliver on his junior potential.

After an injury-plagued 2016 draft, Ceduna lad Kym LeBois found a rookie spot on the Blues list. His goal of the year contender in his first pre-season fixture displayed the breathtaking talent he has.



Jarrod Pickett

Collingwood (4)

Kayle Kirby, Mitchell McCarthy, Travis Varcoe, Daniel Wells

High-profile recruit Daniel Wells is still struggling with a calf injury in his initial pre-season with the Magpies. Coach Nathan Buckley has already conceded he'd be happy with 15 games from the smooth-moving midfielder who came across from the Kangaroos this season.

South Australian Travis Varcoe is now entering his eleventh season of AFL football. A dual premiership player with the Cats, he moved to Collingwood in 2015 and has been a consistent player in black and white.

Kayle Kirby, from Lake Boga, played two VFL games with Richmond last year and has raw talent and a physical game.

Rookie Mitchell McCarthy comes from basketball heritage. He played American college hoops in 2015, displaying impressive core skills with Dandenong Stingrays last year.

Essendon (3)

Yestin Eades, Jake Long, Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti

Tiwi Islander Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti received opportunities and had a breakout initial season in 2016. With many players returning from suspension, he will need to continue his dynamic approach to stay in the first XXII.

Jake Long and Yestin Eades, who has been released by the Bombers for personal reasons, are rookies.

The son of club champion Michael Long, Jake played three AFL games last year and needs to work on his natural talents.

Fremantle (11)

Harley Bennell, Brady Grey, Jonathon Griffin, Joel Hamling, Bradley Hill, Stephen Hill, Michael Johnson, Alex Pearce, Danyle Pearce, Michael Walters, Shane Yarran

The team with the greatest Indigenous content is the Fremantle Dockers and all

11 are capable of playing at the top level this year.

After triple premiership success with the Hawks, Brad Hill has renewed acquaintances with his older brother Stephen and both are expected to be key pillars for the Dockers.

After playing a vital role in the Western Bulldogs grand final on Lance Franklin, Joel Hamling has returned to his home state and will strengthen Fremantle's defence.

Small forward Michael Walters has recently signed with Fremantle until 2020.

After being forced out for the 2016 season with knee and hamstring injuries, and after four games last year, veteran Michael Johnson will be looking for sustainability with his body this year.

Despite travelling to Germany to receive specialist treatment on a calf injury, Harley Bennell has already been ruled out for round one this year. He is still yet to don the Dockers jumper.

After two senior games in 2016, Brady Grey endured a mid-year ankle injury that ended his season. He was initially delisted, and then re-rookied.

Jonathon Griffin, a second-string ruckman behind Aaron Sandilands, has played 90 games across a career that has spanned more than a decade and started with Adelaide in 2007.

Another Tasmanian, Alex Pearce, played eight games last year until sustaining a fractured tibia and needs to continue his development.

Former South Australian Danyle Pearce played every game in 2016 and needs just two to achieve the 250-game milestone at AFL level.

After six games in his debut season of 2016 at 27, the Fremantle Dockers and forward Shane Yarran have agreed that it was in his best interests to retire from AFL football.



Michael Johnson

Geelong (5)

Nakia Cockatoo, Jamaine Jones, Steven Motlop, Quinton Narkle, Brandon Parfitt

After 21 senior games in his first two years, Darwin lad Nakia Cockatoo will be looking to cement his place in the Cats' first XXII this year.

Much maligned Steven Motlop kicked 38 goals from 24 games as a forward/midfielder in 2016 after being runner-up to the best and fairest in 2015. He is an excitement machine who could look for a little more consistency.

Another Top End talent, 2016 draftee Brandon Parfitt has displayed signs in the pre-season that he is ready to be promoted for a start at AFL level.

Broken Hill-born Jamaine Jones has

already played in a senior country premiership at 16 with Heywood. In a football career (and life) that has had plenty of twists and turns already, he models his game on Cyril Rioli.

Quinton Narkle was drafted as a 19-year-old and will need to learn his trade in the VFL initially.



Brandon Parfitt

Gold Coast (6)

Callum Ah Chee, Jarrod Harbrow, Sean Lemmens, Jack Martin, Brandon Matera, Steven May

Strong and powerfully built defender Steven May has been honoured with the role of co-captain of the Suns this year. Regarded as one of the game's best fullbacks, May should achieve his 100-game milestone this season.

Jack Martin, playing 21 games last year, gave the AFL landscape a glimpse into his prodigious talent and now needs to build from that.

Reliable defender Jarrod Harbrow will turn 29 during this season and, injury not withstanding, should become a 200-game AFL footballer.

Callum Ah Chee, who is noted for his evasive skills and X-factor, played 16 games in his first season and needs to continue to grow his game from this strong base.

SA export Sean Lemmons is fearless and an excellent reader of the play, and has played 49 games in three seasons. He needs to work on his skill execution.

Brandon Matera, who was secured by the Suns as a 17-year-old in their inaugural season, plays the tough role as a small forward. He kicked 24 goals last year and would like to increase that to over 40.

Greater Western Sydney (3)

Jeremy Finlayson, Zac Williams, Nathan Wilson

Nathan Wilson was pre-listed by the Giants as a 17-year-old in 2010 and has become a regular member of the GWS defence, along with NSW product Zac Williams. Both have now played 53 senior games and will continue to strive for consistency in 2017 for the flag favourites.

From Culcairn, in southern NSW, and drafted from the Giants Academy, Jeremy Finlayson is now in his second year on the GWS senior list.

After spending 2016 in the NEAFL he

● Continued facing page

2017 playing list

● From previous page

will be looking for his first opportunity at the top level.

Hawthorn (3)

Shaun Burgoyne, Kieran Lovell, Cyril Rioli

Like a fine wine, Shaun Burgoyne is just becoming more dynamic, complex and smoother with age. Now a 300-game veteran, he has a highly decorated career and still has the capacity to be a match-winner in each third of the ground.

