



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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Bianca Templar pictured on Cape Barren Island last week where she went after the vigil – a place she feels safe, and to collect shells to make traditional shell necklaces.

Protest organiser says backlash, threats and intimidation show

Black voices need to keep speaking



WHEN Bianca Templar received death threats, by people claiming to be from white supremacist hate group the Ku Klux Klan, while organising the recent Black Lives Matter vigil in

Launceston, it served to reinforce her resolve.

“At the end of the day, if people want to jump up and down and threaten me, it amplifies the need to have these kind of events and that people need to hear black voices,” Ms Templar said.

“I don’t want my kids suffering the way my Dad, and my Nan and myself have had to suffer. I want my kids to have a brighter future where they don’t need to worry about systemic racism. I love the fact that I’m a voice for my people and my people trust me to be that, but it does

come with consequences – it comes with responsibility and with fear as well.”

While the threats made her feel anxious and that she had to watch her back, they have also made her more determined.

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Matildas cheer after winning 2023 World Cup bid, back page

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Architect with an eye for country

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Star quality of Rarriwuy Hicks

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Basketball back on the courts

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Learoyd joins NSW Breakers

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MY FAMILY

Hartas family (Wiradjuri, Ipswich)



WHILE most of us struggle to get two kids off to school each day, the Hartas family in Ipswich work as a finely tuned machine to run their household of 13 – and they make it look easy. Despite the challenges they face, this is a family firmly held together by love.

For Wiradjuri couple Sarah and Kirt Hartas, there is never a dull moment in their household of 10 children. Big sister Jamarlah, 22, lives locally and is always there to help, especially with her sister Karmara, 20, who is expecting her first baby. Mornings are hectic as Tahlia, 16, Tyrell, 15, Nikita, 14, Kumani, 13, Shanequa, 10, Kyrone, 9, and Milika, 7, get ready for school, while Jermaine, 18, somehow

manages to sleep through the noise. Diagnosed at three days old with Edwards' Syndrome – a genetic condition in babies caused by an extra copy of chromosome 18 – Milika adds an extra level of complexity to the family. While his survival has defied all odds, it doesn't come without its challenges.

My Family Matters is a celebration of modern Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, and the everyday role models that exist within them. Filmed over eight weeks, this observational documentary captures the Hartas' urban family life, following the family as they deal with their youngest child's disability, prepare for the arrival of their daughter's new baby and plan a big surprise for Kirt at

a family BBQ. What shines through is the Hartas family's strength of character, community spirit and pride in their cultural heritage. Their everyday life highlights positive role modelling, living with a disability and how culture is entwined in modern Aboriginal life.

My Family Matters is written and directed by Dean Gibson, written and produced by Helen Morrison, produced by Kylie Pascoe and edited by Tane Matheson. A Bacon Factory Films production presented by National Indigenous Television (NITV) and Screen Queensland.

This heart-warming documentary shines a light on ordinary families doing extraordinary things. Catch it Monday July 13 at 8.30pm on NITV's *Karla Grant Presents*.

The Hartas family from Ipswich share their story for *My Family Matters*, on Monday, July 13, on NITV, as part of *Karla Grant Presents*.

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.

OUR CHILDREN



Kamilaroi man Corey Tutt started not-for-profit educational organisation Deadly Science when he found kids in remote schools lacked basics such as books. Robinson River School students in NT are excited to receive their Chemistry kits. See story, page 30-31.

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Arts hub is first for Mirarr-led Jabiru



THE Mirarr people have started to realise their vision of a revamped Jabiru.

When the Kadadu Bakery building became vacant earlier this year, Mirarr traditional owners decided it would be a perfect venue for a new arts centre.

The Marrawuddi Gallery, owned and managed by Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation on behalf of the Mirarr traditional owners, will relocate in September.

The Mirarr have envisioned Jabiru as the main arts hub for all visitors entering Kakadu. Marrawuddi is the first business to move into new premises as part of the post-mining transition of the town of Jabiru.

In August 2019, the Commonwealth and Northern Territory governments, and mining company Energy Resources Australia, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation as part of the post-mining transition of the town of Jabiru.

Marrawuddi manager Katie Hagebols said the team has been working closely with artists from the region to develop their art space for quite some time, coordinating local and interstate artists to paint a stunning mural on the external walls of the old bakery building.

"The bigger spaces at this new site will mean we can offer welcoming areas for artists to work as well as a larger retail area," Ms Hagebols said. "When the bakery became vacant we knew it was the perfect location for Marrawuddi Arts."

The previous gallery at Bowali Visitors Centre (Kakadu National Park headquarters) has been a popular destination for tourists and locals looking to find a local souvenir or gift for many years.

But the visual transformation like that of the old Jabiru Bakery into an internationally recognised arts precinct signals the change that is coming for Jabiru once a formal township lease commences in early 2021.

"Marrawuddi Arts is the first cab off the rank as the Jabiru region transitions to a Mirarr-led post-mining future," Ms Hagebols said.

"This vibrant Aboriginal-controlled arts centre embodies so much of the future direction of Jabiru and will be a hub for locals and tourists alike."



Abel Naborlhborlh, Graham Rostron, Ellie Hannon and Lauren Hicks in the midst of painting up Jabiru's (then) Bakery walls.

NT children let down by systemic failures

By RUDI MAXWELL



TWELVE Aboriginal children in care in central Australia were subjected to sexual and physical abuse by a man and a woman who still have children in their care, an investigation has found.

And Richard Weston, the chief executive of SNAICC, the peak body for Aboriginal children, says the kids were let down by authorities at every level.

The carers are at the centre of an investigation by the Northern Territory Children's Commissioner Colleen Gwynne.

The children were subjected to what Ms Gwynne described as 16 years of "systematic failures" by NT Government departments and agencies.

Among the allegations was a complaint by a 15-year-old girl with a cognitive disability that the adult male carer had sex with her and that another of the children had witnessed this. At the time of the allegation, the 15-year-old girl tested positive for a sexually transmitted disease.

The then NT Government Family and Children Services department – now Territory Families – failed in its legal



Northern Territory Children's Commissioner Colleen Gwynne

obligation to report the allegation of sexual harm to the police, Ms Gwynne found.

No complaint to police was found, with poor record-keeping and sharing between agencies identified as a major problem.

The man continued to sleep in the same room as some of the children for years afterwards and "attempted to hide this during the home safety check", Ms Gwynne found.

One of the children described him as "the creepy old f... in the grannie flat with teddies everywhere in his room".

There were numerous claims of physical and emotional abuse, including the carers hitting the

children with metal pipes and a hockey stick or kicking them.

The woman was accused of racially abusing the children, calling them "filthy black c---s" and on one occasion when one child's poor hygiene was remarked on by school staff she said, in front of the child, it was because they were Aboriginal.

The children were exposed to negative messages about their families and Aboriginality and discouraged from contact or cultural knowledge about either.

Despite the long list of concerns over many years, Territory Families re-authorised the pair as foster carers in August last year and two children remain in their care.

The investigation found shortcomings, policy breaches and missed opportunities that resulted "in continued physical and emotional harm of the children in care", Ms Gwynne said.

She made 14 recommendations related to Territory Families and other departments, police and the contractor, Life Without Barriers, which provides the carers.

"Our investigation into this case revealed a 16-year history of systematic failures to adequately review the suitability of the carers, conduct quality standard of care checks and thoroughly examine allegations of child abuse within the

out of home care setting," Ms Gwynne said.

Mr Weston said the report was very disturbing.

"There's a number of really critical issues, children not being listened to, their families' voices being ignored, a lack of oversight and a lack of transparency," he said.

"This case highlights that the out of home care system is a risky place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, the state is a very poor parent.

"We need more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in the departments and having some senior decision making roles.

"And we need an Aboriginal community-controlled sector partnering with the NT department. "And, as the Family Matters campaign has been saying, we need a dedicated Aboriginal children's commissioner in every state and territory."

Mr Weston said the children had been let down by a system that should have protected them.

"One of the issues Black Lives Matter gatherings have been talking about is systemic racism," he said.

"Systems that are there to operate for the benefit of children, actually act against Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander children.

"Then because officials, including police and government departments, don't put a high value on the lives of Indigenous children, they are very vulnerable."

Mr Weston said, as well as the sexual, physical and emotional abuse, the racism that the carers exhibited traumatised the children.

"It's disgraceful," he said.

"And you can't have blatantly racist people looking after Aboriginal children, denying them access to family and culture – that sort of behaviour should be punishable by jail."

Mr Weston said there were too many Indigenous children being let down by systems that didn't properly understand or look after their needs.

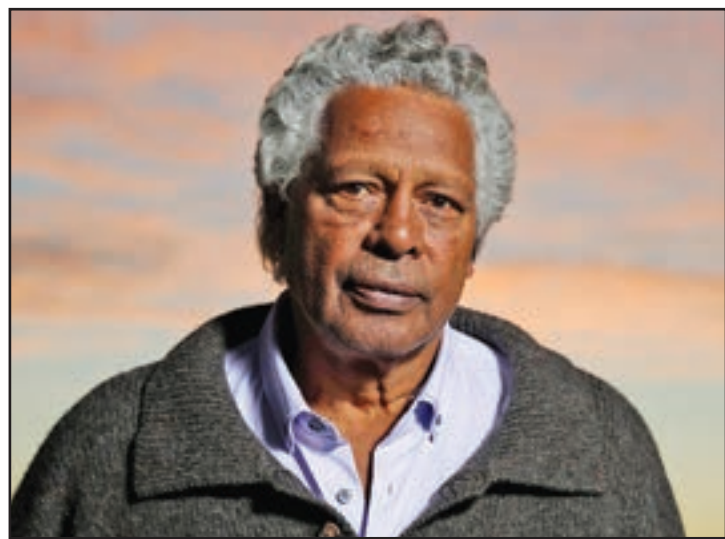
"We've tried letting non-Aboriginal people do things to and for us, and it continues to fail and until our own Aboriginal leadership is enabled to start partnering with agencies I suspect we're going to keep seeing examples like this."

There had been a major overhaul of the child protection system, including reforming the central intake system, more investments into early intervention and prevention services and transforming the out of home care system, Territory Families Minister Dale Wakefield said. – with AAP

Dance Rites is a community event open to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups. To enter the competition, each group is required to film two performances of three minutes each – a traditional welcome or farewell dance, which should include local language, and a wildcard dance of the



To register go to
sydneyoperahouse.com/festivals/dance-rites.html



Claimants risk missing Stolen Wages payment

Deadline to supply details is August 28

By CHRISTINE HOWES



THEY're not budging and they won't put a figure on it – but if Stolen Wages claimants registered to the Federal Court's Pearson v State of Queensland don't get their details to appointed distribution agents Grant Thornton by August 28 they won't be paid.

As of last week that could mean as many as 7,219 registered claimants won't get their money, out of a possible 12-15,000 people, because they haven't provided sufficient identification Grant Thornton partner Anthony Beven said.

There were also 1,815 claimants missing address details, 2,820 missing bank account details and at the end of May there were more than 900 claimants who hadn't provided their date of birth.

"The Stolen Wages class action has been going since 2016 and, as part of the class action, people have only been required to register some basic information since 2019," Mr Beven said.

He said the cut-off date for providing information is August 28 and the Court had ordered people be paid by December 6.

"If you haven't received a claim statement yet, or haven't updated your details, please don't leave it until August, please contact us straight away," Mr Beven said.

"All the post offices are still open, we've been here every day during COVID, our office has been open every day during COVID, we've just reopened our office in Townsville today. We're reopening our Brisbane office on July 8, and we'll be back into Yarrabah the minute we're permitted to by the government and by the Aboriginal Shire Council.

"So our focus is helping people as much as possible, but that timeframe will not change, people will get their money in December."

Lockhart River Mayor Wayne Butcher, who is not a claimant, said several people in his community, including his mother, were concerned, particularly because of COVID-19.

"I think it's important, that there needs to be an extension of time simply because of the current COVID-19 situation," he said.

"To say you need a birth certificate and even some of the

"It would break my heart to think some of those who fought for so many years may miss out now because they were unaware of the documents they need to prove they are rightful claimants."

– Dr Ros Kidd



Claimant Joanne Willmot, who grew up in the Cherbourg dormitories, speaking with former-ANTaR SA President Glenn Giles and UTLC SA President Janet Giles speaking to a public meeting in Adelaide in November 2003.



Grant Thornton team stolen wages team members: Left to right: Shavi Kanagaratnam, Jonathon Kawa, Halejah Wacando, Malia Nai (seated), Samantha Mailman, Alana Murphy (seated), Sana Dorante, Halley Murphy & Anthony Beven.

(other) ID is very challenging, even without COVID-19.

"And you're talking to the older generation here. They're not IT savvy either.

"All that has to be taken into consideration."

Academic Dr Ros Kidd, who has spent years researching the Stolen Wages, said it was heartbreaking.

"To think that after all these decades of struggling for justice, large numbers of claimants may

yet miss out on their payment because they might not have provided all the essential documents to the administrator," she said.

"It seems that several thousand claimants have not yet sent in this information.

"It is likely that many people in remote areas do not have access to the internet to download instructions and documents.

"Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers

have won the biggest human rights class action in Australia's history.

"It would break my heart to think some of those who fought for so many years may miss out now because they were unaware of the documents they need to prove they are rightful claimants."

Claimant Joanne Willmot, who grew up in the Cherbourg dormitories, appealed to younger family members to help.

"Sit with the Elders. They do

need access to the internet for their identification and a whole lot of other things. If they can't get that in they won't be able to make a claim," she said.

"So I really would ask that people in the community support those Elders for them to be able to at least get a little bit of what they have been owed through this whole reparation process."

Mr Beven said they felt they had done, and were doing everything they could to get information to people and help them as much as possible.

"We need to have a deadline and August 28, this is the timeframe the court has set for us," he said.

"So after the 28th, the distribution statements will be issued and there's an appeal process that's built into the scheme, where people can appeal in relation.

"So if someone hasn't provided a bank account, which means they're ineligible, they'll receive a letter saying they're ineligible and they can then use the appeal process that the Courts established under the Stolen Wages settlement scheme."

But, he said, that appeals process would cost.

"It's going to be harder for them and the Court has, in the scheme, imposed quite a significant fee," he said.

"If there's incorrect or missing information, we just implore people to get in touch with us.

"We have people passing away every week and my priority is the money will go out to people quickly and that's all I'm focused on.

"And the quicker we do it, the more money goes out to people because there's less costs in doing all of this.

"So my focus is not about tracking down every single person that could be eligible and working through all of those issues, that will cost millions of dollars and take a lot of time and delay payments.

"My focus is getting this money to people and the old people I talk to, they come into our office every day and when I talked to Mr (Hans) Pearson (who led the class action), he says, 'give us the money now. This has been going on for too long'.

"And that's my priority, to get the money to people as quickly as possible."



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Good things are happening



AFL stars stare down racist attacks as they move to educate the footy world



CARLTON's Eddie Betts hurts deeply when he is racially vilified, but is prepared to keep fighting to help other Aboriginal people feel safe as AFL players.

Last month the veteran Carlton forward called out the latest in a long and constant line of racially motivated attacks directed at him.

Playing in his 16th AFL season, Betts says he has been racially abused every year of his career and the persistent attacks hurt deeply.

The 33-year-old considered whether to address a Twitter post, which depicted him as a monkey, but felt it was his duty as an Aboriginal role model to call out despicable behaviour.

"I was really angry and I wanted to put something up that was aggressive, but that's not my nature. I'm kind and I always like to give people a second chance and I always like to educate people," Betts told *Fox Footy*.

"I've got to set up barriers every day when I leave the house, thinking I'm going to get racially abused when I'm driving or when I go to a supermarket.

"All I want to do is rock up to training, play and enjoy the game of footy.

"I'm sick and tired of it, but I want the AFL to be a safe platform for young Aboriginal kids to come and enjoy and play footy without being racially abused.

"If I have to take the full brunt of all that and try and educate people so that the platform is a safe place, I am happy to cop the brunt.

"It deeply hurts and you think to yourself 'Why do I keep playing footy if I keep coping this?', but I want to make a change."

AFL Players Association boss Paul Marsh said Betts was growing tired of the persistent derogatory attacks.

"The majority of our Indigenous players have been vilified in some way shape or form, whether that be within football or outside of football," he said.

"We've got to get better.

"They deserve to be able to go to work, play football and enjoy it like



Eddie Betts of the Blues in action during the AFL Round 02 match between Carlton and the Melbourne Demons at Marvel Stadium on June 13 in Melbourne. Picture: Michael Willson/AFL Photos via Getty Images

everyone else.

"This stuff is draining, personal and really hurtful."

The offensive post came to light on the same weekend that AFL teams showed their support for the Black Lives Matter movement.

Players wore black T-shirts during

their warm-ups, while coaches joined them by taking a knee before the bounce during round two games.

Marsh said it was vital all AFL players continued showing strength on racial matters, not just Indigenous stars.

"The non-Indigenous players really need to start carrying a greater weight in

dealing with these issues," he said.

"I think the Indigenous players feel like they've carried this weight up until now; it's now on all of us to do something about it."

Carlton co-captain Sam Docherty said "being silent hasn't worked" and players had to do more.

"As an industry and as a footy club we've got to stand behind our Indigenous players and make a stand," he said.

Indigenous players Liam Ryan and Neville Jetta have also copped racist trolling on social media.

West Coast coach Adam Simpson expressed his anger after goalsneak Liam Ryan was targeted by another racist troll. A user left a monkey emoji in the comments section after Ryan posted a picture of his three children.

It came after Melbourne's Neville Jetta also had someone leave a monkey emoji on one of his posts.

Ryan was forced to deal with vile racist comments last November on social media, and Simpson expressed his disappointment about the latest attacks.

"Everyone's angry, and annoyed ... but the best thing we can do is educate people about how it impacts their lives and their families," Simpson said.

"We're really proud to have the heritage that we do at our club, and having five (Indigenous) players play on the weekend – it's really good for us.

"We represent ourselves the best way we can on-field, but off-field, we've just got to keep educating people. It's not the first time, but it doesn't make it any easier. Our boys handle this quite often, so unfortunately, it's not rare.

"We're a very tight group. We've got his (Ryan's) back."

Former Collingwood and Melbourne defender Heritier Lumumba, who was born in Brazil, has openly spoken about how he was nicknamed 'chimp' during his time at the Magpies. Lumumba left the AFL in 2016 after he spoke up about racism. Collingwood have only now opened up an investigation into racism at the club. – AAP

Senator honours black lives lost in custody



THE deaths of dozens of Aboriginal people in police custody have been stamped on federal parliament forever.

In a powerful speech, Aboriginal Labor senator Malarndirri McCarthy read out the circumstances of 31 Aboriginal deaths in custody between 2017 and March 2019.

There were high-profile deaths like 19-year-old Kumanjayi Walker, who was fatally shot in the NT community of Yuendumu in November.

A police officer intends to plead not guilty to his murder.

Others didn't garner national



Senator Malarndirri McCarthy.

headlines, like the 20-year-old man who fell 10 metres while returning to the Kariang Correctional Centre from the Gosford Hospital.

Senator McCarthy also remembered 31-year-old Patrick Fisher, who died in 2018 after falling 13 floors from a Sydney public housing block as police chased him.

Two Aboriginal teenagers fleeing police died in Perth's Swan River in 2018 after reports of boys jumping fences.

Some of the people were found hanged in cells, while others died in car crashes during police pursuits.

Senator McCarthy said up to 439 Indigenous people had died since the 1991 Royal Commission

into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

"These are the people that hundreds of thousands of Australians walked the streets for this week, last week and will no doubt continue to do so," she said.

Western Australian senator Pat Dodson – a royal commissioner at the 1991 inquiry – thanked his colleague for giving humanity to people who would otherwise be numbers in files.

He said racism explained the deep distrust indigenous people had for Australia's institutions.

"Systematically, First Nations peoples have been treated as inferior, as deficient and tolerated through condescension," Senator Dodson said.

Pauline Hanson made the next

speech, renewing her attack on welfare programs she labelled the "Aboriginal industry".

"It's about milking the cow – the taxpayer – crying the victim constantly and blaming whites for a so-called invasion," she said.

"I was born in Australia. This is my land, where the hell will I go?"

Senator Hanson started and finished by declaring "all lives matter", a slogan used by some on the far-right to undermine the Black Lives Matter movement.

She also criticised the criteria for identifying as Aboriginal.

"There is no place in our country for racism or for that matter reverse-racism."

The chamber was almost empty during her speech. – AAP

Mob in Tassie living with threats of death

By JILLIAN MUNDY



WHEN Bianca Templar received death threats while organising the recent Black Lives Matter vigil in

Launceston, from people claiming to be from white supremacist hate group the Ku Klux Klan, it served to reinforce her resolve.

Concerned for the safety of her community during the pandemic, the young palawa social worker's phone number was included on the first fliers distributed in case anyone had enquiries about COVID-19 restrictions and precautions.

Within three hours Ms Templar received a phone call with no caller ID.

"They were telling me they were the KKK and I was a black dog and if I didn't die in police custody they would kill me themselves," she said.

Ms Templar said she reported the threats to police.

"It was very much brushed off," she said.

"I was told that basically they were sorry that happened but there was nothing they could do unless a physical assault occurred and to notify them if we needed a police presence at the vigil."

Tasmania Police say the matter has not been reported to them for investigation.

A police source told the *Koori Mail*, that with a warrant, telecommunications providers could track outgoing and incoming calls from a given number.

"At the end of the day, if people want to jump up and down and threaten me, it amplifies the need to have these kind of events and that people need to hear black voices," Ms Templar said.

"I feel like they think they (white supremacists) are legitimately being oppressed, being discriminated against and that fuels their hatred – society will not grow if this racism does not change.

"I don't want my kids suffering the way my Dad, and my Nan and myself have had to suffer. I want my kids to have a brighter future where they don't need to worry about systemic racism.

"I love the fact that I'm a voice for my people and my people trust me to be that, but it does come with consequences – it comes with responsibility and with fear as well."

Ms Templar was prepared for some backlash organising the event, such as people whinging and sooking on social media.

"You often get threatened and ridiculed for being an Aboriginal person, especially because there is such a stigma in Tasmania that Aboriginal people don't exist, that



Bianca Templar received death threats from people claiming to be from the Ku Klux Klan while she was organising the recent Black Lives Matter vigil in Launceston. Picture: Tristan Templar

we died out with Trukanini – I finished high school 10 years ago and they were still teaching that, so I got bullied a lot."

Ms Templar's nan, the late Gloria Templar, was part of an Aboriginal speakers program where she visited schools to teach Aboriginal culture and history.

Even years after she visited her grand daughter's school other students accused Ms Templar of

being a liar, some voiced their anger at her for having had to 'sit through' her Nan's 'bullshit talk'.

In college a student proudly identifying himself as a Nazi racially abused and spat on Ms Templar, and in more recent years, studying at university, and working as a social worker, her

identity and culture have been dismissed, questioned and ridiculed.

"They were telling me they were the KKK and I was a black dog and if I didn't die in police custody they would kill me themselves."

Bianca Templar, organiser of the BLM vigil in Launceston

"You're always on guard, always ready for something," she said.

"It makes me depressed, like I don't belong living in Tasmania.

"It is my birthright to feel comfortable within my own country and I don't."

While she has developed a

thick skin to racism and ridicule, she was 'a bit taken aback' by the recent threats.

It was the first time she had organised a public event and while the threats made her feel anxious and like she had to watch her back, they have also made her more determined.

"It shows them we are stronger than what they think we are and we're not backing down. If they don't

want to be part of the positive change they can sit back and shut up."

Tasmania Police says there is currently no evidence that any groups such as the KKK have an established presence in Tasmania.

Death threats are criminal



This car, pictured in Hobart in February, drew disgust on social media. (source – facebook)

offences and other white supremacist activities are in breach of state and federal racial discrimination legislation.

An underbelly of racism is not difficult to find in Tasmania and at times it is loud and clear.

In February this year a ute was photographed in the Hobart CBD bearing a huge sticker – the width of the windscreen – reading 'don't snigga nigga, the KKK is getting bigger', attracting disgust on social media.

Tasmanian Aboriginal woman Jmarli McDonald, who lives on Cape Barren Island these days, was terrorised by people who could only be described as the Ku Klux Klan in the 1980s.

It is a night she will never forget.

Sitting in her lounge room, in the Launceston suburb of Ravenswood watching TV one evening with two friends, Ms McDonald noticed flames in her front yard.

"They had stuck a big burning cross on my front lawn," she recalls.

"They came around with the big white hoods and all, banging on the windows real hard, right around the house they went.

"It was scary looking out the window seeing that big white pointy thing with two big eyes staring at you.

"Scared the shit out of us. I had to report it to the police. It was on the news and all.

"They said 'We can't do much about it' because no one else had said anything, no one else reported anything.

"I said 'Look at the big f'n cross. Do you think I did it myself?'"

Ms McDonald said the police never got back to her.

Next door, where another Aboriginal family lived, pieces of firewood had been arranged to spell the word 'kill' in their backyard.

"I couldn't sleep after that. We were wary of things, I couldn't stay there long after that," she said.

"I still reckon there's Ku Klux Klan here. There are a lot of racist people here (Tasmania)."

Lidia moves to represent in the Senate



ABORIGINAL activist Lidia Thorpe will make getting a treaty off the ground one of her key aims when she enters federal parliament as a Greens senator.

Ms Thorpe, a Gunaikurnai/Gunditjmara woman, was named as the new Greens senator for Victoria following a state-wide ballot of its members.

A former Victorian state MP, Ms Thorpe will be sworn into federal parliament in coming months to fill the casual vacancy left by the former Greens leader Richard Di Natale, who has retired from politics.

Party leader Adam Bandt said he was "absolutely thrilled" by Ms Thorpe's election.

"Lidia is exactly what politics in Australia needs at the moment," Mr Bandt said.

"I have worked with Lidia for many years and have seen her get things done and give a voice to the people that politics is leaving behind."

He said, as the first Aboriginal woman elected to Victorian parliament, Ms Thorpe has won renters' rights, forestry protections and LGBTIQ support and has an "incredible track record of fighting for change".

Ms Thorpe said the country has been through an incredibly tough six months – catastrophic bushfires, the coronavirus pandemic and the issues surrounding Aboriginal deaths in custody.

"Aboriginal people out there



Lidia Thorpe has been named as the new Greens senator for Victoria. Picture: Getty

are struggling ... My people are out there struggling to survive every day. So I want to bring that voice into parliament," she said.

"A treaty is what can bring us together.

"Not just a bureaucratic treaty, we need a real treaty that will end the injustice that Aboriginal people in this country face."

Ms Thorpe said it was "an incredible honour and a huge responsibility" to join the Senate.

"I'm ready to fight for the issues we all believe in – climate, injustice, inequality," she said.

"Now more than ever, we need to not accept the old ways – this is our chance to build

back better and I'm ready to bring us together to get it done."

After leaving school at age 14 and surviving family violence, Ms Thorpe said she hoped her story would inspire others.

"This is a message to all those battlers out there and all those women who experienced family violence that we have a

voice," she said.

"It's so important for kids growing up today in places I grew up, to know they can do what I've done.

"Kids in the Commission flats, or out in country towns, or single mums, or survivors of domestic violence – this isn't out of your reach."

Black voices need to be heard on cultural burns



ALMOST 100,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been directly impacted by the Black Summer bushfires, says an expert who argues First Nations people have been ignored and

often relegated to an historical footnote in previous fire inquiries.

The royal commission into the unprecedented 2019-20 bushfires has been told there is a growing recognition of the value of cultural burning and land management practices used by Indigenous Australians.

Australian National University researchers, including Euaḡlayi man Bhamie Eckford-Williamson, say the commission and governments should acknowledge that Aboriginal people have been erased and marginalised in previous bushfire disaster responses and inquiries.

"The reality is that this is an area that has been ignored and overlooked by consecutive post-disaster commissions and inquiries," he told the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements.

"They are often relegated to a historical footnote in the natural history of a landscape or spoken about through the specific and restrictive lens of cultural heritage management."

Research conducted by Mr Williamson and his colleagues focused on the bushfires that impacted NSW, Victoria, the ACT and the Jervis Bay Territory, where he said 96,000 Indigenous people were directly affected.



Kelvin Johnson and Amanda Shields from Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council inspect land burned in bushfires in December 2018. The bushfires royal commission has heard that previous inquiries have ignored First Nations people.

That represented 29 per cent of the combined Indigenous population of each state and territory, or 12 per cent of Australia's entire Indigenous population.

Mr Eckford-Williamson said Indigenous people in the four jurisdictions were twice as likely to be impacted as other people.

It deeply affected their unique attachment to country, he said, noting Aboriginal people

were inherently and forever tied to particular lands and waters.

"The impact of disasters such as the bushfires disrupt the attachment to lands and waters and deeply impacts the existence of Aboriginal peoples," Mr Eckford-Williamson said.

"The destruction of landscape features, whether that be plant species, native animals

or cultural heritage sites such as scar trees, rock art or stone arrangements, threatens Aboriginal groups as distinct cultural beings attached to the land."

Mr Williamson said cultural land management and the tool of cultural burning must be controlled by Aboriginal people.

It was not an add-on to the practices of non-Indigenous land management agencies, he said.

Academics and Indigenous land and fire practitioners argued there needs to be increased recognition of cultural land management, which were combining traditional practices with modern technology.

"Coming together now we're using obviously helicopters, leaf blowers, drip torches, all this new technology, but it's all founded on the principles of traditional knowledge," Kimberley Land Council deputy chief executive Tyrone Garstone said.

"There really has to be an acknowledgement of this traditional knowledge and how that's brought to the forefront."

