



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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

EDITION 726

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020

PUBLISHED SINCE 1991

Phone: (02) 66 222 666

www.koorimail.com

Recommended price \$2.99 (GST-inclusive)

Celebrity chef gets a taste of culture in Tassie



Pakana/palawa man Craig Everett and son Hadies. Everett shared his culture and cooking tips with English chef Gordon Ramsay. Full story, page 9. Picture: Jillian Mundy

- First Nations children being locked up at much higher rates
- Police transporting Aboriginal kids in the Territory in cages
- Indigenous people being targeted for strip searches in NSW
- Snakes and mice infesting prison cells in Western Australia

All these stories have Blackfellas around the country asking is it

Justice or just us?

Read about the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the criminal justice system on pages 6, 7, 8 and 20.

INSIDE



**Shari Sebbens
on a career high**

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**Blake Rhodes is
dreaming big**

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**Jess joins San
Francisco's Dons**

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**Beale seals
French deal**

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MY FAMILY Emma Robertson (Palawa/Hobart, Tas)



THIS is my crazy, full, fun family – together at home during the (COVID-19) lockdown.

Jason and I have been together for 15 years, and I often refer to our kids as ‘yours, mine and ours’.

We love going camping, being on the water, being on country.

As soon as the lockdown is over we’ll be straight to the farm, Mum’s place, camping by the creek and riding motorbikes. We have missed it. It doesn’t bother us if it’s the middle of winter – we’ll have a good fire going.

I can’t wait to get to the beach either, and go collecting again so we can make necklaces and weave.

I never had the opportunity to learn as a child, but I’ve been lucky to have Elders in the community share with me and now it’s going to be something I pass onto the girls.

Some of us dressed up in our mariner shell necklaces that I made for

this photo, and, not to miss out, Fabian put his tie on for the occasion.

Jason and I are proud of all the kids. We don’t care what they do in life, so long as they give it their all to be the best person they can be.

I just want them to be good humans, nice people.

It doesn’t cost anything to be kind. And I want them to stay close as a family, if anything ever happened to Jason or me, because I’m from a close family and Jason is an only child.

I am the eldest of four and Mum was one of nine, so I’ve got loads of support and lots of cousins.

That family closeness has been really strong for me.

The kids are close now.

I hope that continues on into their adult lives and they are always there to support each other.

Bec, Jason, Fabian, Emma, Lainee, Jacob (French), Pyper, Josh and Hollie (French).

SHARE YOUR FAMILY WITH OUR READERS

If you would like to see your family featured in the ‘My Family’ section of the Koori Mail, email a high-resolution digital photo to editor@koorimail.com along with a full caption (always reading from left to right) and between 350 and 400 words about your family. Tell us who is in your family, what you like to do as a family, your traditions and achievements, and what is important to you.

– As told to Jillian Mundy.

OUR CHILDREN



Azarleah Brown at Preminghana Camp in Tasmania earlier this year. Picture: Jillian Mundy

Koori Mail

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Advertising Rates
\$18.50 (+ GST) a column centimetre casual rate (discounts available for multiple bookings).
Spot and full colour available.

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

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

Koori Mail on The Web: www.koorimail.com

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

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

The Koori Mail is published by Budsoar Pty Ltd and printed by SpotPress, 26 Lillian Fowler Place, Marrickville NSW 2204.

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Barty and Rafter team up to say thanks

By PETER ARGENT



WORLD No 1 women's tennis player and Aboriginal sporting role model Ash Barty joined fellow

Queensland Grand Slam winner Pat Rafter at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RWBH) to show their appreciation and support for frontline healthcare workers during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Recently the pair met with David Rosengren, executive director of the RBWH, and had a surprise hit at a pop-up court on the hospital's helipad with clinical nurse consultants from the Infection Prevention and Monitoring Service, Trish Hurst and Michelle Doidge.

Barty, whose sister Sara is a midwife and mum Josie also works in the medical field, came up with the initiative, and she and Rafter also toured the hospital, including the Emergency and Infections Unit, where the most Queensland COVID-19 cases have been treated.

The pair also joined a video conference with other members of the medical team to express their thanks.



Tennis greats Pat Rafter and Ash Barty had a hit up with nurses Trish Hurst and Michelle Dodge on the helipad of the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital to say thanks to health workers for their commitment and hard work during the pandemic.

"It was really incredible to come into one of the COVID wards and just to see how it all works and how it's sectioned off," Barty commented.

"There were a lot of people

and a lot of unsung heroes who are going unnoticed at the moment who are doing a lot of work to keep us safe, keep the community safe and to keep us tracking in the right direction, so it

was really special for us to see that today."

Barty confirmed she was keen to get back on the court but said health always comes first.

"This is a tough time for so

many people in the world," Barty said.

"There are more important things than tennis right now.

"It's a unique situation so it's tough to compare it to anything. All I can do is keep my fitness up, keep hitting and stay positive.

"I feel fortunate to be in Australia, where the restrictions are easing a little and we are able to train again."

For the healthcare workers, a special visit from the popular Queensland sporting duo provided a huge boost in the intensely challenging circumstances.

"Being the largest hospital in Queensland we often have to bear the brunt of lots of the hard work and lots of the complexity," RWBH director David Rosengren said.

"The staff here are deeply devoted to what they're doing and every now and again it is so good to be able to just spend five minutes and look at the bright side of life and to get some recognition."

Patrick Rafter also gave his thanks to health staff working through the pandemic.

"Being in that environment, it's pretty tricky," he said.

"You can't thank these guys enough for what they're doing."

Pandemic response turns to mental health



WHILE state and territory governments began relaxing restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the internal border controls

restricting access to areas that include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities under the *Commonwealth Biosecurity Act* will remain in place until June 18 and possibly longer.

Governments have given a boost to mental health services targeting vulnerable communities, including Indigenous people.

The National Cabinet announced a \$48.1m plan to support a National Mental Health and Wellbeing Pandemic Response Plan, including an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' mental health and social and emotional wellbeing pandemic response plan.

Professor Helen Milroy, chair of the new Indigenous wellbeing and mental health leadership body Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia, welcomed the announcement and said it was important that the plan was developed and implemented through Indigenous leadership.

"Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia is already demonstrating itself to be a uniquely Indigenous and trusted source of wellbeing, mental health and suicide prevention information, help and hope during the pandemic," she said. "And I believe the new body is uniquely placed, and has a significant role to play, in the development of this Indigenous-specific pandemic response plan."

Gayaa Dhuwi chief executive Tom Brideson said that the Australian



Professor Helen Milroy

Indigenous Psychologists Association and the Centre for Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention have worked for many years to establish an Indigenous-specific mental health and suicide prevention helpline.

"This is particularly critical during the pandemic and could be built into the Indigenous pandemic response plan," he said. "This may require a workforce training plan and other elements, but together Indigenous leadership organisations are more than ready to meet this and other challenges within a wider Indigenous-specific response COVID-19."

"This is a clear example of how Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia and leaderships groups need to align the pandemic response plans across all activities to ensure the best available responses are achieved for our people."

The Northern Territory's chief medical

officer Hugh Heggie says he's still terrified by the threat posed by the coronavirus should a wave of new infections hit the region, despite the Territory's success in limiting the spread of the disease.

As he thanked locals for their efforts to combat the virus in recent weeks, Hugh Heggie said he remained concerned about what could happen should a wave of new infections hit the region.

"I'm going to start by saying I'm personally terrified," Dr Heggie said.

"I'm terrified because, if we do have an outbreak here, we need to be prepared for it."

"I don't want to see the dreadful harm that has been done elsewhere in the world with lives lost."

Dr Heggie urged locals to continue with social distancing and good hygiene, and said it was particularly important for people who became unwell to stay home.

"This is so important and we've seen new waves in countries that actually had very good results early on," he said.

So far, the Territory has had only 30 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and only two of those remain active.

There have been no deaths.

On Friday, the NT Government lifted more restrictions, allowing restaurants, cafes, and bars to reopen as long as people purchase food.

Non-contact sports can start up and indoor activities are allowed with a two-hour time limit.

Beauty salons, gyms, libraries and places of religious worship can also resume.

Officials are worried about a potential

new outbreak of the virus in a Queensland aged care home and two growing clusters of cases in Victoria.

States are now in the first stage of a three-step process of easing the coronavirus restrictions.

Leaders agreed on a timetable for elective surgery to return to full throttle.

Pubs, clubs, cafes and restaurants have opened their doors, with 10 patrons at a time allowed in most states.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison recognised that for many, 10 patrons wouldn't be a profitable level but commended them for taking the "brave step".

Chief medical officer Brendan Murphy said people had to be very careful as they started to resume normal activities and continue to practice "all of those new ways of interacting".

A Queensland aged care nurse who tested positive to coronavirus has authorities concerned about the potential for a new outbreak.

The state-run North Rockhampton Nursing Centre is in lockdown and a rapid response team is conducting extensive testing and contact tracing of the 180 staff and 115 residents.

"It is very, very concerning," Queensland's chief health officer Jeannette Young said.

An outbreak at Sydney nursing home Newmarch House has led to 71 infections and 16 deaths.

Two clusters of cases in Victoria also continue to grow, with 21 more people diagnosed on Friday, tipping Australia's total cases over the 7000 mark. —AAP

NITV celebrates Reconciliation Week with the best of Indigenous programming



NATIONAL Reconciliation Week begins next week on May 25 and finishes on Mabo Day, June 3.

NITV is marking Reconciliation Week 2020 with a dedicated slate of programming.

This year's theme is In This Together.

The special programming kicks off with current affairs program *Living Black* on Monday, May 25, at 8.30pm, when host Karla Grant speaks with Senator Patrick Dodson, the 'Father of Reconciliation', about his life and career. Senator Dodson also reflects on the reconciliation process, was it worthwhile, did it achieve what it set out to do and where are we as a nation in terms of treaty, Voice to Parliament and truth-telling?

On Wednesday, May 27, at 8.30pm, Rachael Hocking and John-Paul Janke from NITV's flagship current affairs program *The Point* explore how, 20 years on, COVID-19 has brought a new dimension to Reconciliation Week.

This will be followed by another special episode of *Living Black* on Thursday, May 28, at 7.30pm, to mark the 20th anniversary of the Walk of Reconciliation.

The program pays tribute to the Reconciliation Movement, started 20 years ago, when almost 300,000 Australians walked across bridges across the country including Sydney Harbour Bridge on May 28, 2000, to come together to support reconciliation and to explore and acknowledge the nation's shared history.

In line with this year's theme, NITV will also bring attention to the environment, its beauty and the issues.

On June 3, NITV celebrates Mabo Day.



Senator Patrick Dodson speaks with Karla Grant about his life and career in *Living Black* on NITV on Monday.

WIK vs Queensland at 9.30pm gives a powerful insight into the High Court's decision to grant native title to the Wik people in 1996 and the dramatic political and cultural fallout that followed.

SBS On Demand will stream *Mabo: Life of an Island Man*, an award-winning documentary about the private and public stories of a man so passionate about his family and home that he fought an entire

nation and its legal system.

This year NITV also celebrates the works of award-winning Indigenous filmmaker Warwick Thornton.

● Thornton explores isolation, page 30

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Foster carers blocked from taking kids OS

By DARREN COYNE



A COURT has blocked an attempt by English foster carers to take two Aboriginal children to England in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The *Koori Mail* reported in its April 8 edition that their mother was frantic at the thought of her children flying to England, despite the trip being approved by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice.

The matter was heard last Thursday and the court ordered that the children be placed on a watch-list so they cannot be taken overseas.

The mother, who cannot be identified, said she would be returning to court on June 3 in an attempt to gain more access to her children, as she currently is only allowed to see them supervised for short periods, four times a year.

She is also hoping that future court orders would allow

her children to be placed in the care of a family member.

"One of my aunties has put her hand up to take them, but DOCs won't even look at my aunty," she said.

Grandmothers Against Removals (GMAR) co-founder Aunty Hazel Collins told the *Koori Mail* that since the original story was published, it was discovered the foster carers were not residents of Australia.

"They are only in Australia on working visas so they have to go back to renew their visas," Aunty Hazel said.

"I simply cannot fathom how they were approved as carers in the first place.

"There was a family member assessed, but she was only passed as respite care, yet she has never had the children in her care."

Aunty Hazel said it had also emerged that the children had been living in a motel room with their foster carer, but "they quickly got these kids into other accommodation once the story was made public".

She said GMAR would

continue to advocate for Aboriginal children to be placed with Aboriginal families, as well as support the mother of the children in care with the English couple.

"She only gets an hour and a half, four times a year. That's a court order so that has to go back to the court. These are the things that we as GMAR can advocate for her and increase that.

"The most urgent thing is to get those kids with a family member, in consultation with Mum. They need to be taken out of this situation and placed into family or community so that Mum can have more access."

According to data from the Australia Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), in 2017-18, the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children receiving child protection services was 163.8 per 1000 Indigenous children, eight times more than the rate for other children (19.7 per 1,000).

Indigenous children are also 11 times as likely to be in out-of-home care.

Elders tell the story

By RUDI MAXWELL



WHEN the ABC approached the Maralinga Tjarutja Trust about filming a drama about the British nuclear testing on their land, the tradition owners had one condition.

You need to help us tell our story first.

So Eualeyai/Kamillaroi woman Larissa Behrendt, a documentary maker, broadcaster, writer and academic, travelled to Yalata to meet with Anangu Elder Jeremy LeBois, the chair of the Maralinga Tjarutja Trust, and other community members.

The British conducted nuclear testing on Maralinga Tjarutja land in regional South Australia between 1953 and 1963. The Maralinga Tjarutja people have fought for the clean-up of contamination, for compensation and, in 2009, for the handback of the Maralinga Village and test sites. They have gone on to rebuild traditional communities into vibrant, creative cultural communities that will ensure Maralinga Tjarutja custodianship of their lands into the future.

"It was critical that the story was told the way they wanted it," Larissa told the *Koori Mail*.

"At Yalata the people I met with were really shy, so on that first trip we didn't film anything, no camera, we just talked.

"It was clear that a couple of things were really important for the community. The bombing was just one thing – there's a real whitefella tendency to obsess on that – but the community see it as one of three tragedies.

"The first is the coming of the railway. It brought white men, alcohol, abuse of women, people were rounded up and put on the Ooldea mission and it led to children being removed.

"And there's a large important site at Ooldea, an incredibly significant site to the people of the Nullabor, the place where the water never failed. The railway comes in and in 20 years has ruined the water. It's a kind of parable. The story encompasses how much white people ignored Aboriginal people, who had been living sustainably on the land for tens of thousands of years."

The second tragedy was the Ooldea Mission being closed in 1952 and the removal of people from the red country to the grey country, where many people died of pneumonia or flu.

"They said, 'You'd go to sleep and wake up old on the grey country. The red earth keeps you warm,'" Larissa said.

And the third is the bombing and the harm it caused to country and people.



Larissa Behrendt, Mima Smart, Roslyn Peters, Rita Bryant, Bryan Mason and Joshua Williams.



Maralinga Tjarutja Trust chair Jeremy LeBois.

Picture: Max Mackinnon

In the documentary *Maralinga Tjarutja*, Jeremy explores the Oak Valley ranger program, which consists of local Anangu people who have had connections to Maralinga country for countless generations. He travels to Ooldea siding to meet Mima Smart, whose parents and grandparents lived at the Ooldea mission.

Jeremy and Mima travel to Adelaide, to the South Australian Museum, where they reclaim photographs and other archival material before returning to Yalata, where Mima shares the images with the community, sparking



Mima Smart is filmed by Bryan Mason.

memories and stories.

From Yalata, Jeremy travels to the scarred-country site of the Maralinga tests, now a tourism enterprise for the community. Here, he begins to tell the story of the testing and its impact on the Anangu.

The British Nuclear Test Program produced contamination that was devastating for the Anangu and their environment.

"One of the things that is universal to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities who have seen so much tragedy and trauma, is that there is so much resilience and hope," Larissa said.

"What the community has achieved at Oak Valley is a triumph. The country is known as spinifex country, resilient and strong. What I came to understand

after spending time there is that the people are as resilient as spinifex.

"If you can survive atomic testing – which is the most aggressive and violent colonisation – then you really can survive anything.

"Looking at how their story unfolded, these people were pushed off their land, told they were nobody, that their country was effectively terra nullius, that their lives didn't matter. They fought to get their land back, fought to get the land decontaminated. They pushed – it was the Elders who did that.

"So you see the emergence of generations of people from that country, who fought to get it back, hold people to account, so they can live culturally in happy, healthy communities."

The film uses original animations as a well to help tell the story.

"We use the artwork throughout the film as a way of showing continual connection to country," Larissa said. "It's an additional voice representing the people who were too shy to talk on camera, but who had a lot to say through their stories."

Maralinga Tjarutja premieres on the ABC on May 24.



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Good things are happening



Boats hit the water as fishing is allowed on Palm Island – with COVID conditions

By ALF WILSON



HUNTING for turtle, dugong and seafood off Palm Island will now be allowable on weekends after authorities relaxed

lockdown rules brought into place as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Under Federal Government *Biosecurity Act* restrictions for remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities implemented due to COVID-19, residents could not re-enter Palm Island unless they had self-quarantined for 14 days.

Residents couldn't travel to Townsville to go shopping for items not available on the island and couldn't even leave the island's shores to go fishing for food without the 14-day quarantine rule.

That angered many Palm locals for a variety of reasons.

There are many Palm residents who own outboard motor-powered dinghies who enjoy fishing and crabbing, but that was denied to them during lockdown.

Catching this food also supplemented the income of many on an island with a high unemployment rate and provided them with recreation.

From May 16, new approved residential boating activity – described as a Virus Proof Fishing Zone – was introduced.

Locals are allowed to fish in their boats on Saturdays and



Boats are launched so residents can go fishing Saturday, May 16, the first morning of relaxed restrictions on boating on Palm Island since the introduction of the coronavirus lockdown.

Sundays between 7am and 5pm but they must launch only from the public ramp next to the Reel Women Jetty.

They must also register their intention by 5pm on a Friday and comply with all conditions and must stay within the Approved Fishing Zone.

New Mayor Mislam Sam said

it has been a big win for the community, which, although it has had no cases of COVID-19, had suffered from isolation and its effects.

"Finally, we have some good news after many had contacted me about not being allowed to fish from their boats.

"Now families can enjoy

recreation time as long as everybody abides by social distancing rules," Cr Sam said.

Cr Sam said that a fishing competition was introduced for an added incentive.

"There will be a prize for the fisher who catches the biggest coral trout," he said.

Cr Sam praised local officer

in charge of police Snr Sgt Dave Rutherford, Federal Member for Herbert Phillip Thompson and State politician Scott Stewart, who worked with Council towards the outcome.

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Councillor Derek Haines said fishers would have to stay within boundaries which were shown on maps available at the local Council offices.

Meanwhile four men have been issued with Public Infringement Notices (PINs) after allegedly breaching COVID-19 restrictions by travelling to Brisk Island.

Police allege that on May 9, the group was camping on Brisk Island (2km from Palm Island), which is a declared 'designated area' under emergency provisions of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (Commonwealth).

People are restricted from entering designated biosecurity areas which include all islands within the Palm Island local government area.

These islands include Palm Island, Fantome Island, Curacoa Island, Havannah Island, Brisk Island, Esk Island, Falcon Island, Barber Island, and Fly Island.

Two men aged 32 and 30 from West End in Brisbane, a 30-year-old Mount Louisa man and a 20-year-old Gulliver man were all issued infringements for failing to comply with the chief health officer's Home Confinement, Movement and Gathering Direction.

Calls for police to stop carrying kids in cages

By DARREN COYNE



PRESSURE is mounting on police to stop transporting young people in cages in the Northern Territory and to stop targeting Aboriginal young people for strip searches in NSW.

Police have come under fire from Amnesty International Australia for transporting children in so-called police cages – a ute with a cage on the tray covered with a tarpaulin.

Amnesty has investigated numerous reports of children being transported, unrestrained, in the cages for journeys of up to five hours.

Amnesty's Indigenous rights advisor Rodney Dillon said it was shocking and inappropriate way to transport children.

"Without cooling or heating, these kids suffer in the elements.

"Treating children like this is against international standards and transporting people in motor vehicles without seatbelts is against Australian law," Mr Dillon said.

"But when we raised it with the Government, they said they weren't worried about it.



Northern Territory Police are transporting young people in cages, without seatbelts.

"It's not good enough. It's totally unnecessary and we need the NT police to stop doing it immediately."

He said whistleblowers who had contacted Amnesty about the issue had asked to remain anonymous for fear of retribution from the authorities.

In Australia, children as young as 10 are locked up in detention and on remand, despite experts from around the world and

the United Nations explicitly outlining the harm this causes children and how counterproductive it is as a way to deal with youth offending.

"We should be investing in preventing young people getting trapped in the justice system rather than locking them up," Mr Dillon said.

Amnesty International Australia spokesperson Joel Clark told the *Koori Mail* that the NT Government had learned nothing from the Royal Commission into Youth Detention.

"We raised police cages with the Government in February and their response was 'Yep, it happens. It's not a concern. We won't be changing the laws'," he said.

"12,000 people signed our petition on the issue in two days.

"I can't understand why the Government won't act on this."

Meanwhile, the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) said reports released by the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission had exposed the excessive use of strip searches in NSW.

Among those searches, a 16-year-old Aboriginal boy was unlawfully strip-searched in the street of a large regional town and later strip-searched again in the vehicle dock of a

local police station. Also included in the report is the case of a handcuffed Aboriginal man who was strip-searched twice in a Sydney police station.

In 2018, a total of 15,353 searches were conducted on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in NSW, with nothing being found in 88% of the searches.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are disproportionately represented in strip search figures, accounting for 10% of all recorded strip searches in the field and 22% of all recorded strip searches in custody in NSW.

ALS principal solicitor Sarah Crellin said strip searches were a deeply intrusive, disempowering and degrading process.

"Whilst the LECC reports make findings of both inappropriate and serious misconduct by police, we are deeply disappointed that there have been no recommendations for disciplinary action," she said.

"Aboriginal people and communities are too often the targets of discrimination and overpolicing. And the excessive use of strip-searching is causing significant emotional and psychological harm in Aboriginal communities, particularly for children and young people. There must be accountability for mistreatment."

Reconciliation Week 2020: celebrate being in this together on social media



WHEN the theme for National Reconciliation Week 2020, In This Together, was

decided late last year, no one could have foreseen how prophetic it would be.

And while the coronavirus pandemic has meant the cancellation of outdoor events, Reconciliation Australia (RA) chief executive Karen Mundine said people can mark the important annual week in other ways.

"The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting social and economic crises have hit all corners of the globe; we are indeed, all in this together," Ms Mundine said.

"However, the anniversary dates which mark National Reconciliation Week (NRW) are significant milestones for reconciliation and they remain unchanged: May 27, the 1967 Referendum; and June 3, the High Court Mabo decision.

"Like other important dates we commemorate, the purpose remains the same, even if the way we mark it is different.

"So just like our journey towards reconciliation, we will continue to push ahead with National Reconciliation Week in 2020."

This year's NRW 2020 will be entirely online, a way of life we have all become very familiar with in the past couple of months.

To launch National Reconciliation Week, Reconciliation Australia is asking everyone to take to



In 2000, around 250,000 Australians walked across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to show their support for Reconciliation. Picture: Glenn Campbell

social media to acknowledge country. Ms Mundine asked that from midday, Wednesday, May 27, everyone please take the time to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land that you are on, wherever you are.

"Choose your social media platform – or the privacy of your own space – to pay your respects," she said.

"Consult the AIATSIS Map of Indigenous Australia for a guide to the traditional owners of the land."

2020 marks 20 years of operations for Reconciliation Australia.

Also, 20 years ago, in a monumental display of support for reconciliation, around 250,000 Australians walked across the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The People's Walk for

Reconciliation (as the bridge walk was titled), organised by the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, had a profound impact on those who participated, and a roll-on effect around the country.

By the end of the year 2000, the walks for reconciliation held right across the country became the largest display of public support for a single cause in Australian history.

Thursday, May 28, is the anniversary of the walk for reconciliation across the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

This year, on May 28 at midday, a panel hosted by Larissa Behrendt from *Speaking Out*, ABC Radio, will reflect on the bridge walks of 2000 and the role of reconciliation since then.

Ken Wyatt, Linda Burney, Karen Mundine, and Summer May Finlay will join Larissa on the special show via Facebook Live on Reconciliation Australia, or ABC Australia Facebook pages. The panel will be broadcast on *Speaking Out* on ABC Radio.

Did you cross a bridge for reconciliation in the year 2000?

RA is asking you, the people, to upload your photo, video, or your written memory to your socials using the #NRW2020 and #InThisTogether2020 hashtags.

The AIATSIS map of First Nations can be found at <https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/articles/aiatsis-map-indigenous-australia>

All the event details and more info at: nrw.reconciliation.org.au #NRW2020 and #InThisTogether2020

In this together – online

● **NRW launch: National Acknowledgement of Country** from midday, Wednesday, May 27

This year to launch National Reconciliation Week, Reconciliation Australia is asking everyone to take to social media to acknowledge country. We can't be physically together to show respect but we can show respect to country where we are.

From 12pm, Wednesday, May 27, take the time to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land that you are on, wherever you are.

Choose your social media platform – or the privacy of your own space – to pay your respects.

Consult the AIATSIS Map of Indigenous Australia for a guide to the traditional owners of the land you are on, and tag the traditional owners and/or your own mob plus #InThisTogether2020 #NRW2020

● **20 years on: Crossing Bridges for Reconciliation**

Panel discussion produced by Reconciliation Australia and ABC and hosted by Larissa Behrendt on *Speaking Out*.

Panel members reflect on the bridge walks of 2000 and the role of reconciliation since then. Featuring Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt, Shadow Minister Linda Burney, Reconciliation Australia chief executive Karen Mundine and University of Wollongong Lecturer Summer May Finlay.

When: Thursday, May 28, 12-1pm

Where: Facebook Livestream on Reconciliation Australia, or ABC Australia Facebook pages. The panel will be broadcast on *Speaking Out*, which can be heard on Radio National (Fridays at 8pm), ABC local radio (Sundays at 9pm) and the ABC listen app.

● **In Concert Together**

An hour of deadly music as part of National Reconciliation Week 2020.

Reconciliation Australia and ABC present Busby Marou, Alice Skye plus more in concert, hosted by Christine Anu on her *National Evenings* show on ABC Radio.

