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Our fight continues



THE family of Yorta Yorta woman Tanya Day said they have found “sparks of justice” in the coroner’s report into the death in custody.

“This isn’t the end of the road, but it is the beginning of justice for our mum,” they said.

“For as long as Aboriginal people are targeted by police, are locked up and mistreated, and continue to die in police custody,

the fight for true and complete justice for our people will be ongoing.”

Ms Day died two weeks after a fall in a regional Victorian police cell in 2017.

But she shouldn’t have.

And a Victorian coroner has referred the death in custody of Ms Day to prosecutors for investigation, citing a possible “indictable offence”.

Ms Day’s death was “clearly preventable”, coroner Caitlin

English said in handing down her findings earlier this month.

Prosecutors have been told to investigate two police officers for possible criminal negligence.

- Full story, page 5
- Editorial, page 20

Briggs sets house on fyre with new track



YORTA Yorta writer and actor Briggs has teamed up with comedian, actor and composer Tim Minchin to record a new song titled *HouseFyre*.

And they’ve done it without leaving their living rooms.

The song was written by the pair during self-isolation, and provides a comedic and observational commentary on the Australian political leadership during the recent bushfire crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Cabin fever manifests in strange ways and while I’ve been stuck at home working on new music and practising good social distancing, the idea came to me to hit up my friend Tim Minchin to work on a fun idea,” Briggs said. “Black and red together hasn’t looked this good since the ’93 grand final.”

Despite making light of the situation, Briggs reinforced the severity of the pandemic.

“It’s easy to look smart while pointing out when things are stupid and our current leadership has given us a lot to point at, from Hawaii to sports rorts,” he said. “I don’t feel very smart sitting inside my house, but the COVID-19 outbreak is really serious and the smartest thing we all can do right now is to stay healthy. Wash our hands, stay safe and practise social distancing.”

The artist royalties from all sales and streams of *HouseFyre* will be donated towards supporting, protecting and raising awareness among Indigenous communities of the COVID-19 pandemic and assisting with local response efforts.

You can check out the song – and the video, which Briggs and Minchin filmed on their smart phones from their houses – on YouTube.

● Kamahi Djordon King has some suggestions for keeping sane during isolation, page 10

● Virus news, pages 6-7

● Message from the minister, page 34



Briggs has teamed up with Tim Minchin to write a satirical song about COVID-19.
Picture: Cole Bennetts



Koori Mail higher education feature, pages 23-30

INSIDE



Gayini back in Nari Nari hands

PAGES 36-37



Vale Elizabeth Williams-Butt

PAGE 18



Players frustrated at shutdown

PAGE 46



Power-hitter takes top honours

PAGE 51

MY STORY Fabian McLennon (Darwin, NT)



FABIAN McLennon, from Darwin, had one of the best seats in the house when the Northern Territory Aussie rules football grand final between St Mary's and Nightcliff was held last month in Darwin. Fabian was the scorekeeper on the grandstand side of the ground. The manual scoreboard he operated throughout the game is placed there so that those watching the game on the opposite of the ground, the 'outer', could see what the live scores were. "I used to play for St Mary's," Fabian said, "but that

was a long time ago. I can't barrack for them now because I'm doing the scores. I don't mind doing this. I love football and this keeps me involved. It's a good spot, right on the boundary, you can see the players close up and hear what they're saying." Fabian kept up with the fast-paced action on the field, manually adding and replacing numbers and the totals. His old team had a good go, but the Tigers won in the end by 13 points. "It was a good game, and the scores were close."

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OUR CHILDREN



Eight-year-old Tyirra-Lee McGrady is a fighter. For the last four years she has been battling an aggressive brain tumour. Her family are desperately trying to raise the \$120,000 needed for potentially life-saving surgery. See their story on page 12.

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Virtual round table gives arts workers a space to connect, create and share

By KIRK PAGE



THE Australia Council for the Arts has created an online platform encouraging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander independent artists to gather and network online during this difficult time of isolation.

The First Nations Round Table is an opportunity for arts workers to come together and features speakers giving 15-minute presentations from across the sector. Artists and members of the community share current concerns and breakthroughs, a bit like a virtual opening night foyer, perhaps.

The round table creates a platform offering innovative ways for the sector to continue working and dreaming in these challenging times.

First Nations artists, creatives and organisations are able to share current impacts on the sector and have a metaphorical pulse check, looking in on those who are isolated and working from home.

The weekly event is held online through Zoom and hosted by artistic leaders Wesley Enoch, chair of the First Nations Arts Strategy Panel, Lydia Miller, executive director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts, and Lee-Ann Tjunypa Bucksin, deputy chair of the Australia Council.

The two-hour forum is a powerful way of checking in, sharing and coming together.

Last week the online platform brought together 150



Sydney Festival director Wesley Enoch in January, before the pandemic. Enoch is one of the arts practitioners leading online First Nations artists round tables every Friday.

participants, exchanging updates, discussing how we move forward and considering the future implications of COVID-19 on the arts industry – particularly the independents and small to medium arts organisations.

COVID-19 restrictions and social distancing measures have significantly impacted the performing arts industry. The last

three weeks have seen all live performances and public gatherings cancelled and the closure of theatres, galleries and training institutions has left most of the arts community feeling high and dry and financially vulnerable.

Current government leaders seem to be in total denial of the value of the arts in our society

and again our sisters and brothers are left to grovel over crumbs, fending for themselves.

The First Nations Round Table recognises the need of our artists for support connecting with peers and colleagues, exchanging current information on all things funding and also giving tips on any services offering financial assistance or

information on grant extensions.

Among the guests and presenters for First Nations Round Table were Ali Murphy-Oates, the managing director of Moogahlin Performing Arts along with Travis de Vries, artist, writer, producer and podcaster, and Elaine Crombie, actor and musician representing the Indigenous Committee for the Media Entertainment Arts Alliance (look up #ICMEAA online).

Arts workers are proving that their diverse skill sets and adaptability have seen productivity almost doubling online as practices evolve.

Catch Moogahlin theatre's live sessions online on the Moogahlin website www.moogahlin.org and also tune into Facebook live to see more.

For more online content you can go to Travis De Vries' online platform, called Awesome Black (hello@awesomeblack.org), where you can pitch your ideas for digital content.

There is a dim beacon of light amid the current poop storm thanks to our Blak arts network and the Australia Council for the Arts. The coming together of the arts community again proves strength in numbers and that in the darkest of times we can find a way to come together and continue to do what we love in the hope of keeping morale afloat.

Go online to find info on First Nations Round Table on the Australia Council's website <https://australiacouncil.gov.au/> and log in on Fridays from 2pm-3pm EST.

Cop suspended after adding salt to wound

By NICK PATON



RACIST behaviour by a Northern Territory police officer has left the family of Kumanjayi Walker and the entire Yuendumu community in shock after they were alerted to a social media post depicting a singlet with an offensive slogan printed on the back.

The slogan reads: "Don't wanna get shot... DON'T stab a cop!" along with the hash-tag # Blue Lives Matter.

Kumanjayi Walker was shot dead by Northern Territory police in Yuendumu, a community 300km from Alice Springs, in November last year.

An officer has been charged with his murder.

The hash-tag references the Black Lives Matter movement, which began in America as a response to the number of African American people being shot by police.

Luritja Wambya man David Cole received the original image, which he then shared with mob on Facebook on April 6.

Mr Cole said he was "angry and saddened" about the racist singlet, especially as it was created by a police officer.

"It really triggered me," Mr Cole said.



The family of Kumanjayi Walker and the entire Yuendumu community are in shock after they were alerted to a social media post depicting a singlet with a disparaging slogan.

"Because our people have been unlawfully subjected to genocide and murder from 1788 right up until now.

"And because we are sovereign people, we are still being killed by laws that don't even legally apply to us.

"Like every other tribal person around the

country, I was infuriated and appalled when I saw that racist slogan staring up at me from that singlet.

"In the face of the severe trauma the Yuendumu community are already experiencing, this kind of thing will only rub the pain in deeper, adding more salt to the wound."

On the same morning, Northern Territory Police commissioner Jamie Chalker was made aware of what he described as "highly inappropriate content" contained in a social media post and said in a statement that he "condemns the content in the post and urges people to delete the post and not share it".

Two days later on April 8, a 61-year-old Northern Territory police officer was stood down without pay for "serious breaches of discipline pursuant to the *Police Administration Act*, arising from an investigation by the NT Police Professional Standards Command".

According to NT police, the officer was "allegedly responsible for the production and distribution of clothing that displayed highly inappropriate content".

Assistant commissioner Michael White described the actions of the officer stood down as "disgraceful".

"For a serving officer to be involved in this behaviour brings disrepute to the entire

police force and this behaviour is unacceptable," he said.

For Mr Cole, an apology made in a statement by NT Police and the subsequent standing down of the officer involved just doesn't cut it.

"The officer should lose his job," Mr Cole said.

"What astounds me most is why anyone would put out such a derogatory message when the murder of Kumanjayi Walker has traumatised the Walker family and Yuendumu community, and the entire Warlpari Nation for that matter, along with all tribal people across the country," he said.

"The whole thing is nothing short of disgusting and my thoughts are with the Walker family and the Yuendumu community."

Constable Zach Rolfe was charged with murder shortly after he shot Kumanjayi Walker dead.

Currently on bail, and appearing via video link in Alice Springs Court on April 9, Rolfe indicated he plans on pleading not guilty.

The matter has been delayed for up to 10 weeks, mainly due to the huge amount of evidence being collected for the case, combined with ongoing implications relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, and is scheduled to resume in court on June 25. – with AAP

A photograph of four young Indigenous Australian girls posing in front of a dark, textured rock wall. The girl on the far left wears a yellow-green button-down shirt over a grey t-shirt with a colorful geometric pattern. The girl next to her wears a red and black striped shirt under a red and white patterned vest. The girl in the center foreground wears a bright yellow short-sleeved top with a colorful fringe and tassels around the neckline. The girl on the far right wears a blue shirt under a grey patterned vest and has a colorful feathered collar. All four girls are wearing multiple colorful beaded and fabric armbands on their upper and lower arms. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera.



Tanya Day: coroner refers police to DPP



ABORIGINAL woman Tanya Day died two weeks after a fall in a regional Victorian police cell in 2017.

But she shouldn't have. And a Victorian coroner has referred the death in custody of Ms Day to prosecutors for investigation, citing a possible "indictable offence".

The Yorta Yorta grandmother's death was "clearly preventable", coroner Caitlin English said in handing down her findings earlier this month.

Prosecutors have been told to investigate two police officers for possible criminal negligence.

Evidence heard during an inquest showed that the indictable offence of negligent manslaughter may have taken place, the coroner found.

"Ms Day's death was clearly preventable had she not been arrested and taken into custody," Ms English said.

The 55-year-old woman's children said it was a "bittersweet" day.

"This is a historic day for Aboriginal people in this country, and a bittersweet day for our family," they said in a statement.

"This isn't the end of the road, but it is the beginning of justice for our mum."

"Our families and communities are being decimated by the racism that infects police. Today, the coroner in the inquest into our mum's death referred police officers for criminal investigation."

"The coroner found that the police should have sought medical care rather than taking Mum to a cell. The coroner found that once Mum was in the cell, the police failed to properly check on her, treated her with complacency and breached her human rights to humane treatment and dignity."

We have lost our mother in the cruellest of circumstances. Our family will never be the same. While there are sparks of justice in today's decision, this country has so much further to travel. For as long as Aboriginal people are targeted by police, are locked up and mistreated, and continue to die in police custody, the fight for true and complete justice for our people will be ongoing."

Ms Day was arrested for public drunkenness at



The Day family at a smoking ceremony last year at the start of the inquest into Tanya Day's death in custody.

Castlemaine train station and taken to a police cell to "sober up" on December 5, 2017.

Despite claims of regular physical and verbal checks of Ms Day while she was in the cell, the coroner found they were inadequate.

Two officers – Leading Senior Constable Danny Wolters and Sergeant Edwina Neale – only conducted brief checks.

Ms Day's serious fatal fall happened at 4.51pm and she wasn't physically checked until just after 8pm.

"The quality of the physical checks were quick and cursory," Ms English said.

They failed to notice Ms Day's injuries and the two officers told the coroner they thought she was sleeping off alcohol.

In particular, she questioned Leading Senior Constable Wolters' evidence and his differing versions of what happened.

"I did not find Leading Senior

Constable Wolters to be a credible witness," she said.

There was an "inherent contradiction" in what he said in the triple-zero call about him seeing Ms Day falling, when he did not.

The coroner also found V/Line train conductor Shaun Irvine made a "snap decision" and showed unconscious bias.

"I find the decision to define her as unruly and to call for police rather than pursue other options has been influenced by her Aboriginality."

But she did not find the police officers who took Ms Day from the train platform and arrested her showed systemic racism in their decision.

Victoria Police said it would review the inquest findings and respond in "due course".

Ms Day's children said they still struggled with Tanya's death.

"Hundreds of Aboriginal people have died in police custody, yet no police officer has

ever been held criminally responsible. This is a stain on our country. Today, the coroner in the inquest into our mum's death referred two police officers for criminal investigation into whether they committed negligent manslaughter.

"There has never been any doubt in our mind that Victoria Police are responsible for our mum's death. At every step of the way, our mum was failed by a system that should have protected her."

"It is heartbreaking for us to hear that our mum would be alive today had she not been arrested and taken into police custody. The offence of public drunkenness should have been repealed decades ago. While we are pleased that the Andrews Government has committed to repealing the offence of public drunkenness – this can not happen soon enough. There can be no reason for delay."

– with AAP

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Review of training for police to ensure knowledge of, and compliance with, guidelines; especially including education concerning the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

- Amendment of guidelines to include implementing an assessment of the fall-risk of people who are alcohol-affected, and training of Victoria Police to that end.

- V/Line to review training materials to include input from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community about unconscious bias and provide training to staff on how to reduce bias.

- Review the current volunteer model for the Aboriginal Community Justice Panel.



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Good things are happening



Labor identifies priorities for First Nations at online meet

By DARREN COYNE



NORTHERN Territory Senator Malarndirri McCarthy has urged Indigenous Australians to show “calm and patience” while reassuring them that Labor’s First Nations Caucus Committee was on the job.

With Federal Parliament suspended, Senator McCarthy chaired an historic online first meeting of Labor’s federal, state and Territory Indigenous Affairs ministers and shadow ministers last week.

The meeting discussed the preparedness of government and communities, as well as the strategies being implemented to protect and support Indigenous Australians during the pandemic.

A statement issued by Senator McCarthy, shadow minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney, and Warren Snowdon, assistant shadow minister for Indigenous Australians, said a number of key issues had been identified.

They were, ensuring food security, particularly for remote communities; enforcing strict border controls; ensuring public health information is effectively communicated to First Nations communities; and personal protective and other medical equipment for Aboriginal community-controlled health organisations.

“There was strong agreement from the meeting that government and communities remain vigilant and disciplined, with consensus that current controls and restrictions protecting First Nations communities should not be wound back



An earlier picture of federal members of the Labor First Nations Caucus Committee: Malarndirri McCarthy, Linda Burney and Patrick Dodson, at Uluru.

under the current circumstances,” the statement said.

“These meetings will coordinate and optimise Labor’s response to the impact of COVID-19 on First Nations people nationally.

“It will also strengthen Labor’s resolve to ensure that First Nations policies – including the important issues of reconciliation and

treaty – do not fall by the wayside and remain firmly on the national agenda after the pandemic.

“And if there’s one thing we’ve all learned from this pandemic – closing the gap in health and access to health care are more important than before.”

Speaking with the *Koori Mail* following the

link-up, Senator McCarthy said there was a “really strong view that there should not be any relaxing of laws and restrictions because as soon as you do there will be impacts on our mob”.

She said good security was a hot topic especially for people in communities who can’t leave to go to Alice Springs, or Katherine.

“The same as far north Queensland, the Kimberley, and the APY Lands down in South Australia,” she said.

“It was generally agreed that we’ve had a pretty good response of people self-isolating and trying to do the right thing, although there were some concerns about Tasmania, and whether there was adequate support for First Nations people.”

Another concern raised was that South Australia’s premier, who is also the Indigenous Affairs Minister, may not be listening to the wishes of the Aboriginal community wanting to send Elders to Adelaide to be closer to medical services.

“We certainly want restrictions to stay in place, but we also want more testing and PPE (personal protection equipment) sent to communities, medical centres and health organisations across Australia,” Senator McCarthy said.

She said pressure from Labor had led the government to suspend the requirement of Aboriginal workers on CDP – a controversial work for the dole scheme – to turn up for work.

“We had to really push hard for the feds to can work-for-the-dole. It was ludicrous to expect them to isolate and then still turn up to work,” she said.

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More testing to roll out



MOBLIE coronavirus test sites will be rolled out across Australia's remote Indigenous communities.

The 83 new sites will be able to confirm coronavirus cases in 45 minutes, with some communities previously having to wait 10 days.

The program is being managed by the Kirby Institute at UNSW Sydney, and the International Centre for Point of Care Testing at Flinders University in Adelaide.

The Kirby Institute's Rebecca Guy said for many rural and remote areas, the nearest laboratory currently able to conduct tests was hundreds of kilometres away.

"The COVID-19 point-of-care technology will bring the laboratory to the community," Professor Guy said.

"This program will provide front-line clinicians in remote communities with the tools to quickly test possible cases and their contacts.

"A negative result will minimise unnecessary isolation or evacuation, whereas a positive will lead to quick action to isolate and provide clinical care for the patient and to follow up with their contacts."

University of Queensland Professor James Ward, a member of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander COVID-19 Advisory Group, said accessible and equitable access was critical for the wellbeing of indigenous communities.



Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt at the Indigenous Peak Bodies Roundtable in the Cabinet Room of Parliament House in Canberra, in January. *Picture: AAP Photos*

"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are vulnerable to this new pandemic due to high rates of chronic disease, severe overcrowding and because almost 40 per cent of our people live in remote and or outer regional areas in Australia," he said.

Indigenous Affairs Minister Ken Wyatt said a coronavirus outbreak in remote communities could be devastating.

"There are higher rates of chronic conditions and other health issues in these communities and it can be hard to access health care," he said.

The mobile sites are expected to be ready by mid-May.

Remote Indigenous communities have already been closed off from outsiders to protect residents from COVID-19.

Mr Wyatt said the Federal

Government is doing everything it can to address grocery shortages in remote community stores.

Grocery shortages at stores in remote communities are expected to persist for a couple of weeks, but the Federal Government says it is working on a remedy as part of its national COVID-19 response.

Mai Wiru, a not-for-profit organisation that runs shops in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara

Yankunytjatjara Lands in South Australia's far northwest, says stores are receiving as little as 40% of their orders as suppliers meet increased demand from big supermarkets.

Residents are struggling to secure basic items including toilet paper and baby formula.

Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt met with Northern Territory Chief Minister Michael Gunner, the Arnhem Land Progress Association, Islanders Board of Industry and Service, Outback Stores, Coles, Woolworths and Metcash to discuss the problem.

"There is no need for people in remote communities to stock-up or hoard supplies and we need the community's help to resist the panic buying we've seen in urban areas," Mr Wyatt said.

"I am aware of some community stores not receiving their full order and a limited number of stores having stock issues.

This is something that all Australians are experiencing to some extent.

"People can expect some pressure on stock levels for a couple of weeks, but we are doing everything we can to resolve those issues as they develop."

The Central Land Council in the Northern Territory says remote community residents paid on average 60 per cent more for a healthy food basket in their local stores even before the pandemic hit.

● A message from Ken Wyatt, page 34

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For artists' sake the show must go on!

By KIRK PAGE



BEN Graetz is proud Iwaidja, Malak Malak and Badu Island man best known for his brilliant advocacy work in the Queer community across the country.

Graetz was the artistic director of the Darwin Pride Festival and performed at the Garrmalang Festival and Arafura Games Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Ben is a graduate of the National Institute for the Dramatic Arts (NIDA) and has developed the successful Blak drag persona Miss Ellaneous, who was awarded the prestigious artist of the Year award in 2019 at the LGBTI Australia Awards.

"A lot of Miss Ellaneous is about being a queer black person celebrating diversity," Ben told the *Koori Mail*. "As a black person today it's so important to be your authentic self, particularly for our mob to feel like they can be themselves with confidence and safety."

Ben is the driving force behind the first ever national Blak and Queer talent quest, Miss First Nations – an event that runs over a week showcasing the unique talent of our mob in the LGBTIQI community. The competition attracts contestants from across the country, from inner-city Sydney to the top end.

Graetz describes himself as someone who has been around the creative sector for a long time. His experiences as an actor have led him to evolve into a performer, producer and creative director.

Ben's looking forward to his latest creative role as the creative director of the 16th National Indigenous Music Awards (NIMAs), which, due to virus restrictions, will be moving to a virtual format.

"It's the first time there's been a First Nations creative director in this role and I think that's important as it brings a different sensibility to the event as well as self determination to the awards ceremony," he said.

"I think it's important for the sector that we have creative control over these national events."

Graetz said he is excited by the challenges of the new role even with the additional complexities that COVID-19 has presented.

The impacts of the virus on the arts sector across the country has crippled the arts landscape.

It seems the arts industry is at breaking point.

The performing arts contributes \$111 billion dollars per annum to the economy usually. But with all public events, performances and festivals cancelled, hundreds of families and arts workers are uncertain



Miss Ellaneous is one of the performers whose shows have been cancelled due to Coronavirus restrictions. Picture: Joseph Mayers

about their financial security.

"The current lockdown and social isolation regulations situation has taken 99% of my work off the table," Ben said.

"Before COVID-19, I had about 10 months of work lined up and now that's all changed within a few days.

"All of my work as a performer, director and producer is about bringing people together – I'm now readjusting to these changes in my now empty schedule.

"We are a unique industry and have been affected by COVID-19, but have the least amount of support from the current government. Fighting for acknowledgement from the government is really exhausting. I've been feeling really angry and frustrated to being removed from the whole situation.

"It's up and down at the moment. In a way, as artists, we are used to that space. It's important to focus on the positive things happening in our communities.

"While most of us are in isolation it's important that we continue to connect via various platforms such as Zoom and FaceTime calls. It's important that the show goes on but it's also important that we take care of one another. Health and wellbeing is now just as important as delivering on any contract or

employment agreement.

"It's vital to continue being a part of a community, creating visibly with family, friends and colleagues."

If there was a silver lining?

"What's really apparent during this time is the need for human contact," Ben said. "When this is all over and we can be with loved ones, friends and community, it's going to be a bit like New Year's Eve, I think, in the sense of saying goodbye to the old or the end of something, then looking towards a new beginning.

"I think that there will be a whole lot of gratitude coming towards friends and family once we get to reunite again. It will shift the way we are and make what we do even more valuable. There will be a newfound respect for what we do as artists."

Ben's excited about the future and looking forward to reconnecting with audiences and being amongst a group, lifting each other up with the joy of our communities.

"This makes me feel connected and inspired.

"I look forward to re-envisioning the National Indigenous Music Awards ceremony this year – the event going global and taking it to remote communities and increasing our reach and building our audiences," he said.



Ben Graetz is the creative director for the 16th National Indigenous Music Awards. He is looking forward to the challenge of presenting the awards ceremony online due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Let us out: Indigenous detainees plead to be released due to virus

By AARON SMITH



AN open letter to the Prime Minister and to Australian Border Force (ABF), signed by over 300 detainees of onshore detention centres, implores for their release in the wake of the COVID 19 pandemic.

Detainees at Villawood Detention Centre in NSW, and Yongah Hill Detention Centre in Western Australia said they were "anxious and scared" fearing infection was "only a matter of time", with incarceration the "perfect storm" for spreading the virus. It is a concern a recent World Health Organisation (WHO) report supports.

One of the detainees, Daniel Gibuma, a registered traditional owner from Boigu Island in the Torres Strait, told the *Koori Mail*: "We need to get out now with this virus."

"We want to get home to our families. We don't want to die in here, because we are bunched up here like sardines."

Mr Gibuma said maintaining social distancing was impossible in detention.

"I share a room with another detainee, who came in from the Solomon Islands. Some rooms have got four people; some have got three."

Mr Gibuma said they were also concerned that the Serco guards, support staff and ABF officers do not wear protective clothing and are in contact with both the detainees and the wider community outside.

Also, he said visitors have been banned, not just family members but also legal representation needed to help with their cases.

Mr Gibuma has been locked up in Yongah Hill Detention Centre for over two years after an early release for assault from Cairns Lotus Glen Prison.

Born in PNG prior to independence, when it was an external Australian territory, Mr Gibuma moved to the Torres Strait as a young child, where he grew up as an Australian.

His right to live in Australia was stripped under

the draconian amendment 501 to the *Citizenship Act* in 2014 that, on grounds of character, has made him and many others stateless in Australia, despite the fact Mr Gibuma is a registered traditional owner.

Three other Torres Strait Islanders and two Aboriginal men are with Mr Gibuma in Yongah Hill and other First Nations people are in similar situations in detention centres across the country.

This is despite the landmark Thoms Love High Court Decision earlier this year that ruled Aboriginal Australians cannot be considered 'aliens' under the constitution.

Weeks ago Mr Gibuma was told by ABF to provide letters of support from community Elders to verify his claims of being a traditional owner, despite already being on the Native Title Register.

Mr Gibuma said he expected the required documentation to arrive in coming weeks but is concerned it will be too late to avoid infection.

"They need to get us out. Why are we still here?"

"There are Indians and Africans getting visas. Since last month, 14 people have got out, but we are still here."

"Why are we being held? This went to court and won, but we are still here."

"This story is finished. Why are we being held here?"

The open letter claimed the centres were "drastically medically under-resourced," and that they were "sitting ducks ... incubated in a potential death trap."

The inmates said that not releasing them was, "completely irresponsible of the Australian Government and also quite inhuman".

"We all have experienced mental health problems due to the uncertainty of our detention, along with our loving families and believe this pandemic is now causing extreme strain and anxiety on our children and families, many of whom are near breaking point," the letter stated.

"Our loved ones need us to be with them, to be there in person to offer our support and comfort in these unprecedented times."



Danny Gibuma is in the Yongah Hill Detention Centre in Western Australia and is concerned about COVID-19.

Packages provide assistance to mob

Some help offered for homeless in Perth



THE NSW Government and NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) have teamed up to provide assistance packages to remote Aboriginal communities impacted by COVID-19.

NSWALC chairperson Anne Dennis said the packages contain essential items such as non-perishable foods and hygiene supplies for rapid relief to some of the state's most vulnerable people.

These include the elderly, frail, disabled and disadvantaged, with a high priority on delivery to Aboriginal Elders.

A NSWALC spokesperson said that more than 200 registrations had been lodged within hours of launching last week.

There were 1500 relief packages available including 1000 boxes of groceries purchased by NSWALC and 500 emergency relief packages donated by the State



NSW Aboriginal Land Council chairperson Anne Dennis.

Government. Late last week Woolworths donated a further 1000 boxes. Aboriginal Affairs NSW head Lil Gordon said the first packages will be delivered this week.

