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The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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Time to ban tasers



THE deaths of two Aboriginal men after being tasered by police have advocates asking for the 'stun' guns to be banned. Family and supporters of Gamilaroi man Michael Peachey rallied in the northern NSW town of Gunnedah last week to demand justice and change.

Michael was killed by NSW

police at his father's house. He never regained consciousness after being hit with capsicum spray and a taser.

And the coronial inquest into the death in custody of Mr Riley, a Noongar man who died after being tasered by police, in Perth in May 2017, began on May 25.

Mr Riley was fatally tasered up to 16 times after police responded to an incident that Mr Riley had no involvement in.

His family believes that the tasing directly caused his death.

Mr Riley's family is calling for the coroner to release the harrowing footage of police restraining him, which was shown at the inquest last week. Police told the inquest that their use of force was "100% justified".

Mr Riley's family and loved ones are calling for justice and an end to the use of tasers by police in Western Australia.

"We are saddened and shocked to hear that earlier today an Aboriginal man died after being tasered and pepper sprayed by police in NSW. Our thoughts are with the man's family and loved ones during this devastating time," they said in a statement.

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service chair Priscilla Atkins said that racism toward Aboriginal people is

deeply entrenched into the police force in WA and nationwide.

"We are deeply saddened that Mr Riley tragically lost his life to punitive and discriminatory police powers; powers that have seen more than 477 of our people die. Tasers must be banned. They are having a lethal impact on our people," she said.

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Mi Mi fires up for Indigenous Round



THE Queensland Firebirds may have been beaten on the buzzer by the Melbourne Vixens in their Indigenous Round match of Suncorp Super Netball, but wing attack Jemma Mi Mi was still smiling.

Wakka Wakka woman Mi Mi is the Super league's only Aboriginal player and said she was proud to wear the special Indigenous Round uniform designed by Rachel Sarra for the Firebirds.

"I just love playing at home – for it to be Indigenous Round, to have my family up in the stands and to see all the girls wear the dress so proudly and really embrace this round, and our coaches too. It felt amazing," Mi Mi said. "My family have been checking on me this week and my focus on being a role model has helped balance the media side too."

"This week, the crowd were incredible. They really rode the game with us."

The Queensland Firebirds came out firing, wearing their pride on their dresses, and their sleeves too, but were unlucky to not bring home the win, going down 64-66.

The Queensland side's blistering start saw them pull out to a solid 8-point lead in the first quarter. The Vixens wrestled the lead back to two points courtesy of the Suncorp Super Shot in the second quarter with the Firebirds in front by two at half time (37-35).

The Firebirds were in front by three with three minutes to go and the team threw everything at the game, as did the crowd. An unlucky penalty on the buzzer gave the Vixens the win.

Netball is one of a number of professional sports to hold its Indigenous Round during National Reconciliation Week, May 26 to June 3, along with the men's Australian Football League, National Rugby League and National Basketball League.

Read more about the Indigenous Rounds in our sports section.



Queensland Firebirds player Jemma Mi Mi: "I just love playing at home – for it to be Indigenous Round, to have my family up in the stands and to see all the girls wear the dress so proudly and really embrace this round ... It felt amazing."



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MY FAMILY

Darryl Fitz (Tennant Creek, NT)



Celebrating his team's win is Liam Holt-Fitz (centre with the NTFL premiership cup), with (from left) mate William Rixon, Liam's partner Dannielle Djanghara-Cooper, his younger brother Evan Fitz, Dad (me) Darryl Fitz, mates Owen Patterson and Farran James, brother Miles Fitz, Mum Patrina Holt and Uncle Jason Clarke.

IN March of this year, I travelled with my family and friends from Tennant Creek, 990km away, to watch my son Liam play for Nightcliff in the Top End league's grand final in Darwin.

In this picture, we're celebrating Nightcliff's seven-point win in extra-time at the grand final.

This was Liam's third consecutive grand final and it meant a lot to our family, the Nightcliff family and to Tennant Creek.

There were three or four carloads of family that came up from Tennant Creek for the game.