Deakin University researcher Timothy Neale said there are multiple ecological, social and economic benefits from cultural land management, and fuel load management was only one.

"Many land and fire agencies currently lack policies around cultural burning or partnership with Aboriginal groups," Dr Neale said.

The majority of cultural burning occurs in northern Australia, with 70% of projects occurring in the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia. – AAP

Speaker and Deputy are proud to be first



THE Northern Territory now has an Aboriginal Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Parliament.

Labor MPs Chansey Paech and Ngaree Ah Kit were elected to the roles last week, after the previous Speaker, Kezia Purick resigned after the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption found she had engaged in corrupt conduct.

Mr Paech, who holds the seat of Namatjira, said it was an honour to be elected as the first Aboriginal Speaker of any Australian parliament and he hoped it would inspire young Aboriginal kids growing up in remote communities across the NT to

chase their dreams.

"It sends a strong message for our young kids growing up, you have to believe in yourself and know that these are options for you in the future," Mr Paech said.

"Regardless of your race, regardless of your orientation — the possibilities are endless in the Northern Territory."

Mr Paech, who has Eastern Arrernte and Gurindji heritage, said the NT was always a leader in many ways

"And we've got so many things to be proud of," he said. "And we add to that list today that we are proud of have a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker who are Aboriginal."

"But the Northern Territory Assembly has had an Aboriginal member of Parliament since its inception

in the mid 1970s, and that's something that we are incredibly proud of."

Ms Ah Kit, who holds the seat of Karama, said she hoped to see more Aboriginal parliamentarians.

"I feel proud, honoured, but it's a little scary," she said. "It's something that we need to take very seriously."

In Mr Paech's first speech in 2016 he proudly talked about another first.

"I am the nation's first openly gay, Indigenous parliamentarian," he said.

"I am eternally proud of who I am and where I come from. I own and wear it with pride."

Mr Paech and Ms Ah Kit will hold the NT's most senior parliamentary positions until the Territory election on August 22.



Northern Territory Deputy Speaker Ngaree Ah Kit and Speaker Chansey Paech with the Parliamentary Sergeant at Arms.

Peak bodies focus on Closing the Gap reform



NEW and improved targets are needed to preserve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and prevent suicides.

A landmark report from the Coalition of Peaks, which represents Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, has canvassed views on revamping the Closing the Gap agreement.

It found new targets were needed to preserve language and culture, while goals around mental health and suicide prevention should be expanded.

Institutional and systemic racism across mainstream service providers was highlighted throughout the report.

Experiences included negative attitudes displayed by staff, racist behaviour and profiling.

"In my experience, Aboriginal people I know will not use mainstream because of racism, discrimination, lack of cultural safety," a WA respondent said.

The study sought views from 4000 Indigenous people through online surveys and face-to-face meetings in regional towns, remote communities and cities.

It focused on three priority reforms around how governments interact with Indigenous people.

The three priorities were: building structures to involve Indigenous people in Closing the Gap reforms; transforming mainstream agencies to better deliver services; and boosting support for community-controlled organisations.

Respondents overwhelmingly supported those areas and proposed a fourth to increase the use of data to help

inform decision making regarding policy.

Coalition of Peaks lead convenor Pat Turner, who is also the chief executive of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), said the report showed new ways of working between Indigenous people and governments.

"Engagement processes with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people like this one rarely take place in Australia," she said.

"I am proud to say the engagements led by the Coalition of Peaks in partnership with Australian governments, implemented this ground-breaking and historic approach."

The report will inform a new national Closing the Gap agreement between the Coalition of Peaks and governments expected to be finalised before the end of July.



Coalition of Peaks lead convenor, Pat Turner.



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Eco ark renamed Marna Banggara in recognition of traditional custodians



THE Great Southern Ark, an innovative land management project on southern Yorke Peninsula in South Australia, has been renamed Marna Banggara to honour the district's traditional custodians, the Narungga people.

The terms originate from Narungga language with marna meaning 'healthy or prosperous' and banggara signifying 'Country', reflecting the project's aim to achieve improved economic and agricultural outcomes by enhancing biodiversity and the health of the district's natural systems.

Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation business manager Garry Goldsmith said renaming the project was a significant milestone.

"Using our language for this project means more than a name," he said.

"It means there's a sense of support from the wider community to acknowledge the Narungga people as the traditional owners, who have looked after this Country for thousands of years.

"We want to make the Country healthy again and returning some of the native animals is an integral part of this. Hopefully they will thrive and help ensure that our flora also continues to grow and flourish."

The Marna Banggara project is based on a model of rewilding that involves returning native species that can help restore the landscape's ecological function. It differs from most other rewilding projects in that the project area is part of a working landscape, where agriculture, local business, the community and reintroduced species will co-exist.

It is hoped Marna Banggara will deliver flow-on benefits to the various facets of Yorke Peninsula,



The woylie will be reintroduced to the southern Yorke Peninsula as part of Marna Banggara, a rewilding project. Pictures: WWF Australia

such as improved lamb survival rates for farmers and eventually new eco-tourism opportunities.

After a decade of planning, Marna Banggara is building momentum, with the first locally-extinct species, the brush-tailed bettong, or woylie, due to be released on southern Yorke Peninsula in autumn next year.

In preparation, the project team is continuing its fox and feral cat control and monitoring activities. Five translocation sites have also been selected in remnant vegetation locations south-west of Warrenben Conservation Park where the bettongs will be released.

Landscape ecologist Grace

Hodder said finding ideal sites to rehome these small, nocturnal creatures was an important part of the project, which aims to create a safe haven for Australia's most threatened species.

"Forty different locations on private and public land were surveyed in an attempt to give the reintroduced animals the best chance of survival," she said.

"Preferred sites have dense, shrubby cover that will allow the brush-tailed bettongs to seek shelter from predators and also leaf litter and sticks, which can be used for nest building."

The translocation of brush-tailed bettongs from regional Western Australia will be a major milestone



Garry Goldsmith from Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation.

in the project's species reintroduction plans, which include translocating another three key native species and augmenting the existing barn owl population.

The southern Yorke Peninsula's distinctive geography as a 'mainland island' make it an ideal location for these translocations. It is surrounded by sea on three sides with uninterrupted farmland to the north, providing an isolated area that also has large areas of high quality native vegetation.

The Great Southern Ark project is a collaborative project led by the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the SA

Department for Environment and Water, WWF-Australia and Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife.

Other partners actively involved in developing the project are Zoos SA, FAUNA Research Alliance, BirdLife Australia, Nature Conservation Society of SA, Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Primary Producers SA, Primary Industries and Regions SA, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Legatus Group, Yorke Peninsula Council, Yorke Peninsula Tourism, Regional Development Australia, South Australian Tourism Commission, and the Scientific Expedition Group.



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Tjiwarl seeking compensation



A landmark case is headed for the Federal Court, involving Tjiwarl native title holders in Western Australia who are seeking compensation for government and mining actions.

The two extinguishment and impairment claims cover more than 7800 square kilometres in the state's Goldfields region.

Compensation is sought for acts by mining companies and the state government, including certain pastoral leases, ground water licences for mining projects, and segments of the Goldfields gas pipeline and Goldfields Highway, which have impacted on Tjiwarl native title rights and interests but for which compensation has never been paid.

Last year the High Court awarded the Ngaliwurru and Nungali native title holders from the remote Northern Territory town of Timber Creek \$2.5 million in compensation for loss of their rights, including spiritual connection to the land.

Tjiwarl Aboriginal Corporation chairperson and native title holder Brett Lewis said the Tjiwarl people had lost significant cultural sites.

"Our claim goes further than the Timber Creek case. Tjiwarl is also seeking compensation for impairment of our rights," he said.

"Many of us are still on country looking after Tjukurrpa (dreaming) sites.

"We can't access all of the areas and this

causes a lot of shame for our people because we can't meet our cultural responsibilities."

Tjiwarl Aboriginal Corporation chief executive Greg Ryan-Gadsden said it was a landmark case that will guide compensation negotiations with native title holders across the country.

"Recent events have demonstrated that little consideration is given to the special value of Aboriginal culture and heritage," he said.

"Mining and infrastructure project developers need to appropriately compensate for the impacts that they have, which prevent native title holders from exercising their native title rights and interests on their country.

A state government spokesperson said the Native Title Act provided for compensation where native title rights and interests were validly affected or extinguished.

"The High Court decision in Timber Creek settled general principles on how that compensation is to be assessed, but that case only dealt with certain land grants and public works that wholly extinguished native title," she said.

"The case left a number of important questions unanswered.

"Soon after the Timber Creek case, the Tjiwarl native title holders advised that they intended making a claim for compensation, which they consider will be a test case for some of the outstanding issues."

Call to “mirror” Towns statue to reflect true role in slavery

By ALF WILSON



ACTIVIST Professor Gracelyn Smallwood has called on the Townsville City Council to erect a monument recognising Indigenous heroes who were victims of slavery next to the statue of city founder Robert Towns, which is located near the CBD.

Professor Smallwood's call has been supported by numerous locals the *Koori Mail* has spoken to.

Robert Towns is notorious amongst Aboriginal, South Sea Islander and Torres Strait Islander residents for having brought thousands of Indigenous people from across the country and the Pacific to north Queensland after 1866 to work as slaves.

“Towns owned the bloody ships that brought the slaves from the South Pacific and they were put through tunnels to hide the slavery,” Professor Smallwood said. “I asked for a monument and history of our black heroes in Townsville as I have been asking for the past 40 years.

“As every family has black heroes, my suggestion was to have three black statues of a male, female and a child with chains around their necks, looking at Towns, with our Ancestors pleading against his brutality and cruelty. Similar to the large statue at

the LEAP near Mackay of the Aboriginal woman holding her baby in fear, as the brutal colonisers pushed thousand of our people over cliffs to spare their precious bullets.”

The Robert Towns statue was erected in 1985 and has been the subject of controversy since with many Indigenous people finding it offensive and calling for its removal.

The statue was the subject of media reports in the past weeks after Prime Minister Scott Morrison said there was no history of slavery in Australia.

Townsville Mayor Jenny Hill said there was little evidence linking Towns to black birding and there were no reasons to remove it.

On the night of June 21, the statue was vandalised to look like it had blood on its hands after being painted red. The paint was removed the following day by Council workers.

Professor Smallwood said at no time did she ask for the removal of Towns statue but wanted the black heroes monument erected so that “the Colonial true history could be told to our future generations, both black and white.”

When the *Koori Mail* visited the statue on June 23 local Aboriginal man Eddie Seaton was nearby and said he agreed with Professor Smallwood's comments.

“Our young people need to know all about the slavery that went on and

how they worked for next to nothing,” Mr Seaton said.

Connie Reid has South Sea Islander and Asian descent and said that the Council should listen to the local Indigenous people.

“This statue is highly offensive to many,” she said.

Mayor Hill said the Indigenous community should prepare a submission for Council requesting a black hero's monument.

Chair of the Australian South Sea Islanders Association Emelda Davis called the Mayor's comments a “slap in the face” for the estimated 70,000 descendants of those stolen from the Pacific and living across Australia.

“Towns did own plantations that exploited our people and owned the very ships that reaped some 62,000 Pacific people from their islands of origins to the plantations of Queensland,” she said.

“The Mayor mentions no comparison to Australian South Sea Islander (ASSI) oral history from the Burdekin that is living truth of the descendants whose families were tricked, coerced and stolen, and established, on their blood, sweat and tears, thriving sugar, pastoral and maritime industries alongside First Nations families and slaves.”



Eddie Seaton stands near the Robert Towns statue.

COVID-19



Dr Kelvin Kong

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Top nosh for those in need

By CHARLES PAKANA



DURING the often fearful times of the coronavirus pandemic, much-needed meals found their way to many of those in need within Melbourne's Aboriginal communities – and it's top-notch tucker direct from the kitchens of one of the city's most well-known restaurants, Charcoal Lane.

A social enterprise restaurant operated by Mission Australia, Charcoal Lane is renowned for its work in supporting Aboriginal youth just as much as it is for its critically-acclaimed food.

Up to 30 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people every year participate in the Charcoal Lane program of hospitality industry training, employment and education.

The voice of youth for Elders

Troy Crellin, Mission Australia manager of Social Enterprise Programs, said that when the restaurant had to close its doors for normal trading on March 19, it was the young trainees who gave voice to the need for community action.

"We asked our trainees what their major concerns were during the social lockdown period," Mr Crellin said.

"It came back loud and clear that their number one concern was for Elders in the community."

After consultation with local Aboriginal Elders and leaders, Charcoal Lane's kitchens were quickly repurposed to produce at-cost nutritious meals.

Once prepared, the meals are passed on for distribution to the community through partnerships with a number of key supporting organisations. These include: the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS), Aboriginal Community Elders Services, Yarra City Council's Aboriginal



Lionel Austin (manager, Preventative Health Unit, VAHS), Chloe Lagos (Charcoal Lane Catering and Events Manager, Mission Australia), Darebin Mayor Susan Rennie, Michele Leonard (Victorian State Leader, Mission Australia) and Troy Crellin (Manager, Social Enterprise Programs, Mission Australia).



Uncle Dave Arden and Michael Graham Jr from VAHS delivering the meals in Darebin.

Support Network, Aboriginal Housing Victoria, cohealth's Billabong BBQ Program, and Melbourne Aboriginal Youth

Support and Recreation Co-operative.

VAHS chief executive Michael Graham said that for the VAHS

staff members involved in distributing food it's also an opportunity to go beyond the immediacy of food, and engage in general discussion on health matters.

"In some ways what we are doing alongside Charcoal Lane and Darebin Council is not new," he said.

"For many Aboriginal people, looking out for each other and our community, and being resilient when challenging times hit are important values."

Peak production

In Melbourne's northern suburbs, the City of Darebin has been an active supporter of the program from its outset.

At its peak, that support saw funding for an additional 150

meals per day going out to community members in need.

Darebin Mayor Susan Rennie told the *Koori Mail* that support has seen 400 meals per day being prepared and delivered, and at certain stages that number grew to 667 meals.

"We recognised an opportunity to partner with Charcoal Lane, VAHS and other organisations, and demonstrate to Aboriginal Elders that there was definitely support for them during these difficult times," she said.

Even with restrictions easing at the beginning of June, support for the social meals initiative is far from waning.

Darebin Council renewed its commitment, albeit at a lesser level, and Moreland City Council came on board, funding 150 meals three days a week.

"The initiative will continue on an as-needs basis as we move from crisis to recovery," Mr Crellin said.

"Social and economic challenges are likely to continue even as COVID-19 restrictions ease; and the Mission Australia Charcoal Lane team will continue to advocate for the needs of our community."

"I think it was the mushrooms"

Without doubt the food emerging from the Charcoal Lane kitchens under the program is living up to the restaurant's reputation for quality and innovation – with an occasional humorous result.

"I was actually told off by an Auntie who felt a bit too challenged by the combination of Russian and traditional with an emu stroganoff," Mr Crellin said.

"I think it was the mushrooms."



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Outback Communities Authority Nomination For Membership

Nominations are sought for membership of the Outback Communities Authority, a statutory body established to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities and to coordinate the provision of, and promote improvements in, public services and facilities in outback communities.

The Authority has jurisdiction over almost two-thirds of the State not covered by local councils and serves about 3,000 people residing in numerous small communities, service locations and pastoral/farming properties in the outback. Four positions commencing 1 January 2021, are available for nomination. Nominations are open to people living in the outback and/or who have an interest in supporting and progressing the development of the outback region. Skills and experience in disciplines such as strategic thinking and financial management, and with regional industries such as mining, transport, water management, waste management and energy provision will be advantageous, as will a demonstrated commitment to community service in the outback. Being a member of an outback community is desirable.

The Authority comprises seven members who are appointed for a term up to three years and will be eligible for re-appointment. The closing date for nominations is close of business Friday 4 September 2020. Nominations should be addressed to "Outback Communities Authority Nomination for Membership", Office for the Outback Communities Authority, PO Box 2353, Port Augusta SA 5700, or emailed to oca@sa.gov.au. Information on the nomination and the activities of the Authority can be found at www.oca.gov.au. Information can also be obtained from Mr Byron Gough, Governance Manager, Office for the Outback Communities Authority – telephone 0427 687 772 or 1800 640 542.

Byron Gough
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R U OK? is getting stronger



STEVEN Satour has joined R U OK? as campaign manager to expand and deepen the 'Stronger Together'

campaign, a mental health initiative run by and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Mr Satour is a Pitjantjatjara, Yankunytjatjara and Pertame man from Central Australia. He is a driven Indigenous entrepreneur and founder of Iwara Travel, with more than a decade of experience in marketing, event and project management across tourism, education, the arts, employment, small business and not for profit sectors.

Mr Satour featured in the 'Stronger Together' campaign in early 2019 and says that was the moment he knew R U OK? was the organisation he wanted to join and where he could make a difference.

"I am really excited about working with R U OK? and further sharing the message amongst our communities that a conversation really can change a life," he said.

"Stronger Together' resonates with me so well, especially due to my culture.

"The message is so simple and powerful. It is steeped in our cultural practice of being a community and ensuring that no one is left behind.

"It's really about asking the question and being prepared to



New R U OK Campaign Manager Steven Sartour, pictured with family during COVID-19 lockdown at Mparntwe (Arrernte word for Alice Springs).

listen.

"It's not always about fixing the problem right then and there. Being able to articulate your feelings and just have someone listen is a really powerful way to show your support."

R U OK? chief executive Katherine Newton warmly welcomed Steven to the team, saying he had an accomplished track record working with Indigenous groups to achieve results and would be a great

addition to complement the R U OK? team.

"We are thrilled that an individual of Steven's calibre who has garnered such respect from within his community is going to be working with us, to further

share the 'Stronger Together' message amongst First Australians," she said.

Mr Satour recently worked with the City of Sydney and is a National NAIDOC Committee member. "Steven believes that by celebrating and embracing Indigenous cultures we bring all Australians together and we look forward to working alongside him," Ms Newton said.

The 'Stronger Together' kit is a free resource containing videos, posters, a conversation guide and more to remind everyone in every community to ask someone in their mob who might be struggling, "Are you OK?".

The 'Stronger Together' campaign was developed after Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from urban, regional and remote communities across the country repeatedly asked R U OK? if there could be work done to create a culturally appropriate R U OK? campaign.

An advisory group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and influencers was formed to develop this.

After a competitive process, the Advisory Group commissioned an Aboriginal owned and managed agency, 33 Creative, to work with them on a campaign that speaks to diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and their personal experiences with suicide. From this work came the 'Stronger Together' campaign.

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Protection declared and heritage listed at new rock art site



AN interim protection declaration has been made for an Aboriginal site in Mount Arapiles-Tooan State Park in Victoria's north-west, following the discovery of culturally significant rock art.

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Gabrielle Williams said the declaration will ensure the area is adequately protected while traditional owners and land managers consider longer-term protection strategies for the site.

Dyurrite 1 is a small rock shelter that is part of Taylors Rock or Declaration Crag, located to the south of Mount Arapiles, where more than 50 Aboriginal rock art motifs – undetectable to the naked eye – have recently been identified.

The site which is popular with rock climbers, also includes a stone artefact scatter and a stone quarry.

While the area was immediately closed to park users in December, the interim declaration allows for significant fines if the area is disturbed. It will be subject to review in three months' time and can be extended for a further three months.

The site has already been added to the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register.

The Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation represents traditional owners in this part of the state, including Arapiles, and will work in partnership with the Victorian Government on a long-term protection strategy.

The declaration is the first interim protection declaration made under the Aboriginal Heritage Act.

Two permanent protection declarations were made for the Garradha Molwa in December 2011 and the Point Ritchie Moyjil Midden Complex in August 2013.

"We take the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage very seriously – and it is essential we work together with the whole community to protect, celebrate and respect Aboriginal history," Ms Williams said.

"This declaration gives Traditional Owners time to consider what safeguards they would like in place in the long term to preserve the cultural significance of Dyurrite 1."

Feedback sought on beach name change



THE NSW Geographical Names Board is seeking community feedback on a proposal by Ballina Shire Council to name a beach in the suburb of East Ballina as Gawandii Beach.

The beach is adjacent to Hill Street at the northern end of Missingham Bridge. Gawandii is the Bundjalung word for Dolphin, which has a strong connection to the location and was identified through community consultation with Jali Aboriginal Land Council and the local community.

Details of the proposal can also be viewed and submissions lodged on the Geographical Names Board's website at <https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/> until July 3.

It takes two to make a life-changing difference at TAFE NSW

Life doesn't come with a manual, but proud Dunghutti/Gamilaroi woman, 17-year old Shanae Brown, has found that having the right people in your life goes a long way to helping achieve life-long goals.

"I have always wanted to work in the health industry because I believe that I am a good carer, having spent my life helping my sister to care for her 11 children. I love them all and know I do a good job caring for them," says Shanae.

But Shanae wasn't thriving at school. It just wasn't her thing.

Shanae's teacher introduced her to the TAFE NSW system, through the Youth Engagement Strategy (YES), a program aimed at encouraging young people to gain qualifications and employment skills. It was the break she needed. Shanae graduated with a Certificate II in Retail Services, landing her a part-time job at Glue Store.

With a positive experience of TAFE NSW, Shanae

pursued her dream of a career in Health by enrolling in a Certificate III in Health Assistance TAFE NSW Ultimo. That's where she met teacher, Natalie Coulter. With a rich and interesting background that includes visual merchandising, theatre and styling in Sydney and New York, Natalie wasn't like any other teacher Shanae had met.

"Instead of calling her 'Miss' like we did with the teachers at school, she asked us to call her 'Nat'. I liked that. It made me feel more relaxed and like she was not a teacher but more of a friend," Shanae recalls.

"Nat had her own way of teaching. Sometimes the class wanted to sing songs and dance. Nat let that happen. It felt like Nat really liked teaching us."

Natalie says she witnessed an amazing turn around: "Shanae had a curiosity for learning and wanted to be present, although she was shy and somewhat withdrawn when we first started classes together. After a while she jumped at any opportunity that came her way and initiated opportunities for herself."

Shanae has graduated and is now working as an Assistant in Nursing, fulfilling a career goal and helping to achieve greater representation of Indigenous health workers. Aboriginal people made up only 2.5% of the NSW Health workforce in 2016. Now she's even

eyeing up a Diploma of Nursing to make the next step.

"I would recommend TAFE NSW to anybody – it has not always been easy for me and I struggled with assessments along the way, but I had a teacher who believed in and supported me to keep going," says Shanae.

Nat learnt a thing or two from the experience too: "Every student can make it through TAFE NSW if they are seen, heard and given time. Being Shanae's teacher has been life changing, life affirming and one of the greatest highlights of my career. I hope we will be lifetime friends".

TAFE NSW offers hundreds of courses, diplomas and degrees with exciting career pathways and flexible study options. More than 30,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are currently enrolled at TAFE NSW.

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TAFE NSW teacher, Natalie Coulter and student, Shanae Brown.



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Cookbook Competition

Ngunya Jarjum staff would like to invite you and the children to put together our cookbook!

Simply send to us your favourite family recipe with a drawing done by one of the children in your home before **31st July 2020** and we will work on publishing our very own cookbook – featuring your recipes and the drawings of our children living in Bundjalung Country.

On drawing be sure that children write their first name and, on the recipe, add the age of the child who drew the picture.

A small prize for the best drawing (to be used as the front cover and participation certificates for all the children who add a recipe!

Due date now extended to 31st July 2020 4.30pm

Submit drawing and recipe to:
info@ngunyarjarjum.com

Questions? – call 02 6626 3700 and ask for Nikita Hughes

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deakin.edu.au/medicine/ies

Image: Laura (pictured) was Deakin's first Indigenous graduate of our Doctor of Medicine

*Australian Graduate Survey 2010–2015, Graduate Outcomes Survey 2016–2019 (GOS), Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT)

*ShanghaiRanking's Academic Ranking of World Universities 2019

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Warrigmay Yankunytjatjarra and South Sea woman Elaine Crombie is an actress, comedienne, singer and a proud mum of two.

Crombie takes on new 'role'

By KIRK PAGE



WARRIGMAY Yankunytjatjarra and South Sea woman Elaine Crombie is an actress,

comedienne, singer and a proud mum of two. Crombie has embodied many characters over the years on the stage and on television. But a new role has her performing on a very different level as she focuses on equity in the performing arts.

The Indigenous Committee for the Media Entertainment Arts Alliance (ICMEAA) is one of the many committees that make up the National Performers committee at the Media and Entertainment Arts Alliance, the union that represents actors and media workers. This new position was born from conversations that came up during the National Performers Committee in 2018.

There was a lack of Indigenous representation in the National Performers Committee and a strong desire to have more presence so Elaine Crombie decided that she would put her hand up. The NPC represent their fellow performers on issues affecting their industry. The union exists so as to protect and make safe an industry that is fair and equitable.

In 2018, Crombie, actor/director Wayne Blair (*Mystery Road*), actress and academic Shareena Clanton (*Wentworth* and *Redfern Now*) and actress Irma Woods (Yirra Yarkin theatre) were invited to a NPC meeting in Sydney.

The power trio came to the

table and listened. The group brings a wealth of experience and knowledge from the sector as well as being staunch advocates for black arts and politics.

"What had become apparent was the lack of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander faces and representation in that meeting. The union is open to bringing more of us to the table, our presence being stronger at these gatherings, being more involved. The room was really white – there were two other brown people but no Australian First Nations' voices," Elaine said.

The NPC discusses leading industrial and professional issues in the interest of protecting performers.

"At a time when the whole sector is reeling from a real lack of understanding and acknowledgement of what the Australian arts offers, be it black or white, it's important that we have the systems in place to ensure we are creating safety and respect in our workforce through a place of equity and understanding of what's acceptable," Crombie said.

"The journey is one of longevity and over time I want to make a difference and be a part of bringing our voices to the table. I'm playing a long game.

"The best way for us to influence and have impact inside of a primarily white union is to build membership and involvement across the sector with a focus on all First Nations people in the performing arts. Industrial action is a great way to gauge success.

"At the moment we are

representing a cultural dance group who are in a position where they need assistance with contractual matters.

"The union is going to represent this group, one of many groups and artists being impacted by the COVID crisis. I'm learning more as the role grows. I'm learning just as much from the organisation as the organisation is learning from me.

"Having more of a presence at the table at the National Performers Committee allows us to take action and support our black artists. We are a diverse group inside an already underrepresented community so the more black fellas on the committees the better, strength in numbers.

"There's been a lack of black voices at the top end of town but this is changing – slowly. If we want to impact and effect change through policy making we need to change the way our nation and the industry treats First Nations people and the wider community of performing artists. We need to be heard and to be listened to.

"I can't stand outside in the rain on my own saying 'Do it the right way', we need to be inside the system, inside of the structures so we can voice our concerns at these meetings and gatherings.

"We can actively go forward as one group, as one workforce, and begin to understand the functionality of the council – it's the only way we can present our case in regards to culture in the performing arts. Our comrades will get behind us if they are made aware of what we are experiencing in the sector."



Australian Government

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Clarke Street and Riverstone Road, Riverstone, NSW – Development Proposal

Public Notice and Registration of Interest

National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 & Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979

The Bathla Group propose to construct a lead-in sewer pipeline through Lot 10 in DP 712 (9 Clarke Street) and Lot 11 in DP 712 (190 Riverstone Road) and the works may impact upon Aboriginal objects and archaeological deposits protected under the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974.

In accordance with the OEH (2010) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents, individuals or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to establishing the significance of potential Aboriginal objects in the area of the proposed pipeline are invited to register their interest to participate in the heritage consultation and assessment process for the proposal.

Contact details for the Proponent are:

Pardeep Kumar Associate Director The Bathla Group 137 Gilba Road GIRRAWEE, NSW, 2145

E: pardeep@bathla.com

c/.

Dominic Steele 21 Macgregor Street Croydon, NSW, 2132

E: dsca@bigpond.net.au

The registration period closes on 15 July 2020

The consultation period closes on 31 July 2020

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If you are interested in the MAE, please see the MAE website: <https://health.anu.edu.au/study/research/master-philosophy-applied-epidemiology-mae> or contact mae.rsph@anu.edu.au.

Applications are open from 1 – 24 July. Referee reports due 31 July.



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Dja Dja Wurrung man and Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Committee chairperson Rodney Carter was a key speaker at the livestreamed event

Caring for country – still so much to do

By CHARLES PAKANA



WITH 850 people watching via Facebook and Melbourne's Federation Square's own livestreaming system, the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Trust conducted its 'Caring for Country and Legislative Reform'

panel discussion.

A precursor event to the Council's *Taking Control of Our Heritage* conference planned for 24-26 November this year in Melbourne, the panel featured four heavyweights in the cultural protection space.

The panellists were Dja Dja Wurrung man and Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Committee chairperson Rodney Carter; Arrernte and Kalkadoon woman, and member of the Australian Heritage Council Rachel Perkins; Darumbal/Turrbal man and past-president of Tarwirri (Indigenous Law Students and Lawyers Association of Victoria) Hans Bokelund; and Gunditjmara Djabwurrung man and chief executive of the National Native Title Council Jamie Lowe.

Mr Carter pulled no punches, pointing out that Aboriginal culture had survived for tens of thousands of years.

"The protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria has only been necessitated since the intrusion on our country, the invasion of our homelands," he said.

While panellists agreed that the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 afforded some of the country's greatest protections for traditional owners, Mr Carter said there is still much to be done.

"To ensure we have the requisite regulatory support to protect the oldest living culture on Earth, the Council is now undertaking a review of the Act," he said.

"There are key sections of the Act that require strengthening to enshrine self-determination and the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People in Victorian Aboriginal cultural heritage legislation."