"We know that COVID-19 is impacting everyone across NSW, but we are also aware that there is an acute need in remote Aboriginal communities where access to basic food and hygiene supplies is challenging," she said.

Ms Dennis said Aboriginal communities are more at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the prevalence of chronic disease, overcrowding and poor housing within their communities.

"We need the Commonwealth government to come forward with practical support for our communities too," she said.

"It's recognised in the Prime Minister's directive for Aboriginal people over 50 years old to stay home and practise social distancing. But how do you do that in overcrowded housing? We are facing a perfect storm."

She said the nation's Indigenous leaders and community organisations were preparing for similar transmission rates to swine flu 10 years ago, when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 11% of all identified cases, 20% of hospitalisations and 13% of deaths.

"History shows us the devastating impact of infectious diseases on Aboriginal communities," Ms Dennis said.

And NSWALC has challenged

corporate organisations to join its campaign to provide food relief for vulnerable and isolated Aboriginal communities impacted by COVID-19.

Retail giant Woolworths has thrown its weight behind the program, matching NSWALC's commitment with a further 1000 Basics Boxes to help those most in need.

"I'm very pleased to know how seriously Woolworths regards NSWALC's efforts to deliver food relief to our people across the state," Ms Dennis said. "It shows significant corporate responsibility and these additional 1000 boxes underscore the company's commitment to food security for our people."

"We encourage other corporate partners to follow Woolworths' lead and join us to provide urgent assistance to these vulnerable communities. Together we can solve this problem and make significant positive change, so I challenge other corporates who are in a position to help to please join us on this campaign." – with AAP



THE Western Australian Government has set up temporary accommodation to help house homeless people, following an NITV report last week that police were

issuing move-on notices to Aboriginal people in Perth. NITV News aired vision showing WA Police officers issuing move on notices and threatening to arrest homeless Aboriginal people, as City of Perth rangers dismantled their makeshift camp.

Last Friday the WA Government stepped in and said it was making new arrangements at a camp school owned by the State Government located at Woodman Point, in Perth's southern suburbs.

A WA Department of Communities spokesperson said that the department is working with various Aboriginal organisations to provide critical support.

"This approach has seen 43 rough sleepers provided with temporary accommodation and support at Woodman Point, including medical services," the spokesperson said.

"The department is working with partner organisations and residents on how long these arrangements will continue, and what support will follow for those community members."

● Eastwood's view, page 20



Constantina Bush with one of the Bushettes, Juanita Duncan, in Woodford. Pictures: Daniel Boud



Kamahi Djordon King in 2012. Kamahi began self-isolation before COVID-19 broke out in Australia .

Creativity helps to beat boredom of isolation

By DARREN COYNE



KAMAHI Djordon King has a simple message for Aboriginal people in isolation: Beat the boredom by getting creative.

The Katherine-based artist spoke to the *Koori Mail* from his Northern Territory home where he has been self-isolating for weeks, even before the Covid - 19 pandemic broke out in Australia.

"I have so much to do, so I don't feel too trapped," he said.

"I work at the Arts and Culture Centre in Katherine, but that is now closed to the public. I was off sick anyway after catching a bacterial infection from the ground up here.

"I've been at home recovering from that and I've been making art and doing my paper camp dogs.

"I'm also keeping busy around the home, recording messages and being silly."

Like many artists across the country, Kamahi had a schedule of events planned for the year, but all have either been

cancelled or postponed.

"I was meant to be in Canada with the Mission Songs project, but here I am living by myself.

"Corona virus is not rife in the Territory at the moment but it is coming across. Falls Creek (where there were five cases at the time of our conversation) is not that far from me, so we've got to be careful."

There have been 28 confirmed cases of coronavirus in the Territory — the lowest number and lowest rate of coronavirus infections of any jurisdiction in the country.

Despite those figures, being complacent is not an option, especially for Aboriginal people, who health experts say are at increased risk because of other health issues.

"Isolating myself is the best bet being 48, nearly 50 now," Kamahi said.

"I have a gammon immune system already, having diabetes type two, which is under control. But I've got to be extra careful because anything on top would knock me down.

"The reality is that if this gets

into a community it would spread like wildfire.

"Aboriginal people are very communal and social and that's why the virus will spread."

From his time in isolation, Kamahi has some advice.

"When people are told to stay in their homes they feel trapped and like they're in prison,

"People need to realise that if I can hit you with my hula hoop you're too close!"

whereas if you didn't say anything they'd probably be staying in their homes anyway.

"Because they're being told to stay in they have this mentality of 'I want to get out'.

"But the thing is you can go out. You can go out for exercise, and there's so much you can do to keep busy at home."

Kamahi explains that his camp dogs are made from a mixture of paper and clay that sits for five days. It is then mixed with a special ingredient and the mixture goes over wire.

"It's my own recipe and it

makes them so hard," he said, dropping one of the dogs on the floor by way of example.

Apart from the dogs, Kamahi has another character to play with in isolation — alter ego, Constantina Bush.

"All of her NAIDOC gigs will be cancelled," he said.

"I've got a new show written for the Darwin festival featuring an eight-piece band and Constantina might be getting on a channel soon and talking about things up here."

So what advice for people without an alter ego or camp dogs to keep them busy?

"Do what we are doing now. Catch up with people you haven't spoken to in a while online, or on the phone," Kamahi said.

"I'm sure you've got stuff you've been meaning to catch up on like an art project, or maybe even writing a book. For creatives there's so much you can do.

"You don't need to feel like you're isolated and got nothing to do because there's always something to do.

"And if you do feel a bit crunched up in your house go for that brisk walk for exercise. Get out and breathe some fresh air and then go back home.

"Be aware of the risks and don't let people into your home. Talk to them like this (online) if you need to but keep your home only for yourself and your family because it's too risky otherwise.

"A person might be incubating the virus and not show any symptoms and then, bang, you're down.

"For our older mob that's the most important thing because we have to keep them safe.

"Go out and buy their groceries and don't let them go out. It's just easier that way and that way you can make sure they're safe.

"They reckon three more months for you mob in the city ... we'll have the same thing because people up here are a little bit more cavalier to be honest," he said.

"There's still a lot of people out shopping, walking past and tapping you on the back.

"People need to realise that if I can hit you with my hula hoop you're too close!"

Budj Bim story animated



MODERN technology has enabled Gunditj Mirring traditional owners to bring an ancient story to a wider audience.

The Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Corporation enlisted the help of the Monash Indigenous Studies Centre's Wunungu Awara (Strong and Healthy Country) to tell the story *Mayapa-U Budj Bim*.

As part of Wunungu Awara's Animating Indigenous Knowledges program last year, the Gunditj Mirring traditional owners worked closely with senior animator and lead creative Brent McKee, project manager Fred Leone and program director John Bradley.

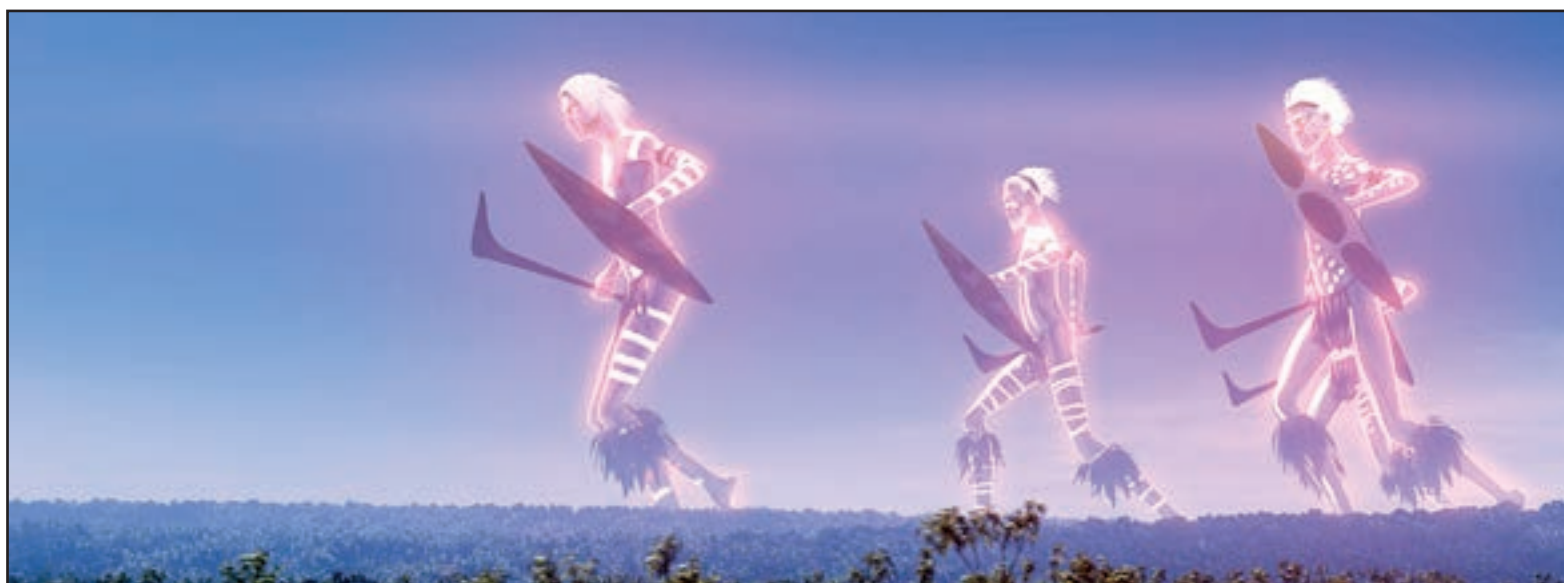
Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Corporation chief executive Damien Bell said that the exciting new animation comes just months after the Budj Bim World Heritage site received UNESCO World Heritage Listing.

"*Mayapa-U Budj Bim* is the story of our spiritual ancestral creation beings in our traditional Dhauwurd Wurrung language," he said.

"The story is visually realised by the Wunungu Awara team through Monash University.

"The creation story of Budj Bim is talked about being one of the oldest stories on earth that has been handed down over the past 37,000 years."

In 2011, Wunungu Awara, formerly the Monash Country Lines Archive, began to work in partnership with Indigenous Australian communities to preserve



Scenes from *Mayapa-U Budj Bim*, an animated story about Budj Bim told in traditional Dhauwurd language.

their languages. Working on the premise that Indigenous communities already have the infrastructure to continue to preserve their language through intergenerational learning, Wunungu Awara supports the

existing system by using 3D animation as a tool to reengage and revitalise interest in language continuation, reconnecting language and its people, and assisting in the preservation of language.

Language preservation by Indigenous communities also reinforces their Indigenous rights, protecting cultural and intellectual property through the preservation and archiving of the history, knowledge, songs, and

performance that are embodied in their language.

The story of Budj Bim is on the Wunungu Awara website:

<https://www.monash.edu/arts/monash-indigenous-studies/wunungu-awara>

Keeping kids learning

In Term 2, all children who can learn from home must learn from home.

Your school will support your child to learn from home.

For parents, your child learning at home means providing them with a dedicated space to learn and establishing a routine.

Parents and carers can visit education.vic.gov.au for tips and advice.

Learning from home.



THE EDUCATION STATE

VICTORIA State Government Education and Training

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

Family seeking help in fight for daughter's life

By NICK PATON



LITTLE Tyirra-Lee McGrady has been battling an aggressive brain tumour for the past four years and her family are desperately trying to raise \$120,000 for neurosurgery, which might just save her life.

Having been told by medical experts that there was little they could do for Tyirra-Lee, recently her family received a phone call that could offer a lifeline.

Her mum Kirra McGrady said that eight-year-old Tyirra-Lee has already been through multiple operations in an attempt to remove the tumour on her brain, including radiation therapy and chemotherapy, but sadly Tyirra-Lee's tumour is now almost five times bigger than before.

"We were told after the first operation that Tyirra would always have a percentage of the tumour left and three weeks ago Tyirra was admitted to hospital due to suffering more headaches," Kirra said. "We knew something was wrong and after having a CT scan the results showed fluid was building back up so they did an MRI and it confirmed the tumour grew back four to five times bigger than it was before and is growing aggressively."

Tyirra's mum and two Aunties meet with oncologists in Brisbane.

"Sadly they told us that there was nothing more they can do for her but to send her home with pain management medicine to keep her comfortable," Kirra said.

The type of tumour Tyirra-Lee, who lives in Casino, northern NSW, has been diagnosed with is called ependymoma, and is situated on the cerebellum part of the brain, which controls Tyirra-



Eight year old Tyirra-Lee has been battling an aggressive brain tumour for the past four years. Her family have raised over \$50,000 of the \$120,000 needed to pay for her life-saving surgery.

Lee's heart and other main organs.

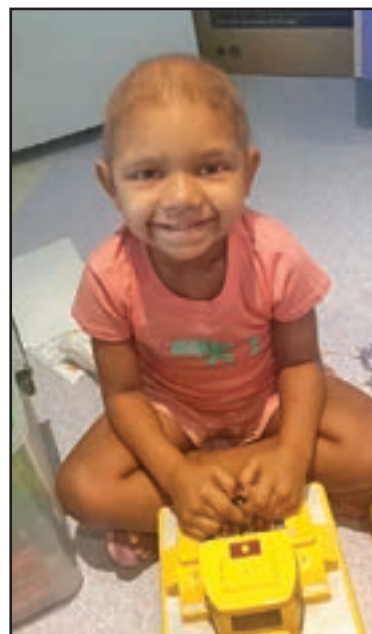
The biggest issue for Tyirra-Lee is that the tumour has wrapped itself around her spinal cord, which is dangerous and complicated surgery for any neurosurgeon.

But Kirra and Tyirra's father Tyrone Close said they are confident that if enough money

is raised, there may be a chance of the tumour being removed.

"I have spoken to Dr Charlie Teo, a neurosurgeon in Sydney who specialises in removing the type of tumour that Tyirra-Lee has," Ms McGrady said.

"We have been advised by Dr Teo that the sooner Tyirra-Lee is in Sydney the better the



chances are of removing the tumour before it gets any bigger."

But, the surgery comes at a cost of \$120,000 and so far the family have raised over \$50,000.

"We are seeking any donations, big or small," Ms McGrady said.

"The neurosurgeon is willing

and confident that he can remove the remainder of the tumour, but it's very expensive.

"We're hoping you can find it in your heart to help our little princess."

Natasha Torrens, Tyirra-Lee's nan, said the family is trying to remain positive and stick together while they try to raise funds to pay for the neurosurgery.

"We are just trying to do our best considering the very sad circumstances," Ms Torrens said.

"We always knew there was going to be a percentage of the tumour left as the area it's situated in is very dangerous to operate on.

"We are a strong family, but it's little Tyirra-Lee who really gives us our strength.

"There are times where we as a family have almost broken down, but we know Tyirra-Lee is determined to get through this and live a healthy, full life and we know we will eventually see that day."

Ms Torrens said she is overwhelmed by the amount of support Tyirra-Lee has received from family members and the broader community.

"We are just trying to do our best to raise this money for our precious little girl," she said.

"And for all the support we have received so far, we are just so thankful. We can't thank people enough for what has been donated to help us get Tyirra-Lee down to Sydney for her surgery.

"It's heartwarming seeing everyone band together for our little angel and she is absolutely surrounded by love. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far."

To pledge your support and contribute to the funds being raised for Tyirra-Lee's neurosurgery visit <https://www.facebook.com/donate/574607906736495/>

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Protect our mob, vaccinate our children.

Melissa, Indigenous Health Nurse and Mum to Bethany

Hear Melissa talk vaccinations and get the facts at

medical mums.com.au



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning

Appointments to the Scientific Advisory Committee (Victoria)

The Scientific Advisory Committee is the Victorian Government's leading independent scientific advisory committee on flora and fauna conservation and ecology. The Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP, is seeking expressions of interest for five positions, including the Convenor role, on the Scientific Advisory Committee. The terms of appointment will be up to five years and will commence between July and December 2020.

Applicants are required to apply online via the Get on Board website – www.getonboard.vic.gov.au (search under vacancies). Here you will find further information regarding the recruitment process, the positions and information on the Scientific Advisory Committee.

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring the diversity of our boards represents the diversity of our communities. Applicants from rural and regional communities, women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people with a disability, young people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and LGBTIQ people are encouraged to apply.

Expressions of Interest close **Wednesday 29 April 2020.**

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

COVID-19

**Help keep our people
safe from COVID-19.**

Don't travel between communities.

Dr. Khyarne Biles, Western NSW

Coronavirus is dangerous and contagious. You can have it before you feel sick and spread it without knowing. By staying at home and not travelling, you are helping to protect our people and keep our Elders safe. So avoid unnecessary travel and together, we will save lives.

> HELP US SAVE LIVES

For the latest information on COVID-19, visit nsw.gov.au



Country calls Gloria home after a lifetime of dreaming

By NICK PATON



THE old saying goes, 'you can take the girl out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the girl' and Bundjalung Dutch woman Gloria Ormskerk is a living example.

For 72 years, Ms Ormskerk has lived in Amsterdam but every day she has felt her country talking to her and calling her back.

Ever since she was a child, it has been Gloria's dream to return to Australia to see the country where she was born and to meet her mob.

In February, her dreams finally came true when she returned to Australia for the first time since 1949, accompanied by her son Rhadjinder to visit her birthplace and meet the Githabul, Gambainyirr and Dunghutti people she is connected to.

"It has been wonderful meeting my family," Ms Ormskerk said.

"And hearing that the story of my mother and father has never been forgotten on both sides of my mother's family



Travelling with her son Rhadjinder, Bundjalung Dutch woman Gloria Ormskerk returns to the country in which she was born, for the first time in 72 years

brings me such joy."

Ms Ormskerk was born in Casino in 1946 to Fred Ormskerk from Suriname in South America, and Bessie Davis, a local Aboriginal woman from Casino.

Her father had been stationed at a Prisoner Of War camp on the outskirts of Casino and it didn't take long before he and Bessie were making plans for the arrival of their first child, Gloria.

When Ms Ormskerk was 3, her parents took her overseas to begin their new life abroad and the first stop was Indonesia, where her other sisters and brother were born.

Ms Ormskerk said that because her father was a top military leader, she and her family spent many years travelling the world, bearing witness to all its wonders.

The family went on to live in Mr Ormskerk's homelands in Suriname in South America for a number of years, before landing in Holland, where the family has been stationed ever since.

Ms Ormskerk was thrilled to meet and reconnect with her mob and she has been busy working out her family connections to country in Australia.

A highlight of the trip was travelling to her birthplace in Casino, and Ms Ormskerk said she has relished visiting family and friends in Lismore and Nambucca Heads.

Gloria was not aware that her mob in Australia was so big and now has an even bigger extended family than she initially thought.

"It has been a truly spiritual journey," she said.

"This is beautiful country, and the spirit of the land is strong.

"I hope to return here in the future with my other children, so they too can experience my country and learn about their Aboriginal heritage."

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For support to quit smoking call



**Too many
of our mob
are dying on
our roads.**

**Say “Yeah...NAH” to
taking risks when driving.**



Bring the mob home safely.

towardszero.nsw.gov.au

TNSWOS3761

Doco forged from personal experience

By NICK PATON



EXPLORING themes of family, bloodlines, identity and what it means to live in two worlds – black and white – *Kindred* considers the importance of discovering our place in the world. And Screen Australia's Indigenous department has recently announced *Kindred* as one of four feature documentaries to receive development funding.

Wodi Wodi woman Gillian Moody is the producer and director of the feature, teaming up with writer and director Adrian Russell Wills (*Black Divas*) and producer Tom Zubrycki (*Fair game*).

"I was adopted into a non-Indigenous family as a child, so the documentary really explores the concept of adoption from the perspective of an Indigenous person," Ms Moody said.

"As part of the documentary, Adrian and I are co-directing, but we are looking at directing sections of our own stories, so that we can weave these two personal stories together collaboratively to create the full-length feature.

"I'm particularly excited about this project because I have loads of experience in producing and writing, but this is the first



Wodi Wodi woman Gillian Moody is the director and producer of *Kindred*, a new Indigenous documentary supported by Screen Australia. Picture: Taliah Whitmor

time I'm taking hold of the reins as director."

Ms Moody said the documentary will detail her experience of growing up with a non-Indigenous family in Sydney's northern beaches, parted from her culture,

and her Aboriginal Identity.

"Both Adrian and I feel these are the types of stories that are yet to be told," she said.

"And the documentary will really tie into

the themes of the Stolen Generations and the effects Aboriginal people and our communities have experienced as a result.

"What's not really being told are the stories of those of us who were adopted out to non-Indigenous families."

Kindred asks the viewer to question the meaning of identity and belonging, and what family really means.

"I am so thrilled to have received support to make this documentary happen," Ms Moody said.

"Screen Australia recognise that *Kindred* is a unique production and they are making sure the Indigenous voice is being heard and represented in the industry."

Ms Moody said she has had an amazing experience making films over the years and her advice for any Aboriginal people aspiring for an exciting career in the filmmaking industry is to never give up.

"Always remain grounded," she said.

"As filmmakers, we come from a place of privilege because we are given access to people's stories, and we are there to provide an avenue for their voices to be heard."

Kindred is currently in production and is set to appear on NITV toward the end of 2020, but social and physical distancing measures implemented to combat the COVID-19 virus could see the release date being closer to 2021.

OPEN LETTER TO MR PETER SHERGOLD CEO of NESA

About 12 months ago the NSW Education and Standards Authority, NESA, closed an alternative school for Indigenous kids who refuse to attend school. 65 Indigenous kids, with nowhere to go, were tipped onto the streets in far Western NSW. To save the school, meditation was requested. NESA refused meditation.

Indigenous families/kids in the West would love to see alternative education returned but fear experiencing more shame and humiliation at the hands of those who work for the NSW Education and Standards Authority.

The purpose of this letter is not to rehash the past, but to suggest a way forward. Mr Shergold, we urge to start a process whereby Indigenous communities feel supported rather than shamed, when seeking to establish schools that work for them.

(Interim) Respect and Meditation Indigenous education committee

2 Dandaloo St Kariong, NSW 2250



EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section)

Notice and registration of Aboriginal interests

EnergyConnect is a proposed new electricity interconnector between Robertstown in South Australia (SA) and Wagga Wagga in New South Wales (NSW), with a connection into north-west Victoria. An electricity interconnector is a connection that allows power to flow between regions in the National Energy Market.

TransGrid is responsible for the NSW components of EnergyConnect, which are anticipated to be assessed and approved in stages, starting with the western section (the subject of this notice).

In the western section, TransGrid proposes to construct new high voltage transmission lines between the NSW/SA border and the existing Buronga substation as well as an upgrade to the existing transmission line between Buronga and the NSW/Victoria border at Monak, near Red Cliffs. The new transmission line structures would be up to 80 metres in height and spaced about every 300 to 600 metres along the line. The proposal would also require the upgrade of the existing Buronga substation from 220 to 330 kilovolts, new and upgraded access tracks and roads as well as ancillary works such as the establishment of brake and winch sites, crane pads, site compounds and equipment laydown areas.

TransGrid and our consultant, Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, are seeking registrations of interest from Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the western section of EnergyConnect. The purpose of consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist TransGrid to prepare advice to assist the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in assessing the development application for the proposal.

Following registrations of interest, we will work with the registered Aboriginal people to determine our preferred consultation approach and assessment methodology over the coming months.

You can register in writing (email or letter) to:
Nicola Hayes
Navin Officer Heritage Consultants
U4 Kingston Warehouse, 71 Leichhardt St,
Kingston ACT 2604

Telephone: 02 6282 9415
Email: nhayes@nohc.com.au

Registrations must be received by close of business 6 May 2020.

TransGrid: PO Box A1000 Sydney South, NSW 1235 Australia

RMS reverse plate denial

By DARREN COYNE



AT first Kate Morgan couldn't believe the letter she'd received from the NSW Roads and Maritime Service (RMS).

In short, it said her application for personalised number plate DARUG, ordered on February 12, had been denied and a full refund would be made.

The letter explained that the RMS has the responsibility to ensure that 'any number plates issued in NSW would not be deemed unsuitable or offensive by the general public'.

Ms Morgan contacted the person who had sent the letter and asked to speak to a supervisor.

The supervisor was contacted, refused to answer her call, but said the answer remained the same. No.

Which was puzzling.

It is generally acknowledged that the Eora are the coastal people of the Sydney area while the Darug (or Dharug) people occupy the inland area from Parramatta to the Blue Mountains.

It's the type of information taught to pre-schoolers and international tourists.

Ms Morgan, who was born in Parramatta and is now a director on the Darug Gurrurra Aboriginal Corporation, thought it pretty sad that staff at a major government department didn't know that.

"You want to be proud of who you are, but they obviously thought it meant drugs," she said.

A quick call to the office of the NSW Minister for Roads and Transport resolved the misunderstanding.



Kate Morgan with her personalised number plates.

"She (the staff member in the minister's office) knew immediately (what DARUG meant) and said 'they can't do that'.

"So the next day an email arrives and the plates have been approved."

Although she'd had a win, by the time the plates arrived she was well and truly in lockdown, caring for one of her children with a compromised immune system.

"I've been isolating since February. I feel like chewing my arm off. I've got university but there are so many online that it kicks you out of the system."

As a genealogist, Ms Morgan is currently studying 'family studies', with a view to beginning a PhD next year.

She is also renovating, 'bit by

bit', the house she shares with her partner of 15 years, Rob, in the Hunter Valley.

"Rob's the grocery man. He goes out and gets supplies and he's got his own car so the Mercedes – I didn't steal it – hasn't been out.

"But the day the restrictions are lifted 'I'll be in that car and heading for the hills."

No doubt, she'll also have Mitch Tambo (a favourite of hers) singing in the background.

"At least now they might pay attention to people who want their mob's name on their cars," she said.

She also gave an insider's tip to anyone wanting to flash up their vehicle some time in the future:

"Come July they'll be releasing Indigenous plates."

Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

KEEP OUR MOB SAFE, WASH YOUR HANDS.

**CORONAVIRUS IS A SICKNESS THAT CAN
SPREAD FROM PERSON TO PERSON.**

TO STOP THE SPREAD:

- Cover a cough with the inside of your elbow instead of your hand
- Where possible wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds – do this after you cough, sneeze, go to the toilet and before you make any food
- Avoid touching your face with dirty hands – especially your eyes, nose and mouth. This is where the virus can enter your body
- Remember if you feel unwell, stay at home



WE CAN ALL STOP THE SPREAD IN OUR COMMUNITIES

**IF YOU ARE
FEELING
UNWELL
YOU CAN...**

Call your local **medical service, health clinic** or **someone you trust.**

Call the 24 hour **National Coronavirus Helpline** on **1800 020 080.**

Find out more information about **coronavirus** by visiting **australia.gov.au**



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Australian Government

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.

Celebrating the life of a pioneer for change

VALE

ELIZABETH WILLIAMS-BUTT

ON Friday, April 3, our community lost one of the greats with the passing of Elizabeth Williams-Butt.

A proud and strong Wiradjuri woman, Elizabeth dedicated all her personal and working life to promoting Aboriginal health and equity issues, not only within her own community but also nationally and internationally.