We thought Liam's game was pretty good. His touches in extra-time were vital. This is history now. This becomes part of NT football history.

Three-in-a-row!

That my son was in it means everything – about the struggles of moving from Tennant Creek to the Darwin league and the success that's come with it.

With all the success Liam's had, and in NT football, I see him as a role model for the kids in Tennant Creek and the Barkly region.

– as told to Darren Moncreif

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



Kids Caring for Country Dance Troupe at the Kinship Festival in Murwillumbah. More pictures and story, page 27. Picture: Kris Cook

Koori Mail

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Inquest examines police use of force in confrontation leading to man's death



AN inquest has been shown confronting footage of police restraining an Indigenous man who died after being tasered outside an Officeworks store in Perth.

Family members cried in distress and left the room as the Perth Coroner's Court was shown the confrontation between police and 39-year-old Mr Riley.

Mr Riley's mother Margaret Ugle arrived at the Central Law Courts building holding a sign that read "I Can't Breathe! BLM".

The court has declined to release the footage of Mr Riley being detained.

"People need to see it," Mr Riley's sister Cassandra Riley said outside court.

"Someone has to be held responsible for my brother's death."

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services executive officer Hannah McGlade called for an independent investigation into the conduct of police who interacted with Mr Riley.

"It's shocking that the level of police force used was justified in the court today," Dr McGlade said.

Counsel assisting the coroner Rachel Collins said two police officers had attended the Officeworks store in East Perth in May 2017 in response to unrelated reports of a robbery.

They were alerted to Mr Riley, who was seen rocking from side to side and slapping his forehead.

Mr Riley had a history of drug-induced psychosis and his family



Family of Mr Riley outside the Perth Coroner's Court. His mother Margaret Ugle (second left), partner Cassandra Sherwood (centre) with their children, from left, Sheldon (13), Shenelle (11), Chante (16) and Chad (22). Picture: AAP Image

had been concerned about his welfare.

The officers approached the father of six and called triple-zero to request an ambulance when he did not engage with them.

Ms Collins said Mr Riley had then advanced on police and shouted, "I'm going to kill you," prompting Constable Rory Winterburn to discharge his taser.

They attempted to restrain the prone man as he struggled.

"During this resistance, Mr Riley made repeated and continuous attempts to take possession of Constable (James) Wolfe's firearm and bit down hard

on Constable Wolfe's arm causing it to bleed heavily," Ms Collins told the inquest.

Several other officers arrived to help restrain Mr Riley.

Ms Collins said Const Winterburn's taser was trigger-activated 10 times in less than two minutes just prior to and during the struggle.

Footage shot by witnesses showed Mr Riley wailing as he was held down for seven minutes before an ambulance arrived.

Attempts were made to resuscitate him at the scene before he was taken to Royal Perth Hospital, where he

was pronounced dead.

A pathologist found the cause of death was consistent with cardiac arrhythmia "following violent exertion necessitating physical restraint in a man with methylamphetamine effect, known systemic hypertension and morbid obesity".

One witness helped to restrain Mr Riley after being asked to do so by one of the initial two officers.

John Barber told the inquest he sat on Mr Riley's legs until further officers arrived, adding that he felt police had been focused on de-escalating the

conflict. He said he had seen Mr Riley's fingers reaching for an officer's gun.

The inquest also heard from WA Police Detective Sergeant Brett Fowler, who authored an internal major crime report into the death of Mr Riley.

The report concluded there was no criminal conduct by any officers.

Mr Riley had been stopped by police in East Perth the night before his death after being seen driving erratically.

He was not placed under arrest, but was put in handcuffs and taken to the Perth Watch House for a drug test.

Officers told Mr Riley he was free to go and gave him a lift to Royal Perth Hospital, but he left there before being seen by a doctor.

The following morning he was seen by cleaning staff outside the hospital yelling, "Cops are after me. Why are they after me?"

Police told the inquest that their use of force was "100%" justified.

Under questioning from Greg McIntyre SC, representing Mr Riley's family, Const Wolfe said his holster had a locking mechanism preventing access to his Glock pistol.