Cyril Rioli – one of, if not the best value for touch footballers across the AFL – is one of the most exciting and spectacular players in the code, both offensively and with his tackling pressure. Four premierships and a Norm Smith Medal are testament to his brilliance.

Standing just 173cm tall, Kieran Lovell is a ball magnet who received two AFL games in his first season in a strong Hawks outfit.



Shaun Burgoyne with the ball with Port Adelaide's Jarman Impey in pursuit.

Melbourne (4)

Jeff Garlett, Neville Jetta, Dion Johnstone, Jay Kennedy-Harris

After injuring his hamstring on three occasions, Jay Kennedy-Harris didn't add to his 22 AFL games in his first two years during 2016. This is a critical season for the small forward.

Jeff Garlett, after 29 goals in 17 matches last year, has played 142 games across nine seasons with traditional Melbourne clubs, the Demons and Carlton.

Dion Johnstone captained Scotch College to a title in 2016 and kicked 21 goals in 11 matches for the Oakleigh Chargers in the TAC Cup.

First playing at the top level in 2009, after 16 games in the 2015 and 2016 campaigns, Neville Jetta played a career-high 21 games last year and is now seen as a first-choice player. He had a career-high 26-possession game in the match against Freo last season as well.

North Melbourne (4)

Paul Ahern, Jed Anderson, Jy Simpkin, Lindsay Thomas

Lindsay Thomas from Port Lincoln, who seems to polarise opinion, comes into the 2017 season requiring just four matches to become a 200-game AFL player. The Roos will be looking for another 50-plus goal season from the left footer.

Injury reduced Jed Anderson's output to 10 games in 2016 and another 10 across three years at the Hawks. He has a pivotal year in developing this winter.

Jy Simpkin, who broke a leg in a school game last April, still rated enough to be collected by North Melbourne at number 12 overall last year. He is expected to debut during this season.

After enduring a second reconstruction during September 2016, Paul Ahern was traded from the Giants to Arden Street. He is expected to miss the majority of this season.

Port Adelaide (10)

Brendon Ah Chee, Karl Amon, Jarman Impey, Aidyn Johnson, Nathan Krakouer, Jake Neade, Sam Powell-Pepper, Patrick Ryder, Chad Wingard, Jarrod Lienert

In what is a critical year for the Power under Ken Hinkley's regime, Chad Wingard is expected to spend more time in the middle of the ground to add to his effectiveness as a small forward.

Patrick Ryder returns after his season in the wilderness and will shoulder the club's ruck responsibilities.

First-year player Sam Powell-Pepper has impressed with his robust attack on the ball, while journeyman Nathan Krakouer will start on the sidelines after a one-match suspension during the pre-season.

Despite pre-season misdemeanours, elite athlete Jarman Impey is seen as an important part of the Power structure.

Jake Neade, in his fifth season at Alberton and after 51 senior games, needs to take his game to the next level.

Karl Amon, an emerging player at Port Adelaide, needs to continue to grow in his role at Port.

Brendon Ah Chee is a special talent who can deliver in all aspects of the game – the big mark, a freak goal, or the creative handball – but he needs to deliver it more consistently.

Aidyn Johnson has electrifying pace and was a member of Laguntas Academy. Having played SANFL football in his first season, he will be looking for AFL opportunities this year.

Rookie Jarrod Lienert had a breakout finals series in the SANFL with premiers Sturt last year, which saw this opportunity arrive.

Richmond Tigers (6)

Shai Bolton, Nathan Drummond, Shane Edwards, Daniel Rioli, Tyson Stengle, Chris Yarran

Senior Indigenous player Shane Edwards has been a consistent servant since his debut in 2007. He is on track to become a 200-game AFL footballer in the middle of the season.

Daniel Rioli, despite the pressures of his famous name, had a strong first season last year. Also wearing the 17 jumper for the Tigers, Rioli played 18 games last year.

Shai Bolton is seen as a small forward with a turn of speed and aerial skills. He has real X-factor and the ability to impact games in a short period.

After rupturing his anterior cruciate ligament on debut in 2015, Nathan Drummond returned late in the season and added four more games last year. Look for his tally to grow this year.

Alex Stengle, a nephew of Sydney Swans icon Michael O'Loughlin, showed plenty of football smarts at the national under 18 championships last year and will initially ply his trade in the VFL this year.

Chris Yarran was released from his contract during November 2016 to allow him to deal with ongoing personal issues.



The Richmond Tigers pair of Shane Edwards, left, and Daniel Rioli.

St Kilda (3)

Jade Gresham, Ben Long, Koby Stevens

Jade Gresham – the Saints' first pick in the 2015 draft – gave every indication he will be a long-term prospect for the Saints. He played 18 games in his first season as a small forward/midfielder and has already displayed leadership capabilities.

Koby Stevens – now at his third club – was traded to St Kilda at the conclusion of the 2016 season. He started at the West Coast, playing 11 games over three seasons from 2010, and became a regular contributor at the Western Bulldogs, playing 62 games over four seasons.

Ben Long has been recruited to the Saints after playing seven games for Footscray in the VFL, including the premiership win over Casey Scorpions at the back end of 2016.

He is a versatile medium-sized player and a member of the extended Long clan.

Sydney Swans (2)

Shaun Edwards, Lance Franklin

Both the Swans' Indigenous players are at different ends of the football spectrum. Lance 'Buddy' Franklin is a superstar of the competition and one of the leading forwards in the AFL.

Last year he kicked 81 goals across 26 games and now has a career haul of 787, averaging 3.2 goals a match over more than a decade after debuting at the start of 2005.

Shaun Edwards, after having previously played for two years at the GWS Giants and three seasons with the Essendon Bombers, totalled 12 games at each club, having been given a final opportunity on the Swans rookie list. He must make a mark on the NEAFL to press for senior claims.

West Coast Eagles (6)

Josh Hill, Lewis Jetta, Malcolm Karpany, Willie Rioli, Francis Watson, Sharrod Wellingham

Lewis Jetta, a premiership player with

Sydney in 2012, returned to the west after 127 games. His 2016 season was modest with 12 games, and he now needs to deliver in the blue and gold.