He then quoted directly from numerous articles contained within the UN Declaration, citing: self-determination (Article 3); the practising and revitalisation of cultural

traditions and customs (Article 11); spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies, and repatriation of ancestors' remains (Article 12); designation and retention of community, place and person names (Article 13); and to participate in decision-making in matters that would affect their rights through representatives chosen by themselves.

His comments were lent support by Mr Lowe, who said that even though Victoria represented the high watermark across the country with regard to cultural protection, that wasn't necessarily a particularly high standard.

"It doesn't go far enough to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage in the state," he said.

Mr Lowe went on to provide an example of rock climbers in Gariwerd (the Grampians) National Park still being able to climb in areas containing rock art that is thousands of years old.

Mr Carter encouraged all Aboriginal people in Victoria to speak up about protecting culture.

"We all have a part to play in ensuring recognition of our people's right to self-determination, our culture and country," he said.

"We seek the support and contributions of everyone to work with us, ensuring that the statutory protection our peoples have for their culture is commensurate to our 40,000 years of connection to country."

Speaking to the *Koori Mail* after the event, Mr Carter commented that while the Council was already in discussion with the Victorian State Government about changes to the Act, he believed it is a process that will take time.

He expressed his hope, though, that all people, regardless of ancestry, enter into "informed" collective action.

"If people don't have enough knowledge and understanding then ask questions, have conversations," he said.

"Ultimately, we're all striving to protect culture and heritage."

– Rodney Carter

"If people don't have enough knowledge and understanding then ask questions, have conversations. Ultimately, we're all striving to protect culture and heritage."



CIAF invites the world to join a cultural evolution tanks to new digital platform



THE Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) has invited the world to attend its annual showcase of Queensland's

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture.

CIAF director Janina Harding said that *CIAF 2020 – The Cultural Evolution* is a digital translation of its physical event program that is bookended by opening and closing ceremonies with a series of live stream presentations, performances, webinars, workshops, community spotlights, conversations and virtual gallery exhibitions.

Ms Harding said this year's program, which runs from August 14-23, is much more than a series of events that can be embraced and engaged with online.

"From the outset of pandemic restrictions CIAF, as an organisation, was asking what it could do to continue supporting artists and communities who have come to rely on the event," she said. "For Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, CIAF plays an integral role in cultural sharing, understanding and in particular, artists' social, emotional and economic welfare."

"After making the decision to go online we have confronted a number of challenges along the way but have also had great support from the community and especially, our funding partners who have joined with us and are also really excited to present CIAF in its digital format."

"We have been speaking regularly with the Mayors of Far North Queensland's councils,



CIAF director Janina Harding, Cairns MP Michael Healy, artist Paul Bong and CIAF general manager Darrell Harris at the Tanks Art Centre. Picture: CIAF

artists and the Torres Strait Regional Authority who are all very positive while also working with a number of new and different businesses than we normally would from videographers and producers to those who specialise in virtual technology."

CIAF's program begins on August 14 with an Opening Night program of presentations and entertainment hosted by actor and writer, Elaine Crombie.

Highlights from *CIAF 2020 – The Cultural Evolution* include two virtual art exhibitions; the climate

change themed Art Fair and *Under Currents – Cook 2020*, performances from Kuranda's hip-hop, reggae band Zennith and other local Indigenous musicians, community spotlights from across the Cape and Torres Strait Islands, weaving workshops, conversations

on numerous topics, a climate change themed symposium, children's storytelling, art markets, *Water is Sacred* fashion performance, comedy with Sean Choolburra and the annual art awards including the Premier's Award for Excellence.

Benson named Consul-General to United States



TRAILBLAZER Benson Saulo has become Australia's first Indigenous consul-general appointed to the

United States. The 32-year-old Wemba Wemba and Gunditjmarra man who grew up in Tamworth NSW will be posted to Houston, Texas.

"Being the first Aboriginal person to hold the position of an Australian consul-general comes with a huge weight of responsibility," he told the *West Australian* newspaper. "But then also a sense of achievement and encouragement and a sense of being able to share my culture in the US and connect with other Indigenous people and highlight and showcase the global Indigenous economy."

Mr Saulo has become well known in the finance and banking industry, most recently



Benson Saulo has become the first Indigenous Australian to be appointed consul-general to the United States.

through his roles at insurance company Australian Unity.

He has also been on the board of the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria and has worked for Good Shepherd Microfinance and consultants PWC.

Benson was the first Indigenous Australian to be appointed the Australian Youth Representative to the United

Nations, and was the lead negotiator on the Rights of the Child Resolution in 2011.

In 2019 on an episode of SBS show *Insight* about casual racism, Mr Saulo said that his Papua New Guinea-born father had raised him to "never think the world's not yours".

"It's up to you to go out there and make your mark," he said.

Invitation to Bid

Warren – Blackwood Regional Water Supply Scheme – Greenbushes To Kirup Link

Bid Invitation Number – 7000012096

Opening Date: 8:00 am WST Wednesday, 17 June 2020

Closing Date: 2:30 pm WST Thursday, 23 July 2020

Water Corporation is inviting organisations with suitable experience, capability and capacity to submit a bid for the manufacture, supply, construction, installation, testing and commissioning of approximately 17km DN150 MPVC pipeline, tank site reconfigurations and new infrastructure to suit the new water supply scheme, road access, electrical and controls upgrades from Greenbushes to Kirup.

A compulsory site visit will take place at 09:30 am (WST) on Monday 29 June 2020. Further information on the site visit can be obtained from the bid documents.

The bid documents may be accessed on Wednesday 10 June 2020 by companies registered as Water Corporation suppliers or bidders via the supplier portal

If you are not a registered Water Corporation supplier or bidder, please complete the online supplier registration form available at watercorporation.com.au/suppliers. Please be aware, this may take up to five working days to process.

It is mandatory that all bidders are granted Water Corporation Health Safety and Environment Prequalification to tier 1, as detailed in Schedule 8.1 of the bid invitation, before contract award. This application can be lodged via our website.

Sub-contractors can register their interest using the following link. The list of sub-contractors will be issued to the bidders.

<http://yoursay.watercorporation.com.au/wbrwss>

Enquires should be directed to:

Janet Dahl (08) 9420 3985

Janet.Dahl@watercorporation.com.au

watercorporation.com.au



Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Joshua Roberts Bundjalung Widjabul Kamu

Favourite Bush Tucker?
Cheeky Plum (NT).

Favourite other food?
Turtle, Kangaroo, Goanna.

Favourite Drink?
Water.

Favourite Music?
Hip/Hop, Country or anything 2000s.

Favourite Sport?
Boxing and Rugby.

What are you reading?
I'm studying and reading Latin.

Favourite holiday destination
Anywhere around my hometown of Darwin.

What do you like on TV?
Comedy.

What do you like in life?
To discover your purpose.

What don't you like in life?
Not knowing who you are, or where you're from.

Which Black or Indigenous person would you most like to meet?
Anyone who is good role model for mob.

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
David Gulpilil.

What would you do to better the situation for Aboriginal People?
We need positive change to happen.

Quote



"At the end of the day, if people want to jump up and down and threaten me, it amplifies the need to have these kind of events and that people need to hear black voices,"

Bianca Templar, organiser of BLM vigil held in Launceston.

● See Page 7

Unquote

Kids in care are not being heard

TWELVE Aboriginal kids in out of home care in central Australia have been let down at every level by governments and agencies of the Northern Territory.

Their complaints and allegations were ignored.

Their parents' and relatives' voices silenced.

And now NT Children's Commissioner Colleen Gwynne has found a "16-year history of systematic failures to adequately review the suitability of the carers, conduct quality standard of care checks and thoroughly examine allegations of child abuse within the out of home care setting."

Those allegations included sexual assault, physical assault and appalling racism, including one of the 'carers' calling the children "filthy black c—s".

These kids were removed from their families by the state but then the state absolutely failed to protect them.

As SNAICC chief executive Richard Weston put it:

"The state is a very poor parent."

In 2017 the Royal Commission into Youth Detention in the Northern Territory spoke with Aboriginal children in care. It even published some of what they had to say in 'Voices: What children have told us – Child Protection'.

The stories were heartbreaking.

At that time Royal commissioner Mick Gooda told the NT Council of Social Services that the children who shared their experience of the youth detention



and child protection systems were courageous.

"Their evidence, and that of their families, frontline workers and others involved in the system, has at times been very confronting," he said.

"So we're committed to ensuring that their voices are heard throughout our report."

"It's time our children's voices were properly heard."

That was three years ago.

The NT Government promised to implement the recommendations from that royal commission.

So why are the voices of some of the most vulnerable people in the Territory – Aboriginal kids in out of home care – still not being properly heard?

Here's what one of those voices had to say in 2017:

"I think the Department of Communities and Families needs to put Aboriginal kids with family, or with Aboriginal people or help them visit family. I feel like I had to make my family for myself, and the kid shouldn't have to do that."

It's about time the NT authorities started listening.

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).

Star quality shines with Blak girl magic

By KIRK PAGE



RARRIWUY Hick is a Yolngu woman from the Wangurri clan in North East Arnhem land. Born in Sydney, she grew up with both feet firmly planted in two worlds.

Hick is a dancer, actress, writer and choreographer and names her mother Janet Munyarryun as one of her first ever inspirations.

Rarriwuy remembers watching her mother teach cultural dance at the nationally renowned dance school NAISDA (National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association), sharing her cultural knowledge and incredible dance style with the students for over two decades.

It's no wonder that Rarri was drawn to the stage from an early age.

"It all began with my mum's story. As a young woman my mother was invited to the dance college to share and teach Yolngu culture to the dance students in Sydney in the 80s. Mum was also a founding member of Bangarra Dance Theatre and featured in many of the first productions in the early years – we spent time at home in Dhalinbuy and flew to Sydney during most of the school year. Dancing up home for ceremony in Arnhem land and always doing little shows at home with friends – I think performing has always been in my DNA, it's imbedded in me to be a performer. As a child I was always dancing and performing and putting on shows for friends and family – anyone that would watch.

"I always knew I'd dance but didn't plan on acting at that younger age. It was always dance."

Rarriwuy says she was lucky to see the Bangarra production *Fish* in 1997.

"I could see both traditional styles of dance and the contemporary coming together. I remember sitting in the audience watching my mum dance and I thought to myself 'I want to be on the stage. That's what I want to do'," she said..

Rarriwuy's wish to be on the stage came true and soon after high school she decided to audition for the NAISDA dance college.

"While I was training at NAISDA I was asked to audition for a role in a new play that was a bit like a musical. The work was called *Ngurru-milmarrmiri* (*Wrong Skin*) inspired from Elcho Island community and Elders who collaborated with award-winning director Nigel Jamieson (*Honour Bound*) to create a 'Romeo and Juliet' tale of forbidden love in a community where the complex laws of 'skin'



Rarriwuy Hick plays Ruby Mitchell in season 6 of *Prisoner* remake *Wentworth*. Picture: Jane Zhang

and clan define all relationships.

"*Wrong Skin* showcased Yolgnu culture in a contemporary story telling form and it was a huge success. It was my first time acting on the main stage of the Sydney Opera House.

"I had to make a decision on whether to keep up my dance training or to go with this opportunity and give acting a shot. The show was a bit like a musical – dancing, singing and acting. The play was a great success and I was hooked. In the end I chose acting."

Her first TV role as an actor was in *Redfern Now*.

"It was a seminal TV series, which featured all black writers, actors and directors, telling stories inspired by our communities living in inner city Sydney," Rarriwuy said.

Since then Rarriwuy's star has shone bright – she has appeared in other Australian TV series, including *The Gods of Wheat Street*, playing the role of Electra Freeburn. The series was filmed in Coraki, on Bundjalung country, and written by Jon Bell.

"It was the first time I had visited Northern NSW. I loved doing that show, great crew and really good writing," Hick said.

With an impressive list of credits Rarriwuy was cast as a Hairy man in another hit series, *Cleverman*, screened on the ABC.

"It was interesting – not

playing a human character on *Cleverman*, playing a 'hairy' was fantastic – hard work. The transformation took 2.5 hours each morning with wigs and body hair meticulously glued to my arms, claws attached to my hands and blue coloured contacts to intensify the look.

"I learnt how to be patient on a whole new level.

"I had to be really fit, my character Latani was really physical with superhero-like powers. I ran a lot, fought off mobs of people at a time. I trained really hard for that," Rarriwuy says.

"Being a black actress right now is exciting as well as important. There's a movement happening called blak girl magic, women coming forward, taking up those spaces we haven't before."

Hick has recently appeared in the internationally acclaimed *Prisoner* remake *Wentworth*, starring a who's who of the Australian actors scene. Rarri joined the cast in season 6 playing Ruby Mitchell, another physical role, playing opposite the wonderfully talented actor Leah Purcell.

"We play sisters that end up in prison. We both have a boxing background in this storyline. Again another role where I had to train really hard prior to filming. I

did get to do some training alongside Leah. She's actually a really skilled boxer and been doing it forever, and she's a lot taller than me so she did have it over me. I'm an amateur compared to Leah, so I had to bring my 'A' game," Rarriwuy said with a laugh.

"Working with some of the best in the business pushes me to be better, to meet a certain standard. I've learnt so much from being really observant.

"I'm incredibly lucky. I watch the way they process and work on and off screen and I take what works best for me.

"A lot of my roles have been physical and having that dance training has made it easier.

"Telling stories as a dancer isn't that big of a leap as an actor. We are all story tellers so the forms overlap and weave together."

Working a busy schedule and achieving acclaimed success in her acting career, Rarriwuy is earning a strong reputation as an actor.

"I've had a good run with work over the last year, working consistently. It's great to have a bit of time to slow down and get some energy back," she said.

"I'm looking forward to being amongst friends during this slower time while the world resets and we begin to consider what's next for our industry.

"The theatre world's suffering

and that's a real shame.

"I love theatre and it's a vital part of our culture. Being a black actress right now is exciting as well as important. There's a movement happening called blak girl magic, women coming forward, taking up those spaces we haven't before.

"I'm looking forward to more visibility in the industry, behind the scenes as well as on the screens. I'm the face of Loreal and I'm the first Aboriginal woman to represent for that kind of campaign. There's a real recognition of what we have to offer as writers, directors, models, actors and directors. We are being seen. I feel empowered. We have come a long way – thanks to the work of our mothers and grandmothers – but we still have a long way to go. Thanks to the women who came before, we can be here now, full credit goes to them. They have paved that way, all the hard work they have done, we are privileged to be in the position we are in now."

So what's next for this talented actor?

"I want to explore the international acting scene – take a chance and move overseas for a bit perhaps and give that a go.

"I want to check out the art scene and see what the First Nations art movement is like – there's a lot of wonderful work being done there and I would love to connect with other First Nations brothers and sisters and be inspired by the creative buzz across the globe."

Professional diver Craig McGrogan guided kids on the virtual tour of the reef.

Virtual tour puts kids in touch with Country

By NICK PATON



STUDENTS from the Kowanyama and Yarrabah communities in Far North Queensland

couldn't believe their eyes when they were beamed into a live aquarium by satellite to take part in a virtual scuba dive.

Gunggari football legend Johnathan Thurston told the *Koori Mail* it was the COVID-19 pandemic that really helped to spring the mechanics of the virtual dive into action on May 26.

"We had been in discussions with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority since early May, and before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, my biggest concern was always making sure our kids still had access to and connection to country," JT said.

"My team and I at the JT Academy made a couple of phone calls, one of which was to the NBN, who, after lengthy discussions, agreed to provide us with satellites that were delivered by SkyTrans airlines and installed in remote communities through our partners.

"Not only have the satellites allowed us to do online events like the JTReefDreaming Program, the satellites have allowed us to remain in close contact with remote communities on a daily basis through the JT Academy."

The virtual dive was filmed at the Reef HQ Aquarium in Townsville, the national education centre for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.



Johnathan Thurston's JT Academy organised the JTReefDreaming virtual tour at the Reef HQ Aquarium in Far North Queensland.

"To make the virtual dive work, we had a big screen set up at the schools for the students to log in to on the day, where they were able to watch the professional reef education scuba divers at the Reef HQ Aquarium being filmed by our crew in the big tank," JT said.

"Before we started the dive, students from both communities did an acknowledgement of their country.

"As the day progressed, I was blown away by how intrigued the students were, especially considering we were able to provide to the kids with some ways they can go out and make a difference taking care of

the environment in their own communities."

One of the divers, Craig McGrogan, took the kids on an adventure deep into the tank, where he showed the students parts of a coral reef and sea cucumbers, and on a separate dive took the kids swimming with sharks. JT said he could see the pure excitement on the kids' faces.

"The kids were fully engaged and they asked heaps of questions about what they were seeing in the tank," he said.

All the kids were given a JTReefDreaming student workbook, which is jam-packed with lots of useful environmental

information relating to the Great Barrier Reef and available for free download from the JT Academy website.

"The great thing about the student workbook is that it focuses on the inherent connection Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have with places like the Great Barrier Reef, or wherever their country happens to be, and we want to teach the next generation how to reduce, reuse, recycle," JT said.

The students are members of the JT Academy, which JT started because of the passion he has for the education and employability of the next

generation of Aboriginal people.

"I am extremely proud of the JT Academy, which I started a number of years ago, because it really has given me a platform that allows me to help mob, and I wouldn't be where I am today without the support of the communities and organisations I am working alongside," JT said.

"The JTReefDreaming program is important because it is connecting our kids with one of the greatest natural wonders of the world, so that we will be able to help protect it in the future."

To download a copy of the student workbook visit <http://resources.jtacademy.com.au/>



Students from the Kowanyama and Yarrabah communities in Far North Queensland logged on to view the tour, which began with an acknowledgement of Country, on big screens set up in their schools.



Destruction of heritage must never happen again

In an historic meeting on June 17, Aboriginal leaders from across Australia representing Aboriginal Land Councils, Native Title Representative Bodies and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Organisations expressed their outrage at the destruction of the 46,000 year-old heritage site at Juukan Gorge and vowed to pursue national reforms to prevent this from ever happening again.

The appalling conduct of Rio Tinto, one of the richest companies on earth, has created headlines and public outrage.

It no longer deserves to be considered the leading miner in building positive relationships with Aboriginal peoples in Australia.

However, sadly it is not just Rio Tinto, with many similar incidents taking place across Australia for decades. Moreover, as immoral as it was, the destruction of Juukan Gorge does not appear to have been illegal, while more destruction across Australia is contemplated under the current legislative regimes.

We find ourselves in this situation because governments, of both political persuasions and at all levels, have rarely been prepared to put the protection of Aboriginal heritage ahead of development in the past 20 years, other than in the rarest of cases. They have allowed their legislation, supposedly to protect our heritage, to fall into disuse or to focus on regulating destruction, rather than protecting, enhancing and educating about our living cultures unique to this country.

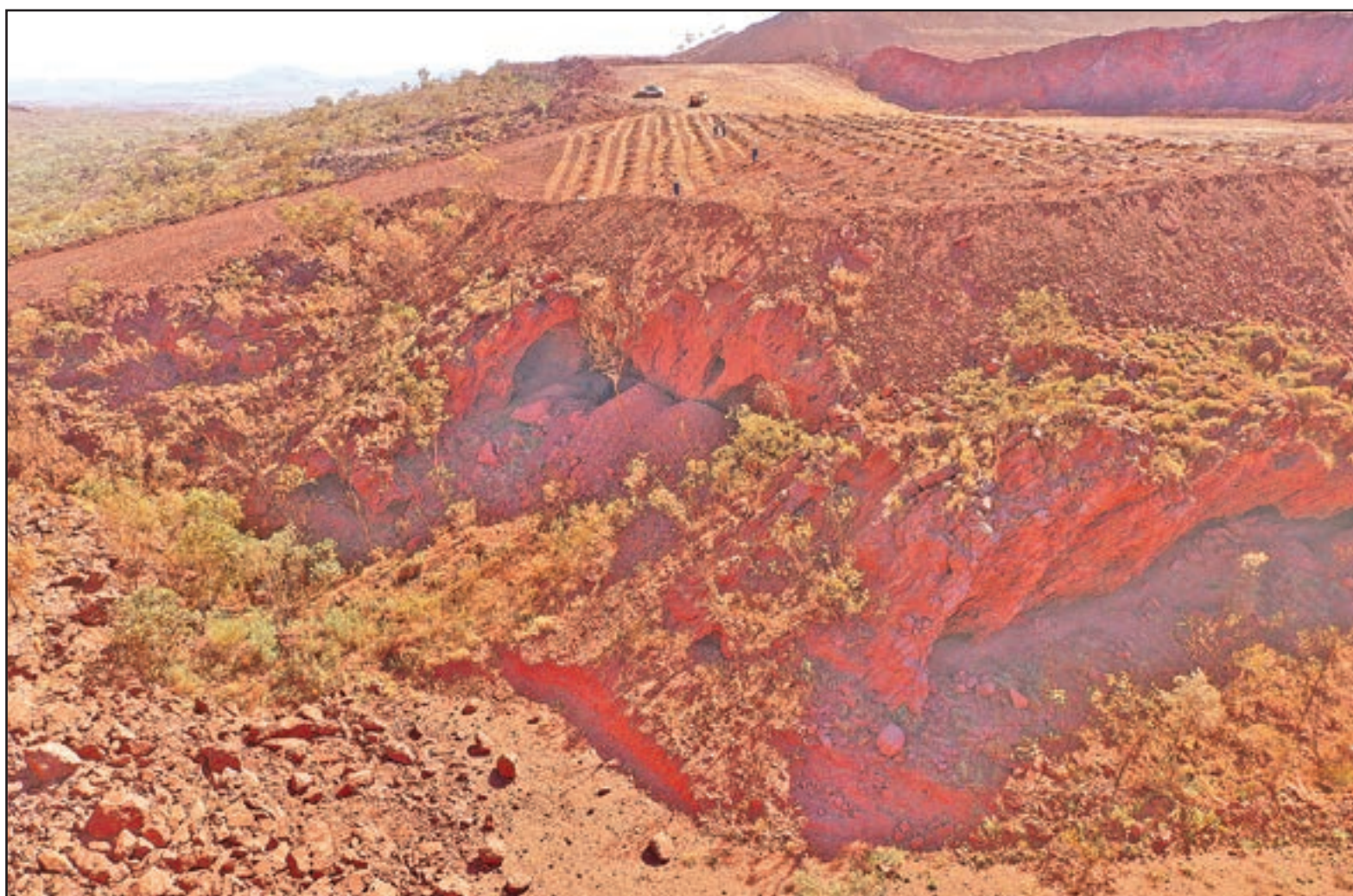
This is no way to protect the oldest living culture on earth.

Politicians mention this regularly, but when the crunch comes, they have not been prepared to protect it. Meanwhile, they are slow-moving or refuse to change archaic and paternalistic laws.

While the Federal Environment Minister has the power to issue emergency declarations under the the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act, this is rarely ever done.

It failed again in respect to Juukan Gorge.

Our leaders agree this cannot continue and intend on fighting back. Not only should the lives of our people matter as much as



Ancient rock shelters in the Pilbara that had evidence of human occupation from 46,000 years ago were destroyed by mining giant Rio Tinto.

those of other Australians, but our heritage and culture should also be equally important. We are determined to work together to develop a united national approach to this serious problem and insist all governments at all levels work with us to develop and implement reforms led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Governments must partner with us to develop best practice standards and implement broader reforms that support self-determination. The National Native Title Council (NNTC) also briefed leaders on their important work to achieve reform to date.

In the meantime, all governments are asked to not make any decisions that will damage our heritage sites. This is particularly important for Western Australia, which has a disgraceful record of heritage protection and

where there are other sites in the Pilbara under immediate threat. Our leaders will work together to support traditional owners who are facing threats to their heritage sites and pursue all legal and political avenues should it be necessary.

A network is being put in place to make sure Aboriginal Land Councils, Native Title Representative Bodies and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Organisations are communicating across the nation to make sure that they alert one another to any threats and to allow for national action to be taken.

Importantly, our leaders propose to meet with responsible Ministers from the Commonwealth, States and Territories as soon as possible to discuss a process for reviewing heritage protection legislation

across Australia, to engage with our communities and traditional owners about what they want to see in these laws, and to jointly design with Ministers a new system that will ensure that an incident such as the destruction at Juukan Gorge never happens again.

Our communities want laws that are based on the principles of empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to make decisions on our own cultural heritage, self-determination, First Nations decision making, greater transparency and free, prior and informed consent.

First Nations cultural heritage is 65,000 years of culture and history that must be protected for all future generations, for all Australians. We urge people from all backgrounds and all sections of Australian society to support our

call for greater protection of Australia's cultural heritage.

NSW Aboriginal Land Council
National Native Title Council
Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation
South Australian Native Title Services
NTSCorp
North Queensland Land Council
Native Title Services Goldfields
Professor Marcia Langton
Cape York Land Council
Dr Val Coombs
Central Land Council
Northern Land Council
Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council
Kimberley Land Council
First Nations Legal & Research Services
Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation
The Federation of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations
South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council

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

Entrenched racism is basis of the health emergency facing our people

THE Black Lives Matters protests, here in Australia and across the world, are sounding cries of anguish and anger about the unrelenting impact of racism on our lives.

Reflecting on this, I was struck by an important comment from leading Aboriginal psychologist and academic Professor Pat Dudgeon.

"There are very few Aboriginal people who wouldn't have suffered racism," Pat said, going on to talk about a growing body of evidence showing that racism is detrimental to the mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Her words echo strongly in the work of the Lowitja Institute, the national institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research.

Our work shows us that racism is widespread and it makes us suffer. It makes us sick.

We saw its scope and impact in key research that we funded many years ago, which documented very high levels of racism experienced by Aboriginal Victorians, and high levels of distress because of it.



Pat Anderson

Almost every person (97%) of the 755 surveyed in 2011 in four Victorian communities had experienced at least one racist incident in the previous 12 months, with more than 70% experiencing eight or more incidents a year.

Some of it included being called racist names, teased or

stereotyped (92%), being sworn at, verbally abused or subjected to offensive gestures because of their race (84%), or being spat at, hit or threatened because of their race (67%). More than half (54%) reported having their property vandalised because of race.

This is not just abhorrent and an infringement of our rights. This causes life-long harm.

Studies here and from around the world tell us that racism is associated with causing psychological distress, depression, poor quality of life, and substance misuse. Prolonged, it can have significant physical health effects, such as on the immune, endocrine and cardiovascular systems.

Worryingly, our study showed that 40% of participants indicated that they had experienced racism within the justice system and 30% within health care systems.

We know that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will not seek out health care and will not work in health services if we do not feel culturally safe.

And we know from the families

who took their heartbreak to the streets the last two weekends that racism in the justice system can be brutal and fatal.

Have things changed since the Lowitja Institute commissioned that landmark research?

Not according to new ANU research which showed that three out of four Australians who tested for unconscious bias hold a "negative implicit or unconscious bias against Indigenous Australians".

And not according to the everyday experience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Yet instead of taking urgent action, our government criticises us for our protests. Instead of working to address historic injustice, our Prime Minister diminished it, declaring we should not be "importing the things that are happening overseas to Australia" and that "there was no slavery in Australia". How can the leader of our country not know our history?

So, as the cries of #BlackLivesMatter continue to ring out across the globe, where do we

go from here in Australia?

We need to acknowledge that racism is deeply entrenched in Australia and is a public health emergency for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

That terrible reality is there to be read clearly in the current National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan, which identifies racism as a key driver of ill-health.

It is there to be read in the Uluru Statement to the Heart. In the critiques of the Closing the Gap strategy.

It is in the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody which has at their heart, as Professor Megan Davis said, the need to address "the structural powerlessness that renders Indigenous voices silent" in our nation.

It is time to end that silence. And it is time for governments to hear us.

● *Alyawarre woman Pat Anderson is chief executive of the Lowitja Institute.*

A country built on slavery and a history built on lies

WITHIN 48 hours of saying there had never been slavery in Australia, Scott Morrison did a backflip – after the spin doctors got to him, saying you can't deny slavery in this country. But, as has become customary with our Prime Minister, he still stood by his original statement, saying the comment related to principles that existed when the colony of New South Wales was founded – that there was to be no "lawful slavery".

Australia, in reality was founded on slave money as shown in a University of London study that traces the legacies of British slave ownership. When slavery was abolished in the 1700s slave owners were given millions in compensation due to their loss – a staggering 40% of the Treasury's spending budget, which in today's terms, calculated as wage values, equates to around £16.5 billion.

Many of these slave owners and slave traders came to Australia, which is why sugarcane and cotton – even though not suitable in our climate – became major industries, as they brought their practices with them. These slave traders became the fathers of the White Australia Policy, the Stolen Generations and genocide in this country.

Aboriginal people were forced into slavery, our men and women dehumanised and raped, and our children taken. It's a story that runs close to the heart of my children. Their great grandmother, Alice James, on their mother's side, was a slave.

As a young girl, in addition to domestic chores, she had to collect water and even had a wooden yoke – a wooden bar used by oxen –



Woolombi Waters

tied around her neck and across the back of her shoulders to carry buckets of water to the house.

My children saw this yoke, and knew what it was. Nanna James kept it in her possession right up until she passed away in 2008.

Then there was the practice of 'Blackbirding' of Pacific Islanders by the slave trade into Australia, becoming known as Kanakas – South Sea Islanders. Between 1842 and 1904, tens of thousands of people from the South Pacific islands were forced into working as slaves on Queensland sugar plantations.