Mr McIntyre suggested this made snatching the gun "a fairly remote possibility".

"Just because it didn't happen, doesn't mean it couldn't happen," Const Wolfe replied.

Both officers said they were aware of the risks of positional asphyxia in people under police restraint but did not consider it in the moment.

The inquest continues. —AAP

Employment program axed without notice

By DARREN COYNE



ABORIGINAL organisations administering the Federal Government's Community Development Program (CDP) only learned the program was being axed on Budget night.

Workers arrived the next day to an email from the National Indigenous Australians Agency confirming what they had heard on budget night.

The problem is, they say, that the Federal Government has failed to outline what it plans to replace the controversial work-for-the-dole program with, leaving service providers operating in a vacuum until the next government announcement.

Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt announced on May 11 that a new remote jobs program would replace CDP in 2023.

Mr Wyatt said the new program would be co-designed with Indigenous Australians to "better tailor the support job seekers need to find and secure work as the economy recovers".

He said the new program would be piloted in a number of locations from late 2021.

Until that time, CDP job seekers will still be required to meet their mutual obligations requirements, but many activities will now be voluntary until the new program is finalised.

The manager of one such Aboriginal-controlled service provider, who asked to remain anonymous, told the *Koori Mail* that workers were left blindsided by the announcement.

"We are constantly trying to be agile with government policy but when they announce changes and then tell us to go out and implement those changes it's difficult when we haven't even been consulted," he said.

"We are dealing with some of the most disadvantaged people and while we're trying to stay positive it's disheartening when policy changes without even talking to us.

"We are the experts because we are living and dealing with people every day so we do need the Government to actually listen to us and talk to us before they make major policy changes.

"But instead of listening to us they make policy changes which are, most of the time, all about cost savings, and it seems when they need to save money it's the Aboriginal programs they look at first.

"They take millions out of our programs at

a time when we're dealing with domestic violence, murders, suicides, substance abuse and more and more juveniles going into detention.

"Every indicator is there, yet when the country is looking for money they go straight to Indigenous programs and make the cuts there."

Greens Senator Rachel Siewert said the Government's own evaluation of the program in 2019 had shown that First Nations people were more likely to be penalised than their city counterparts.

"The CDP and the job placement programs need to end as soon as possible and a new approach put in place.

"There has been much thought going into this by First Nations organisations so it shouldn't be too hard," she said.

Senator Siewert said it was outrageous that the CDP, which largely impacts First Nations people, did not address barriers to work, and was open to exploitation by large companies.

Meanwhile, the Australian Institute of Superannuation Institute (AIST) has called for CDP jobs to be replaced with jobs that pay superannuation.

Participants in the program do not receive

superannuation nor other employment protections while they are employed in the program.

These participants are required to work up to 20 hours per week without receiving super on their salary, while others working in non-CDP jobs doing similar work in the same communities do receive superannuation and are building their retirement nest eggs.

AIST chief executive Eva Scheerlinck, who is the chair of the Indigenous Superannuation Working Group, said First Nations people, like all Australians, should have access to jobs at award rates of pay, with employment protections and superannuation on every dollar.

"The Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is already among the most disadvantaged people in Australia," Ms Scheerlinck said.

"It's been estimated that Indigenous men have an average super balance just half that of other men while the average super balance of Indigenous women is more than a third less than other women."

AIST modelling has shown that if CDP participants received super, they would end up with around \$79,745 more in retirement.

Adelaide 36ers shirts inspired by inclusion

By PETER ARGENT



SHANE Cook's design for the 2021 Adelaide 36ers Indigenous round singlet takes its inspiration from the team's value of belonging and ensuring that all basketball fans feel accepted.

"The design of different sizes and different shapes represent the different communities around Australia," Cook explained.

"The lines connecting together represent when a team would travel from one state to the other to play against another community, while also paying respect to the traditional owners and their country which the games are played on."

A nationally recognised contemporary artist, Shane Mankitya Cook had previously created Indigenous round football guernseys for AFL and SANFL clubs.

Mentored by Jack Buckskin of Kuma Kaaru, Cook is a South Adelaide-based artist and is a proud Wulli Wulli and Guwa (Koa) descendant from Queensland.