The youngest of 15 children, Elizabeth was born on May 20, 1954, in Cobram Hospital, Victoria, located on the Murray River. But if you ever asked Elizabeth where she was from she would tell you that she was a proud Wiradjuri woman from Narrandera who lived on the Sand Hills in her early years. Her education was undertaken at Narrandera Public School and then at Dulwich Hill High School in Sydney's Inner West.

Elizabeth's working life started briefly with a position at a kitchenware factory in Dulwich Hill with her first pay being \$28 – \$20 to her mother and \$8 for herself. She quickly moved to a position at the Foundation of Aboriginal Affairs, which at that time was under the steerage of Charles Perkins. This position sparked her desire to take a more active role in promoting health and equity for Aboriginal people. In 1971, at the age of 17, Elizabeth gained a position at the Redfern Aboriginal Medical Service, which had only just opened its doors, working under Mum Shirl and Fred Hollows. As a founding staff member, Elizabeth quickly moved from administration to a health coordinator position shared initially with Naomi Mayers, who went on to become the service's chief executive.

In 1975, Elizabeth returned to Wiradjuri country, taking up a position as an Aboriginal health worker at Griffith and later at Queanbeyan.

In 1982, Elizabeth was appointed to the Queanbeyan Hospital Board. She subsequently became chairperson of the board, a position she held for two terms. This was at a time when neither women or Aboriginal people were usually considered for such positions. During this time she held multiple positions in the area including manager of the Queanbeyan Family Day Care Centre.

In 1987, now living in Redfern with her family, Elizabeth was appointed to the NSW State Medical Board by NSW Health Minister Peter Anderson and then to the position of director, Aboriginal Health, NSW Health Department. The key responsibility of her appointment was to implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Australia (1988-89) and the preparation of NSW's response to the



Proud Wiradjuri woman Elizabeth Williams-Butt.



Elizabeth Williams-Butt was appointed to the NSW Medical Board in 1987.



Elizabeth was among the NSW delegation that travelled to Berlin as a founding member of the Healing Our Spirit Worldwide Movement.

recommendations of the commission.

After resigning from the directorship at NSW Health, Elizabeth took up a senior position in the Central Sydney Area Health Service establishing the Family Home in Marrickville (to accommodate patients and their families coming from the country for city medical services) and the Red Shirt Aboriginal Health Worker Program at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

Elizabeth was a pioneer, she had many firsts, for not only Aboriginal people, but also as a woman. She was appointed to dozens of high-level committees, boards and review panels and co-authored, or had input into, a number of groundbreaking documents and reports. For example, she was heavily involved in the development of the National Aboriginal Health Strategy, still the foundation document for Aboriginal health policy in Australia today. She also worked on the first statewide anti-smoking campaign and helped develop the first health protocols in Aboriginal Health. She was appointed to the NSW Medical

Board and Disciplinary Tribunal, sat on Deaths in Custody review panels and was often called on to present at colleges, universities and to parliamentary committees.

Elizabeth recently observed that she was most proud firstly of her family and the growing numbers of grandchildren and great grandchildren being presented to her.

In her professional career she was most proud of –

- Being appointed by a Labor Minister to implement the recommendations of the Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Commission and then maintaining that position even when the election was won by the Liberal Party, being able to convince the new Liberal Minister Peter Collins to continue the vision of reform.

- Membership on the National Aboriginal Health Strategy Working Party, 1989.

- Being a founding member of the International Healing Our Spirit Worldwide Movement – a collaboration of all the world's First Nations peoples to promote equity and health for all First Nations persons. Elizabeth travelled to Germany in 1991 to



Elizabeth with Health Minister Andrew Refshauge at launch of the Red Shirt Program at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

participate in the formation of the charter for the Healing Our Spirit Movement, subsequently attending the inaugural Healing Our Spirit Conference with other Aboriginal representatives in Edmonton, Canada, in 1992. Elizabeth then acted as convenor of the second conference in Sydney in 1996.

Her foundation work continues to be felt with the eighth conference, held in Sydney in 2018, drawing a larger and more powerful gathering than originally envisioned.

- The all Aboriginal 1990 NSW Aboriginal Health Taskforce, and the reports management and implementation of the NSW Health, Primary Health Post Program at Cabbage Tree Island, Karuna and Tabulam.

For the last 18 years, Elizabeth was wheelchair-bound following a serious stroke. This did not stop her from actively fulfilling the role of her family's matriarch as well as providing advice to others in the community and nationally when asked. Such was her interest that she recently wrote to Tanya Plibersek, her federal member, for a copy of the

Interim Report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety to ensure Aboriginal concerns were being taken into consideration.

Many people will remember Elizabeth as being very smart, well educated, a well-balanced mentor, and just a terrific person with impeccable humanity that is to be admired, loved and respected.

Disregarding the fact that she was stunningly attractive and had a great sense of humour, people were often mesmerised by her endless commitment to improving the lives of Aboriginal people.

Elizabeth can be accredited with single-handedly improving the wellbeing, health and living conditions of many Aboriginal people within NSW. She strived throughout her life to correct inequity and argue for justice and the rights of Aboriginal people.

Her impact was not only felt within Australia but also throughout the world.

She will forever be missed by her husband of 40 years Neville, daughters Bianca and Mayrah, grandchildren Luke, Keisha and Liam and her great grandchildren Birrabi and Rohan Jr.



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Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Reuben Maynard

Pakana man,
Glenorchy,
Tasmania

Favourite bush tucker?
Mutton birds.

Favourite other food?
My mum's cooking.

Favourite drink?
Water.

Favourite music?
Old music – like pub music – Rolling Stones and Beatles and that sort of stuff.

Favourite sport?
Playing rugby.

Favourite read?
Captain Underpants.

Favourite holiday destination?
Preminghana, I love going up there.

What do you like on TV?
Car shows.

What do you like in life?
Being around people, having company.

What don't you like in life?
Rude people.

Which black or indigenous person would you most like to meet?
Josh Addo-Carr (Melbourne Storm rugby player).

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
My (late) dad, my brother Baden and my sister Kartanya – like we used to.

Who/what inspires you?
Probably my girlfriend, Emily.

What is your ultimate goal?
To start up a custom car garage.

What would you do to better the situation for your mob?
Boost the Aboriginal part of the museum or have another museum to boost cultural understanding. We have so much to teach people, easily enough to fill up a whole museum.

Quote



“There's still people out shopping, walking past and tapping you on the back. People need to realise that if I can hit you with my hula hoop you're too close!”

*Kamahi Djordon King
artist*

● See page 10

Unquote

The fight for justice goes on

THE family of Yorta Yorta grandmother Tanya Day have welcomed the “sparks of justice” delivered in the judgment of the coroner investigating her death. (See story, page 5.)

Ms Day was arrested for public drunkenness at Castlemaine train station and taken to a police cell to ‘sober up’ on December 5, 2017.

While in the cell, Ms Day fell a number of times and sustained injuries that resulted in her death two weeks later.

The inquest found that her death was preventable, and that despite claims of regular physical and verbal checks while she was in the cell, the coroner, Caitlin English, determined that they were inadequate.

In a landmark decision, Ms English ordered prosecutors to investigate two police officers for possible criminal negligence. Ms English found that the police should have sought medical care for Ms Day rather than taking her into custody, and that the indictable offence of negligent manslaughter may have taken place.

She requested that both Victoria Police and V/Line engage the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission to conduct a review of training materials provided to employees.

That review could begin with questioning whether the police officers involved adhered to the simple motto of Victoria Police: Uphold the Right.

To understand what the motto means



it's necessary to look at the mission statement contained in the Victorian Police code of conduct.

“To provide a safe, secure and orderly society. This is achieved by serving the community and by serving the law,” the code states.

The question is: Did the officers who took her into custody and then failed to provide adequate care, uphold Ms Day's right?

Of course, that will now be determined by yet another level of authority, but the unarguable fact is that the right to a safe, secure and orderly society does not end when a police cell slams shut.

The shattered family, and countless other Aboriginal families who have lost a loved one, know this too well.

“While there are sparks of justice in today's decision, this country has so much further to travel,” Tanya Day's family said.

“For as long as Aboriginal people are targeted by police, are locked up and mistreated, and continue to die in police custody, the fight for true and complete justice for our people will be ongoing.”

In a world of increased police powers, this fight has never been more important.

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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).

Vanderbergh is at the top of his game

By PETER ARGENT



BORN in Kalgoorlie and sharing the same birthday as his mum, Sandra, a girl from Koonibba on the far west coast of South Australia, Paul Vanderbergh started his life at the remote Aboriginal community of Amata on the APY Lands and Warburton.

His dad, Robert, was of Dutch extraction and working in outback Aboriginal communities for the government at the time.

Paul grew up in Ceduna and spent his primary school years at the Ceduna Area and Lutheran schools before his parents separated.

"The silver lining to that was I moved to Adelaide and spent my high school years at Adelaide High School," Vanderbergh told the *Koori Mail*.

"I believe (and the records show) I'm the first Aboriginal person to graduate from that high school and was a prefect in Year 12, but maybe you shouldn't tell the brothers that."

"I moved on to university at Underdale and was studying a course in Aboriginal studies."

Focus on basketball

"While I played footy back on the far west coast (of South Australia) as a kid, when I went to high school I started to take basketball seriously and that became my number one sporting focus."

Vanderbergh, who had a growth spurt of more than seven inches over 18 months in his late teens, shot up to a height of 193cm (6 foot, 4 inches), and developed into an accomplished point guard, with a strong all-round game.

He started his ABA state league career with the Woodville Warriors in 1995 and the highlight of his time with that club was the Warriors inaugural state championship win against Forestville in the 2000 season.

"In the '99 season I was a development player for the high profile Melbourne Tigers list and lived with Byron Pickett, who at that stage was playing for North Melbourne," Vanderbergh said.

"The Tigers team was coached by Lindsay Gaze and included Mark Bradtke, Leonard Copeland and Lindsay's son, perhaps Australia's best hoops player, Andrew."

"During that time Kangaroos coach Denis Pagan sent home a goal-setting program with Byron for the North Melbourne players."

"I decided to use it as well and set some goals of myself at the time."



The Vanderbergh family are Paul with wife Emma and children Reign Harlem, Harlo Jagger and Hunter Che.

"They included playing NBL basketball and being a starting five player in a game."

Opportunity knocks

In the 2000-01 season Vanderbergh received an opportunity, scoring a place on the Canberra Cannons roster under the coaching of Cal Bruton, in a team that included Dave Simmons, father of current American NBA star, Ben.

"The goal-setting program came to fruition in that season. I ended up playing 29 games and was a member of the starting five for the last handful," Vanderbergh smiled.

"I believe that currently I'm still the only SA Aboriginal basketballer to actually play in the NBL."

"The next season I had to make a choice after being offered a position in the SA government department in Aboriginal housing."

"As I had achieved the goals mentioned before I took the full-time role."

Vanderbergh spent the next nine years working in that department and also in Aboriginal education.

He was mentoring a group of 23 Indigenous young people on the Kokoda Track when he

realised he wanted to get into a role where he was helping Aboriginal people.

"I got home from Kokoda and was feeling like I wanted to take on the world. And it was perfect timing. My wife Emma showed me the ad for a position as the Aboriginal programs coordinator, as the role was called at the time, for the Port Adelaide's Aboriginal Power Cup program," he said.

Called to Port's Aboriginal Programs

"I believe I beat a healthy number of candidates and have found my calling."

The Power Aboriginal programs have become recognised as best practice across the entire AFL football landscape.

Vanderbergh is now the head of a small but dynamic team which runs the Power Aboriginal programs. The programs have morphed to include the Port Adelaide Aboriginal AFL Academy men's and women's teams, run by Marlon Motlop and Braedon Talbot, and the Willpower Program, delivered in remote Aboriginal communities by Wade Thompson.

"We use football to break



Paul Vanderbergh and a group of academy boys, 2017.



Paul and his team at Port Adelaide

down some important barriers between all people and even different Aboriginal communities," Vanderbergh explained.

"Among the many and varied highlights was the 2018 season where we had 11 AFL players and six staff, including myself, on the club's books."

"A part of my role is about creating equality and giving the Indigenous students the same opportunities as everyone else, although their pathways may be different and tougher than some."

Sporting heros

Reflecting back to his youth Vanderbergh recalls St Kilda's Nicky Winmar was his number one sporting hero. He vividly remembers the poignant day, back in 1993, when Winmar responded to the racial abuse being directed at Collingwood at Victoria Park.

The mercurial Port Adelaide champion Gavin Wanganeen comes in a close second.

He also has clear memories of being back at Koonibba in his youth and Gilbert McAdam coming to town with the prized Magarey medal.

In recent years, Vanderbergh has shared with McAdam how that meeting had inspired him in his basketball pursuits.

On the basketball courts,

imports Rob Rose and Darnel Mee were players he looked up to.

After a stint with the Central District Lions in the ABA, Vanderbergh spent a couple of seasons playing country Australian rules football alongside Che Cockatoo-Collins at the Long Plains Tigers on the Adelaide Plains.

He was runner up in the prized Mail Medal (competitions best and fairest player) in 2008, playing a season with South Gawler.

Paul met his wife Emma on a blind date.

They have three children.

Eldest Hunter Che, nearly 11, performed for the Yellaka Dance company during the recent Adelaide Fringe program, despite having broken bones in her foot. Their younger children are Harlo Jagger (4) and Reign Harlem (1).

At the 2017 SA NAIDOC Awards, Paul Vanderbergh was acknowledged as the Person of the Year.

The Aboriginal AFL Academy is one of the premier events on Port Adelaide's community programs. The leadership given by Vanderbergh will see in the next generation of football stars, with the likes of Wayne Milera Junior, Izak Rankine, Kym Lebois, Tyson Stengle, Kysaiah Pickett and Brandan Parfitt among the graduates.

Wurramara gives voice to poetry of her people

By ALI MC



EMILY WURRAMARA is used to breaking down barriers. "I guess I'm a bit of a rebel," she laughs.

Growing up between Groote Eyelandt and Brisbane, Emily says she is both "honoured and proud" to be the first female singer/songwriter from her community.

Currently recording a new album, Emily says that her songwriting changed with the recent birth of her daughter.

"My inspiration comes from my daughter at the moment. She's two.

"She just inspires me to do the best I can and leave behind good and happy feelings and emotions.

"It's made me approach my music on more of a human, love and healing perspective. You go through that when you're a mum; you have so much love. It's such an emotional journey and it's really come through in my music and in my songwriting.

"It's more telling the truth and how the pain sometimes hurts, but you can heal from that, you can move on."

Emily has seen success since the release of her EP *Black Smoke* in 2016, including an ARIA nomination and successful national and international tours.

She was also signed to Wantok Music (who she describes as a "beautiful family") and released her debut album *Milyakburra*, the traditional name of her island home.

Yet Emily says success for her is when "people say to me 'Your music helped me heal'.

"That's my success there, knowing that I've helped people feel good and feel at peace with whatever they are going through.

"The best advice I got was from my own mother which was 'people don't really remember what you say or what you do, they remember how you made them feel.'"

Not only is Emily unique as a female singer/songwriter from her community, she is also unique in the broader cultural landscape across Australia, singing in both English and Anindilyakwa, the language of her mother and grandmother.

"Whenever I sing in language, whenever I'm on stage, I'm channelling my ancestors and I'm channelling their voice through me. It's really sacred and really special.

"Language is land. It's culture. It's part of identity. I'm very honoured and very blessed to be able to share my language."

Emily explains how she moved to Brisbane when she



Emily Wurramara is recording a new album. Picture: Olivia Jarvis

was six years old, so didn't have the chance to engage with her culture and language much growing up.

Throughout primary and high school she only spoke English, but can still understand Anindilyakwa and now takes great pride singing in her language.

Emily states that singing in language is important, not only to continue the linguistic culture of Anindilyakwa, but also because "there's some words that you can only say in

language and you just know what it is.

"You've got that emotion. You have those feelings attached to it because you heard your grandmother speak it. It's very spiritual and it's ancestors, and that's so special.

"There are so many words in Anindilyakwa that I couldn't imagine being said in English, or being said in the way that it's said in language, with the feeling and the emotion behind it. The word gives you the feeling. It's beautiful."

Emily also says that it is both important and a mark of respect for non-Indigenous Australians to learn and speak Indigenous languages, and hopes that her music may inspire people to do so.

"We've had 200 years of speaking English. We've had to conform forcefully. There are languages that have been taken away and we don't know if we can get those languages back.

"When you connect with language, you connect with the environment and when you

"Whenever I sing in language, whenever I'm on stage, I'm channelling my ancestors and I'm channelling their voice through me. It's really sacred and really special. Language is land. It's culture. It's part of identity. I'm very honoured and very blessed to be able to share my language."

– Emily Wurramara

connect with language you connect with people.

"And that's just maintaining that respect, that it's 65,000 years plus that we've been here, and it's time to acknowledge that you are standing on Indigenous land, and we are all caretakers."

Emily says that there are challenges being a black, female artist in a predominantly white, male-dominated music industry, but says she is inspired by many Indigenous female artists before her, such as Christine Anu and Jessica Mauboy.

"There are many women who have come before me, who have kicked down so many terrible barriers.

"It's really empowering to be a black woman in this industry, because you are already going against the tide and changing history and I'm very proud to be a part of that and proud to be a part of the legacy of sisters that I share this industry with as well."

And these challenges just got even more difficult with the recent cancellation of gigs due to coronavirus, including an appearance at Bluesfest.

A tour to Canada, including performances on First Nations reservations, is also in doubt.

"It's hard to lock stuff in with the virus."

Yet fans of Emily's music can still support her during this difficult time, by purchasing her music via her webpage or Wantok Music.

To do so, go to <https://www.emilywurramara.com.au/> or <https://www.wantokmusik.org/>

higher education 2020

YOUR GUIDE TO ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HIGHER EDUCATION



A moment from Melody Popple's installation, *Gunyah* (which means shelter).

Southern Cross provides platform for new voices

Some years ago, during a stint with an Indigenous climate action group, Melody Popple learnt the Indigenous heritage coffee rule: "Some is quite black, some has a lot of milk, but at the end of the day, it's all coffee."

It was a moment of light-hearted clarity in what had been at times a confusing journey. Melody discovered her own Indigenous heritage at the age of 15, almost by chance.

Her neighbours at the time were part of an Indigenous heritage tracing organisation and helped her family find a connection to an ancestor from the Sydney Central West region, possibly around Bathurst. He was killed by being stoned to death according to the records they could find, but his story and the connection to Melody's family was lost over time.

"It had been covered up. My mother knew she had Caribbean heritage and I guess at the time it was more socially acceptable to be Caribbean than

Indigenous. It's still unclear exactly what happened and why her Indigenous history was concealed," says Melody. "There's not much DNA in those databases or records. A lot of history has been lost."

The discovery was a turning point. With their home in the Northern Rivers, where Melody had been raised, her family was invited to join the Bundjalung nation by local Elders.

"I did feel strange about it at the time. I was someone who grew up with what you would call white privilege, I didn't grow up in an Indigenous community and I never really experienced racism, but my mother and my sister, who is a lot darker than me, did suffer this and I saw that."

"At the same time I didn't want to be perceived as a white girl milking a part of my identity for a culture that's gone through a lot of suffering."

Pursuing undergraduate studies in visual arts in Melbourne, she completed an installation and performance based on the

concept of a Gunyah (shelter) in the Grampians National Park. The work became the subject of a thesis that she completed as part of a Bachelor of Indigenous Knowledge (Honours) at Southern Cross University last year, through Gribi College of Indigenous Australian Peoples.

"I was exploring my writing as much as my art-making and was inspired by the connection that Gribi has to local Elders. It seemed, for a lack of a better word, authentic. Having Elders actually engage with academics to make coursework is really quite unique in tertiary education," she says. "Plus, where better to study than on Bundjalung country, where I grew up?"

Her work, *Gunyah*, was reproduced at Lismore Regional Gallery last year, incorporating natural materials, eco-dyed cloth and visuals. "The work was about place and having a connection to place so it was interesting to see that juxtaposed on the steel and concrete of a building."

"I think what it does show though is the growing realisation of the spiritual dimension of Indigenous knowledge and the important role it has to play. It can be a lens to look at things that we have been conditioned to think of as inanimate, like rocks or soil or water," she says.

Studying Indigenous knowledge in an academic setting has many parallels to traditional philosophy or social science for Melody. "The degree is not exclusive to Indigenous people; if anything it's just as worthwhile for people who are not Indigenous. It was empowering for me to find that voice and share it."

"I think we should be celebrating that and inviting people to have an interest in Indigenous knowledge, whether they have that heritage or not. We need more Indigenous voices in the academy. Being able to articulate meaning through words is powerful and being able to understand what you are doing through constant self-inquiry is even more so."



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From 2021, you can study a shared major in Indigenous Knowledge as part of undergraduate degrees in arts, forestry, social science, tourism management, business and enterprise or environmental science.

Kristina follows her passion for Indigenous health at ACU

A makeshift health clinic erected at the beachside of Darwin was the setting for the epiphany that validated Kristina Zillhardt's decision to study at Australian Catholic University (ACU).

It was during that internship opportunity at an outreach clinic run by Danila Dilba Health Services that Kristina realised how effective her nursing career could be in changing the lives of others facing tough times in remote areas around Australia.

"One lady was so sick. She didn't trust going to a hospital but was comfortable being treated at a remote clinic surrounded by her friends and family," the Bachelor of Nursing student said.

"The registered nurse made quick decisions and organised treatment that saved her life. It was one of the best experiences I've had because of uni so far and it gave me some insight into what I might eventually be able to do in my future ... It will be a long time before I have that kind of experience, but eventually that's something I'd like to do."

Kristina is an ideal role model for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people seeking to further their careers through higher education.

In 2019 she was a St John of God Scholarship recipient and has participated in two scholarships practical placements in remote communities; the Aurora Internship Programs and NSW Rural Doctors Network. She was also awarded the Deadly Achievers community engagement award from the First Peoples and Equity Pathways Directorate, at ACU.

Now in her second year at the North Sydney campus, the 29-year-old has been an active student ambassador for Yalbalinga Indigenous Higher Education Unit, speaking at

'Be the change' Indigenous Careers Expo and being a proud representative of ACU at the 2019 Dreamtime Awards.

However, life was not always this fulfilling for Kristina. She was raised by her grandparents and until recently knew little of her complex family history.

After leaving school, she worked for a decade in disability services. Kristina then decided she wanted to achieve a higher education and improve her existing skills as well as discover new ones. She always knew that helping people was a given, but she craved opportunities to shape lives in a more meaningful way.

"I've had some challenges along the way and been fortunate to find helpful people to get me through. I want to be that helpful person for others, to help them live their best life ... I'm a people person and love engaging with others, so nursing seemed the right direction."

Pursuing a Bachelor of Nursing degree as a mature-age student was a daunting challenge for someone unaccustomed to the demands of higher education. Kristina said she had not read a book since exiting high school and initially found the fear of exams, assignments and timetables to be daunting.

"I didn't have a lot of confidence. I didn't think I was good enough, but I've since proved myself wrong a few times.

Yalbalinga made a difference [and] having a supportive tutor and people who believed in me provided that little push that helped me to be more confident."

ACU's Indigenous Higher Education Units operate learning hubs at each of its Australian campuses. Experienced staff, such as those who supported Kristina, are available to offer academic, personal and cultural support.



Kristina Zillhardt, ACU undergraduate nursing student



Bachelor of Midwifery (Indigenous)

ABOUT THE COURSE

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CONTACT

Weemala Indigenous Higher Education Unit
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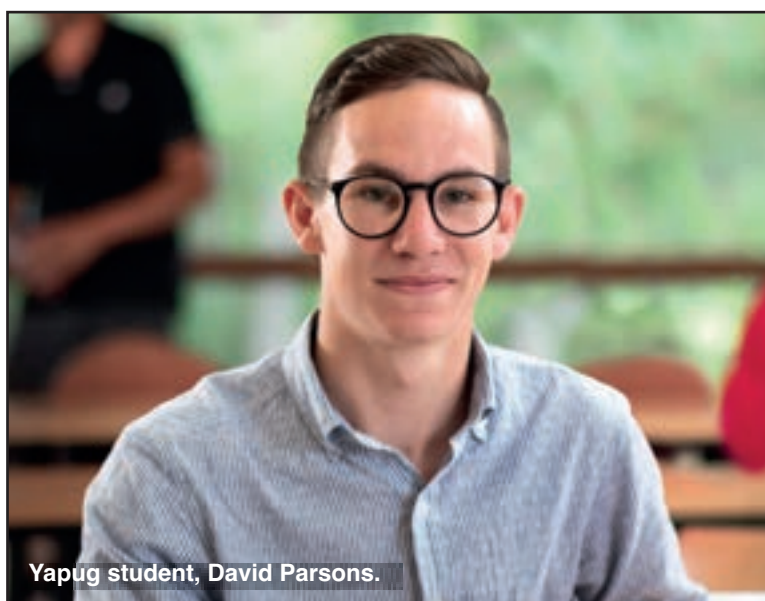
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Wollotuka Institute – enriching lives at the University of Newcastle

For more than 30 years, the Wollotuka Institute has operated as a support centre for Indigenous students studying at the University of Newcastle. Together, Wollotuka and the university are providing unparalleled leadership and championing the need for academically enriching and culturally affirming education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at a local, national and international level.

Wollotuka operates across all University of Newcastle campuses located on different Aboriginal countries across the east coast of Australia. The campuses are welcoming, inspiring and collaborative environments. When you study through Wollotuka you'll be supported by experienced staff, Elders, cultural leaders and fellow students who will help make your time at the University of Newcastle successful and fulfilling.

We provide assistance and a number of services during your undergraduate or postgraduate



Yapug student, David Parsons.

studies, including an enabling pathway program – Yapug – specifically designed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

For any student interested in

exploring Indigenous culture and history as part of their studies, we offer a Bachelor of Global Indigenous Studies. This dynamic and highly specialised degree has

recently been combined with a Bachelor of Development Studies and is taught and managed by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander academic and administrative team. The program focuses on ensuring you have a strong understanding of Indigenous culture, history and politics and that you're able to use Indigenous knowledge systems to respond to ecological, social and economic challenges.

If you're interested in studying this newly combined degree in July, visit the degree page to learn more.

Establishing employment pathways for Indigenous students remains a high priority for Wollotuka. Since 2016, our partnership agreement with CareerTrackers has helped facilitate the placement of Indigenous interns with Australia's leading corporate and not-for-profit organisations, including Qantas, Life without Barriers, Telstra, GHD and Lend Lease.

While the thought of moving away from your hometown to study might be daunting, we're here to make this transition as easy as possible.

The University of Newcastle offers hundreds of scholarship programs which can give you extra support throughout your studies and provides secure, affordable and comfortable accommodation options for students while studying.

Above all, Wollotuka provides an inclusive, culturally safe environment where you can come for support, advice, collaboration and knowledge-sharing. We are guided by a comprehensive set of cultural standards that reflect and embrace the essence of our goals. Our space is one where you can connect with other students and community – a home away from home while studying at the University of Newcastle.