This same industry is now worth \$2 billion in exports that benefit the descendants of these slave owners, while many of the great grandchildren of these slaves now

live in poverty. Their great-grandparents were kidnapped, shackled, flogged, and many died of disease or maltreatment on the four-month trip to Australia. Once here, they were sold to plantation owners. I researched this extensively and found evidence that a strong male would cost the equivalent of between \$5 and \$19, while women, particularly Tahitians, fetched around \$32.

Australian South Sea Islanders were kidnapped from their island homes and committed to a life of slavery. Historian Lincoln Hayes wrote in 2002:

"My observation, from speaking at close quarters with many Australian South Sea Islanders, is that they are distressed by what they perceive to be academic denials of gross injustices ... living conditions on many plantations were seldom adequate, and the Islander populations suffered horrific death rates. In some years mortality among Queensland's Islander population was in excess of 12%."

I remember meeting James Warcon, a South Sea Islander, who shared a story of his grandfather who was on Pentecost Island when he saw his first white man. Pentecost Island was made famous when David Attenborough, filming for the BBC in the 1950s, brought back footage of the land-diving ritual, like bungee jumping, off these massive towers practised by the Blackfellas there.

The ritual is used as an initiation ceremony from adolescence into manhood. James Warcon's grandfather never got to take his place in this initiation ceremony.

The white man had a mirror glinting in the sun shining from his hand. James's grandfather remembered walking towards him in amazement before being knocked out cold.

He came to in a slave ship, bound in chains, on his way to Australia, never to return to the island. It is a story along with that of my children's great grandmother that reverberates through the deep inner consciousness of my children, just as the story of the Myall Creek massacre did for me at the same age.

Then there is the pearling industry, where from the 1870s to the turn of the century, Aboriginal people, Malays, Timorese and Micronesians were also captured and sold as slave labour on the far north-west coast of Australia. Historian K Forrest estimates that around 1000 Asians were captured and sold into slavery.

Aboriginal people were rounded up from pastoral stations and, according to missionary and court reports from the time, sold for around five pounds. To highlight just how disgusting the true history of this country is, pregnant Aboriginal women were particularly prized because their lungs were believed to have greater air capacity in diving for pearls during pregnancy.

The average life expectancy of a slave in the pearling industry was painfully short. Historian Don McLeod writes how sickness was rife, colds and influenza typically led to pneumonia and premature death, where pearlers were alleged to have boasted "that so long as they could keep their divers alive

for three months, they could make a profit on the investment".

White history tells us that slavery was outlawed in Australia in 1901. This is what the Prime Minister is referring to... but the truth is much different. Between 1860 and 1970, Australia effectively had state-sanctioned slavery of Aboriginal people.

Historians Dr Rosalind Kidd and Dr Thalia Anthony have documented how Aboriginal Australians of all ages were forcibly sent to work on sheep and cattle properties across Australia under government schemes that were supposedly 'designed to protect them'. Laws allowed Aboriginal children to be sent from the age of 12, but many were sent much younger.

What all this highlights, is just how desperate many Australians are to deny the truth. This is why we see so many become angry and emotional when challenged. This is because our truth threatens the very security of the foundations for which they have built their reality. That Australian history does not recognise the same racial violence of other countries maintains for them a sense of bliss – the problem is that not only is it not true – it covers the absolute horror and the reality each and every one of them carries from generation to generation.

● *Woolombi Waters is a regular Koori Mail correspondent.*



Native title usurps land rights

IF YOU have ever been to a rally and march in Australia by and for blackfullas, you would have heard ‘always was, always will be.’ It is the theme for 2020 NAIDOC week but was a catch cry borne of the land rights movement – a movement that continues.

From the first arrival of Europeans on our shores, the fight for our land has been ongoing. Those of our ancestors who were violently pushed from traditional lands would have seen the immediate consequences of this with the destruction of vegetation to make way for settlements, the decimation of land animal and fish life from hunting without regard to conservation and the devastation of the loss of our people to violence, disease and desolation.

The struggle for land rights has always been tied to the struggle for survival, but the modern land rights movement dates back to 1963 when, on March 13, the Australian Government took more than 300 square kilometres of land from the Yolngu people in Arnhem Land so mining company Gominco could extract bauxite. As so often was the case, work started without talking to the Yolgnu people about their land.

The Yolgnu people from the settlement Yirrkala in north-east Arnhem Land presented the Australian Parliament with a bark petition, commonly known as the Yirrkala bark petitions, protesting to have their land and their rights returned.

In this same period what is referred to as the Wave Hill Walk Off, to protest working conditions and payment, soon became about much more. In August 1966 Vincent



Natalie Cromb

Lingiari, of the Gurindji people, led his people to strike but then argued that the land they were working on in perilous conditions was in fact the land of his people and, rightly so, he demanded the return of the land.

On February 8, 1973, Gough Whitlam announced the Woodward Commission Inquiry into the appropriate way to recognise Aboriginal land rights in the Northern Territory and appointed Justice Edward Woodward as Land Rights Commissioner.

In the Aboriginal Land Rights Commission Report 1974, Justice Woodward recommended legislation to restore traditional land to the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory. Justice Woodward's report recommended a number of measures including that there should be a land trust established to hold title to Aboriginal land to the benefit of Aboriginal people; a grant

to Aboriginal people of inalienable freehold title over all Northern Territory reserves; traditional owners to control mining activities except where there is national interest, and where mining did occur royalties were required to be distributed to the community, the lands councils and throughout the Northern Territory.

The government response, instead of the recommendations made by Woodward, was Native Title – the Woodward report, while still containing plenty of caveats that allowed for governmental control, was a little too close to allowing Aboriginal people land rights.

The intent of the recommendations of Justice Woodward and the subsequent land rights bills was to establish a national model for national land rights to provide uniformity and equity, however, opposition from state governments and the mining industry defeated that objective.

The native title system is what the government points to in answer to our continue demands for land rights. However, Wirdi man and our first Indigenous Silk Tony McAvoy, who has advocated for communities for years, says that the native title system ‘embeds racism’ and flies in the face of the United Nations ‘Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples’ which demands land not be dispossessed without “free, prior and informed consent.”

The native title system allows objections to mining activities and those objections are always overruled. This means that if Aboriginal people object to mining operations on their country and inevitably overruled, they are

precluded from negotiating things like royalties or compensation when the mine ultimately goes ahead.

The system, McAvoy says, is stacked against us, which is why he always calls for our people to “resist in whatever fashion we can” in order to protect our communities and culture given all that is weighted against us. Without question, the native title system is a racist system that seeks to undermine land rights instead of granting them. It seeks to engage us in a process that legitimises their erasure of our rights – smoke and mirrors. We know that this system is unjust and racist. We know that the Racial Discrimination Act was suspended in order to pass amendment to the Native Title Act to allow for mining to proceed without the consent of traditional owners, and we know that change will not be brought about unless we fight for it.

We continue to resist the destruction of our country and the ecosystems within it. There are currently resistance efforts against Adani, Rio Tinto, Origin and a swathe of other corporations that seek to destroy our country for profit. We must join in the resistance efforts for these communities – we need to bolster their efforts.

If we cannot physically join them, then we need to reinforce their messaging by sharing their content, by contributing financially to the campaign or joining in their calls for action by writing to the corporations and government and applying pressure to their financiers and other suppliers to make clear that we cannot and will not allow continued destruction of our country.

Regardless of those who sit illegitimately in Canberra thinking

that they have the right to make decisions about us without us, we know that if they were confident in their authority – they would not need to make racist and underhanded decisions to undermine our rights.

They know that this country was taken illegally. They know that they are in breach of international declarations and regulations and they know that the laws they implement as weapons against us are racist. Every time the Racial Discrimination Act has been suspended in this country – it has been done to make a law that targets us.

In 1832, Chief Protector of Aborigines at Port Philip, George Robinson wrote;

I am at a loss to conceive by what tenure we hold this country, for it does not appear to be that we either hold it by conquest or by right of purchase.

He was right. This country is stolen, the land occupied illegally, because there has been no conquest as we are still here. There has been no purchase because we have not been compensated for the theft of land and the government is aware of this illegitimacy which is why it enacts laws and policies that attempt to undermine our culture and connection as peoples and erode our rights.

This land always was and always will be. We will fight and ensure that their ivory towers crumble.

● Gamilaraay woman Natalie Cromb is a writer and advocate.



Culture is our health

Right now, my worlds have collided with COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter. The protests are drawing attention to what Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have always known – that the intersection between racism and adverse life outcomes is real. The systems that perpetuate these inequities need to be everyone's concern – not only those who currently fall between the cracks.

I was fortunate to grow up on country. My family is Yorta Yorta, from the land around Cummeragunja Mission, near Echuca, and on the other side, Dja Dja Wurrung. I have a lot of Uncles, Aunties and cousins. My inspiration to study medicine and then cardiovascular medicine came from both my grandmother Iris, who was a paraplegic with diabetes, and my mother Marlene, who completed a Master of Social Work in her 50s and passed on an incredible work ethic. My great-grandfather was Thomas Shadrach James, an Indian preacher who studied medicine at the University of Melbourne and later worked at the Mission.

I learned early on that I was destined to walk two roads. My cousins would joke that I was a Gubbarigini – meaning a white blackfella. With an English father and an Aboriginal mother, I have fair skin but Aboriginal blood running through my heart.

I am visibly white, but I don't relate as much to my English culture because it's not where I grew up. I have often felt like a fly on the wall, often hearing people talking about others in my community in very disparaging ways, just walking down the street with my darker-skinned family members. People sometimes regard my identifying as Aboriginal as being a choice. For me, it's not a choice, it's just who I am.

When I was 16, I went to South Africa for a year as an exchange student on a Rotary



Luke Burchill

scholarship. I made it clear I wouldn't attend a whites-only school, so I ended up at one of South Africa's few mixed-race schools and slotted into the so-called “coloured” community. I say that year saved my life because Mooropna was so difficult to live in, there was a tension in that town that centred on race. In the 70s and 80s, being an Aboriginal person was the worst thing you could be in Mooropna.

I'm an adult congenital heart disease specialist – I look after people with a full life but half a heart. I completed a PhD and travelled overseas to undertake postdoctoral fellowships that took me from the bench, to the bedside, to the population.

I trained with world-leading clinicians and scientists in Canada and the USA and stayed there for 10 years.

At 45, I have already outlived many other Aboriginal men and women who have died from heart disease. Indigenous Australians

between the ages of 35-44, our emerging Elders, are nine to 12 times more likely to die from cardiovascular disease than their non-Indigenous counterparts. It's the leading cause of death and the largest contributor to the health gap for Aboriginal Australians.

We need our Elders to be strong so that they can pass down those stories. Our culture is our health, it's not an add-on, it's not a separate piece of work or a line of research.

More than 50% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aren't screened for CV disease. Of those that are screened, only 50% receive guideline-based treatment. Among those that make it to hospital, Indigenous people are significantly less likely to have a coronary angiogram or to have blocked coronary vessels fixed.

And the question for all of this is, ‘Why?’ My research seeks to answer this question. We need to – and we can – close the gap through data-driven research.

When Aboriginal hospital patients are linked with Aboriginal Liaison Officers and staff members that identify as Aboriginal, it's powerful. You see people relax more. They become a bit more vulnerable in what they're willing to share and also more forthright in expressing their concerns.

I had one patient who told his Mum he'd seen an Aboriginal cardiologist, and she said, “What? Get out of here!” We need to have that as the common experience, not a rare one.

The day when people aren't surprised that there's an Aboriginal cardiologist, neurologist, surgeon – that's the day that we're striving for now. I'm currently a PhD supervisor for Dr Angela Dos Santos, Australia's first Aboriginal neurologist and stroke specialist. We're getting there!

Most Aboriginal health research focuses on Aboriginal people living in remote areas. This might explain the missed opportunities to

improve cardiovascular outcomes. Professor Sandra Eades (now Dean of Medicine at Curtin University) found that while 80% of Aboriginal people live in cities, compared to 7% in remote areas, they accounted for just 11% of research from 2004-2009.

Another theme that shapes how we view Indigenous health is a deficit view of Indigenous people as “problematic people”. As described by Aboriginal leader Professor Maggie Walter there is an overwhelming focus on the five Ds of Indigenous Australian data: Disparity, Deprivation, Disadvantage, Dysfunction and Difference. A new generation of Aboriginal researchers and leaders is changing the script, ready to take a strengths and solutions-focused approach, rather than a deficit view.

Maybe we need new ways for people to tell their stories, and new ways as clinicians to listen. I'm currently working on a video research project, funded by a University engagement grant, called *A Full Life*, which creates a safe space for patients to express themselves and for clinicians to engage more meaningfully, with space and time.

I got started on this by a patient who asked a simple question:

‘How do I live with hope?’

It's the sort of question that doesn't get captured well in existing research paradigms.

This project comes at a crucial time when clinicians of all kinds need to revisit a skill that is being lost – the simple and therapeutically important act of listening.

– As told to Elizabeth Lopez

● Cardiologist Associate Professor Luke Burchill grew up on country, and was inspired by family to study medicine and work in a strengths and solutions-focused approach to Indigenous health. This story was first published on the University of Melbourne website and is republished with permission.



Greenaway's garden and landscape design at Ngarara Place, RMIT University Melbourne. Picture: Peter Casamento



Koorie Student Liaison Unit at the University of Melbourne. Picture: Peter Bennetts



Koorie Student Liaison Unit at the University of Melbourne. Picture: Peter Bennetts

The architect with

By NICK PATON



WAILWAN Kamilaroi architect Jefa Greenaway wants to see Australia's Indigenous identity reflected in every streetscape and that's why he is embracing his own roots to build cultural awareness into Melbourne's urban design.

As principal architect and founding director of Greenaway Architects, Mr Greenaway told the *Koori Mail* he had already completed a political science degree prior to studying architecture, and it wasn't until he undertook a diploma in technical

drafting that he really discovered his love for design.

"It was realising that I had an ability to draw that was one of the key drivers for my desire to study architecture," Greenaway said.

"It's that sort of immediacy of mind-to-hand, where you can express yourself, that really appealed to me.

"I often say that architecture is another form of cultural expression in many aspects, because it involves having an interest in drawing and how things fit together, and drawing really encourages you to develop a sense of spatial reasoning."

Greenaway is the first Indigenous architect to be

registered in Victoria and has spent more than 25 successful years shaping change in the industry.

"It's that curiosity of how things come into being that has always interested me, and has certainly driven me to where I am today," Greenaway said.

"My mum is a graphic designer, my sister is an artist, my grandfather was a draftsman, and being a plumber, my father was also heavily involved in design, construction and the built environment, so in a way, the love for design is a creative legacy that runs through the veins of my entire family.

"I started with a small design

enterprise with my wife Catherine Drosinos and that started to grow and evolve to the point where I was doing as many hours outside my day job working for another architect, as I was at home starting up our business."

The Greenaway Architectural practice has evolved over time since its inception in 1998, and grown from where they started out doing smaller intimate projects on houses for private clients.

"After a while you realise you need to broaden the range of projects you do to remain sustainable and so we started to branch out into commercial fit-outs for retail, office fit-outs," Greenaway said. "And it was

working on these projects that I realised there is a huge gap in terms of Aboriginal representation in design and community involvement.

"Out of respect for cultural protocols and procedures, I was initially hesitant to engage the local Aboriginal community in any aspects of the design process until I had the right permissions.

"So I kind of had to earn my stripes by engaging deeply in respectful community consultation before I even put my hand up to say I wanted to work with the Aboriginal community."

Greenaway's first major design incorporating the voices of the Indigenous community was the



Greenaway's garden and landscape design at Ngarara Place, RMIT University Melbourne. Picture: Peter Casamento

“Through design we can address a whole host of issues and confront some of the challenges we as a society face like sustainability, and climate resilience and wellbeing, which are all things that can be informed by good design,”

– Jefa Greenaway



Wailwan Kamilaroi architect Jefa Greenaway is the founder of Greenaway Architects and started Indigenous Architecture + Design, a not-for-profit Aboriginal design and mentorship organisation.

designs on Country

Koorie Student Liaison Unit at the University of Melbourne, where he has over two decades of service as a senior academic. It was that project which really peaked his interest in community collaboration.

“Another project involved garden and landscape design at RMIT University in Melbourne, called Ngarara Place, and this project in particular is the one that really put Greenaway Architects on the map, which helped other organisations to realise that there are Aboriginal architects out there ready to take on new and exciting projects,” Greenaway said.

“What we have noticed in recent years is that there is an

acute interest and appetite to look at authentic ways to connect to Country, and express the rich layers of Aboriginal history and experience through design.

“It’s great that people are starting to ask the question, ‘Is there an Indigenous story that can be told here in this project?’, especially in the mainstream when you see interest among councils, governments and universities.”

Mr Greenaway said he realised that there were so few Aboriginal architects that he thought to himself, ‘How do we find a mechanism where we can encourage young Indigenous people into the built environment profession?’, and that’s how the

idea of starting Indigenous Architecture + Design Victoria (IAV), a not-for-profit Aboriginal design and mentorship organisation, came about.

“We used IAV initially as a vehicle to showcase to the design profession the value of Indigenous knowledge systems which inform people about places and spaces, but also to demonstrate back to the Indigenous community the value of good design and the community realising their own ideas and aspirations,” Greenaway said.

“It’s also been a powerful way to showcase Indigenous designers and a way to mentor and also provides a cohort and network of

Indigenous designers, who are often the only Indigenous student in their design class at university.

“It enables Indigenous students to pick up the phone and have a yarn and try to resolve issues that may occur, or even for the student to get some advice, or to simply navigate the complexities that often exist, especially in the context of architecture.”

Mr Greenaway said design is really just creative problem solving.

“Through design we can address a whole host of issues and confront some of the challenges we as a society face like sustainability, and climate resilience and wellbeing, which

are all things that can be informed by good design,” Greenaway said.

“To have an Indigenous designer at the table, actively involved in the development of the design concept and the realisation of all design and architecture projects, should certainly be considered as part of the mix.

“As we know there is a rich diversity of over 250 Indigenous language groups across 600 nations in this country, and what better way to ensure that one can infuse design projects with a sense of understanding the importance of Country, than to utilise the expertise of Indigenous designers in each and every step of the process.”



A team of police, traffic services and Defence Force personnel on duty at the Yarrabah police checkpoint in April. Under the Federal Biosecurity Act only those deemed essential workers were allowed in and out of the community.

Our communities have moved mountains

By CHRISTINE HOWES



PROFESSOR James Ward – a Pitjantjatjara and Narungga man – believes self-determination and communities looking out for one another played a huge part in stopping the COVID-19 pandemic infecting remote Aboriginal communities.

On Mabo Day, Prof Ward, director of the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health, told a University of Queensland online forum on the impacts of COVID-19 from First Nations perspectives that the pandemic had opened up new lines of direct communication with the highest levels of government.

"I think that's been a very good thing," he said.

"Hopefully we don't have an obstructionist view anymore to Aboriginal politics and that this pandemic has shown that Aboriginal people and Aboriginal organisations can organise and do things for ourselves if we're given enough lateral reign and freedom to be able to practice self-determination."



Professor James Ward.

Prof Ward said, as a member of the Communicable Disease Network of Australia, he had spent more than 100 fortnightly meetings looking at strategies for managing any kind of communicable disease outbreaks across the Australian population.

"We've dealt with everything over the last little while,

particularly in relation to surveillance and policy advice related to COVID-19, from international border control, state and territory border control, boarding schools, aircraft seating arrangements, all sorts of issues have been dealt with by that committee over the past hundred meetings," he said.

He said as the only Aboriginal person in the network he realised he couldn't do it alone and asked the Commonwealth Health Department to form a Taskforce which was committed to addressing COVID-19 in Aboriginal communities.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander taskforce was formed within a week with a broad range of membership, including the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) to the Australian Indigenous Doctors Association (AIDA) and many in between.

"All the determinants for things to go wrong in Aboriginal communities were already well described, like social determinants of health, crowded housing, access to health care services, and people living in jurisdictions where Intensive Care Unit beds were very limited," Prof Ward said.

"We recognised that if this got into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities we were at grave risk.

"So the Taskforce was formed very quickly and fortunately we had a bit of time on our hands before any cases were diagnosed in Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander people. We managed to get a lot of work done in those early weeks of February and March in preparation for an outbreak, or for an escalation of cases, in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities."

He said from the start the taskforce was Aboriginal-led with a direct line of sight to the Prime Minister and National Cabinet, thereby avoiding the departmental bureaucratic processes they would normally have to undertake to get things moving.

"Having that direct line of sight to the Prime Minister and into the National Cabinet has absolutely averted the crisis," Prof Ward said.

"By having advice provided by Aboriginal organisations around the country, there were about 40 people on the Aboriginal Task Force, has really helped avert the crisis.

"And to highlight how big a crisis we averted, I just want to say something about the Navajo Nation."

He said the Navajo Nation of North America had suffered 5000 cases and 158 deaths.

"If the Navajo Nation was counted as a state of the United States of America it would have a



Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services staff Paul Neal (Transport and Facilities manager) and Teresa Neal (Health Worker), both classified as 'essential workers' for the purposes of Yarrabah's lockdown, yarning with Traffic Services Supervisor Kelly O'Connor and Private Matty Miller before their paperwork is checked by police and they are allowed through.



Police, traffic services and Defence Force personnel on duty at the Yarrabah police checkpoint in April.

rate of diagnosis higher than New York and higher than New Jersey," Prof Ward said.

"Appalling outcomes for one racial group."

He said the issue was the US left their response too late.

"The people who are most vulnerable were most affected, and so for us as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people we still only have 60 cases," he said.

"Which represents about 0.58% of all cases in Australia, which is a phenomenal outcome.

"And no case has been diagnosed in a remote community.

"So, for once, we have an outstanding health outcome for our people."

He said he believed Aboriginal self-determination had played a direct role in that outcome.

"Aboriginal people's advice has been listened to in that direct line of advice to government and action by the Prime Minister and our communities saw this and they mobilised very quickly," he said.

"So we have an outstanding outcome so far. I keep on saying we're one kilometre into a 42 kilometre marathon, but at this

point in time where we've crossed over our peak in Australia.

"We've done very well so far. We've still got a long way to go.

"And we can talk about what the next steps are but I think it's an outstanding contribution, and I feel very proud that we have been part of it.

"It hasn't been me that's driven this, but a whole lot of us, and it's such a phenomenal thing to be part of.

"Really, it hasn't been my experience of infectious disease research over the past 25 years, that's for sure."

He said the groups around the table forming their responses were widely diverse – from Cairns to Alice Springs to the Kimberley.

"At the very outset it was like herding cats," he said.

"We didn't know what was possible. We didn't know what this was going to do.

"We didn't know what potential havoc it could wreak on our communities. We didn't know anything."

But, he said, they did know they wanted action.

"We were very clear, very early

that we weren't a surveillance group," he said.

"Those people have done an amazing job.

"We moved mountains in such a small amount of time, and it was because of the contribution of so many people around the country that have contributed and continue to contribute to the response."

He said it went further than that.

"One thing that was very clear at the outset, was that communities mobilised and communities actually pushed government to mobilise even faster than government probably did," he said.

"And so where my grandmother's country is, the CEO had clearly said, 'from this day on we don't want any more visitors. We're closing off our communities to people who are non-essential'.

"Not long after, the Torres Strait and Papua New Guinea border was closed at the insistence of Torres Strait Island leaders.

"Quickly afterwards the Northern Territory Land Council released a press release to say 'we won't be issuing any more

permits for people to visit communities'.

"That forced the government to realise that Aboriginal communities wanted to reduce the number of people to communities.

"And what that did was force government into enacting the Biosecurity Act, which is a special Act that's put in place when there are threats around biosecurity for our nation at large.

"And so they sectioned areas in Australia, and they mostly were remote communities.

"It came from Aboriginal communities who mobilised that response in the first place, because Aboriginal communities wanted to protect our Elders."

He said their initial response was directed at remote communities because of a lack of access to health services.

"If there's an outbreak of 40 people, all 40 of them would have to be evacuated out of the community," he said.

"You would overload the hospital system, and so the emphasis was on strategies to mitigate the risk and what we would do if there was an outbreak in a remote community."

He said the issues for urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and for people in regional towns were the same.

"There are more health services, particularly tertiary care, testing availability is much more easy to access, but the problem is that for many of our population about 20 per cent of them are still living in crowded housing," he said.

He said there the escalation of an outbreak in an urban setting would be much greater.

"The risk for urban Aboriginal people is huge," he said.

"If you think about the potential in remote communities for it to wreak havoc, it's actually exactly the same scenario as in Navajo Nations we'd be facing in Australia.

"And so we've been very fortunate that the Australian response has been good overall and that's kind of mitigated the risk for our own population.

"And we've had time to think about the other populations, urban and regional."

He said, however, there was an element of government mindset preventing them from moving forward as they would like.

"I'll give you an example," he said.

"We wanted to try to get some point of care testing machines into the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health Fever Clinics.

"Recognising that Aboriginal people don't want to go to the hospital still in urban settings, we tried to get these point of care tests into favoured places where we know there is going to be a high flow through of Aboriginal patients so they could get a result back in 45 minutes.

"It wasn't looked at favourably by the Commonwealth, and rightly so. We had a limited number of machines and cartridges, but it just kind of shows that we still haven't moved on from their mindset. It's still in policy that we are all Aboriginal and we should all be treated equally.

"But we keep on trying to bring in that urban aspect. We've had more time now to think about it whereas at the start we really focussed on our greatest risk, our greatest vulnerability.

"As I said earlier, we are one kilometre in the 42 kilometre marathon.

"Our messaging absolutely has to change from 'be prepared' to 'how we live with Covid-19'.

"How do we keep on maintaining physical distance and hygiene and everything else we've been doing for the past five months.

"We've got a long way to go."

He said overall the way they had worked with the government throughout the pandemic should set a blueprint for the future.

"I think the one big outcome I'd like to see from this is recognition by government that Aboriginal people can and do absolutely care about our communities to make a difference and can do it if they move alongside us," he said.

"And I think all credit to government, they have moved alongside us, they've acted on the advice we've given them during this pandemic.

"But why can't they do that on issues that have been intractable and so hard to move over a very long period of time?

"Any kind of recommendation from the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, which is driving protests at the moment, the Bringing Them Home report, all of these reports over 30 or 40 years have been left and seen as too hard to move through the Parliament.

"The Uluru Statement from the Heart has been obstructed, it was goodwill and kindness and generosity of spirit and wording from Aboriginal people that was left at the door of Parliament.

"We've actually had enough of it and we're tired of it and we just want to see things move in a much more positive way and in the speed of light, like things have moved in this pandemic.

"That's my ultra wish and I just wish we could just do things.

"Ninety per cent of Australians want reconciliation, 90% of Australians are standing with us – just let us do the things we do.

"Act on what we give you and do it with us. Don't obstruct us because it's seen to be too hard for a certain portion of the Australian population that are never going to be with us."

Corey delivers STEM resources to schools

By NICK PATON



KAMILAROI brother Corey Tutt was shocked to learn that a school in a remote part of Australia had only 15 books in their entire library. And that's why he created Deadly Science, which aims to ensure all Aboriginal kids in remote areas have access to quality educational resources.

While working full time as an animal technician at the University of Sydney, Mr Tutt was at home after hours googling remote schools to talk to their teachers and students about their science resources and materials.

He told the *Koori Mail* that teachers and students said they were heavily under-resourced in educational materials, and any resources and equipment they did receive were often related to sport or art and not literacy or science.

"That's not to say schools don't appreciate these types of resources, but not every kid wants to be a sportsperson or artist and, given the chance, we know that Aboriginal kids are extremely interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)," Mr Tutt said.

"So I packed up all the books I had in my home and sent them to my first school, and the rest has just snowballed.

"That first school said to me, 'Hey, we have another school down the road, do you think you could help them out too?', and those schools turned into four schools, which turned into 20, to where we are now with over 100 schools as members of Deadly Science."

So far Deadly Science has sent more than 4000 donated books, 70 telescopes and 80 other resource kits to Indigenous kids at over 100 schools around the country since launching less than a year ago.

Mr Tutt recently started a Go Fund Me campaign, which has already raised over \$110,000, with the proceeds going to gathering more educational resources and materials to send out to schools.

"Which will propel school kids living in remote areas of Australia into an exciting world of STEM education," Mr Tutt said.

As well as receiving book donations from high-profile scientists such as Professor Brian Cox and Doctor Karl Kruszelnicki, 27-year-old Corey has used most of his own money in raising more than \$33,000 to purchase books and equipment for schools in desperate need of STEM and early childhood learning resources.



Deadly Science student Roderick Roberts from Wingellina School in Central Western Australia received a Deadly Junior Scientist award for his enthusiasm making bush medicine.



Deadly Science students with their Deadly Junior Scientist awards from the Northern Peninsula School in the Torres Strait.



Deadly Science students are excited to receive their Chemistry kits at Robinson River School in the Northern Territory.



Deadly Science student Charlie Shadforth from Robinson River School in the Northern Territory.

In recognition of his commitment to community and philanthropic work related to Deadly Science, Mr Tutt was named as the 2020 NSW Young Australian of the Year.

"I am honoured to receive such a prestigious award," he said.

"I was born in Nowra on the South Coast of NSW, and I grew up moving around a lot with my family, and the first thing I wanted to do was Skype all the schools involved in Deadly Science to show the kids there

that they too are worthy of this type of award.

"As a youngster I was always the kid picking up lizards and snakes, and the backyard was the go-to thing for me because for someone whose family moves around a lot, it isn't easy finding and making friends.

"Although I didn't always make friends when we'd move, people were always friendly with me because I was the one who could catch the blue-tongue, and all the other kids wanted to know about it."

Mr Tutt said the first book that inspired his love of science was *Australian Reptiles in Colour* by Harold G Cogger from 1989 which was given to him by his beloved Pop when he was born, and it was this book that actually taught him how to read.