He has been named Mankitya 'the scarred one' by the local Kurna community in Adelaide.

Cook has also painted upwards of 50 pairs of boots for the Sir Douglas Nicholls AFL Round and created artwork for one of Anthony Mundine's boxing kits.

From his youth, Shane began learning traditional painting from his mother.

His interests then diversified



Adelaide 36ers player Keanu Pinder and artist Shane Cook show the 36ers Indigenous Round singlet.

into graffiti culture, street art and tattooing as he got older.

These art styles are conspicuous in Shane's unique contemporary style.

Cook is also the creator of Street Dreamz, an arts/wellbeing and mentoring program, and is an accomplished marathon runner, previously being a part of the Indigenous Marathon Project.

Adelaide 36er big man Keanu Pinder is one of just four Indigenous players in the NBL.

His strength is his pure athleticism.

He was born and raised in Derby, Western Australia, among the Nyigina people of the West Kimberley and only began playing basketball when he moved to school in Perth.

There weren't basketball facilities in Derby for Pinder to use, with Australian rules football being the only game of choice.

He was still capable of making it into an American College basketball program (Arizona State) and into professional hoops teams in Poland and back home in Australia.

He wore the special singlet at

the game alongside his teammates and in front of family on Sunday, May 30, to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities as the original custodians of this land.

The NBL's Indigenous Round also celebrates the contribution and influence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the history of Australian basketball.

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Mick Dodson facing censure



THE Northern Territory Opposition is expected to move a motion in Parliament to sack Treaty Commissioner

Mick Dodson, who's accused of verbally abusing women.

Professor Dodson has been accused of verbally abusing and threatening an Aboriginal woman during an incident at an interstate football game in Darwin in January.

The 71-year-old is also alleged to have called a second woman offensive names during an angry exchange at a casino five months before he was appointed to the role.

The former Australian of the Year has not admitted the allegations, and through his lawyer says he doesn't remember the first incident, but agreed the alleged conduct was disgraceful.

Chief Minister Michael Gunner said on Friday he had lost confidence in Prof Dodson and he shouldn't continue as commissioner until the allegations are cleared up.

But at the time of going to press, there had been no word from Prof Dodson, who is under pressure to resign after he received Mr Gunner's letter and has taken two



Professor Mick Dodson

weeks personal leave.

NT opposition spokeswoman for women Marie-Clare Boothby called on Mr Gunner to do more to resolve the situation, saying she was preparing a motion to remove Prof Dodson for June's parliamentary sitting.

A two-thirds majority in the Legislative Assembly is the only way Prof Dodson can be removed from his post if he doesn't resign.

Yawuru man Prof Dodson was named the Australian of the Year in 2009 for his work advocating for the rights of Indigenous Australians.

As a barrister specialising in native title and human rights, he assisted the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

In 1993, he was appointed as Australia's first Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, a post he held until 1998.

He was appointed NT's Treaty Commissioner in February 2019 and is also a former chief executive of the Northern Land Council.

His lawyer David De Silva said his client had been receiving treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder, which stemmed from his childhood.

"Upon being advised of the incident Prof Dodson's immediate response to the complainant's representatives was to agree with their description of the alleged conduct as being disgraceful," he said.

"At the invitation of the complainant, Professor Dodson agreed to meet with her to discuss the matter and to extend his remorse as to the anguish she has suffered.

"The meeting has not eventuated.

"The medical advice given to Prof Dodson is that continued treatment will assist in managing and overcoming the effects of PTSD."

Prof Dodson's role as NT treaty commissioner is to consult with Aboriginal people and develop a framework for future treaty negotiations. – AAP

Calls for review of NT water allocation



THE Central Land Council (CLC) has applied for a review of the unprecedented decision to gift a private company 40,000 megalitres of finite water reserves each year for three decades to grow fruit and vegetables in the desert, largely for export.

In addition to a review under the *Northern Territory's Water Act*, the CLC is also seeking an independent peer review of the 'adaptive management' plan the NT Government has asked the company, Fortune Agribusiness, to complete.