To find out more about Wollotuka and explore other degrees available for mid-year entry visit www.newcastle.edu.au.

Pat Turner scholarship supporting the ambitions of next generation of leaders

For Patricia Akee, a student at the Australian National University, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and Closing the Gap are more than just government priorities.

Patricia is studying a Master of Culture, Health and Medicine through a Pat Turner scholarship with the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation.

She applied for the scholarship to make sure government policy considers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experiences and perspectives.

"I want our voices, as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, to inform, shape and influence national health priorities," Patricia said.

"As a Meriam Neur (Meriam woman) from Thursday Island who is now working in the Australian Government, I want the work I do to contribute to positive and sustainable improvements in our communities."

Patricia said that through the support of the scholarship, her studies will help advance her career and build the knowledge to represent Torres Strait Islander voices in the development of health policies.

"The course I'm completing is the only one of its kind," she said. "I am able to draw on anthropological and other social sciences, as well as develop technical expertise in health research and practice."

"I hope to gain the necessary skills to complete social and cultural analysis of national health policies and programs."

"This way, I can support culturally appropriate, evidence-based research."

Patricia said earning a Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholarship has helped her career.

"The opportunity to complete further study on a Pat Turner scholarship means I can work toward a qualification that will enable me to progress to a leadership role, which is one of my career goals," she said.



2020 Pat Turner scholars: Lee-Anne Daffy, Lisa Conway, Cris Castro, Adina Jordan, Claire Sainsbury and Patricia Akee.

"The more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices we have in leadership, the easier it will be to make sure policies are appropriate, effective and continue to improve for the betterment of the people."

The Sir Roland Wilson Foundation provides scholarships to Australian public servants to complete postgraduate study or research on topics of national and global significance.

The Foundation is currently seeking applications for the 2021 Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholarship. Established in 2019, the scholarship is named after Foundation patron and chief executive of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), Pat Turner.

The scholarship is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australian public servants. Scholars complete a

postgraduate qualification, from a Graduate Certificate to a PhD, through either the Australian National University or Charles Darwin University.

Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Pat Turner scholarship applications are open until May 15.

To view the eligibility criteria and find out more, go to srwfoundation.anu.edu.au or email srw.foundation@anu.edu.au

Alternative pathways to higher education for Indigenous students

Flinders University recognises the importance of offering alternative pathways to university for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who may not enter the university through traditional pathways.

So, what happens when traditional pathways to university study aren't right for the individual?

Flinders is committed to providing opportunities to a higher education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and our Indigenous Admissions Scheme provides an alternative pathway for entry.

'Higher education is a pathway to gain qualifications which can support and meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to contribute to local, rural, regional, and national contexts. Flinders University, through its Yunggorendi Student Engagement program, offers services to foster academic success, provides spaces within the university which affirms identity and belonging, and offers pastoral and academic support.'

Associate Professor Simone Ulalka Tur
inaugural pro vice-chancellor (Indigenous)

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, the Flinders Yunggorendi Student Engagement team can advise you on undergraduate degree pathways available through the Indigenous Admission Scheme. The application process is simple, and the Yunggorendi team can assist you through your application.

'I had wanted to go study at university for a long time and when I finally took the leap, Yunggorendi were an incredible asset to have in my corner. The Indigenous Admission Scheme was a very simple and quick process, and once I was accepted the team at Yunggorendi were extremely friendly and caring.'

Warrick Clinch
Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Physiotherapy

The Flinders Yunggorendi Student Engagement team also offers a range of support options for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, from admission into Flinders, through to academic skills development, supplementary tutorials, one-on-one pastoral care and access to financial support.

'Yunggorendi and the Indigenous Admission process have enabled me to reach my goals with the support they have provided me. The Indigenous student officers made me feel accepted as a Waiben and Bunganditj man within the university by informing me of all opportunities and support.'

Jackson Cleaver
Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Occupational Therapy

Online support is particularly important during our current COVID-19 situation, and along with the rest of the university, the Yunggorendi team have enhanced their online support options to ensure students continue to seamlessly access the assistance



Yunggorendi Student Engagement is there for you, offering alternative pathways to support your higher education aspirations.

they need, when they need it.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, now is the time to begin your university journey and get future ready. If you haven't been able to gain access to university by traditional entry means, Flinders' Indigenous Admissions Scheme could be your pathway to university study at Flinders University.

'The Indigenous Admissions Scheme focuses

on you as an individual, where you want to go, who you want to be. We focus on your strengths and talk about what works for you to learn well. It's an opportunity to help tailor your experience. That is the best thing about learning at university: It gives you permission to reimagine yourself and the world.'

Jody St Clair
Yunggorendi Student Engagement coordinator



YUNGGORENDI STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Flinders University is committed to providing opportunities that support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student success and access to a higher education.

The Indigenous Admissions Scheme provides an avenue for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to apply for alternative entry into selected undergraduate courses.

If you're an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person who may not have been able to gain entry to university by traditional means, we encourage you to contact us, complete an application and benefit from admission to Flinders through the Indigenous Admission Scheme.

For more information and a copy of the Indigenous Admissions Scheme application form please visit flinders.edu.au/study/pathways/indigenous-admissions-scheme

The Yunggorendi Student Engagement team are dedicated in providing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people help in realising their goals and aspirations, while studying at Flinders University. We work closely with students throughout the student life cycle, offering tailored and one-on-one support and assistance.

"The Indigenous Admission Scheme was a very simple and quick process, and once I was accepted the team at Yunggorendi were extremely friendly and caring. I would highly recommend anyone wanting to study at University, pick Flinders and the team at Yunggorendi. You won't regret it!"

Warrick Clinch
Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Physiotherapy

Contact Yunggorendi Student Engagement on 1800 641 811 or email Yunggorendi@flinders.edu.au for more information.

Online expertise well established at the University of New England

Already highly regarded for online excellence, the University of New England now offers all courses online as Australia manages the COVID-19 pandemic. UNE's extensive experience in offering quality study experiences to remote students means that it is well-positioned to deal with the current situation.

On-campus students have been supported to transfer fully to online study and with the successful trials of UNE's online examinations in the past 12 months, all students can now sit exams from home.

With around 1000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, the Oorala Student Engagement Team has worked with individual students to ensure this transition is a success, understanding that stepping into a different form of study requires unique attention. This includes the current on-campus TRACKS tertiary preparation course students, who all continue their studies online, fully supported by Oorala's free online tuition program and the Indigenous Scholar/TRACKS Peer Support Program.

An innovative program at the Oorala Aboriginal Centre, our

Indigenous Scholar/TRACKS Peer Support Program matches academically high-achieving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholars with TRACKS students and involves them in mentoring and peer support activities.

Training and support

The Indigenous UNE scholars receive training to support their fellow students at university and are recognised for their academic successes. The scholars' knowledge and experience of tertiary education is a powerful tool which is harnessed to assist those students at the beginning of their university journey.

One such scholar is Woolwonga woman Dawn Lewis. Dawn is a high-achieving student yet her early experience at university was very different.

"I bombed hard in my first year. I withdrew from classes I shouldn't have because I didn't understand the academic census dates and I didn't complete units," she said.

"I have bounced back and hope my story will help someone persist with their goals when they're having a tough time. I had many questions

when I first began study and didn't know who to go to for help."

Kate Carter, lecturer and TRACKS unit coordinator at Oorala, invited Dawn to be a mentor in the program as her experience is so similar to that of many other students.

"Dawn's experience is not an unusual one, and by linking her story with students commencing their tertiary study journey in the TRACKS program allows for real and authentic learning and sharing to take place. Our aim is for TRACKS students to see themselves in Dawn's experience and know they too can succeed in this space," Kate said.

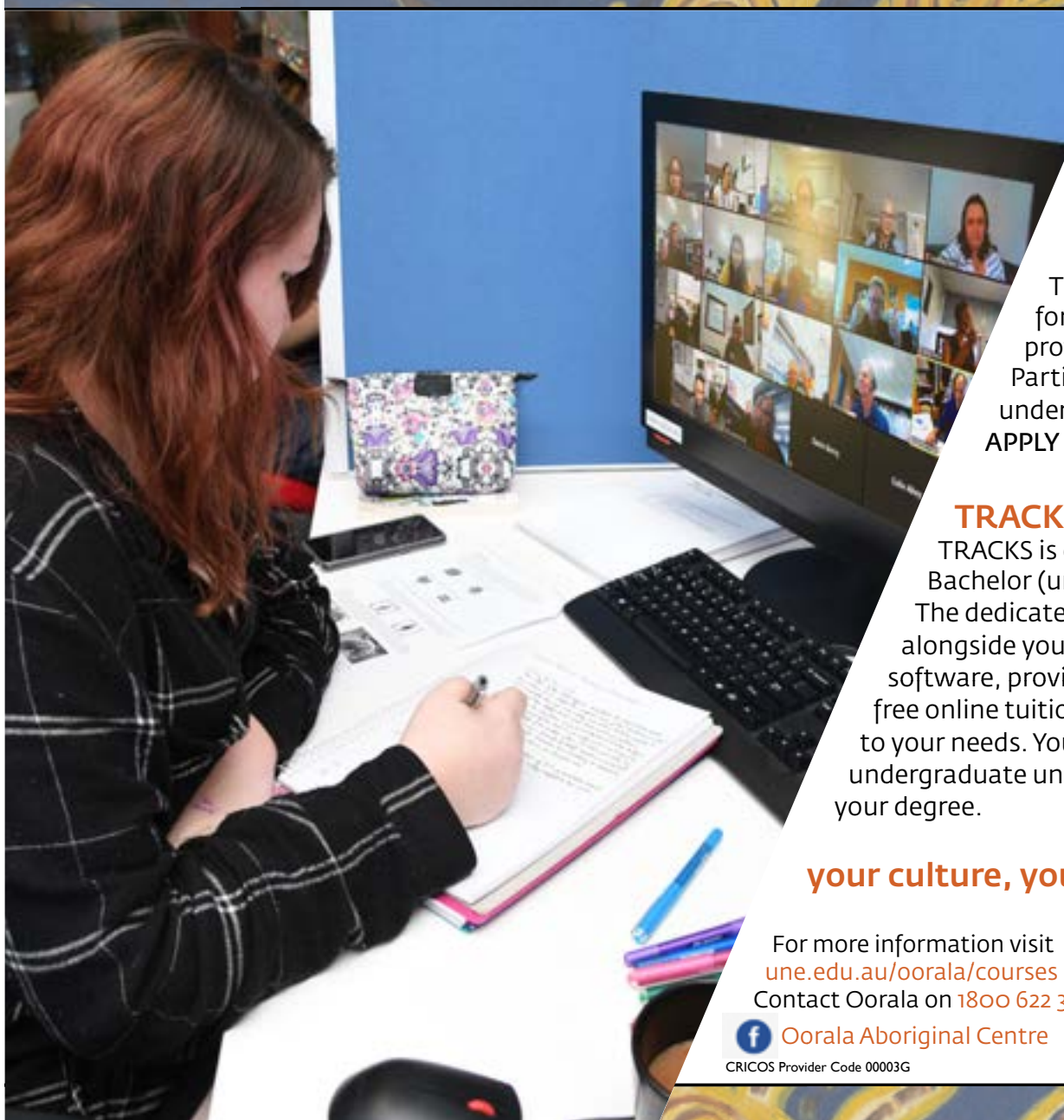
Dawn has since graduated with a double degree in arts and science, majoring in archaeology and genetics, and will complete her honours year, shortly. And to cap off her achievements she has recently been accepted into a Master of Science in Archaeological Science at Oxford University.

At the Oorala Aboriginal Centre we put the wellbeing and success of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and their communities first with qualified and caring staff.



Dawn Lewis graduated from UNE in 2019.

Study Online with UNE



Oorala has two specially designed pathway programs into university which will allow you to build your skills and confidence while studying online from home.

Oorala Internal Selection Program (ISP) for direct entry

The Oorala ISP is an assessment program designed for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders with professional work or community experience. Participants will be offered a place in an undergraduate degree or TRACKS pathway program. **APPLY NOW** to commence your online studies

TRACKS Tertiary Preparation Program

TRACKS is designed to prepare you for admission to a Bachelor (undergraduate) degree program at UNE. The dedicated and experienced team at Oorala will work alongside you using online collaboration tools including ZOOM software, provide access to experienced peer mentors, and our free online tuition program; as we tailor your learning experiences to your needs. You will also have an opportunity to study an undergraduate unit in your area of interest that may help fast track your degree.

your culture, your community and our partnership

For more information visit
une.edu.au/orala/courses
Contact Oorala on 1800 622 384

 **Oorala Aboriginal Centre**

CRICOS Provider Code 00003G





Luke Edmund is committed to improving his job prospects through tertiary education.

Education opens doors for Luke

Ever since he was a teenager Luke Edmund had a keen interest in the human mind — now he's well on the way to qualifying as a psychologist.

The 30-year-old Indigenous student has described how his many years of feeling unfulfilled led him to take the first 'steps' to improve his outlook on life.

He enrolled in the Skills for Tertiary Education Preparatory Studies (STEPS) at Central Queensland University (CQU) and through perseverance plus his own life experiences, he is on the path to fulfilling his goal.

After leaving North Rockhampton High School in Year 11 and working in the mining and construction industries, driving heavy vehicles, Luke decided he needed a change.

"I'd worked in mining and construction where I reached a point that I felt unfulfilled and I was over living away from home and my family," he said.

"I'd always wanted to try STEPS at CQUni. I'd started reading books — general science books and works by Indigenous authors like Stan Grant and Bruce Pascoe. Then I read a book called *The Brain* by David Eagleman and it opened things up for me."

A series of personal challenges, including the passing of Luke's father and the birth of his first child at the age of 18, reinforced his desire to improve his prospects.

"It was a massive responsibility at that age, becoming a parent and in truth, I struggled with it. I wasn't comfortable with being a parent and I struggled with depression," he said.

After leaving the mines, Luke started his own gardening business and tried to enter the STEPS program, but failed the entrance exam.

"I thought about giving up, but my wife encouraged me to retry," he said.

"I scaled the gardening business down and attended on campus to study maths and eventually completed STEPS."

He then quickly enrolled in a Bachelor of Psychological Science. Soon after, he was awarded a BHP Indigenous Scholarship which allowed him to keep on top of his bills and cut back on his work commitments so he could attend class.

Luke's now a little over a year into his course and he's glad he found the courage to stay determined. He's performing well in his studies, securing distinctions and high distinctions.

He encourages other Indigenous young people to follow his example.

"Have the courage to take the risk," he said.

"It hasn't been easy, but, if you are confident, you'll be able to find a way to get through. By taking my risk I've learned far more than if I'd stayed safe."

Luke said CQU's support services included the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME) program, something he was proud to be a part of.

"I heard about AIME on the radio when I was driving dump trucks and I thought it was really cool," he said. "I became a mentor after enrolling in my course and I did it because I could see myself in the kids and I wanted to let them know that I was doing my course, not necessarily because I was smart, but because I put the effort in."

"My own personal experience made me realise that maybe I could give something back to others."

UNE begins repatriation of ancestral remains

Indigenous ancestral remains housed in the University of New England's cultural collections were returned home last month in a repatriation ceremony by the local Anaiwan community to the country of the Dunghutti Nation.

In the 1960s, a severe storm eroded parts of a sand dune at Stuart's Point (Kempsey), revealing a partial skeleton, now known to be of Aboriginal descent. The remains have been stored in the university's cultural collections.

A request from the Dunghutti Elders Council and Kempsey Local Aboriginal Land Council (KLALC) for the return of ancestral remains to the Stuarts Point and Smokey Cape area, provided an ideal opportunity for the university to fulfil its cultural and legal obligations



Uncle Les Ahoy (Anaiwan Elder), Craig Anderson (Dunghutti Elders Council), Cheryl Brown (regional manager Heritage NSW), and Professor Brigid Heywood (vice-chancellor and chief executive officer of the University of New England).

around the artefacts.
UNE vice-chancellor and chief executive officer Professor Brigid

Heywood said the university worked with its cultural advisor, Stephen Ahoy and the cultural

repatriation program of the NSW Office of Environment to ensure the ancestors were returned home in a culturally appropriate manner.

"UNE is a storehouse of cultural and natural treasures collected or donated over the decades since its establishment in the 1950s," Professor Heywood said.

"The most important part of our holdings are Aboriginal ancestral remains, which UNE is committed to ensuring are respectfully and appropriately returned to their communities."

As a part of the ceremony, Elders from the Dunghutti community travelled to the UNE's Armidale campus to take custody of the ancestral remains through a formal ceremony, hosted by Mr Ahoy and members of the local

Anaiwan indigenous community.

The ceremony included an apology from UNE, recognising its role in the holding of these precious remains and affirming its commitment to respecting and acknowledging the rights

"Whilst we can't change what happened in the past, we can show our commitment to healing, wellbeing and reconciliation through our actions now and into the future," Professor Heywood said.

"This healing links the ancestors, the living, and country — and the fundamental connection between the three."

This is the first in a series of hand-over ceremonies that will be coordinated to ensure all ancestral remains held by UNE are repatriated to their rightful homes.

NOOD clean up on hand sanitiser boom

By PETER ARGENT



THE brainchild of 27-year-old Ngarrindjeri and Kurna man Anthony Wilson, along with business partner and mentors Bronte and Nicole Hough, NOOD Australia supplies a natural, sustainable and ecologically friendly range of washroom and cleaning products to a national market.

They produce a range of merchandise including hand hygiene, guest amenities and cleaning products made using Indigenous botanicals that are sustainable and friendly to our environment.

"The business has been registered for just over a year. We've been trading for the last seven months now," Anthony Wilson said.

"I wasn't keen on working in a 9am to 5pm type environment and while there were a lot of commitments in starting the business, we're already making good inroads and have connected to a number of sectors.

"The COVID-19 crisis had some positive effects from our perspective as well as giving us some roadblocks.

"The next six months should continue to be exciting for our business.

"We sell our goods on a wholesale basis currently, but we're looking into developing a retail range as well."

NOOD managing director Mr Wilson said that they have distributors in Queensland, NSW, Western Australia, Victoria and Tasmania.

"We want to continue to be more innovative and think outside the square," he said, "Have a different way of looking at things.

"We are also looking to ensure the harvesting of the native botanicals helps grow opportunities for Indigenous people."

The cleaning range includes; Kardla Hard Surface Cleaner (infused with



Ngarrindjeri and Kurna man Anthony Wilson with a couple of NOOD's products.

Kakadu plum desert lime and lemon myrtle oil); Kudli Hand Sanitiser (infused with Davidson plum, lemon myrtle and quandong extracts); Pari Bathroom Cleaner (infused with Kakadu plum, lemon myrtle, quandong and eucalyptus oil); Piki Glass Cleaner (infused with Kakadu plum, quandong and desert lime extract); Tuka Dishwashing Detergent (infused with eucalyptus oil); Wara Floor Cleaner (infused with Kakadu plum,

quandong and lemon myrtle oil) and Wirra Hand and Body Wash (infused with Kakadu plum, desert lime, wattleseed oil and tea tree oil).

The packaging range offers takeaway (biocup) cups sporting an Indigenous design, as well as ingenious bioplastic lids that are made from plants not oil, while the washroom range offers products for commercial bathrooms such as hands-free dispensers for toilet

paper and hand-towel rolls.

Wilson, who has family ties to the Narungga and Arrernte country, was born and raised in Adelaide and completed Year 12 studies back in 2010.

He has been working in various roles over the past decade.

This included playing in a SANFL league football premiership for the Norwood Football Club in 2014 which then saw him drafted by AFL club the Adelaide Crows for the 2015 season.

He has also worked as a youth mentor with AIME, helping to shape the next generation of Aboriginal leaders.

Along with a strong passion for supporting Aboriginal youth, Wilson is driven to live and work in a green environment, creating economic growth along with self-sufficiency within communities.

Each extract used in the NOOD cleaning range has a connection to Aboriginal culture and country.

The Kakadu plum or billygoat plum is used as bush tucker or traditional Aboriginal medicine.

The desert lime fruit is a highly prized bushfood, which traditionally is wild-harvested from surviving bushland areas, being native to Queensland, NSW, and South Australia.

Aboriginal people have long used lemon myrtle, both in cuisine and as a healing plant.

The quandong edible fruit, is also called the native peach.

Wattleseed oil-infusion delivers powerful benefits. It has properties that nourish and regenerate skin, and is used for healing wounds, acne support and hair growth.

Tea tree oil makes an ideal natural hand sanitiser, insect repellent, natural deodorant, and antiseptic for minor cuts and scrapes, boosting wound healing.

Davidson plum is an edible sour fruit with burgundy coloured flesh and is highly regarded as gourmet bushfood.

Indigenous mindset is a model for innovation



BUNDABERG entrepreneur and Central Queensland Uni graduate Leslie Lowe is taking his experience of

Indigenous innovation global, as part of a CQUni project to celebrate First Nations' ingenuity.

The proud Bundjalung man has been helping CQUni communities better understand Indigenous navigation, agriculture and aquaculture, trade and medicine, through both storytelling and academia – and last week he shared his knowledge with international forum for social innovation, the Ashoka U Exchange.

While the annual gathering was staged online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr Lowe was still able to share some achievements of Australia's Indigenous peoples with the gathering of education leaders.

Supported by \$US10,000 funding from the American Fetzer Institute, earlier this year CQUni's Office of Social Innovation



Leslie Lowe, managing director of TECKnology Indigenous Corporation, a not-for-profit sustainability management organisation.

partnered with Mr Lowe to create a national workshop series 'Social Innovation through an Indigenous Lens'.

Mr Lowe co-designed the workshop with Social Innovation program manager Ashley Clarke, to

explore and celebrate innovative ways of being and doing demonstrated in pre-colonial Indigenous Australia.

The workshop explores Indigenous navigation, agriculture and aquaculture, trade and

medicine, from both storytelling and academic perspectives.

February sessions in Brisbane and Townsville were booked out by staff, students and community members, while more scheduled events across Mackay, Rockhampton and Melbourne have been postponed due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Mr Lowe said understanding Indigenous Australians as innovative peoples was vital to recognition and reconciliation.

"From my first learning about the framework of social innovation, it was always obvious to me, this is the way our mob thinks and works, and how we hold our people together," he said.

"I've built that understanding over a lifetime of living and learning in Indigenous communities, and then for the past decade being involved at CQUniversity and bringing in the academic perspective, too.

"This workshop is the first time I've been able to bring all of it together, and had the platform to

help the wider community realise the potential of Indigenous mindsets."

Since 2015, Mr Lowe has been managing director of Bundaberg's innovative TECKnology Indigenous Corporation, a not-for-profit sustainability management organisation.

Ms Clarke, who developed the 'Social Innovation through an Indigenous Lens' workshops with Mr Lowe, said appreciating Indigenous knowledge was increasingly important to people working towards social change.

"Indigenous Australians are the longest living continuous culture on the planet for a reason. This workshop celebrates Indigenous social innovations and gives participants an opportunity to appreciate and learn from an Indigenous mindset," she said.

"Participants got to propose their own ideas about how Indigenous ways of being and thinking could be applied to tackling issues in their communities, and they were really excited about those opportunities."

Young artists take out Heart Foundation Walking's t-shirt design competition



"THE colours represent the Torres Strait Islands. The blue wavy lines represent the ocean. The flag represents the Torres Strait people. The hand represents the strength and courage of the Torres Strait people."

This is how 17-year-old Veronica Hughson, one of two winners in Heart Foundation Walking's inaugural Indigenous polo-shirt design competition, described her eye-catching entry.

Heart Foundation Walking launched the competition in January as a way to engage with Australians who identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are at higher risk of heart disease than other Australians.

The Heart Foundation invited about 80 Indigenous councils, schools, organisations and communities across the country to take part in the competition.

Entrants were asked to create designs that portrayed connection to community, health, equity, the Heart Foundation and walking. There were two categories – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander – with participants entering according to which background they are more strongly influenced by. They were also encouraged to submit a meaningful story about their designs.

Veronica Hughson took out the Torres Strait Islander category, with her striking blue, green and white design.

Veronica lives in the northern Queensland town of Aloomba. She is a student at Djarragun College in Gordonvale, which is about 24 kilometres south of Cairns.

Fellow Djarragun College student Nadia Lewis, 18, won the Aboriginal category. Nadia is a boarder at the college, but hails from Amata, an Aboriginal community in the far north-west of South Australia, about 115 kilometres south of Uluru in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands. Nadia's beautiful design was inspired by a Dreamtime story.

Heart Foundation Walking is Australia's largest network of free walking groups. It has more than 1100 groups nationwide, including 26 groups specifically for people



Judges were amazed by the creativity, imagination and artistic skill represented in the 25 designs entered in the competition.

from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander backgrounds.

The winning designs will be printed onto polo shirts for volunteer walk organisers who identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander backgrounds. Eventually, the shirts will also be for sale in the Heart Foundation shop.

As the competition winners, Veronica and Nadia will each receive a shirt printed with their design, along with a prize valued at \$100.

Adjunct Professor Trevor Shilton, Heart Foundation Director of Active Living, said the judges were amazed by the creativity, imagination and artistic skill represented in the 25 competition entries.

"It made selecting the winners very challenging," Professor Shilton said. "We hope to run the competition again and look

forward to seeing many more wonderful shirt designs."

Professor Shilton added that heart disease is the single leading cause of death in Australia, with Indigenous Australians dying at around double the rate of other Australians due to the disease.

"Physical inactivity is a key risk factor for heart disease," he said. "This competition is part of our ongoing strategy to raise awareness of the importance of reducing risk of heart disease in Indigenous communities across Australia, and encouraging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to improve their heart health through walking."

All Heart Foundation Walking groups are currently on hiatus due to the coronavirus pandemic. For more information, visit Heart Foundation Walking.



17-year-old Djarragun College student Veronica Hughson holds her striking blue, green and white design that was the winning entry in the Torres Strait Islander category. Veronica lives in the northern Queensland town of Aloomba.



Nadia Lewis, 18, won the Aboriginal category with this beautiful design inspired by a Dreamtime story. Nadia is a boarder at Djarragun College but hails from Amata, an Aboriginal community in South Australia's APY Lands.

Experts want early heart screen to prevent stroke



HEART experts are calling for better screening for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to protect them from high

and growing rates of a common heart condition linked to deadly strokes.

Specialists at the Heart Research Institute (HRI) in Sydney are warning that guidelines to screen Aboriginal people for atrial fibrillation (AF) are needed to help prevent cardiovascular disease in this at-risk population.

Professor Ben Freedman, HRI Heart Rhythm and Stroke Prevention group leader, said

screening could save lives.

"New research shows Indigenous Australians are experiencing these catastrophic strokes at a much younger age than other Australians," he said.

"We're looking at introducing life-saving screening for Australians aged over 65, but that's too late for half of Aboriginal sufferers. We're calling on culturally-specific screening guidelines that will protect this at-risk population from an earlier age."