"I've never been one of those people who is into literature, but this book in particular gave me the opportunity to learn some interesting facts about reptiles that I could tell other kids and then write about them too," he said.

Mr Tutt took home the STEM Champion award at the CSIRO Indigenous STEM awards in 2019 in recognition of his Deadly Junior Scientist Awards, which he hopes will inspire Indigenous students to continue to engage with STEM, and to explore questions about their local wildlife and country in a scientific way.

"I left Dapto High School at 16 and I knew that working with animals was a natural progression because all of a sudden I found myself over in



Kamilaroi man Corey Tutt is the founder of the not-for-profit educational organisation Deadly Science.

Angurugu House Boarding School students on Groote Eylandt in the Northern Territory are thrilled to be new members of the Deadly Science program.

Western Australia, working at the Roo Gully wildlife sanctuary in Boyup Brook," Mr Tutt said.

"After a few years working at the wildlife sanctuary, I moved back to the the NSW South Coast, where I was offered a job as a zookeeper at the Shoalhaven Zoo. It was tough moving back in the end because I not only took on a new role at the zoo, I also lost a good friend I had made at the zoo that year. "That year was a major

setback, and I felt like I'd completely lost my love for working with animals, but then out of the blue, I answered an ad in the local paper and went on to travel all around Australia and New Zealand shearing alpacas."

Mr Tutt said shearing really helped him to regain his confidence and build resilience, and when he returned home he studied hard and ended up landing a role at the University of Sydney as an animal technician.

"I want Aboriginal kids to know that they can do anything, and to be a real leader is your ability to bounce back," Mr Tutt said.

"In just a couple of months I have received four major awards, and I have been able to give those awards to the kids by reinvesting over \$10,000 in prize money back into Deadly Science.

"It is obvious there needs to be a level playing field in terms

of the education all kids receive in Australia and my greatest achievement so far is not the actual awards I have received, instead, the awards and recognition are more about the way I have been able to change the perception of how people view Aboriginal kids."

Every donation made to the Deadly Science fundraiser will help cover the shipping costs involved with sending science resources and materials out to

schools all over Australia.

Mr Tutt also wants to ensure that every remote Australian school has a copy of Bruce Pascoe's book *Dark Emu* – a history of Indigenous science and agriculture – which he hopes will educate both Aboriginal and other Australians about the true story of Australia's Indigenous history.

Visit the Deadly Science GoFundMe page at www.gf.me/u/x353pz

Gayaa Dhuwi takes the lead in Indigenous mental health

By NICK PATON



A NEW national organisation led by First Nations people is taking a unique approach to mental health and wellbeing.

Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia was established in March and chief executive Tom Brideson said that the organisation will assist Indigenous people to access the best of both worlds in mental health including culturally safe clinical treatment and Indigenous specialised areas of practice incorporating cultural healers and social and emotional wellbeing and mental health

teams. Gayaa Dhuwi's vision is Indigenous leadership, excellence and presence across all parts of the Australian mental health system and the achievement of the highest attainable standard of social and emotional wellbeing, mental health and suicide prevention outcomes for Indigenous peoples.

It is the new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social and emotional wellbeing, mental health and suicide prevention national leadership body and is governed and controlled by Indigenous experts and peak bodies working in these areas.

Gayaa Dhuwi chair Professor Helen Milroy said that the recent restrictions due to the COVID-19



Professor Helen Milroy

pandemic could put strains on Indigenous people's mental health.

"Poverty, racism and trauma already contribute to mental health issues among us, and sustained periods of isolation, and potential loss of employment, sickness and grief ahead will only add to



Tom Brideson

that burden," she said.

"I hope by working together we can spread the word about Gayaa Dhuwi Australia.

"We have survived many challenges and I am confident that together we can support each other and we will get through this

pandemic. Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia has a significant role to play in this as a uniquely Indigenous and trusted source of information, help and hope during the difficult times ahead."

The organisation has launched a series of free posters for Indigenous people containing many useful tips for staying healthy and strong during the coronavirus outbreak.

Mr Brideson said the posters are based on the tips the organisation published on their website in April, and he hopes the posters will now be put up in homes, health services and anywhere else they might be of help.

"They are designed to appeal to wide cross section

of Indigenous audiences – remote and urban, and young and old alike and each of the numbered tips corresponds to those on the website," Mr Brideson said.

"So people can get more information about any given area if they want it.

"Gayaa Dhuwi Australia welcomes the easing of social isolation restrictions underway, however, we urge Indigenous Australians and their allies to remain vigilant about maintaining social distancing over the coming months to avoid a 'second wave' of the virus – including by taking special care around our Elders and those with existing health problems."

To access the Gayaa Dhuwi posters, visit www.gayaadhuwi.org.au



Gunbalanya School year 7 to 9 students on a trek along Bininj Manbolh accompanied by Elders and Njanjma Rangers.

Gunbalanya kids learn lessons by following paths of their ancestors



TRADITIONAL knowledge was imparted to 11 Gunbalanya School senior students during a trek along the Bininj Manbolh — the walking trails of their ancestors.

The years 7 to 9 students were accompanied on the two-day 18-kilometre Learning on Country trip by Elders and five Njanjma Rangers.

Learning on Country teacher Daniel McLaren said the primary purpose of the excursion was to show the cultural

knowledge transferred is "living and relevant".

"The students listened to the Elders' Dreaming stories and were introduced to sand palms, green plum trees, yams, and mankung (native sugarbag honey)," he said. "They were taught traditional place names, how to make and fix bamboo fish spears (djalakirradj), prepare and bake damper, and cook bush meats in a ground oven.

"The students learned how paints were made from orchid sap mixed with ochre, and learned to interpret art in two rock-

shelters that included fish, kangaroos and mimih (spirit figures)."

Mr McLaren said the hike was useful in building teamwork skills and aptitudes in safety and readiness for wilderness travel.

"The students learned the protocols that should precede any bush trip, including the gear they'd need and the provision of enough water to avoid dehydration," he said. "They also referred to Google Earth to see the route and calculate the distance."

The June event followed a shorter trip for the primary school students.

Traditional owners doubt Rio's sincerity



NATIVE title holders who were devastated when Rio Tinto blew up ancient rock shelters in Western Australia say their relationship with the mining giant is fractured.

The Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura peoples say they are trying to restore their fractured relationship but question the sincerity of the company's apology.

Rio's recent blowing up of two 46,000-year-old landmarks in the Juukan Gorge was legal as the miner secured ministerial consent in 2013.

But it sparked international outrage, prompting an apology from the company for causing distress to the Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura people.

A report in the Australian Financial Review claimed Rio iron ore chief Chris Salisbury could be heard in a secret recording responding to a staff complaint about how the company had said sorry.

"We haven't apologised for the event itself per se, but apologised for the distress the event caused," Mr Salisbury reportedly said.

The report also cited the executive as saying the destruction of the rock shelters was "quite galling to me".

The Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura Aboriginal Corporation said in a statement that the article "raises questions relating to the sincerity of Rio Tinto's apologies".

"We will be addressing this matter with Rio Tinto so as to ensure transparency and trust in our conversations as we continue to determine the way forward."

The corporation said discussions to date had been productive and apologies had seemed genuine and sincere.

Rio Tinto has launched a board-led review of its heritage management processes within Iron Ore following the events at Juukan Gorge, with a focus on recommending improvements to the effectiveness of its internal processes and governance. — AAP

Culture helps keep isolated kids busy



UNIQUE hands-on activities have helped Robinvale's Aboriginal children connect to their culture during the isolation of COVID-19.

Daryl Singh, a drug and alcohol support worker at Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-operative, said that more than 80 cultural kits were delivered to Aboriginal kids in north-western Victoria in recent weeks, with each kit containing a pair of wooden clapsticks, some paint, and sketches.

"It was really about giving the kids something to do during isolation, but at the same time it gave them an opportunity to have a connection to culture," he said.

Together with his colleague Ivan Hingano, Daryl spent days cutting, barking, sanding back and cutting the clapsticks to the right lengths. The clapsticks were then added to the kits with small pots of paint, so children could paint their own designs on them.

"The kids were rapt, they just loved it," Daryl said.

"We started off doing 40 kits and then when we went out and delivered them we soon

found out we needed more because all the kids wanted them."

Daryl said the clapsticks provided an important opportunity to talk about cultural values with local children.

"When I delivered them I'd say to the kids 'What you are holding in your hands is one of the world's oldest musical instruments' and when they realised these instruments belonged to Aboriginal culture, they were proud and you could see them be proud of their culture," he said.

The culture kits also contained copies of sketches featuring water holes, emus, kangaroo paw prints and people.

"There was enough paint in each kit for the kids to paint those sketches," Daryl said.

"Underneath those sketches there's meaning, so that gives the kids a chance to talk about what they are seeing and learn as well."

While Daryl hasn't yet had a chance to see how local children went painting the clapsticks and sketches they were given, he's hoping to get photos of finished products up on the MVAC Facebook page in coming weeks.



Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-operative's Ivan Hingano and Daryl Singh with the cultural kits they put together and delivered to local kids during COVID-19 isolation.

SA police deny racism behind alleged assault



SOUTH Australia's police chief has rejected suggestions of systemic racism in the force after video footage emerged of an Aboriginal man being pinned down and hit by officers in Adelaide.

Commissioner Grant Stevens also cautioned against jumping to conclusions after the launch of an internal investigation into the incident.

In a statement, SA police conceded one officer appeared to strike the 28-year-old man at suburban Kilburn.

The officers have been placed on administrative duties while the investigation is under way.

Mr Stevens said in any organisation of 6000 people there would be "divergent views". But he said the vast majority of its officers acted in accordance with regulations and the law.

"I'd refute any suggestion there is systemic racism within the SA police," Mr Stevens said.

Police had gone to the property over an alleged high-risk domestic violence incident in which a woman was taken to hospital.

The officers saw a man leaving on a bicycle as they approached and claim they searched him because of suspicions he was in possession of illegal drugs.

The police statement said the man was initially compliant but after a short time began to resist and a struggle ensued.



South Australian police commissioner Grant Stevens has denied accusations there is systemic racism in the SA Police.

Police and the man went to the ground as attempts were made to restrain and handcuff him.

The man was arrested and charged with hindering police, resisting police and property damage.

The video was filmed by bystanders who were calling for the officers to "get off his head" and was posted to Facebook.

Witness Emma Pereira said her friend was the man arrested in the driveway of her Albert Street flat and was "getting tackled" by two officers when she started filming.

Mr Stevens said he would wait to look at the full circumstances before forming a view.

"I can say the video that was uploaded caused concern in terms of police

response," he said.

"But in fairness to all people involved, a thorough investigation is being conducted."

Mr Stevens said body-worn video and statements from the concerned officers and witnesses needed to be reviewed.

"The microscope is on policing and we'd expect the highest standard from our officers in accordance with their training, our policies and the law," he said.

The incident came less than two weeks after more than 5000 people protested in Adelaide calling for justice over the death of US man George Floyd and an end to Indigenous deaths in custody.

But the SA Police Association said it would be wrong to conflate current events in the United States with the actions of Australian police officers.

"It is wrong, dishonest and damaging to depict these events in a way that stirs up an anti-cop attitude in this country," President Mark Carroll said.

"It does immeasurable harm to the longstanding relationships police enjoy with their communities."

Two days after the incident Mr Stevens fronted the media to apologise for an officer's "offensive and disgusting" racist remarks made to a Sudanese-Australian woman on social media.

He said there were no excuses for the officer's behaviour, and they have since been taken off operational duties while police investigate.

However, he said it was a single event

and hoped others from minority communities based their opinions on police from their personal interactions and not what they see in the media.

"The comments were offensive and disgusting," he said.

"I would not like any one incident to flavour anyone's opinions on the nature of the organisation we are... It would be unfair."

The officer sent Facebook messages to Nyadol Nyuon, a lawyer and human rights advocate based in Melbourne, following her appearance as a guest on ABC's Q&A program on Monday.

They read: "Oi f***stick how's ya criminal brother going?"

"He's responsible for his own actions. Stop blaming white man and pulling the race card you ignorant c***."

A SA Police spokesman confirmed the person was a sworn officer and apologised for the offence caused by the comments.

SAPOL has been providing ongoing support to the employee for a number of personal issues," the statement said.

"There is no tolerance for racism or any behaviour that negatively impacts any section of the community.

"When we receive allegations of such behaviour they are taken seriously and investigated, with those responsible held to account for their behaviour.

"The comments and views on this personal Facebook account are abhorrent and in no way representative of the values of South Australia Police." – AAP

Men urged to get annual health check



DURING National Men's Health Week, NACCHO (National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation) chair

Donnella Mills said that addressing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander male health was an important part of the Close the Gap initiatives.

"The commitment of our Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) is to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males to live longer, healthier lives by providing a wide range of preventative men's programs that address critical social and emotional issues that our men face," she said.

"The overall aim is to reduce the rate of hospitalisations, which is almost three times higher than for other Australian men and to reduce the number of Aboriginal men in prison who are imprisoned at 11 times the rate of the general male population.

"I would urge our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men to focus on their overall health after these two-three months of isolation and get a comprehensive annual 715 health check at their nearest ACCHO.

"Annual health checks are crucial in picking up little things before they become worse, give peace of mind, and they are free."

Ingkintja: Wurra apa artwuka pmara is an Aboriginal Male Health Service at the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress that takes the lead in providing cultural activities and social and emotional wellbeing services for male health.



Some of the Ingkintja team Terry Braun, John Liddle, David Galvin, Wayne Campbell and Ken Lechleitner

The ACCHO delivers a full suite of medical care, complemented by social support services with emphasis on preventative health with annual 715 health check, servicing over 1000 men every year.

The Ingkintja 'Men's Shed' male-only washing facilities (showers and laundry facilities) and gym

enable males, both young and old, to come together and access fitness and practical life skills.

A psychologist and Aboriginal care management worker are available through Ingkintja, enabling therapeutic care or counselling, violence interventions and providing cultural and social support to men.

Ingkintja also delivers the Jaila Wanti prison to work program, which provides support to Aboriginal prisoners 90 days prior to release and post-release to reintegrate back into community through the coordination of health, wellbeing and social support services.

Male prison transitional care

coordinators work with clients and facilitate linkages with employment and training providers.

The team establish trust and respect and assist in reconnecting the men with family and culture, to reintegrate them into the community.

Through the program, Ingkintja deliver regular visits to Aboriginal prisoners in the Alice Springs Correctional facility, conducting sessions with Aboriginal prisoners on their holistic health and wellbeing, including health promotions with a focus on staying off the smokes and alcohol.

Corrections staff have provided encouraging feedback on the positive impact that these visits have on the Aboriginal prisoners, noting changed attitudes and behaviours as the men reflect on the impact of their actions and ask for the next Ingkintja session.

In North Queensland, Apunipima Cape York Health Council's Public Health medical officer Dr Mark Wenitong has worked with Indigenous men to improve their overall health and mental health.

His expertise and experience have led to his involvement in health reform with the Cape York Aboriginal communities with a dedicated team of Indigenous male workers, who are getting great traction with their community men.

"The strength-based men's programs delivered by Apunipima continue to see rise in participation rates and better outcomes for Cape York men," Dr Wenitong said. "Though we still have a long way to go, more of the men are taking control and utilising our programs to support improving their mental health and overall wellbeing."

Curious Chloe brings a new voice to research



PROUD Kuku Yalanji woman Chloe Sobieralski is an important part of the team working on a project in Townsville with a focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers and babies.

An insatiable curiosity, a passion for giving back to her community and a desire to care at the bedside are three of the qualities driving Townsville Hospital and Health Service research assistant Chloe in her health career.

Chloe, who is also in her second year of nursing at James Cook University, said when she saw an advertisement for research assistant to neonatologist Dr Yoga Kandasamy and his four-year study into kidney growth in premature babies she jumped at the chance.

"This research project looks at how a mother's health can impact on a baby's kidney function into adulthood," Chloe said.

"Being Indigenous myself I want to give back to my community and kidney disease is such a big thing for my people; being able to contribute to research that may help prevent kidney failure would be incredible.

"One of my projects was setting up a database so we can enter all the data that has been collected in the antenatal clinics and at the one-and-two-year follow-up appointments and link it directly to the mum.



Chloe Sobieralski.

"I also assist the nurses with postnatal clinic appointments where I can interact with our mums and take retinal images which are later analysed. I'm learning so much and it's great to work alongside health care workers to see what's on the other side of my nursing degree."

Chloe said her role had also changed her perspective and broadened her career options.

"When I was 13, I had a baby sister who was born prematurely and was looked after by some of the neonatal nurses I'm now lucky enough to work alongside," she said.

"Unfortunately, my sister didn't make it and I was fairly traumatised; I was adamant that I didn't want to work with babies after that. However, working with the neonatal team has given me more of an appreciation for the neonatal unit and completely changed my perspective.

"While my passion lies in bones and my dream job is to work in orthopaedics, I can actually see myself possibly working in the neonatal unit or in renal care."

Chloe said working as a research assistant had started a life-long passion for research.

"I completed a year and a half of medicine before I realised that being a doctor wasn't where my heart lay," Chloe said.

"Though I hope to go back to medicine at some point in my career, for now I know I want to be a nurse, caring at the bedside. I'm a really curious person and love to know how things work so I know whatever road I take I will definitely continue to research."

Dr Kandasamy said the neonatal unit was thrilled to have Chloe as part of the research team.

"The focus of the project is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, but the study is open to everybody," Dr Kandasamy said.

"I am hoping to recruit around 400 mothers and babies – equal numbers Indigenous and other – and enrolments are now open.

"Chloe is passionate about research and about making a difference for her people and I'm beyond delighted to have her on board."

Dr Kandasamy said the babies would be followed up for two years to see if there were any early signs of kidney injury.

"In addition to helping inform the research findings, we know that early intervention can improve or delay worsening of kidney function."

Dr Kandasamy said the project would focus on kidneys because of the high local incidence of renal disease, particularly in the Indigenous population.

"Around 30% of the 900 babies admitted to our neonatal unit each year are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander," he said.

Dr Kandasamy said Chloe's recruitment was also part of a strong focus on building capacity in Indigenous research.

"It's so important that we create opportunities and support Indigenous researchers; their passion and cultural perspective is invaluable especially in those areas where we are working toward closing the gap in health outcomes."

Dr Kandasamy's research has been funded by a \$1.55 million grant from the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The project is open to pregnant women who are booked in to give birth at Townsville University Hospital.

Guidelines advance Indigenous kidney health



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander people are twice as likely as other Australians to have kidney disease – and four times more likely to die from it.

Kidney Australia chief executive Chris Forbes said one in five Indigenous people will have indicators of chronic kidney disease – but they may not know it.

Kidney-related disease affects more people each year than breast cancer, prostate cancer and road accidents.

Kidney Health Australia has received Federal Government funding of over \$700,000, which will support world first clinical guidelines to improve the diagnosis and treatment of kidney disease within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

“We are very pleased to have the Federal Government’s ongoing support in working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to deliver better health outcomes for kidney disease,” Mr Forbes



The Broome Yarnings consultation group has been talking about kidney health.

said. “Kidney disease is an insidious and deadly disease that is often not detected until kidneys fail, and the treatment for end stage kidney disease

can make life very challenging – for First Nations people, the social, spiritual and community impact is immense.

“Since 2018, we have

conducted consultations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities around Australia to develop a framework for evidence-based

guidelines that are specific to the management of kidney disease within their communities, and will deliver better health outcomes.

“The Federal Government funding enables us to deliver what the community has clearly told us is long-overdue – meaningful and appropriate clinical guidelines that are aligned with First Nations’ community preferences and needs.”

Figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics late last year revealed that about 63 people are dying with kidney-related disease every day.

It is wise to get checks at the local health clinics if you suspect any problems – even without symptoms people can lose 90% of kidney function without experiencing any visible symptoms.

Up to 1.5 million people are not aware that they have kidney disease so if you are experiencing discomfort or any problems it’s best to contact your local Aboriginal Medical Service or nearest health centre.

Study: views on cervical screening



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander women’s voices are at the centre of a new study into barriers to Australia’s cervical screening program.

Indigenous Australian women experience a higher burden of cervical cancer than other women and currently only one-third participate in cervical screening. The study aimed to describe experiences and views of Indigenous women who had participated in screening in order to provide insight into factors that support women to access screening services.

Led by Menzies School of Health Research, the research team held yarns with 50 Indigenous women aged 25-70 years who had completed cervical screening in the past five years, with the interviews conducted by Indigenous women researchers.

Lead author, Menzies’ post-doctoral researcher Dr Tamara Butler, said the study was strengthened by a research approach that centred around Indigenous Australian women’s voices.

“Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experience a higher burden of cervical cancer.

“Screening can prevent cervical cancer. We wanted to learn from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women about the factors that supported women to screen,” Dr Butler said.

“Analysis of our yarning identified six key themes: screening as a means of staying strong and in control; overcoming fears, shame, and negative experiences of screening;

needing to talk openly about screening; the value of trusting relationships with screening providers; logistical barriers; and overcoming privacy concerns for women employed at Primary Health Care Centres (PHCCs).

“Despite describing screening as shameful, invasive and uncomfortable, women perceived it as a way of staying healthy and exerting control over their health. This ultimately supported their participation and a sense of empowerment.

“The women expressed that they valued open discussion about screening and strong relationships with health care providers and, in addition, we identified logistical barriers, including clinic opening hours and transport services and specific barriers, such as privacy concerns faced by women employed at PHCCs.”

Senior author, Menzies honorary research fellow Dr Lisa Whop said the study’s findings may inform future public health campaigns for other cancer screening programs as well as inform strategies in the push to eliminate cervical cancer.

“Our study indicated that screening should be conducted in a way that empowers Indigenous women to feel in control of their bodies, health and health decision-making,” she said.

“It also showed that Indigenous women’s views and rights to control their health may support an improvement in the uptake of screening.”

The study, ‘Indigenous Australian women’s experiences of participation in cervical screening’, was recently published in the PLOS ONE journal.

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Shane Pickett, *Ancestors Before the Journey of the Dreaming*, 2008. Acquired with funds donated through the 50Fifty Acquisition Initiative 2019. Courtesy of the Estate of Shane Pickett and Mossenson Galleries



Laurel Nannup: *No 28*, 2014, Etching. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Brett and Laurel Nannup, 2020. Courtesy of the artist

John Curtin Gallery is set to reopen with an exhibition of recently acquired works



THE John Curtin Gallery in Perth will reopen in July with an exhibition of 50 significant, recently acquired artworks, which celebrate the success of its three-year 50fifty acquisition initiative.

John Curtin Gallery director Chris Malcolm and collection manager Lia McKnight have co-curated *50fifty:2020* to showcase a selection of more than 100

artworks acquired through the initiative, many of them by Aboriginal artists.

The Gallery has implemented new health and safety measures in line with government guidelines to ensure visitors relax and enjoy the in-gallery experience. It will also present a digital program before progressing to an in-gallery program of artist talks and workshops as restrictions ease further.

Mr Malcolm said the exhibition

clearly illustrates how successful the 50fifty Initiative has been by attracting major donations, including by renowned Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, as well as the resources necessary to purchase significant works.

"Through building strong relationships with major contemporary artists that we have featured in our Exhibition Programs and welcomed to the John Curtin Gallery in recent

years, we have been blessed by the generosity of several artists who have donated major works to the collection," he said.

"Following his exhibition *Ritual Intimacies* in May 2019, Christian Thompson kindly donated two major video installations to our collection as part of our negotiations to acquire the major four-panelled photographic work *Subconscious Whispers*.

"Visitors to Brian Robinson's acclaimed exhibition *Tithuyil* –

Moving with the Rhythm of the Stars that was launched in October 2019, will recall the magnificent large-scale wall work and on the fifth day the waters swarmed with sea creatures, 2018 which, in an extraordinary act of generosity, the artist donated after we acquired the large print *Bedhan Lag: land of the Kalwalagal*, 2019 that complements our existing Brian Robinson print *By Virtue of this Act* 2017, acquired in 2018."

Extra! Extra! New EP keeping Briggs busy



YORTA Yorta rapper, comedy writer, actor and children's book author Briggs has released a single *Extra Extra* through Island Records.

Extra Extra is the first taste from Briggs' forthcoming EP, and his first solo body of work since 2014's *Sheplife* and the highly acclaimed 2016 A.B. Original release *Reclaim Australia*.

Briggs said the song *Extra Extra* was close to his heart.

"Extra, Extra is how I live.

"No days off.

"Everything I do is Extra – you can check my resume for that.

"A lot of people know me for a lot of different things – but this is back to the fundamentals of who I am as Briggs," he

said. Briggs said he created the song, with the help of friend and collaborator Trials, who produced the EP.

"Trials had the beat he put it on and I cooked it up that same day.

"This is us in our purest form: beat, rap & on to the next one," he said.

Contributing to the single's artwork, respected Indigenous artist Reko Rennie designed the geometric background element, with his distinctive style of merging traditional diamond-shaped designs, hand-drawn symbols and repetitive patterning to subvertromantic ideologies of Aboriginal identity.

Briggs has also made his first foray into publishing a book recently with his children's title *Our Home, Our Heartbeat*, an adaptation from the celebrated song *The Children Came Back*, which he covered as an adaptation of Archie Roach's famed *They Took the*

Children Away and performed for Triple J's *Like a Version*.

The book is a celebration of past and present Indigenous legends, as well as emerging generations, and at its heart honours the oldest continuous culture on earth.

Ever since the release of his debut EP *Homemade Bombs* in 2009, Briggs has been making his mark as one of the country's most prolific and diverse talents in media, music and comedy.

Aside from his ARIA-dominating rap career and regular appearances on TV, his list of achievements is astounding.

He is founder and owner of Indigenous hip hop record label Bad Apples Music, a screenwriter for Matt Groening's Netflix series *Disenchantment* and will soon be host of the upcoming virtual APRA awards.

A good education has opened Justin's world



FROM fishing along the riverbank in Cunnamulla to watching the sunset over Hong Kong's cityscape – Kooma and Bidjara man Justin

Dolman has a story to tell.

The University of Southern Queensland (USQ) business graduate has followed a career path across Australia and is now playing a key role for Telstra's international program.

"Sometimes I forget how far I have come..." Mr Dolman said from his Hong Kong office, a 7000 kilometre journey away from his home town.

"I seemed to be a pretty smart kid, and could pick up things easily enough.

"I always wanted to go to university but initially thought there would be barriers that might impact my ability to enrol. I took the leap and found out that there were a range of options to help students to afford university studies."

Mr Dolman graduated with a Bachelor of Business and Commerce last year. At the university he was an Indigenous Student Ambassador and made the most of every opportunity presented.

"I participated in the Indigenous Uni Games, worked for CareerTrackers – a not-for-profit to support Indigenous students – and worked with the University's Indigenous Outreach and Engagement team to help build cultural knowledge of Indigenous students at the University," he said.

After graduation, Mr Dolman was offered a position in Telstra's Graduate Program – and has worked his way up to the Telstra's International Sales team and is now a Business Specialist in Hong Kong.

And while his future looks bright, a



Justin Dolman has immersed himself in his new found home – Hong Kong.

part of him will always be the boy fishing with his uncles along the Warrego River, a part of his life that defines him.

"I do a fair bit of work in social justice initiatives, but I'm always looking to do more in this space," he said.

"I've got a lot of long-term aspirations, and knowing how far I've

already come reminds me that I can achieve my future goals as well."

USQ recorded a 50% increase in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduations last year alone – testament to the University's specific pathway and support programs.

The University said it was committed

to providing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, staff and communities through its Reconciliation Action Plan.

To find out more about USQ's Indigenous support, visit:

<https://bit.ly/2zgs5son>

Plan to get kids back to school through culture



THE critical need to re-engage Indigenous students in school as NSW transitions out of pandemic

restrictions has been the driving force behind a new set of tools and resources created for educators and teachers.

The Office of Indigenous Strategy and Leadership and the Wollotuka Institute at the University of Newcastle, in conjunction with the Hunter and Central Coast Aboriginal Education Consultative Groups and Newcastle's Indigenous community, have created resources following concern that COVID-19 restrictions could harm learning outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children across the Hunter and Central Coast regions.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Strategy and Leadership Nathan Towney said that with alarming statistics surfacing, such as 12,000 students unlikely to return to school to complete their HSC (according to the NSW Education Standards Authority), the resources are crucial for ensuring teachers are well equipped to engage children in



Partners and local community members involved in the project. Back, from left: Newcastle Uni Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Strategy and Leadership Nathan Towney, Perry Fuller, Craig Hammond, President of the Hunter AECG Leigh Ridgeway and Jake MacDonald. Front, from left: Saretta Fielding, Aunty Laurel Williams and Ray Kelly. Absent: Tyrone Gordon, David Newham and Greg MacDonald. Picture: University of Newcastle

their schooling.

"This resource will allow our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to connect with local community members in a series of hands-on activities," he said. "It is an important way that our schools can connect with students and families through

these unprecedented times.

"As a teacher, I am very excited to launch this program which will hopefully have an impact on student engagement and retention across the Hunter and Central Coast."

The resources include a series of videos of local Indigenous

community members accompanied by lesson plans and hands-on activities and will be used to support schools in re-engaging with their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, support families with a teaching resource through the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, and to further educate non-Indigenous people about Indigenous knowledges.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and with reports of school numbers dropping dramatically and engagement at an all-time low, Indigenous executive support and engagement officer Jake MacDonald generated the idea with the aim of creating an interactive resource involving local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"Through local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people sharing their knowledges it helps to keep our community strong and connected, giving students the best opportunity to re-engage with their studies and hopefully a form of meaningful education or employment," he said.