The CLC has asked the Government to halt all activity in the meantime to ensure the integrity of the review process.

"We call on the Government to immediately stop the native vegetation clearance and non-pastoral use permits for the company, as well as the environmental impact assessment," CLC chief executive Lesley Turner said.

At a meeting in Tennant Creek last month, an hour's drive north of Singleton Station, the CLC delegates considered independent hydrogeological advice which confirmed that neither the Government's water licence decision nor its approach to managing it comes close to addressing the concerns of the area's native title holders and affected community residents.

"We have received independent expert advice that the license decision does nothing to assuage the grave concerns these groups have raised," Mr Turner said.

"Our constituents now want us to pursue all avenues for objection because



Central Land Council delegate Josie Douglas.

too little is known about how the decision will affect community drinking water for decades to come, including the impact on native plants, animals and sacred sites.

"There is not enough data to address concerns of constituents or independent scientists.

"Frankly, they have no faith in the Government's capacity to manage the license in the public interest and are concerned that its decision is based on little more than guesswork."

Independent hydrogeologist Dr Ryan Vogwill said the Government's water resource and impact assessment were "simplistic, based on inadequate

investigations and very little site-specific data".

Dr Vogwill said the "rushed approval process" for the Singleton allocation fell "well short" of what would be required for far smaller water allocation decisions in his home state of Western Australia.

He found a major flaw of the allocation planning and impact assessment is that it ignores the most culturally and ecologically important places, such as numerous wetlands, springs and soaks.

He questioned whether the NT Government's 'adaptive management' approach will be able to deal with its "insufficient understanding of impact risk".

"It is fraught with problems and there have been serious issues in this context in other jurisdictions," he warned.

"Adaptive management needs a really strong understanding of the water resource, biodiversity/cultural values and groundwater-dependent ecosystems' impact potential to be successful, particularly in the long term. This project does not currently have this."

Arid Lands Environment Centre and the Environment Centre NT on Thursday lodged applications for a Ministerial review of the water controller's decision in April.

The NT Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security has previously said Fortune would have to comply with strict controls to keep the licence.

Environment Centre NT director Kirsty Howey said Fortune had been handed the water licence for free.

"This means that the NT Government is foregoing a vital revenue source that should be used to monitor and manage water licences," she said.

"One expert estimated that Fortune's water licence would be worth \$20 million elsewhere in Australia."

Fortune expects the \$180 million project to be producing fruit and vegetables by late-2022 pending appeals to the licence.

The farm will cultivate permanent crops such as mandarins, grapes and avocados. It's understood six groups have lodged review applications over Fortune's licence.

The NT Government is not legally obliged to conduct a review. — with AAP

● Eastwood's view, page 20

A grieving family asks, 'Why didn't help come?'

By DARREN COYNE



AROUND 200 people rallied in Gunnedah, NSW, following the death of Gamilaroi man Michael

Peachey, who died after being pepper sprayed and tasered by police.

Family members said Michael's mental health had deteriorated in the week before his death, but he had received no support from the local hospital, Aboriginal services, police or the mental health ward in Tamworth.

Mr Peachey was one of eight siblings and a father to a 3-year-old boy, Dwayne.

Francis Stevens, Michael's grandmother, was distraught.

"We asked for help. Why didn't help come?" she said.

On the night he died, police were called after Michael experienced a breakdown. A struggle ensued and Michael's partner Victoria Hoyt asked: "Where is the mental health support? With this system it seems that people are forced into psych wards against their will, but when we request help there is nothing there."

His sister-in-law Marlee Thomas said police brutality must stop.

"There is no need for the kind of force that killed Michael," she said.

"This is a constant problem we have in Gunnedah, police brutality, especially against Aboriginal people. We have seen huge Black Lives Matter rallies across the country, but still they kill our people.



The grieving family of Gamilaroi man Michael Peachey, who died after he was peppered sprayed and tasered by police, are calling for better mental health services in regional areas, and they want answers about Michael's death.

"The movement needs to grow. We need justice and change."