Josh Hill, another Sandgroper who has returned home, has developed into a consistent medium forward, and is expected to become a 100-game player with West Coast this year after 66 games in five years with the Bulldogs.

Malcolm Karpany, in his fourth year on the Eagles, has just played one game in his first three seasons, debuting against Collingwood last year. This is a big campaign for the lad from the Yorke Peninsula.

Tiwi Islander Willie Rioli worked hard to get his first opportunity on an AFL list, but was struck down with a hamstring injury that required surgery, which means he'll have a late start to this season and his AFL career.

Sharrod Wellingham, yet another Indigenous talent returning from the east after a premiership and 92 games with the Magpies from 2008 to 2012, is now a senior member of the Eagles list.

Kimberley product Francis Watson is a mature-age recruit who filled the last spot on the Eagles' list as a Category B rookie.



Sharrod Wellingham

Western Bulldogs (2)

Brad Lynch, Tristan Tweedie

At 190cm and 94kg, the strongly built Tristan Tweedie was selected by the Western Bulldogs as a Category B rookie in early December 2016 through its Next Generation Academy.

Tweedie played two games of football in 2016 before injury ended his season, kicking six goals in a TAC Cup match and displaying strong play-making skills.

Brad Lynch, a raw rebounding defender from Swan Districts in the west, showed considerable improvement over the course of 2016 and was a member of Footscray's VFL flag, displaying plenty of agility and pace.

Thomas joins Angaston Panthers

By PETER ARGENT



NYANI Thomas has signed with the Angaston Panthers in the 2017 Barossa and Light (Australian) Football Association, joining Tylah Saunders, Jamal McKenzie and new recruit Daniel

Scott-Collings.

"My full name is actually Nyangu, and I lived at Uluru as a toddler, and that's where my parents got my name," Thomas told the *Koori Mail*.

"We then moved to Port Augusta and then lived in the Kimberley for a short time before my senior schooling at Brighton High, in Adelaide.

"My first passion was basketball and I didn't start playing footy until I was in my mid teens."

Thomas, who is a cousin of North Melbourne forward Lindsay, started playing with the Morphettville Park Roos before moving to Glenelg.

He enjoyed an under 19s premiership with the Bays in 2006 alongside Daniel Scott Collings and also played reserves football under current Eagles senior coach Michael Godden, in the Tigers' black and gold.

"I played hoops for the South Adelaide Panthers back in the days that I could dunk," Thomas continued.

"In my (Australian football) draft year, I had a serious ankle injury, which forced me on to the sidelines for 18 months and ruined any opportunities.

"I then moved house – down to the Semaphore – and asked to have a run at Port Adelaide.

"While I didn't get a game in the seniors,



Nyani Thomas in action for Port Adelaide in the 2010 SANFL reserves grand final. Picture: Peter Argent

one of the highlights was the SANFL reserves premiership against Sturt in 2010."

Thomas played in that flag alongside fellow Aboriginal talents Peter Lindsay and George Long, as well as siblings Terry and Tim Milera, and is delighted there is a strong Indigenous contingent that will be wearing the Panthers' blue and white this year.

Thomas, 28, is a 189cm, 100kg utility and is keen to play a variety of roles and pinch-hit in the midfield rotations.

For the past three seasons Thomas played with the Border Districts Football Club, in the expansive Kowree-Naracoorte-Tatiara competition.

The Eagles are based at Frances, in the far east region of the state, and he concedes that long travel had taken its toll.

Panthers second-year coach Paul Sherwood said Angaston now had a 'fab four' of Aboriginal talent for the season ahead.

"Nyani brings experience, strength and

versatility to the squad," Sherwood said.

"He was at Glenelg in my last couple of years there and has had senior involvement at two different clubs.

"We are hoping to use Nyani across half back and half forward, as well as pinch hitting through the middle.

"Along with being a good size, Nyani can take a grab and can run offensively."

Angaston's first game in this year's campaign is against Nuriootpa on Anzac Day.

Legend lends his name

By CHRIS PIKE



STEPHEN Michael could very well be the greatest player in the history of the South Fremantle Football Club in the West Australian Football League (WAFL) and now a foundation has been started in his name to help Indigenous youth and young adults.

Michael is a legendary figure in WA football, having played 243 games with South Fremantle in the WAFL between 1975 and 1985.

He only doesn't have a higher profile nationally because he played his entire career in WA. There is little question if he decided to go and play in the AFL, then VFL, he would have been a major star.

But he already had a brilliant career out west with two Sandover Medal wins as the best player in the WAFL and five club fairest and best awards. He has since been inducted into the South Fremantle Hall of Fame, WA Football Hall of Fame and Australian Football Hall of Fame.

That's why his name being associated with this youth development fund is significant and all the pieces are now coming together to bring it to fruition.

He has always been proud of the accepting nature of South Fremantle and that's why he is glad to stay involved where he can.

"In a club like South, there is no them or us racism. If we can help kids out, show them the right roads, then it is open for everyone and that's the way I want this to work," Michael said.

"I am very fortunate. Footy opened doors for me and sport can open doors for anyone. Even though I was born in Wagin, raised in Kojonup and live in Collie, I always say South

Fremantle is my home because of the opportunity this football club gave me.

"I don't need people to say I am a champion or bow down to me. I come back to a place where the people respect me and I respect the people."

Labor's recent win in the WA state election was good news for the Stephen Michael Foundation as well. Labor had committed \$300,000 to support young players in South Fremantle's zone to settle into the community and provide them with opportunities to grow as people and footballers.

The aim of the Stephen Michael Foundation Youth Development Fund is to open up opportunities for youth and young adults in the local community as well as in the club's zone areas throughout WA.

College partnership

The first partnership for the foundation has already been announced with Fremantle College, which will open its doors in 2018. As part of that, the Stephen Michael Foundation will deliver a specialist football program for students ranging from Years 7 to 12.

That will have a strong focus on attracting young male and female footballers to be part of the foundation to develop as players and people.

If they end up playing with South Fremantle in the WAFL, that would be a bonus. New club chief executive Tom Bottrell, himself a life member of the Bulldogs, is proud to have played a big part in launching the initiative.