Aunty Belinda Wright is the Aboriginal Education Officer at Newcastle High School and has

been getting the resources out to students across the schools in her area.

"The resources are just fantastic, schools and students have been crying out for something like this and the kids just can't get enough of it," she said.

"It is so important that we learn about our true history and culture and while we need to see more resources dedicated to Aboriginal studies embedded in the curriculum, this is a good starting point to share local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander skills and knowledges."

The following Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have contributed to the resource: artist Saretta Fielding, Nguraki cultural mentor Aunty Laurel Williams, Department of Education employee Uncle Perry Fuller, Advisor to Aboriginal Programs in the local community David Newham, Aboriginal education officer Greg MacDonald, Tyrone Gordon from World Vision, Raymond 'Bud' Kelly and Jake MacDonald from the University of Newcastle and Craig 'Bourkie' Hammond from the Family Action Centre at the University of Newcastle.

Seed sown for grass roots industry



THE Dja Dja Wurrung Aboriginal Clans Corporation is helping to develop Indigenous grains for commercialisation, with backing from the Federal Smart Farms initiative.

Dja Dja Wurrung Aboriginal Clans Corporation chief executive Rodney Carter said that the Central Victorian Aboriginal corporation, through its commercial arm Dja Dja Wurrung Enterprises, trading as Djandak, was stepping up with investment to develop indigenous crops to both enable self-determination of Dja Dja Wurrung people, plus make steps to provide an opportunity for all farmers to take up a unique perennial crop.

"We want to positively assist farmers with commercially viable cropping options and at the same time heal country," he said.

Leading Crop Agronomy researcher Associate Professor James Hunt said La Trobe University was honoured to be joining Dja Dja Wurrung to support this important initiative.

"Perennial grain crops don't exist in the dryland cropping marketplace of Australian agriculture," he said. "This innovative project and PhD Scholarship will research the agronomy, management and plant physiology of kangaroo grass to develop a low input perennial crop which, in the long-term, can



Rodney Carter and Mariaa Randall from the Dja Dja Wurrung Aboriginal Clans Corporation in 2018. Picture: Jillian Mundy

result in improved outcomes for farmers as well as provide benefits to the environment and farm biodiversity. After all, this plant has adapted to the Australian environment over thousands of years."

Project manager Latarnie McDonald is determined to see the four-year project through to the best outcomes possible.

"If we think about it, we are really starting with wheat before it was the modern crop it is today," she said.

"Wheat was also 'just a grass', which clever people of the past developed into a larger grain food source. Likewise, we should be proud that Australian Aboriginal

people have cultivated a huge variety of plants as food crops, of which grasses are one group. I have seen first-hand the progress the USA has made in developing several indigenous perennial crops and it is amazing what can be done when we put our minds and resources into action. I hope we see a lot more value put in Australia's own food crops which have so much to offer and teach us about how to better manage Australian landscapes."

There are two research and indigenous management sites in the centre and south of Dja Dja Wurrung lands, at Barrinhup and Smeaton, where 86,000 plants are currently growing for planting.



Kangaroo grass in Dja Dja Wurrung Country. Picture: Latarnie McDonald

Business leaders plan for tough times ahead



PROFESSOR Robynne Quiggin, UTS Business School Associate Dean of Indigenous Leadership and Engagement, recently hosted a seminar highlighting current economic headwinds facing

Indigenous businesses, but also some unique opportunities.

Supply Nation chief executive Laura Berry said that a strong Indigenous business sector provides security and self-determination not only for business owners, but also for the Indigenous communities where those businesses operate, including increased employment opportunities.

"Sobering" was the assessment of conditions facing the Australian economy in the next 6-12 months. With nearly one million jobs lost so far, UTS Industry Professor Warren Hogan said the Australian economy had "fallen off a cliff" and recovery would likely take some time.

"Previous recessions saw unemployment hit around 11%, however it took 18 months to two years for unemployment to reach those levels. We have gone straight to recession level unemployment within a few weeks," he said.

He noted that without policy interventions, inequality was likely to get worse once current government support programs were lifted, and unemployment increased.

Ms Berry said there were more than 2500 verified Indigenous businesses on the Supply Nation directory, and the current level of businesses leaving the directory so far hadn't



Wiradjuri woman Professor Robynne Quiggin, UTS Business School Associate Dean of Indigenous Leadership and Engagement.

changed from previous years.

"The latter half of this year is when we will need to watch and see what happens," she said, particularly as JobKeeper and other stimulus are wound back.

"However, we have seen Indigenous businesses responding and adapting to the current environment – adding to and expanding their existing offerings."

Many are also purpose driven businesses that provide unique value and share that value with their community.

"Indigenous business owners are incredibly resilient and innovative. A number of companies pivoted their operations very quickly, and we have a special page advertising a wide range of goods and

services linked to COVID-19 requirements, such as PPE and hand sanitiser," Ms Berry said.

While the tourism industry in particular has seen a large negative impact from the COVID-19 crisis, seminar participants highlighted potential opportunities for Indigenous business as overseas travel is curtailed in favour of domestic destinations.

"Australians spend more money overseas on tourism than inbound tourists spend here. At the moment what we need is for those people who normally spend two months of the year going overseas and travelling, to travel in Australia," Professor Hogan said.

"This is not only a great opportunity for existing Indigenous businesses, but it could also provide travellers with a deeper understanding and connection with Indigenous history and culture," Ms Berry said.

Gavin Brown, co-owner and co-chief executive of PwC's Indigenous Consulting, said the Federal Government's \$50 million Indigenous Business Relief Package had provided additional support for Indigenous businesses, along with assistance from corporations and the private sector.

Regional and remote communities also took charge of their own destinies and closed their borders to keep their people safe.

"We've seen government play a role as a private sector catalyser, and a convergence of interest from the private sector to support Indigenous business and communities during the lockdown – everything from food security and supply to PPE and temporary quarantine

spaces," he said.

The Australian food industry was also highlighted as an emerging sector where Indigenous business could capitalise on the changing landscape.

Professor Quiggin also noted that Indigenous bush foods and botanicals such as the Kakadu plum are a rapidly expanding market as was seen from the inaugural Australian Indigenous Bushfoods Symposium hosted late last year by UTS Business School, First Hand Solutions and the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation.

"We have a growing bush foods industry and we have a lot of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people developing businesses in food production, both traditional foods and other kinds of foods," Professor Quiggin said.

For Indigenous people who might be thinking of starting their own business, Ms Berry highlighted the strong support networks available, including experienced business owners who are happy to act as role models and mentors.

UTS Business School also offers the Bachelor of Business Administration, which is designed for Indigenous Australian professionals and provides the skills to manage enterprises and organisations of the future.

And for those thinking about how they can support Aboriginal businesses during this time, the advice is to consider what you are buying in your day to day operations, because in any category there is likely to be an Indigenous business providing those products and services.

Employment

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Indigo Gerrard is employed at Legal Aid and is also completing a Certificate IV in Business Administration.



Darnell Thaiday and Charlie Singpoo recently commenced work with MGC Building and Maintenance as all-rounders/labourers. Manager Dean Baker is very impressed with both men, saying that they have been hard at work on new residential projects in the region.



Funds extended to support 100+ Jobs



A SUCCESSFUL program which helps marginalised Aboriginal people in the East

Kimberley gain employment is set to continue, after securing a 12-month funding extension commitment from the Commonwealth.

The 100+ Jobs Initiative aims to get at least 100 of the region's most disadvantaged people into employment, with 61 people already finding jobs through the scheme.

The program is run by

Yawoorroong Miriung Gajerrong Yirrgeb Noong Dawang (MG) Corporation, the corporation that looks after the native title rights and interests of the Miriung Gajerrong people, and currently has almost 130 people on its books.

100+ Jobs Initiative manager Keith Pitt said the program worked because people were given intensive one-on-one mentoring, which continued after they were placed in employment.

"Some of the people we support have never been employed before, or have

been unemployed for a long time, so we work intensively with them to get them job-ready," he said.

"We help them with whatever their individual needs are, from assisting them with police checks, to getting their driver's licence to preparing them for job interviews.

"Overall, the feedback from our clients has been positive and since I've been involved, I have seen significant changes in their mindsets.

"Initially, many people lack confidence, but our employment coordinators provide intense

mentoring to help them to rebuild their confidence and feel comfortable to apply for meaningful employment."

Some of the positions people were successfully placed in included farmhands, traffic management, building and maintenance, administration and mining.

Mr Pitt said not every candidate was suitable for every job, and the team worked with employers to find the right fit.

"We have a great relationship with many of our employers who understand that not everyone may be suitable, but they are

willing to give them an opportunity until they find the right candidate," he said.

Mr Pitt said the program will soon turn its focus toward younger Indigenous people, and was partnering with organisations to assist Year 11 and 12 students into work placement with the potential to transition into traineeships or apprenticeships.

The 100+ Jobs Initiative has been funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency, with the program set to be extended for 12 months from July 1.

Your guide to employment

Welcome to the **Koori Mail's** Indigenous Job Opportunities section. Each edition we publish scores of employment advertisements from around the nation. To be part of this section, simply give our advertising staff Chris or Stuart a call on (02) 66 222 666, email advertising@koorimail.com or see our website – www.koorimail.com

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The position will be responsible for managing delegated operational aspects of the BHLALC Beyond Linking Program, to deliver an effective service that provides optimal outcomes for Beyond Linking participants, pursuing partnerships for the successful delivery of the Broken Hill LALC Beyond Linking Program; monitor the overall budget performance of the Beyond Linking program and advise the CEO on monthly expenditure reviews; provide leadership and management support, advice, coaching, mentoring, motivation, and individual performance monitoring and development; and provide management support to BHLALC Beyond Linking staff/personnel, to ensure that high quality service and consistent practice is providing opportunities for people with a disability and their families/carers.

Selection Criteria

The ideal candidate will have:

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- Tertiary qualifications and/or relevant senior operational experience in social or community services sector,
- Demonstrated leadership and people management capabilities with experience in human and community services sector,
- A strong understanding of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS),
- Commitment to a collaborative approach and demonstrated success in client and case management,
- Highly developed communication, interpersonal and negotiation skills, and the ability to communicate with confidentiality and sensitivity,
- Advanced computer skills and Current NSW Driver's Licence,
- A satisfactory Police clearance and current NSW Working with Children Check

Beyond Linking is looking for someone who:

- Has experience in working in the disability sector,
- Is a high level thinker and can communicate with stakeholders at a high level,
- Has experience in project and contract management,
- Possesses the ability to multi task and work well under pressure, and
- willingness to work flexible hours and in a range of locations across a regional area if required.

The Broken Hill Local Aboriginal Land Council considers that being Aboriginal is a genuine occupational qualification under s 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).

To apply for a position, applicants must submit a cover letter, a statement addressing each of the selection criteria and resume addressed to:

Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 392
Broken Hill NSW 2880

Applications submitted without addressing the selection criteria will NOT be considered.

Completed Applications can be emailed to Annette Ohlsen: ceo@bhlalc.org.au

Applications close Friday 5pm 10th July 2020

Please note, only short listed candidates will be contacted for interviews following the closing date.



Aboriginal Case Worker Homelessness

2 positions Murwillumbah & Ballina

Would you like to make a real difference in people's lives? If so, come and join the team at Momentum Collective.

Momentum Collective is a registered charity and not-for-profit community services organisation. We operate an integrated suite of programs to help our clients get a roof, a job and to live a better life..

This role is in an Aboriginal specific program providing flexible and tailored case management to support housing, wellbeing and safety to Aboriginal people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

This role offers you the opportunity to be part of an organisation which creates positive and lasting change for people and communities.

To apply: please visit our website www.mymomentum.org.au or call Ben Martin on 0407028440 (Murwillumbah) and Michelle Teece on 0488062245 (Ballina).



Aboriginal Child and Family Health Program Coordinator (Health Manager Level 2) Temporary Full-Time

Department: South Western Sydney LHD
Remuneration: \$1,874.56 - \$2,223.38 per week
Enquiries: Victoria Blight on 0409 776 094

In this role Aboriginality is a genuine occupational requirement, and is authorised by section 14(d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1997 (NSW)*.

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/>

Closing Date: 19 July 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ168386.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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BLZ_KH0265



Aboriginal
Affairs



Senior Project Officer – Redress

- Clerk Grade 9/10
- Temporary full-time up to 30 June 2024
- Position number and location: 223117, Mascot

Total remuneration package: \$135,279 p.a. Package includes salary (\$110,745 - \$122,038 p.a.), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Aboriginal Affairs NSW works alongside Aboriginal people and communities to make sure their voices are heard and their interests represented in government. By leading and influencing policy change in government, we support the long-term social, cultural and economic aspirations of Aboriginal people in NSW. Our agency works closely with Aboriginal communities and our staffing reflects the diversity of these communities. Over 50 percent of our staff, including senior leadership, identify as Aboriginal. We are also committed to providing a culturally safe and supportive workplace with flexible working arrangements for all staff. To learn more about our work visit www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au

About the role

Working as part of a team, the Senior Project Officer, Redress manages projects focused on providing high-quality advice, and collaborates with relevant government and non-government organisations to ensure Stolen Generations survivors who were abused while in the care of the former NSW Aborigines Welfare Board, are supported to access fair and equitable outcomes from the National Redress Scheme. This includes access to Redress payments, counselling services and Direct Personal Responses to successful applicants.

The role will also assist in the delivery of projects to support the operations of the Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme, and other programs and initiatives arising from the Unfinished Business report, which details the NSW Government's commitments to Stolen Generations survivors.

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 the pre-screening questions and the 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.

Pre-screening questions:

1. The Senior Project Officer, Redress must manage effective relationships with government, non-government and Aboriginal community stakeholders with trauma-informed sensitivity and resilience. Give examples of your work with survivors of institutional abuse and/or Aboriginal communities, and your approach to influencing outcomes in those contexts. (300 or 400 words maximum).
2. The Senior Project Officer's role requires effective links with Aboriginal communities and services, and an ability to establish and maintain trauma-informed connections with survivors of abuse. This includes facilitating apologies under the National Redress Scheme. Tell us about your experience in developing and managing sensitive projects involving multiple stakeholders. What were the challenges you faced and how did you overcome these? (300 or 400 words maximum).

Essential Requirements:

- Demonstrated ability to communicate sensitively and effectively with, and understand issues impacting on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Willingness to undertake travel.

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Applications Close: 15 July 2020

Enquiries: Brendan Delahunty (02) 8362 6687 or 1800 019 998.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw website and refer to the following keyword: 223117.

I work
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NSW

BLZ_KH0290

Balmain Care for Kids is looking for a passionate and dedicated Diploma qualified educator to work full-time for our organisation.



We have 3 Early Childhood centres located in the heart of Balmain.

Applicants must: hold a Diploma qualification in Early Childhood Education, have their First aid, Child protection and Working with Children Check and be available to work full-time 38 hours per week.

To apply or for further information please contact us on management@balmaincareforkids.com.au



Passionate about helping children & families?

At Interrelate, we have been delivering quality relationship services to individuals, couples, families and schools since 1926.

CHILD, YOUTH & FAMILY WORKER, FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICE (Aboriginal Identified)
Fully Qualified OR Trainee positions available

The FMHSS Program assists children & young people, affected by or at risk of mental illness, & their families, to improve their mental health outcomes later in life. This role will provide case work, therapeutic group work & community support services to children, young people & their families. Fixed Term Full Time or Part Time contract until 30 June 2021 (up to 37.5hpw - negotiable). Can be based in Kempsey, Macksville, Bowraville, Nambucca Heads, Woolgoolga &/or Coffs Harbour
Hourly rate: \$38.80ph - \$43.54ph + 9.5% super + salary packaging

To view the full position description, key criteria and to apply, go to www.interrelate.org.au/careers

Applications close 5pm
Friday, 10 July 2020

All positions require satisfactory completion of a National Police check and NSW Working with Children Check

Respect | Equity | Leadership | Accountability | Transparency | Empowerment



OPERATIONS MANAGER

First Hand Solutions Aboriginal Corporation is seeking to hire an experienced Operations Manager to join our organisation's leadership team. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development, integration, and implementation of a broad range of activities relative to the strategic direction and positioning of the organisation.

First Hand Solutions was established in 2012 and specialises in developing and implementing hands-on educational and community-based programs, social enterprises and services for First Nations people.

Our goal is to improve the wellbeing and life opportunities for First Nations people and at risk youth through employment, training, education and economic opportunity.

Projects we run include IndigiGrow, Blak Markets and the National Indigenous Art Fair

Skills required include

- Experience in Operations
- Understanding of general finance and budgeting, including profit and loss, balance sheet and cash-flow management.
- Ability to build consensus and relationships among managers, partners, and employees
- Excellent communication skills.
- Experience in program management would be of benefit to this position

Most importantly this person must have a strong understanding of First Nations culture, people & communities.

This is a two year contract position with 3 month probabation and the position reviewed every six months

While this position is full time we can negotiate flexible working conditions for the successful candidate during COVID19 and beyond if it's in the best interests of First Hand Solutions.

For a full job description and questions about this job please email Peter.firsthand@gmail.com Applications must be received before COB Friday 24 July 2020. Job applications can be emailed or a hard copy mailed to PO Box 6108, Malabar, NSW, 2036.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Full Time, Permanent Position
Based Ballina, NSW



Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council are seeking a driven and motivated CEO to guide them through a period of change.

For any questions please contact Rebecca Robinson or Victoria Nankivell on 02 9133 9322

To apply please send your application to Rebecca@beaumontpeople.com.au

Applications close Friday 17th July

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 Dwayne Hammond, 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
Gulgambone NSW 2828

Applications close DATE: 5pm Friday 24 July 2020

Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply.



Project Officer

- Department of Education
- Full-time ongoing appointment
- Clerk Grade 5/6
- Position number and location: 194737 - Parramatta

Total remuneration package valued to: \$104,561 p.a. (salary \$85,488 p.a - \$94,327p.a) including employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

The role undertakes a range of project research, analysis, reporting, implementation and administrative activities to support the development and delivery of projects aligned to Directorate priorities.

How to apply

To apply for this role, please submit an application online and attach a cover letter (max. 2 pages) and your resume (max. 5 pages) in either Word or PDF format. 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. Please develop your responses with this in mind.

Please note that it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online.

No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

This is a child-related position. If you are not currently employed in a child-related position in the Department of Education, you will be required to obtain a Working with Children Check (WWCC) Clearance number as a condition of employment (if you do not already have this). For more information, visit <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>. In addition, your employment may be subject to the Department's National Criminal Records Check to determine your suitability for employment.

Pre-screening questions:

1. Describe a recent work situation that required you to perform several tasks, or work on several projects at the same time. What did you do?
2. Describe a situation where you were explaining technical information and the other person didn't understand. How did you handle that and what was the result?

Essential Requirements:

- A valid Working with Children Check

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Applications Close: 15 July 2020

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further please contact Emma Merryman on 0488 061 108 or Lisa Kawase on 0499 192 740.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw website and refer to the following keyword: 194737 - 000075I5.

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BLZ_KH0274



**THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND**
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

Expressions of Interest

FACULTIES OF HEALTH & BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES AND MEDICINE

Various Appointments in Health for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Academics

The University of Queensland's *Strategic Plan* and *Reconciliation Action Plan* both place priority on increasing the number and representation of Indigenous people amongst the staff and students of the University.

Accordingly, the Faculties of Health & Behavioural Sciences and Medicine now invite Expressions of Interest from Indigenous academics for appointment to teaching and/or research positions within one or more of the Schools or Centres within the two faculties. The possibility also exists for joint or affiliate appointment to the UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health.

For candidates looking to begin an academic career, we can offer a PhD salary scholarship partnered with an appropriate academic position (level dependent on experience), which will allow candidates to engage in relevant studies while gaining on the job academic training and experience.

We welcome applications across all Academic levels, and remuneration will be offered to successful applicants in line with the University's salary scales for Academic Appointments.

Job No. 510312

Closing date 12 July 2020

Visit jobs.uq.edu.au for more career opportunities and to obtain a copy of the position description and application process. The University of Queensland values diversity and inclusion.

These are identified positions and the occupants must be of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent under section 105 of the Queensland Anti-Discrimination Act 1991.

CRICOS Provider 00025B



PROJECT OFFICER

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Communities

- AFAO leads efforts to end HIV transmission in Australia, Asia and the Pacific
- Vibrant team environment, walking distance from Central Station
- Competitive NFP salary packaging, possible relocation package available

AFAO is Australia's national peak community-controlled HIV organisation and works to end HIV transmission and reduce its impact in Australia and Asia Pacific. The member organisations represent the diverse communities most affected by HIV, including Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities.

This will role support concurrent projects to ensure HIV related issues of relevance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are more meaningfully integrated into Australia's HIV response. Specifically you will:

- Develop and implement projects in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partner organisations
- Project manage and develop national HIV education resources for Indigenous communities

The successful candidate will have strong project coordination skills, combined with an understanding of and commitment to people most affected by HIV.

To be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational requirement of this role under Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW)*.

If you are passionate about improving sexual health within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, please submit a resume and cover letter responding to the skills required above or contact Lisa Morell on 02 8243 0570 if you have any specific questions.



Health
Justice Health and
Forensic Mental Health Network

Coordinator Aboriginal Workforce Development

Location: Malabar

Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time

Classification: Health Manager Level 2

Salary: \$97,812 - \$116,013 p.a plus employers contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading

Enquiries: matthew.trindall@health.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: 5 July 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ170242.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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Health
Justice Health and
Forensic Mental Health Network

Aboriginal Health Worker

Location: Mid North Coast Correctional Centre

Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time

Salary: \$54,220 - \$79,857 p.a plus employers

contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading

Enquiries: Shahana.Vanjour@health.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: 9 July 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Number REQ171491.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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BLZ_KH0285



Administration Assistant

Location: Raymond Terrace Community Health Centre

Enquiries: Cassandra Knight on

Cassandra.Knight@health.nsw.gov.au

Reference Number: REQ167372

Administration Assistant Immunology and Infectious Diseases

Location: John Hunter Hospital

Enquiries: Nicole Pettiford on

Nicole.Pettiford@health.nsw.gov.au

Reference Number: REQ171599

Planning Maintenance Co-ordinator

Location: John Hunter Hospital

Enquiries: Brendan Cork on

Brendan.Cork@health.nsw.gov.au

Reference Number: REQ171864

Electrician Level 1 to 4

Location: John Hunter Hospital

Enquiries: Brendan Cork on

Brendan.Cork@health.nsw.gov.au

Reference Number: REQ172397

These are targeted Aboriginal Positions. Preference will be given to applicants of Aboriginal descent. Exemption is claimed under S21 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*. Aboriginal applicants must demonstrate Aboriginality in addition to addressing the selection criteria.

Department: Hunter New England LHD

Closing Date: 8 July 2020

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Numbers above.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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Aboriginal Support Worker, HASI - Ulladulla

Part time, 24 hours per week, fixed term until 30 June 2022

GPH is looking for a talented and passionate individual with a commitment to improving the mental health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Aboriginal Support Worker will be responsible for delivering psychosocial supports and improving the quality of life of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Ulladulla area.

To apply visit: www.gph.org.au or contact Emilie Martin, HASI Program Leader on 0436 657 721.

**This position is Aboriginal Identified authorised under the S14d of the NSW Anti Discrimination Act 1977*

Applications close: 15 July 2020



Calvary | Health Care Kogarah

Aboriginal Palliative Care Coordinator

- Join one of Australia's leading health, community and aged care providers
- Maximum Fixed Term position
- Excellent salary packaging options available

About the role

The Aboriginal Palliative Care Coordinator will be located at Calvary Health Care Kogarah and work with the SESLHD Palliative Care service to support and enhance access to culturally responsive end of life services including Supportive Care and Palliative Care Services specific to the identified needs of local Aboriginal people and community.

Benefits

This is an excellent opportunity to be a part of a leading spirit and values based health care organisation. We offer paid parental leave, salary packaging, career progression, flexible working hours and training and skills development. Calvary is also proud to be recognised as a leader in gender equality.

About Calvary

Calvary is a national Catholic provider of health, community and aged care services operating in six states and territories. Our services include public and private hospital care, acute and sub-acute care, home care services and retirement and aged care services, in both rural and metropolitan areas. Calvary employs over 11,000 people and has over 1,500 volunteers.

Calvary continues the vision and spirit of the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary focused on caring for those who are sick, dying and in need. We express our values of hospitality, healing, stewardship and respect through "being for others" exemplified by the Spirit of Calvary and the example of Venerable Mary Potter.

How to join the team

To join our diverse, compassionate and dedicated team for a rewarding Calvary career, please submit an online application via the Calvary Careers Portal.

Closing date: 16/07/2020

For further information about this position see our ad on the Koori Mail website under JOBS & GENERAL WEB ADS



Seeking a MyStep to Wellbeing Consumer Peer Worker - Griffith

Department: Murrumbidgee LHD

- **This is an identified position in accordance with Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*. Applicants must be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander decent.**
- **Make a difference in our community through innovative, personalised services**
- **Temporary Part-Time until June 2021, based in Griffith**

The Aboriginal identified Consumer Peer Worker will work within the MyStep to Mental Wellbeing Hub to provide appropriate and effective support to consumers accessing or considering connecting with the MyStep to Mental Wellbeing Hub. Advocacy and consultation to local Aboriginal people residing in the Western and Border Murrumbidgee region will be an essential part of this role.

Follow MLHD on FB, LI and Instagram and visit <http://www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/careers>

Applications Close: 9 July 2020

To learn more please visit: <https://jobs.health.nsw.gov.au/mlhd/jobs/mystep-to-mental-wellbeing-consumer-peer-worker-griffith-74262>

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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BLZ_KH0275



SUPPORT WORKERS

Casual opportunities within various location the Southern and Eastern suburbs of Sydney.

St George Community Transport (STGCT) is a government-funded, not-for-profit organisation that has provided safe, reliable social support and transport for older people, people with disability and their carers and private customers since 1983.

STGCT is currently experiencing an influx of new referrals with opportunities for successful applicants to take on board new consumer / participants on an ongoing roster basis.

We are looking to hire Support Workers that are passionate, caring and experienced in the provision of One on One support to older consumers and NDIS participants to assist them to; reach their goals, continue living independently in their own homes and access the community.

The Support Worker position is flexible with hours and days.

To be successful in the role Support Worker requires:

- Cert III or IV in Disability or Aged Care (or other community services-based qualifications)
- Previous work experience providing personal care
- Current NSW Drivers Licence
- Current Vehicle Registration & Current CTP Personal Injury Insurance
- Willingness to transport people in their own car
- Willing to travel within the Southern and Eastern Suburbs of Sydney.

For further details about the role please refer to our website https://www.stgct.org.au/join_us.html to review position description and download an application pack.

For a confidential discussion about the role, please call Carol Strachan on 9585 3000

We encourage people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to apply.



Human Resources Manager

Full-time continuing contract based in Darwin

About Menzies:

Menzies School of Health Research is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving Indigenous, global and tropical health. Menzies has a history of over 30 years of scientific discovery and public health achievement. Menzies works at the frontline, joining with partners across the Asia-Pacific as well as Indigenous communities across northern and central Australia.

About the position:

We are seeking an experienced and highly motivated HR professional to join our Corporate Service team at an exciting time as we shape our success for the future.

You will have the opportunity to utilise your vast HR skills and experience to develop HR strategy, lead organisational change projects, provide expert advice and enable contemporary HR initiatives and processes that support our workforce and enhance service delivery across our organisation.

What we offer:

- 6 weeks annual leave
- Option to increase super to 14%
- \$150,880 - \$161,361 salary package (comprising gross salary \$120,643 - \$129,837 pa, superannuation and salary packaging benefits).

Closing date: 12 July 2020

Contact: Esther Miller on 08 8946 8628 or esther.miller@menzies.edu.au

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply

Applicants are required to address the selection criteria. For information on how to apply for this position and to obtain the Position Description and Selection Criteria please visit <http://careers.menzies.edu.au/> or phone 08 8946 8626.



Find Your Future Opportunities

AlburyCity

Aboriginal Community Development Officer

AlburyCity considers that being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification under s 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW)

Provide strategic guidance and leadership to the organisation regarding cultural matters as well as coordinating the celebration of significant dates such as NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week.

You will work with key stakeholders to identify gaps and deliver programs to build capacity and support programs to empower the Aboriginal Community.

Applications close Friday 17 July 2020

alburycity.nsw.gov.au/careers

Bushfire Recovery Victoria



Bushfire Recovery Victoria (BRV) is a new, permanent and dedicated Victorian Government agency working directly with local communities to listen, help and deliver what they need to recovery from the 2019-20 bushfires.

BRV works to support community-led recovery. We're here to listen, to help and to work with communities to deliver what they need. BRV is committed to building its Aboriginal Australian workforce to reflect the communities we serve. Our commitment is based on the premise that Aboriginal Australians bring with them a range of cultural knowledges, professional attributes and specialist expertise that bolsters the success of BRV's state bushfire recovery agenda.

We are looking for candidates to take on the following fixed term roles in bushfire-affected communities:

- Recovery Coordinator, Aboriginal Culture & Healing (VPS 6) (North East Victoria and East Gippsland locations)**
- Senior Program Officer, Aboriginal Culture & Healing (VPS 5) (Melbourne based)**
- Communications Adviser (VPS 4) (East Gippsland location)**

For the full position description and to apply please go to:
<https://careers.vic.gov.au/>

For more information about BRV go to brv.vic.gov.au

Join our team



Development Manager

PORT ADELAIDE

This is an exciting opportunity to take a pivotal role in South Australia's leading regional arts organisation.