When: Friday, May 29 9-10pm

Where: Tune into ABC Radio or the ABC listen app. Facebook Livestream on Reconciliation Australia, ABC Sydney, or ABC Australia Facebook pages.

Justice system keeps failing our children

By RUDI MAXWELL



YOUNG Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were 16 times more likely to be under justice supervision than other youths in 2018-19, new figures show.

A report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) showed that while the number of Indigenous youths in detention or under supervision in the community has fallen slightly over the past five years, First Nations children remain massively overrepresented in the justice system.

The study shows that the rate of Indigenous kids aged 10 to 17 under justice supervision fell between 2014-15 and 2018-19, from 176 to 172 per 10,000.

By comparison, the rate for other young people over the same period fell from 12 to 11 per 10,000, the Australian Institute of

Health and Welfare report said.

"Although only about 6% of young people aged 10-17 in Australia are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, half of the young people under supervision on an average day in 2018-19 were Indigenous," AIHW spokeswoman Anna Ritson said.

Amnesty International Australia strategic campaigns advisor Joel Clark said that the statistics show Australia continues to fail its First Nations peoples.

"The standout from this year's report is the rate of kids on remand at 63%, which is a huge figure," he said. "What we're calling for is the immediate release of all children on remand. Any time in prison is harmful to kids and the majority of kids on remand are let back into the community."

The report showed that Indigenous children are coming into contact with the criminal justice system at an earlier age than other kids and are receiving longer supervision orders.

"What this tells us is that the need to raise the age of criminal responsibility is more urgent than ever. Until this happens, there must be a moratorium on arrests for children under the age of 14," Mr Clark said.

"There are diversionary programs that work.

"Indigenous-led solutions are best for Indigenous kids. There are on-country camps and programs that connect people back with community, and governments need to be supporting these instead of locking up Indigenous children."

Previous research has shown that the single biggest indicator of whether someone will come into contact with the criminal justice system is whether they have been under supervision orders as a child.

"The system is setting these kids up to fail. There are very few programs or support in prison to help kids get their lives back on track. It's a punitive system that doesn't look to the future at all," Mr Clark said. "That's

why we need to focus on prevention.

"Hearing problems for Indigenous kids is a huge pathway to prison. They go to school, can't hear the teacher, start mucking up and get suspended or expelled and they're on the pathway to the justice system.

"We need to see a whole-of-government response. We need to see education, health and family services working with Indigenous children and families.

"We have failed Indigenous kids and we must as a matter of national urgency raise the age and commit to justice reinvestment, which all the evidence shows is vastly more successful and enables kids to go on and lead happy, healthy and productive lives.

"Australian State and Territory attorneys-general have a unique opportunity to profoundly change the trajectory of so many young lives when they meet at the Council of Attorneys-General next month. I hope they read and acknowledge the tragedy written in these figures."

The Sleeping Lizard can rest again

By DARREN COYNE



A DEEP scar running along the Sleeping Lizard's back may soon be healed.

Bundjalung Elder Mickey Ryan has won a major victory in his decade-long battle to protect the North Lismore Plateau – the Sleeping Lizard – in north-east NSW, from being turned into a massive residential housing estate.

Mr Ryan had challenged the validity of the development approval on the basis that the developers – the Winten Property Group – failed to submit a species impact statement, and other grounds.

After a week-long hearing in February this year, NSW Land and Environment Court Judge Nicola Pain handed down her judgement last week.

Her finding brought tears to Uncle Mickey's eyes, but it was not enough to stop the bulldozers on site, as they continued working throughout Friday as the parties digested the 117 pages of her judgment.

On the substantive matter, the lack of a species impact statement, Justice Pain found that the development consent issued for the proposed 433-lot residential development "was invalidly made, void and of no effect".

She found that the development application, when lodged, failed to comply with section 78A(8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Opponents say the decision brings into question the decision-making process employed by the Lismore City Council, which accepted the DA, and the Joint Regional Planning Panel, which approved the development in October 2018.

Mr Ryan said he cried with joy when his legal advisor Al Oshlack, of the Indigenous Justice Network, rang him with the result last week.

"I didn't think we had any chance to win it. It was like a David and Goliath fairytale come



Bundjalung Elder Mickey Ryan and legal advisor Al Oshlack.



The bulldozers kept working on the North Lismore Plateau despite a NSW Land and Environment Court ruling that the development consent was made invalidly.

true and we knocked them for six," Uncle Mickey said.

"My old people told me a long time ago to protect this mountain with everything I had.

"That's why I've stuck with it

for 10 years. It's important for the mountain to be protected and saved for our future generations."

Mr Ryan – who defeated the Lismore City Council's initial rezoning of the land – was

scathing in his assessment of the council.

"They don't listen to us (Aboriginal people)," he said.

"You'd think they would have learnt the first time when we beat them in the courts. They're gluttons for punishment.

"The community is going to suffer. The ratepayers are going to suffer for their debt."

It's understood that the council has already spent about \$10 million of \$32 million loaned to supply infrastructure for the development.

Winten's development manager Jim Punch said the decision was a blow, but the company had no intention of backing down.

"The project is stalled. We've stopped work and it will stay that way until we resolve this," he said.

"We're taking advice from our barristers, but we probably will appeal the decision or go to a new DA consent.

"The land is still zoned as residential. We're not walking away from the site."

Mr Ryan said he was prepared to continue the battle, whichever option the developer chose.

"I'll stand and fight until I can't fight no more. That's what I'm here for ... to protect country. That's what it's all about for me.

"This whole mountain is sacred. It's a story from the Dreaming ... you can see in the landscape from the air, the Sleeping Lizard."

Mr Oshlack said it was time for ICAC, the Independent Commission Against Corruption, to take a close look at the council's involvement in the development.

"Lodging the DA in which species, including a number of bats and birds, will be sent to localised extinction required a species impact statement.

"It's black and white in the law. They (the developers) were required to do that," Mr Oshlack said.

"But then it became the council's fault, because the council should have said that 'we can't accept lodging of this DA because it's not in the proper form'.

"The Lismore City Council is engaged in trying to be a developer, trying to invest in development, and that is the key point to all the debt."

He said further attempts to develop the land would be opposed.

"They (the developers) need to get a new biodiversity assessment report and their problem is they will have to reconfigure this whole development and that is difficult.

"We'll be seeking orders that they remediate and they'll be fighting that and if they do get a new DA we'll be fighting that. There's no two ways about it.

"They're taking a lot of legal risk."

A council spokesperson said that the council would need to read over the judgment before commenting on the matter.

Justice Pain will deliver her final orders on May 28 after submissions from all parties.

WA inmates living with snakes, mice and heat



ABORIGINAL prisoners in regional Western Australia are being held in cells infested with snakes and mice in unbearable heat.

A custodial inspection report has highlighted grave concerns about the heat risks at Roebourne prison, which last year sweltered through the hottest March day on record anywhere in the world when the temperature reached 48.1C.

But WA's corrective services department has rejected a recommendation to install air-conditioning in cells, listing ice machines among the existing "effective controls" and claiming prisoners from the region are used to the heat.

The 221-capacity, medium-security prison

in the Pilbara region houses men and a small number of women, with Aboriginal inmates comprising 79% of the population.

It was described after a previous inspection in 2016 as the worst prison in WA and a danger to inmates.

The latest visit, conducted in May last year, noted improvements with inspector Eammon Ryan praising staff for their positive engagement with prisoners.

But significant issues remained, including torn flyscreens, which allowed snakes and mice to infest cells.

The flyscreens were due last year to be replaced by heavy-duty metal screens which prisoners were concerned would reduce much-needed air-flow.

"Prisoners were also upset that air-

conditioning had recently been installed in staff toilets in the units, but not in any prisoner living areas," Mr Ryan said in a report tabled in WA Parliament last week.

"We have, in the past, heard arguments that men and women in the Pilbara are used to these conditions.

"While this may be the case, they are unlikely to be routinely locked in a small room with one or more other adults for 12.5 hours or more each night."

In response, Corrective Services said the prison maintained a flexible routine to adjust to heat conditions, a limited number of air-conditioned cells were available for medical conditions and prisoners not from the region were prioritised for transfer.

The office of the inspector of custodial

services also published a report into Casuarina prison, the state's primary maximum-security facility.

While it currently houses about 1000 sentenced and remand prisoners, a staged expansion will lift capacity to about 1500 in coming months and almost 1900 by 2023.

Mr Ryan said the prison was already struggling to occupy such a large population, with less than a third holding meaningful jobs.

"Casuarina will be the largest prison that has ever operated in Western Australia and one of the largest in the country," he said.

"The risk is that Casuarina will become a place where prisoners are merely warehoused, and rehabilitation is diminished." – AAP

Ramsay learns to swallow his pride

By JILLIAN MUNDY



PAKANA/palawa man Craig Everett has shared his culture and cooking tips with celebrity chef

Gordon Ramsay, when he visited Tasmania early this year, to film an episode for National Geographic's *Gordon Ramsay: Uncharted* (season 2).

The foodie, adventure, travel series, which goes to air on the pay TV channel on July 7 in Australia, features Everett and two of his sons ochred up and giving Ramsay a traditional welcome.

"We painted him up with a little bit of ochre, two lines on his face, one on either side of his nose, and told him what it represents, and why we use it.

"Me and my elder son, we had ours going right across and he asked why didn't he get his like that," Everett said.

"I explained that you only get that once you understand knowledge, and once you pass knowledge on. I said even though you're a great cook in your world, in mine you have less knowledge than my younger son who was with me at the time.

"He umm-ed and ahh-ed at first, but then totally got it."

The episode features Ramsay diving for crayfish in what National Geographic describe as 'shark-infested waters', avoiding venomous snakes in the bush while foraging for local herbs, taking a seaplane to fly-fish for (introduced) trout and cooking a feast with 'culinary nomad' Analiese Gregory, who now resides in Tasmania.

While Ramsay's crayfish dish earned compliments from most of the entourage, Everett dished out some constructive criticism instead.

"When he asked me, I wasn't being rude or disrespectful, but I told him it tasted like shit. I couldn't taste the crayfish flavour, it had too many marinades in it. I couldn't taste the ocean or anything like that," Everett said.

"The flavours were nice, but it could have been tofu and I wouldn't have known.

"As soon as I mentioned that the others said they agreed."

Seems Ramsay, a multi-Michelin-star chef and ironman athlete, famed for his foul-mouthed outbursts in his other reality TV shows, did his best to swallow his pride.

"He didn't go too much on the idea of his crayfish not being the best, I think," Everett said.

"He didn't swear, but he got that sort of funny face about him.

"He didn't hear what he wanted to hear sort of thing, like when an aunty or uncle tells us something we don't quite want to hear, and you've got to listen to it anyway – he had that face about him.

"He said, 'Yeah, thanks.'"

Everett did tell him his wallaby



Craig Everett and his youngest son Hadies. Picture: Jillian Mundy



Tasmanian diver and chef Analiese Gregory discusses Tasmania's bounty of fresh seafood with Gordon Ramsay, who wears the symbolic lines painted on his face during a traditional Welcome to Country ceremony. Picture: National Geographic/Justin Mandel

dish was much better, and is wondering if Ramsay's comment "less is more, that's what I'm starting to understand" – which is in the season's trailer – might have anything to do with his honest feedback.

A father of seven and passionate hunter and gatherer of traditional tucker – or good tucker as he prefers to call it – Everett has had his share of experience cooking local sweet fleshed crayfish.

"He should have literally split it open, put it on the fire, and, if anything, a little bit of garlic butter. As you know, that's all you need for it," he told the *Koori Mail*.

"He wasn't the person we've seen on his cooking shows like *Hell's Kitchen* and that.

"This show is totally different. He's learning off people. He's the one that's got to get told he can't cook it properly."

Clearly, there were no hard feelings. After the shoot Gordon invited Everett and his children to visit him in England and dine at one of his restaurants.

"I said, 'No, I don't do restaurants.'"

Although his boys have been onto him about taking up the offer, he's told them no.

"I said, 'Son, no way am I leaving this country to go there.' I said, 'Why do you think all that

mob come here?' I said, 'Our country's better. We don't want to go over there with all the cold and everything.'"

The Tasmanian episode, which kicks off the new season, is the only one shot in Australia. Other episodes are in South Africa, Louisiana (USA), Indonesia, Guyana (South America), India and Norway.

Ramsay said each of the regions has vastly different culinary customs and history.

"We get the opportunity to learn from the locals and hear their stories, and that gives us a much deeper experience and understanding of the world around us," he said.



Gordon Ramsay prepares crayfish poached in sea urchin butter, finished with Tasmania's own pepperberry and leatherwood honey.

With the show to be broadcast across 172 countries and in 43 languages, Everett said it is a big thing.

"For our culture to be on that platform, on that level, there's going to be millions of people going to watch that show and follow what he does," he said.

"To not only let them know, once again, we are still alive, but we still do our culture and we still practise it in strong ways."

Everett talked about his people and the history of invasion with Ramsay, who he said was surprised at Tasmanian government restrictions on Aboriginal people hunting and gathering.



Amos Atkinson is a Djandak Enterprise project officer working to bring country back to life through cultural burning practices.

Traditional burning will restore country

By NICK PATON



TRADITIONAL fire management techniques are being used throughout Victoria to burn country back to life, thanks to a cultural burning program that focuses on healing country with fire from the ground up.

Rodney Carter, head of Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, said each cultural burn sustains the Dja Dja Wurrung people's traditional practice of managing fire, but also applies restorative measures through fire management to heal country.

"It's important to keep in mind that building up species of food and fibre in the environment, just like our old people and Elders had done for generations before us, is critical for the health of any landscape that has been modified," he said.

In a bid to restore parts of country left decimated by a legacy of failed land management practices, two cultural burns recently took place north of Bendigo at Tang Tang Swamp and Thunder Swamp, in partnership with the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Forest Fire Management and Parks Victoria.

Mr Carter said that Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation has developed a commercial subsidiary called Djandak. "Djandak' means 'country'," Mr Carter said. "To bring our vision and strategic direction to life we have developed the Djandak Wi (Country Fire) program, which aligns with, and addresses our



Mick Bourke and Kayla Baksha carry out a burn at Thunder Swamp.

main objectives and goals for particular areas of country that we aim to regenerate with fire over the next 20 years.

"We have taken this approach mainly due to the simple reason that historically, our mob have been placed in a position which hasn't allowed us to take authority of our own knowledge and decision making for ourselves, or for our country."

Djandak Wi ensures Dja Dja Wurrung people are at the forefront of the planning and implementation of fire management practices, with the collective goal being to support and promote positive ways of

regenerating the bush.

Mr Carter told the *Koori Mail* the design of the Country Fire program is simplistic in that it is purely about caring for, and creating healthy country.

"That's because while we are out there helping to heal and take care of country, it's our mob who are assisting and participating in this process, which is in turn creating healthy people," he said. "So it's really a just case of healthy country, healthy people."

Mr Carter said traditional plants and native species aren't as abundant in areas of country as they used to be, so Djandak is operating on what really are

large-scale, restorative, regenerative and revegetation projects.

"Fire becomes important and relevant because it's a regulated practice nowadays and so we've teamed up with Forest Fire management Victoria and the Victorian Country Fire Authority as a tool to help heal the landscape and manage the productivity of our native plants and species.

"At the same time, the cultural fire practices will also be acting to suppress and reduce the abundance of introduced plants, weeds and invasive species, which will allow the native species we're introducing back into the environment to thrive once again."

Dja Dja Wurrung man and Forest Fire Management District Planner Michael 'Mick' Bourke said he knows how important continuing these practices are for the sustainability of country and for future generations.

"We are burning to reduce non-native grasses and spread kangaroo grass seeds out so future generations can go out and harvest them," Mr Bourke said.

"It's like restocking the supermarket shelves, as the bush lands are our supermarkets."

For Dja Dja Wurrung people, fire is more than an environmental management tool, it is also an expression of cultural obligation, connections to land and each other, creation time, and helps to keep the community safe.

"We have become clever enough to understand the amount of fuel that is created by the environment, technically referred to as fire hazard," Mr Carter said.

"And so the contribution of our cultural fire methods will make an extraordinary difference to the

bigger picture of hazard reduction in the long-term.

"If we are to continue to burn the landscape long enough, the way we want to burn the landscape, then we will see a massive overall reduction in the fuel load on country, which is a huge tick for fire mitigation."

But cultural burning, Mr Carter said, is more than environmental intelligence, it's emotional intelligence, and a strength in traditional cultural knowledge.

"We use the saying 'It's the right fire at the right time in the right place' and that makes it healthy fire," he said.

"So what we need to do is make sure we have conversations about the benefits of cultural burning so that people can become more aware about it, and then they can really acknowledge the embedded wisdom and knowledge our ancestors have passed down to us."

Mr Carter said traditional cultural knowledge has often been appropriated in the past, without the right types of permission, and so cultural burning should be left to the experts.

"Aboriginal people are the leaders of this area of cultural expertise, and we want to command that leadership, or at the very least have an equal position as leaders in this area, because this is our domain," he said.

"That's why we are doing things slowly, and calmly and reservedly, and that only comes with the wisdom of knowing this is how things have been done by mob for thousands of years.

"Here at Djandak we are gardening nature, and by gardening the environment we are healing country."

Ambo Michelle offers some timely COVID-19 advice

By NICK PATON



YORTA Yorta woman and Ambulance Victoria paramedic Michelle Crilly is determined to keep mob informed about the potentially lethal effects of the COVID-19 virus and has some helpful tips and preventative measures for keeping Elders and the community safe.

Since joining Ambulance Victoria's Epping branch two years ago, Ms Crilly has been working hard as both paramedic and conduit between Ambulance Victoria and various Indigenous communities, fostering relationships and building trust.

"COVID-19 is a new strain of virus that has never been seen in humans before, so everyone in the community is at risk of contracting the virus, but for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the risk is much higher," Ms Crilly said.

"This comes down to mob and our Elders having much higher rates of chronic illnesses like diabetes, heart disease and respiratory diseases such as asthma, as compared to other Australians.

"That means Aboriginal people are more susceptible to the virus and will experience more severe symptoms, especially our Elders



Yorta Yorta paramedic Michelle Crilly has important messages about COVID-19 on how to keep Elders and mob safe.

who might find their immune system is low because they already have one or two chronic illnesses."

Ms Crilly said the COVID-19 symptoms include fever, coughing, sore throat, shortness of breath and fatigue.

"So if you have any of these symptoms, you must call the COVID-19 hotline to find out where you or a family member or relative can be tested," she said.

"What we know about the virus is that it spreads via droplets of

saliva, or discharge from the nose whenever an infected person coughs or sneezes on someone else or a surface. So it's important that mob know what to do to help avoid transmission."

The COVID-19 virus has the capability of entering the body through the eyes, nose and mouth and that's why it's important not to touch your face when you go outside.

"You may have touched an infected surface while you're outside or you may come into contact with someone who is infected, so try not to touch your face until you have washed your hands thoroughly," Ms Crilly said.

"To do your bit to help mob and stop the spread of the coronavirus among our Elders, you must try at all times to cough and sneeze into your elbow, or onto a tissue, and make sure you put it straight into the bin."

Ms Crilly said when you return to your house, you must wash your hands with plenty of soap and water as soon as you get in the front door because the soap helps to remove the virus from the skin.

"It's really important that you stay home too, but if you need to go outside for exercise, or shopping, or for medical reasons, or to go to work or for your study, remember to practise social distancing of 1.5 metres between

you and anyone else while you're outside," Ms Crilly said.

"Being isolated from mob and community can take its toll on our mental health too, so it's important to stay connected to your friends and family.

"This could be as simple as a phone call to your nan for a yarn, a video call with your sister, or if you're confident, you could organise to play a game of cards with your uncle via a Zoom session."

Ms Crilly said that although mob love to get together and have everyone over, it is critical we listen to the advice of the experts and for now, there can't be any kissing or hugging of your relatives or loved ones, at least until the pandemic has come to an end.

"What you can do however, is drop some groceries off to the front door of an Elder or relative's house if they are in need, and have a quick yarn with them from outside," she said.

"But the most effective thing you can do is to stay home as much as possible, for me and all the other healthcare workers out there on the front line."

For more information call the COVID-19 Hotline on 1800 675 398 or visit, dhhs.vic.gov.au, vaccho.org.au, or vahs.org.au. In the case of an emergency call 000 immediately.

VIC

MOB

GET

TESTED

CALL

YOUR

ACCHO OR GP

If you or your family members feel even mildly unwell, you should get tested for coronavirus (COVID-19).

By getting tested you're helping to keep mob safe.

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THE

HOTLINE

ON

1800-675-398

STAYING

APART KEEPS

MOB TOGETHER

To find out how and where you can be tested go to vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS

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Teloepa Urban Renewal/Teloepa NSW Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment – Community Consultation Stage 1

Frasers Property Group in conjunction with the Land and Housing Corporation (the Proponent) are preparing a State Significant Development Application (SSDA) for 12 Sturt Street Teloepa, Lots 5-7 DP128229, NSW (hereafter referred as the subject area) which forms stage 1A of the Concept Master Plan for the redevelopment of public housing in the suburb of Teloepa. Urbis is assisting the Proponent in undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to accompany the SSDA.

The proponent can be contacted directly via:

Scott Clohessy
Development Manager
Frasers Property Group
Scott.Clohessy@frasersproperty.com.au

In accordance with Section 4.1.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW, 2010)* and Clause 80C of the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009*, the Proponent is seeking the registration of Aboriginal persons or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) that may be present in the subject area.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the Proponent in the preparation of the ACHA and the assessment of the cultural heritage significance of the subject area.

Please register your interest in writing to the contact details provided below by 5.00pm 3rd June 2020.

Meggan Walker
Heritage Consultant Urbis Pty Ltd
mwalker@urbis.com.au
Level 8 123 Pitt Street,
Sydney, NSW, 2000.

Please be advised that the Proponent is required to forward the names of Aboriginal persons and groups who register an interest to the Department of Planning and the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council; unless the person or group specifies that they do not want their details released.

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Illawarra Wingecaribbee Alliance Aboriginal Corporation members Kirstie Button and Christina Ritchie pack care hampers for Elders and vulnerable community members most in need.

Care packed in a hamper

By NICK PATON



ABORIGINAL people in the Illawarra know how tough it is for mob who are struggling to cope financially due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so the Illawarra Wingecaribbee Alliance Aboriginal Corporation (IWAAC) have taken it upon themselves to fund, source, and deliver care hampers to Elders and vulnerable community members in need.

IWAAC chairperson Geoff Maher said he had noticed the huge amount of cash being splashed around by the Federal Government in relation to the various coronavirus stimulus packages, but how very little is actually getting through to Indigenous communities on the ground.

"So at a recent board meeting, IWAAC decided that mob shouldn't have to wait any longer for help, and so we agreed to use some of the unspent funds from our budget to facilitate the production of care hampers," he said.

"We have already delivered over 100 hampers in the last week alone, and we are looking to send out the same amount, if not more, in the weeks to come."

IWAAC was developed between 2013 and 2015 by the Illawarra Wingecaribbee Local Decision Making (LDM) Advisory Committee, who successfully applied in 2013 for the Illawarra and Wingecaribbee areas to become one of the initial LDM sites.

LDM is a NSW Government initiative that allows Aboriginal communities to have greater control over how programs and services are conceived, developed and implemented.

"We have had to take this issue into our own hands because the majority of our people live along the coast and there are a lot

of community members who are elderly, disadvantaged, or just in need at the moment due to the coronavirus fallout who have been forgotten about," Mr Maher said.

"So we decided to go out and source fresh produce and Australian-made products for our mob, to make sure they know they are being thought about and cared for."

The care hampers contain fresh produce and veggies, tinned food like baked beans and tomatoes, cereal, along with other important items like hand sanitiser, tissues and toilet paper.

"There's between \$80-100 worth of products in the hampers and it's critical these hampers get out to individuals and families because for some of our mob these are the products that have dried up on the supermarket shelves and aren't as readily available like they used to be," Mr Maher said.

"And another issue for our mob is that a lot of people don't have access to a car or transport, so, as an organisation, it's important we get out into the community to help when it is needed."

Mr Maher said IWAAC is hoping to run the care hampers project over the next two months with the help from volunteers,

**– Geoff Maher
IWAAC chairperson**

staff and board members.

"This is a very scary time for mob, especially our Elders, and its about time our organisations were resourced adequately by the government so that we can deal with these types of situations should they arise in the future," he said.

"But once again, we have been left to fend for ourselves, so this is really about mob helping mob."

Membership for IWAAC is open to all Aboriginal persons or organisations operating in the Wingecaribbee, Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong local council areas.

For more information visit www.iwaac.org.au

NT teaching more teachers



THE Northern Territory Government has revived a decades-old program to boost the Territory's frontline Aboriginal workforce.

Under reintroduction of the Remote Aboriginal Teacher Education (RATE) program, remote Aboriginal residents will be helped pursue careers in teaching at remote schools and in early childhood care.

The Government has implemented a Territory-wide policy to increase the number of frontline teachers, nurses and police officers to 500 by 2026.

The RATE program was wound down in the 1990s after Commonwealth funding was withdrawn.

NT Education Minister Selena Uiibo said Aboriginal teachers are seen as role models and leaders, not only within schools, but within their communities.

"As a former remote area teacher myself, making pathways for local Aboriginal educators is something I am passionate about," she said.

She said significant numbers of locals who participated in the RATE program in the 1980s and 1990s continue to work in their community schools as



Attending the launch of the RATE program are, from left, Professor Steve Larkin, CEO of the Batchelor Institute, Alison Wunungmurra, early childhood educator and Selena Uiibo, NT Education Minister.

assistant teachers and fully qualified and registered teachers.

"Many went on to become senior teachers and school principals, including my mother, Didamain Uiibo, who studied on campus at Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education," Ms Uiibo said.

"I have spoken with community members across the Territory and there is a lot of

interest in the program's reintroduction."

Ms Uiibo said there are concerns among the Territory's older remote educators that it will be difficult to recruit young teachers for remote schools in the coming years.

"This program will inspire a new generation," she said.

Alison Wunungmurra, an early childhood educator in the remote NT community of

Gapuwiyak, said teachers play an important role in community.

"Creating strong and meaningful educational pathways for aspiring Aboriginal educators will only make our community that much stronger," she said.

"Strong mentoring and support will help Aboriginal educators stay on the path to gaining further skills and experience to support our

"Creating strong and meaningful educational pathways for aspiring Aboriginal educators will only make our community that much stronger."