"Stephen Michael is regarded by many as the best player in the club's history," Bottrell said.

"The fact that he is equally as good a person gives fantastic credibility to the foundation and we are thankful Stephen has agreed to be involved."



South Fremantle legend Stephen Michael being interviewed.

Rabbits on the hop

RUGBY LEAGUE



With PRESTON CAMPBELL

AFTER a devastating first round loss to the Wests Tigers and a season-ending injury to Greg Inglis, National Rugby League (NRL) critics were very quick to write off the Rabbitohs.

But with adversity comes opportunity and three Aboriginal players have shown they are capable of rising to the challenge.

Fullback Alex Johnston looked right at home in the position, grabbing a double in the Bunnies' 20-point win over Manly at Brookvale.

"I love playing at fullback. I played there in my juniors and a bit during the pre-season, and I guess really I just want to get more time there," he said.

He benefited from the strong performance of Cody Walker, who was not only my player of the match, but the player I expect to shine for Souths this season.

Much-needed spine

Johnston grabbed his 50th and 51st first-grade tries in the second half, thriving in a new-look spine that featured a returning Adam Reynolds, Walker and, at times, both hookers, Damien Cook and Robbie Farah.

"Hopefully, that combination keeps growing and we get some more tries out of it," Johnston said.

Johnston has filled in at fullback in the past, but many were sceptical that he was going to be up to the task. But the Rabbitohs junior says he shuts the criticism out, and it showed against Manly.

"I just try and not listen to that at all – I've got to be confident in what I can do and really for me, it was going out there tonight and just trying to prove to myself as much as anyone else that I can play the position.

"GI's obviously one of the best in the world, if not the best fullback out there. I tried not to let that get into my mind at all and I just went out there to play



Alex Johnston scores for the Bunnies in their commanding win over the Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles in the NRL round two match at Brookvale Oval on March 11. Picture: AAP

the best football I can – Alex Johnston-style footy."

"I just try to take confidence that I can grow into the position."

Johnston also praised an "outstanding" Braidon Burns, who filled the now-vacant wing spot, and said it was a shame he couldn't grab a try on debut.

Burns is a talented 20-year-old who has beaten the odds to be playing in the NRL.

Both his parents are in jail and although he keeps in contact with his mother, he has basically had to fend for himself and his brother.

"They went down the wrong path when they were young, made some bad decisions, and it's impacted on me and my younger brother," Burns said.

"We distanced ourselves from them and tried to let them sort their stuff out.

"When they get out of jail, which will be some time later this year, we'll be happy to help them.

"They call every now and then. I still love them. I last spoke to Dad about four months ago. Mum was a bit longer, but she writes me letters.

"I saw it all growing up.

"I've never touched drugs, and seen what it has done to people."

Burns grew up in Coonamble, a town of 3000 about 160km north of Dubbo, and was mostly raised by his grandmother Gail.

The 20-year-old was awarded an Aboriginal scholarship to attend the prestigious St Joseph's College in Hunters Hill, and was handy at rugby.

"I didn't enjoy union as much

as league, but the most important thing was I was getting away from the bad stuff back home, and that helped me," Burns said.

"Seeing how other people lived and other families that made me want more.

"Footy is everything. Every time I've been in a bad mood, I'd either watch footy or play footy."

Burns returned to St Stanislaus College in Bathurst to complete his studies before he signed a deal with the Penrith Panthers.

Since arriving at Souths, he has continued to show promise and I was not surprised to see that he handled the rise to the NRL with ease.

If he needs any advice on how to handle the rise, he has Cody Walker on hand to guide him.

I was always surprised that Cody did not get an opportunity at the top level earlier as I witnessed his talent when he was coming through the ranks at the Titans.

Maturity

But perhaps his maturity as a player is a result of having to bide his time.

He has been a stand-out for the Rabbitohs and his combination with Adam Reynolds at half will guide the Rabbits' destiny this year.

Reynolds was full of praise for Cody following the game against Manly and spoke of how important they were to give Johnston the opportunity to shine at fullback.

"Me and Cody and Robbie's (Farah) job is to take a bit of



Cody Walker in action for the Rabbitohs against Parramatta last June. Picture: AAP

pressure off him; he's a key member of our team," said Reynolds of 22-year-old Johnston.

But as good as Johnston was, Reynolds saved his highest praise for his halves partner.

"I thought Cody was our best player today. He was one of our best players last year. He's come on to the scene and he hasn't taken a backward step," he said.

"It's taken him a while to get into first grade, but he's not missing a beat now."

This is a partnership of opportunity.

Add the injection of the raw

talent of Braidon Burns and the year ahead for the Rabbitohs is looking far more promising.

This is not to underestimate the loss of GI.

You simply cannot replace a player of GI's quality.

But Greg is not entirely lost to the team.

Who better to mentor Johnston and Burns in their development than the great man himself?

The Rabbitohs are back to having the strongest contingent of Indigenous players in the NRL.

I will be backing their talent across the year.

Ella 7s a big hit



KNIGHT RIDERS beat Skindogs 28-21 in the final of the Ella Sevens rugby union tournament at Coffs Harbour on March 4.

Knight Riders qualified for the final by beating Pindarri 14-10 in their semi-final, while Skindogs accounted for Casino Scorchers 28-0 in the other semi-final.

To qualify for the final, the teams contested three rounds of pool matches, then qualifying finals and semi-finals.

Cabbage Tree Island Canecutters won the Men's Plate final, beating North Storm 33-24.

In the final of the Men's Bowl division, the Gordon Stags and Tweed Connexions played a 17-all draw.

In the Men's Shield division, Sydney Sea Turtles beat Inverell Tingha Ashford Connection 28-0.

The Redfern All Blacks won the Women's Cup division, beating Highlanders 36-7 in the final.

In the Women's Plate final, North West Barbarians beat La Perouse 10-7.

Redfern qualified for the Cup final by beating Lapa 27-0, while Highlanders reached the final with a 7-0 win over Highlanders.