Responsible for strengthening and shaping a sustainable future for Country Arts SA, you will be working with a variety of stakeholders from local businesses and major corporate sponsors to the newly established Country Arts Foundation.

You will be an accomplished fundraiser with extensive knowledge and practical experience in business development, developing and managing fundraising and building relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders, including corporate partners, community and business leaders.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants are encouraged to apply.

If this is you, please apply now and follow the application instructions online at http://bit.ly/CountryArts_careers

Enquiries to Kyra Herzfeld on 0421 619 132 or email kyra.herzfeld@countryarts.org.au

Applications should be addressed to Jill Bolzon, Head of People, and submitted by 10am, Wednesday, 22 July 2020.



Work Health and Safety Advisor (Aboriginal Identified)

- Department of Education
- Full-time permanent (ongoing) position – Aboriginal Identified Role
- CL Grade 7/8 (\$97,152 – \$107,541 base) plus superannuation and annual leave loading
- Supportive and collaborative environment
- Flexible working conditions and latest IT productivity tools
- Competitive salary package
- Modern space, walking distance from public transport and the scenic Parramatta River
- Position number and location: 221517 – Parramatta

Total remuneration package valued to: **\$119,209 p.a. (salary \$97,152 to \$107,541 p.a.)** including employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

The Health and Safety Directorate is in an exciting period of expansion and positive change and we have numerous opportunities available for high performing individuals to join our busy and vibrant team.

Benefits

You will be part of our team of passionate professionals who apply their experience, expertise and passion to solve unique challenges and to help create one of the finest education systems in the world. We have an open and highly collaborative office environment located in a state of the art, new building, within walking distance from Parramatta station and close to the scenic Parramatta River. You will benefit from flexible working conditions, competitive salary package and the latest IT and productivity tools. You'll be working with a diverse mix of practical, results focused and customer orientated people who deliver services to achieve safe and healthy workplaces and schools.

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/>

The Health and Safety Directorate shapes and leads work health and safety across the department by delivering services and support to our workplaces to assist them in achieving a safe working and learning environments.

About the Unit

The Risk Management Unit work proactively and in partnership with schools and workplaces to provide safe working and learning environments through the delivery of specialist advice, support services and programs to manage risk and compliance, fostering continuous improvement in health, safety and wellbeing. The unit provides on the ground, practical support to assist schools to continue to improve so that our working and learning environments are as safe as possible.

About the Role

We are looking for individuals who can lead and support the implementation of work health and safety initiatives and programs with workplace managers. The role has strong relationships with its customers and collaborates with key internal and external partners to deliver timely, efficient services and advice to support customer needs and meet service delivery requirements. This role has a focus on supporting workplaces across the state to provide a safe working and learning environment for staff and students and assist the department meet its legislative responsibilities and strategic priorities.

It's an exciting environment where no two days are the same. But on a typical day you might find yourself:

- Developing and implementing service delivery plans to ensure the delivery of services across the portfolio provide a high quality customer service to employees in a range of workplaces across the state to support the implementation of departmental safety programs, health and safety policies, procedures and initiatives to ensure compliance with both legislative requirements and work health and safety improvement targets.
- Monitoring, reviewing and analysing data from a range of sources across the department and with other partners to identify new or emerging issues or trends and recommend strategies and improvements to the Department's work health and safety risk management system to enhance capabilities, recommend training and development and ensure local strategies are in place which also ensures compliance with departmental objectives, relevant legislation requirements, regulations/code of practice and and/or standards, policies and procedures.
- Providing advice, information and building capability with employees across a range of health and safety programs including providing advice and assistance in risk management (including hazard identification, risk assessment and controls and the implementation of safe systems of work), staff and student wellbeing, incident and emergency management planning and recovery, training and induction and employee health and wellbeing services.
- Coordinating, supporting, leading and guiding workplace managers in responding to all regulatory, audit and risk matters including SafeWork NSW notices and audit requirements and ensure all matters are documented ensuring a high quality data accuracy and managed in line with departmental policy.
- Contributing to regular reviews and providing subject matter expertise for the development of work health and safety policies, procedures and resources that improve practice, meet compliance and legislative requirements.

How to apply

To apply for this role, please submit an application online and attach a cover letter (max. 2 pages) and your resume (max. 5 pages) in either Word or PDF format. 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. Please develop your responses with this in mind.

Please note that it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online.
No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

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.

Pre-screening questions:

1. As a Work Health and Safety Advisor, you will be required to build strong relationships with customers and collaborate with key internal and external partners to deliver timely, efficient services and advice to support customer needs and meet service delivery requirements. Describe a time when you partnered with stakeholders in the business and how this contributed to meeting the overall goals of the organisation. What steps did you take and what was the outcome? What were the challenges? (maximum 300 words)
2. You will be required to provide advice in line with relevant legislation and departmental policy and procedures. Provide details of how you keep up to date with legislation and changes to policies and procedure to ensure you provide a quality service. (maximum 300 words)

Essential Requirements:

- Aboriginality
- Tertiary qualifications in Work Health and Safety or a minimum equivalent experience in a related field
- Current and valid driver's license and an ability and willingness to travel between work sites
- Knowledge of and commitment to the Department's Aboriginal education policies

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Applications Close: 15 July 2020

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further please contact Wendie Huff on (02) 7814 1635.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw website and refer to the following keyword: 221517 or 00007SL0.

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www.koorimail.com

THE KOORI MAIL, WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2020 | 43



MANAGER, LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

- \$87,000 plus 9.5% superannuation
- This position is full time and can be based in Canberra or Brisbane

The Australian Rural Leadership Foundation is looking for a skilled facilitator to develop, deliver and facilitate the Milparanga Leadership Program and other leadership programs delivered by the Foundation. The successful applicant will be able to bring their experience in working with indigenous stakeholders to this role and will want to be part of an organisation that has leadership development at its core and the greater good of regional rural and remote Australia as its objective.

The ARLF was established in 1992 based on the premise that developing leaders in rural, regional and remote Australia could influence change across organisations, industries, and rural communities in general.

The successful applicant will possess

- Experience in working effectively in areas such as personal development, community capacity building, adult learning, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education or training, change management.
- Demonstrated ability to build and maintain relationships with a wide range of stakeholders including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders peoples
- Ability and track record in working with diversity and complexity in group settings.
- High-level interpersonal and communication skills, and the ability to engage others.
- Proven experience in developing, facilitating, and evaluating community programs and in leading people.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

For a position description visit:

www.rural-leaders.org.au/work-with-us/

or email recruitment@rural-leaders.org.au

To apply for this role please email a current resume and a cover letter explaining your suitability for the role to recruitment@rural-leaders.org.au

Applications close Monday 13 July 2020

For more information telephone 02 6281 0680 or email recruitment@rural-leaders.org.au



Advisor Aboriginal Workforce Development

- Public Service Commission
- Clerk Grade 7/8, salary \$97,152 - \$107,541 pa
- Ongoing Full-Time
- Sydney CBD location
- Flexible working arrangements

About the role:

This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the development and implementation of Aboriginal workforce development initiatives that will be implemented across the NSW public sector. The **Advisor Aboriginal Workforce Development** provides advice to agencies on public sector policies, programs, initiatives and issues, and contributes to the development of advice for the Commissioner.

The successful candidate will need to balance complex and multiple issues with sensitivity to relationships with stakeholders, cultural implications, financial implications, resource requirements, and service delivery impacts.

We are looking for an individual who can:

- Contribute to innovative solutions to complex issues.
- Work on projects independently and within a team to drive high levels of achievement.
- Draft written communication in different styles and for different audiences (e.g. policy papers, briefs, speeches and correspondence).
- Stay motivated in challenging situations and work in a fast paced, high volume environment.
- Foster and grow essential networks and relationships within the NSW public sector and with external parties and relevant industry groups.

About the NSW Public Service Commission:

The **Public Service Commission (PSC)** is headed by an independent Public Service Commissioner and is a separate agency under the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013* (GSE Act) that supports the Commissioner in the exercise of her functions and powers.

The PSC leads the design, development and implementation of the full range of workforce management strategies to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the NSW public sector workforce.

Essential Requirements:

Aboriginality - the work of an Aboriginal identified role will involve the development and or delivery of policy, programs and services which impact on Aboriginal people and or involve liaising directly with Aboriginal people and communities.

Applying for the role:

Please submit your resume and a short covering letter (no more than 300 words) outlining your skills and interest in the role and answer the pre-screening questions.

We may seek verification of the experience, skills and qualifications you provide in your application from your nominated referee or educational institution. If you are called for an interview you will also need to satisfy the essential Aboriginality criteria.

Talent Pool:

Applicants not offered a role but who have been assessed through the recruitment process as being suitable will be placed on a Talent Pool to fill future ongoing or temporary roles as they arise. The Talent Pool will remain active for 18 months.

For questions or to request a reasonable adjustment, please contact Eleanor Wood on (02) 9272 6152 or PSC_HR@psc.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: Wednesday, 15 July 2020

For questions about the role, please contact Kelly Stanford, on (02) 9272 6124.

Applicants must apply through www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au (search by job reference 00007SSV).

Please visit our website to learn more about the workings of the Commission <http://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/>

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Aboriginal
Affairs



Grants Administration Officer

- Clerk Grade 5/6
- Ongoing
- Position number and location: 216769 - Mascot

Total remuneration package: \$104,561 p.a. Package includes salary (\$85,488 - \$94,327 p.a.), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Aboriginal Affairs NSW works alongside Aboriginal people and communities to make sure their voices are heard and their interests represented in government. By leading and influencing policy change in government, we support the long-term social, cultural and economic aspirations of Aboriginal people in NSW. Our agency works closely with Aboriginal communities and our staffing reflects the diversity of these communities. Over 50 percent of our staff, including senior leadership, identify as Aboriginal. We are also committed to providing a culturally safe and supportive workplace with flexible working arrangements for all staff. To learn more about our work visit www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au

About the role

The Grants Administration Officer supports the effective and timely administration of grants to a range of community organisations. You will work with teams across Aboriginal Affairs NSW to administer grants and payments, monitor grants, maintain records and manage an online grants administration system as well as prepare reports, briefings and correspondence.

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 the pre-screening questions and the essential requirement. 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](http://www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au)
No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

Pre-screening questions:

1. Give an example of how you have achieved outcomes by working collaboratively with others, including with team members across multiple locations or offices. (300 or 400 words maximum).
2. This role requires administration of grants through an online system, identifying areas for improvement and supporting other teams to use the system. Give an example of how you have supported the implementation of IT systems to achieve organisational outcomes. (300 or 400 words maximum).

Essential Requirements:

- Demonstrated ability to communicate sensitively and effectively with, and understand issues impacting on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Applications Close: 15 July 2020

Enquiries: Vanessa Ford on (02) 8362 6697.

To apply online please visit [iworkfor.nsw](http://www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au) website and refer to the following keyword: 216769.

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NSW National Park and Wildlife Service is hiring!

If you are looking for varied, hands-on, practical work, training opportunities and the chance to make a difference in a network of 870 national parks and reserves, we want to hear from you!

We are currently looking to fill the below roles across multiple regions and locations throughout New South Wales:

- Senior Field Officer (\$68,008 to \$72,039)
- Field Officer Grade 1-4 (\$62,469 to \$66,529)
- Field Officer Grade 1-2 (\$49,868 to \$54,746)
- Field Officer General Operations (\$42,333)

For further information on the roles, and to apply for one of the 125 roles available across the State please visit the I Work for NSW website via the following links below.

**Applications close:
Monday 6 July 2020 at 11:59pm**

Applications are to be lodged online at www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au or <https://bit.ly/3frQwZA>.

NPWS is an equal opportunity employer

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BLZ_LP1594



Program Coordinator

- Department of Education
- Full-time ongoing appointment
- Clerk Grade 7/8
- Position number and location: 194745 - Parramatta

Total remuneration package valued to: \$119,209 p.a. (salary \$97,152 p.a - 107,541p.a.) including employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

The role supports the development and implementation of programs and initiatives aligned to Directorate priorities.

How to apply

To apply for this role, please submit an application online and attach a cover letter (max. 2 pages) and your resume (max. 5 pages) in either Word or PDF format. 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. Please develop your responses with this in mind.

Please note that it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online. No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

This is a child-related position. If you are not currently employed in a child-related position in the Department of Education, you will be required to obtain a Working with Children Check (WWCC) Clearance number as a condition of employment (if you do not already have this). For more information, visit <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>. In addition, your employment may be subject to the Department's National Criminal Records Check to determine your suitability for employment.

Pre-screening questions:

1. Can you describe a situation where you had to get cooperation from a person or a group. What did you do to achieve this and what was the result?
2. What steps did you use on a recent project to evaluate and improve outcomes?

Essential Requirements:

- Knowledge of and commitment to the Department's Aboriginal education policies.
- A valid Working with Children Check

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

BLZ_KH0271

Applications Close: 15 July 2020

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further please contact Nicholas Lau on 0499 164 486 or Kristin Hammill on 0499 025 231.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw website and refer to the following keyword: 194745 or 00007SDW.

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NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR

Lachlan Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012

Lachlan Shire Council has applied to **amend approval 70CA614078** by adding three bores for town water supply purposes on the road reserve adjacent to Lot 8, DP 753105 in the Parish of Moonbia, County of Gipps (ref: A023847).

If you object to this application, write to the Natural Resources Access Regulator, Licensing and Approvals—West on email nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au within 28 days of this notice being published. You must include your name, address, email address and the reason for your objection. If you have questions, call Water Regulation Officer Chris Binks on (02) 6763 1465.

SB1474

WATERSNSW

UPPER MURRAY GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for an amended WATER SUPPLY WORKS APPROVAL has been received from: **HOTON ASSET COMPANY PTY LTD** to add one new bore (38ML per annum) on Lot 9493 DP1244723, Parish Howlong, County Hume (Application No. A023111).

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.

KH0278

WATERSNSW LACHLAN FOLD BELT MDB GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for a new WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from **PRESS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD** for a bore (diameter 200mm, capacity 22L/s) for commercial purposes (Coolac Service Centre) on Lot 10 DP 1242413, Parish Coolac, County Harden.

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 156, LEETON NSW 2705 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. (A023991). Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above.

Angela Lepper, Senior Water Regulation Officer South.

KH0279

NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR

Lachlan Fold Belt MDB Groundwater Source

Oberon Council has applied for a **water supply work** approval for an existing bore on Lot 10, DP 1261143 in the Parish of Langdale, County of West Moreland to supply water for drought relief purposes (ref. A021453).

If you object to this application, write to the Natural Resources Access Regulator, Licensing and Approvals – West via email to 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 your objection.

If you have any enquiries, call Water Regulation Officer Shavaun Tasker on (03) 5881 9944.

SB1499

WATERSNSW COXS CREEK WATER SOURCE COXS CREEK

An application for an amended WATER SUPPLY WORK AND USE APPROVAL (90CA828598) has been received from **ALDOMONTE HOLDINGS PTY LIMITED** for a 660mm Centrifugal Pump on Lot 3 DP 590502 Parish of Melville, County of Pottinger for irrigation. (A023950).

Objections to the granting of the above approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW PO Box 890, Narrabri NSW 2390 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.

Any queries please phone 1300 662 077 or email the above.
Annita Devine, Water Regulation Officer North.

KH0283



NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Mining Lease	08/525	MARDIE MINERALS PTY LTD	4821.08HA.	63.3km NW'ly of Pannawonica	Lat: 21° 17' S Long: 115° 50' E	KARRATHA CITY
Mining Lease	16/577	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	1182.78HA.	96.5km W'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 35' S Long: 120° 5' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	16/578	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	2066.93HA.	92.8km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 42' S Long: 120° 10' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	37/1342	NAVIGATOR MINING PTY LTD	399.85HA.	33.1km NE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 46' S Long: 121° 38' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Mining Lease	37/1345	NAVIGATOR MINING PTY LTD	29.53HA.	27.1km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 121° 35' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Mining Lease	46/541	MILLENNIUM MINERALS LIMITED	177.43HA.	26.1km E'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 51' S Long: 120° 21' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Mining Lease	51/888	AUSTRALIAN VANADIUM LIMITED	70.90HA.	40.8km S'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 56' S Long: 118° 38' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Mining Lease	70/1396	CABLE SANDS (W.A.) PTY LTD	190.81HA.	12.5km E'ly of Busselton	Lat: 33° 38' S Long: 115° 28' E	BUSSELTON CITY
Mining Lease	70/1400	DORAL MINERAL SANDS PTY LTD	518.77HA.	12.5km E'ly of Busselton	Lat: 33° 41' S Long: 115° 28' E	BUSSELTON CITY

Nature of the act: Grant of mining leases, which authorises the applicant to mine for minerals for a term of 21 years from notification of grant and a right of renewal for 21 years.

Notification day: 1 July 2020

Native title parties: Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on **1 October 2020**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100. The mining tenements may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 1 November 2020**), there is no native title party under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* in relation to the area of the mining tenements.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

DMIRS_472RTN_1034

WATERSNSW

MURRUMBIDGEE REGULATED RIVER WATER SOURCE CUDDELL CREEK

An application for an amended WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from **IAN ROFFE** for an additional 400mm pump (415L/s) on Lot 1 DP 1003376 (Mitchell/Cuddell), for irrigation, stock and domestic purposes. Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 156, Leeton NSW 2705 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. (A024004) Contact us prior to lodging an objection for further information. Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above. Paul Morsanuto, Water Regulation Officer, South.

KH0282

WATERSNSW

An application for an AMENDED USE APPROVAL has been received from **EDWARD RICHARDSON PURSEGLOVE** and **EDWARD ROGER PURSEGLOVE** to authorise additional land for irrigation on Lot 31 DP 755108, Parish Goan, county of Narromine (Ref: A023994). Objections to the granting of the approval must be forwarded to WaterNSW, PO Box 1018, DUBBO NSW 2830 or by 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 downloaded at <https://www.watersnsw.com.au/customer-service/water-licensing/objections> Any queries please call 1300 662 077 or email the above. Paul McNamara, Water Regulation Officer North.

KH0280

NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR

Lachlan Fold Belt MDB Groundwater Source

Oberon Council has applied for a **water supply work approval** for an existing bore to supply water for drought relief purposes on Lot 160, DP 757072 in the Parish of Swatchfield, County of West Moreland (ref: A021452). If you object to this application, write to the Natural Resources Access Regulator, Licensing and Approvals – West, via email to 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 your objection. If you have any enquiries, call Water Regulation Officer Shavaun Tasker on (03) 5881 9944.

SB1497



NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION PERMITS FOR MINERALS

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 Exploration Permits for Minerals (EPM's) 27392, 27399, 27400, 27401, 27405, 27410, 27411, 27415, 27418, 27424, 27425, 27430 and 27467 as shown below under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27392 sought by Ricardo George Barfuss, over an area of 20 sub-blocks (65 km²), centred approximately 42 km South West of Forsyth, in the locality of the Etheridge Shire Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27399 sought by Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Limited, ACN 000 057 125, over an area of 97 sub-blocks (309 km²), centred approximately 54 km South East of Malbon, in the localities of the Cloncurry Shire Council and the McKinlay Shire Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27400 sought by Aaron Miles Vickers (50%) and Naomi Anne Vickers (50%), over an area of 6 sub-blocks (20 km²), centred approximately 30 km South West of Lakeland, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27401 sought by KC-MAR Pty Ltd, ACN 132 782 453, over an area of 10 sub-blocks (33 km²), centred approximately 70 km West North West of Mount Carbine, in the localities of the Cook Shire Council and the Mareeba Shire Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27405 sought by Auburn Resources Limited, ACN 121 572 192, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (309 km²), centred approximately 35 km South East of Cracow, in the localities of the Banana Shire Council and the North Burnett Regional Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27410 sought by Drummond West Pty Ltd, ACN 112 104 668, over an area of 5 sub-blocks (16 km²), centred approximately 20 km North of Clermont, in the locality of the Isaac Regional Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27411 sought by Colt Resources Pty Ltd, ACN 150 717 721, over an area of 99 sub-blocks (326 km²), centred approximately 40 km South West of Lakeland, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27415 sought by Colt Resources Pty Ltd, ACN 150 717 721, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (329 km²), centred approximately 50 km North West of Mount Carbine, in the localities of the Cook Shire Council and the Mareeba Shire Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27418 sought by Consolidated Tin Mines Limited, ACN 126 634 606, over an area of 8 sub-blocks (26 km²), centred approximately 22 km North East of Mount Garnet, in the locality of the Tablelands Regional Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27424 sought by Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Limited, ACN 000 057 125, over an area of 17 sub-blocks (54 km²), area 1 centred approximately 40 km North East and area 2 centred approximately 32 km South South East Duchess, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27425 sought by Zeotech Pty Ltd, ACN 634 030 998, over an area of 26 sub-blocks (80 km²), centred approximately 14 km North North East of Mundubbera, in the locality of the North Burnett Regional Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27430 sought by Diatrema Resources Limited, ACN 061 267 061, over an area of 19 sub-blocks (63 km²), centred approximately 23 km North of Cooktown, in the localities of the Cook Shire Council and the Hope Vale Shire Council.

Exploration Permit for Minerals 27467 sought by Oosen Lewis Mining Pty Ltd, ACN 627 156 950, over an area of 63 sub-blocks (208 km²), centred approximately 66 km North of Cooktown, in the localities of the Cook Shire Council and the Hope Vale Shire Council.

Nature of Act(s): The grant of the Exploration Permits under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), authorises the holder to explore for minerals for a term not exceeding five (5) years with the possibility of renewal for a term not exceeding five (5) years. It is proposed to grant the Exploration Permits subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) and the Native Title Protection Conditions.

Name and Address of Person doing Act(s): It is proposed that the Exploration Permits for Minerals 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 Future Acts. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 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 Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3307 5000 or 1800 640 501.

Further Information: Further Information about the proposed grant of the Exploration Permit for Minerals including extract of plans showing boundaries of the Exploration Permit Application may be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, mining Registrar, Mineral Assessment Hub, Level 9, Verde Tower, 445 Flinders Street, Townsville, Queensland, 4810. Telephone: (07) 4447 9230 or Email: MineralHub@dnrme.qld.gov.au.

Expedited Procedure: The State of Queensland considers the grant of the Exploration Permits to which this notice applies is an act attracting the Expedited Procedure. Each individual Exploration Permit may be granted unless, within a period of four (4) months after the Notification Day a native title party lodges an objection in respect of the individual Exploration Permit with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of that Exploration Permit for Minerals is a future act attracting the Expedited Procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3307 5000 or 1800 640 501.

Notification Day: 22 July 2020.

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Ally Wilson. Picture: Peter Argent

Wilson ponders life as a free agent

By CHRIS PIKE



ALLY Wilson was pumped for a big season in the NBL1 competition and ready to show her capabilities while a free agent in the WNBL until the COVID-19 pandemic threw all those plans out the window.

But the enforced time away from the courts meant more time at home with family, in smalltown Murray Bridge in South Australia, and a recharge for what may lie ahead.

Wilson has had precious little time to herself in between playing in the WNBL and state league basketball back-to-back.

She was planning on joining Mt Gambier in the NBL1 but after those plans were cancelled due to the coronavirus lockdown she's had her first

extended free time since she blocked her last ball in anger for the Sydney Uni Flames in the 2019/20 WNBL season in February.

Wilson, 26, is a hot commodity in basketball after making a strong return from a knee injury. The two-time championship winner is entering her prime years as an athlete.

Her immediate plan is to determine exactly where she wants to go in the WNBL for the 2020/21 season because her five-year contract at the Flames came to an end in February.

The options are that she re-signs with the Flames or returns closer to home and joins Adelaide Lightning – it's just that she is not willing to rule anything in or anything out just yet.

"No, I'm not contracted anywhere at the moment for next season so I am a free agent," she said.

"(WNBL) free agency has been open

for a couple of weeks now and I've obviously been in talks with a few clubs.

"Coming back close to home in Adelaide is definitely an option but so is staying at Sydney and there's some other teams out there too.

"I have been around and I think WA might be the only place that I haven't played so far but we'll wait and see what happens."

Off the court, the unplanned extended break has been beneficial.

"I'm from Murray Bridge and it's a little bit of a small town but it's awesome being back home with my family," she said.

"It doesn't happen very often so the break has been good in that respect.

"I have really been enjoying spending time with my brothers and sisters and my parents so that's been awesome but I'm definitely keen to start getting back into basketball now."

Basketball is back with the West Coast Classic

By CHRIS PIKE



TAHLIA Fejo can't wait to get out on the court and show she still has what it takes when basketball returns in Western Australia.

Basketball WA has drawn up a modified season and called it the West Coast Classic in which the 12 women's and 14 men's SBL teams will play.

The 2020 SBL season was scrapped as the months ticked over during the COVID-19 lockdown and it was feared there would be no basketball at all, but WA's tight restrictions during the pandemic saw the state seemingly come out on top, and that means good news for basketball fans and the many Aboriginal players in the WA competition.

The Classic will tip-off on Friday, July 24, with the respective men's and women's division teams playing each other once after which the top four will play-off in a finals series, which will take place over the September 25-27 weekend.

But first things first for Fejo, who joined Cockburn Cougars in the off-season.

Fejo spent time with WNBL club Perth Lynx as a development player and in the South Australian Premier League basketball competition with West Adelaide.

"I was really excited to come back to WA and to sign at Cockburn where we had an exciting young team with a new coach (Tyrone Thwaites), but then all of a sudden it was all taken away from us on the eve of the season," she said.

"But now that we have some sort of competition we're all excited and we

can't wait to get out there.

"I know personally I'll be giving it all and try to play well to see if someone might be impressed enough to give me another shot at the WNBL."

Perth Lynx first-year player Nes'eya Williams will join Joondalup Wolves alongside current and former WNBL players, while Lynx teammate and reigning SBL Grand Final MVP Maddie Allen will be at Perth Redbacks.

In the men's SBL, at the Warwick Senators, emerging point-guard Oliver Cross will form an important part of that team.

Young Mandurah Magic big man Aaron Kearing will have plenty of chances to show his capabilities under the coaching of former NBL greats Aaron Trahair and Ricky Grace and Ronan Coppin will look to continue his growth at the Perth Redbacks under local legend 'CJ' Jackson.

All set for the latest Challenge

By PETER ARGENT



AS A member of the women's Australian Indigenous Basketball team that played in Melbourne last year, Jasmin Fejo couldn't be more excited as Basketball SA's top-tier competition will make its return next month with the 2020 Adelaide Basketball Challenge beginning August 11.

While the 2020 NBL1 season was officially cancelled, the 12-week replacement competition will fill the void for players and fans alike.

"I'm really keen to get back playing after not being able to train or compete over the past couple of months," Fejo, who had a breakout season with West Adelaide in 2019, said.

"I can't wait to see everyone again and just get to training. It will be really exciting; it's a new concept but we're back on court for a 12-week season."

In a year that's brought the



Jasmin Fejo.

unexpected and after months of uncertainty following the outbreak of COVID-19, Adelaide's 10 metro clubs that compete in the NBL1 can now

return to the court.

Officials expect NBL1 to return in 2021.

The Adelaide Basketball Challenge will be a condensed format of games each Tuesday evening, and a game of the round on selected Saturday evenings, as opposed to the usual Saturday evening weekly schedule for all games. However, the season will end with just one week of finals. A full fixture will be released in the coming weeks.

This announcement follows the SA state government's easing of restrictions for a return to play.

Basketball SA chief executive Phil Sinnott said he is excited to see basketball back on court.

"(This year) has been very challenging for our sport but we are thrilled to be moving forward and excited to announce the return of our senior competition," he said.

"We have so many talented basketballers in SA and they're ready to get back to playing the game they love."



Tahlia Fejo will play for SBL club Cockburn Cougars in the West Coast Classic. Picture: Supplied

The infographic displays the following Indigenous football clubs and their players:

- Larrakia:** Steven May (Melbourne), Steven Motop (Port Adelaide), Brandon Parfitt (Geelong).
- Jaru:** Isaiah Butters (Fremantle), Jason Carter (Fremantle), Cedric Cox (Brisbane), Jy Farrar (Gold Coast), Shane McAdam (Adelaide), Iving Mosquito (Essendon), Kristel Petrovski (Melbourne), Jamin Stewart (Fremantle).
- Bunuba:** Toby Bedford (Melbourne), Jason Carter (Fremantle), Jy Farrar (Gold Coast), Sam Petrovski-Sotai (Carlton).
- Nyikina:** Brendon Ah Chee (West Coast Eagles), Callum Ah Chee (Brisbane), Cedric Cox (Brisbane).
- Yindjibarndi:** Gemma Poughton (Fremantle).
- Anmatjarra:** Ben Long (St Kilda), Danielle Porter (Adelaide).
- Yamatji:** Kysiah Pickett (Melbourne), Patrick Ryder (St Kilda).
- Wajarri:** Liam Ryan (West Coast Eagles).
- Balardong:** (No players listed).
- Wajuk:** (No players listed).
- Pinjarup:** Brendon Ah Chee (West Coast Eagles), Callum Ah Chee (Brisbane).
- Noongar:** (No players listed).
- Mirning:** (No players listed).
- Wirangu:** Eddie Betts (Carlton), Tyson Stengle (Adelaide).
- Kokatha:** (No players listed).
- Narangga:** (No players listed).
- Other clubs shown on map:** Tiwi, Maranunggu, Maramungu, Marrithiyel, Kija, Jaru, Naka Cockatoo (Geelong), Wajarri, Kukatja, Walmatjarri, Yawuru, Yindjibarndi, Wajarri, Yamatji, Balardong, Willman, Minang, Mimming, Wirangu, Kokatha, Narangga.