**– Alison Wunungmurra
early childhood educator**

children in community."

A RATE pilot program will begin next year in partnership with Charles Darwin University and the Batchelor Institute.

Under the program remote residents will receive formal training while working in remote childcare centres and schools. Participants will be supported to take the next steps into higher education if they want to become fully qualified teachers or early childhood educators.

There are currently 150 Aboriginal teachers in NT Government schools, 68 of whom are based outside Darwin and Alice Springs.

There are also 224 Aboriginal Assistant Teachers working in remote schools across the Territory.

Many of these assistants are from the communities where they are teaching.

COVID-19



Stay connected to culture.

Darren Compton

Our lives have gone through some big changes since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, but our connection to culture remains strong. Use this time to connect, share culture and stories. Staying connected to culture is important for our wellbeing, and to keep our communities healthy.

Share tips online with **#keepourmobsafe**

> KEEP OUR MOB SAFE

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



Taipans mark milestone



AN Indigenous program for schools promoting healthy living in remote communities in far north Queensland has marked a major milestone.

The Sea Swift Taipans Indigenous Program has completed another run of visits across the region, delivering sessions to more than 1000 schoolchildren in 13 locations during the past 12 months.

Headed by Taipans programs manager and former NBL star Kerry Williams, the program aims to spread healthy living messages throughout Cape York Peninsula and Torres Strait Islands remote communities.

Central Queensland University (CQU) Cairns Taipans centre Nate Jawai made some of the visits extra special for the children as part of the regular program across the region, which encourages kids to stay in school, keep active and eat healthily.

In 2009, Jawai became the first Torres Strait Islander to play in the National Basketball Association (NBA) in America, and played a key role in the Taipans' highly-successful 2019-20 NBL season.

Williams said the students are always excited to meet the local basketball legend, who grew up in Bamaga.

"Nathan is able to tell his story and address our key message of respect

through story," Williams said.

"Nathan speaks at assemblies about his journey, and then plays games, hands out T-shirts, and reiterates his respect message – there's always a lot of excitement from the students."

Since its inception, the award-winning program has engaged more than 4000 Indigenous youth in 24 communities.

In the past 12 months, the program has visited Warraber Island, Thursday Island, Murray Island, Mornington Island, Northern Peninsula Area, Kowanyama, Hope Vale, Cooktown, Wujal Wujal, and Cairns West State School, Parramatta State School, Manoora, and Mooroolbrol in Cairns.



A Sea Swift Taipans Indigenous Program session in Kowanyama before the virus, with Nate Jawai back left and Kerry Williams back right.

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INFLUENZA in pregnancy and newborns

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Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra

Program supports school completion



A VICTORIAN Government scholarship program is helping more Aboriginal school students to complete senior high school studies.

State education minister James Merlino officially awarded the Government's Marrung Education Scholarships for 2019 and 2020 to 40 Aboriginal students from Victorian Government schools. The scholarships recognise students who demonstrate a high potential to succeed in their chosen pathway, including strong academic results and dedicated involvement in their local Aboriginal community.

Recipients of a Marrung scholarship receive \$5000 each over two years to support them complete Year 11 and 12 in a Victorian Government school.

Mr Merlino said the scholarships recognised the academic excellence and leadership of Aboriginal students in Victoria.



Transport for NSW

Aboriginal Heritage Garfield Road West

Transport for New South Wales (Transport) invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places for the proposed upgrade of Garfield Road West to register to be consulted.

Transport are investigating options of an upgrade of Garfield Road West. The study area is a 3.2km section of Garfield Road from Richmond Road, Marsden Park to Denmark Road, Riverstone.

To view a map of the study area visit, <https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/north-west-growth-centre-strategy/garfield-road.html>

The proposal may result in Transport:

- 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: Lee Davison, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officer
Phone: 1300 367 561

Email: nwgc@rms.nsw.gov.au

Mail: Garfield Road West Project Team, Transport for New South Wales, Level 7, 27 Argyle Street, Parramatta, NSW 2150

Registrations must be received by phone or in writing by 03/06/2020.



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Authorised by the Chief Medical Officer, Canberra



KRMC is delighted to announce that we have been joined by the following Aboriginal clinicians:



Louise Moore
Aboriginal Health Practitioner



Hannah Moore
Aboriginal Health Practitioner



Sonya Cameron
Credentialed Diabetes Educator

The team brings a wealth of experience to the Centre and will enable us to extend our health services within the local Aboriginal community.



This year's Children's Day poster features Wurundjeri Kalkadoon girl Jedda, by Melbourne artist Matt Adnate.

Celebrating our children

By NICK PATON



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander children who were taken from their families and forced into foster homes and institutions as part of the Stolen Generations were all given the same date for their birthday, and that's why Children's Day falls on August 4 every year.

The Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) sector development manager Sue-Anne Hunter said the truth behind Children's Day is somewhat confronting and one not many people are aware of.

"Children's Day really shows Australia that our kids are connected and our kids are thriving and have a community and are part of something bigger," Ms Hunter said.

"We know, as Aboriginal people, that our kids have always been the centre of our universe and Children's Day really is a way to celebrate that."

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day initiative has run annually since 1988 and was founded by national non-governmental peak body SNAICC. As the National Voice for our Children, SNAICC has been advocating for the rights, safety, development and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children since 1981.

Ms Hunter said SNAICC has taken a strengths-based approach to Children's Day since its inception, and that's why they have flipped the concept of the day into a national celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

"With over 600 events held nationally last year, we know how popular the day has been for so many people and children in the past, but we've had to adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic like everyone else, and transition to most of our celebrations taking place online this year," she said.

"Last year we had 15,000 kids involved and we sold just as many Children's Day bags, so it's important we are still to be able to honour our kids this year, and it doesn't matter whether you're at home, or if your kids still happen to be in a playgroup or early learning centre, we will have something online that will cater to everybody."

The Children's Day Bag includes a copy of *No Way Yirrikipayi!* a children's book by Alison Lester about a hungry crocodile who goes searching for food on Tiwi's Melville Island and all the land and sea animals he encounters along the way.

"And there's stencils, things to colour in, cardboard cut-outs of our native animals the kids can build and paint, worksheets based around all sorts of cultural activities for all different ages, and one activity even involves the kids hunting around the house for items that are the colours of the Aboriginal flag," Ms Hunter said.

"The Children's Day Bag costs \$6, but that really just covers the cost of postage, so it really is a small price to pay for some really fun, stimulating,



SNAICC sector development manager Sue-Anne Hunter. Picture: Ted & Li Photography

and meaningful activities.

"There will also be an online component as part of the website where we will have a heap of resources ready so you can still support, celebrate and take part in Children's Day this year, and this year's stunning poster by Melbourne artist Matt Adnate featuring Wurundjeri Kalkadoon girl Jedda, is ready and available for download from our website to put up around the home."

Made from leftover fabric and sourced from recycled off-cuts of material, the bags are reusable and 100% sustainable, made by Melbourne manufacturer New Model Beauty Queen, which specialises in local, ethically produced products.

One of the bags features an Irrimaru (eagle) print, designed by a group of women from creative enterprise Bima Wear on the Tiwi Islands, who donated the use of their Irrimaru artwork to the cause.

"Which is just the most beautiful gesture," Ms Hunter said. "And it really does tie into the theme of this year's Children's Day: 'We are the Elders of tomorrow, hear our voice', and here at SNAICC we are the voice of our children and for us, it's about preserving, but also handing down that precious knowledge our Elders hold."

"These kids will one day emerge as our elders of tomorrow so we need to figure out ways we can continually nurture that concept, so we can keep our children connected to culture and community."

To access resources and purchase your Children's Day bag visit www.aboriginalchildrensday.com.au



Call for applications – State, Territory and Regional boards

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) regulates more than 740,000 registered health practitioners and over 180,000 registered students across 16 health professions. 15 health profession boards (National Boards) and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) work together to deliver the National Scheme.

The primary role of the National Boards is to protect the public by registering suitably qualified and competent practitioners, dealing with notifications about registered practitioners and by developing registration standards, codes and guidelines to guide registered practitioners.

Vacancies are arising on the state, territory and regional boards of the:

- Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
- Medical Board of Australia, and
- Psychology Board of Australia.

The National Scheme has a commitment to increasing Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples' leadership and voices. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply, as are people from rural or regional areas in Australia.

Appointments are made by the Minister for Health in each jurisdiction under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory. Appointments can be for up to three years, with eligibility for reappointment.

More information about the roles, eligibility requirements and the application process can be found within the online application form on Ahpra's page:

<https://statutoryappointments.ahpra.gov.au/nb/en/listing/>

For enquiries, please contact statutoryappointments@ahpra.gov.au

Employees and contractors for Ahpra are NOT eligible for these positions.

Applications close: 5.00pm AEST, Friday 26 June 2020

09800P_0780

Koori Mail
The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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Kids in remote communities are lucky to have Ms Train



A BREWARRINA educator is ensuring that Aboriginal communities across 1000 kilometres of Western NSW continue to have access to education and fresh food throughout COVID-19.

TAFE NSW graduate Naomi Train is a mobile children's services teacher who provides early childhood teaching consultation, practice and modelling to targeted Aboriginal communities.

"Whilst being unable to travel and after seeking permission from the Elders, my team and I were able to have fruit parcels delivered, and post or email packages of education programs and documentation to outlying communities, while adhering to COVID-19 social distancing, health and hygiene protocols," Ms Train said.

"We've already had positive feedback that community groups are incredibly happy not to have been forgotten. If we had not taken this initiative, children who are already extremely isolated would not have had education materials to keep their minds active and stay up to date with their lessons."

A Brewarrina local, Ms Train recently completed a Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care with TAFE Digital to complement more than 10 years of work and training she already had in classrooms in the formal early childhood education and primary school sectors.

Ms Train said that studying online with TAFE Digital was a critical success factor

to completing the diploma in the timeframe she was targeting, as she could set her own study schedule, undertake research and work on assignments at her own pace, all while still working.

"I am passionate about reflection and evaluating what is and what is not working in our industry, especially within isolated rural and remote communities," she said.

TAFE Digital head teacher Anna Hamilton was invited to visit Ms Train in her home town of Brewarrina and observe her mobile education service.

"Naomi is a proud Aboriginal woman who has a close relationship to her people and her land.

"During my visit to Brewarrina, I was enthralled to walk the paths of some of her ancestors and hear the stories they shared with her, which she in turn shared with me in her own words," Ms Hamilton said.

"She has to be creative and innovative with her resources, as she has limited space in her van. Watching how she can use one toy to build on multiple skills and interests in children across different age groups is representative of the strength of her teaching ability and skill."

Ms Hamilton said that the mobile education services she provides, the community programs she runs, and her in-depth cultural knowledge, makes Naomi Train the incredible teacher and very special person she is.



Ngiyambaa woman and mobile services teacher Naomi Train with Aunty Mary Waites.

Bowel cancer is Australia's second biggest cancer killer.



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**Invitation for Registrations of Interest –
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment –
Wyangala Dam Wall Raising Project, Cowra LGA, Bathurst LGA, Upper
Lachlan LGA and Hilltops LGA**

WaterNSW is proposing to raise the existing dam wall at Wyangala Dam, NSW. Stantec GHD Joint Venture (SGJV) has been engaged to undertake the environmental assessment of the resulting increase in inundation levels and the relocation of associated infrastructure (including access roads, intake towers and the spillway structure should they be impacted). The proponent is WaterNSW, and the project contact is: Alice Jarrett, Community Engagement Officer, E: wyangaladamproject@waterNSW.com.au T: 1300 662 077.

Registrations are invited from Aboriginal individuals and organisations who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area, and who wish to be involved in the consultation process. The consultation may be used to prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP), if required, and to assist the Department of Planning Industry and Environment in consideration and determination of the AHIP application.

Registrations of interest should be provided by no later than 3 June 2020 to Nicola Hayes (Principal Archaeologist), Navin Officer Heritage Consultants,

Number 4 Kingston Warehouse,
71 Leichhardt Street, Kingston ACT 2604,
E: nhayes@nohc.com.au

Notice of Aboriginal Consultation

**Project name: Hexham Straight Upgrade
Location: Hexham NSW**

Transport for NSW proposes to upgrade the Pacific Highway/Maitland Road (A43) between Sandgate and Hexham Bridge, in Hexham NSW. The section of road known as the 'Hexham Straight', extending approximately 6.2 km in length from Sandgate to the Hexham Bridge, would be widened from two lanes in each direction to three lanes in each direction.

Aboriginal organisations or Aboriginal persons who hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or Aboriginal places in the area of the proposed project are invited to register an interest in a process of community consultation with the proponent.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in: 1) assessing the Aboriginal heritage values of the area, 2) preparing a Review of Environmental Factors under Division 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and 3) to assist regulators in the assessment of Aboriginal heritage reports prepared for this project.

Registrations of interest must be submitted in writing on or before close of business 27 May 2020. Registrations should include the name of a contact person, address and other relevant contact details including an email address. The names of registered Aboriginal parties will be passed on to the relevant Local Aboriginal Land Council and the Office of Environment and Heritage unless a request to the contrary is made.

Send registrations of interest to:

Hexham Straight Upgrade
c/o EMM Consulting Pty Ltd
Attn: Morgan Wilcox
PO Box 506
Newcastle NSW 2300
Email: mwilcox@emmconsulting.com.au

Registration of interest does not guarantee paid involvement.

Proponent contact: Transport for NSW (hexhamstraight@transport.nsw.gov.au)



Taronga Zoo (Upper Australia Precinct)/Mosman NSW Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment – Community Consultation Stage 1

Taronga Conservation Society Australia (the Proponent) are preparing a State Significant Development Application (SSDA) for Taronga Zoo, Bradleys Head Road, Mosman, Lot 22 DP 843294, NSW (hereafter referred as the subject area) which will redevelop the "Upper Australia Precinct" of Taronga Zoo in the suburb of Mosman. Urbis is assisting the Proponent in undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to accompany the SSDA.

The proponent can be contacted directly via:

Kristine Marshall
Senior Project Manager
Taronga Conservation Society Australia
kmarshall@zoo.nsw.gov.au

In accordance with Section 4.1.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW, 2010) and Clause 80C of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009, the Proponent is seeking the registration of Aboriginal persons or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) that may be present in the subject area.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the Proponent in the preparation of the ACHA and the assessment of the cultural heritage significance of the subject area.

Please register your interest in writing to the contact details provided below by 5.00pm 3 June 2020

Meggan Walker
Heritage Consultant Urbis
mwalker@urbis.com.au
Level 8 123 Pitt Street,
Sydney, NSW, 2000.

Please be advised that the Proponent is required to forward the names of Aboriginal persons and groups who register an interest to the Department of Planning and the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council; unless the person or group specifies that they do not want their details released.



Ivan Hood, from Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-Operative, and Max Solomon, from Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, place sand bags at Round Head in February.

Protection for Round Head sites



SAND bags, sand dredging and ongoing maintenance will be in place at Round Head to protect sites of cultural significance to the Gunaikurnai from coastal erosion.

The three-year Round Head Shoreline Erosion Management and Site Restoration Plan was funded by the Victorian Government to integrate traditional owner values and knowledge into managing sites of cultural significance.

Cultural sites at Round Head were surveyed by the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) cultural heritage team as the Registered Aboriginal Party. The analysis identified the significant sites at major risk from climate change and changed land use.

Cultural heritage values found at Round Head include middens in dune areas, artefact scatters, scarred trees and burial sites.

The Round Head site is owned by the Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-Operative (GEGAC).

GEGAC chief executive Jamie Williamson said they had been working with GLaWAC throughout the project to find the best ways to protect the vulnerable sites from coastal erosion.

"The relationship between GLaWAC and GEGAC in this significant cultural restoration work is essential to be able to preserve and pay respects to our ancestors and Gunaikurnai culture," he said.

"The full realisation of this project being undertaken in line with expert recommendations will not only allow for the strengthening of Gunaikurnai culture but will also provide another opportunity for the broader community to learn about Gippsland's vibrant Aboriginal history."

GLaWAC chief executive Roger Fenwick said protecting cultural heritage was a major priority for both organisations.

"Our cultural heritage sites in marine and coastal areas are extremely vulnerable to pressures from recreation, land use changes and climate change," Mr Fenwick said.

GLaWAC Round Head project manager Andy Booth said following the works to manage coastal water inundation, there would be significant replanting and fencing to help maintain the improvements.

"We will revegetate with more than 10,000 native plants to the site and use sand trap fencing to protect the site," Mr Booth said.

"The dynamic nature of sand dunes means they have a tendency to shift and erode due to wind and wave action. These works will help protect the sites against these changes."



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Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership in Social and Emotional Wellbeing, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

20 tips for staying healthy & strong during the coronavirus outbreak



1 Be informed the right way

Know what the health experts are saying

Know what to do and when

But keep a limit on the amount of news you watch



2 Be practical and prepared as things change

Think ahead, plan for the next 1-3 months, and make sure you have phone numbers, contacts and support in place



3 It's OK to be stressed and worried

Everyone is stressed

Let's Yarr!

But talking about it helps to stay strong



4 Have hope, this won't last forever

The virus outbreak will end, keep hope in mind



5 Our culture keeps us strong

We have survived a lot already. Our culture will help us through, and our ancestors will be with us on the journey



6 Take time away from the news and social media

Take a break from all the bad news, it can be too much



7 Keep in touch with friends and family

Stay connected in any way you can but stay away in person



8 Get some fresh air and exercise

Remember to breathe some fresh air and exercise at home



9 Eat well

Eat good food for the mind, body and spirit



10 Be creative or learn something new

Play music, dance, sing, draw, create and innovate. All good for wellbeing



11 Chill out

Learn relaxation, yoga, meditation or deep listening. If you're too wound up, be active then power down



12 Keep the kids happy

Check in with the kids. Listen, support and reassure. Give them space but also keep them close



13 Keep Elders happy

Check in with Elders but stay physically distant. Connect in other ways to be helpful



14 Keep yourself happy

If you are going to help others, make sure you can stay strong



15 Be kind to others

Everyone is stressed, be kind to others and yourself. Don't let things get out of hand



16 Find and give space and respect

In your place, make a space to chill out, let others too, be respectful and share



17 Create a Stay Strong Plan

Know your strengths and plan what to do when this is all over



18 Don't let money worries get on top of you

It's OK to get help, lots of us will need financial assistance



19 Keep your lungs healthy

Cut back or quit smoking now



20 Think before you drink

Try some new ways to cope with stress for yourself and for your family



Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia is the new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander wellbeing and mental health leadership body. For more tips and resources see

gayaadhuwi.org.au

If you need to talk to someone

NACCHO	Online list of Indigenous health services and contact details	Google NACCHO, click Members menu tab
Beyond Blue	Free, confidential - speak to a mental health professional.	1300 22 46 36
Lifeline	Free, confidential 24-hour crisis support telephone service.	131 114
Kids Helpline	Free, confidential support line for young people ages 5 to 25	1800 551 800
e-headspace	Free, confidential online support for young people	Google eheadspace
1800 - RESPECT	Free, confidential 24/7 support - assault, family violence, abuse	1800 737 732

For more information, the National Coronavirus Helpline is free and operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week - 1800 020 080

The Australian Government has also established a website to connect people to mental health support - Google 'Head to Health'

Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Jainey-Lee Thorpe

Gunai-Kurnai/
Bindal/Erub
Melbourne, Vic

Favourite bush tucker?
Emu sausages.

Favourite other food?
Coconut curry chicken.

Favourite drink?
Lemon, lime and bitters.

Favourite music?
R&B and hip-hop.

Favourite sport?
Playing netball, basketball and golf.

Favourite read?
Any thing based on truth – thrillers, life stories, etc

Favourite holiday destination?
Back home to Queensland with family.

What do you like on TV?
I'm not a TV watcher, but I watch documentaries on Netflix.

What do you like in life?
Being a mum.

What don't you like in life?
I try to look at things as positively as possible instead of seeing the negative or disliking.

Which black or indigenous person would you most like to meet?
Deborah Mailman.

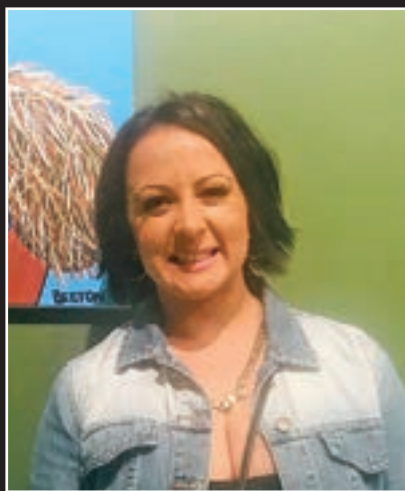
Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
Johnny Depp, Snoop Dogg and Ice Cube.

Who/what inspires you?
Tupac – his poetry, his music. He loved being black.

What is your ultimate goal?
To grow old and happy with life.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?
We've always been taught you do anything and everything for your mob. I will do anything possible to help my mob in any way I can.

Quote



"The support I have had has been really good. I learnt how to paint and how to share my stories. Some of us have not grown up with culture and are reconnecting with who we are through the art making."

Artist Thelma Beeton talks about creating work for the Confined 11 exhibition.

● See pages 28-29

Unquote

NT police cages a threat to life

If an unchained dog were being carted about on bumpy outback roads in the back of a ute for hours on end there would be an outcry.

'How cruel,' people would say. 'The dog should be safely attached to the ute so it doesn't fall off. The dog should not be exposed to the stifling heat while its master rides in front in air-conditioned comfort.'

But apparently when it comes to transporting Aboriginal kids, the Northern Territory Government, and its police force, think a cage is quite adequate.

Amnesty International Australia does not think so. And neither do we.

Amnesty's Indigenous Rights advisor Rodney Dillon said, "Treating children like this is against international standards and transporting people in motor vehicles without seatbelts is against Australian law."

"But when we raised it with the (NT) Government, they said they weren't worried about it."

Let's be clear about this. Police cages are a ute with a cage on the back and a blue tarpaulin covering it.

Once the child is placed in the cage, there are no seat belts, no lighting at night, no heating on a cold day, and certainly no air-conditioning in the blazing sun.

They are simply not an appropriate way to transport children, adults – or even a dog!

Remember the case of Mr Ward in Western Australia in 2008?



Mr Ward – a respected Elder and culture man – died after traveling 570 kilometres to a courthouse, and a further 352 kilometres in a prison van.

The van's air conditioning was not working and the temperature was so hot that Mr Ward had third-degree burns to his stomach from lying on the metal floor.

He passed away as a result of the ordeal.

It was a different type of vehicle, but the dangers of injury, or even death, remain the same when the mode of transport is not up to standard.

That's why it is incumbent on the Northern Territory Government, and other jurisdictions, to ensure prisoner transports are adequate.

Police have a duty of care to ensure that anyone that they place in their vehicle – man, woman or child – actually survives the trip.

The problem is that it takes public pressure to get governments to act, and according to Amnesty's Rod Dillon, community members are reluctant to speak out for fear of retribution.

To help raise the issue, an online petition can be signed on the Amnesty International Australia website.

KOORI MAIL 100% ABORIGINAL-OWNED

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



Country music star Troy Cassar-Daley and his mum, Irene Daley, during filming of the SBS genealogy series *Who Do You Think You Are?*

Cassar-Daley takes a journey of discovery

By NICK PATON



COUNTRY music star Troy Cassar-Daley always thought his ancestry was “nothing to really write home about”.

But when he took part in the SBS genealogy series *Who Do You Think You Are?* he realised it was some of the hardships his ancestors overcame in the past which have contributed to him being the man he is today.

Cassar-Daley said his episode features some fascinating stories about his beloved dad, who was just eight years old when he made his way from Malta all the way to Australia.

“There was so much I didn’t know about the period of Dad’s life when he was in Malta so there’s going to be some really interesting aspects featured about that part of Dad’s history and early childhood,” he said.

“But Mum is Indigenous and she has roots that stem from Bundjalung and Gumbayngirr country, and through family lines her ties extend all the way down to the Aboriginal people of the South Coast of NSW. And although I was blown out with the amount of travel we had to do for the episode, I was equally blown away by what I learned about my mum and my nan on

my Indigenous side.”

Cassar-Daley said one of the most interesting things about the genealogy of his nan and mum’s side, was following the matrilineal lines and learning about the resilience of his female ancestors.

“Now I can really see that my mum, and my grandmother, and my great-grandmother, and now even my own daughter, come from a beautiful long line of strong and powerful Aboriginal women, and the show opened my eyes up to so much I didn’t know about my amazing nan,” he said.

“The experience really made me proud of my Indigenous ancestry and the stock that I actually come from because these were people who weren’t afraid to talk unto themselves, and they were motivated people and they certainly weren’t the type of people to say, ‘Right, that’s it, I give up,’ instead they just kept trying different ways until something worked.”

Filming for the episode took Cassar-Daley all the way down the South Coast of NSW and up the Clyde River to where his ancestors lived four to five generations ago. That’s where he discovered how highly skilled his ancestors were at hunting, and he even got to take a peek at some of the sacred places his ancestors used to go to fish.

“And just being immersed in

my family history taught me so much about the importance of respecting Indigenous knowledge and ways of being, and I just wish we had more time so that we could have kept going further,” Cassar-Daley said.

“But suddenly after only three weeks of exploring Mum’s side, I was whisked away on a plane to Malta to discover some very interesting things about my Dad and his side.

“That part of the experience was just incredible too because I had never been to Malta. It was a little bittersweet also because we only lost Dad recently, and a part of me wondered if it was a little bit too soon.”

Cassar-Daley desperately wanted his Dad to be with him during his experience in Malta, so he took his Dad’s old Seiko diver’s watch over to Malta.

“I just knew that by having him on my arm that he’d be with me,” he said.

“I have always wondered why and when everything all happened, and the show really helped me to find out some answers, and you know, for such an exciting adventure, I didn’t even think my genealogy was that interesting!”

Cassar-Daley’s unforgettable journey took him up an down the east coast of NSW, over to Malta and back again, and he said he found himself

singing the whole way.

“I take such a sense of pride in knowing I am from a line of people who really took care of each other and were always ready give anything a red hot go, and since having the opportunity to look deeper into this particular part of my life I’ve been busy writing new music about some of my experiences as part of the *Who Do You Think You Are?* episode,” he said.

“What really brought things home for me was sitting there with the historians who were showing me newspaper articles, letters and clippings about my proud Indigenous ancestors.