The Central Queensland Black Magic Sevens (men's) team and women's team, the Highlanders, were the only teams from Queensland at the Coffs tournament.

Both teams were predominantly made up of Central Queensland players.

Rhianna Revell-Blair, formerly of Clermont, was in the Highlanders team. She has been named in the Australia Rugby Union under 18 Youth Commonwealth Squad.

It was the fourth time the Highlanders had made it to the tournament.



Harry Beckers and Glen Ella with Gordon Stags men's Bowl winning captain Alex Barker.



Men's Cup winners Knight Riders with their trophy. Pictures: Rob Cleary/Seen Australia



Men's best and fairest, Stevie Brandon, of Knight Riders.



Touch judge Chyna Howlet keeps a keen eye on the action.



● LEFT: A Highlanders player looks for support in the game against the North West Barbarians.
● ABOVE: A Cabbage Tree Island player about to pass the ball.

at Coffs Harbour



Women's Cup winners Redfern All Blacks.



Former dual international Andrew Walker (Knight Riders) and Darren Heron.



Rhianna Revell-Blair, who is one of three Indigenous girls in the Australian Rugby Union expanded squad preparing for the 2017 Commonwealth Youth Games in the Bahamas in July, tries to fend off a Redfern player.



● ABOVE: It's a case of who's the quickest in the game between Highlanders (centre) and the North West Barbarians.

● LEFT: Women's Cup runner-up players Kaitlan Moss, left, and Asta Naden, from Highlanders, with Harry Beckers and Lloyd McDermott Rugby Development CEO Tom Evans, right.



● ABOVE: A Redfern All Blacks player attempts to break the Highlanders defence.
● LEFT: A Gordon Stags player is grabbed by a Tweed Connexions defender.

Stan Grant to be guest speaker

STAN Grant will be the guest speaker at the annual Lloyd McDermott Rugby Development Team (LMRDT) fundraising dinner in Sydney on Wednesday, April 12.

It will be held from 6.30pm at Dockside, Darling Harbour, Cockle Bay Wharf.

The LMRDT is a not-for-profit organisation that operates on donations, sponsorship and grants.

It was founded more than 20 years ago with a mission to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in Rugby. Tickets are \$220 per

person or \$2000 for a table of 10. Dress is attire suit or cocktail dress.

Bookings can be made online at www.revolutionise.com.au/lloydi es/events/2365/

Further details: Tom Evans (02) 8030 3334 or tom.evans@rugby.com.au

Buddy's new weapon

Magic's Moments



With **MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN**

magic@koorimail.com

GOOD players don't necessarily make good coaches. Great players often have less success at a coaching level due to the fact that they were naturally gifted at what they did.

This does not mean that they did not have to work hard to achieve greatness.

It just means that they did not have to learn these skills in the same manner an 'average'

player developed their ability.

That said, it sometimes takes a great former player to relate to a current great in a meaningful way.

This can be in a coaching relationship or in a broader mentor role.

This is why I am excited by the announcement that my former teammate Tony Lockett – the AFL's all-time leading goal scorer – will work with the Swans in a part-time role as a forwards and goal-kicking coach some 15 years after hanging up his boots.

He received a standing ovation from the Sydney faithful when Swans chairman Andrew Pridham made the official announcement of his return at the recent Swans guernsey presentation and Hall of Fame induction.

The prospect of Lockett working alongside Buddy Franklin is an exciting prospect. It could see Buddy rise to even greater levels as the Swans are desperate to bring the flag back to Sydney.

Lockett has kept a relatively low profile since retiring in 2002. His most recent public appearance was when he became the 26th player to be awarded legend status in the AFL Hall of Fame in June 2015.

However, Lockett also made a rare public appearance to present Franklin with the 2014 Coleman Medal at the Swans'

best and fairest awards night and is keen to work with him.

It's Lockett's first role with a football club, in any capacity, since his retirement.

Coach John Longmire was behind the push to bring Lockett back to the club where he spent six years and kicked an impressive 462 goals.

"For him, the timing seemed to be right," Longmire said.

"I've spoken over a few years about Tony coming back and just popping in for a training session here and there and saying g'day to the boys. It's good to have him around. They really enjoyed having him at training.

"He will be here once every couple of weeks and help with our early training sessions. He will work with players on their goal kicking. He will listen to them and get to know them and help when we can. He will be another resource and a pretty handy one.

"He obviously knows a thing or two about goal-kicking, and to be able to draw upon that experience and knowledge can only be a good thing for our players."

Though the Brownlow medallist, four-time Coleman medallist and five-time All-Australian will be largely remembered for his goals, one of his most memorable kicks was actually a behind.

Lockett kicked a point after

the siren against Essendon in 1996 to put the Swans into their first grand final since moving to Sydney, a moment immortalised by vision of teammates running from everywhere to celebrate with him in the centre of the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

I am not the only person who believes 'Plugger' has the potential to take Franklin's game to another level.

Recently announced Swans Hall of Famer Jude Bolton is of the same opinion.

Partnership

According to Bolton, the signing of Lockett creates one of the most formidable partnerships ever seen in the AFL.

'Plugger' will also be working closely with Kurt Tippett and Sam Reid, both on track for big seasons after injury-plagued years in 2016, and Bolton said the trio would benefit immeasurably from Lockett's unparalleled experience.

"He was such a special player that could understand ball movement and read the play and he was deceptively quick as well," Bolton said.

"It's not just the kicking, it's the little nuances of the game, he just knows. I get a sense that he hasn't watched much footy lately but you don't need to when you're that sort of player.

"He just knows how to

manipulate his opponent and get to the right spot, and just his fluency of kick is unbelievable.

"What a wealth of knowledge to draw upon, (there's) no better kick for goal. To have him and also Nick Davis teaching some of the young guys, it's just a really special thing.

"I still look back and I can remember 2005 and passing the phone around as we were on the bus going to the hotel before a grand final and someone passed the phone and said it's 'Plugger' on the phone.

"Just the lift on everyone's face when you get a chance to speak to him.