Dr Nicole Lowres, a postdoctoral scientist in the HRI group, and Professor Freedman issued the warning in an editorial published in *The Medical Journal of Australia*. AF is common, affecting more

than 500,000 Australians. It is an irregular heart rhythm disorder that interferes with the normal pumping of the heart. Irregular pumping causes poor blood flow to the body and allows large blood clots to form. These clots can break off and enter the arteries, blocking blood flow to the brain and causing a stroke. AF-related strokes tend to be larger, more severe and harder to survive than strokes due to other causes.

"The good news is that most of these strokes are preventable with blood thinners but you need to know you have the condition in order to be treated," Dr Lowres said. "Unfortunately in Australia too many people are not getting

diagnosed until after the stroke has occurred."

Change is afoot to introduce screening from the age of 65 in the general population, but Professor Freedman warns that age 65 is too late for many Aboriginal people.

"There is a growing body of research showing Aboriginal people develop AF at a younger age, have higher cardiovascular risk, and have a much poorer prognosis than other people," he said. "While the reasons aren't clear, earlier AF might be linked to genes and undetected rheumatic valvular heart disease."

Professor Freedman and Dr Lowres are calling for new screening guidelines for this group

to close the health gaps. They also warn that recommendations for opportunistic screening, usually by GPs, may not be suited to Indigenous people and that challenges also exist to persuade Indigenous patients to begin treatment and stick with it over time.

"We really want to get the message out that AF is a major health risk for this population, especially for those in their 40s, 50s and older," Professor Freedman. "We want to educate people about the considerable life-saving benefits of getting tested for AF and getting onto treatment. Medication works. You just need to know to get on it."

NAISDA graduation is one to remember



NAISDA Dance College has become one of a number of learning and training organisations

worldwide to celebrate its graduating class of 2019 by holding an innovative, completely digital, graduation ceremony.

A crescendo of dance, culture, celebration and emotion, NAISDA's graduation ceremony is one of the highlights in its annual calendar of events.

Determined to honour its developing artists' achievements while being mindful of keeping communities safe, and in accordance with social distancing, NAISDA broke new ground by staging its first online celebration in the organisation's 44-year history.

NAISDA chief executive Kim Walker said the virtual ceremony was distributed through NAISDA's social media channels, website and electronic direct mail, in recognition of NAISDA's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates' hard work, talent and success.

The unique ceremony uses a variety of media to capture highlights and share memories; including personal messages from NAISDA spokespeople and graduates sent from across the country, and a selection of moving video packages showcasing graduate performances and special moments.

Mr Walker said the digital ceremony was a fitting – and accessible – way to mark the occasion in such an unprecedented time.

"Like so many, the current situation has presented NAISDA with some significant challenges,"



NAISDA developing artists celebrate their graduation online this year. Picture: Jamie James

he said. "But this hasn't stopped us from celebrating our class of 2019 in a truly special and unforgettable way.

"It is more important now than ever before to come together and connect in celebration of our young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates' pursuit of learning and cultural and creative expression.

"We are proud to share our captivating ceremony which deservedly acknowledges not just our graduates, but everyone who has played a role in their journeys – our boards, executive, staff, trainers, tutors, family members,

carers, communities, friends, funders, donors and supporters.

"It is wonderful that this year we can share these messages widely and make the celebration accessible to more people than ever thanks to digital technology."

The ceremony pays special tribute to the Class of 2019 cohort of diploma graduates, David Biondi-Odo, Jarryd Dixon, Kiarn Doyle, Hosken Macfarlane, Maddison Paluch, Edan Porter and Kiara Wilson who are already making an impact working across creative, cultural and community sectors.

Kiarn Doyle joined Bangarra Dance Theatre as this year's recipient of Bangarra's Russell Page Graduate Program, while Maddison Paluch and Edan Porter are both undertaking a pre-professional year at Sydney Dance Company.

"I wish the class of 2019 warm wishes and the very best of luck as they pursue exciting career paths in dance, production, community, education and beyond," Mr Walker said.

"We are inspired knowing that our graduates continue to shape Australia's performing arts landscape as they carry the

NAISDA legacy forward and go on to form Australia's next wave of Indigenous creative and cultural innovators and pioneers.

"In such uncertain times we look to support each other, to find strength, confidence and resilience in our creative and cultural endeavours and practice for a future which will sustain our artistic and cultural communities, partners and landscape through this challenge and beyond."

To view the NAISDA Dance College's Class of 2019 Graduation Ceremony visit www.naisda.com.au and follow the links.

Virtual exhibition is new way of experiencing art



LIKE many businesses, Bronte art gallery Aboriginal Contemporary in Sydney has had to temporarily close its doors in response to COVID-19. But with new exhibitions

lined up and ready to go, and artists and their communities relying on her gallery's support more than ever, owner Nichola Dare was determined not to let her art centre partners down.

But how do you have an exhibition without a gallery? Working with a new Berlin-based software company, last week, Aboriginal Contemporary launched its first-ever virtual gallery exhibition: *Badem Mawoondool – red ochre, white ochre*.

The idea for the exhibition was conceived last year when Aboriginal Contemporary presented *Bow River Country*, a sell-out show of works by Kathy and Tracey Ramsay from Warmun Arts, an arts centre owned by the Gija people and located 200km south of Kununurra, in the Kimberley region of Western Australia.

"One of the highlights of the show was how people were drawn to the dusty, pink ochres in much of the work", Nichola said. "It



Badem Mawoondool – red ochre, white ochre is an online exhibition of work by Gija artists at Aboriginal Contemporary.

got us thinking about whether it would be possible to curate an entire exhibition exploring the past and present of a single colour in East Kimberley art."

The result is *Badem Mawoondool – red ochre, white ochre*, pronounced 'BAH-dem MOUN-doo'.

Despite having been part of the ochre palette of painters in the Kimberley since the beginning, there is no single word for 'pink' in Gija.

The new show evokes the work of some of the Kimberley's greatest-ever artists: Queenie McKenzie, Paddy Bedford, Freddie

Timms and, Kathy and Tracey's father, Rammey Ramsey.

Nichola said the exhibition was sourced from both the prized Jirrawun archive and the work of current Warmun artists. She said Aboriginal Contemporary's first-ever virtual gallery is not only a new way to experience art and a chance to acquire some rare and beautiful paintings, it's also an opportunity to help Aboriginal artists, art centres and remote communities through these difficult times.

"We received very positive feedback about the virtual gallery," Nichola said.

"This has led us to explore further opportunities for our next virtual exhibition opening April 23. For this exhibition we have worked closely with the art centre, Ernabella Arts, from the remote APY Lands and have been able to add audio and video footage which are embedded into the virtual exhibition.

"Never before have we been able to achieve such a collaborative exhibition, putting the art centre and artists' voices right up alongside the beautiful artworks they create."

The virtual exhibitions can be viewed at aboriginalcontemporary.com.au



Wyatt: listening and acting to save lives

We're listening and working with Indigenous Australians to respond to COVID-19.

The threat of COVID-19 is serious. That's why the Australian Government has been working tirelessly to ensure the safety of all Australians, including Indigenous Australians whether they be from remote and isolated communities, the regions or in our major cities.

This is our highest priority, and in working in partnership with state and territory governments, leading Indigenous organisations and Elders, we have implemented important measures to minimise the exposure of remote communities to COVID-19, and to ensure that we are well placed to respond to any outbreaks.

I read with interest the open letter published in last week's edition of the *Koori Mail* – titled 'Please, Ken Wyatt, hear our urgent plea'.

Disappointingly, this letter failed to recognise the work we're undertaking, and implied that the response to protecting remote communities and Indigenous Australians has been inadequate.

Alarmist language such as 'rapidly deteriorating and highly threatening situation' only serves to fuel panic at a time where level heads are required.

We must all accept responsibility to act in a measured way, so that key messages are communicated and absorbed, and so people are equipped with the knowledge required to protect themselves and loved ones from this virus.

I would like to reassure all readers that we are doing what is right, based on sound medical advice of the National Health Expert Committee established by the Minister for Health, to limit exposure and ensure the safety of Indigenous Australians.

An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group has been established to ensure the priorities of Indigenous Australians are considered in the development and implementation of all health responses.

A number of measures have been announced which will support Indigenous Australians to prepare and adapt to COVID-19 including \$57.8 million to support remote areas to minimise the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, increase



"I would like to reassure all readers that we are doing what is right, based on sound medical advice of the National Health Expert Committee," Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt said.

their capacity to evacuate early cases and enable an effective response if an outbreak occurs.

Forty-five remote community organisations (including Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and local health clinics) supporting 110 remote areas have already been offered grants, while a second tranche commenced in late March.

The Australian Government has also engaged an Aboriginal-owned media company to develop communications materials on COVID-19, prioritising remote Indigenous areas and Indigenous languages translations to supplement existing communication messages by the Department of Health.

In addition, we are investing \$3.3 million to establish a rapid COVID-19 Remote Point of Care Testing Program for remote and rural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Under the program, people will benefit from testing times being cut to around 45 minutes.

This will be an improvement for areas such as the Kimberley, where receiving a test result can currently take up to 10 days.

Once fully rolled out, there will be 83 testing sites in place across Indigenous communities most at risk, and most in need.

We're making \$123 million available to support Indigenous businesses and communities to increase their responses to COVID-19.

We have already implemented plans to protect Indigenous health, limit the movement of people into designated areas, and made adjustments to the Community Development Program and other activities funded under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy.

We are extending our response by linking Indigenous businesses with additional support, taking steps to better apply the available Indigenous workforce to industries and regions in need and increasing the preparedness and response capability of communities.

Through Indigenous Business Australia, we are providing up to \$50 million to help Indigenous businesses over coming months.

This includes providing specialist advice to help businesses survive, adapt and recover, assistance to access the different business support

packages available from Government, and new funding arrangements where there are gaps in the mainstream measures and a demonstrated need.

Up to \$25 million will be available to targeted regions and industries facing labour shortfalls to provide incentives to employers, support to Indigenous job seekers and greater flexibility to access employment initiatives in a way that suits their short term needs.

The Aboriginals Benefit Account will deliver \$10 million across the four Land Councils in the Northern Territory to allow them to address immediate infrastructure needs and travel expenses associated with people returning to homelands.

\$23 million will go towards enhancing the delivery of critical social support programs, including alcohol and other drug services, social and emotional wellbeing projects, family support and youth engagement and diversion programs.

And up to \$5 million will be made available to expand the school nutrition program in the Northern Territory so that meals can continue to be delivered during school closures and holiday

periods and also to extend the program to vulnerable families and the elderly where required.

Ensuring a reliable supply of essential goods, groceries, pharmaceuticals and other critical supplies during the COVID-19 pandemic is a high priority for the Australian Government.

The Australian Government is working in close collaboration with states and territories under the National Cabinet mechanism to coordinate responses in a range of sectors. Groceries and food security is one of the priority groups under this mechanism.

Last week I hosted a roundtable discussion with Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, the Hon Michael Gunner and representatives from the Arnhem Land Progress Association (ALPA), Islanders Board of Industry and Service (IBIS), Outback Stores, Coles, Woolworths and Metcash. This is part of my ongoing engagement with Ministers from all jurisdictions.

To support this work, the National Indigenous Australians Agency has established a dedicated Food Security Working Group that is closely monitoring specific issues that are particular to regional and remote Australia.

I am also working closely with the State and Territory Ministers for Indigenous Affairs, and last week hosted a teleconference to cover a number of issues highlighted in this article.

I am always willing to listen to those who are working on the front line to help protect Indigenous Australians against COVID-19, but it is important that we work closely together because we will only defeat this virus by working together.

This is how we will prevent COVID-19 from creating a songline of infection.

The Government is doing all it can to protect all Australians from the health threat of COVID-19 and cushion the economic impacts so we can bounce back when the pandemic is over.

We will get through this together by everyone following the health advice and complying with the restrictions that are necessary to protect our Elders and our culture.

Ken Wyatt is the Minister for Indigenous Australians

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.



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KEEPING YOUR SAY SHORT AND SWEET

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

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

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

the privacy of individuals mentioned.

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

Mob in prison at risk

THE COVID-19 pandemic has seen a raft of laws passed across all Australian states aimed at reducing the serious risk the virus poses. While these new laws limit personal freedoms to protect health and safety, they also increase the risk that Aboriginal people already face with discrimination and racial profiling by the justice sector. And, as the inquest into the death of Tanya Day recognised, racial bias can prove fatal. The 2019 police shooting of Joyce Clarke in Geraldton, in Western Australia, and the circumstances surrounding the death of Cherdeena Wynne, also in WA, show deaths in custody are ongoing and a real risk to Aboriginal lives.

In WA, Aboriginal children and youth are incarcerated at double the national average, being 50 times more likely to be in detention than other children, and Aboriginal women have been described as “the most incarcerated group of people in the world”. We (in WA) have the highest level of Aboriginal imprisonment in the country and the highest deaths-in-custody rate. The three-strikes laws play a major role in this, and crimes are typically related to poverty and trauma. This



Hannah McGlade

state was also the first to disband the Aboriginal Justice Advisory Council (AJAC) established in the wake of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody more than 25 years ago.

In 2018, the Australian Law Reform Commission delivered its findings in the Pathways to Justice Inquiry, calling for the re-

establishment of AJACs to drive reforms and reduce Aboriginal imprisonment rates. There has been a lack of response to the inquiry at the state and federal level, which is difficult to understand in WA, where the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, himself Aboriginal, has promised to reduce Indigenous incarceration by one third.

Although the state’s attorney-general promised to stop incarcerating Aboriginal people for fines, the bill hasn’t passed both houses of Parliament. Police are also now issuing COVID-19 fines and move-on notices to homeless Aboriginal people and their advocates, and the likelihood of incarceration is being increased.

Prison is the most unsafe place that Aboriginal people can be in a pandemic, especially as there is no ability for prisoners to self isolate and protect themselves. Many Aboriginal prisoners already have chronic health conditions, which will place them at high risk of serious outcomes, including death, in the event of COVID-19. Last month more than 300 academics, lawyers and concerned citizens began issuing a series of open letters supporting immediate actions to

protect prisoners’ safety. The states should begin to release low-risk prisoners, consistent with approach adopted in many countries including the US, Turkey and Ireland. Releasing Aboriginal prisoners at this time will prevent Aboriginal deaths in custody, argues Cheryl Axelby, chair of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (NATSILS).

“With the overrepresentation of our people in prison, our lives are on the line,” she said.

“We are calling for immediate early release, particularly of people who are on remand, women who are victims of family violence and sentenced for lesser offences like fines and public order offences, young people and those most at risk of transmitting COVID-19, like the elderly and people with health conditions.”

Several United Nations bodies including the World Health Organisation, the Office of Drug Control and the High Commissioner for Human Rights have given clear advice that there is no time to lose. Prisoner health is a public-health matter and prisoners must not be forgotten. The risks to prisoners, and also

staff, are imminent and must be urgently addressed. Incarceration should only be a matter of last resort and states should release prisoners who do not pose a risk to society. The UN advice is not being followed by WA Government, who appears to be adopting a ‘tough on crime’ approach.

This attitude ignores the fact that many people in prison are on remand, being charged but not found guilty and sentenced. It shows no mercy to Aboriginal women prisoners who have significant trauma histories magnified as they are separated from their children, sometimes permanently, as a result of incarceration. It is cruel and inhumane to children and youth, many of whom are detained far away from their family and country.

Prison should not be a death sentence. Too many Aboriginal people’s lives have already been lost behind prison walls and prison bars.

● *Dr Hannah McGlade is a Nyungar human rights lawyer and academic who has published widely on many aspects of Aboriginal legal issues, especially those affecting the lives of Aboriginal women and children.*

Our Elders’ lives are at stake so we need to stick to the facts

WHEN I wrote my first article concerning the coronavirus there were 7,489 deaths worldwide. At the time of starting to write this piece, some six weeks later, there were 111,828 confirmed deaths. Three days later, the death toll was 123,126. That is another 11,298 people dead in three days and more than 115,000 people in six weeks.

This is too many to ignore and clear evidence there is a worldwide pandemic. It amazes me that with these statistics there are people rolling their eyes in the belief we are being lied to as post after post on social media claims there is no concern for alarm other than government conspiracies and worldwide global occupation.

I understand and believe in freedom of information and the alienation that comes when speaking outside of the square; that this becomes our voice in resistance. I understand that governments have lied to us before and we have been the victims of bloodshed generation upon generation. I agree that we need to encourage freethinking now more than ever. I understand all this.

But when there is so much untruth told in our history and we live in an era of uncertainty built on fear,



Woolomi Waters

more than ever we need stability and rational thought. What we do know when looking at the mortality rate, or the probability of dying if infected by the virus is that the elderly are clearly most at risk.

Here are the latest figures taken from the World Health Organisation: 80+ years old 14.8%; 70-79 years old 8.0%; 60-69 years old 3.6%; 50-59 years old 1.3%. Under 50 years the probability of death by those who have the virus drops to below 1%.

In comparison to other pre-existing medical conditions these rates are linked also to: cardiovascular disease 13.2%; diabetes

9.2%; chronic respiratory disease 8.0%; hypertension 8.4% and cancer 7.6%, showing that many who have died had prior life-threatening conditions already.

I read a lot of posts claiming the coronavirus is no worse than influenza. The annual mortality rate of flu is an estimated average of 389,000 deaths per year. We have had more than 115,000 people die in six weeks related to coronavirus. Those who died due to influenza remain at 2% of all annual respiratory deaths, of which 67% were among people 65 years and older.

When you consider the overcrowding and multi-generations of shared housing we have in our communities with so many grandparents living with families as Elders – these statistics have to be a concern.

Our Elders are our most valuable resource and until we move through this I would not want to take chances, based on personal testimonies posted on social media, that put our old people at risk.

I watched a video with this lad in the US, a Blackfella, and he’s walking down the street doing a video post on his phone saying he just spoke to high ranking military intelligence in the US and they told him

the virus was a conspiracy linked to the 5G network and “he wants to get this out there before they take it down...”

What amazed me is this had over 60,000 views. When you consider our old people are our knowledge keepers, the status and very social fabric holding our communities together, I feel strongly we have an obligation and responsibility to look critically at such videos.

People who claim to have inside information, told to them by high ranking US military personnel they happened upon in the street, running while making a video call – this just doesn’t appear true. There is nothing logical about what we are witnessing and this guy is definitely not Jason Bourne, so why do people take videos like this so seriously when you consider what is at stake if this virus got into our communities?

Italy has lost up to 60% of its elderly because of coronavirus. This would devastate our Aboriginal communities. There are calls that we should stop social distancing to build immune systems – but one of the reasons that Italy has been so infected cited in a report by the University of Oxford is that young Italians tend to interact a lot with their elders.

“Young people live with their parents and grandparents in rural areas but commute to work in cities like Milan. They may pick up the disease and take it home. If they have no symptoms, they’ll have no clue that they’re infecting their elders, the most vulnerable population.”

Statistics given at the beginning of this article demonstrate that building an immune system won’t save our elderly already at risk of pre-existing medical conditions such as diabetes, respiratory disease and hypertension.

What we are witnessing is debate framed largely by appeals to emotion, disconnected from evidence or truth.

These claims are not based in fact, but repeated allegations that become talking points that people who have the same values, fears and beliefs share religiously on newsfeeds as if they are true.

And it’s not just social media. Major news outlets are the driving force behind the rise of what we now call post-truth.

One contributing factor has been the proliferation of 24-hour, opinion-driven shows like many on Sky News, which has seen faith in mainstream media reaching new lows. People just don’t believe the

mainstream news anymore, and for good reason.

The 24-hour news cycle also means that news channels repeatedly focus on opinion from people such as Andrew Bolt, Paul Murray and Alan Jones, rather than the facts. This benefits conservative neoliberal right-wing views and drives the electorate more than policy or legislation.

People then turn to social media as an alternative where anybody with a mobile phone can post opinions online. They assert them as fact, which becomes supported by others who echo the same fears and values on shared news feeds. In this way, content is not based on reality, instead it is based on how many views a post gets, the emotion it appeals to and audience biases, so no one knows what to believe anymore.

One truth is that transmission of our culture and ways is passed on through our Elders.

If we were to lose these knowledge keepers in anywhere near the numbers they have suffered in Italy our way of life would be devastated and we would become a vacuum of our former selves.

I am not willing to take that risk.

● *Woolomi Waters is a regular Koori Mail columnist.*



A picturesque view of tranquility at Torry Plains Homestead on Pollen Creek.



Oakman Woods and Nari Nari Elder Kerrie Parker.



Eulimbah is a sanctuary for wildlife.



Oakman, Jamie and Bronx Woods with a young Eastern Long-necked Turtle at Gayini.



Eulimbah, Gayini. Viewed from above, the country shows off its brilliant colour palette.



Nari Nari Elders Kerrie Parker and Mabel Fitzpatrick.



Black swans take flight.



The wetlands are significant for many bird species.



Royal spoonbill chicks in their nest. Picture: Vince Bucello



Mark Schneider, Nari Nari Tribal Council.



Pacific black ducks, great cormorants, black swans and Australian pelicans at Gayini. Pictures: Annette Ruzicka

Gayini in safe hands



THE handing back of an 88,000-hectare property in southern NSW to its traditional custodians will ensure the protection of ecologically vital wetlands and significant Aboriginal heritage sites.

Gayini (Nimmie-Caira) is an environmentally and culturally significant property on the Murrumbidgee floodplains, referred to as the 'Kakadu of the south', which is a breeding ground for wildlife.

Gayini, an area critical to the health of the floodplains, is an amalgamation of 19 parcels of land that were purchased as part of an agreement between the federal and NSW governments in 2013 for \$180 million under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan water buyback scheme.

Gayini has been co-managed by the Nari Nari Tribal Council since May 2018 as part of a consortium that includes The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group and the Centre for Ecosystem Science at the University of NSW.

The consortium commenced a wetlands restoration program on Gayini which is considered one of the most ambitious environmental projects under the Basin Plan.

Nari Nari Tribal Council (NNTC) chairman Ian Woods said the official handing back of the property to traditional custodians on March 20 enabled the Nari Nari people to reconnect with their country.

"This is a significant event for the Nari Nari people who have been using traditional knowledge to sustain our country for thousands of years," Mr Woods said.

"Now with the ownership being officially handed back, we can continue to protect the



A pelican lands.



Ian Woods, chairman of the Nari Nari Tribal Council.



Rene Woods.

environment, preserve the Aboriginal heritage of the land and enable the intergenerational transfer of knowledge of caring for country.

"We have identified and recorded around 2000 cultural sites on the property including burial sites, middens and camp sites, which will now be under our protection.

"Having the property back in Nari Nari hands will also allow us to pursue sustainable sources of income such as carbon farming, grazing in non-sensitive areas and cultural eco-tourism."

The purchase and handing back of Gayini was facilitated by TNC and made possible through co-funding from the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC)



Eulimbah at sunrise.

and the Wyss Campaign for Nature.

ILSC director, Roy Ah-See, said the partnership between government, Aboriginal people and environmentalists would benefit both the Nari Nari people and the wider region.

"The ILSC has successfully partnered with the Nature Conservancy to support the Nari

Nari Tribal Council in the purchase and continued improvement of the land and water resources of Gayini," Mr Ah-See said. "Importantly, Nari Nari people have improved access to country and will be able to protect significant cultural and environmentally sensitive sites in the Murrumbidgee Valley region as a result of this collaboration."

Timely online mental health program designed to ease effects of isolation



FOR the first time, Gamarada Universal Indigenous Resources is offering a community healing and cultural leadership program free online.

Gamarada is a not for profit community organisation delivering programs that address issues relating to mental health, social and emotional wellbeing.

Kabi Kabi man Ken Zulmovski is the founder and managing director of Gamarada and said the organisation was offering the free online program through Zoom as a way to counter social isolation.

"Last night was week two. We had mob join from four states!" Ken said.

"At the core of our programs and services is the COURAGE coaching model.

"COURAGE (Culture, Optimism, Understanding, Relationships, Acceptance, Gratitude, Encouragement) combines Indigenous wisdom traditions, Western behavioural science approaches and military leadership.

The model was developed from a cross-cultural alliance between Indigenous and mainstream mental health practitioners as a framework for coaching and mentoring in the workplace and community.

"COURAGE – the virtue to which all other virtues descend."

Ken, who has a background in health program development and delivery, said that Gamarada responds to the therapeutic and educational need for culturally sensitive community mental health, healing and life skills programs targeting community disengagement, family violence, addiction and suicide prevention.

Gamarada programs are delivered in a framework that encompasses trauma informed care, western therapeutic models and Indigenous wisdom traditions including 'Dadirri' (NT Daly River deep listening).

Gamarada emerged out of recognition of the necessity for more specialist programs to address the needs of groups at risk of suicide or self harm, family violence, violence against women, incarceration, addictions, marginalisation and homelessness.

Gamarada means 'comrades or friends' in the Gadigal (Sydney) language.

Ken invited people to join the Gamarada online group via Zoom every Monday night 6-8pm AEST. To join, copy the link: <https://zoom.us/j/2074433537> and use Password: 087227.



Not-for-profit organisation Gamarada offers a free culturally aware online program to counter the effects of isolation.



Transport for NSW

Aboriginal Heritage Bobbiwaa Creek Newell Highway Narrabri

Transport for NSW invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal artefacts, objects and places to register to be consulted with.



As part of this project, Transport for NSW proposes to carry out the following activities:

- Clearing and grubbing;
- Removal and relocation of existing fences;
- Utility work (Telstra relocation);
- New safety barriers on the Bobbiwaa Creek bridge and approaches;
- Earthwork, new road surface and table drains.

The proposal may result in Transport for NSW:

- 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*.

To register your interest, please contact:
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisor
Ph: (02) 6861 1658
Mobile: 0428 463 258
Email: jeffery.charlton@transport.nsw.gov.au

Registrations must be received by phone or in writing/email by 4pm Wednesday 29 April 2020.



Transport for NSW

Aboriginal Heritage Great Western Highway Upgrade Program

Transport for NSW invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places for the Great Western Highway Upgrade Program to register to be consulted.

The NSW Government is investing \$2.5 billion towards upgrading the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Lithgow. The program will provide safer, more efficient, more reliable journeys, for people travelling in, around and through the Blue Mountains. Read more about the project at nswroads.work/greatwesternhighway.

The proposal may result in Transport for NSW:

- 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*.

To register your interest, please contact the project team on 1800 953 777 or at gwhd@rms.nsw.gov.au.

Registrations must be received by phone or in writing by Wednesday 13 May.



Shackling dying man – 'horrific'



A NSW coroner has agreed it is "horrific" an Aboriginal man who died in custody was shackled in his hospital bed despite being sedated during treatment for catastrophic brain injury and organ failure.

Eric Whittaker had pleaded for help for about three hours from his prison cell before he received medical attention in July 2017, the NSW Coroners Court heard.

The 35-year-old, a proud Kamilaroi man, died from a brain haemorrhage at Westmead Hospital two days later.

State coroner Teresa O'Sullivan, in her inquest findings into Mr Whittaker's death said he suffered a "disgraceful" delay of care at Parklea Correctional Centre.