“I really didn’t know about some of the parts of my story, and the songs I’ve composed along the way really detail the hardship people faced and experienced on both sides of my family from Indigenous Australia all the way over to Malta.”

Cassar-Daley told the *Koori Mail* he feels privileged to have been asked to take part in the series after many years of not knowing certain parts of his ancestry.

“Being part of the show definitely opened up the flood gates in terms of delving further into my family history through my own extended research, and I must get it from Mum because she’s obsessed about research and our family tree,” he said.

“I’m lucky because I’m on the

phone to Mum every day and she’s always got something new to tell me that I didn’t know before.”

“I had to give my permission for members of the show to go out and dig pretty deep into my family history and because of all the letters they have uncovered, especially the ones my Aboriginal grandmother wrote to the housing department seeking better conditions for her family, I am compelled and confident to now go out and find out more information on my own.”

Cassar-Daley said his mum and nan are two of the strongest, most inspirational people he knows.

“My nan had such a drive within her and it broke my heart to read some of the emotional letters she was writing at the time, and I had no idea the letters even existed,” he said.

“Nothing brings me more pride than to be able to share information about my culture because it’s a way of bringing people together, and both my nan and pop and my mum and dad have always tried their hardest to make things better for my family, and if you watch the episode, maybe you’ll feel the same sense of inspiration for them as I do.”

Who Do You Think You Are? screens at 730pm Tuesdays on SBS with Troy Cassar-Daley’s episode scheduled for July 7.

Wise words from the talented Mr Rhodes

By KIRK PAGE



PROUD Bundjalung and Yaegl man Blake Rhodes is a talented musician, mentor and young

leader in his community, residing in the lush Northern Rivers region on Bundjalung country in NSW.

Rhodes has been developing his musical stylings for almost 10 years. His break-out moment came while collaborating with hip hop trio Teddy Lewis King (TLK).

Blake recently applied for the First Generations Fellowship, an initiative by Create NSW, and was successful along with two other regionally based sound artists, Olivia Abbott and Tanaya Barat.

This fellowship allows the young artists to develop their skills in the industry taking up residency in Sydney and being mentored by industry professionals – building contacts and meeting other music makers on the scene.

The fellowship is timely for Blake who spends a lot of his time as a youth worker mentoring young kids in the Lismore region and sharing his experiences as a creative.

Blake is one half of the Dream Bigger team, a youth-led program developed in partnership with Aboriginal organisation Rekindling the Spirit in Lismore.

Sessions aimed at improving outcomes for families and youth aged 12-18 are run and designed by Blake and his collaborator Mitch King. Their work focuses on the youth in the region while contributing to a positive legacy for the community.

“When I’m working with young people I am as genuine as I can be. Kids have a bullshit meter that’s hard to trip,” Blake said. “I try to keep it fun. I try let them know that it’s ok to fail or bail. Failing is OK – I just acknowledge it and move on.”

Blake has moved through trials and tribulations himself and is determined to keep going. His self-taught talents continue to inspire members of the community.

“As artists, nothing is ever exact – exploring something then falling into another idea then following that, that describes a lot of what I do,” he said.

“I’m not classically trained in any instruments. I’m self-taught. I went and did a Cert 3 in music at TAFE and from there I realised I can do this all myself. I write, I rap, I produce all the music using Ableton program on my PC.”

Recently Triple J chose one of his songs – performing as Mr Rhodes – for their *Unearthed*

“Finding a spark or a moment in time that gets you inspired can be a bit like chasing your tail. It’s finding something – an expression – that is uniquely yours. An interpretation of a particular idea through sound, the same way a dancer would interpret fire or water. Not everyone will have the same interpretation. It’s a unique thing.”

– Blake Rhodes



Blake Rhodes Picture: Kate Holmes

list. The track called *Lowlight* can be found on Spotify and Soundcloud.

“It’s in all the big stores and it’s been a while in the works. It was a hard song to write,” Rhodes said.

“Finding a spark or a moment in time that gets you inspired can be a bit like chasing your tail. It’s finding something – an expression – that is uniquely yours. An interpretation of a particular idea through sound, the same way a dancer would interpret fire or water. Not everyone will have the same interpretation. It’s a unique thing.

“Sometimes I will be out and about and I get an idea – I put it in my phone on voice notes then revisit it later and drop it into my notes file. I could be

watching a movie and I’m struck by an idea – I’ll run off to the studio and begin building on that idea.

“Whether it works or not is another thing.”

Blake has hit his creative stride. Years of chipping away at his passion is paying off.

“At the moment, I’m doing a practice where I make a beat a day for 30 days along with a mate who’s doing a loop a day,” he said.

“I don’t know what’s coming each day. It’s random – could be an acoustic guitar sample, organ or drum beats.

“I’m taking those sounds and turning them into something completely different to what they were before. I turned an organ riff into a heavy metal guitar riff the other day.”

He’s a musical alchemist – a sum of his parts, expressing his experiences through music. Mr Rhodes’ path is taking him on some wild and wonderful adventures and this is just the beginning.

“The journey I’ve taken has built me up from TLK, from making party music and also very socially conscious music. The evolution of Mr Rhodes’ sound is more of an electric sound a little more self-effacing, baring my inner self to audiences,” Blake said.

“Mr Rhodes’ music is my life story, things I’ve witnessed. It’s me putting it all out there. The first Mr Rhodes set was booked by a mate. I said I wasn’t ready. He said, ‘You’re booked and you’ve got half an hour.’ He pushed me. It wasn’t amazing,

but there was an element of growth in doing that.”

Stepping outside the comfort zone is a common theme with Blake – the cycle of an artist’s growth is unpredictable but always challenging it seems, keeping Blake on his toes.

“Being thrown into the deep end is still thrilling, but now I don’t have the safety net of the TLK crew beside me on the stage. The first few solo shows were confronting. All I was thinking is I will either fall on my face or do really well – I did both. It’s about turning up and giving it a go,” he said.

The First Generations Fellowship is supported by the Powerhouse Museum in collaboration with Create NSW and touring company Astral People.



Delay on water plans welcomed by Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council

The Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council, an alliance of traditional owner groups in the Fitzroy River catchment in the Kimberley, has welcomed the announcement by Western Australian ministers Alannah MacTiernan, Dave Kelly, Stephen Dawson and Ben Wyatt that work on the proposed water allocation and management plans for the Fitzroy River will be delayed due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

The people in remote communities in the Fitzroy catchment are extremely vulnerable to COVID-19 and right now need to be able to focus on staying safe and free from the virus. We welcome that the Government has listened to these concerns and stopped work on water plans for the river whilst the necessary community closures remain in place.

The Fitzroy River is the lifeblood of the Kimberley. Many people and communities will be relying on the natural resources provided by the river to help them through the difficult months ahead.

The river is of vital importance to Aboriginal people and there is a strong sentiment that the river and National Heritage listed floodplains need to be protected from the negative impacts caused by irrigation, mining, and gas development. We look forward to continuing discussions with the Government on its protection and



Traditional owners need to be consulted about plans for the Fitzroy River in WA.

on sustainable development, but this must wait until the COVID-19 crisis is over and people are able to consider the protection of the river through a free, prior and informed consent process.

No development can be successful in the Fitzroy River catchment without the support of traditional owners. The decision from

Government to pause the Fitzroy River management and water plans until the discussions with traditional owners can restart is the right decision.

Dr Anne Poelina
chair,

Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council

Hearts grow hard while chaos reigns

A world in chaos, millions of hungry human beings starve to death as a poverty line sinks below self-preservation, yet nobody is taught to actually redirect a catastrophe to stop it reoccurring.

Lost is the funding of the poor into the admin centres of their helpers. The tuppence is supplied to feed a family of four, as most begin to hear the hunger pains of a belly grumble. A living hell, disgraceful conditions without educational programs to enhance learning skills and deliver training and independence. A one-eyed monster raises its ugly head, blinded by brilliance, only to play god in a field where each high-ranking opponent has forgotten the needs of their own county. Too busy looking into someone else's backyard, yet here in our own we

have so many disheartened individuals.

Not much has changed in a 50-year span. Little Aboriginal children are starving in communities. They aren't taught to live within the means they have been provided. No water, nourishment or nutrition in the foods they have been offered. Facilities that human beings are forced to reside in look worse than the local chicken run.

Hundreds of millions of dollars is sent overseas in assets to cater for the requirements of another nation, yet there is so much suffering in our own country. Hardened hearts are growing faster than the apples on a tree.

Remembering back to my youth and the hardship we suffered. A home painted black only to have written above the

toilet seat, 'sit down niggers'. That was us, the children of a white father and an Aboriginal mother. My mother was not allowed to have birth control yet there was a padlock placed on the fridge and freezers so that hungry children could not eat the food to satisfy the appetite within our tiny bellies. The local fruit trees provided our nourishment, as poor community children coming from all walks of life were inflicted with the punishment from the devils. Nobody is to blame as everybody gave a better life to their children in most cases than the parents had before. The buck has to stop somewhere. Responsibility must lay within a community. Children must come first.

All land developments should be no smaller than half acre lots, so the little ones can run and play

in their own environment within the confines of their own homes. Fruit trees should be re-established near footpaths, in order for the homeless and the needy to have something to eat. Councils should introduce free seminars, so everyone is informed and educated in exactly where the community is heading. The homeless or the needy collect social security benefits from the address they have supplied, so why are they living on the streets? Who is getting this money and why aren't they looking after the receiver of the benefit. Duty of care must take responsibility of any individual within your community. If you think somebody is getting mistreated, inform the authorities.

Jane Nutley
Miles, Queensland

POETRY WE'RE ALL AUSTRALIAN

I've got nothing against racists.
Went to school with a racist.
He's been tarred with the racist brush that one.
Yeah, he's got a bit of racist in him.
His mum had some racist in her.
I slept with a racist.
My best mate was a racist.
Dirty f**king racists.
She's pretty for a racist.
You don't look like a racist.
You're not like the other racists.
He's quarter-cast racist.
She's a good racist that one.
Dirty f**king racists.
Grandpa said we've got a bit of racist in us.
They're not like the full blood racists.
Anyway, the only good racist is a dead racist.
Dirty f**king racists.
Racists pricks get everything for free.
Petrol sniffing racists
The lazy racist no hoppers.
Dirty f**ken racists.
Can't even take a joke the racist c**ts.
Not like the old days when you could call a racist a racist.
The racist dogs are not even racist.
Dirty f**king racists.
Not even grateful the racist bastards.
The racist maggots are dividing this country.
Dirty f**king racists.
We're all Australian
Dirty f**ken racists.

By Nathan Maynard

Lament For Fairness

Fought the invaders from over the sea,
What chance against advanced technology?
Ever since suffered from racist policy,
Marginalised by capitalist ideology,
What's changed after the grandiose apology?
How long until all people can be free?
Is Australia still wilfully too blind to see?
No need for this sad but true reality.

Peter Mudd,
East Lismore NSW

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

Imagine a better future

WHEN the theme for National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2020, In This Together, was decided late last year, no one could have foreseen how prophetic it would be.

The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting social and economic crises have hit all corners of the globe; we are indeed, all in this together.

However, US research shows that “poor and medically under-served people, especially in rural areas, bear an unequal amount of the burden”.

Disasters bring inequalities into focus; crises shine a light on societal fault lines and the current pandemic has certainly exposed some of the inherent inequities here in Australia.

The circumstances of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in severely overcrowded housing in both remote and urban communities has drawn attention to the catastrophic, but normalised, substandard housing our people have endured for decades.

The poor health outcomes suffered by too many of us place our mob in the highest potential danger from the pandemic, highlighting, once again, health outcomes as another national inequality.

The lack of an active First Nations representative voice in local, state and federal governments has challenged authorities, who have struggled to communicate health messages to First Nations families and communities. Important cultural and social differences have often been overlooked in public health messaging.



Karen Mundine

The pandemic has reinforced an historical and perennial problem of Australian authorities being indifferent to the voices of First Nations.

The emerging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business sector has also taken a hit, even greater than other Australian businesses.

The Kinaway Victorian Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce reported that by the end of May, 58% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses in Victoria would be forced to close.

But the pandemic has done more than underline the marginalised, and often vulnerable position of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; it has made many people rethink their lives and humanity.

People are reimagining what lives could be like in a better, post-pandemic world. Such a reimagining is key to successful reconciliation; what we can't imagine we can't create.

Just as the bushfire catastrophe made many Australians reassess how the country would benefit from a greater role for Aboriginal science in land management and fire reduction, so too will the pandemic, I believe, ultimately drive reconciliation and justice forward.

For the past 20 years Reconciliation Australia has been in the business of helping Australians imagine a better country, a better future for all of us, a future based on mutual respect and understanding, and a shared appreciation of Australia's history, ancient and contemporary.

Reconciliation Australia's vision of such a reimagined Australia is a reconciled country, built on five critical dimensions: race relations, equality and equity, institutional integrity, unity and historical acceptance. These do not exist in isolation; they are interrelated and Australia can only achieve full reconciliation if we progress in all five.

This imagined Australia is coming. Australians have already made advances including greater acknowledgement of First Nations' rights to land and sea, an acknowledgment of the impact of government policies and frontier conflicts, and an embracing of stories of Indigenous success and contribution.

While much has been achieved, there is still more work to be done and this year,

National Reconciliation Week is about reflecting on how far Australia has come, while also setting new directions for the future.

Reconciliation Australia is proud of the part we have played in the journey so far; our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) program has created thousands of jobs for First Nations people, and RAP procurement policies have helped fuel the growth of our business sector.

RAPs, together with the Narragunnawali education program and our Share our Pride website, have made a significant contribution to better understanding the truth of our history and the critical importance of reconciliation for other Australians.

More than 90% of these people now support reconciliation, and 80% believe in the importance of formal truth-telling processes.

Under social isolation, this year's NRW will be different to previous years', but there are plenty of opportunities to join together in celebrating how far we've come and recommitting ourselves to taking the next steps. Virtual events, including concerts, film screenings, panel discussions, and lectures will be happening online across Australia.

Join in celebrating #NRW2020 – We are in this together!

Updated info here:
<https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>

Karen Mundine is from the Bundjalung Nation of northern NSW and is the chief executive of Reconciliation Australia.

Modern lynch mobs threaten

LYNCHING in the 21st century looks like two white overweight Christian guys in America carrying shotguns, stopping a handsome young black athlete, who was unarmed, in their pick-up truck and then shooting him dead. Because, well, he was black and he was jogging. Then no arrest for 74 days. That is nearly three months.

And only after a horrific video showing the shooting surfaced on a radio station's website the Georgia Bureau of Investigation announced that it had arrested Travis McMichael, 34, as the man who shot 25-year old Ahmaud Arbery. The other man involved in the killing was his father, Greg McMichael, a former police officer and prosecutorial investigator.

Two of Georgia's prosecutors recused themselves from the case, citing links to Greg McMichael the father, who has now also been charged with murder.

That's Georgia, which, along with other states of America, has a history of slavery and was part of the historical Confederate States of America.

The Confederacy was originally formed by seven slave-holding states in the Lower South region of the United States, whose economy was heavily dependent upon agriculture, particularly cotton.

There we have cotton once again raising its ugly history as a plantation system that relied upon the labour of African-American slaves.

I picked cotton as a teenager in Boggabilla and Toomelah, feeding



Woolombi Waters

the white town of Goondiwindi – just saying.

As has become standard in this world of white violence against black people – like our own 19-year-old Kumanjayi Walker shot dead by police in Yuendumu last year – black people have staged demonstrations in the hope of some justice, asking why did it take so long to make arrests after the killing.

And the two district attorneys who recused themselves should then have remained quiet due to their connection with one of the accused, instead they released a statement defending these two white Christian murderers, even having instructed authorities not to

make an arrest at the time.

Meanwhile the man who filmed the video showing Arbery's killing, has himself been arrested. This is also what happened to Ramsey Orta who filmed police killing Eric Garner in New York in 2014, while Garner repeatedly called out 'I can't breathe'.

William Bryan, who videoed Arbery's killing, is not only under investigation but “he has also been vilified, receiving death threats and lost his job, since releasing the video”, his lawyer said.

Many black and First Nations people across the world are also being killed. In 2018, Zachary Bearheels, a 29-year-old Lakota man, died in Omaha after being beaten by four police officers, who used a taser shocking him 12 times as they punched him in the head repeatedly.

In 2017, 10 police beat Cocopah Indian Tribe member Jorden Stevens to death in Arizona, which was also caught on video. His death was ruled a homicide, but no one was charged.

The video is hauntingly similar to David Dungay Jnr, the 26-year-old Dunghutti man who in 2015 was killed by a number of custodial officers at Long Bay Jail who suffocated him.

It is important to put the attacks into perspective. Without regard to the fact that the attackers were wearing badges and uniforms, if a gang of 10 identifiable individuals had beaten anyone on the street, causing death, someone would have been arrested.

This takes me back to 2016

and the murder of 14-year-old Elijah Doughty, run down while riding his 50cc motorbike in Kalgoorlie.

The killer has already been released from jail. The question is when will white people feel the same disgust and voice their anger as the families of the victims and their supporters do?

We only have to go back to the Ms Dhu inquest, where it was reported that a police sergeant swore at her as she lay dying in a cell in South Hedland, calling her a “f***ing junkie”.

TJ Hicky in Redfern, Mulrunji Doomadgee's death in Palm Island, and the horrific case of Mr Ward, driven 922 kilometres, in a police van in over 50 degrees heat, “cooked to death” and not one person held responsible or accountable.

And another case in the Northern Territory, 10 years ago, when, after a night of drinking, a group of white men went on a violent spree terrorising our mob camping at Todd River, which ended in them beating a man to death. Kwementyaye Ryder was repeatedly kicked and struck on the head with a bottle before he died.

Chief Justice Brian Martin took sympathy with the white killers and concluded that this “crime was toward the lower end of the scale of seriousness for crimes of manslaughter”; that there was not enough violence inflicted, and the defendants supposedly could not have foreseen a serious risk of death from their violent attack.

In his sentencing Justice Martin

went out of his way to provide character references for every single defendant, stating they were “people of positive good character and solid, hard-working young men”.

These men of “good character” repeatedly terrorised Aboriginal people for being Aboriginal, before getting a gun to terrorise them further, ending the night by beating a man to death, and then casually driving away without checking if their victim was OK.

As with every other killer identified in these murders, other than the two white Christian men currently arrested for killing Ahmaud Arbery, all are now free walking the streets.

As the families of these African and Native American men and our own mob continue to grieve the death of so many taken too soon at the hands of white people – and there were many more cases both here in Australia, and across the world I could also have written about – we are forced, as I said in my introduction to witness these killings for what they are – brutal executions of unarmed men and woman reminding us what lynching looks like in the 21 century.

Woolombi Waters is a regular Koori Mail columnist.



**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



Sebbens' breakthrough role came in the 2012 hit film *The Sapphires*. "Being a part of that story and film was a dream come true. I could have never worked again and been happy," she said. Jessica Mauboy, Sebbens, Miranda Tapsell and Deb Mailman went to the Cannes Film Festival in France.

Every little thing she does is magic

By KIRK PAGE



BARDI Jabirr Jabirr woman Shari Sebbens was born in Darwin and loved growing up in the tropics. Her dream to become an actor was inspired by a little show called *Bran Nue Dae*, which was one of the first-ever stage musicals featuring an allstar Aboriginal cast.

Shari's uncle took her to see *Bran Nue Dae* – one of the first stage productions showcasing the songs of the very famous Kuckle's Band and featuring songs and music by the Pigram brothers with a brilliant story and stage play conceived and written by the one and only Uncle Jimmi Chi.

This work showcased Broome and its myriad of characters, its stories and country. Some of the cast members were related to Sebbens so it was quite the family affair.

This encounter with the theatre and the magic of live performance set off a little spark in that eight-year-old girl. Shari was excited by what she saw and joined the local youth theatre in Darwin.

The power of seeing black faces on stage, telling stories our way, was a big moment and a key inspiration that drove Shari to pursue acting professionally.

You can imagine the 13-year-old Sebbens' eyes stuck to the TV screen, captivated by the reality TV show *Drama School*, the series that featured final year NIDA students being put through their paces and all of the drama on stage and off.

"That was the first time I discovered that there was a place where you can study acting," Sebbens said.

"At 13, I decided that I wanted to go study and pursue the acting path. It was great to know that acting wasn't just something that was for kids and that I could pursue it as a career."



Shari Sebbens: "No matter what the subject matter is, and often the more sad that story is the more laughter we're doing in rehearsal, it's the best way to get through it."

The Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) houses a one-year acting course coordinated and run by Rick Brayford. The introductory

course provides insight and skills to young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander acting students. Shari applied and was successful in securing her place.

"There are a lot of successful Aboriginal actors who did that one year course at WAAPA. NIDA might not know it, but that is what prepared me and a lot of other young actors before auditioning at NIDA," Sebbens said.

"Part of the WAAPA Aboriginal Theatre course is that you have to prepare an audition piece for end of year assessment and I had all the support that I needed to get myself prepared for my NIDA audition piece – that course is really where it's at.

"I was encouraged to audition for as many acting schools as possible, and if I was successful I had the choice of which one I wanted to pursue. It put me in good stead for what was to come. As much as I pretend to hate structure, I really respond to structure," she said, laughing.

Shari was well on her way as a young actress and hungry for more – she had been bitten by the acting bug and wanted to learn more about her craft.

“Telling stories on the stage is a privilege and an honour and there’s a massive community out there committed to telling those yarns and there’s nothing better than seeing our mob on stage and hearing those stories”

– Shari Sebbens

She went on to successfully audition and complete the three-year acting course at the National Institute of Dramatic Arts – one of the most rigorous and unforgiving experiences you can have as an actor.

“Luckily, I didn’t watch too much of that NIDA reality show, otherwise I would of thought ‘That’s too mad, that place! I’m not going there’,” Sebbens told *Koori Mail*.

But Sebbens did commit to her acting dream, smashing it out of the park with a star performance in the hit film *The Sapphires*, the film based on a true story about an Aboriginal singing group who toured to Vietnam during the war, written by Tony Briggs and directed by Wayne Blair.

“Being a part of that story and film was a dream come true. I could have never worked again and been happy,” she said.

In 2013, Shari won the Logie for Most Outstanding New Talent for her performance in the ABC series *Redfern Now* and also received the Sydney Theatre award for Best Female Actor in a Lead Role for her stunning performance in *City of Gold*, written by Meyne Wyatt.

Shari recently completed filming series 2 of ABC’s *The Heights*, which is garnering critical acclaim. Sebbens plays Leonie, a career woman and a mother juggling work, life and family in inner city Arcadia Heights.

The TV show boasts a diverse range of actors with compelling storylines that reflect the domestic lives of ordinary people and the rich cultural mix of this country.

“If you give people a good story it will find its audiences. This show is for anyone that loves a good gossip,” Sebbens said.

“It’s the most culturally diverse TV show or soap that’s been produced – characters with disability and storylines that showcase our LGBTQI brothers and sisters. It’s ticking all the boxes, but with a lot of heart and substance. There’s a lot of care given to the storylines, it’s been done in a way that is respectful, but also real. The diversity comes second to the actual story, which is a really great way to think of it.

“They set out to make a show about diversity and then got the right writers and producers to tell the yarn and everything seems to have fallen into place. They were also really adamant about having gender equality across the whole



Shari Sebbens won the Logie for Most Outstanding New Talent in 2013.



Kelton Pell (as Uncle Max), Shari Sebbens (Leonie), and Claire Gazzo (Erika) in the ABC series *The Heights*.

production. Fifty-two per cent of the crew – from props, camera and the production team – are women.

There are many perks to working as an actor and often one of the advantages is getting to travel.

“Coming home and working is one of the greatest things about being an actor,” Shari said. “*The Heights* series 2 is shot in Perth so I get to catch up with mob – it’s been really cool catching up with family and Perth has the best sunsets. I miss that sunset.

“I’m so fortunate to be able to work as an actor and tell stories

that I’m passionate about that shape our cultural identity today.

“There’s all this talk about what is Australia’s cultural identity. I think we have to always look at Blackfellas and know that we have a cultural identity. Whitefellas are just disconnected from it and don’t see it. Our culture should be celebrated and we should be part of any conversation when it comes to who we are as a nation and its identity.”

Working as an actor sounds like a lot of fun but also has its challenges.

“Telling stories on the stage is a privilege and an honour and

there’s a massive community out there committed to telling those yarns and there’s nothing better than seeing our mob on stage and hearing those stories,” Shari said.

“We have come a long way from the days of not being in full control of our stories and our images on the screen and the stage – when the white lens drifts back into the space we can know, sit up and take that back into our own hands and keep control of our own narrative. Stay away – no more Kamahl playing Blackfellas or Daddo brothers taking those roles. We did that right.

“I’m not just dipping into my own

personal emotions to propel characters; that can be really taxing on an actor,” Sebbens says.

“On the flip side, it’s so fun working as an actor, being a big kid brain – that’s the most fun part, having a good laugh with the mob. In the rehearsal room no matter what the subject matter is, and often the more sad that story is the more laughter we’re doing in rehearsal, it’s the best way to get through it.”

The Heights screens on ABC TV Thursday nights at 8pm or if you need to catch up on Season 1 and other episodes go online to ABC iview.



Dreaming of a Family by Thelma Beeton.



New Life by Felicity Chafer Smith.

Artists freed from behind the walls

By KIRK PAGE



YORTA
Yorta/Wiradjuri man Ash Thomas is new to the art scene, but says art classes he attend in prison have changed

his life, connected him to the ancestors in a way he never thought possible and given him something to look forward to on a daily basis.

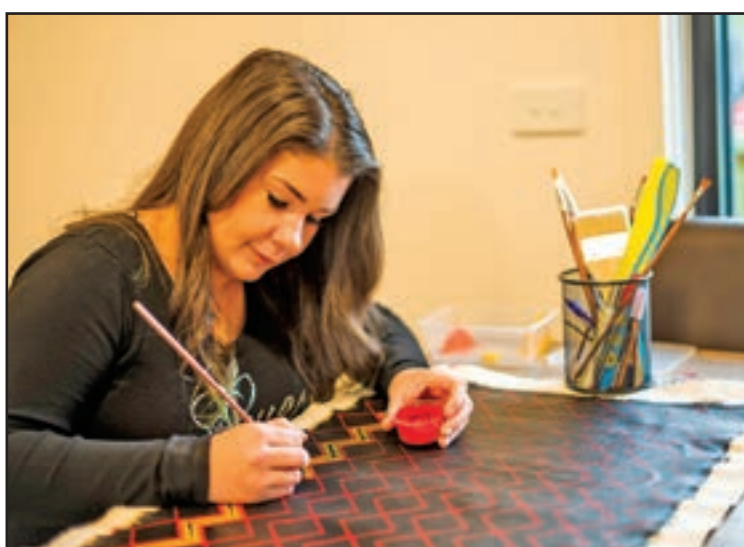
"I've always been artistic, I'm a tattoo designer and love anything to do with making things with my hands. At school it was the one thing I got top marks for," he said.