"I can still remember my first kick to him at training and I butchered it. I was that overwhelmed that I was kicking to the greatest goal kicker of all time. I missed him by a mile and he gave me a bit of a disgruntled look."

The potential impact of Lockett cannot be underestimated.

If he can establish a special relationship with Buddy, we could see Franklin's already stellar career go to a completely new level.

With the season yet to start, I am already excited.

The 'Plugger-Buddy' partnership has me even more excited.

Until Next Time... Keep Dreaming!

Matildas' heartbreak loss



THE Australian Matildas finished fourth at the Algarve Cup in Portugal following a dramatic penalty shootout

loss to Denmark on March 9.

The bronze medal match went straight to penalties after scores were locked at 1-1 after 90 minutes.

That was when Danish keeper Stina Lykke became the hero, pulling off two sensational stops to deny Claire Polkinghorne and Sam Kerr from the spot as the Danes won 4-1 on penalties.

It was a heartbreaking end to an excellent tournament by the Matildas. They dominated the first half against Denmark and deservedly took a 1-0 lead to the break thanks to Kyah Simon's goal. After Katrina Gorry swooped on a poor Danish clearance, she played a one-two with Simon before driving to the byline and squaring it for the striker to pounce from close range.

The second half was a tight affair with few chances until 10 minutes from time when Denmark equalised on the counter attack.

Neither side was able to find a winner in a tense finish before the Danes prevailed on spot-kicks.

The result meant the Matildas had to settle for a fourth-placed finish after topping Group C with wins over The Netherlands and China.



China's Wang Shanshan tries to control possession while being challenged by Indigenous Australian Kyah Simon during the Group C soccer match at the women's Algarve Cup tournament at Albufeira Municipal Stadium, Portugal, on March 6. Picture: EPA

Ash's three wickets in decider



ASHLEIGH Gardner's star continues to rise after impressive bowling against New Zealand in the third and deciding one-day international at Bay Oval, Mount Maunganui, on March 5.

After hitting the winning runs to square the series a few days earlier at the same venue, Gardner was not required to bat in the deciding match after Australia replied to New Zealand's 9-270 with 5-273 off 49.2 overs.

But the Aboriginal star played a big part in the New Zealand innings, finishing with 3-56 from her 10 overs.

One of her victims was outstanding New Zealand batter Amy Satterthwaite, who fell just short of a fifth consecutive one-day international century when dismissed for 85 in the second match.

Satterthwaite was bowled by Gardner for 11 in the third game.

Next on the Australian women's cricket calendar is the ICC Women's World Cup in England in late June and early July.

Australia's first match is against the West Indies at Taunton on June 26, followed by other qualifying matches against Sri Lanka, New Zealand and Pakistan.

St Mary's win again

By PETER ARGENT



THE St Mary's 'Green Machine' legend continues to grow. On the biggest day of the 2016-17 Northern Territory Football League (NTFL) season at TIO Stadium last Saturday evening, the Saints downed the Wanderers Eagles (Muk Muk) by eight goals to take the title.

It was the 32nd flag from 49 grand final appearances for the dominant St Mary's club, which started in 1952.

Minor premiers the Saints were favourites going into the decider. The Wanderers had to endure three games in 12 days after the second semi-final was postponed due to cyclone threat.

In the fourth successive grand final contest between these two clubs, the Green Machine kicked three of the first four goals of the clash in the opening 10 minutes, before the rest of the first half became a game of attrition.

St Mary's led by 16 at the main break and forced that margin out to 29 points at lemons.

Darren Ewing kicked two early goals in the final term, and when Francis Kinthari snapped a major, the contest was over. Ben Rioli got into the goal-kicking act as well.

The final score was 13.7 (85) to 4.13 (37).

Among the Indigenous players who had a significant impact for the victors were seasoned midfielder Shannon Rioli, Michael Coombes, former 85-game St Kilda player Raphael Clarke



St Mary's young guns Ben Rioli, Nick Yarran and Anthony Wilson enjoy their NTFL grand final victory in Darwin.

and the pacey Anthony Wilson.

Nick Yarran, the NTFL's Rookie of the Year, significantly injured his ankle ligaments early in the game, but displayed great

courage to return to the contest.

Jack Long was solid in defence in his milestone 100th game, while St Mary's backman John Anstess enjoyed an amazing ninth

premier league flag for the club.

For the vanquished, robust big man Neil Vea Vea played hard all game and was high among best players for both teams.

Mitchell Taylor was strong,

especially in the first half, while fly-in footballer from Adelaide Marlon Motlop delivered outside runs.

Tokyo Olympics are incentive

By CHRIS PIKE



JANICE Blackman, Stacey Porter and Vanessa Stokes are in the Australian

women's softball squad for 2017 with a long-term vision to represent their country at the 2020 Olympic Games.

Softball will return to the Olympics in Tokyo in three years and there's every chance that Indigenous trio Blackman, Porter and Stokes will be part of that Australian team shooting to win a medal.

The trio all recently took part in the Down Under Series against Japan and New Zealand in Sydney, and were key parts of the Aussie Spirit team that ended up finishing second in the four-team competition.

Australia went on to win four of six games to finish behind the unbeaten Japan, but ahead of the All-Stars and New Zealand at Blacktown International Sportspark.

The tournament began with a

7-1 victory over New Zealand.

The Aussies next beat the All-Stars 7-0.

Things were much tougher against Japan, with just the one run scored in the match, and that went to Japan.

Then came a 1-0 win over the All-Stars, followed by a 2-0 loss to Japan.

The Aussies bounced back to beat New Zealand 6-1.

It was then time for the final against Japan and they again proved too strong for the Australian team, winning 4-0.

That's no disgrace with Japan considered the world leaders in women's softball.

Prior to that, the Aussies were largely selected out of performances in the 2017 Gully Shield tournament won by the NSW Firebirds.

The Firebirds ended up beating the Queensland Heat 8-0 in the final, also run at Blacktown.

Blackman's Queensland team faced Porter's NSW in the final.

Stokes, meanwhile, played as a pitcher with the ACT Diamonds throughout the Gully Shield and

performed well.