She shared his family's view that the shackling of an unconscious man in hospital was horrific.

Mr Whittaker's restraints were ultimately removed the day before his death.

Mr Whittaker had started pleading for help from his cell about three hours before he first got medical assistance on July 2, using Parklea's emergency intercom system 20 times between 5.24am and 7.59am.

"Despite his distress, the correctional officers ... failed to recognise the signs of a medical emergency and failed to make the effort required to get Eric seen by clinic staff," Ms O'Sullivan said.

"This resulted in a delay of care to Eric that is disgraceful in the circumstances of this case."

She said Mr Whittaker couldn't clearly articulate what was wrong, but after several calls it should have been obvious to adequately-trained correctional officers exercising due diligence that he needed medical assessment.

"It is not possible to know for certain that earlier medical intervention would have saved Eric's life, but it may have done," she said.

"Certainly, any intervention would have saved him hours of physical and emotional torment and spared his family this additional distress."

The coroner noted the tragedy of Mr Whittaker's death had caused great hardship and "immeasurable loss" to his large and loving family.

She said the number of Aboriginal people dying in custody continued to be a "national shame" and much more needed to be done to tackle inherent disadvantage and incarceration rates.

Outside the court, one of Whittaker's relatives said he was disappointed no recommendations were made for criminal prosecution, but it did bring some comfort that changes had been made by GEO and Corrective Services.

"We don't want what's happened to us to happen to any other family ... so yeah, in that regard, there is satisfaction around some of that stuff, but it doesn't lessen the trauma that we've had to go through," he said – AAP

Employment

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Tamika is preparing for a job that really counts



THURSDAY Island resident Tamika Ware is on track to turn her love of numbers into a rewarding career.

Born and raised in Cairns and with cultural ties to Moa Island, Ms Ware turned to TAFE Queensland to kickstart her career.

"When I was younger, I developed a big passion for mathematics and I got good grades in maths at high school," Ms Ware said.

"I have always really loved numbers and how they tease my brain, so the idea of working in accounting has been a dream of mine.

"When I finished Year 12, I moved to Thursday Island and began working full-time and studying a Certificate III in Business Administration."

During her course, Ms Ware learned the art of balancing work, life and study when she welcomed a baby boy.

"There were times when it was hard to manage full-time work with training and caring for my son.

"But with the help of my partner I was able to make time for my son and juggle both work and my studies," Ms Ware said.

After completing her business administration training, Ms Ware went on to enrol in a Certificate IV in Accounting and Bookkeeping, an away-from-base course.

"The program was delivered via residential study blocks, so I had to travel from Thursday Island to Cairns for my training," Ms Ware said.

"My son travelled with me to every residential block and I'm forever grateful for my mum, who lives in Cairns, for the support she gave me during my studies.



Thursday Island resident Tamika Ware is pursuing a career in accounting and business administration.

"My mum works full-time but, when I had a study block, she was able to take leave from work so that she could help look after my son which allowed me to focus on my training.

"It was a big relief when my accounting and bookkeeping certificate arrived in the mail.

"I know I worked really hard for my qualification so it was nice to know that all of the sacrifices had paid off."

Ms Ware, 21, said she's now keen to use her skills to help out her family and community.

"My relatives are starting up their own businesses and that really motivated me to push myself to complete this

qualification so I can assist them with the accounting side of things," Ms Ware said.

"I also want to enrol in the Diploma of Accounting next and one day start up my own business."

Business and accounting teacher Anne Hoepfner said Ms Ware is a very driven student.

"I first met Tamika during her business administration studies. She was a quiet but dedicated student, and I was delighted when she decided to enrol in the Certificate IV in Accounting and Bookkeeping," Ms Hoepfner said.

"Tamika worked full-time, but she was disciplined in her

studies. She always stayed in touch and she took every opportunity to catch up with me face-to-face so she could keep moving forward with her training.

"I know that Tamika will do well in the diploma course."

Ms Ware said upgrading her skills hasn't always been easy, but she encouraged others to face their challenges.

"My advice to everyone is just get in and remain focused on achieving your goal," Ms Ware said.

To complete the Certificate IV in Accounting and Bookkeeping, Ms Ware was eligible for the Queensland

Government's Higher Level Skills program which provides subsidised training in priority skill sets and selected certificate IV or higher qualifications.

Ms Ware's Certificate III in Business Administration course fees were covered by the Queensland Government's Certificate III Guarantee program, which provides eligible individuals with subsidised training in high priority industry areas.

For more information about studying at TAFE Queensland and subsidised training options, call 1300 308 233 or visit www.tafeqld.edu.au.

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 Chris or Stuart a call on (02) 66 222 666, email advertising@koorimail.com or see our website – www.koorimail.com

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Chief Executive Officer

Ngwala Willumbong Ltd

Ngwala Willumbong Ltd (NWL) is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation that is dedicated to delivering quality specialist alcohol and drug residential rehabilitation and outreach support services to meet the needs of Aboriginal people and their families. Ngwala is a key service provider offering specialist alcohol and drug rehabilitation and outreach support services to the Aboriginal communities of Victoria. Through responsive leadership from management and specialist staff, Ngwala is able to provide a high quality service to the community that is outcome focused and culturally appropriate.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for implementing the strategic direction of Ngwala as determined by the Board of Management. Lead by the CEO, Ngwala must maintain its reputation, meet statutory regulations and comply with the all stakeholder's policies and procedures. This role requires an energetic and experienced individual that can help lead the renewal of this important organisation.

To meet the requirements of the role you will desirably hold tertiary qualifications in business or health management and have a minimum of five years' experience in a senior management role, preferable within the health sector. You will also be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal culture and a commitment to the Aboriginal community.

An attractive remuneration package will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

Full position details can be obtained from our website at:

www.hrsa.com.au

or contact John Cross on: 0417 332 598 To make an application you will be required to submit: a Cover Letter incorporating a response to the Key Selection Criteria, your full CV and a completed HRS Application Form available on the HRS web site. Applications can be made online or sent by email to: hrsa@hrsa.com.au

Applications close 1 May 2020

FR1610

wellways

Wellbeing Worker Tweed Heads

Footprints 2 Wellbeing

- Part-time (0.8), fixed -term opportunities until 31/10/2020
- \$30.77 per hour + Superannuation + Salary packaging benefits

The Footprints 2 Wellbeing program is delivered by a consortium of Rekindling the Spirit, Werin, Wellways and The Buttery. Reporting to the NNSW Coordinator, the Wellbeing Worker's role actively facilitates improved wellbeing for people. The program exists to build psychosocial capacity in people with severe mental illness. The worker supports clients to connect with others, focus on their strengths, maintain a healthy lifestyle and lead a fulfilling life. This includes a range of evidence-based support services including psychoeducation, peer support groups, therapeutic programs, individual support, activities programs, life skills programs, early intervention, health programs and music therapy.

Using the Wellways Community Recovery Model and Intentional Peer Support, the Wellbeing Worker will provide intensive individual support and deliver and support the delivery of group programs to people with their mental wellbeing journey.

Under the support and direction of the Wellways line Manager and The Buttery Footprints Manager, the Wellbeing Worker will work with the team, Consortia Partners and their staff, other key internal and external stakeholders in the ongoing development and effective implementation of program plans.

To apply and to download a copy of the position description please visit our Careers page www.wellways.org/careers-wellways.

For a confidential discussion about the role, please contact Roxie Collett, Program Coordinator on 0439 632 710 or rcollett@wellways.org

Applications close 30 April 2020.

We warmly encourage people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people with a lived experience of mental health, disability or as a carer to apply.

wellways.org

www92_nsw1767



Koori Liaison Officer

2 years Full Time Fixed Term

Remuneration: \$ 67,556 - \$ 72,676 + superannuation (dependent on qualification & experience)

Bendigo TAFE and Kangan Institute are the TAFE trading brands of Bendigo Kangan Institute. We are one of Victoria's largest TAFE providers, with over 40,000 enrolled students per annum. We offer vocational training to students from all over the northern metro corridor as well as Loddon Campaspe regions. We pride ourselves on the quality of training we provide by having industry expert teachers who impart their wealth of experience to the workforce of the future. We believe in everything we do, we give people the opportunity to be the best they can be. We are currently seeking an experienced Koori Liaison Officer to join our Indigenous Engagement team at Echuca Campus.

The Role:

This role will build partnerships critical to the success of the Indigenous Education Centre and take a lead role in the development of the Bendigo Kangan Reconciliation action plan. It will develop strategies to monitor and improve the recruitment, engagement and completion and contribute to supporting teaching excellence in the area of Aboriginal education across all teaching delivery areas.

This is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander designated position, classified under "special measures" of section 12 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. The occupant must be of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Required Qualifications:

- Prior experience working within the local Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community.
- Held in high respect within the local Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander community.
- Experience working within the Education sector is desirable.
- Experience in the delivery & facilitation of accredited & or non-accredited programs
- National Tertiary Qualification in Certificate III or IV Community Services or a minimum of 2 years work experience within a Community Service type role.
- Certificate IV TAE is also desirable
- Current drivers licence
- A valid Working with Children Check (WWC) Assessment Notice and/or WWC card
- Police Check
- Evidence of eligibility to work in Australia

Benefits:

- Counselling support (EAP) and Health & Wellbeing initiatives throughout the year
- Flexible work options.
- Free onsite parking for most campuses
- Professional development programs and many more....

If this sounds like the role for you, please visit our Career page and search for 'Koori Liaison Officer – Echuca' and click 'Apply for this job/Apply now'. Please attach a cover letter and a resume to the application we would love to hear from you. **Application closes on 6th May 2020.**

For further information regarding this outstanding opportunity, please contact Lee-Anne Habel, Manager Indigenous Education on 03 9279 2308. For a Position Description please visit our careers page.

NOTE: BKI reserves the right to withdrawn this advertised position at any stage.

Applications from candidates with valid working rights would only be considered. The information you have provided will be retained by us for the purposes of assessment against this role and other like roles for up to 6 months.

We are a child safe and equal opportunity employer. It is mandatory requirement that the successful candidate has a current working with children check and national police check prior to commencement. Application from Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged.

Join our team



Strategic Advisor

PORT ADELAIDE (TERM CONTRACT)

This is an exciting opportunity to take a strategic role in South Australia's largest regional arts organisation.

Country Arts SA is seeking a driven, passionate and forward-thinking person to support the Chief Executive and Leadership Team in strategic and business planning activities and by providing high level strategic advice on current organisational and industry wide issues.

Working closely with the Chief Executive and Leadership Team, the Strategic Advisor contributes to the building of strong, positive relationships with stakeholders and de-veloping organisational policies, plans and projects.

The Strategic Advisor is responsible for managing Board and committee meetings in-cluding the timely preparation of agendas and minutes, and the follow up of actions determined by the Board.

You will have broad knowledge of Arts industry issues and have a genuine affinity for working with artists and regional communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants are encouraged to apply.

If this is you, please apply now and follow the application instructions online at http://bit.ly/CountryArts_careers

Enquiries to Anthony Peluso on 0401 125 993 or email anthony.peluso@countryarts.org.au

Applications should be addressed to Jill Bolzon, Head of People, and submitted by 10am, Monday, 11 May 2020.



Aboriginal Wellbeing Worker Port Macquarie and surrounds

About the role

As a Wellbeing Worker with us you get to actively facilitate improved well-being for people. The program exists to build psychosocial capacity in people with a mental illness for a period up to 3 months. The worker supports participants to connect with others, focus on their strengths, maintain a healthy lifestyle and lead a fulfilling life. This includes a range of evidence based support services including psycho-education, peer support groups, therapeutic programs, individual support, activities programs, life skills programs, early intervention, health programs and music therapy. Knowledge and understanding of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and cultures is required.

During the COVID-19 pandemic social isolating rules, this position will be based from the Wellbeing worker's home using video conferencing platforms and other media. Once the Federal Government has advised

a reduction in social isolating, the Wellbeing Worker will access the community and support participants in 1-1 and group based activities.

This position is 30 hours pw and the current funding contract ends on 19/10/20. This position may be extended in line with any further program funding at that time.

About you: Selection criteria:

1. Certificate IV qualifications or higher qualifications in mental health or Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care
2. Evidence of Aboriginality: Exemption is claimed under section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act.
3. A minimum of 2 years' experience in mental health services coordinating care for people with complex support needs co-occurring with serious mental health issues and other issues such as homelessness, trauma, contact with the criminal justice system and family and cultural separation
4. Demonstrated experience facilitating groups in a recovery orientated mental health environment
5. Established networks and relationships with a range of services in the local area
6. Strong administrative skills, computer literacy in MS Office and proficient use of technology such as databases, video conferencing and mobile devices

A current and valid manual Driver's Licence is required. A satisfactory current Criminal Record Check, Working with Children Check and First Aid Certificate is mandatory prior to commencement.

About us: The Buttery is regarded as one of most successful providers of drug and alcohol recovery-oriented services within the Therapeutic Community in Australia.

Find out more:

For a position description, see <https://www.buttery.org.au/employment-opportunities>

For any other queries, please contact recruitment@buttery.org.au

This role is remunerated between \$62-69k pro rata depending on qualifications and experience with access to salary packaging to increase your take home pay.

The role is 30 hours per week. This can be worked flexibly over 4 or 5 days depending on client need.

How to apply Please email your resume and cover letter addressing the six selection criteria above to recruitment@buttery.org.au

In your cover letter, please use each of the six selection criteria above as a heading and write a brief paragraph under each one addressing it. Unfortunately, applications that do not address the selection criteria will not be considered.

Applications close Thursday 30th April

The Buttery recognises the benefits that diversity and inclusion bring, and encourages people from all backgrounds, abilities and identities to apply to our vacancies. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and CALD and LGBTIQ community members are encouraged to apply.



Medical Administration Assistant

Department: Hunter New England LHD
Location: John Hunter Hospital
Enquiries: Bianca Field on
Bianca.Field@health.nsw.gov.au

This is a targeted Aboriginal Position. Preference will be given to applicants of Aboriginal descent. Exemption is claimed under S21 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977. Aboriginal applicants must demonstrate Aboriginality in addition to addressing the selection criteria.

Closing Date: 29 April 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ158067.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

Work FOR NSW

BLZ_KH0078



Koori Liaison Officer

**2 years Full Time Fixed Term
Remuneration: \$ 67,556 - \$ 72,676 + superannuation
(dependent on qualification & experience)**

Bendigo TAFE and Kangan Institute are the TAFE trading brands of Bendigo Kangan Institute. We are one of Victoria's largest TAFE providers, with over 40,000 enrolled students per annum. We offer vocational training to students from all over the northern metro corridor as well as Loddon Campaspe regions. We pride ourselves on the quality of training we provide by having industry expert teachers who impart their wealth of experience to the workforce of the future. We believe in everything we do, we give people the opportunity to be the best they can be. We are currently seeking an experienced Koorie Liaison Officer to join our Indigenous Engagement team at Broadmeadows Campus.

The Role:

This role will build partnerships critical to the success of the Indigenous Education Centre and take a lead role in the development of the Bendigo Kangan Reconciliation action plan. It will develop strategies to monitor and improve the recruitment, engagement and completion and contribute to supporting teaching excellence in the area of Aboriginal education across all teaching delivery areas.

This is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander designated position, classified under "special measures" of section 12 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. The occupant must be of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Required Qualifications:

- Prior experience working within the local Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community.
- Held in high respect within the local Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander community.
- Experience working within the Education sector is desirable.
- Experience in the delivery & facilitation of accredited & or non-accredited programs
- National Tertiary Qualification in Certificate III or IV Community Services or a minimum of 2 years work experience within a Community Service type role.
- Certificate IV TAE is also desirable
- Current drivers licence
- A valid Working with Children Check (WWC) Assessment Notice and/or WWC card
- Police Check
- Evidence of eligibility to work in Australia

Benefits:

- Counselling support (EAP) and Health & Wellbeing initiatives throughout the year
- Flexible work options.
- Free onsite parking for most campuses
- Professional development programs and many more....

If this sounds like the role for you, please visit our Career page and search for 'Koorie Liaison Officer Broadmeadows' and click 'Apply for this job/Apply now'. Please attach a cover letter and a resume to the application we would love to hear from you.

Application closes on 6th May 2020.

For further information regarding this outstanding opportunity, please contact Lee-Anne Habel, Manager Indigenous Education on 03 9279 2308. For a Position Description please visit our careers page.

NOTE: BKI reserves the right to withdrawn this advertised position at any stage.

Applications from candidates with valid working rights would only be considered. The information you have provided will be retained by us for the purposes of assessment against this role and other like roles for up to 6 months.

We are a child safe and equal opportunity employer. It is mandatory requirement that the successful candidate has a current working with children check and national police check prior to commencement. Application from Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged.



SUPPORT COORDINATOR – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aftercare Program

At Hunter Primary Care, we support people to live a healthy life. As a not-for-profit organisation, we have been providing quality health care and wellbeing services to the Hunter community for almost 30 years. We deliver a range of health and wellbeing services in collaboration with our network of trusted health professionals. We listen. Care. Connect. Hunter Primary Care is offering an exciting opportunity for a Support Coordinator to join our suicide prevention service in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aftercare program. This is an identified Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander position.

This role encompasses individual support coordination and community engagement. You will work in closely with existing suicide prevention programs to provide culturally appropriate support to people who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander following a suicide attempt. You will also develop partnerships with the Aboriginal community and organisations to facilitate referral pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and to optimise social and emotional well-being. To be successful in this role you will be highly motivated and possess excellent communication skills when working with both individuals as well as the broader community. You will have experience working with Aboriginal communities and possess the necessary skills to support people who are at risk of suicide.

This part-time role (24 hours/week) is available until 30 June 2021 and will be based at our main office in Warabrook.

Interested in learning more? If you are interested in hearing more about the role, feel free to contact us on for a yarn. We can organise a phone call or a telehealth call. We would love to hear from you!

The successful applicant for this position will be asked to consent to a police check and will be required to hold a current NSW Working with Children Check. Please note that people with criminal records are not automatically barred from applying for this position. Each application will be considered on its merits.

If you believe you are a good fit for the role and share our values of respect, excellence, integrity and recognition, and have a strong interest in working with a team who are committed to improving health in our community, please apply today.

For further information regarding this position, please contact Danielle Adams, Operations Manager, on 1300 364 184 or email dadams@hunterprimarycare.com.au

Applications close: Midday, Monday 11 May 2019

To find out more and to apply for this position, visit the About Us / Careers page of our website <https://hunterprimarycare.com.au/careers/> and follow the links to upload your resume and cover letter. All applications must include a cover letter individually addressing the essential and desirable selection criteria found in the position description.

Hunter Primary Care considers that being Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification under s 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).

SPONSOR A PUPPY AND GIVE SOMEONE WITH A DISABILITY A NEW LEASH ON LIFE.



Each puppy takes two years and more than \$27,000 to train. We receive no government funding so rely heavily on the generosity of people like you to carry out this vital work.

Free Call 1800 688 364

Or simply post the attached form

Or visit www.assisteddogs.org.au



**Assistance Dogs
Australia**
Giving Freedom & Independence

**Just fill in this form and post to Assistance Dogs Australia,
PO Box 503, Surry Hills, NSW 2010 or fax it to 02 9699 1171**

☐ Payment by credit card: Monthly amount \$..... (minimum \$20)

Card type ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex Exp. ____/____/____

Credit card number

Cardholder's Name Card holder's Signature

Title First Name(s) Surname

Address Suburb

Town/city Postcode Phone

Email **Thank you!**

30

Senior Project Officer – Aboriginal Programs

- \$98,396 - \$119,052 (Plus Superannuation)
- Ongoing
- Usual hours of work: Full-time (flexibility may be available)
- Usual work location: Melbourne CBD (flexibility may be available)

Only Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply, as this position is exempt under the Special Measures Provision of S12(1) of the *Equal Opportunity Act* (VIC).

The Senior Project Officer will provide strategic support to the Manager, Aboriginal Programs contributing to the design and delivery of key initiatives. The role will engage with the Victorian Aboriginal community and state sport and recreation organisations and work across government agencies to achieve outcomes.

The key accountabilities of the role include:

- Provide strategic input and leadership to ensure the Program is best placed to achieve its primary objective of increased access to and maximises engagement and participation outcomes for the Victorian Aboriginal community through sport and recreation.
- Support the design and lead the implementation of key initiatives ensuring the Program achieves results and sustainable outcomes by working collaboratively with the Victorian Aboriginal community and the sport and recreation sector.

For a confidential discussion, please call Luke Isaacs, Manager – Aboriginal Programs on 0427 983 813.

Successful candidates will be required to undergo a National Police Records Check prior to commencing employment with the Department.

For further information on the position, and position description, and to apply please visit www.careers.vic.gov.au and refer to Job ID **033149**.

Applications close 5 May 2020.

www.djpr.vic.gov.au

Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Spring Street, Melbourne



FF1638

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Senior Aboriginal Health Worker (Aboriginal Identified) Palliative Care, Macksville District Hospital

Department: Mid North Coast Local Health District
Employment Type: Permanent Part Time
Position Classification: Aboriginal Health Worker
Remuneration: \$82,995 – \$86,215 pa
Hours Per Week: 19
Enquiries: Andrew Bailey on
Andrew.Bailey1@health.nsw.gov.au

The Senior Aboriginal Health Worker – Palliative and End of Life Care will;

- Ensure respectful and culturally responsive palliative care and end of life care for Aboriginal people.
- Ensure patients and their families, have access to appropriate palliative and end-of-life support across the continuum of care from diagnosis of a life limiting illness to death and bereavement.
- Ensure appropriate referral pathways are followed, providing support where appropriate to hospital based Aboriginal Liaison Officers.
- Ensure any cultural/community issues are adequately considered as part of the care coordination process.

Would you like to work in Australia's finest climate, surrounded by long white beaches with rainforest only 15 km away?

The rural coastal town of Macksville is located on the north coast of NSW, midway between Sydney and Brisbane, with daily access by air to all Australian capital cities via Coffs Harbour, approximately a 40minute drive away.

The area boasts superb beaches, mountain scenery, excellent facilities and a relaxed outdoor lifestyle.

Closing Date: 28 April 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ161640.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

I work FOR NSW

BLZ KH0090



Aboriginal Mental Health Peer Worker: Extended Care Service

Department: Hunter New England LHD
Tamworth Hospital
Reference Number: REQ123781
Enquiries: Trish Blackman (02) 6767 8614
Closing Date: 29 April 2020

Aboriginal Project Officer

Department: Hunter New England LHD
Population Health - Wallsend and Tamworth
Reference Number: REQ156802
Enquiries: Vanessa Herrmann, 0428 115 020
Closing Date: 10 May 2020

Aboriginal Program Manager

Department: Hunter New England LHD
Population Health - Tamworth
Reference Number: REQ156818
Enquiries: Vanessa Herrmann, 0428 115 020
Closing Date: 10 May 2020

These are identified Aboriginal Positions. Applicants must be of Aboriginal descent. Exemption is claimed under Section 14d of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Closing Dates: see above

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Numbers above.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

I work FOR NSW

BLZ KH0079

WATERNSW EWENMAR CREEK WATER SOURCE

An application for a NEW COMBINED WATER SUPPLY WORK AND USE APPROVAL has been received from **HATTON GRAZING CO PTY LIMITED & GOB PTY LTD** for one 660mm centrifugal pump & conveying pipeline to be located on an easement within Lot 2 DP 833152 & one 508mm centrifugal pump & conveying pipeline located on Lot 14 DP 752569, for the purpose of irrigation on Lot 1 DP 1222051 Parish of Billabulla, County of Gregory & Parish of Collemburrawang County of Ewenmar respectively. (Ref: A022784).

Objections to the granting of the above approvals must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 1018, DUBBO NSW 2830 or email to customer.helpdesk@waternsw.com.au within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above. Rob Kardell, Water Regulation Officer North.

KH0087



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, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following amalgamation applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Exploration No.	Applicant	Amalg No	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
30/390	ROXBURY TRADING PTY LTD	572237	21.00HA.	58.5km NW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 2' S Long: 120° 34' E	MENZIES SHIRE
31/1101	CHARGE COBALT PTY LTD	572922	10.60HA.	35.2km N'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 30' S Long: 122° 16' E	MENZIES SHIRE
31/1101	CHARGE COBALT PTY LTD	572987	19.53HA.	35.4km N'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 30' S Long: 122° 16' E	MENZIES SHIRE
31/1101	CHARGE COBALT PTY LTD	572998	15.52HA.	33.6km N'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 31' S Long: 122° 16' E	MENZIES SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 22 April 2020

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 July 2020**. 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 August 2020**), 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, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

DMIRS_321_0786

Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements

Notification day: 29 April 2020



National
Native Title
Tribunal



WI2020/002 Yamatji Nation Agreement

State of Western Australia

Description of the agreement area:

The agreement area covers approx. 47,970 sq km and is located in the vicinity of Geraldton extending westerly to the 12 nautical mile limit, northerly to approx. 20 km south of Kalbarri, southerly to approx. 90 km north of Moora and easterly to approx. 63 km west of Mount Magnet

Relevant LGAs: Shires of Carnamah, Chapman Valley, Dalwallinu, Irwin, Mingenew, Morawa, Northampton, Perenjori, Three Springs, and Yalgoo, and the City of Greater Geraldton

The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

7.1 (a) The Parties agree to and consent to: (1) the validation of all Invalid Acts that have been, or are being, carried out by the State; and (2) the validation of future acts which are public works that have been, or are being, carried out invalidly prior to the Conclusive Registration Date by persons other than the State.

7.2 The Parties agree that: (a) on and from the Conclusive Registration Date, the native title rights and interests in the Surrender Area, are surrendered; (b) pursuant to section 24CB(e) of the Native Title Act, the surrender in clause 7.2(a) is intended to extinguish all native title rights and interests in the Surrender Area as of the date of the surrender.

7.3 (a) The Parties agree that on and from the Conclusive Registration Date: (1) to the extent that any grants of Tenure made by or on behalf of the State in respect of the Native Title Area are future acts, each Party consents to any such grants of Tenure with the intent that such statement of consent satisfies the requirements of section 24EB(1)(b) of the Native Title Act; (2) the Right to Negotiate does not apply to any future acts carried out in the Native Title Areas, with the intent that such statement satisfies the requirement of section 24EB(1)(c) of the Native Title Act.

[Conclusively Registered means once this agreement is registered it remains registered 60 business days after the decision to register the agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements; or 40 business days after any legal proceeding in respect of such registration].

[Conclusive Registration Date means the date the State has issued the Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation, or any replacement registered corporation, a notice confirming when this agreement has been conclusively registered].

Invalid Act means any future act (other than an intermediate period act) that: (a) was, or is, carried out by the State prior to the Conclusive Registration Date in relation to any part of the Agreement Area; and (b) to the extent that such future act affects Native Title, is invalid as a result of section 24OA of the Native Title Act.

[Native Title Areas means the land and waters within the agreement area excluding the surrender area].