Ash is one of the artists featured in an exhibition showcasing inmates' art to the outside world, now being presented in a spectacular virtual gallery.

Confined 11 is a series of artworks made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inmates, made possible through a program called The Torch. The online exhibition showcases 300 works from 286 Indigenous artists.

The Torch has been delivering the Statewide Indigenous Arts in Prisons and Community (SIAPC) program since 2011. The SIAPC program is set within the context of the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement and its focus is on the role of culture and cultural identity in the rehabilitation process of Indigenous prisoners.

The Torch – a not-for-profit organisation – runs a weekly



Ngarrindjeri woman Flick Chafer Smith's artwork is a culmination of memories of family as well as things she learned during art classes.

program that provides art activities to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inmates. The program embraces participants as artists, rather than offenders, creating an avenue for change inside the correctional centre walls and outside of the facilities' perimeters.

The Torch employs Indigenous arts officers to deliver the program to Indigenous men and women and supports participants who are transitioning back into the community.

The program aims to reduce the rate of reoffending by encouraging participants to explore identity and culture through art, develop confidence and define alternative pathways

for themselves upon release from prison.

The program began in 2011 and provides an important role in supporting Indigenous offenders and ex-offenders.

Since its inception \$1 million worth of artworks have been sold and licensed. Buyers include the National Gallery of Victoria, Museum Victoria, Shepparton Art Museum, the Victorian Ombudsman and a range of private buyers in Australia and overseas.

Former inmate and artist Thelma Beeton says the classes were a highlight of her time behind bars.

"Painting feels like a reward.

Inside we all paint for different reasons and when I was there I couldn't wait for those weekly Wednesday art sessions," she told the *Koori Mail*. "We were all there early and so eager to be in that class."

Thelma was raised on Wemba Wemba country in the north of Victoria. Her family descends from the Palawa people of Cape Bar on Island, off the coast of Tasmania.

"I was a bit naughty and I committed crimes that had me put in jail," she said. "On the inside there was an arts program for us girls. We put our thoughts and feelings down on canvas – everyone's trying to do their best with all the different styles of art that we were taught during the art program."

Thelma has been interested in painting from a young age and is proud of her artwork.

She spent time in and out of the prison system for more than five years and is proud to say that she doesn't plan on going back there in a hurry.

"The support I have had through those sessions has been really good. I learnt how to paint and how to share my stories," Thelma said. "Some of us have not grown up with culture and are reconnecting with who we are through the art making."

Painting and sharing stories, connecting to each other through culture has been a form of healing. It's a cathartic way to reflect the lives of the inmates and is a positive experience allowing the

inmates to ask themselves, 'What's next for the future?'

Ash's paintings are a way to archive the memories of his childhood, recalling the days when things were good. One of the works shown in the *Confined 11* exhibition is inspired by the artist's memory of a trip to the Melbourne zoo as a kid.

"Me and my younger siblings were looking at the platypus when a duck flew into my face. That really stuck in my head and the painting is about that day, before our family separated," Ash said.

"I try to paint about my journey so far and what's gone on in my life. I'm really inspired by the shields at the moment. They represent strength and what it takes to win these battles that we face. I'm drawn to the more traditional kind of painting styles."

Ash loves the responses from people who appreciate his artwork. The feedback and the conversations inspire him to continue practising his art.

"Since I've been in the Torch program there's been a lot of media interest and I've met a lot of famous people who are inspired by the paintings. Some people really connect through the art and it blows me away," Ash said.

The program results vary from building confidence, to developing a sense of pride in culture and how the artists see themselves from the inside out.

Ngarrindjeri woman Flick Chafer Smith, from South Australia, is an ex-inmate who



A Lasting Memory by Ash Thomas, who was inspired by a childhood trip to the zoo.



Palawa woman and artist Thelma Beeton.



Yorta Yorta and Wiradjuri man Ash Thomas says art has changed his life.

Participant evaluation of creative program is encouraging

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up around 3% of the Australian adult population but represent 28% of the national adult prison population.

Indigenous men are 15 times more likely to go to prison than other men.

Indigenous women are 21 times more likely to go to prison than other women.

The Torch has been delivering the Statewide Indigenous Arts in Prisons and Community (SIAPC) program since 2011.

The SIAPC program is set within the context of the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement and its focus is on

the role of culture and cultural identity in the rehabilitation of Indigenous prisoners.

In 2012, The Torch commissioned an Evaluation of the Statewide Indigenous Arts Officer in Prisons and Community Program.

Interviews with Indigenous prisoners and former prisoners participating in the program identified four key challenges faced by program participants:

- systemic trust and anger issues;
- experiences of disconnection from their cultural identity;
- estrangement from family and community; and

● economic insecurity after being released from prison.

Those interviewed saw that The Torch program had been effective in responding to these challenges by engendering:

- an increased sense of wellbeing and confidence;
- new levels of trust that many of the artists had not experienced before;
- opportunities for cultural reconnection;
- pre-release skills and exploration of post-release career opportunities;
- improved participation in other prison programs;
- increased awareness of arts and culture among prison

staff and the wider community;

- a new level of support with its inside/outside approach; and
- better relationships with family and the wider community.

Of those who were interviewed, every respondent, without exception, found the program was valuable, identifying the need for the Statewide Indigenous Arts Officer in Prisons and Community program to be expanded in order to meet strong demand.

They wanted more contact, more information, more resources and more materials.

the canvas. I'm very meticulous about my visual backgrounds, I spent a lot of time hand drawing and ruling them up, getting them perfect – they look like digital print but it's all done by hand.

"The Torch program gives inmates something to be hopeful about. They've supported my practice outside of prison too, supplied me with materials to continue painting and I have a support worker who is in contact with me regularly."

The journey of the women and the men on the inside can be tough. As I'm speaking to the artists I get a sense of the deep connections made on the inside. I can hear in their voices the struggles and the triumphs, the successes and failures.

"Inside, the artists are like a collective and stick together," Thelma Beeton says. "There's not many great things to look forward to inside the prison system so the art classes are something that bring some light to the week."

The *Confined 11* virtual gallery offers visitors an authentic, full-gallery experience. Art lovers will have the opportunity to view and buy the works.

All sales go direct to the individual artists, providing significant support for the artists and investing in the philosophy of The Torch's Indigenous Arts in Prisons and Community program.

served a few sentences and says the program was a great way to connect while on the inside.

"I got caught up with some silly stuff and found myself in the prison system," she said. "My last sentence was almost three years. In hindsight, I needed to go through that. I now feel more centred than I ever have and I've come out the other side feeling better about myself and my future. I know where I want to go. I'm

100% determined about where I want to be. I've had a lot of time to think about it."

Flick spent time in the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre in Saint Auburns, Victoria, and was encouraged by an Aboriginal liaison officer to do the art classes delivered by The Torch.

Flick says she'd never thought of herself as a painter or an artist. The idea of trying something new is what got Flick through the door

of the fortnightly art classes.

"I learnt about famous artists during the classes and something inside of me wanted to know more about my own connections to my culture and my grandmother and where she was from, about my home and country," Flick said. "My artwork is a culmination of my memories of family as well as the things I learnt during the art classes."

Flick talks about the animals

that resonate with her and the significance they hold to her family.

"I remember seeing dingos when I was a kid travelling with family and these moments are often the subjects of my artworks. The pelican is my totem and it is in my paintings," she said.

"I'm self taught in (software program) Photoshop and create backgrounds I want to use digitally, then hand paint it on to

Warwick Thornton swaps life in the fast lane for the beauty of an isolated beach



AWARD-winning filmmaker Warwick Thornton's international success has come

at a personal cost. He has chosen to try giving up life in the fast lane, on an isolated beach in one of the most beautiful yet brutal environments in the world, to see if he can transform and heal his life.

While living in isolation, he explores the fragility of the human mind, body and spirit in modern times, and how a life of excess, neglect and self-abuse can be transformed through the ancient healing power of nature and connection to country.

Filmed in Jilirr, Dampier Peninsula, on the north-west coast of Western Australia, this piece of paradise is known by locals for its beauty and harsh remoteness.

Like his ancestors, the Kaytetye people, Thornton relies on the land throughout the experience. Audiences are invited to watch as he develops his instincts and skills to hunt and gather food in order to survive and thrive in this isolated stretch of



In his new project *The Beach*, Warwick Thornton takes a journey of reflection and healing.

paradise. Throughout *The Beach*, Thornton discovers how much he relies on these meals not only for his body, but also for his spirit.

Exquisite dishes are prepared silently and without instruction.

The Beach was created and directed by Thornton and filmed by his son Dylan River.

NITV channel manager Tanya Orman said *The Beach* is observational and unobtrusive, yet visually stunning and cinematic.

"NITV is honoured that Warwick has chosen to share such a personal and stunning masterpiece with us," she said. "At a time when many Australians feel a longing to escape or to reconnect

"At a time when many Australians feel a longing to escape or to reconnect to country, I can't think of a better way to experience an incredible corner of Australia than to join us for this special three-hour journey."

— Tanya Orman
NITV channel manager

better way to experience an incredible corner of Australia than to join us for this special three-hour journey."

The Beach is a World Wide Mind production for NITV, with principal production investment from NITV, in association with Screen Australia.

The Beach premieres on NITV on Friday, May 29, at 7.30pm. Catch up on NITV from June 1, with episodes airing at 7.30pm each night, as well as on SBS On Demand.

Nurturing our stories gives Magabala a win



INDIGENOUS publishing house Magabala Books has been named the Small Publisher of the Year at the 2020 Australian Book Industry Awards (ABIA), where three of its titles were also shortlisted.

Magabala's chairperson Edie Wright said the award recognises the excellence of Magabala's publishing program and its contribution to the overall success of the book industry in Australia.

"This award is the culmination of 33 years of hard work," she said. "All those years ago, our Elders and cultural leaders showed such courage, vision and determination to establish Magabala Books. We dedicate this award to those Elders, and to all our storytellers, authors and illustrators from around Australia."

Magabala publisher Rachel Bin Salleh also paid tribute to the Broome-based company's founders.

"Our founding Elders, some of whom experienced first contact, understood the power of the written word and saw the opportunity to take back control of their stories. This motivation at the heart of Magabala is just as relevant today," she said.

"We have always felt strongly that Magabala is, and must remain, a place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can stand in their own truths. This means being prepared to challenge the status quo, breaking down stereotypes, and never assuming that great stories need to



Magabala chairperson Edie Wright with her granddaughter Harriet.

emerge from 'literate' individuals and communities.

"For Magabala, it has always been a complex juggling act of cultural, social and economic objectives. Whilst last year was the most successful in terms of sales, this award is also recognition of the breadth of what we do, including our extensive creative development work all over Australia.

"We are an incubator, nurturing careers, and we are a cultural guardian, protecting IP rights and cultural integrity."

The Magabala titles on the ABIA shortlist

included Bruce Pascoe's *Young Dark Emu* for the Book of the Year for Younger Children; Kirli Saunders' *Kindred* for the Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year; and Sally Morgan and Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr's *Little Bird's Day* for the Small Publishers' Children's Book of the Year. Jasmine Seymour's *Baby Business*, and Jasmine Seymour and Leanne Mulgo Watson's *Cooee Mittigar*, were named on the ABIA longlist.

The ABIA award marks what has already been a hugely successful year for Magabala and its authors and illustrators, who have

won and been nominated for numerous awards.

In addition, Magabala authors and illustrators Bruce Pascoe, Leanne Mulgo Watson, Jasmine Seymour and Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr were recently shortlisted in the 2020 CBCA Book of the Year Awards; and Bruce Pascoe's *Young Dark Emu* was shortlisted for the 2020 Indie Book Awards and the 2020 NSW Premier's Literary Awards along with Rachel Bin Salleh and Samantha Fry's *Alfred's War*.

In February, Rachel Bin Salleh was awarded the inaugural Writing WA Literary Lions Medal for her commitment and contribution to Western Australia's literary culture.

Bruce Pascoe said: "If you think you can fully understand a country without learning from 120,000 years of considered governance and philosophy, then you will miss part of your own life. Magabala facilitates this understanding with the sharing of our thoughts and words. And because of that, you share our country. I have been publishing with Magabala since 2000 and while only half of my 35 books have been published there, Magabala is where I receive the best editorial. And they are my friends."

Magabala chief executive Anna Moulton said while there are challenges in being one of the most remote publishing houses in the world, being based in Broome is one of their greatest advantages. "The Kimberley is where our cultural roots are, and these foundations keep us grounded," she said.

Dawn finds passion for science is in her DNA



HARD work, dedication and humble achievement have been the hallmarks of Woolwonga

woman and University of New England student Dawn Lewis' accomplishments to date.

Dawn has grown from an undergraduate who sometimes doubted her ability to achieve into a confident student who was accepted into a prestigious Oxford University master's program.

After enrolling in a history degree with UNE, Dawn quickly discovered a love and aptitude for science, specifically genetics and archaeology.

"One of my lecturers, Dr Melanie Fillios, inspired my interest in bioarchaeology. It was fascinating," Dawn said. "I especially wanted to know more about combining molecular genetics and archaeology as well as ancient DNA."

Dawn's plans hit a slight bump at this point as UNE doesn't offer study of ancient DNA at undergraduate level. Instead Dawn elected to study historical DNA for her honours thesis and is now learning how to extract DNA from archaeological bones dating back to colonial Sydney.

"I'm extremely grateful to my supervisors Associate Professor Shubiao Wu and Dr Melanie Fillios for their expertise and flexibility with this unusual thesis," she said.

Through her industry connections, Dr Fillios, a senior lecturer in archaeology, arranged for Dawn to visit leading international universities in England to learn more about the intricacies of working with ancient DNA.

Along with Dr Fillios' advocacy and funding from UNE, the National Centre for Indigenous Genomics sponsored flights for Dawn to attend the inaugural



Dawn Lewis and Vice-Chancellor Brigid Heywood at Dawn's graduation ceremony in 2019.

Aotearoa Summer Internship for Indigenous Genomics (SING) Consortia conference in New Zealand on her way to England.

SING was both a confronting and rewarding experience for Dawn.

"This was my first ever opportunity to interact directly with First Nations Canadian, Native American and Maori geneticists and I found the experience invaluable. Although I didn't realise until I arrived, I was the only Australian at the alumni event, which was confronting but ultimately useful to provide some Australian perspective," Dawn said.

Dawn is now helping to organise the second SING Australia conference, currently scheduled for early next year,

when she will share her Aotearoa experience with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers and community members.

In England, Dawn visited the Universities of Huddersfield and Warwick, both of which have ancient DNA laboratories, to learn more about ancient DNA studies in a global context. She also spent two weeks at the University of Oxford's world-class PaleoBARN, where she networked with and shadowed experts.

"I spent a lot of time in the ancient DNA laboratories and was blown away with what I saw," Dawn said. "Huddersfield really impressed me with the internal separating protocols they use to protect the integrity of ancient

DNA, while at Oxford there was this amazing sense of collegiality and teamwork."

Dawn, who is currently living in Uralla, NSW, plans to act as a bridge between archaeogenetics and Indigenous communities, working to help Aboriginal people gain control and ownership of their past.

"I grew up on the Sunshine Coast and am a great-granddaughter of Nellie Flynn of Rum Jungle in the Northern Territory," she said.

"Community and history is a part of who I am and very important to me. I want to work for the benefit of Aboriginal Australia and help preserve our heritage."

Dawn is the first in her family to attend university, but not the first to graduate, having

completed a double major in archaeology and genetics in mid-2019.

"I'm the third of four girls and the first to go to uni. My little sister began her degree after me but graduated first!" she said.

"University has been difficult for me to navigate at times. My mum fought extremely hard to get me here, which I deeply appreciate, but neither of my parents or my siblings had been to university so navigating the systems was quite difficult at times.

"I've been really fortunate to have staff and students at UNE who have supported me extensively, giving advice as I need it.

"It is through the strength of all these people that I was able to take on the Indigenous Student Association Presidency for two years, work part-time cleaning hospital rooms and still maintain my academic standing.

"I didn't come to UNE expecting to find a community, but I am so at home now that I cannot foresee my partner and I leaving any time soon. Even my mum has moved here."

Dawn's study tour was made possible with support from Dr Fillios, UNE's vice-chancellor and chief executive, Professor Brigid Heywood and Oorala Aboriginal Centre.

Dr Fillios also endorsed Dawn's application to the Master of Archaeological Science program at the University of Oxford, England.

"It was a pleasure to help Dawn pursue her academic interests.

"Academia is a marathon. Talent and intellect will open doors, but it is up to the individual to seize the opportunities.

"Not all students do, but Dawn is a shining example of what can be achieved with grit and determination," Dr Fillios said.

Education is key to economy, report



IF academic results could be improved by 50% for poorer and Aboriginal students, the economy could get a \$200 billion boost over 50 years, a report by Deloitte has found.

The report also found regional and poorer students were on average eight months behind at school. While it said there were obvious benefits in improving education outcomes, there were no guidelines in place on how to achieve this.

The report said this means there was a need for more research and policy-making in education.

It found Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, poorer, regional and remote students were all behind on international education benchmarks.

One of the largest factors in school performance was the quality of teaching staff, the report said. The governance at the student's school, their classroom environment and resourcing were also major factors.

The report said better education outcomes meant students would have better chances of work and higher wages, benefiting the economy. — AAP

NICM

Health Research Institute

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander PhD Scholarship

NICM Health Research Institute (NICM HRI) at Western Sydney University is Australia's leader in complementary and integrative medicine research and policy.

An exciting opportunity is available for a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) candidate to join NICM HRI's team of world-class researchers for Indigenous-led research, driven by the indigenous interests of First Nations communities in Australia and worldwide.

Develop your preclinical, clinical, health and community based research project in one or more of the Institute research streams, including Bush Medicine.

For more information about this scholarship, including how to apply, visit nicm.edu.au/scholarships.

Closing Date: 31 July 2020
(Scholarship code: 2020_027)

Being an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification as authorised under Section 14 (D) of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977 NSW and therefore this scholarship is only open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants.



Australian
National
University

ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences Indigenous Australian Graduate Scholarship

The ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences is proud to offer the Indigenous Australian Graduate Coursework Scholarship. Applications are open until 10 July 2020. The successful applicant will receive \$2,800 per six-unit course to use for any purpose. Subject to satisfactory performance, the scholarship will automatically continue with each six-unit course within the program, up to a maximum of 96 units.

The Scholarship is available for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students enrolled or enrolling in a Master or Master (Advanced) program offered by the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences.

Visit <https://bit.ly/cassiaag> to find out more and to apply. For further information, please contact the Prizes and Scholarships Officer on 02 6125 1832, or via email at awards.cass@anu.edu.au

Warrgambi: jobs deliver social change



A COMPANY dedicated to Indigenous and all-inclusive Australian youth advancement

through providing excellence and training in technologies relevant to architecture, construction, security and safety is expanding its services nationally from its headquarters in Canberra.

Warrgambi, a Supply Nation Certified national trades and professional services company, is building upon its successes with public and private companies using its expertise to cover a broad range of security, electronics, fire detection and professional services increasingly needed throughout Australia.

Gumbaynggirr man and Warrgambi co-founder Tim Donovan has worked at the highest levels of Australian



Warrgambi co-founders Dave Healey, left, and Tim Donovan, right, at Supply Nation Connect last year.

Government security, safety and risk management.

Warrgambi is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander word from the Gumbaynggirr nation on the NSW mid-north coast that means 'working together'.

"Each step we take forward also benefits Australian youth and Indigenous people, because an intrinsic component of our work is to involve them all in our training, successes and world-class

service initiatives," Mr Donovan said.

Mr Donovan co-founded the company with general manager Dave Healey, who has been involved in the electronic security, technology and

communications industry for more than 20 years.

Their technology excellence and social objectives – coupled with access to federal and state Indigenous advancement Initiatives including the Indigenous Procurement Policy and agencies such as Supply Nation – have won them ACT, national and international recognition.

"We align ourselves with like-minded partners who would like to be involved with the process of creating positive social change and developing sustainable, meaningful and long-term employment opportunities for all Australians," Mr Donovan said.

"We provide mentoring and support services to guide our employees through their journey, which can include placements with our partners, where they can further expand their skills and career paths."

Tourism plan on track



DESPITE challenges presented due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Indigenous Working

Group responsible for guiding the implementation of the First Nations Tourism Plan is maintaining the momentum to create a stronger Indigenous tourism future.

Cameron Costello, chief executive of Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation and Queensland Tourism Industry Council deputy chair and CEO of QYAC, chairs this group and said he is keen to progress this much-anticipated work, even during the COVID-19 crisis.

"It is now even more important than before to build a better path for Indigenous aspirations in tourism to be made a reality," Mr

Costello said. "Queensland has an enormous opportunity to tap into the skills, knowledge and culture of Indigenous Queenslanders," Mr Costello said.

"This crisis will bring more focus on what we have to offer locally, on what is important to our visitors and what brings us together as people.

"The plan developed by Indigenous stakeholders over the last year is the prompt for real action and real progress.

"It is an honour to be part of the working group alongside Indigenous colleagues, selected for their high-level skills, diverse industry experience and regional knowledge.

"Each member brings extensive industry experience ranging from national park management, festivals and events, the arts, cultural tourism, hospitality and

accommodation and law."

Mr Costello said, that with COVID-19 impacting all tourism-based businesses, there is a real risk of setting back the Indigenous tourism sector in Queensland.

"The working group has already commenced its advocacy to state and federal government and industry for immediate and longer-term assistance for Indigenous tourism," he said.

The Working Group will continue to work with community, government and industry to drive the actions of the First Nations Tourism Plan in a timely, collaborative and respectful manner.

The First Nations Tourism Plan is the first of its kind for Queensland and was developed by Indigenous people for Indigenous people to guide the sustainable growth of First Nations Tourism across the state.

The Queensland Government has been a very supportive partner in this work, declaring 2020 as Year of Indigenous Tourism and agreeing to make available a multi-million dollar grant program for Indigenous tourism businesses.

The Indigenous Working Group members are: Cameron Costello, QYAC; Dale Mundraby/Dewayne Mundraby, Yarrabah; Justine Dillon, Gold Coast; Willie Enoch Tranby, CaPTA Group; Anthony McAvooy, Senior Council; Darrell Harris, Cairns Indigenous Art Fair; Fraser Nai, Masig Island; David Hudson, Didgeralia, Cairns; Josh Hanley/Kedea Atherton Accor Group; Preston Campbell/Kyel Dancey, Preston Campbell Foundation; Suzanne Thompson, YACHATDAC; Chern'ee Sutton, Indigenous artist and Shannon Ruska, Tribal Experiences.



Cameron Costello is chair of the the Indigenous Working Group, responsible for guiding the implementation of the First Nations Tourism Plan.



Supporting the Indigenous business sector during the COVID-19 crisis



Message from Chief Executive Officer – Laura Berry

During this turbulent period, I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that the Supply Nation team is committed to collaborating with corporate, government and industry stakeholders to ensure the long-term viability of the Indigenous business sector.

We have a range of initiatives underway focusing on advocacy and engagement, underpinning our commitment to

support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses through this unprecedented situation.

We are encouraging our corporate and government members to explore ways to demonstrate their support – such as expanding the scope of contracts with Indigenous businesses, bringing work forward, and realigning payment times to provide much needed cash-flow.

Please take care during this stressful period, and know that we are here to support you during this time of uncertainty.

We will continue to update our dedicated COVID-19 page on the Supply Nation website with new information as it arises, along with links to relevant resources.

supplynation.org.au/covid19

Shayne's vision for health sees more Indigenous professionals across sector



GOMEROI-Ngarabul man and trainee doctor Shayne Miller recently delivered his first baby at Campbelltown Hospital.

"It was an amazing experience. There's a lot we can learn from birthing women: tenacity, courage, strength, comfortability in one's own limits, the list goes on," he said.

When he's not bringing a new life into the world, Shayne is also nurturing Indigenous representation in health care. The 22-year-old is happily into his fourth year of a medicine degree – and he's calling for others to join him.

"We're all capable of whatever we set our minds to; after all, we've got 60,000 plus years of ancestors cheering us on," he said.

"When I was in high school, I read a story of a young medical student who was Indigenous. Little did I know that young man lived near me and had a similar story. I thought if he can do it, I can do it. Here we are a few years later, he's studying to be a dermatologist and I'm coming close to completing medical school."

Shayne grew up in a single-parent household in Aboriginal housing and says the experience, although challenging, grounded him in the real world.

"I know what it's like to struggle and to see those closest to you struggle," he said. "My background has given me a huge amount of determination to create a better future for myself, my family and our community."

Attending Liverpool Boys High School in South Western Sydney, Shayne studied hard and was the first Aboriginal captain at the school. His interest in physical education and science led him to enrol in a 'first aid to medicine' program.

"Finding this course was a complete game-changer for me. I realised it was possible to go on to further education. So

I did alternative entry testing for nursing while I was doing my HSC, and I also sat the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test."

Shayne was offered an interview for the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery at Western Sydney University. After sitting the interview, he received a phone call from the panel that same afternoon.

"When I got the call I was driving home from being out with a friend and I remember being speechless and thankful. There were shouts of pure joy, a flood of congratulations and many tears. I'll never forget the smile on my mum's face."

Shayne says the work of many, including the Australian Indigenous Doctors Association, is helping increase Indigenous participation in the healthcare profession but more can be done.

He believes increasing representation is one important way to address poor Indigenous health outcomes across the country.

"I believe increasing representation will drastically lift health outcomes by increasing belief and motivation among our people," Shayne said.

"I'm advocating for a future where it's not uncommon to be treated by an Indigenous healthcare professional – be it a doctor, nurse, pathologist, radiologist, physiotherapist, occupational therapist or psychologist."

Shayne also says spiritual healing and staying connected to the Dreaming are vital for Indigenous wellbeing.