Blackman is heading to the United States to play with the Chicago Bandits in the National Pro Fastpitch league.

Stokes and Porter have previously played in that league, as well as in Japan.

Longer term, the vision for all three Australian players is to be at the Tokyo Olympics.

Porter, who competed in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics, is generally considered the best batter in the world in women's softball. While she likes to hear that, she wants team success and is excited by the prospect of getting to go to another Olympic Games in 2020.

"There are a lot of great hitters in the world who have moments when they are all No 1. So if I'm considered in that group from time to time, then I'm honoured by that," Porter said.

"An Olympic Games is the pinnacle for us. The moment they said softball was back probably impacted me more than I thought it would.

"Now if my body allows it and I can still play the game, I'd

love to be there.

"It sounds like it might be a fairytale ending if we end up with a gold medal. We've already won a silver and bronze, and there's that one colour missing."



Stacey Porter

Pictures: Sam Donkin



Janice Blackman



Vanessa Stokes



Kurtley Beale, of the Wasps, makes a break during the Aviva Premiership rugby union match against Bath at Bath's Recreation Ground on March 4. Picture: Getty

Beale relishes return to Oz



KURTLEY Beale says Michael Cheika is the coach who has extracted the best from him and revealed the Wallabies mentor played a big part in persuading him to return to Australia.

Utility back Beale earlier this month announced he would come home rather than spend another season with leading English club Wasps.

Providing he remains injury-free and in good form, Beale will be available for Australia's three June Tests against Fiji, Scotland and Italy.

That would allow him to continue the strong relationship he has forged with Cheika, who also coached him at the Waratahs and who foreshadowed Beale playing an upgraded role in the 2017 Wallabies program.

"The 2014 year with the Waratahs winning the (Super Rugby) championship, we built a pretty special friendship," Beale told Fox Sports.

"I find he's proven the best coach to get the best out of me and obviously over the last couple of months we've had some chats and his word I hold very strongly.

"I know how to work under him and I know he can get the best out of me, and to make the decision to go back home, he definitely played a big role in that."

Beale could have stayed in England and remained eligible to represent the Wallabies as he met the criteria of having won 60 caps and been professionally contracted in Australia for several years.

Asked why he had opted to come home, Beale said: To be able to get back

into that Wallaby program ASAP, get my body right, understand the knowledge of how Cheik wants to play the game."

Beale said he hadn't discussed with the NSW Waratahs the possibility of playing for them in this year's Super Rugby tournament after completing his commitments to Wasps.

They look certain to make the English Premiership semi-finals and could be playing until the last week of May.

That might allow him to play the last three rounds of Super Rugby.

"I haven't really spoken to (Waratahs coach) Daryl Gibson," Beale said.

"Obviously, my focus at the moment is to try and help Wasps to get to the finals. Then after the finals over here, there's a bit of a break to get the body rejuvenated and to then go back home and get back into my training again."

Keen to help

He did however indicate he was keen to help the Waratahs, who had a 1-2 start to the 2017 campaign.

"I feel like I'm starting to hit my straps over here with Wasps in the English Premiership and the European Cup, so I'm feeling good," he said.

"I just want to be able to get back and play rugby again and help the Waratahs get back to finding winning form and that's something that I'm really looking forward to."

Cheika has foreshadowed an upgraded role in the Test team for the gifted back.

Beale hasn't played for Australia since the 2015 World Cup final after suffering a serious injury last year and then heading

to England.

Cheika said the Australian Rugby Union wouldn't be able to match Wasps financially and that around half a dozen Wallabies had recently re-signed for less money than they could have got overseas.

The Wallabies sorely missed his playmaking skills at different stages of last year, when a number of experienced inside backs were unavailable.

Cheika said he viewed Beale as a second receiver, which would suggest him possibly getting a start at inside centre in 2017.

Beale has won 13 of his past 16 caps off the bench, spending time in the centres, on the wing and at fullback.

"If you look at Beale before (he went to England) he wasn't starting, he was hole-fixing," Cheika said.

"But I think it will be different for him this time. I've got a clear vision of what I want him to do within the team.

"I know it's only been a year, but in that year there's been a big change in the Wallaby squad as well.

"He'll come back with a slightly different stature I'd say and I want him to then play accordingly."

Beale grew up in suburban Mount Druitt, in Western Sydney, before representing Australia at Schoolboys and under 20 level. The star utility has played for the NSW Waratahs and Melbourne Rebels in Super Rugby.

He debuted in Super Rugby in 2007 and played his first Test in 2009 against Wales and has scored 118 Test points.

— With AAP

Behaviour costly, says Norman



LAST year's misadventures cost Corey Norman Parramatta's captaincy and devalued his signature, purportedly by hundreds of thousands of dollars, the National Rugby League (NRL) playmaker admits.

Contributing to a hellish year for the Eels, Norman's 2016 was marred when he was arrested for drug possession before pleading guilty.

He was suspended by the NRL for eight matches and fined \$20,000 in July for a range of indiscretions, including his part in a sex tape scandal and a police warning for consorting with criminals.

As well as damaging his leadership credentials, the scandals also rocked his relationship with Eels coach Brad Arthur, with he and Norman falling out following his arrest.

"Brad didn't speak to me for quite a bit there," Norman told Fairfax Media.

"That's how disappointed he was in me. He had every right to be like that because I let him down.

"It probably cost me the captaincy, to be honest."

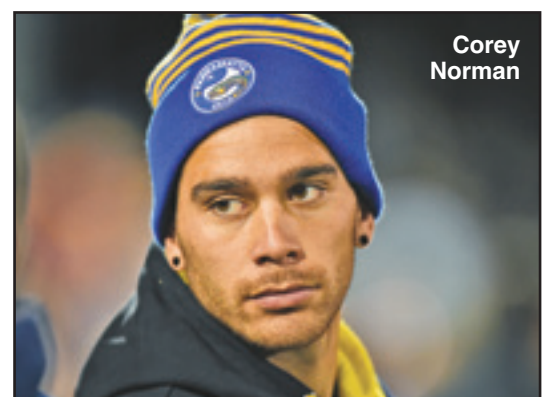
Norman's behaviour also hit him financially, with his new three-year deal signed in August believed to be almost \$400,000 lower than initially requested.