[Tenure means any tenure in land, including a lease, licence, permit or other authority, or a mining tenement, that is granted, issued, created or continued under the Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority Act 1972 (WA), Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (WA), Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (WA), Land Administration Act 1997 (WA), Mining Act 1978 (WA), Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 (WA) or Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969 (WA) and any regulations made under those Acts].

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

State of Western Australia; Aboriginal Lands Trust; Chief Executive Officer of Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; Conservation and Parks Commission; Housing Authority; Mid West Development Commission; Minister for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister for Culture and the Arts; Minister for Environment; Minister for Lands; Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Minister for Regional Development; Minister for Tourism; Minister for Water; Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority; Western Australian Land Authority (Development WA); Western Australian Museum
c/- State Solicitor's Office
David Malcolm Justice Centre
28 Barrack Street
Perth WA 6000

Kathleen Eva Pinkerton, Shirley Anne McPherson and Edward James Mullaley for and on behalf of themselves and the Widi Mob Claim Group
c/- MPS Law
2/459 Morphett Street
Adelaide SA 5000

Leedham Papertalk, Charles Collard, Jamie Joseph, Glenda Jackamarra and Raymond Merritt for and on behalf of themselves and the Mullewa Wadjari Claim Group
c/- Corser and Corser Lawyers
Level 4, Irwin Chambers
16 Irwin Street
Perth WA 6000

Sandy Davies, David Drage Snr, Lindsay Councillor and Irene Kelly for and on behalf of themselves and the Hutt River Claim Group; Stephen Kelly, Leedham Papertalk Snr, Morris Comeagain, Trevor Martin, Delveen Whitby, Frederick Taylor Snr, Eric Oakley and Glenda Jackamarra for and on behalf of themselves and the Southern Yamatji Claim Group; Frederick Taylor, Garry Hodder, Leedham Papertalk, Lorraine Whitby and Yvette Harris for and on behalf of themselves and the Yamatji Nation Claim Group
c/- Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 3072
249 Hay Street
East Perth WA 6892

Bundi Yamatji Aboriginal Corporation; Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation
PO Box 2691
Kent Town SA 5067

Responses to an application to register an ILUA—where the application has not been certified:

Any person claiming to hold native title in relation to land or waters in the area covered by the agreement may wish, in response to this notice, to make a native title determination application or equivalent application under a law of a state or territory in respect of any part of the area. **The application must be made by 29 July 2020.** If that application is registered on the Register of Native Title Claims, the registered native title claimants must be a party to this agreement before it can be registered.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal. For assistance and further information about this application, call Claire Smith on (08) 9425 1000 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

WATERSNSW
UPPER MURRAY GROUNDWATER SOURCE
An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORKS AND USE APPROVAL has been received from: **BUNGOWANNAH PASTORAL CO PTY LTD AND WEEBO PARK PTY. LIMITED** for a bore (3.5ML per day) on Lot 7 DP665615, Parish Moorwatha, County Hume for the purpose of irrigation on Lots 74, 75 and 102 DP753749, Lot 7 DP665615 and Lot 7 DP665616 (Application No. A023051).
Objections to granting of this Approval must be registered in writing to Water NSW, PO Box 829, Albury NSW 2640, or email to customer.helpdesk@watersnsw.com.au within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name, address and specify the grounds of objection. Any queries please call (02) 6022 5322 or email the above.
Stephanie Wight, Water Regulation Officer South. KH0066

WATERSNSW
PEEL FRACTURED ROCK WATER SOURCE
An application for a NEW WATER SUPPLY WORK AND USE APPROVAL has been received from **J W & J P GOODFELLOW** for One (1) Groundwater Work (Bore) for Industrial and Irrigation Purposes on Lot 41 DP844985 County of Parry, Parish of Inglis. (Application A018854).
Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, P O Box 1251, Tamworth NSW 2340 or email to customer.helpdesk@watersnsw.com.au within 28 days of this notice.
The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection.
Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above.
Ben Hutt, Water Regulation Officer North. KH0085

WATERSNSW
HAWKESBURY AND LOWER NEPEAN RIVERS WATER SOURCE
UPPER HAWKESBURY RIVER (GROSE RIVER TO SOUTH CREEK) MANAGEMENT ZONE
An application for an amended WATER SUPPLY WORK AND USE APPROVAL has been received from **MICHAEL PAUL, RITA MARGARET, CHRISTOPHER PAUL, LUKE JOSEPH & SHANICE MARIE MARGARET VELLA** to include Lot 22 DP28331, Parish Currency, County Cook as lands to be irrigated (Amending 10CA105118).
Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 398, Parramatta NSW 2124 or email to Customer.Helpdesk@watersnsw.com.au within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. Any queries please phone 1300 662 077 or email the above.
Wayne Connors Water Regulation Officer Coastal. KH0086

WATER NSW
NEW SOUTH WALES MURRAY REGULATED RIVER WATER SOURCE
An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORKS APPROVAL has been received from: **JOANNE DANIHER** for a pump (80mm) on Lot 2 DP1154923, Parish Benarca, County Cadell and a pipeline on Lot 113 DP39915, Parish Benarca, County Cadell for domestic and stock purposes. (Application No. A23134).
Objections to granting of this approval must be registered in writing to Water NSW, PO Box 453, Deniliquin NSW 2710, or email to customer.helpdesk@watersnsw.com.au within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name, address and specify the grounds of objection.
Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above.
Jenny Campion Water Regulation Officer South. KH0084

WATERSNSW
HAWKESBURY TO HUNTER COASTAL SANDS GROUNDWATER SOURCE
An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORKS APPROVAL has been received from **DJ THOMPSON PTY LIMITED** for an excavation and 80mm submersible pump on Lot 20 DP1123934, Parish of Patonga, County of Northumberland for groundwater construction dewatering purposes (A023025).
Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 398, Parramatta NSW 2124 or Customer.Helpdesk@watersnsw.com.au within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address to specify the grounds of objection.
Any queries please phone 1300 662 077 or email the above.
Wayne Connors Senior Water Regulation Officer Coastal. KH0088


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, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Mining Lease	15/1878	BULLABULLING OPERATIONS PTY LTD	150.00HA.	24.7km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 58' S Long: 120° 54' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	15/1879	BULLABULLING OPERATIONS PTY LTD	188.50HA.	23.6km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 2' S Long: 120° 56' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	15/1880	BULLABULLING OPERATIONS PTY LTD	102.31HA.	24km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 3' S Long: 120° 56' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	15/1881	BULLABULLING OPERATIONS PTY LTD	102.44HA.	24.7km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 3' S Long: 120° 56' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	37/1347	FRANCIS, William Ambrose	8.84HA.	10.6km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 48' S Long: 121° 16' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Mining Lease	46/540	BEATONS CREEK GOLD PTY LTD	847.58HA.	27.1km E'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 48' S Long: 120° 21' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of mining leases, which authorises the applicant to mine for minerals for a term of 21 years from notification of grant and a right of renewal for 21 years.
Notification day: 22 April 2020
Native title parties: Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on **22 July 2020**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100. The mining tenements may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 22 August 2020**), there is no native title party under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* in relation to the area of the mining tenements.
For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

DMIRS_302_0784

Notice of applications for determination of native title in the Northern Territory
Notification day: 6 May 2020

These are applications by native title claim groups which are asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that they hold native title in the areas described below.

A person who wants to become a party to any of these applications must write to the Registrar of the Federal Court, GPO Box 1806, Darwin, NT, 0801 **on or before 5 August 2020**. After **5 August 2020**, the Federal Court's permission to become a party is required.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to any of these applications, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determinations, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the areas concerned.



Application name: Robert Mumu v Northern Territory (Karinga Lakes)
Federal Court File No: NTD3/2020
Date filed: 13 February 2020
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has **accepted** this application for registration

Description: The application area covers approx. 10,842 sq km and is located approx. 69 km east of Yulara and 142 km south of Hermannsburg
Relevant LGA: MacDonnell Regional Council



Application name: Bessie Coleman v Northern Territory (Jawoyn Bolmo, Matjba and Wurrkbarbar (ML(A) 32257 and ML(A) 32258) Claim)
Federal Court File No: NTD6/2020
Date filed: 11 March 2020
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has **accepted** this application for registration

Description: The application area covers approx. 0.8 sq km and is located approx. 155 km south east of Darwin and 42 km north of Pine Creek
Relevant LGA: Victoria Daly Regional Council

For assistance and further information about these applications, call Sylvia Jagtman on 02 9227 4000 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NATIVE TITLE AUTHORISATION MEETING



The Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council (Aboriginal Corporation) is convening a meeting for all Aboriginal People, who assert Native Title Rights and Interests in the traditional area of the Boonwurrung land and waters.

The meeting is being convened to discuss and authorise the making of a Native Title Determination Application on behalf of the Boonwurrung People over the area described in this Notice. The area covered by the proposed Boonwurrung Native Title Determination Application is depicted in the map below (Proposed Claim Area).

Who should attend?
All Aboriginal People who assert Native Title Rights and Interests, being the descendants of the following Boonwurrung Apical Ancestor (Proposed Native Title Claim Group), to attend a virtual meeting using remote technology to authorise a Native Title Determination Application (Authorisation Meeting):

- Louisa Briggs (circa 1830 – 1925)

Authorisation Meeting
This notice invites all members of the Proposed Boonwurrung Native Title Claim Group as described above to an authorisation meeting. The authorisation meeting will take place via remote technology on the following date and time:

Date: Friday, 15 May 2020
Time: 1pm AEST

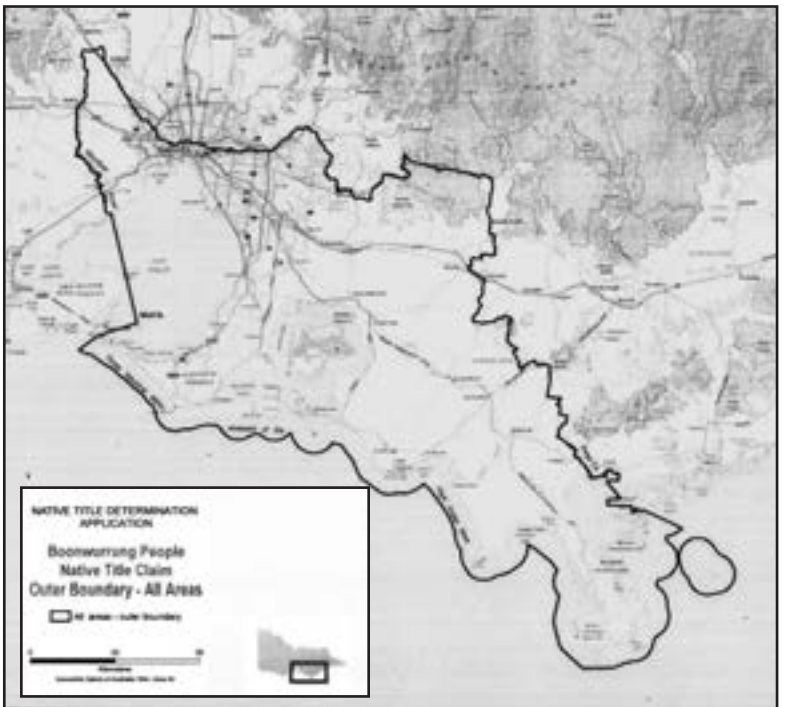
Confirm your Attendance
Those people invited and are eligible to attend the meeting are requested to contact the Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council to register their attendance and to complete a pre-registration form. The virtual meeting details will be provided to the participant following receipt and confirmation of the completed pre-registration form. Registration is to be confirmed by no later than 13 May 2020, so that all relevant arrangements to participate in the remote conference can be made.

Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council
PO Box 2125, St Kilda West 3182
Phone: (03) 9537 2222
Email: info@boonwurrung.org.au

Proxy Voting
Those people invited and are eligible to attend, but are unable to do so, may request a proxy voting form. Those present at the meeting will vote on whether to accept the proxy voting form.

The Agenda
The Agenda will be sent to participants on confirmation and acceptance of their pre-registration application.
Authorised by Jason A. Briggs BA LLB (Melb)
N'Arweet Chairman Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council

Map of the Proposed Claim Area



The claim area includes the land and waters extending from the Werribee River to, and including, Wilson's Promontory National Park, and also includes the inland coastal area as depicted above.

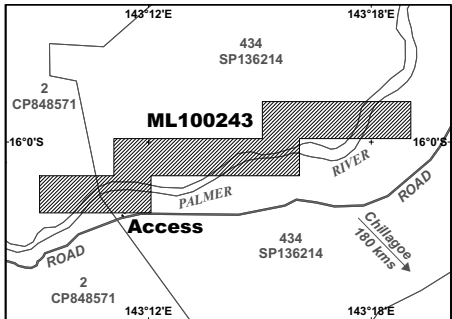
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NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF A MINING LEASE

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, 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 Mining Lease (ML) 100243 shown below under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

Mining Lease 100243 sought by Carritz Pty Ltd, ACN 010 996 880, over an area of 3950 ha, centred approximately 180 km North West of Chillagoe, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



Nature of Act(s): The grant of a Mining Lease under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) authorises the holder to mine and carry out associated activities subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) for a term not exceeding fifteen (15) years, with the possibility of renewals for terms not exceeding fifteen (15) years.

Name and address of person doing acts: It is proposed that the Mining Lease be granted subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

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 a Mining Lease. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au

Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000. Telephone: (07) 3307 5000 or 1800 640 501.

Further Information: Further information about the proposed grant of a Mining Lease, including extract of plans showing the boundaries of the Mining Lease Application may be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, Principal Mining Registrar, Mineral Assessment Hub, Level 9, Verde Tower, 445 Flinders Street, Townsville, Queensland, 4810. Telephone: (07) 4447 9230, or email MineralHub@dnrme.qld.gov.au

Notification Day: 29 April 2020.



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, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	04/2667	GIBB RIVER DIAMONDS LIMITED	16BL.	108.8km E'ly of Derby	Lat: 17° 28' S Long: 124° 38' E	DERBY-WEST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/3161	MARLEE BASE METALS PTY LTD	105BL.	74.5km S'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 51' S Long: 117° 29' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE, MEEKATHARRA SHIRE, UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/3162	AQUILA STEEL PTY LTD AMCI (IO) PTY LTD	16BL.	67.1km S'ly of Pannawonica	Lat: 22° 12' S Long: 116° 5' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2388	TASEX GEOLOGICAL SERVICES PTY LTD	40BL.	66.9km SW'ly of Mt Augustus	Lat: 24° 40' S Long: 116° 23' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/2932	TYPHON MINERALS PTY LTD	4BL.	218.4km E'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 21' S Long: 124° 32' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2952	BOADICEA RESOURCES LTD	14BL.	212.3km E'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 10' S Long: 124° 30' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/2966	TYPHON MINERALS PTY LTD	4BL.	198.6km E'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 24' S Long: 124° 18' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/1093	BLUE THUNDER RESOURCES PTY LTD	70BL.	118km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 55' S Long: 120° 7' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	31/1222	LEGENDRE, Bruce Robert	1BL.	16.5km NE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 42' S Long: 122° 28' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	31/1231	ORECORP HOLDINGS PTY LTD	13BL.	2.6km N'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 47' S Long: 122° 21' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	36/989	BLAKE, Roxanne Antonia	4BL.	60.9km S'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 27' S Long: 120° 32' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1376	MARQUEE RESOURCES LIMITED	36BL.	42.5km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 58' S Long: 120° 54' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1398	DARLOT MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	1BL.	52km E'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 54' S Long: 121° 13' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3422	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	36BL.	80.8km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 27° 55' S Long: 122° 10' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3434	REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED	4BL.	34.9km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 18' S Long: 122° 25' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3476	EAST LAVERTON EXPLORATION PTY LTD	1BL.	66.3km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 1' S Long: 122° 22' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3478	GEXPLORE PTY LTD	27BL.	96.4km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 27° 47' S Long: 122° 6' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	40/390	KYM MINING PTY LTD	11BL.	49.2km S'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 19' S Long: 121° 23' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	40/391	WHITE, Geoffrey Charles	1BL.	43.8km S'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 16' S Long: 121° 15' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/5267	MINING EQUITIES PTY LTD	14BL.	18.9km SW'ly of Corrigin	Lat: 32° 24' S Long: 117° 41' E	CORRIGIN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/5332	WATERSHED ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS PTY LTD	70BL.	52.4km NW'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 43' S Long: 117° 42' E	MOUNT MARSHALL SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/5333	WATERSHED ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS PTY LTD	58BL.	65.7km NW'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 30' S Long: 117° 42' E	MOUNT MARSHALL SHIRE
Exploration Licence	74/652	MORNING STAR MINING PTY LTD	1BL.	17.3km SE'ly of Ravensthorpe	Lat: 33° 43' S Long: 120° 7' E	RAVENSTHORPE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2639	GOLDBRIDGE SL PTY LTD	3BL.	12.3km S'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 20' S Long: 119° 21' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3219	HOLMES, Garry Wayne	16.58HA.	23.4km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 33' S Long: 120° 56' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	20/2406	HICKS, Wayne Jefferson	95.56HA.	30.2km NW'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 12' S Long: 117° 42' E	CUE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	20/2419	BOX, Philip Arthur	71.86HA.	5km NE'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 23' S Long: 117° 54' E	CUE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5415	BLACK MOUNTAIN GOLD LIMITED	176.28HA.	16.7km S'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 35' S Long: 121° 18' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	29/2575	DAMPIER GOLD LIMITED	199.16HA.	4.7km SW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 43' S Long: 121° 0' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	36/1910	MALATESTA, Nathan Kim ANDERSON, Robert John	195.30HA.	29.9km SW'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 5' S Long: 120° 27' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6170-S	KEOGH, James Patrick KEOGH, Terrence Leonard	8.08HA.	66.6km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 9' S Long: 122° 5' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6182	O'DONOGHUE, Timothy Patrick	198.75HA.	58.1km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 59' S Long: 121° 58' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/3169-S	MOLLOY, Laurence John	9.99HA.	79.1km SE'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 27° 9' S Long: 118° 58' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4555	GOLDBRIDGE SL PTY LTD	4.54HA.	78.9km E'ly of Hyden	Lat: 32° 24' S Long: 119° 44' E	KONDININ SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4557	GOLDBRIDGE SL PTY LTD	191.43HA.	144.6km W'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 21' S Long: 119° 35' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4558	GOLDBRIDGE SL PTY LTD	199.18HA.	141.2km W'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 19' S Long: 119° 38' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4559	GOLDBRIDGE SL PTY LTD	23.69HA.	109.6km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 14' S Long: 119° 15' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4560	GOLDBRIDGE SL PTY LTD	195.79HA.	134.3km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 1' S Long: 119° 10' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4563	GRANT-WILLIAMS, Neil Montrose, SAWYER, Robert Arthur	43.78HA.	21km SE'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 38' S Long: 119° 35' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4566	MCCLAREN, Kym Anthony	7.50HA.	43.2km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 53' S Long: 119° 5' E	YILGARN SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of prospecting licences which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term of 4 years from date of grant. Grant of Special Prospecting Licences, which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term up to 4 years from the date of grant. Grant of exploration licences, which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 years from the date of grant.

Notification day: 22 April 2020

Native title parties: Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on **22 July 2020**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth). Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each licence may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 22 August 2020**), 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, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518. * - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km²

DMIRS_319_0782

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In scenes replicated across the world, millions of people tune in to their favourite sport on TV on almost every day of the week. *Picture: AAP*

Missing sport on TV? Join the club

By **DARREN MONCRIEFF**



AS sports organisations and broadcasters across the world brace for a big hit to the bottom line as the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic continues to wreak havoc, sports fans at home are adjusting to life, and weekends, without sport on TV.

In a marriage of convenience, roughly 30 years ago, sport and television came together and would propel each other toward industry professionalism.

Today, broadcasters hold sway.

Sometimes, too much, as can be seen from the great Super League War in the 1990s.

Media rights deals often underwrite entire leagues and seasons, even on-field careers.

Before a sports organisation even thinks about announcing a return date this year, its broadcast partners would have been thoroughly consulted, even be in on the decision making.

Right now, however, we have nothing.

Thankfully, someone along the way invented the “record” button and we can now enjoy sport and our favourite moments over and again.

Aside from expensive pay-TV and website-based content, of which there is plenty of sport, a quick examination of the free-to-air broadcasters reveal NITV (Channel 34) as the sole FTA channel televising sport throughout the course of a week.

While it does not enjoy rights to broadcast the big-ticket leagues, its sports is mostly replays and is a broad cross-section of ice skating, Koori Knockouts, national baseball and Rugby 7s, among others.

Here, we have helpfully compiled seven days of sports replays and talk shows from its guide from Sunday (April 26) onwards.



NITV televising the 2018 Koori Knockout in Dubbo. Its coverage is second-to-none. *Picture: Darren Moncrieff*

NITV’s weekly sports guide, from Sunday, April 26 to Saturday, May 2

SUNDAY

April 26

10am – Figure Skating
ISU Grand Prix

11:30am – Rugby Union
2019 Hottest 7s

11:50am – Rugby League
2019 Combined Affiliated
States

1pm – Aussie Rules

2019 Heartland Footy

2.30pm – Motor Sport
2020 Dakar Rally

3pm – Soccer
2019 FIFA U17 World Cup –
Australia vs. Nigeria

5.30pm – Rugby Union
2019 Ella 7s

6pm – Vice Wide World of
Sports

MONDAY

April 27

7.20pm – Aussie Rules
Nyoongar Footy Magic:
Phil Matera

TUESDAY

April 28

7.20pm – Aussie Rules
Nyoongar Footy Magic:
Leon Davis

8:30pm – Rugby League
Over the Black Dot – Koori
Knockout Edition

WEDNESDAY

April 29

10am – Rugby League

Over the Black Dot – Koori
Knockout Edition (replay)

7.20pm – Aussie Rules
Nyoongar Footy Magic:
Chance Bateman

8pm – Aussie Rules
2020 Yokayi Footy

THURSDAY

April 30

1:30am – Aussie Rules
2020 Yokayi Footy (replay)

11am – Aussie Rules
2020 Yokayi Footy (replay)

7.20pm – Aussie Rules
Nyoongar Footy Magic:
Stephen Hill

FRIDAY

May 1

Sport-free Friday

SATURDAY

May 2

1pm – Rugby Union
WA Premier Grade

2:30pm – Baseball
2019 Australian Baseball
League

Something of a bright light ahead for us

WITH the NRL's recent announcement that they are striving for a June or July restart there is finally some excitement around.

During these difficult times any return to normality is most welcome. To be able to see some footy on TV over a weekend would be a huge help to help deal with what we're all going through.

The next question is if and when local and junior football will return and what these competitions will look like.

But the big question for the Aboriginal community is what's happening with the KO.

At this stage, obviously, there are no sure answers.

I'm sure for the host club, South Coast Black Cockatoos, this will be a huge challenge for them when there is so much uncertainty around. I know they will do all they can within their power to run the event the same as always and on the same long-weekend as always.

But we have to understand that things may change at any time and be supportive of the host club as they try to deal with the challenges ahead.

One thing we can do is try grow the size of some of the smaller KOs in the lead-up to the big one. We will all be crying out for football by then so I think some communities with the capabilities to do so should put their hands up and organise more of these events to help cater for more junior and women's teams.

It would not surprise me if NSWRL adopts our KO model and starts running its own mainstream comps in KO style over weekends during October. Obviously there won't be much time to run full seasons so smaller KOs and carnivals may well be the way rugby league is rolled out in 2020.

Either way, keep active, keep training, keep safe, and hopefully we'll all see each other at the footy soon.

**Dean Widders is a proud Anaiwan man. He played 159 NRL games for Sydney Roosters, South Sydney and Parramatta and 60 Super League games for Castleford. He is the NRL Indigenous Pathways manager.*



Dean Widders



'This is doing my head in'

By ALF WILSON



STAR winger and fitness fanatic Jonathon Reuben admits the cancellation of the 2020 Queensland Cup season and team training is "doing his head in".

The state's premier rugby league competition played the opening round, but following the advice of health experts and the NRL the season was suspended until the end of May due to the coronavirus pandemic.

But the QRL, which has oversight of the Queensland Cup, and the statewide QRLW, Queensland Colts (under-20s) and Mal Meninga Cup (under-18s), later cancelled the season fully.

Reuben, 27, who had signed to join the Redcliffe Dolphins, a feeder club for NRL club Brisbane Broncos, has kept up his fitness with isolation training.

"I am keeping the dream alive and hope that I may even get to play some NRL games for the Broncos this season," he said.

Reuben said that when news of the coronavirus first surfaced he "didn't take it too seriously" until the Queensland Cup was initially suspended, then later cancelled.

"I used to look forward to going to training and I did pre-season with the Broncos," he said.

"Going to training is a big part of my, and any footballer's, life (but) as a team we don't have that. It is very boring and this is doing my head in.

"Everyday I wake up is like it is an unknown. I was expecting big things this year with Redcliffe which is a good club.

"I am 27 now and don't know how the body will hold up if I don't play any football even though I have been exercising and self-training."

● Jonathon Reuben on the fly for Sunshine Coast last year. The winger switched clubs ahead of the 2020 season.

Graham is prepared to make sacrifices



Cronulla skipper and All Star Wade Graham is prepared to sacrifice family time for a return to the football field. Picture: Getty Images



NRL players will need to make sacrifices such as moving away from their families to restart

the 2020 season, and it's a price Cronulla skipper Wade Graham is prepared to pay.

The competition's innovations committee will meet again this week to find a way to resume the 2020 premiership in June or July.

The most likely scenario remains players being placed in lockdown together.

The so-called 'bubble' would likely require them to be away from partners and family for as long as coronavirus remained a threat.

Kangaroos hooker Damien Cook warned earlier this year he'd struggle to stay away from his family for more than two weeks to play for South Sydney.

Graham, with a young family and a heavily pregnant partner, says it's a sacrifice which needs to be made to support his loved ones. Otherwise, the alternative is no footy, and no income.

"I've got a young family so, if we can't get a game on, I'll have to look for other work to provide for my family," he said.

"It's where we're at at the moment with the game and with all the different scenarios that could eventuate this year.

"I think the players are willing to do whatever it takes. It is what it is; we just have to get on with it.

"I know it is a game of footy but, for all of us, it's our livelihood, so the sooner we can get back to work, the better."

How the NRL structures the quarantine camps or conferences remains a debate.

The option of having separate bases where multiple

teams would stay together for weeks at a time seems preferable.

It would help to stop the virus spreading across the entire league if one player became infected and allow play to resume once experts deemed it safe.

Graham sits on the board of directors for the Rugby League Players' Association and has been deep in negotiations over the past fortnight with the NRL.

But as the game looks for innovative ways to restart the competition, he says the playing group should be open to anything.

This week shapes as a crucial one for the NRL.

While still six weeks from a return, and positive outcomes with broadcast partners seemingly locked in, an ARL Commission meeting is also scheduled.

The Project Apollo committee will reconvene today where it's hoped a clearer structure for the season will be put in place.

But it all means clubs face either a shorter training period than they expected before the opening games or the prospect of the Warriors missing the opening weeks and catching up matches later, because they face international border restrictions here and in New Zealand.