Good news for some in bush and city

WITH the ease of some restrictions from COVID-19 came some news – some good, some not so good – in the Koori rugby league world.

Some competitions across the country have readjusted their operations and will play in reduced seasons but in some places competitions have been cancelled for 2020.

The NSW Group 19 competition, which takes in rugby league-mad Aboriginal communities from Armidale, Tingha, Moree and Toomelah, are one of these and I fear what that will do in those communities. I just can't imagine, as a young kid growing up in Armidale, what it would be like to not having any footy to look forward to on weekends so I really feel for those young men and women around that way at the moment.

In some good news, for players and personally for me as a coach, is that the NSWRL Women's Premiership has been given the green light. The competition has been reduced and only seven teams have nominated to play, but it's at least something. I coach the South Sydney team and I can tell you that the players are all excited that we will get to play some football this year.

Some of the conditions in returning to the field is that each club, their players and staff, will undergo courses dealing with protocols around COVID-19 and what specific restrictions there will be in what we can and can't do at training to create a safe and healthy environment. This will include practices around training, games, prioritising hygiene and spacing in the sheds and meeting rooms. Sticking to these adjustments will give us an opportunity to have fun and work on the development of all our players. It's been a tough year for all of us and many may lack motivation or have more serious things to focus on so this mini season will be about providing as much fun as possible.

Other good news too is the return of the NRLW, which will be the four clubs as before. There is no doubt that players in this comp will be watching closely how the NSWRL Women's Premiership season will go.

In the NRLW there are a lot of Indigenous talent and they will be ready to step up in this competition. While I expect to see all of our girls who played last year to return, there could be some new faces this year.

I'm looking forward to seeing players like Taleena Simon and Nakia Davis-Welsh showcasing their attacking flair. Both are Souths players and have trained well – no expectations but I expect big things from them by the end of the season and in the NRLW.

The new faces I spoke about and would love to see get an opportunity in the NRLW are Layla Faud, Tanika Marshall and Jenni-Sue Hoepper. This trio were standouts in the All-Stars game earlier this year and I think they are ready for the challenge. It may be difficult for them to be noticed given that the new QRLW competition was cancelled after one round of games but from what I have seen these three have what it takes.

Either way, if you have football or if you don't, please stay safe and look after everyone around you.

**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



Tallisha Harden (left) Jenni-Sue Hoepper and Steph Mooka, key players for Queensland's Women's State of Origin side.

Harden eyes a return to NRLW and Origin

By ALF WILSON



TALENTED second-rower Tallisha Harden is delighted that the NRLW will hold a season this year, and is hoping to go around again with the

Sydney Roosters.

The 26-year-old played for the Roosters in the 2019 season, the league's second, and in 2018 she played with the premiership-winning Brisbane Broncos.

The NRLW in 2020 will feature the same four teams as before – Brisbane, Sydney Roosters, St George-Illawarra and NZ Warriors – and will play its season during the NRL finals series in October. Its grand final will be played on the same day as the NRL's, on Sunday, October 25.

"We sign one-year contracts so these

won't be finalised for a few weeks or over the coming months," Harden said.

"I know myself and a lot of the other girls are stoked the competition has been given the green light to go ahead."

Harden is also hoping to earn selection in the Queensland State of Origin team against NSW as a standalone match on Friday, November 13.

"We have lost the past couple of Origins and will be really looking to win it this time," she said.

Harden played in the first QRLW match for Burleigh Bears against West Brisbane before the league went into shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

She has high hopes for the league and said that North Queensland Gold Stars had a side which would do well next year.

"They have great players in Jenni-Sue Hoepper, Layla Faud and Stephanie

Mooka who were my teammates in the Indigenous All-Stars side this year and Queensland Origin side before," she said.

Harden is a multi-skilled sportswoman, having played rugby union and indoor volleyball before starting rugby league in 2013 with Burleigh in the south-east Queensland women's competition.

She played rugby league 9s for Australia, two Tests for the Jillaroos, two women's State of Origin games and several games for the Indigenous All-Stars.



This article is supported by the Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas.

Clubs opt in for Indigenous Round



ALL 16 NRL clubs will celebrate Indigenous Round and will wear specially designed jumpers during the eight games in round 12 later this

month. The NRL has locked in July 30-August 2 for its 2020 Indigenous Round.

The NRL has a high percentage of Indigenous players across the league.

"In line with previous years, Indigenous Round is an opportunity for the NRL to highlight key social issues and to promote the work that we do in

supporting our community," the league said in a statement.

"And in some good news, all 16 clubs have gone above and beyond to ensure that they have an Indigenous jersey to wear during the round."

Indigenous Round is one of several "themed rounds" in the NRL's revised 2020 premiership season.

In September, it will draw attention to women in the game with its Women In League in round 19 (September 17-20). In June, it brought attention to brain cancer and research with its Beanies for Brain Cancer in round 6 (June 18-21).

"Despite the new parameters we find ourselves working in, it is vital these rounds go ahead because of what they mean to the game and the community," NRL acting CEO Andrew Abdo said.

"They make an unquestionable difference to so many people's lives and provide the game with a wonderful platform to educate, unite and inspire both current and future generations about community, respect and equality.

"We're asking everyone to support these rounds, who and what they represent, in whatever way they can in 2020."

High hopes for Demons

By CHRIS PIKE



BRADY Grey has found a new WAFL club and all he wants right now is to help his side play finals for the first time in 23 years.

Grey, the former Fremantle utility in the AFL, had pushed to join cross-town rivals West Coast but was overlooked in the pre-season draft. He has put aside that disappointment to focus on bringing Perth Football Club's senior team back up the ladder.

The Demons' last premiership was in 1977 and its last finals appearance was in 1997.

Grey joins Perth after playing for AFL club West Coast's WAFL team of the same name in 2019 but that team was left out of the state competition due to AFL-

imposed restrictions and finances.

The WAFL has brought forward its 2020 season by two weeks, from August 1 to July 18.

Grey's first game for his new club will be against Peel Thunder.

"There was a few weeks of uncertainty after news that West Coast wouldn't be in the (WAFL) comp this year but I met with Perth a couple of weeks ago," Grey said.

"It's pretty exciting to be on board. We got stuck into training now and I'm looking forward to the season."

Grey is undaunted by the Demons' lack of finals experience; it was actually one of the driving factors in his decision to join the club.

"It's 42 years since their last flag so there's certainly that drive to be part of that (a return to finals)," he said.

"To be honest, from my point of view,



Brady Grey.

that was my main driving force to join, knowing they've gone 23 years without finals.

"I know from firsthand experience how passionate their supporters are from playing against them the last few years."

With the WA state government easing restrictions around COVID-19, crowds are now free to attend WAFL games.



This article is supported by the Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas.

Let's make the AFL space a safe place

THE past few weeks have been pretty heavy for Aboriginal people. We've been processing past and current issues to do with racism, dealing with how systemic it is and how it governs our lives, but we're working our way through it.



Shelley Ware

I would think we may have entered a new era of accountability and can draw strength from each other from this. There is no doubt there is change in the world, I hope you can feel it too.

In my other job as a teacher, and now back in the classroom, we have been discussing racism in Australia and have told the story of Adam Goodes in the AFL with the The Australian Dream documentary. What I have seen is, having watched the film, people are realising how no-one really listened to Adam and how society let him down. I think for the first time people are seeing the manipulation by sections of the media who built on the misinformation of this country's founding. Children and their parents are seeing the discrimination and how it has impacted Adam's life and they feel the shame.

When Eddie Betts from Carlton went public recently in outing a public racial attack toward himself I noticed a shift; that there was much more support, and love, toward Eddie from the wider community and a change in the media. But there is still a long way to go.

In the past few weeks, Heritier Lumumba, who played the majority of his career at Collingwood, has taken this moment to stand up and draw our attention to the failings of his former club and of the AFL, both of whom are choosing silence and denial rather than being pro-active and at least attempting to heal past wrongs. Some of Heritier's former teammates who backed him up at the start are in his corner again and other players who earlier had remained silent have come forward to back his claims, saying that they have been motivated to do so by the Black Lives Matter movement. The shame of this whole incident is that Collingwood didn't own it and the media played on his mental health issues, which he was open about, as a tool to discredit him which, to me, is one of the more vile parts of this episode.

Recently Joel Wilkinson, a former defender for the Gold Coast Suns, stood up and spoke out openly about the racism he faced internally and from crowds at games. In his words he said: "I was dismissed from the conversation and erased from the AFL's and Australia's long history of racism in sport."

The power in his story is that he was offered a private settlement but that he would need to sign a nondisclosure agreement which basically meant his silence. It speaks of his integrity that he refused this offer and that he wanted to own his truth. He promises we will hear more. Power to him.

The truth is we as a society can do better to support people who stand up against racism.

We just must.

We have to have a call to action and make the AFL space and society better for Aboriginal people, Torres Strait Islanders and people of colour.

**Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.*

Johnson's plans for another shot at an AFL career

By PETER ARGENT



THE second his mandatory 14-day quarantine period was over Aidyn Johnson headed

straight to football training to meet his new team-mates at SANFL club, Sturt.

The former Port Adelaide AFL player made the big decision to return to South Australia after Richmond's VFL club cancelled their 2020 season.

The SANFL is planning to get its 2020 season underway this month.

Several factors led Johnson to sign with Sturt.

The 22-year-old played 11 games in the AFL for the Power but was delisted at the end of the 2019 season. He played in the club's SANFL team and was on track to play in the grand final but copped a two-match ban following the Magpies' second semi-final win.

"I had previously considered coming to Sturt at the end of last year, obviously the main aim is to perform well enough to be considered by an AFL franchise again," he said.

"It also helped there is a strong Indigenous contingent at the Sturt Football Club.

"At Richmond's VFL club, being an AFL-aligned team, my thought was all about getting the opportunity to play against as many AFL-listed

players as possible but with the VFL up in the air (at the time) I decided to move back to Adelaide. I still want to play at the best level possible."

The move however has not come without sacrifice.

Johnson worked as an advocate for Koorie youth facing the judicial system in Victoria, a role he has had to let go.

"When I was at Port Adelaide I did some work with the Power Cup in Paul Vandenberg's Aboriginal programs," he said.

"I will look to do some study in this area while I'm in Adelaide.

"While the role could be confronting at times, there was a lot of satisfaction in helping out Aboriginal youth."



● Main: Aidyn Johnson joins SANFL club Sturt for the 2020 season after several years on the fringes at Port Adelaide in the AFL (inset). Pictures: Peter Argent



Garbutt is ready to bounce

By ALF WILSON



NUMBERS won't be a problem when the Garbutt Magpies Aussie rules women's team make their official debut after the 2020 AFLQ Townsville Senior

Women competition was given the go-ahead.

The Magpies' first season will be a 10-round six-week competition with three weeks of finals and an October 3 grand final.

Bouncedown for the modified 2020 season will be on Saturday, July 11.

The Magpie women were granted entry

to the Townsville league earlier this year but local football, like sport elsewhere, was forced into shutdown due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

The Garbutt Magpies Sporting Association began in 1955 playing a variety of sport including cricket, Aussie rules, rugby league, softball and vigoro and since the start it has had a strong representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Magpies women's Aussie rules team is an extension of the association. The club has seen numbers increase at training as restrictions began to ease.

"The team has been training strongly and there are a lot of players to choose from," the footy club president Nicole Ross said.

"Michael Barlow the coach has a lot of players to pick a side from including about 20 who played rugby league last year. Most of them are from the Northern Beaches area. We are really looking forward to the first game at our home ground on July 11."

Garbutt will also field an under-17 boy's side which will be coached by the club's junior association president, Randall Ross.

The last time Garbutt Magpies had a senior Aussie rules team was a men's side in 1988. In 1982 it won the Townsville premiership.

Some of the champion players from the past include Francis Tapim (Mer), Harry Akee, Noel Ross snr, Gordon Ross, Wally Tallis (father of former NRL star Gorden

Tallis), brothers Ricco and Russell Butler, David Nogar and David Smallwood.

Three grand-daughters of the late Noel Ross snr – Talisa, Donna and Rhonda Ross – will play for the women's side.

"At our jersey presentation, the players got to learn what it means to play for a club like the Garbutt Magpies," Nicole Ross said.

The good news adds to the club being granted \$1 million by the Queensland state government to upgrade their facilities at Harold Phillips Oval.



This article is supported by the Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas.

Simon relishing first World Cup on home soil

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



KYAH Simon will remember her 29th birthday for a long time to come because it was also the day

that Australia and New Zealand were announced as co-hosts of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

The Matildas forward, with about half of the country, stayed up until 2am as the announcement came from Zurich, Switzerland, FIFA's world headquarters.

Simon, who has 92 caps as an international, could barely contain her delight in speaking about the moment.

"This was my only birthday wish so I am super-stoked about that one," she said.

"This is an amazing moment for women's sport in this country

and for Australian football when we really needed a lift.

"This will really boost us and what better way to do that than to have a World Cup on home soil – it is super-exciting."

Simon was 16 when she made her debut for the Matildas in 2007 and became the first Aboriginal player to score a goal in a FIFA World Cup.

She said the reality of a home World Cup means so much more for the game.

"The opportunity we can now provide for aspiring young boys and girls is that they can now actually come to a (World Cup) game and see it firsthand and experience what a World Cup is about and what an international match is all about," she said.

"For me, it was the personal experience of watching Cathy Freeman at the Sydney Olympics winning gold, and that was through a TV screen, so I

think when you can see firsthand and feel that energy in the stadium (at the World Cup) that would inspire so many young Australians.

"We've experienced something like this with the Sydney Olympics and to now have a home World Cup, and to even be a part of that, will be a proud moment in history for me, and for the rest of the team, and for Australian football."

The Matildas will now be as meticulous as ever in the lead-up to 2023.

"We have a big couple of years leading into the World Cup now," Simon said.

"With the COVID-19 stuff happening which pushed the Olympics back a year, it gives us a big three-year lead-in."

"We've got the Olympics in Tokyo next year, the Asian Cup after that (2022), then the World Cup on here on home soil in 2023, so there will be a massive preparation period for us."

"This year was to be a big year but now it's a 'down' year, so we've been able to recover a bit more and get our bodies prepared for clubland (W-League) and then after that we're back in with the Matildas and full steam ahead."



Kyah Simon is relishing the prospect of a home World Cup in 2023. Picture: AAP

KBA is building pathways for youth



AN Indigenous youth basketball program is slowly building in Victoria with big plans for the future.

The Koorie Basketball Academy is the brainchild of Ricky Baldwin, a former star in the South East Australian Basketball League with Knox Raiders and vice-president of Australian Indigenous Basketball.

Baldwin's plan is for the KBA to build from the grassroots up with a focus first on junior age divisions, from 8-12 years up to 17s.

The KBA will develop a national model of engagement for Indigenous youth in basketball that it hopes can be adopted across the country. Already, the fledgling organisation has produced several

items and equipment with its brand (see basketball to the right).

"Our aim is to create pathways in basketball and through the Koorie Basketball Academy we hope to one day see the next Patty Mills and Leilani Mitchell," Baldwin said.

"Also, it will be more than just about sport; there will be a cultural and employment element to it."

Baldwin was senior coach of the AIB national women's team that won gold at the International Indigenous & Cultural Basketball Tournament last year in New Zealand when they defeated Kingdom of Hawai'i, 91-90.

Baldwin also led the women's team as coach against New Zealand Maori at the annual Trans-Tasman in Australia last year in October.



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In her steps they will follow



Main: The standard-bearer for Aboriginal women cricketers, Ash Gardner, salutes after another stellar innings for the NSW Breakers. **Inset:** Hannah Darlington was a revelation in the 2019/20 WBBL season for the Sydney Thunder. *Pictures: AAP/Cricket Australia*

Darlington, Learoyd join Gardner at NSW Breakers

By **DARREN MONCRIEFF**



NEW South Wales broke new ground in Australian cricket last week when they unveiled their contracted

players for the 2020/21 season, because among them are three Aboriginal women.

All-rounder and international representative Ash Gardner will be joined by Hannah Darlington and Anika Learoyd as the state side's three Aboriginal players in the National Women's Cricket League NSW Breakers team.

Gardner is the highest capped Aboriginal player in women's cricket and is a recent T20 World Cup winner.

The selection of Darlington and Learoyd represents a tangible return of the time, money and resources Cricket NSW has put into the National Indigenous Cricket Championships for over a decade. Gardner, Learoyd and Darlington are all graduates of the national tournament.

Learoyd is fresh from winning the 2020 NICC title with the NSW side in Alice Springs earlier this year.

The 18-year-old is a Gumbaynggirr woman from the mid-north coast of NSW who was born in Sydney and grew up in Coffs Harbour.

"I was pleasantly surprised

when I learned the news (from the Breakers)," Learoyd said.

"I wasn't sure how everything was going to play out this year so it was good to get in early.

"It's been really awesome, so far. We haven't met as a group as yet and I'm more close to Hannah than with Ash but it is just incredible to have three Indigenous players in the same team.

"All of us have played in Alice Springs and it just shows in that our team has been incredibly successful which is a testament to what Cricket NSW has done; they definitely look after us."

Learoyd is a middle- to top-order bat and was a top performer for the winning Blues side at the 2020 championships in Alice Springs in February. She opened the batting in the final against Queensland and clipped a handy 14 runs in the rain-shortened game and earlier had bowled tailender Grace Warcon to wrap up the Queenslanders' innings.

Last season she played for Northern District Rangers in the Sydney Grade Cricket competition.

Training with the Breakers has been an eye-opener for the teenager.

"I'm starting to think about the little things at the moment from what I'm learning at training," she said.

"Things like the different shots

and other ways to approach the ball with whatever the wicket is doing.

"Even just watching how the more senior players and Aussie girls in the squad and how they go about training has been opening my eyes."

Darlington was WBBL team Sydney Thunder's first Aboriginal captain in the 2019/20 season, in which she picked up a trifecta of awards as the team's highest wicket-taker (16), its MVP and the league's Young Gun award-winner.

Darlington and Learoyd will join the most successful team in the 50-over WNCL, the Breakers having won 20 of the past 24 titles.

The NSW side will have three Cricket Australia contracted players in the squad – Gardner, Alyssa Healy and Rachael Haynes.

WNCL and Sheffield Shield teams across the country are finalising their rosters ahead of the new season.

CA announced last week that the length of the 2020/21 WNCL season would remain unchanged despite proposals for a shorter season as part of cost-cutting measures.

The fixture for the entire 2020/21 domestic cricket season will be announced this month.

● **CA, WNCL, Sheffield Shield player contracts, page 55**



Teenager Anika Learoyd in full flight with the bat.



The updated AFLPA Indigenous players map. Image: AFLPA

Player map of kin and country



THE AFLPA has launched its updated player map that features the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander footballers in 2020 in the AFL and AFLW.

It was launched during National Reconciliation Week in June and highlights the cultural diversity of the leagues' 109 Indigenous players represented across 71 cultural and language groups.

Jarrold Harbrow, who plays with Gold Coast and who sits on the AFLPA Indigenous advisory board (IAB), said the map celebrates the cultural diversity of football's Indigenous personnel.

"The map represents not only the Indigenous men and women in the AFL, but all their families and connections to country," he said.

"It's great to see where everyone is from and the map should be used for cultural education within clubs to learn more about their Indigenous players."

Neville Jetta, who plays at Melbourne and is also a member of the IAB, said the map underlines the influence Indigenous players are having at AFL level.

"When you see the map in its entirety, it really hits home the impact Indigenous footballers are having at the elite level," he said.

"It's great to see so many different cultural groups represented and to learn more about the backgrounds of my teammates and opponents. With roughly 10 per cent of the current AFL playing group identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, the map demonstrates the connection the players across the league have to the country's remote communities and language groups."

● See pages 48 and 49 for the two-page spread of the map in its entirety.

NBL admits it can improve its game

By CHRIS PIKE



THE NBL has taken on board Cairns Taipans' star Nate Jawai's criticism that it could do way more to support Indigenous involvement in the game.

Jawai took the league to task over its promotion of imports over local talent (see below), pointing out its lack of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander players across its eight Australian clubs (discounting the New Zealand Breakers).

The NBL has come out strongly in support of Jawai's comments and has vowed to do better. What and how that will look like remains to be seen.

The league has locked in a competition-wide Indigenous Round in 2020/21 and says it will work closely with Jawai, Tyson Demos at the Hawks and

NBA star Patty Mills.

"As well as a large contingent of players and coaches from around the world, the NBL has also been graced by some of the most incredible people from our own Indigenous communities," NBL executive chairman Jeremy Loeliger said.

"As a league, we are committed to doing more to recognise their contribution not just to our game but to our broader culture and our society. That is why we staged our inaugural Indigenous Round and it is something we are committed to developing further in years to come.

"We want to ensure the rounds deliver meaningful benefits and we will work with the Indigenous community by donating our contribution from the proceeds of the sale of themed jerseys from Indigenous Round in season 2020/21."

Loeliger pointed out the history of African-American imports being

embraced into the league that also confirms its support for the Black Lives Matter movement.

"The NBL strongly condemns racism in any form and we maintain a zero tolerance approach to discrimination of any kind in our league," he said.

"We embrace and respect the contribution made by all that participate in it and stand united with our African-American and Indigenous players in their hour of need, and always. We aim to foster diversity, inclusion and equality.

"For over 40 years, we have been proud to welcome players from all round the world, particularly the US, who have done so much to enrich our game and culture.

"We owe a large part of our success as a league to them, and we recognise and celebrate their enormous contribution."



Nate Jawai in our report in our June 17 edition prompted a response from the NBL.

Tyson Demos is one of a handful of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to have played in the NBL. Picture: Getty Images

Miners, Crushers pull pin on Townsville league

By ALF WILSON



TWO far north Queensland rugby league clubs have made an early call and have withdrawn from football this year, which has thrown a

huge spanner in the works of the Townsville and District Rugby League's plans for 2020.

A meeting between the league and its clubs will be held this weekend to decide if a senior competition can be held at all.

The league is a seven-team competition and is one of the strongest regional leagues in far north Queensland, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander players make up a high percentage of footballers across the competition.

But the season will have to do without

Charters Towers and Herbert River.

The Miners and Crushers announced last week that their senior men's teams will not be part of any competition despite what the TDRL will put forward.

Charters Towers had earlier been vocal in calling for 2020 to be scrapped.

Officials from both clubs had already said that their respective clubs would be reluctant to be part of a shortened 2020

season because of financial concerns as a result of reduced crowd numbers due to COVID-19 related social distancing rules, which leaves the TDRL now as a five-team competition – Brothers, Centrals, Western Lions, Norths and Burdekin – to play out the rest of the year.

The Brothers Rugby League Football Club had just celebrated its first 100 years in 2019.



Fearsome quick Scott Boland will be stepping up into a more senior role for Victoria in the Sheffield Shield next season.
Pictures: Peter Argent

Another Shield is Boland's big wish

By PETER ARGENT



SCOTT Boland wants to add another Sheffield Shield title to his resumé, to add to the three he's already won, and almost a fourth when he was 12th man.

Boland became the first Aboriginal player to win the Sheffield Shield's cricketer of the year award when he won it in the 2018/19 season and he will go around again for Victoria after his efforts last season were rewarded with a contract.

He is one of a number of Aboriginal cricketers awarded cricket contracts recently.

Queenslander Brendan Doggett, Northern Territorian-turned Western Australian D'Arcy Short, exciting young talent from Tasmania, Emma Mannix-Geeves, NSW Breakers pair Hannah Darlington and Anika Learoyd and T20 World Cup-winner Ash Gardner have been awarded Cricket Australia, Sheffield Shield and Women's National League Cricket contracts ahead of the 2020/21 summer season in a big year for Indigenous cricket.

With former Aussie quick Peter Siddle joining Tasmania on a two-year contract, Boland will step up into a more senior role with the ball for the Bushrangers.

"My role will be about winning games and looking to win titles, along with passing on knowledge to the new generation," he said.

"It's been the longest break I've had in four or five years so my body is feeling great. At my age I know my body's requirements over a summer."

Boland, 31, has 225 first-class wickets



Emma Mannix-Geeves.

at an impressive average of 27.20 and his best return in an innings is 7/31.

Doggett can't wait to put his injury concerns behind him. He will play for Queensland in the Sheffield Shield and for Sydney Thunder in the Big Bash League.

After touring the UAE as a member of the Australian Test squad, Doggett dealt with a series of injuries, including stress fractures in his back. He is slowly on the mend.

"It certainly has been a frustrating couple of years," he said.

"I've just had an X-ray on my back last week which shows the healing has been slower than it should have. The prognosis now suggests that I won't start bowling until the Big Bash tournament so hopefully I'm back and cementing my place in the Bulls line-up for the last four (Sheffield)

Shield games and hopefully a final.

"We have Shane Bond as a coach at the Sydney Thunder and being a quick himself and who's been through the same stress fracture issues as me, it is nice to chat about the issues and lean on him."

Doggett, 26, has a chance to cement his place in the Queensland attack. He has 38 first-class wickets at 35.10 with the best analysis of 5/77, with a pair of five-wicket innings hauls.

It will be a big summer for all-rounder Short who, despite being among the best T20 cricketers in the country, is yet to secure a regular role at Sheffield Shield level. He will turn 30 soon and has played just 14 first-class games. He has made four half-centuries in four-day cricket, with a highest score of 66, mostly as a middle-order bat. With his left-arm spinners, Short has 20 wickets and the best match figures of 4/43.

In one-day cricket (50 overs), Short famously made an Australian record highest score of 257, that included 23 sixes, in 2018.

Mannix-Geeves made her WNCL debut in January. In 2019, she was the Player of the Tournament at the National Indigenous Cricket Championships in Alice Springs when she played for Victoria. Her first game for the Tigers was against South Australia in Adelaide as a wicketkeeper-batter.

● Trio line up for NSW Breakers, page 53



This article is supported by the Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas.

Do some of the heavy lifting with us

EDDIE Betts and Latrell Mitchell from the Carlton and South Sydney football clubs are proud Aboriginal men and as professionals in the public spotlight, they have borne the brunt of racism throughout their careers; because not a day goes by without a high-profile Indigenous figure in football receiving racial abuse. If you have just read that sentence and nodded along without missing a beat like I did while writing it then that's because racism has become normalised in football.



Darren Moncrieff

There is something else I will talk about but to recap, in the past fortnight, Latrell has broken down on the field and in the sheds, and Eddie has re-lived the trauma of receiving racial abuse – both instances in the public eye.

There's an element to seeing and reading all of this that we should be conscious of, and that is the mental and physical toll of racism. If you have ever felt exasperated, exhausted and anxious in experiencing racism or seeing it put upon others, you will know. If you've ever stopped mid-conversation to reference a book or a quote or even a meme to make a point, you will know. Sometimes, a lot of times, all we want to do is just be. All Eddie and Latrell want to do is just play football without the white noise of racism crowding in on the space around them. Self-care sounds like an abstract concept but it shouldn't.

In his 2014 book *The Body Keeps the Score*, author Bessel van der Kolk details the physiological response to what we see, hear and experience over the course of our lives. If the majority of what we see, hear and experience over the course of our lives is traumatic, our bodies will keep an injurious account in any number of ways and which can go undetected for years. I am not about to diagnose Latrell or Eddie from afar because I am not a psychologist and that would be careless, but my lived experience recognises their responses. Football greats Chris Lewis and Phil and Jim Krakouer were clear examples of the toll racism can take when given a free run, which it did during their careers in the 1980s and early 1990s. Being racially abused can feel shameful because history and official government policy normalised it for a very long time, but abuse of any kind is 100 per cent on the abuser and not on the abused no matter what the justification.

Neville Jetta, a leader at AFL club Melbourne, made a great point recently when he said: "I want to see coaches, club CEOs and non-Indigenous players embrace and lead the way, not always leaving it to Aboriginal players to do that".

What the past several weeks have shown is that there are plenty of allies around, so if the many thousands, millions, of non-Black people marching with us at Black Lives Matter rallies can stick around for the long haul, then that would be great. If tearing down statues and taking a knee in football felt good, then just imagine how dismantling systemic racism in sport and society in general will feel.

We as Aboriginal people need those allies to take up some of this heavy lifting because all of this may extract a terrible toll if left to us alone.

*Darren Moncrieff is a Wadjarli-Thakarli man from Carnarvon in Western Australia who started with Yamaji News in 1997 and freelanced in WA's Kimberley region and in the Northern Territory.

Got something to say?
Then say it! Drop us a line:
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Lydia Williams longevity as goalkeeper for the Matildas will hold her in good stead when the FIFA Women's World Cup lands on Australian soil in 2023. Inset: Matildas forward Kyah Simon. Pictures: Getty Images; AAP

Matildas Williams, Simon in the box seat

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



THE biggest show in women's sport is coming to Australia and New Zealand, and Aboriginal players Lydia Williams and Kyah Simon will be aiming to maintain their respective places in the Australian women's national football team when the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup heads Down Under and across the Tasman for the first time.

Australia and New Zealand were granted the rights to host the 2023 tournament where 32 countries will be represented, up from 24 at previous events.

As hosts, Australia and New Zealand gain automatic entry.

The event will kick off at Auckland's Eden Park and the final has been locked in for Sydney's Olympic Stadium. Specific dates have yet to be finalised.

Williams, 32, is the Matildas' current No.1 custodian and will be our final line

of defence, while Simon, 29, is an experienced and potent striker in attack.

The World Cup will be a massive boost for world football in Australia and New Zealand.

"This is an amazing moment for women's sport in this country," Simon said, "and for Australian football when we really needed a lift."

"This will really boost us and what better way to do than to have a World Cup on home soil – it is super-exciting."

● "My only birthday wish" – Page 52



 **Basketball promises to do more for our people, page 54**