Not helping his contract situation was the club's salary cap woes, which led to the Eels being deducted 12 competition points.

"It did cost me. I know that and it was the price I paid for what happened," Norman said.

"Obviously I was on the market and could talk to other clubs, but I was definitely going to stay loyal to Parramatta.

"I owed them for what they have done for me." — AAP



Corey Norman

Mills in good touch

PATTY Mills recorded his third double-digit points tally in four matches, scoring 15 points with nine assists as the San Antonio Spurs downed Atlanta 107-99 to claim top spot in the US National Basketball Association (NBA) Western Conference.

His feat was part of a healthy contribution by Australian basketballers in the NBA, with Joe Ingles starring with 18 points in Utah's 114-108 win over the Los Angeles Clippers.

Dante Exum contributed eight second-half points for the home side to back up his career-high 22 points against Oklahoma City.

Australian point guard Matthew Dellavedova registered 13 points for Milwaukee as the Bucks were humbled 113-93 by Memphis to end their six-game winning streak. — AAP



Aboriginal skater Harley Windsor and his Russian partner Ekaterina Alexandrovskaya competing in the junior pairs short program during the first day of the World Junior Figure Skating Championships at Taipei Multipurpose Arena on March 15. Picture: Atsushi Tomura/Getty

Ice skater Harley a world champ



ABORIGINAL skater Harley Windsor and his Russian partner Ekaterina Alexandrovskaya made history when they took the pairs title, the first International Skating Union (ISU) championship title for their country.

Aleksandra Boikova/Dmitrii Kozlovskii of Russia settled for the silver medal and the bronze went to China's Yumeng Gao/Zhong Xie.

Alexandrovskaya/Windsor completed a triple twist, triple Salchow, triple toe-double toe-double toe combination and throw triple flip in their routine to the *W.E.* soundtrack.

The only error came when she fell on the throw triple Salchow.

The ISU Junior Grand Prix finalists achieved a new personal best with 104.16 points and were ranked second in the free skating.

Overall, Alexandrovskaya/Windsor accumulated 163.98 points to move up from

third to first place.

"It's still slowly sinking in. It's overwhelming for both of us," Windsor said.

"We came in this competition very confident, in our training and coaches.

"In the performance we just took one element at a time and just tried to focus. We made a little mistake, but in the end it sort of worked out for us."

Minor errors

Boikova/Kozlovskii landed a triple Salchow, triple toe-double toe-double toe, triple twist and level-four lifts and spins, but Boikova stepped out of the throw triple Salchow and two-footed the throw triple loop.

The ISU Junior Grand Prix final bronze medallists earned 100.66 points and slipped from first to second at 161.93 points.

"We wanted to skate better than that obviously and we made some errors. But what happened, happened. We know that

we have a lot of work ahead of us and we are confident that we can be more successful next time," Kozlovskii said.

Gao/Xie's program to the *Crunchy Granola Suite* by Neil Diamond included a triple twist, throw triple toe and Salchow as well as three level-four elements.

The Chinese team achieved a personal best with 101.12 points and dropped from second to third at 161.09 points.

"We are pretty satisfied with today's performance. I made a mistake on the jump (Salchow) and I am not too satisfied with myself," Xie told the press.

Sixteen pairs competed in the short program and all 16 proceeded to the free skating on Friday.

Short partnership

Windsor, 20, from Rooty Hill, Sydney, and Alexandrovskaya have been skating together for less than a year and have taken the skating world by storm with their progress in such short time.

They are trying to get as much

tournament experience as they can as they aim for the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea.

The *Koori Mail* previously reported that Windsor stumbled across ice skating by accident.

"I was with my mum and we were near Blacktown and sort of just took a wrong turn and found an ice rink," he said.

"I decided I wanted to give it a go and I went in and I liked it.

"I kind of just loved the feeling across the ice; you get a nice cold breeze in your face and I felt like it was my thing.

"I went once a week, and then twice a week and I started training more and more."

Windsor is the only ice skater in the family of 11 blended offspring ranging in age from 12 to 43. He is one of three children still living at home with mum and mad.

For more information on the Taipei event, full entry lists and results, visit www.isu.org and <http://www.wjc2017.com/>. #WorldJFigure



**Olympics
incentive
for trio**
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The Voice of Indigenous Australia



Give Ash time, says her coach



AUSTRALIAN tennis fans craving success are being urged not to expect too much too soon from Ashleigh Barty.

Barty's comeback from a long break from the game in 2015 reached its highest point when she won her maiden WTA singles title at the Malaysian Open earlier this month.

The speed of the 20-year-old's resurgence has surprised even herself, with the breakthrough securing her a spot in the world's top 100 to guarantee direct entry for grand slam events.

But coach Craig Tyzzer called for patience around Barty's career.

"Each week, you're going out and competing against girls who are just as hungry and just as good," Tyzzer told AAP.

"So, you've got to take wins and losses and battle through it.

"It's not going to be easy for Ash and she knows that. Her expectations aren't up in the stratosphere. She's got her feet well and truly planted on the ground.

"Everyone should look at it and go, 'Great result, but don't expect that every week.'"

Despite a relatively easy draw in Kuala Lumpur, Barty beat four higher-ranked players to claim the trophy as she improved her world ranking from 158 to 92.

Tennis Australia's Nicole Pratt, who heads the body's women's program, said Barty's main goal should be consistent improvement.

"She'd like to perform well at grand slams. She performed well at the Australian Open and she'd like to take that into the French Open and probably her favourite tournament – Wimbledon," Pratt told AAP.

Ashleigh Barty lifts her trophy after beating Nao Hibino, of Japan, in the final of the Alya WTA Tennis Malaysian Open tournament in Kuala Lumpur on March 5.

Picture: EPA



● Continued page 52

● We take a look at our AFL mob in 2017 – pages 54-55