Another option could also include the Warriors training while in their two-week quarantine window on arriving in Australia but that too would require government approval.

The NRL must also sort if interstate players will be able to bring their family into camp in Sydney, and other measures surrounding player safety and injury support. —AAP



Ah Chee finds his groove at an empty Perth Stadium

By CHRIS PIKE



BRENDON Ah Chee went through the unusual circumstance of playing his best game in the AFL knowing it would be his last for some time.

West Coast and Melbourne played the last game in round 1 of the AFL's 2020 season at Perth Stadium. An hour before bouncedown, the AFL

announced the suspension of the season until May 31, which was relayed to the players.

Unperturbed, Ah Chee announced his intention to lock in a spot at the Eagles with a two-goal 12-possession game in his side's 27-point win over the Demons.

"It was weird once the final siren went that we were done for a bit," he said.

"(But) I guess it just gave us a bit more drive to finish

on a high and that whatever happens afterwards, we could make our fans and members proud for a little while," he said.

"Now it's just about doing what everyone else is doing, following the rules from the government with self-isolation and social-distancing.

"Even though we are in a break, we still don't want to get sick and it's up to the sports science guys in how we approach our training during this break."

● West Coast's Brendon Ah Chee (left) and Melbourne's Jay Lockhart fist-bump in round 1 of the AFL in Perth. Picture: AAP

Private club ownership a slippery slope

THE AFL has made no secret that just four of its 18 clubs won't need assistance through 2020 if the shutdown continues past May 31.

Collingwood, Hawthorn, Richmond and West Coast are each in a strong financial position and will push through this year without needing to borrow money from the AFL's \$600 million dollar loan pool, but the 14 other clubs will need to.

One concept that's been thrown around for discussion at the moment to save clubs from themselves is privatisation. This would require an individual or a private company with very deep pockets to step in. This model is common in the NBA and the EPL.

As with anything, however, there are a host of pros and cons. At least one positive is that clubs won't have a 20-year AFL/bank loan hanging over their heads.

There was a form of privatisation in the VFL in the 1980s but that was merely rich business types paying the league a licence fee for 'their' club, which was around \$4 million. These individuals didn't bring much at all to the game itself, other than the few million in licence fees and 'colourful' newspaper headlines. Then there was the Pacific Island-based Nauru Insurance Company that sponsored the Fitzroy Football Club in the 1990s. When that company called in the creditors that was the end of the Lions. These outdated models of 'ownership', if you could even call it that, aren't going to cut it in today's environment.

Even under the current model of multi-national sponsorships and club memberships, clubs have been made to jump through hoops for decades for the almighty dollar, and then we have the pleasure to hear things like, "The EMIRATES Collingwood Magpies are proud to announce..."

Who would actually be interested, though? For a start, there are far too many AFL clubs in Victoria so there is strong competition. Individuals and business would need to see tangible outcomes and would want to be very clever in determining exactly what return they would want from their investment. If not, things could get messy. Alternatively, they could simply hand several millions dollars over, just as a very rich fan. Talk about a membership fee! But think of a lifetime of fancy lunches, team photos and signed guernseys.

A lot of experienced heads in the game don't think it's the way to go. Veteran football writer Caroline Wilson put it simply: "Don't go there; you will lose your heart and soul of the club." I would have to agree. The risks are too great. But if clubs choose to not listen to me, or Caro, or many others, don't jump into it blindly.

Our clubs are a precious part of the Australian way of life and who we are as a community. We need them as much as they need us.

**Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.*



Shelley Ware

Was Harry Hewitt Port's first Aboriginal Magpie?

By PETER ARGENT



WHEN Port Adelaide played Fitzroy at Adelaide Oval on

August 1, 1891, a Raukkan man called Harry Hewitt unknowingly etched his name into the history books, according to information uncovered by researcher, Debra Abdulla.

The South Australian Chronicle of Saturday, August 8, 1891, under the heading "Fitzroy Matches", lists Hewitt as playing in the backline as a defender for Port in this game.

The crowd at Adelaide Oval that day was almost 4000.

The final score showed a win for the home side – Port Adelaide 4.12 (36) defeating Fitzroy 2.6 (18).

The 150-year-old Port Adelaide Football Club is the oldest professional sporting club in South Australia and has a strong tradition and representation of Aboriginal players.

In 1889, two years before his appearance with Port Adelaide, Hewitt played for a club called Medindie.

From 1877 to 1906, SA's premier football competition was called the South Australian Football Association. In 1907, it

changed its name to the South Australian Football League, and in 1927, it changed its name to the South Australian National Football League, which it retains to this day.

Medindie would later amalgamate with the nearby North Adelaide Football Club and would become wholly absorbed by Norths, which is why Hewitt's Port Adelaide record supersedes that of Medindie/North Adelaide.

Hewitt was regarded as a champion sportsman, which included his feats in cricket.

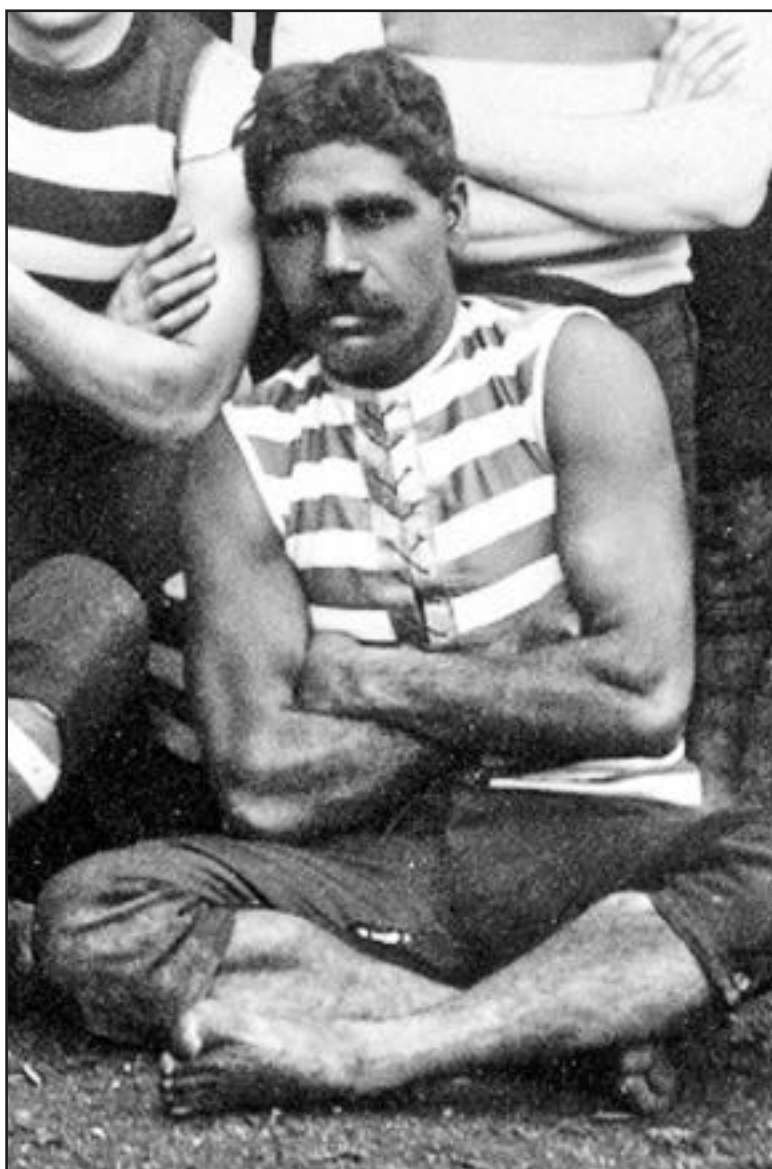
Reports suggest he had been a key player in two prominent cricket matches in 1885.

The first was as part of an "All Indigenous" side which played a team called Wanderers, and then against a combined Prince Alfred and Whinham College's side, both at Adelaide Oval.

Hewitt was also part of the traditional dance group in what was called the "Grand Native Corroboree" that was performed on the oval following the Wanderers game.

In 1907, it was reported that Hewitt died in sad and controversial circumstances.

Abdulla, a Raukkan woman, is undertaking further research.



Raukkan man Harry Hewitt is pictured here as a player with the Port Adelaide Football Club in the 1890s. Source: Donna Abdulla



Fitzroy Football Club offers a cautionary tale of private club ownership. Supplied



Ash Gardner Picture: Peter Argent

Gardner named CA's Indigenous player of the year



LEADING women's Indigenous cricketer Ash Gardner has been rewarded for a second time by Cricket Australia after an outstanding 12 months representing her country.

The two-time T20 World Cup winner was named The Lords Taverners Indigenous Player of the Year, announced online.

Gardner, of the NSW Breakers and Sydney Sixers in the WBBL, was recognised as a leading role model for Indigenous Australians in cricket, exemplified by her role in Australia's ICC Women's T20 World Cup-winning side.

Gardner is a previous winner of this award.

"It is pleasing to see players and teams from across the country recognised in these awards, a testament to the strength of our domestic competitions," CA said in a statement.

Barty will play French Open 'whenever'



ASH Barty will jump at the chance to defend her French Open crown "whenever" it is scheduled.

Amid unprecedented uncertainty and talk of players boycotting the claycourt grand slam following its controversial shift from May to September, Barty remains typically upbeat and pragmatic.

"I hope I get the chance to defend my title in September – any opportunity to compete is something I'll grab with both hands," Australia's world No 1 said.

"There are more important things going on in the world right now, though, and I will do whatever helps keeps us all safe and healthy."

With the coronavirus pandemic continuing to wreak havoc on the global sporting calendar, the WTA Tour on Wednesday extended its suspension of all events from May 2 until June 7 – the original French Open men's final day.

Barty revealed, unlike men's reigning champion Rafael Nadal, she didn't receive a courtesy call from French Open tournament director Guy Forget regarding the postponement of the season's second major.

"No, I haven't spoken to Guy Forget but I'm happy to play the tournament whenever it is scheduled," she said.

In a joint statement released by the WTA and ATP, the women's and men's governing

bodies took a thinly veiled swipe at Roland Garros officials for moving the French Open to the middle of the hardcourt season with little consultation with tennis's other key stakeholders.

"Now is not a time to act unilaterally, but in unison," the statement said. All decisions related to the impact of the coronavirus require appropriate consultation and review with the stakeholders in the game, a view that is shared by ATP, WTA, ITF, AELTC, Tennis Australia, and USTA.

"The challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic to professional tennis demand greater collaboration than ever from everyone in the tennis community, in order for the sport to move forward collectively in the best interest of players, tournaments and fans."

"We are assessing all options related to preserving and maximising the tennis calendar based on various return dates for the tours, which remain an unknown at this time."

"We are committed to working through these matters with our player and tournament members, and the other governing bodies, in the weeks and months ahead."

The ice-cool sporting star is keeping fit and healthy – as well as her eye in – during the lay-off from competitive tennis.

All WTA and ATP rankings will be frozen throughout the suspension of tournaments.

– AAP



Ash Barty will defend her French Open title whenever it is played. Picture: Getty Images

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A return to football in the west still up in the air – WAFC

By CHRIS PIKE



THE WAFL remains committed to playing close to a full season as possible in 2020, with plans that even include playing into next summer.

That decision rests with the West Australian Football Commission, which oversees the game in WA which includes the WAFL and which holds the licences of the state's two AFL clubs, Fremantle and West Coast.

With the suspension of all football across the vast state due to measures to protect the community from the coronavirus, everything is in chaos. A re-evaluation will take place leading up to May 31.

The commission has stood down 72 full-time staff with those remaining taking significant pay cuts. It has slashed funding to nine of the 10 WAFL clubs by up to 50 per cent.

There are fears that if no

football can be played, the nine clubs may not survive with the majority hanging by a thread.



WAFC chief executive Gavin Taylor hopes everyone can stick together during these unprecedented times, but acknowledges that restarting soon after May 31 might be a forlorn hope.

"I think for the whole football industry it's a real challenging time. We're in uncharted territory in our world and communities, and obviously our game has been severely impacted by the coronavirus. It's a real challenging time for the whole football

industry here in WA," he said.

"The challenging part is that every time there's a new condition imposed by the Government then those conditions have to be unwound so it will be interesting if that advice changes based on if we can turn around the growth of the coronavirus."

"We look at all the advice we can to try and make long-term decisions, but with the conditions that we've got in place, it might be challenging to see football return immediately after that initial May 31 deadline."

While the AFL faces a fight if it plays into the summer of 2020 with sharing venues across the country with cricket, that won't be an issue for the WAFL. Virtually all WAFL grounds are solely used for football and that could potentially be the saviour of a 2020 season.

This would allow a 2020 season to be played as late as December which would go some way in recouping money which in turn could ensure the long-term survival of the clubs.



Mandurah Magic's Aaron Kearing was all set for a good year in the SBL before the 2020 season was suspended.

Kearing still keen to turn on the Magic with Mandurah

By CHRIS PIKE



ALL signs were pointing to emerging big man Aaron

Kearing having a career-best season in the SBL until the COVID-19 pandemic arrived but he remains hopeful that that can still happen.

Kearing plays for Mandurah Magic, one of 14 men's teams in WA's premier basketball competition.

The local Mandurah product showed a purple patch of form in 2019 that had him marked as a genuine star in the league.

But he took early leave

to represent his people at the World Indigenous Basketball Challenge in Canada.

Following a solid pre-season, Kearing was all set to sparkle for the rejuvenated Magic in 2020. While the start to the season may have been delayed, he's confident he can show what he's capable of when basketball resumes.

Kearing was named in the Pioneers Aboriginal team which was to play at the under-23 World Indigenous Basketball Challenge in Victoria, before it was postponed.

"That period of games I played last year before I left for Canada really did give me the confidence that I could do some good

things in the SBL," he said.

"This is a high quality league with a lot of guys who have played in the NBL before or who are going to play in the NBL one day, so to know I could hold my own was a great confidence boost.

"But representing my people is always going to be important to me so I'm never going to turn down any of those chances.

"I was really excited about the way our team was coming together with the Magic this year.

"We were ready to get started before the season was called off. Hopefully, it's not long now until we can get out there and play because we are all ready to try and show how much

better we can be, and I really want to be at the centre of everything the team does this year."

Magic has some of the biggest names in WA basketball calling the shots. The head coach is Aaron Trahair, who played 422 games in the NBL. Beside him as assistant coach is Ricky Grace, widely regarded as the greatest Perth Wildcats player of all time. Grace's son Jerami joins the team, too, along Marvin Smith and Jarrett Gray as its imports.

With a strong contingent of local products, led by Kearing, big things were expected from Mandurah. Perhaps when play does get underway, we shall see.

Who stands the tallest?

By PETER ARGENT



IN 40 years of the WNBL, there are two who stand out as among the best players, and best Indigenous

players.

There have only been a handful of Indigenous women who have played the game at the top level in Australia.

Those numbers reached an all-time high during the 2019/20

season which saw Leilani Mitchell (Southside Flyers), Abbie Cubillo (Canberra Capitals), Maddie Allen, Nes'eya Williams (Perth Lynx) and Ally Wilson (Sydney Uni Flames) hitting the courts in the WNBL.

Among those, Mitchell and a former player, the versatile Rohanee Cox, would be among the game's best, with Wilson a close third.

Cox's career spanned nearly 20 years and included the 2009 WNBL MVP when she was

playing for Townsville Fire.

At the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, she became the first Indigenous woman to play basketball for Australia. The Opals won silver at those Games.

She actually made her debut for Australia as a teenager.

In 2007, she won the Maher Medal as Australia's International Player of the Year.

Cox was a versatile 182cm all-round performer who had an impact at both ends of the court.

American-born Mitchell, whose mother is from Thursday Island in the Torres Strait, started her top-level career in the WNBA with New York Liberty from 2008.

She played with Dandenong in the 2013/14 season before a switch to Sydney Uni Flames and Adelaide Lightning, all the while continuing her career in the WNBA.

Mitchell was a championship player with the Flames and the Canberra Capitals.

She is a regular with the Opals since 2014.

At just 165cm, Mitchell is a creative point-guard who can also play a key shooting role.

Emerging talent Wilson, from Murray Bridge in South Australia, is a two-time WNBL championship.

In 2012, she was a key member of the Aussie Gems gold-medal-winning team.

Injury-free, Wilson also presents as a viable selection for the Opals.



Leilani Mitchell is among the best Indigenous women to have played in the 40 years of the WNBL. Pictures: Peter Argent, Getty Images



2008 Olympic Games silver medallist Rohanee Cox blazed a trail for Indigenous women in the early 2000s.



Ally Wilson is serious talent in women's basketball.



Matildas Kyah Simon (left) and Lydia Williams.

Games delay a benefit for weary Matildas



THE postponement of the Tokyo Olympics could be a blessing in disguise for

Australia's national women's soccer team's 2021 quest for a gold medal

The Matildas had one of the busiest, travel-heavy schedules in international women's football over the past two years, including a World Cup, Asian Cup, Olympic qualifying and numerous friendlies.

There has been little room for rest at club level, either, with many Matildas alternating between Australia's W-League and the United States' NWSL.

But given the suspension of major sport, players are enjoying some down time, albeit enforced. —AAP

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



WITH no apparent end date in sight of the COVID-19 pandemic that's forced the entire world into lockdown, there are fears that an iconic Aboriginal sports event due to celebrate its first half-century could fall by the wayside.

The traditional October long-weekend NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout Carnival faces its biggest hurdle yet across several fronts.

This year would be its 50th and was scheduled to be played at Nowra on the NSW south coast and hosted by last year's winners, South Coast Black Cockatoos.

But a nationwide ban on large gatherings and contact sport in general has put everything in limbo.

Despite the misgivings by the Prime Minister Scott Morrison, state and territory premiers and the country's chief medical officer, rugby league's parent body the Australian Rugby League Commission is eyeing a June or July return of its premier competition, the NRL, but with a raft of conditions, including



Crowds from around NSW flock to the Koori Knockout each year. This photo was from the 2019 event at Tuggerah on the NSW Central Coast. Picture: Darren Moncrieff

player and team isolation, rigorous testing and exemptions for travel.

If the ARL Commission's plan comes to fruition, it wouldn't necessarily mean lower-tier football with far less resources could also make a return in a similar timeframe.

How this plays out is anyone's guess, but there is some cause for optimism within

the game. Mark Deweerd is senior manager of Indigenous strategy at the NRL.

He said the Koori Knockout's October start could be to its favour.

"What's happening with the NRL should have minimal impact on the ability for the Knockout to proceed," Deweerd said.

"There are, however, a few

other factors that need to be considered: whether the lockdown restrictions will ease in time for the KO to proceed in October; the health and wellbeing of players if no competitions take place this year and the potential for injury as a result; the availability of referees if no competitions take place this year, and; the financial viability of teams given the impact this is having on communities and potential sponsors."

Which all means that planning and contingencies for the Knockout are at the mercy of government policy and, primarily, a meaningful containment of the virus at large.

"It's a waiting game (for the hosts), like all of us, to see what decisions the government will make over the next couple of months," Deweerd said.

"There does come a point, though, when a decision will need to be made.

"It is possible that this decision will be taken out of the hands of the hosts anyway as governments have spoken openly about the restrictions being in place for some time."

South Coast Black Cockatoos were contacted for comment.

Bindal Sharks press ahead toward October

By ALF WILSON



ORGANISERS of north Queensland's biggest Indigenous rugby league carnival are

confident it will go ahead in October.

The Bindal Sharks' rugby league carnival is held in Townsville on the second weekend in October each year.

This year is set to be its 35th.

Despite uncertainty surrounding all football due to the coronavirus pandemic, and with the QRL having cancelled its four major statewide competitions this year, Bindal Sharks' Jenny Prior is confident.

The QRL's northern division operations are hoping for competitions such as the Townsville and District Rugby League to recommence as early as June and run through until October.

It supports the Sharks' carnival going ahead if the Queensland Government approves it. If that happens, its only other concern is a shortage of referees from the region.

The popular Sharks carnival is QRL-sanctioned and would need that to happen to source local and regional referees and touch judges.

But Prior is confident that carnival will go ahead and could

be the biggest yet.

She said she is "sure the coronavirus crisis will be over by later in the year".

"Blackfellas just love their rugby league and this will be our 35th year; we have had lots of enquiries already," she said.

"They want it to go ahead, they are starved of rugby league.

"It will go ahead as these carnivals are a part of each Indigenous community.

"These events help with (positive) mental health and are happy times, especially in the lead-up to Christmas and especially so with this coronavirus crisis."

Prior said that other dates have also been looked at.

"Either the second or third weekends in November would also be a possibility if October was not available due to a referees shortage," she said.

Organisers have fielded calls from teams from Cherbourg, Palm Island, Charters Towers, the Torres Strait, Yarrabah, Mackay and a Brisbane team from Bribie Island among others.

The carnival is huge in the north.

It is held each year at the Townsville Sports Reserve.

Last year, there were 16 men's teams, four women's teams and eight under-17 sides.

It is a alcohol- and drug-free event.



The Raiders and Coen Colts go at it in the Plate Final of the 2019 Bindal Sharks rugby league tournament in Townsville.



Ayden McGregor-Baptista was a powerful force for South Australia in Alice Springs at the National Indigenous Cricket Championships and in first-grade cricket in Adelaide.
Pictures: Peter Argent



McGregor-Baptista at 2017's South Australian Cricket Association's annual presentation night, where he was presented with the Indigenous male player of the year award by former Test cricketer, Peter Sleep, who played 14 Tests for Australia. McGregor-Baptista is a three-time winner of this award.



Handy with the ball, McGregor-Baptista celebrates a wicket for SA at a previous NICC in Alice Springs.

Sports' biggest test to come, and that is us

WHEN someone or something with authority is removed chaos often follows as those left behind struggle and jostle to gain power. It's where the phrase 'power hates a vacuum' comes from.



Darren Moncrieff

With the coronavirus lockdown, the absence of professional sport has created a vacuum. Those left behind are its fans. The struggle to regain power will be when those sports organisations return and seek to recapture the bodies, minds and hearts, and dollars, of its fans – you and me.

Right now, however, our primary focus is to literally not get sick with this mean strain of coronavirus and so here we are in a lockdown, waiting it out, washing our hands, baking cakes, washing our hands, twiddling our thumbs, washing our hands, working out, washing our hands, eating, reading, dancing on Tik Tok, and not watching live sport.

Not watching live sport presents a big problem for the major sports because what if a large percentage of us are ultimately OK with that? What if enough of us get used to life without the sport we previously thought we couldn't do without? What if enough of us realise the meaningful connections we're making in isolation with ourselves, family and friends and remembering the importance of community is actually more rewarding, more intense, educational, and, ultimately, more fulfilling, than sport? This is a big call on a big play but it might only take a quarter of all Australian football fans to tune out for financial bottom lines to tap out. This is the 'power' that would worry the powerful.

It will be fascinating how the major sports codes recalibrate in a changed environment. Already, some of the big television networks that underpin professional sport worth billions to them now have nothing to show for it. There will no doubt be casualties. Author Mark Fisher in 2009 in *Capitalist Realism: Is There No Alternative?* explored how it will be easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism. To peg that depressing thought back a little, perhaps it will be easier to simply imagine the end of some leagues and clubs than it is to expect massive changes to the systems in place that are meant to support the development of our identity, not shape it.

The reality here is not that the all-encompassing professional sports command our attention and significant resources in the first place, it is that that happened in the first place. The sports codes we've grown to love have actually built their 'empires' on the assumed dependency of us, the masses. These empires are the new industries feeding notions of identity. What organised sport we follow and play determines a lot of how we're perceived and how we fit into society, more so for us First Nations people, whether we like that or not.

Anyway, the lockdown has given us a quick peek behind the curtain at how sport alters identity, family and community. It's given us a look into the 'magic' of how it is really made, which is built on the back of a mass of humanity fuelled by the power of the almighty dollar. We will interpret and act on that in whatever manner is appropriate to our own situation. The pandemic has some harsh things to teach us all in many different ways.

**Darren Moncrieff is a Wadjari-Thakarra man from Carnarvon in Western Australia who started with Yamaji News in 1997 and freelanced in WA's Kimberley region and in the Northern Territory.*

**Got something to say?
Then say it! Drop us a line:
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Power-hitter Ayden takes out top honours

By **PETER ARGENT**



HE was a big hit and he has a big hit and in 2020 Ayden McGregor-Baptista was simply smashing in Alice Springs.

For that, and in first-grade club cricket with East Torrens during the 2019/20 season, the 22-year-old was named as the South Australian Cricket Association's Indigenous male cricketer of the year, his third time as winner.

At the National Indigenous Cricket Championships in Alice Springs in February, McGregor-Baptista was

superb. Against Victoria, he smashed 24 runs off just six deliveries in eight minutes, including a boundary and three sixes, in SA's opening-round win.

Against a strong Queensland attack, he was even more brutal.

He galloped to 54 runs from 23 deliveries in 32 minutes with two boundaries and six sixes, with an amazing strike rate of over 200.

By the time he was finished wreaking havoc in Alice Springs, McGregor-Baptista made 103 runs at a tournament-high strike rate of 202.0.

What made that more

impressive was his limited preparation for the tournament.

"I actually injured my shoulder before coming up to the tournament and had two weeks off instead of preparing for the Imparja Cup," McGregor-Baptista said.

"I did the AC joint and ligaments in my shoulder while fielding on the boundary in a first-grade game."

"Before this season's NICC tournament, I had a couple of years off including the 2019 campaign through work."

Days were lost in Alice Springs due to rain.

"Yes, this was the first time we've dealt with the weather issues there," he said.



Could the coronavirus pandemic force a... **Koori Lockout?**



THE biggest event in Aboriginal sport is facing a race against time with several options looming, including playing it a later date or, worse,

scrapped entirely.

The NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout Carnival draws teams and players from all over the country's most populous Aboriginal state.

The three-day Koori Knockout

is traditionally played during the first weekend in October.

The 2020 KO, the event's 50th, is set to be played at Nowra in the Shoalhaven region on the NSW south coast and hosted by last year's winners, South Coast

Black Cockatoos.

But with a statewide lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic now in its first month, the Knockout's milestone event could even be put on ice.

● Full story, page 50



Darryl Kemp of the Dubbo Googars tracks the ball against Newcastle All Blacks in their round 2 match at the 2019 NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout Carnival at Tuggerah on the Central Coast. The 2020 tournament is facing a race against time. Picture: Darren Moncrieff



Kurtley Beale Picture: AAP

Kurt and co finally get their money



AS Rugby Australia and the players' union edge closer to an agreement on an interim pay deal, Kurtley Beale

and his NSW Waratahs teammates at least received some pay relief.

Super Rugby were five rounds into the 2020 season when it was suspended following fears of transmission of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Last week, NSW Rugby followed the lead of the ACT Brumbies and paid their players.

It is believed back-dated adjustments will be made to the Waratahs' salaries later in the year, once an agreement on the scale of the pay cuts have been finalised. —AAP



● 'Whenever' — Barty will play French Open, page 48

Bindal Sharks press ahead toward October carnival, page 50