"The Dreaming is a constant state. We are continuously connected to our dreaming and each of us is at a different point in our journey. We must not lose sight of that and who we are. The Dhinawan (Emu) dreaming of the Gomeroi and the Boorabee (Koala) dreaming of the Ngarabul carry me through my life."



Gomeroi-Ngarabul man Shayne Miller is training to be a doctor.

Funding boost for study will help with outreach



MAYI Kuwayu – a major study into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health – has received a funding boost, with the Ian Potter Foundation injecting \$590,000

into the project. That amount will be matched by the Australian National University's College of Health and Medicine, and Chancery, with a total of \$1.18 million for advancing Mayi Kuwayu's work on getting results from the study back into the community and into policy.

The study, led by Wongaibon man Associate Professor Raymond Lovett of ANU's Research School of Population Health, aims to understand how a connection to culture affects the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Launched in November 2018, the study now has more than 10,000 participants across Australia and is the first large-scale longitudinal study to explore the concept of culture as a powerful health asset.

Associate Professor Lovett said it was



Associate Professor Raymond Lovett.

vital to ensure that data from the study was used to benefit communities and to help guide policy into the future.

"Philanthropic partnerships play a key role in driving change by supporting

independent projects such as the Mayi Kuwayu study," he said. "The funding from the Ian Potter Foundation will be used to increase community engagement, including reporting back to communities with meaningful findings. Making sure that communities benefit from their participation is a crucial step often missed in studies with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples."

"The data and findings can be used locally to inform community-level programs and individual wellbeing. Results will also be shared with government, to inform and influence state and federal policy and programs."

"We are already undergoing regular and continued conversations with government to keep policymakers engaged with the process, progress and findings."

Taungurung woman Jan Chapman, the Mayi Kuwayu study manager, said the strength of the study lies in community participation, making the engagement and consultation work of community outreach researchers vital to its success.

"We have partnered with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies and communities across the country and conducted extensive community consultation," she said. "Our team knows that partnerships are essential for the study's success. We know how important it is to connect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations with researchers and policymakers to effect real change."

"This funding partnership will allow us to share the findings widely, help individuals and community to understand the study results relevant to their area, and support local initiatives."

The study team at the ANU is led and governed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers and community organisations who have a demonstrated track record in conducting research with and for community.

Associate Professor Lovett said the recruitment of a community outreach researcher is the next crucial step in supporting this important work.

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT

Wilfred rewarded for his dedication



WILFRED Pilakiu, an apprentice plumber from Wurrumiyanga on Bathurst Island, has been awarded one of this year's Rheem apprentice plumber grants.

Wilfred, 27, is currently completing his first year of his plumbing trade and has received a share of the \$30,000 available from the scheme to help kickstart his plumbing career.

Rheem chief operating officer Chris Taylor said that Wilfred joined nine other apprentice plumbers from across Australia, who have each received \$2000 to assist with their TAFE/RTO fees and textbooks, and \$1000 to help them build their all-important trade tool box.

"Following feedback from apprentices, plumbing teachers and employers, we've determined that the greatest financial hardships are associated with tuition and tools," Chris said.

"The grant provides recipients with the opportunity to commit to further study, such as continuing the optional fourth year, where apprentices can earn their tradesman licence and dream of one day operating their own business."

A plumbing student at Charles Darwin University, Wilfred outshone the competition by demonstrating his passion for plumbing, strong work ethic and commitment to the industry.

Wilfred is completing his apprenticeship with Bathurst Island Housing Association, a 100% Indigenous-owned construction company based on the Tiwi Islands in the Northern Territory. After 47 years of business, Wilfred is the association's first apprentice and his boss described him as a "great example for future Tiwi apprentices".

A community-minded young man, Wilfred is honoured to promote sanitisation and hygiene through his trade.

"The most rewarding part of my job as a plumber is knowing that the community has clean water and flushing toilets because of my work," Wilfred said.

In his career as a plumber, Wilfred hopes to learn more about recycling grey water and specialise in sustainability



Tiwi Islander Wilfred Pilakiu, from Wurrumiyanga on Bathurst Island, is an apprentice plumber with Bathurst Island Housing Association.

through solar hot water and solar pumps. Wilfred is optimistic that, through his work, he'll be able to give back to his remote community by reducing the electricity bills of his clients.

Chris said the grants are a way to welcome and support passionate newcomers to the plumbing industry.

"In their eighth year, the grants are an investment in the skills and development of Australia's next generation of plumbers, alleviating financial strain and helping recipients to pursue their chosen career," he said.

"This year we're acutely aware that it's not business as usual for business owners, tradesman and apprentices in our industry. We're grateful that our grants will relieve financial strain and provide a positive boost to 10 deserving apprentices, their families and their workplaces."

The grants aim to assist apprentices and young people to achieve their dreams and career objectives. This year, 202 apprentice plumbers applied for the grants.

"This year, a record number of

applications were received, with 75% more applicants compared to last year," Chris said.

"Our independent judging panel was extremely impressed with the high calibre of applications, and the incredible tenacity and commitment of plumbing apprentices across the country."

Analysis by the Global Apprentice Network Australia showed that the number of advertised apprenticeship positions fell by 73% between January and April this year; a time where a peak in interest is historically experienced.

According to the National Centre for Vocational Education Research, 91.5% of apprentices who complete a trade apprenticeship retain employment, with a median annual salary of \$62,800.

In addition to the largest applicant pool, Rheem also received a 51% increase in mature-age apprentices applying.

The recipients are aged from 17 to 34, hail from all over the country, and have one thing in common: the ambition to become part of the next generation of Australian plumbers.

APY lands study reveals new model for work



A CHARLES Darwin University study has confirmed that a unique training and employment model used in outback Australia has important

implications for the design of workplace programs in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Northern Institute PhD candidate Janet Skewes has spent the past four years analysing the structure and features of an employment model in the remote Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands in north-west South Australia.

"The research shows that this employment model, which differs significantly from standard human capital approaches seen in most mainstream workplaces, has proven quite successful," Ms Skewes said.

"Candidates are often targeted and are recruited to a position before they receive training and on-the-job upskilling. Generally, it's the other way around, where an investment is made in training and skilling before someone is employed. Essentially what we have in the APY Lands is an example of an alternative approach to supporting Aboriginal job seekers in remote Australia."

Ms Skewes said the project grew out of a need to understand why unemployment remained high even though training was available, and jobs existed in communities throughout north-west South Australia.

"It's an environment where training was not considered a pathway into employment," she said.

Ms Skewes said the overarching question was to establish how to realise the work aspirations of the Anangu people.

"My focus was to understand Anangu aspirations for employment and training from their point of view," she said.

"Collaboration and support were key characteristics of the workplace as was flexibility to allow the workers to attend to family and community priorities or cultural obligations."

Ms Skewes said the research was relevant to policymakers who might re-imagine employment and training practices in remote Aboriginal communities.

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

*Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed.
No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!*

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Chief Executive Officer - QAIHC

- Based in Brisbane
- 3-year contract with QAIHC
- Strictly Identified position for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates only

We are recruiting for this position on behalf of our client the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council.

Please contact Bryan Creith at bryan@fprs.com.au to access the position description and application process and requirements.

Applications close 4.00 pm 27 May 2020.

FIRST PEOPLE Recruitment Solutions is a 100% Aboriginal owned agency providing temporary assignments, fixed term contracts and permanent recruitment solutions.



Aboriginal Executive Assistant Aboriginal Health (Administrative Officer Level 6)

Department: Sydney Local Health District

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Permanent Full-Time

Remuneration: \$70,635 - \$72,384 per annum

Enquiries: Ricky Lyons on (02) 9515 9964.

Aboriginality/Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under section 14(d) of the *Anti Discrimination Act 1977*.

Closing Date: 27 May 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ158668.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



Health
Justice Health and
Forensic Mental Health Network

Aboriginal Mental Health Trainee

Location: The Forensic Hospital, Malabar NSW

Employment Status: Temporary Full-Time

up to 3 years

Salary: \$54,220 - \$79,857 pa

Enquiries: Kevin.Brown@health.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: 26 May 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ162654.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



Registered Nurse Aboriginal Chronic Care

Department: Northern NSW Local Health District

Grafton Clarence Community & Allied Health

Employment Type: Permanent Full-Time

Position Classification: Registered-Nurse

Remuneration: \$32.37 - \$45.45 per hour

Hours Per Week: 38

Enquiries: Marilyn.Tolman@health.nsw.gov.au

**Closing Date:
1 June 2020**

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ165822.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



Environmental Water Advisory Group for the Lachlan Valley - Seeking Applications for Membership

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Biodiversity & Conservation, is seeking applications from the community for Membership of the Lachlan Environmental Water Advisory Group (EWAG).

The Lachlan EWAG provides advice to the Department on the use of water for the environment in the Lachlan valley for its water-dependent ecosystems. Suitable applicants will be able to contribute their local knowledge and relevant experience to guide the beneficial use of water for the environment. Members will actively participate providing information, analysis and recommendations from their vantage point in the local community or representing a stakeholder group, to assist environmental water managers make adaptive decisions.

Specific skills and knowledge sought includes Indigenous knowledge, floodplain and wetland land management, local scientific knowledge, Lachlan specific wetland and riverine knowledge including ecological knowledge and related community interests.

Appointments are for up to five years with quarterly meetings conducted each year and some additional field trips undertaken. Please note that these are non-salaried positions, members will be compensated for their time and expenses in line with NSW Government guidelines.

The Department is committed to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity, Work Health and Safety, Cultural Diversity and Ethical Work Practices and encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds.

Applications close: Friday 5 June 2020

Further information, the position description and application form is available at: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/water/water-for-the-environment/lachlan

If you require access to information via a different process, please contact Natalie Young phone (02) 6229 7159 or email natalie.young@environment.nsw.gov.au

NGUNYA JARJUM ABORIGINAL CHILD & FAMILY NETWORK



RECEPTIONIST/ ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Ngunya Jarjum's vision is that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait children and young people are looked after in safe Aboriginal and Torres Strait families and communities and are raised strong in spirit and identity, with every opportunity for lifelong wellbeing.

The Office of the Children's Guardian has recently awarded Ngunya Jarjum five years accreditation giving great stability and further growth opportunities.

Based in Lismore and reporting to the Finance Manager, your focus will be providing high quality reception and administration services to all internal and external clients. The key objectives of the role include:

- Provide outstanding customer service to all internal and external clients in the areas of reception, record management, filing and general administration;
- Provide administrative support services to all staff; and
- Assist and support the maintenance of files, spreadsheets and databases to ensure data integrity and accuracy.

You will need a qualification in administration or related area or be willing to obtain this within 12 months of commencement.

If you also have:

- Aboriginality
- Experience and skills in a business support, administration or reception environment
- Experience building relationships with service agencies, non-government organisations and community groups at all levels
- Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to demonstrate empathy when required
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and to exercise tact, initiative and sound judgement
- Sound level of numeracy and demonstrated attention to detail
- Ability to build relationships with all levels of the organisation and the community

We would love to hear from you.

Appointment to this position will be subject to a National Criminal History Record Check and Working with Children Check clearance. Two reference checks will be required including one recent supervisor.

A generous remuneration package will be negotiated plus superannuation, leave loading and salary sacrifice.

We offer an excellent range of benefits including:

- Full non-profit status with salary sacrifice available to reduce tax and increase your take home pay
- An opportunity to really make a difference to kids and young people in our community
- A beautiful country location on the flourishing NSW North coast.

To find out more please contact Kelli Dragos from Abundance Human Resources on 0419 419 554. All applications will be received via seek online ad or email recruitment@ngunyarjarjum.com.

The closing date for this role is 9.00am on Friday, 12 June 2020.

This position is identified for Aboriginal people and exemption is claimed under 14d of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.



BDAC

Bendigo & District
Aboriginal Co-operative



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Bendigo & District Aboriginal Co-operative is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation located in Bendigo, offering a range of health and social services to community across Dja Dja Wurrung country.

We currently have the following position available:

Identified position

Aboriginal Lead Practitioner

(Full Time, 12 Month Contract)

Identified position

Childrens Resource Worker

(Full Time, 12 Month Contract)

Identified position

Aboriginal Hub Practitioner

(Part Time, 4 Days per Week,
12 Month Contract)

Identified position

Community Engagement Project Officer

(Part Time, 4 Days per Week,
12 Month Contract)

Senior Case Manager

(Full Time, 12 Month Contract)

Applicants MUST address the key selection criteria listed on our website.

For more information about the above position please refer to the **position description** listed on our website, www.bdac.com.au/Pages/Category/jobs or contact the BDAC Human Resource Team on 03 5442 4947 or recruitment@bdac.com.au

Applications close 5pm Wednesday 27th May 2020

BDAC is a ChildSafe and Smokefree workplace
BDAC says no to violence!

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email: advertising@koorimail.com
or call 02 6622 2666**



We're Hiring

Broadspectrum invests in employment parity for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders.

As an essential services provider, we are continuing to hire people with all different types of experience and skills. Apply today or contact our Indigenous employment team at iepi@broadspectrum.com for support or information.

<https://jobs.broadspectrum.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/BroadspectrumIEPI>





Want to help our mob with cancer in NSW?

Aboriginal Elders or Aboriginal community members are required for various positions under the NSW Cancer Plan and the soon to be developed NSW Aboriginal Cancer Strategy.

Aboriginal leadership and engagement are critical to achieving meaningful and lasting improvements in cancer outcomes for Aboriginal people. This is a key step in ensuring that decision making in Aboriginal cancer control activity is culturally safe, appropriate and improves cancer outcomes for Aboriginal people in NSW.

Positions available are:

NSW Aboriginal Cancer Strategic Partnerships and Performance Committee
 2 representatives needed (1 x rural, 1 x metropolitan)
 The Committee meets for three hours, four times per year.

Aboriginal Cancer Leadership Group
 2 representatives needed (1 x rural, 1 x metropolitan)
 The Leadership Group meets for eight hours, four times per year. Meetings will be spread over two days.

Cancer Institute NSW Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group
 2 representatives needed (1 x rural, 1 x metropolitan)
 The Working Group meets monthly for one to two hours.

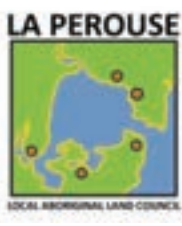
NSW Cancer Plan Governance Committee – 1 representative
 The Committee meets at minimum four times a year for two hours.

Aboriginal Elders and Aboriginal community members who are not employed on a fulltime basis will be paid according to the Cancer Institute NSW Payment of Honorariums policy. All positions are identified under Section 14d of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

More information can be found at: <https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/aboriginal-governance-and-engagement>

Please send your Expression of Interest to Susan Anderson - Aboriginal Strategic Advisor (susan.anderson1@health.nsw.gov.au) by **Wednesday, 27th May 2020 at 5pm.**

If you have any queries in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Susan on Ph: 8374 3664.



Aboriginal Mental Health Workers

The La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council (La Perouse LALC) is seeking applications from people interested in the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people.

The following positions are available:

Aboriginal Mental Health Worker (female) x 1 (12 months)
Aboriginal Mental Health Worker (male) x 1 (12 months)
Youth and Adolescent Mental Health Worker x 1 (part time for 6 months)

The primary objectives of the Aboriginal Mental Health Workers are to:

- provide culturally safe mental health support / engagement for Aboriginal persons and their families.
- provide an Aboriginal cultural perspective within the multidisciplinary treatment process across both inpatient and community setting in respect of referrals, mental health interventions, treatment reviews and discharge planning.
- undertake mental health promotion, early intervention, prevention and community liaison tasks in support of the development of culturally appropriate mental health services
- provide a visible presence within the local Aboriginal community, offering education about mental health issues and personal support or advice to people who need help to access specialist mental health assessment and treatment.
- support the establishment, development, support and maintenance of links and partnerships between the mental health service, Aboriginal organisations, government and health services, Non-Government Organisations and the community.

All applicants must obtain a recruitment package containing the position description and selection criteria for the above mentioned positions. To obtain a recruitment package or for enquiries regarding this position, please contact:

Chris Ingrey
 Phone: (02) 9311 4282
 Email: admin@laperouse.org.au

Applications close: 3 June 2020
[Aboriginal people from the La Perouse Aboriginal Community are encouraged to apply].



Environmental Water Advisory Group for the Murray-Lower Darling Valleys Seeking Applications for Chairperson

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is seeking community applications for Chairperson of the Murray-Lower Darling Environmental Water Advisory Group (EWAG).

The Murray-Lower Darling EWAG provides advice to the Department on the use of water for the environment in the Murray-Lower Darling valleys for their water-dependent ecosystems. The suitable applicant will ensure that decision-making processes are robust, and that established EWAG Terms of Reference, codes of conduct and other protocols are followed. The chairperson should make best use of the committee's knowledge, skills and experience to assist environmental water managers with annual watering priorities, adaptive management and implementation of the NSW environmental watering program.

Specific capabilities include maintaining impartiality for robust and respectful debate, effective communication, supporting an inclusive and collaborative approach, managing conflicts of interest, skilled facilitation, having regard for Aboriginal people, culture and communities, group leadership and decision making.

Appointment to this non-salaried position is up to three years with quarterly meetings conducted each year in varying regional locations, and some additional field trips undertaken.

The Department is committed to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity, Work Health and Safety, Cultural Diversity and Ethical Work Practices and encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds.

Applications close: Friday 5 June 2020

Further information, the position description and application form is available at: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/water/water-for-the-environment/murray-and-lower-darling>.

If you require access to information via a different process, please contact Natalie Young on (02) 6229 7159, or email natalie.young@environment.nsw.gov.au.



Graduate Management Program

Department: South Western Sydney LHD
 Temporary Full-Time - 38 hours per week
Remuneration: Administration Officer Level 4, \$1,211.59 - \$1,240.78 per week

Enquiries: Please indicate in your application if you identify as either Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and contact our Aboriginal Workforce team via SWSLHD-AboriginalWorkforce@health.nsw.gov.au if you are interested in applying.

Information: To be eligible, you must have completed a tertiary degree by the start of the program in February 2021.

SWSLHD is committed to developing Aboriginal leaders within its workforce and the two year graduate management program gives you on the job training, experience and mentoring support in the Health Industry, combined with completing your sponsored Master's Degree. Aboriginal Graduates will also receive support and mentoring from the SWSLHD Aboriginal Health Unit.

This position is advertised under the SWSLHD Aboriginal Targeted Recruitment Program. Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply and, where found suitable, will be given higher priority. Aboriginal applicants may have to cite their Aboriginality in addition to the selection criteria

Stepping Up aims to assist Aboriginal job applicants by providing information about applying for roles in NSW Health organisations.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.steppingup.health.nsw.gov.au/>

Applications open from 1 June 2020 and will close on the 26 June 2020.

For more information and to apply, go to www.swslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/graduate

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



13 11 14



Aboriginal Executive Assistant Aboriginal Health (Administrative Officer Level 6)

Department: Sydney Local Health District

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Permanent Full-Time

Remuneration: \$70,635 - \$72,384 per annum

Enquiries: Ricky Lyons on (02) 9515 9964.

Aboriginality/Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under section 14(d) of the *Anti Discrimination Act 1977*.

Closing Date: 27 May 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ158668.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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BLZ_LP1489

Solicitor - Expressions of Interest



Interested in using your skills to support vulnerable members of the community?

The *Cairns Community Legal Centre* is a not-for-profit, government-funded organisation that provides accessible legal and social justice services to people in the Cairns community who are experiencing disadvantage.

They are currently seeking Expressions of Interest from **Solicitors** who wish to be considered for potential employment opportunities that may arise at the Centre.

All experience levels are encouraged to apply.



To learn more or apply, go to: applynow.net.au/jobs/118595

Call for Expressions of Interest

**Project Officer
for New Guideline**

Working with Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander people



Speech Pathology Australia seeks to appoint a Project Officer(s) to lead the development of a new practice document to support members to provide culturally safe services to Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander people and communities. We are seeking an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person to fill this position.

We are seeking expressions of interest for the role of Project Officer to lead the development of the document. The development of the document will be undertaken in consultation with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee and a working group.

The new document will provide guidance to speech pathologists on providing culturally safe services when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities. The document may also be referenced by management or consumers, with the intent to inform, guide and monitor speech pathology practice at an individual and organisational level.

The Project Officer will receive an honorarium payment of \$7,500

The Project Officer will have regular contact with the Manager, Professional Standards in relation to the development of the document and its project plan.

The Project Officer will liaise with stakeholders from a broad range of sectors to inform the development of the practice document and to ensure it reflects evidence-based practice principles and the Australian context.

The written EOI should include the following:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Experience in working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Clinical experience
- The names and details of two referees
- Details of the applicant's experience with writing professional documents and/or reference lists

Interested members should submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to Administration Assistant Stephanie Ashworth by 10 June 2020, via sashworth@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

If you have any queries with respect to the call for EOIs for Project Officers, please contact the Manager, Professional Standards Stacey Baldac via sbaldac@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au



Training Advisor

- Clerk Grade 5/6
- Full-time, ongoing appointment
- Identified role for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders only
- Parramatta location and close to public transport

\$104,561 Package includes salary (\$85,488 - \$94,327), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the Department of Education

We ensure young children get the best start in life by supporting and regulating the early childhood education and care sector. We are the largest provider of public education in Australia with responsibility for delivering high-quality public education to two-thirds of the NSW student population.

For more information about the Department of Education, please visit <https://education.nsw.gov.au/>

About the role

Support the delivery of vocational education and training and employment programs and services to the community, apprentices, trainees, and their employers. It forms part of a team of staff providing regulatory, quality assurance, program administration and advisory functions to support the participation and completion of people in vocational education and training and related programs across the region.

Talent Pool

A talent pool may be created through this recruitment process. A talent pool is a group of candidates who have undergone an assessment process and have been identified suitable for this role or similar roles. The talent pool will be valid for a period of 18 months. Being part of a talent pool means that you may be considered for ongoing, temporary or term employment for a range of similar roles. This offers exciting opportunities for you to gain a wide range of experiences to build your public service career.

How to apply

If you are interested in this role, please apply online and include a covering letter (maximum of 2 pages) and your resume (maximum 5 pages) in either Word or PDF format, which clearly details how your capabilities, knowledge and experience can contribute to the success of the Directorate. Please also include the name and contact details of two referees. Please address any pre-screening questions and any essential requirements. We are looking for you to demonstrate your competence in the focus capabilities as outlined in the role description in your answer, so please develop your response with this in mind.

Note: it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online via iworkfor.nsw
No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

Note: Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977*.

Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent, identify as being Aboriginal and be accepted in the community as such. Applicants who have not previously identified for the purposes of employment with the Department are required to provide a Confirmation of Aboriginality from a recognised incorporated Aboriginal Community organisation endorsed with common seal and a certified statutory declaration as defined in the NSW Department of Education Confirmation of Aboriginality Guidelines.

Essential Requirements:

- Aboriginality is an essential requirement for this role. The role has been identified as an Aboriginal role in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*
- A Working with Children Check is an essential requirement for this role. The role has been identified as requiring a check in keeping with the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*
- Current drivers licence and a willingness to travel

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Applications Close: 27 May 2020

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further please contact Glen Gallagher, Regional Manager on 0457 524 957.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw website and refer to the following keyword: 00007QKB.

*I work
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NSW*

BLZ_KH0173

Weilwan Local Aboriginal Land Council



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**(\$30,000 to \$60,000 annual salary package)
Full Time/Permanent**

The Weilwan Local Aboriginal Land Council (WLALC) is seeking applications from experienced and motivated people interested in a rewarding career undertaking the challenging role of full-time Chief Executive Officer.

This position holder will provide an extensive range of assistance and support to the elected Board through the day-to-day management of the Weilwan LALC's affairs in accordance with delegated authorities; the provision of sound and accurate advice and the implementation of the Board's resolutions in a timely and appropriate manner.

The successful applicant will have demonstrable knowledge and understanding of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ALRA) (or the ability to rapidly acquire), the capacity to interpret and implement legislation and sound communication skills. Organisational and management experience is essential together with an understanding of accounting practices and principles. A sound knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal issues would also be required.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the Position Description and selection criteria and address the selection criteria for their application to be considered. For a recruitment package contact the Contact Officer Pollyanna McEwen, by email: weilwan@bigpond.com or on 0499 006 425

Applications can be forwarded to weilwan@bigpond.com or marked "Confidential" and posted to:

The CEO Recruitment Panel
Weilwan Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 102
Gulargambone NSW 2828

Applications close June 3, 2020

Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply.

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Aged Care

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Mossman QLD 4873

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ABOUT US

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Training Coordinator

- Clerk Grade 7/8
- Temporary full-time appointment up to 1 March 2021
- Identified role for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders only
- Bankstown location

\$119,209 Package includes salary (\$97,152 - \$107,541), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the Department of Education

We ensure young children get the best start in life by supporting and regulating the early childhood education and care sector. We are the largest provider of public education in Australia with responsibility for delivering high-quality public education to two-thirds of the NSW student population.

For more information about the Department of Education, please visit <https://education.nsw.gov.au/>

About the role

Support the delivery of vocational education and training and employment programs and services to the community, apprentices, trainees, and their employers. It forms part of a team of staff providing regulatory, quality assurance, program administration and advisory functions to support the participation and completion of people in vocational education and training and related programs across the region.

Talent Pool

A talent pool may be created through this recruitment process. A talent pool is a group of candidates who have undergone an assessment process and have been identified suitable for this role or similar roles. The talent pool will be valid for a period of 18 months. Being part of a talent pool means that you may be considered for ongoing, temporary or term employment for a range of similar roles. This offers exciting opportunities for you to gain a wide range of experiences to build your public service career.

How to apply

If you are interested in this role, please apply online and include a covering letter (maximum of 2 pages) and your resume (maximum 5 pages) in either Word or PDF format, which clearly details how your capabilities, knowledge and experience can contribute to the success of the Directorate. Please also include the name and contact details of two referees. Please address any pre-screening questions and any essential requirements. We are looking for you to demonstrate your competence in the focus capabilities as outlined in the role description in your answer, so please develop your response with this in mind.

Note: it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online via iworkfor.nsw No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

Note: Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977*.

Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent, identify as being Aboriginal and be accepted in the community as such. Applicants who have not previously identified for the purposes of employment with the Department are required to provide a Confirmation of Aboriginality from a recognised incorporated Aboriginal Community organisation endorsed with common seal and a certified statutory declaration as defined in the NSW Department of Education Confirmation of Aboriginality Guidelines.

The pre-screening questions include:

1. Tell us why you are interested in this role and demonstrate how your skills and experience suit the role? (300 or 400 words maximum).
2. Describe a time when you managed a workload and multiple competing priorities. How did you manage it and what was the outcome? (300 or 400 words maximum).

Essential Requirements:

- Aboriginality is an essential requirement for this role. The role has been identified as an Aboriginal role in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*
- A Working with Children Check is an essential requirement for this role. The role has been identified as requiring a check in keeping with the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*
- Current drivers licence and a willingness to travel

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Applications Close: 27 May 2020

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further please contact Kamila Batson on (02) 8707 9603.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw website and refer to the following keyword: 00007QX2.

I work
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Training Advisor

- Clerk Grade 5/6
- Temporary, full-time up to 12 months
- Identified role for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders only
- Newcastle location

\$104,561 Package includes salary (\$85,488 - \$94,327), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the Department of Education

We ensure young children get the best start in life by supporting and regulating the early childhood education and care sector. We are the largest provider of public education in Australia with responsibility for delivering high-quality public education to two-thirds of the NSW student population.

For more information about the Department of Education, please visit <https://education.nsw.gov.au/>

About the role

Support the delivery of vocational education and training and employment programs and services to the community, apprentices, trainees, and their employers. It forms part of a team of staff providing regulatory, quality assurance, program administration and advisory functions to support the participation and completion of people in vocational education and training and related programs across the region.

Talent Pool

A talent pool may be created through this recruitment process. A talent pool is a group of candidates who have undergone an assessment process and have been identified suitable for this role or similar roles. The talent pool will be valid for a period of 18 months. Being part of a talent pool means that you may be considered for ongoing, temporary or term employment for a range of similar roles. This offers exciting opportunities for you to gain a wide range of experiences to build your public service career.

How to apply

If you are interested in this role, please apply online and include a covering letter (maximum of 2 pages) and your resume (maximum 5 pages) in either Word or PDF format, which clearly details how your capabilities, knowledge and experience can contribute to the success of the Directorate. Please also include the name and contact details of two referees. Please address any pre-screening questions and any essential requirements. We are looking for you to demonstrate your competence in the focus capabilities as outlined in the role description in your answer, so please develop your response with this in mind.

Note: it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online via iworkfor.nsw No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

Note: Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977*.

Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent, identify as being Aboriginal and be accepted in the community as such. Applicants who have not previously identified for the purposes of employment with the Department are required to provide a Confirmation of Aboriginality from a recognised incorporated Aboriginal Community organisation endorsed with common seal and a certified statutory declaration as defined in the NSW Department of Education Confirmation of Aboriginality Guidelines.

The pre-screening questions include:

1. Describe a time when you implemented a project that supported your community/mob? What techniques did you utilise and what was the outcome? (300 or 400 words maximum).
2. Describe a time when you managed multiple workloads with different deadlines? How did you manage these two things and what was the outcome? (300 or 400 words maximum).

Essential Requirements:

- Aboriginality is an essential requirement for this role. The role has been identified as an Aboriginal role in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*
- A Working with Children Check is an essential requirement for this role. The role has been identified as requiring a check in keeping with the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*
- Current drivers licence and a willingness to travel

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Applications Close: 27 May 2020

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further please contact Amber Bibby on 0413 708 200.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw website and refer to the following keyword: 00007QZR.

I work
FOR
NSW

WATERSNSW

SYDNEY BASIN RICHMOND GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for a new WATER SUPPLY WORKS APPROVAL has been received from **LAMBRIDGE INVESTMENTS PTY LIMITED** for one (1) bore on Lot 47 DP751655 and four (4) bores on Lot 50 DP 751655, Parish of Marrangaroo, County of Cook for water supply for industrial (sand extraction) purposes on Lots 47 and 50 DP751655 (A023217). 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 should be directed to 1300 662 077 or the above email. Wayne Connors, Senior Water Regulation Officer Coastal.

KH0145

WATER NSW

LOWER MURRAY GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from: **RODNEY DAVID NAGLE** and **IAN RAYMOND NAGLE** 1 x bore (40 ML/p.a.) on Lot 59 DP752281, Parish Denison, County Denison for INDUSTRIAL purposes. (A023648). 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 1300 662 077 or email the above. Stephanie Wight Water Regulation Officer South.

KH0146

WATERSNSW

MURRUMBIDGEE REGULATED RIVER WATER SOURCE

An application to amend WATER SUPPLY WORKS & WATER USE APPROVAL 40CA401741 has been received from **ROSELLA SUB TC PTY LTD** to add a 14.8ML off-river storage for irrigation purposes on Lot 11 DP 750876, Parish Burt, County Boyd. Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 10, WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650 or emailed to wrg.murrumbidgee@watersnsw.com.au within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. (Reference A023241). Objection forms can be found on the WaterNSW website at www.watersnsw.com.au/customer-service/water-licensing/objections. Any queries please call 0429 848 782 or email the above. David Stephens Water Regulation Officer South.

KH0158

WATERSNSW

LACHLAN FOLD BELT MDB GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for a new WATER SUPPLY WORKS & WATER USE APPROVAL has been received from **ANDREW JOHN STEVENS, VIRGINIA ROSE STEVENS, LACHLAN JAMES STEVENS & SKYE STEVENS** for a new bore for irrigation purposes (outside diameter 170mm) on Lot 6 DP 754545, Parish Coffin Rock, County Mitchell and the irrigation of Lots 6 & 22 DP754545, Parish Coffin Rock, County Mitchell. Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 10, WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650 or email to wrg.murrumbidgee@watersnsw.com.au within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection. (Reference A023431). Objection forms can be found on the WaterNSW website at www.watersnsw.com.au/customer-service/water-licensing/objections. Any queries please call 0429 848 782 or email the above. David Stephens Water Regulation Officer South.

KH0162

WATERSNSW

RICHMOND COASTAL SANDS AND NEW ENGLAND COASTAL FOLD BELT WATER SOURCE

An application for a new WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from **ZEALLAKE PTY LTD** for a new bore (1ML) on Lot 227/1121079, Parish of Ballina, County of Rous. (Ref: A021369). Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 1400 Grafton NSW 2460 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. Objection forms can be obtained at <https://www.watersnsw.com.au/customer-service/water-licensing/objections>. Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above. Kristin Blain, Water Regulation Officer North.

KH0172

WATERSNSW

WATER SHARING PLAN FOR THE LACHLAN UNREGULATED AND ALLUVIAL WATER SOURCES 2012 UPPER LACHLAN ALLUVIAL GROUNDWATER SOURCE WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE 5

An application for an AMENDED WATER SUPPLY WORKS APPROVAL has been received from **OPTIFARM PTY LTD** to amend the purpose of an existing Basic Landholder Rights Bore to Commercial (Approx 0.02ML/Day) on Lot 5 DP 1245348, Parish Towyal, County Gipps. (A023484). Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to Water NSW, PO Box 291, Forbes NSW 2871 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 02 6850 1300 or email the above. Holly Orr, Water Regulation Officer South.

KH0149

WATERSNSW

BLUEVALE WATER SOURCE

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORKS APPROVAL has been received from **GLOBAL AG PROPERTIES AUSTRALIA PTY LTD** for a 12 metre long diversion pipe (1200 mm diameter) on Lot 3 DP 204847 Parish of Gulligal County of Pottinger (A022605). Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO 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, address and specify the grounds of objection and state the application number - A022605. Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above. David Thomas, Water Regulation Officer North.

KH0176

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 **RYU FAMILY INVESTMENT HOLDINGS PTY LTD** to increase the authorised pump size from 100mm to a 125mm centrifugal pump on Lot 2 DP 542738, Parish Ham Common, County Cumberland for irrigation on Lot 2 DP 542738 (Amending 10CA117333)(A023601). Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to Water NSW, 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 to specify the grounds of the objection. Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above. Wayne Connors Senior Water Regulation Officer Coastal.

KH0147

Notice of an application for determination of native title in the Northern Territory

Notification day: 3 June 2020



National
Native Title
Tribunal

This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

A person who wants to become a party to this application must write to the Registrar of the Federal Court, GPO Box 1806, Darwin, NT, 0801 **on or before 2 September 2020**. After **2 September 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 this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



Application name: Joshua Hunter & Ors on behalf of the Wubojgun-Jurugin-Wungayajawun, Jorrolam, Gayn-Jalarr, Wungayajawun-Wumelemellewun, Dumditja and Jambalawa Groups v Northern Territory of Australia (Town of Katherine #2)
Federal Court File No: NTD46/2018
Date filed: 16 November 2018
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has ***accepted*** this application for registration

Description: The application area covers approx. 61 sq km and consists of 152 lots and 26 land portions in the vicinity of Katherine
Relevant LGA: Katherine Town Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Tracey Jefferies on 07 3307 5000 or visit www.nntt.gov.au

Notice of an application for determination of native title in the state of Queensland

Notification day: 3 June 2020



National
Native Title
Tribunal

This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

A person who wants to become a party to this application must write to the Registrar of the Federal Court, PO Box 13084, George Street, Brisbane QLD 4003 **on or before 2 September 2020**. After **2 September 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 this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



Application name: Ernest Michael Hoolihan & Ors on behalf of Gugu Badhun #3 v State of Queensland
Federal Court File No: QUD777/2019
Date filed: 17 December 2019
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has ***accepted*** this application for registration

Description: The application area covers approx. 1795 sq km and is located south of the Gregory Developmental Road, 134 km north west of Charters Towers
Relevant LGAs: Charters Towers Regional Council, Etheridge Shire Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Tracey Jefferies on 07 3307 5000 or visit www.nntt.gov.au

Notice of an application for determination of native title in the state of Western Australia

Notification day: 3 June 2020



National
Native Title
Tribunal

This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

A person who wants to become a party to this application must write to the Registrar of the Federal Court, GPO Box A30, Perth, WA, 6837 **on or before 2 September 2020**. After **2 September 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 this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



Application name: Adrian Lawson & Ors on behalf of the Badimaya Barna Guda People and State of Western Australia
Federal Court File No: WAD7/2020
Date filed: 20 January 2020
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has ***not accepted*** this application for registration. Although this application has not been registered, the Federal Court may still refer the application for mediation and/or make a determination in relation to it

Description: The application area covers approx. 22073 sq km and consists of ten parts, extending from Dalwallinu in the south to Cue in the north
Relevant LGAs: The City of Greater Geraldton, Shires of Coorow, Cue, Dalwallinu, Menzies, Moora, Mount Magnet, Mount Marshall, Murchison, Perenjori, Sandstone, Yalgoo

For assistance and further information about this application, call Claire Smith on 08 9425 1000 or visit www.nntt.gov.au

Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements Notification day: 27 May 2020



N12020/001 St Ives Pistol Club Incorporated & the Awabakal and Guringai People and Ors ILUA
State of NSW
Description of the agreement area:
 The agreement area covers approx. 0.02 sq km and is located adjacent to the St Ives Pistol Club in Belrose
Relevant LGA: Northern Beaches Council

The agreement contains the following statements:
[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]
 8.4 The Parties agree that for the purposes of section 24EB(1)(b)(ii) *[of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)]*, the parties' consent to the doing of the Agreed Acts, namely the Grant of the Crown Lease and the Grant and creation of the Easement, subject to the conditions as set out in this ILUA;
Agreed Acts means: (a) the Grant by the Crown of a Crown Lease over: (i) that parcel of Crown Land described as Lot 1 on DP 1258827 having an area of 1.242 hectares situated on the western boundary of the Existing Lease as outlined in red on the attached plan in Schedule 1; and (ii) that parcel of Crown Land having an area of .509 hectares situated on the eastern boundary of the

Existing Lease being part of Lot 7312 on DP 1166379 as outlined in blue on the attached plan in Schedule 1; and (b) the Grant and creation by the Crown of an Easement for access purposes over that parcel of Crown Land upon which an access track is constructed from Mona Vale Road to the boundary of the Existing Lease burdening the Crown Land described as Lot 7312 on DP 1166379 and benefiting Lot 437 on DP 41669 and Lot 101 on DP 1106750 as outlined in green on the attached plan in Schedule 1.
Crown Lease means a lease under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (NSW) which is intended to be granted over part of the ILUA Area as one of the Agreed Acts.
Crown Land has the meaning in section 1.7 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (NSW).
Easement means an 10 metre wide easement for access purposes over that part of the ILUA Area upon which an access track is constructed from Mona Vale Road to the boundary of the Existing Lease burdening Crown Land described as Lot 7312 on DP 1166379 and benefiting Lot 437 on DP 41669 and Lot 101 on DP 1106750.

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

Those named signatories to this agreement on their own behalf and on behalf of the Awabakal and Guringai People together with all other aboriginal people who hold or who claim to hold native title rights and interests over the ILUA Area C/-Mr Michael Owens, Lawyer and Consultant, PO Box 1989 Aitkenvale QLD 4814	St Ives Pistol Club C/-Mr Michael Owens Lawyer and Consultant PO Box 1989 Aitkenvale QLD 4814
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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 27 August 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 Dianne Drake on 02 9227 4000 or visit www.nntt.gov.au

NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR

Barwon–Darling Unregulated and Alluvial Water Source 2012

Central Darling Shire Council has applied for a **water supply work approval** for a new 150 mm bore for industrial purposes on the road reserve adjacent to Lot 3983, DP766456 in the Parish of Newland, County of Killara (ref: A016496).
 If you object to this application, email the Natural Resources Access Regulator at nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au within 28 days of this notice being published. You must include your name, address and the reason for the objection.
 If you have questions, call Water Regulation Officer Chris Binks on (02) 6763 1465.

SB1393

NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR

Upper Namoi Valley Zone 4
(Keepit Dam to Gins Leap) Groundwater Source.
Australian Rail Track Corporation has applied for a **water supply work approval** for a bore to supply water for industrial purposes on Lot 1 DP 810320 in the Parish of Dubbleda, County of Pottinger (ref: A020473).
 If you object to this application, email the Natural Resources Access Regulator at nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au within 28 days of this notice being published. You must include your name and address and the reason for the objection.
 If you have questions, call Water Regulation Officer Chris Binks (02) 6763 1465.

SB1391

WATERNSW

LACHLAN REGULATED RIVER WATER SHARING PLAN

LACHLAN REGULATED RIVER WATER SOURCE THAT PART OF THE WATER SOURCE UPSTREAM OF LAKE CARGELLIGO WEIR

An AMENDED APPLICATION FOR A WATER USE APPROVAL has been received from **WARREN & KYLIE SHEPHERD** for additional irrigated lands, being 87 Ha of Lots 200 and 203 DP 752962 Parish Wongajong, County Forbes, for Irrigation purposes. (A022917).
 Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to Water NSW, PO Box 291, Forbes NSW 2871 or email to abbie.howell@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 02 6850 1305, Abbie Howell, Water Regulation Officer, or email the above.

KH0168

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) 700061 shown below under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

Mining Lease 700061 sought by Bligh Coal Limited (47.5%), ACN 010 186 393, Idemitsu Australia Resources Pty Ltd (37.5%), ACN 010 236 272 and Bowen Investment (Australia) Pty Ltd (15%), ACN 002 806 831, over an area of 2119.0 ha, centred approximately 30 km North East of Emerald, in the locality of the Central Highlands Regional Council.

OTH00488, ML700061

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 twenty-five (25) years, with the possibility of renewals for terms not exceeding twenty-five (25) 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, Harry Gibbs

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, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000, Telephone: (07) 3307 5000 or 1800 640 501.

Further Information: Further information about the proposed grant of the 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, Senior Mining Registrar, Coal Assessment Hub, Building E, 25 Yeppoon Road, Parkhurst, Queensland, 4701. Telephone: (07) 4936 0169 or Email: CoalHub@dnrme.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 10 June 2020



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.



Assistance Dogs Australia
 Giving Freedom & Independence

Free Call 1800 688 364
 Or simply post the attached form
 Or visit www.assistedogs.org.au

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

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Credit card number

Cardholder's Name _____

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TitleFirst Name(s) _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Suburb Town/city _____

Postcode Phone _____

Email _____

Thank you!



Bernard Sabadi-Nona is a picture of relaxation as he lifts 180kg in his garage at home in Cairns. Pictures: Alf Wilson



Alicia Sabadi-Nona warms up with several reps of squats carrying 30kg.



Bernard gets his son Paiwan (left) and nephew Lahlor Monkland-Sabadi to 'spot' for him to work his shoulders and chest while bench-pressing 120kg.

It's 'Power Hour' for this family

By ALF WILSON



POWERLIFTING is an important part of life for Cairns-based Bernard Sabadi-Nona who, along with family members, has found an alternative way to continue lifting since the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

Bernard, his wife, Alicia, their son Paiwan and nephew Lahlor Monkland-Sabadi were regular members at the Iron Strength Power & Performance gym, but after that and other gyms in town had to close due to the lockdown, the family set about making a gym in their own garage.

The family sourced crucial equipment on long-term hire and improvised with what they had at home to create support structures.

The family also got on YouTube to find DIY builds that they could use at home, like how to create a squat and bench rack with materials from the local hardware store. This enabled them to

continue their weights training while in isolation and setting personal goals, as Bernard explains it.

"The improvised equipment is sufficient for us to do our compound exercises although it is not exactly 100% safe or as efficient as our gym at Iron Strength Power & Performance was," he said.

"But it'll do for now, until restrictions are lifted and we can return to the gym."

Bernard has set his sights on breaking his own deadlift personal best – a whopping 280kg. He wants to do this at the Deep North Powerlifting Challenge in September, if that goes ahead.

"I missed out competing in 2019 due to other commitments and now I am feeling stronger in many ways," he said.

"With a bit of lead-up time I'm enjoying training and looking forward to lifting heavy weights again on the platform."

Bernard said he is pleased to see so many Indigenous people sharing their lifting and other health

and fitness regimes on social media.

Despite the restrictions on social gatherings, the family keeps active every day, be it a strength-based gym session, a walk around the neighbourhood, walking up well-known trails, even rugby league-specific running drills at the park.

"With good nutrition involving a lot of fruits and vegetables that just helps our minds and bodies to keep healthy during these times," Bernard said.

"We keep a schedule where it would be as if the football season was still on and so we're ready physically and mentally if the season is resumed in the coming months."

"The upside of the lockdown has been seeing more people outdoors exercising and playing as a family."

"I encourage us all to take this time to look at it as an opportunity to better our health and our minds and with some extra fun thrown in, as a family at the park, in the backyard or in the garage."



Paiwan is squatting five sets of eight reps with 105kg – which is what he would be doing during footy season.



The NRLW could also make a return to the field this year. Let's hope so!
Picture: Getty Images

A lot to look forward to now

ONE of the big things I am looking forward to is the NRL season restarting in just over a week. Not sure about you, but I have been going crazy waiting for it to come back.

There's been a few changes too. One is the game going back to the use of just one referee, which last happened in 2008.

With this, I think what we'll see, with the shortened competition, is that there will be fast and high-scoring, and exciting, football. This would also suit many of the Indigenous players who would relish the extra space that this would provide.

And my big call is that, should he come back to the field after recovering from surgery, David Fifita from the Broncos will be the player of the season.

He has everything you would ever need to attack the line and I think one day he will win the Dally M. It is pretty crazy to think that for a young player he has been so dominant so soon, especially as a forward. He is just a type of player that we have never seen before.

In other great news, there is every indication that the NRLW will also make a return, which will be great for the players and fans. I'm hoping it will be on again.

In the meantime, I'm planning on getting the South Sydney Rabbitohs women's team ready to continue our year with a likely restart date in July. I'm excited about this. In fact, I can't wait to be back at training and also watching Friday Night Footy on the telly.

As the world has changed so much in this crazy time, it has been a real opportunity for reflection and growth for myself.

With everything around us slowing down, shut down and locked down, I think it has given us all lots of time to take a good look at each of our lives and figure out what is important to us all.

Personally, working at the NRL, my love for the game and my passion for helping my people in the community and workplace, I thought life couldn't get any better.

But, when the game was suspended in March, my job at the NRL was also put on hold. I will be honest; I really struggled with a lot of uncertainty during this time and for the first time in a long time I found myself unsure of exactly what my future looked like.

I had to look around for other opportunities for work and very quickly got a chance at the St Vincent's hospital in Sydney. I have enjoyed this work. It's fantastic to assist patients as they go through their treatments and reconnect with our mob from all over Australia.

It's given me good insight into the health industry, especially with our mob.

I have seen how Aboriginal health workers across the country are motivated to improve the health of our people and make sure they and their families are comfortable when they receive the treatment they need.

It certainly is an inspiring environment and I have learned so much from being involved.

***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

Souths to keep Latrell

at fullback



SOUTH Sydney will persist with Latrell Mitchell at fullback when the NRL resumes next week.

There had been some thought that Mitchell could revert to centre, where he won two premierships at the Sydney Roosters.

That would allow Alex Johnston to play fullback, after the regular Rabbitohs custodian from previous years started the season on the bench.

But Mitchell has continued to train at the back and hooker Damien Cook indicated he would stay at No 1 when the season resumes on May 28.

"From what I have seen this

week Latrell will be doing all the stuff at fullback," Cook said.

"That's where he will be. I really believe he's going to be a great fullback for us."

Mitchell has been eased into the No 1 role at Souths, who are aware he is going to take time to adapt.

The 22-year-old made just 10 runs in the first two games of the season and is yet to break the line.

But coach Wayne Bennett has often pointed at how he turned Darren Lockyer from one of the game's elite fullbacks to its best five-eighth at Brisbane.

Souths' other option is to move Johnston onto the wing, with Dane Gagai to shift to the centres. —AAP

● Latrell Mitchell puts in the hard yards at Rabbitohs training. The club will keep him at fullback when play resumes next week.
Picture: Getty Images

NRL releases revised draw for rounds 3 and 4



THE NRL has released the revised draw for rounds 3 and 4 of the regular season, which was halted after the opening two rounds of the 2020 season due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The remainder of the 20-round draw will be released at a later date.

Tmes are AEST; home teams are listed first with venues still to be determined.

Round 3 – Thursday, May 28: Brisbane Broncos v Parramatta Eels at 7.50pm; Friday, May 29 North Queensland v Gold Coast at 6pm; Sydney Roosters v South Sydney at 7.55pm. Saturday, May 30: NZ Warriors v St George Illawarra at 3pm; Cronulla Sharks v Wests Tigers at 5.30pm; Melbourne Storm v Canberra Raiders at 7.35pm. Sunday, May 31: Penrith Panthers v Newcastle Knights at 4.05pm; Manly v Canterbury at 6.30pm

Round 4 – Thursday, June 4: Brisbane v Sydney Roosters at 7.50pm. Friday, June 5: Penrith v Warriors at 6pm; Melbourne v South Sydney at 7.55pm. Saturday, June 6: Parramatta v Manly at 5.30pm; North Queensland v Cronulla at 7.35pm. Sunday, June 7: Canberra v Newcastle at 4.05pm; Gold Coast v Wests Tigers at 6.30pm. Monday, June 8: Canterbury v St George Illawarra at 4.05pm. — AAP

The one that got away from the Knights



LONG-suffering Newcastle fans won't want to hear this, but Greg Inglis has revealed he was overlooked by the Knights before launching his stunning NRL career with Melbourne.

As a teenager, Inglis had already been snapped up on a \$500 contract by the Storm.

But Inglis conceded he still had his fingers crossed that he would be offered a Newcastle deal to be closer to his family at home town of Kempsey.

"I signed with Melbourne when I was 14, got my manager at 15, then 16 came (in 2003) and I was like, 'Actually, I don't want to go to Melbourne,'" Inglis told *The Take with Willie Mason* podcast.

"I wanted to be close to my family. Family was very important to me – like anyone's family. Newcastle was only three hours down the road from my home town.

"I kept saying (to his manager), 'How about Newcastle?'"

My manager at the time kept enquiring but he said they can't do anything.

"By the end of that year, no-one had

approached me about staying at Newcastle," Inglis said.

Inglis still seems perplexed that he was snubbed by the Knights despite being right under their noses, playing for Newcastle club Western Suburbs Rosellas and attending Hunter Sports High School.

The Knights, and NSW, have no doubt been kicking themselves ever since.

Instead of linking with Newcastle, Inglis stuck with Melbourne and was sent by the Storm to Brisbane's Wavell State High where he embraced the Queensland way.

When it came to choosing his State of Origin allegiance, Inglis chose the Maroons despite his Kempsey roots.

History shows Inglis enjoyed a stellar career at the Storm and Queensland.



Greg Inglis scores in the corner for Melbourne.
Picture: Getty Images

After earning superstar status in a dominant Melbourne stint from 2005-2010, he helped inspire South Sydney's drought-breaking premiership victory in 2014.

Inglis was also a key to Queensland's stunning run of 11 Origin series wins in 12 years, including eight straight. — AAP

Top End lads a big hit with Tassie Bombers

By ALF WILSON



FOR the past two years, they've come from the desert and tropical north of the country to the freezing cold of the bottom of the country, all just for football.

Timmy Mosquito from Turkey Creek in WA's East Kimberley, Henry Kerinauia and Kim Kantilla from the Tiwi Islands, and Nigel Lockyer from Alice Springs have, since 2018, made the trek to Hobart to play for the Lauderdale Football Club in the Tasmanian State League.

The quartet was due to join the senior Bombers again for 2020 until the COVID-19 pandemic closed down everything.

LFC senior team manager of football Ted Bell is hopeful that the players will

still join the club should the 2020 TSL season get underway. A decision on that is likely to be made on May 31.

The four players have each helped push Lauderdale toward a grand final berth of the past three seasons, only for the Bombers to come up short each time. The seven-team TSL is the top level of football in the island state.

The players had been recruited by Lauderdale's assistant coach, Tony Pollard, who knew them from his time in Northern Territory football.

Bell said the boys definitely felt the cold, but had adapted well to the wet and windy Tassie conditions.

"We started out with a very young team and were reasonably well beaten in that first grand final, but were competitive in the last two," Bell said.

"Currently, we're on a start time (for the 2020 season) from AFL Tasmania and it looks like mid to late June."



Henry Kerinauia as a Bomber for Lauderdale in Tasmania.

Imahra was a shining light in season debut

By CHRIS PIKE



THERE may have been only a few positives for West Coast in its 2020 AFLW debut but Imahra Cameron was without doubt a shining light for the new club.

The 23-year-old emerged as a player with huge potential when she cemented a spot in the Swan Districts forward line in the WAFLW in 2019, which had taken a tremendous amount of work, and which led to her recruitment to West Coast.

The Eagles won just one of six matches in their first AFLW season. It was a rough start in the big league, but, despite that, Cameron held her own and displayed a skilful, entertaining and physical brand of football.

She admits that adjusting to the increasing demands from playing amateur football at Kelmscott to Swan Districts in the WAFLW to West Coast in the AFLW had been a steep learning curve.

"One of my biggest challenges was managing my time and the commitment that is needed to compete in the AFLW, especially with full-time work, the training loads and travel for away games," she said.

"It just took a bit of time to adjust to the demands, but I developed a routine around work, training and making time to have a personal life. It was all about finding that balance. The jump to the AFLW was massive though.

"A lot of people playing in the WAFLW do it for the enjoyment, but the girls who play in the AFLW are living their dream; they are professional and you can see they are playing to win and to win premierships."

Cameron is looking forward to improving her game in 2021 and she is desperate for the AFL to continue to back the AFLW.

"I was quite happy with my season given it was my first year in the AFLW," she said. "I think I performed a bit better than I expected. I'm working on my overall fitness so that I'll be able to go in the midfield and run out games better.

"As a team, it was definitely a learning experience for a lot of us and now we'll know what to expect next year.

"With everything that's happening, though, I just hope the AFL still lets our competition go ahead and continue to grow because it means so much to so many people."



Main and inset: Imahra Cameron was fearless in her debut season in the AFLW in 2020 and was overall happy with her contribution in the Eagles. Pictures: Getty Images

Hubs the key to football's 2020 return

TALK of hubs for the AFL's teams was a constant throughout the lead-up to resume the 2020 season, so I want to talk about this.

Personally, and I'll say this again, I don't even think football should return at all. These are extraordinary times. We just do not understand this virus enough and we may be endangering the wellbeing of the players, their families and the community at large. I'd prefer to be a little more cautious and hold off on restarting this season, if at all.

Having said that, it will return with the AFL telling us late last week that Thursday, June 11, will see round 2 get underway.

Firstly, AFL players were told that their families could not be part of the hub arrangement, but now it looks like they can (partners, children, a sibling, who knows?) with strict conditions – no visiting friends and no contact with the public.

But as the Commission began to bed down these arrangements some clubs almost derailed the whole process.

A cohort of Adelaide players and an assistant coach breached social-distancing rules when they trained as a group at a camp in country SA in what was a first opportunity back to normality since the lockdown began.

West Coast were looked into, too, with one player letting slip on social media that they trained as a similar sized group, believed to be around 10, despite strict regulations in place in WA.

Both instances defied clear state and national laws, and rules set out by the AFL. The Crows received sanctions and fines that many complained were too lenient. But it moved the SA Government to deny Adelaide and Port Adelaide (which did nothing wrong) a special exemption of the state's 14-day self-isolation rule and that contact training has been pushed back until June 8. This then threw the AFL's plans out, if for a few days.

Aside from the Eagles' 'alleged' breach, the WA Government has been clear from the start that Fremantle and West Coast will not be exempt from the 14-day self-isolation rule which rules them out of playing at home soon after they've played interstate.

Now, because of their respective state governments' strong stance on quarantine, both SA teams and the two WA teams will relocate to the Gold Coast for the 2020 season to resume.

We are starting to see the hub plan coming together in reality now. All those associated with the AFL industry – players, coaches, personnel, accredited media, administration – have been required to take a COVID-19 test.

The question is, from a partner's perspective, would you, or even could you, live this way for potentially five months for, essentially, your partner's job? I'm a stickler for rules from way back so I would and could. I've stayed home to keep my family, community and frontline workers safe; people I don't even know. So, if as a partner, I would certainly keep my AFL community safe by following the rules for a few months.

It's going to be interesting how it all unfolds.

**Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.*



Shelley Ware

Jess swaps Eagles for Dons

By CHRIS PIKE



HER dream of reaching the pinnacle of women's basketball is getting closer every day and now teenager Jessica McDowell-White will take another significant step forward in her basketball journey in the United States.

McDowell-White, who turns 20 in August, has been in the US for the past two years playing college basketball at Eastern Washington University, a highly-credentialled school that plays in the Big Sky Conference.

But she will head 1300km down the highway after signing to play at, and attend, the University of San Francisco to complete her college career.

The USF team, the Dons, play in the NCAA Division 1 conference, a significant step up for McDowell-White.

She will be up against some of the best college basketball players when the 2020-21 season begins.

"I loved my time at Eastern Washington but not winning many games last year wasn't a lot of fun and I got some advice that it might help me moving forward if I got to a bigger school and played NCAA Division 1 basketball," McDowell-White said.

"Getting to make the move to live in San Francisco is a big bonus as well, so I'm really looking forward to that and I can't wait to get started once all this current situation is over and



Jessica McDowell-White has swapped the colours of the Eastern Washington University's Eagles for the University of San Francisco's Dons. Picture: Supplied

we can travel again."

McDowell-White led the Big Sky Conference in assists last season with the Eagles and was

regarded as one of the best emerging point guards in the game.

She's also a proven clutch

performer, but winning just four games at Eastern Washington meant that when the Dons came calling she was happy to hear



McDowell-White played a key role for Australia at the 2017 Oceania Championships. Picture: FIBA

what they were offering.

Without question, the move to a bigger school in a higher level basketball program and playing against the best of the best in Division 1 represents a huge leap forward for McDowell-White.

If her development continues on an upward rise, there are expectations she will come under the notice of scouts from the WNBA once she graduates college in two years' time.

Back home, WNBL clubs will be watching her progress with interest.

In 2017, McDowell-White played a key role in Australia winning the Oceania Championships.

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Marathon squad grows and is training virtually



THE Indigenous Marathon Project program will continue this year but with a difference.

The flagship program of the Indigenous Marathon Foundation now in its 11th year, has had 96 graduates of the program from all across Australia. Its intake this year will increase from its usual 12 to 16.

Head coach and graduate Adrian Dodson-Shaw said this year would prove the trickiest, logistical undertaking yet – the new squad will undergo an intense virtual program.

"Due to the current restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, we made the decision to alter the way we deliver the IMP program," he said. "It's important that we keep encouraging young Indigenous leaders to step up in their community and spread the positive message of healthy living, perhaps now more than ever."

"With a virtual program we have the capacity to reach and engage with more participants."

"We had nearly 200 applicants, most of whom were still eager to participate with the restrictions and the new format."

The virtual program will include physical training, completing timed running events and education, such as a Certificate IV in Business through the AFL SportsReady program.

While Dodson-Shaw is still hopeful the squad will be able to run a major domestic or international marathon by the end of the year, they are also prepared to do this virtually.

Previously, the IMP squads completed the IMF Reconciliation Run in Canberra in May, the Gold Coast Half Marathon in July, the City2Surf in Sydney in August, and a 30km time trail in Alice Springs in September, before reaching the goal of the TCS New York City Marathon in November.



Adrian Dodson-Shaw, head coach of the IMP.

The squad, from all states and territories except for the ACT and Tasmania, are united by their drive and determination to become agents of change for their communities.

The foundation's IMP footprint now spans 55 communities around Australia.

Graduates use the knowledge and skills gained through IMP to further their careers, help their families and improve their communities. Many graduates start up local community running groups as part of Deadly Running Australia or pursue personal or professional sporting goals

● We will feature each of the 16 2020 IMP squad members in our next edition, June 3.

Iconic club's rich Indigenous history

By PETER ARGENT



THE Port Adelaide Football Club could make a strong claim as having one of the strongest representation of Aboriginal players in the country over its long and storied history.

This year marks the 150th of the iconic club, which was founded on May 12, 1870 – a mere 12 years after Australian football's humble beginnings over the border in Victoria.

In that time, the club has recorded as having fielded at least 60 Aboriginal players in both the SANFL and AFL.

Perhaps its most famous Aboriginal player, of the modern era at least, is Gavin Wanganeen, who had come through the club as a teenager on his way into the

history books. (See story this page.)

The club has had several Aboriginal firsts. Harry Hewett is believed to be the first Aboriginal man to play senior football for the club, and senior football in South Australia if not Australia, in 1891, according to information uncovered in recent research.

The Magpies' first Aboriginal premiership player was the late Richie Bray, who won three flags in 1962, 1963 and 1965. Recently, he was inducted into the Port Adelaide Hall of Fame as a member of those premiership-winning sides.

In 1980, live-wire Ross Agius became a premiership player as a teenager, while exactly 10 years later as a 17-year-old, Wanganeen became the youngest player in the SANFL to win a premiership in the Magpies' 1990 triumph.

In 1999, Peter Burgoyne and Ricky

O'Loughlin were important contributors in the club's 1999 SANFL flag.

Among them all, Corey Ah Chee is now the longest serving Indigenous player at the club, playing 206 games across 10 seasons.

In his final two seasons at SANFL level, he also became the first Indigenous man to captain the Magpies.

He remains proud of his time at Alberton. "Playing for the Port Adelaide Football Club is something I am proud of," he said.

"It is a strong club. It holds to its traditions highly.

"Learning about its history and as an Aboriginal person you learn about its Indigenous history.

"I felt I needed to wear the No 1 jumper in the 2008 and 2009 season but my highlight will always be playing my first game in the famous 'prison bar' jumper."



Gavin Wanganeen in the 2004 AFL grand final. Picture: Getty Images

Wanganeen a history maker at Alberton

By PETER ARGENT



GAVIN Wanganeen lived every boy's dream when he played against men with Port Adelaide in the SANFL while still a

teenager.

Wanganeen as a 17-year-old won a senior flag with the Magpies in the 1990 SANFL grand final.

"That 1990 season brings back amazing memories," he said.

"It meant so much to me to be a part of the club's history.

"Being a Port Adelaide person and player with premierships in 1990 (SANFL) and 2004 (AFL) are special moments, with lots of meaning.

"It is just bred within you about Port Adelaide's winning culture."

"I was a Norwood and Michael Aish fan as a lad but that certainly changed as soon as I arrived at Alberton.

"I've been through the Port Adelaide development programs and played in the under-17s before making my SANFL league (seniors) debut (at 16)."

Wanganeen was picked up by Essendon at the 1989 draft as a 16-year-old and joined the AFL club two years later in 1991. At the Bombers, in 1993, he won the AFL's highest individual award, the Brownlow, the first Aboriginal player to do so.

But home, and Port, beckoned. The club had gained an AFL licence and would be joining the league in 1997.

"After six years and success at Essendon coming back to Port Adelaide showed my willingness to support the club and take a risk of moving back to Adelaide," Wanganeen said.

"I certainly sacrificed some more success at Essendon by being involved in the new (Port Adelaide) Power AFL franchise – taking over the captaincy at the age of 23 of a new club, entering the AFL was with some hesitancy – but it was a great learning experience.

"The Port Adelaide way, it's always been hard and tough and I always gave my all in the role of skipper, endeavouring to lead on the ground by example.

"I've always been grateful to be a part of this great club.

"Being elevated to the (AFL's Australian Football) Hall of Fame had a lot to do with my time at Alberton, along with the great leaders I was under at the Bombers."



The 1962 Port Adelaide Football Club squad featured Wilf Huddleston (circled at left) and Richie Bray (circled at right). The Magpies won that year's SANFL premiership in which Bray played.

Burgoyne now a third-generation family at Port

By PETER ARGENT



RETIRED AFL player Peter Burgoyne holds a unique place in the galaxy of Aboriginal stars

associated with the Port Adelaide Football Club.

Peter Burgoyne senior played at the club in the 1970s and was the family's first generation to don a Port jumper.

Peter junior joined the club in the 1990s and he and club great Gavin Wanganeen are Port Adelaide premiership players in both the SANFL (1990 and 1999) and the AFL (2004).

Now, a third-generation

Burgoyne is part of the famous club with Peter's son, Trent, having joined the AFL club at last year's draft under the father-son rule.

Burgoyne tells what the club means to him and his family. "As a kid from Mallee Park all I ever wanted to do was play in a Magpies premiership," he said.

"At Mallee Park there was a strong connection because we were in the Port Adelaide 'zone' (for recruitment).

"It is a famous club and is seen as the biggest and most successful.

"Back in the day, the SANFL was seen as the same as the WAFL and the VFL and Port Adelaide had always been a club

you either loved or hated, much like Collingwood in the VFL.

"Playing in that (2004) AFL grand final will always go down as my highest achievement, just being part of the club's first AFL premiership is just part of footy folklore (for me)."

Trent is taking his first tentative steps at Alberton.

The oldest of Peter's six children, Trent had a frustrating injury-riddled 14 months before the 2019 AFL draft.

"We sat down as a family and talked it through," Peter explained.

"To stay in Adelaide would prove to be a bonus for all of us. We took the fact that Trent would become a third-generation player

at Alberton and are at peace with it.

"He's now so happy to continue that family tradition."

"I believe we're all fairly much the same type of footballer just the younger generations are getting taller.

"Dad had a couple years at the club while in Adelaide but back in those days there wasn't much support and he wanted to come back to family.

"To have a stake in a famous club like this has a special meaning."

This story will add another chapter to it still with another Burgoyne, Peter's other son, Jase, eligible to join the club under the father-son rule.

QMC have one eye on January to salvage event

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



COMMUNITY health concerns was the primary reason for the cancellation of Murri football's biggest event this year, but

organisers have an eye on January as a back-up.

The Arthur Beetson Foundation Murri Rugby League Carnival – known also as the Queensland Murri Carnival – will not go ahead this year, save for a drastic containment of the coronavirus, after several stakeholders came to an agreement last week.

Ian Lacey, former NRL and Queensland Cup player, is a team manager at Deadly Choices which provides key logistical support for the QMC.

"Once all the COVID stuff broke and that large-scale events could not be held for at least six months, it was out of our hands," Lacey said.

"We need four to six months of preparations so the end of January would be the latest that we can run it. If that is to happen, we need to know, by July or early August, if there will be a relaxation of conditions. Overall, the foundation needs to make decisions on a whole range of issues."

Francis Renouf, QMC gameday manager of football, said organisers had been waiting on direction from health experts, the Queensland state government and the Queensland Rugby League, which sanctions the event, and, with all things considered, had to make a call.

"Personally, I would love for it to go ahead but we don't want to get people's hopes up; we're just taking this one step at a time," he said.

"One of the big things with our mob is not putting them at unnecessary risk. We asked ourselves, 'How can we do this safely without exposing our mob, who are susceptible, at risk?' Our main focus going forward is to make sure our community remains safe."



Winners of the 2019 Queensland Murri Carnival the Brisbane Natives women's team and the Purga Wagtails men's team. Picture: Chris Smith

Queensland Murri Carnival cancelled

By ALF WILSON



QUEENSLAND'S biggest Indigenous football event, the Arthur Beetson Foundation Murri Rugby League Carnival, has been cancelled for 2020.

Brad Beetson, board member of the foundation that bears his father's name, said organisers had to make the tough call.

Named after the late, great rugby league Immortal Arthur Beetson, the Queensland Murri Carnival (as its commonly known) has been played each year since 2010.

"It is with great disappointment that we announce that the 2020 Queensland Murri Carnival will

not go ahead as scheduled," Beetson said in a statement.

"Our board has decided that with the ongoing threat of COVID-19, protecting the health and safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is paramount.

"The QMC attracts a large audience from all over the state, resulting in a considerable amount of travel and close contact with other people. The potential for impact, particularly on our older generation was deemed too great of a risk for the event to proceed as planned."



The 2020 event was to have been its 10th and was scheduled to be held at Redcliffe, 30km north of the Brisbane CBD, over six days from September 28.

Beetson said the board understood this decision would be met with disappointment

and frustration from fans and teams.

"QMC hopes for a quick and successful solution to this pandemic and we will continue to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in achieving better outcomes," he said.

"We also just didn't want to expose the community to the risk of losing money by deferring the QMC in the hope the ban of major events would be lifted. Since the decision was made it has become clear that some event important partners like the NRL and QRL could not have supported our event, regardless."

"Assuming the crisis has ended, we will return in 2021."

All except one of the QMC events had been played in southern Queensland.

In 2018, it moved north to Townsville and was co-hosted by Bindal Sharks.

It fields senior men's and women's division teams and the 2020 carnival would have included under-13s, -15s and -17s boys' and under-15s and -17s girls' divisions.

Motlop, Sumner OK with 'Play No Pay' plan

By PETER ARGENT



SANFL premiership players Marlon Motlop and Byron Sumner will commit to their respective football teams in whatever form the 2020 season may take, even

without being paid.

The semi-professional SANFL, its season suspended before a ball was kicked in anger due to the COVID-19 pandemic earlier this year, has received State Government approval for a structured return to training in groups of 10, which began on Monday (May 18), for a return to competition sometime in June or July.

However, the SANFL's 10-team league has been reduced to eight with the AFL announcing that the Adelaide Crows and Port Adelaide cannot field secondary sides (in the SANFL) for its overflow players.

The competition's chief executive Jake Parkinson said on Adelaide radio last week that no club would be permitted to

pay its players as part of a wider push to ensure clubs survive the global coronavirus pandemic, but that all contracted players, if eligible and not receiving income from another source, can obtain the Federal government's \$1500-a-fortnight JobKeeper payment.

Former AFL player with Port Adelaide and a NTFL premiership player with Darwin club Wanderers, Motlop won a SANFL flag with Glenelg in 2019.

He said while the SANFL Commission could have handled the announcement in regards to the payment structure better, he said he would do whatever he can to make sure the Tigers can defend their title, even win another one.

"We were already under the understanding that the 2020 campaign would go ahead without player payments from the club," he said.

"In hindsight, there could have been more information given to the players throughout the process prior to the (SANFL's) decision being made, which I think the league can understand.

"There's no guarantees about (player) payments at the Bay (Glenelg's base) moving forward either, but I will continue to train and hopefully resume playing with Glenelg this year.

"I am 100% committed to playing.

"I will also look at playing back in Darwin with Wanderers when the NTFL returns."

Sturt 2017 premiership player Sumner welcomed the news, but remained cautious.

He has overcome minor injuries and has been training twice a week in isolation.

"I'm keen to play (but) we need to proceed with extreme caution," he said.

"I reckon the talk around a 14-game minor round is correct, but if that is reduced I think it would be time to consider scrapping the season altogether."

Both men have work outside football – Sumner at an Aboriginal legal rights organisation that helps transition people back into community living, and Motlop in the education sector.



Sturt Football Club's Byron Sumner. Picture: Peter Argent

Super Rugby aims for a July return



RUGBY Australia officials expect to have their replacement Super Rugby competition locked in by the end of this month with an aim of starting in early

July.

RA has released a return-to-play strategy with the aim of starting a five- or six-team, 12-week competition, with Western Force and possibly Japan's Sunwolves joining the four Australian Super Rugby teams.

The original five-nation Super Rugby competition was suspended in mid-March because of concerns over the coronavirus pandemic.

"The draw we are looking at is a 12-week competition, 10 weeks of regular round matches and depending on the number of teams, work out how many games per week there." RA general manager of professional rugby services Ben Whitaker said. "The Sunwolves, at the moment, would be located in either New South Wales or Queensland."



Wallaby and former ACT Brumbies lock, Rory Arnold. Picture: Getty Images

The four-nation Rugby Championship which is due to commence in August, will be pushed back, though SANZAAR officials are still hoping it will be staged.

"The international travel restrictions in

South Africa and Argentina have been strengthened in the last couple of weeks and you will see that both of those nations at least won't have any restrictions lifted until September," Whitaker said.

He said regular discussions were being held between SANZAAR, the Six Nations and World Rugby to try to get Test rugby played this year.

The Rugby Championship apart, there are also major tours that need to be crammed into what could be a packed schedule in the second half of 2020.

Australia have three home Tests in July, two against Ireland and one versus Fiji, that could be rescheduled to October with the Wallabies down to contest three spring tour Tests in Europe in November.

Super Rugby players returned to their headquarters last week and began training in groups of 10 earlier this week.

Officials are allowing for between four and six weeks of contact work before competition starts. – AAP

Careful what we wish for

NOT to be alarmist but an alarming scenario from a leading infectious disease official raises alarm bells for contact sport in a world reeling from this highly contagious coronavirus.

If you've been keeping up with developments in the United States you would know of Dr Anthony Fauci. He is the senior medical advisor to the White House in a similar role to chief medical officer Professor Brendan Murphy here.

Dr Fauci was interviewed by American NBC sport columnist Peter King. In the US, the NFL is set to begin its new season in September. Dr Fauci was asked about the likelihood of contagion of COVID-19 in this version of football, where players are padded up from head to toe. What he said was not great.

The hit the US has taken with 1.5 million confirmed cases and tracking upwards toward 100,000 deaths in a population of 331 million has exposed that country's political, economical and social faultlines. Those tragic figures are important to remember. In the interview Dr Fauci detailed how COVID-19 spreads: "It is a respiratory virus, so it's going to be spread by shedding. The problem with virus shedding is that if I have it in my nasal pharynx, and it sheds (from there) and I wipe my hand against my nose, now it's on my hand. Then I touch my chest or my thigh, then it's on my chest or my thigh for a few hours. Sweat as such won't transmit it but if people are in such close contact as football players are on every single play, then that's the perfect set up for spreading."

Dr Fauci is considered one of the most trusted medical figures in the US, if not the world. If this guy is expressing concern over the potential of contagion in American football, with its protective wear, then ought not we be concerned? Here, we play football with our bare hands and exposed skin, and sometimes in very short shorts. Unlike the avoidable disaster that's unfolding in the US, our approach toward containment of coronavirus has been rigorous and that's seen the gradual easing of social restrictions and the staggered return of professional sport. Those sports, the NRL, the AFL, Super Rugby and the A-League, have implemented strict testing regimes of its personnel as they prepare to get their respective seasons underway again.

That's all well and good, but what should be of concern is that, unlike sport in the US, our high-contact football codes are not limited to the professional level and college system. There are literally millions of people who play sport at state, country and community level here and this is where there ought to be cause for concern, but I'm not seeing it. The resources for widespread testing at this level are nowhere near the same as enjoyed by the professional leagues. Nor is there strict oversight on player movements. I mean, which flashy fullback or pretty-boy full-forward in bush footy on \$1100 a game will self-report a sniffle, and deny himself much-needed coin? If even one player or team official contracted the virus the results would be disastrous for the community. "For a few hours" was Dr Fauci's ominous warning of the virus' shelf life outside the body.

The Moree Boomerangs were right to write off the 2020 season earlier in the year – a far-sighted call made by responsible community people.

You know that saying, 'Be careful what you wish for'? I just hope that what we want so badly doesn't come back at us 10 times worse.

**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.*



Darren Moncrieff

Beale's French deal could change laws



KURTLEY Beale's impending move to French rugby could become the norm for the cash-strapped code and former Wallabies captain Andrew Slack admits the scrapping of the Giteau Law seems the only logical response.

NSW Waratahs and Wallabies utility back Beale had his long-touted two-year deal confirmed by the Paris-based Racing 92 early last week.

Melbourne Rebels and emerging Wallabies forward Luke Jones will join him at the glamour club from next season, with both set to play in Rugby Australia's truncated domestic Super Rugby competition before departing.

The move isn't uncommon, with both players previously enjoying European stints and many others crossing to the NRL or signing rich foreign deals.

But with Rugby Australia seeking a broadcast partner beyond this season and their brittle financial state laid bare, it could prove more difficult than normal to retain talent.

Presently, only those who have played over 60 Tests and served seven years in Australia can be picked from an overseas club to play for the Wallabies.

The rule allowed Matt Giteau and Drew Mitchell to play in the 2015 World Cup and would see Beale – who has played 92 Tests – comfortably qualify if incoming coach Dave Rennie seeks the 31-year-old's services.

Slack said in an ideal world the best Australian players would be playing on home soil week-to-week, but that "this isn't an ideal world and it wasn't

one six months ago either".

"If all those things (contributing to a drop in RA's finances) hinted at happening do happen then, yes, we are in a tight spot and the reality is we will lose people to rugby league or overseas clubs," he said.

"I'm not exactly sure what could be done about it, but we've been dealing with that for 50 years and the only thing that may come from it is forgetting about the Giteau Law. It's probably a reality and it's worked pretty well for the Socceroos.

"Like with the Socceroos, (Rugby Australia would have to) manage a worthwhile domestic competition and an international schedule which allows players from overseas to play."

Waratahs captain Rob Simmons praised the club's most-capped player Beale, who also enjoyed a stint with the Rebels on his way to 162 Super Rugby caps.

"We're going to miss a player like that. It's huge and this next little bit of competition, whatever does get off the ground, will be a good chance for him to really send us off," he said.

The captain admitted it was "quite daunting" to be confronted by the sorry state of rugby, admitting that he wasn't sure how players' contracts would be impacted in the future.

"It'll be wait and see at what is possible; it is a bit daunting in that sense that guys are going to be looking after their No 1s," he said of the potential for more player movement.

"Every code is having their own struggles, but everyone's trying their best and that's all they can do to get us back to where we were." – AAP



Kurtley Beale's signing to Racing 92 in France could trigger a change in the laws with Australian player movements. Picture: Getty Images

Got something to say?
Then say it! Drop us a line:
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Big blow for Murri KO



ONE of Murri rugby league's big events has had its 10th anniversary ruined by the COVID-19 pandemic. The annual Arthur Beetson

Foundation Murri Rugby League Carnival has been held each year since 2010, but its milestone event is facing cancellation.

Brad Beetson, son of the late, great rugby league legend Arthur Beetson, said the event held in his father's name had faced several logistical, financial

and social restrictions all related to the coronavirus pandemic and that organisers had no choice but to make the tough decision. ● See page 46

A boost for youth and skills for life

By CHRIS PIKE



A BASKETBALL legend's youth program has grown from small beginnings in Western

Australia to other states and territories.

NBL legend Ricky Grace's academy's motto is Develop a Girl • Change a Community and now that work can be found in NSW, the NT and Queensland.

While basketball is but a small part of its program, its core practice is mentoring Indigenous young women in and beyond the classroom in remote and regional Australia.

● Basketball legend Ricky Grace provides slam-dunk support for a little fellow at Yandeyarra, a remote community in WA's Pilbara region.



SANFL 2019 premiership player Marlon Motlop. Picture: Peter Argent

Players agree to 'Play No Pay' in SANFL



SOUTH Australia's premier state football competition has begun making plans for a return to the

field but the semi-professional competition cannot afford to pay any of its players and coaches

The league has received State Government approval to begin operations toward getting its 2020 season underway.

● Full story, page 46



Beale seals deal with Racing 92

● Page 47

● New squad for Indigenous Marathon Project unveiled, page 44