Family friend Helen Eason told the *Koori Mail* that she travelled from Sydney to give support to the family, and was disgusted at the lack of support they had received.

"I run a family support service in Sydney and I have had to travel up here to Gunnedah to support this family because there is absolutely no support on the ground," she said.

"It is disgraceful that there is nothing in place for our people.

"There is a complete lack of programs and professions needed to provide the services people

badly need and deserve.

"We need the whole world to get behind us on this long journey we are about to endure.

"We want justice and we want change within our communities."

Ms Eason said she had experienced mental health issues herself while living in Gunnedah.

"I've been arrested and put in jail by police because of mental health issues, but when I was trying to access services there was nothing," she said.

"Now here I am coming back five years later and there is still nothing.

"Michael had only been living

here for 12 months. He finished high school, got an apprenticeship and was working as a builder.

"He has a three-year-old son who has now lost his dad."

Ms Eason said Michael's family had been asking for help for three days as they watched their loved one's mental health deteriorate.

"Instead, police arrived and they pepper sprayed him. He lost consciousness after the taser," she said.

"Michael was with his family. They could have come back later."

NSW Greens MP David Shoebridge, who attended the rally in Gunnedah, said the NSW

Government needed to look seriously at the lack of support for people dealing with mental health issues in regional areas.

"In the end, the only service that was provided was the police turning up without training, without mental health resources, that ended in the loss of his life," he said.

"This was an avoidable tragedy. Michael knew he needed help, the family knew he needed help, but there was none available."

A police statement said that two officers were deployed to a home in Herbert St, and it alleged that "the man became aggressive when officers attempted to speak with him".

"Pepper spray and a taser were deployed during a struggle with the man before he lost consciousness," it read. First aid was rendered to the man at the scene before he was taken by NSW Ambulance paramedics to Gunnedah Hospital where he died a short time later."

NSW Police Force Assistant Commissioner Geoff McKechnie said Mr Peachey's death wasn't being treated as a death in custody.

A death in custody automatically triggers a rigorous coronial process and must be dealt with by the State Coroner or her deputies.

"It's been treated as a critical incident from an NSW Police perspective, and again the details of that will be determined by the investigation.

"It is in its very preliminary stages, and at this stage I would not be able to comment on that aspect," Mr McKechnie said.

Jessie Lloyd takes on a song-saving mission

By JILLIAN MUNDY



JESSIE Lloyd's Mission Songs regional tour may have just finished but the mission is far from over, with three new albums in various stages of development.

In 2016, Jessie Lloyd, a Melbourne-based Aboriginal singer, social historian and cultural practitioner of Indigenous song, set out to research, document and record Australian Indigenous folk songs from the mission era (1901-1967), those sung on settlements, native camps and Christian missions.

In 2017 she released *Songs Back Home*, a collection of 10 songs exploring the realities of Aboriginal people forcibly removed from their homelands to managed lands and lives, often filled with optimism, hope and humour.

"Songs about how the old people survived, how they adapted and there's always hope – the songs give insight into that, at a time when the records were written by mission managers," she explained.

"The songs hold knowledge of cultural and social shift, owned by families."

The following year the accompanying *Songs Back Home Choir Songbook* came out. Jessie wants the songs, such as *The Irex* – a lament of the forced removal of Aboriginal people from their homelands to the Palm Island Aboriginal Settlement, to be part of the 'Australian Songbook' alongside ones like *Waltzing Matilda*.

It seems they are on their way.

When the *Koori Mail* caught up with Jessie on the Hobart leg of her tour, she explained that the songs on the album now "have lives of their own".

"They're going out. I get sent random videos of choirs and schools singing the songs."

"I'll do a gig and people come up to me and say, 'We sing your song in the choir.'"

"I'll see people singing in the audience. It gets around. We just did Bathurst and the local Bathurst choir joined us on stage."

"Random places, we'll be doing a sound check somewhere and event staff will be singing them."

Since 2016, the Mission Songs project has seen around 250 performances (Jessie's stopped counting), usually as an acoustic trio or quartet, and sometimes with local guests or entire choirs. The performance line-up has featured some of Australia's finest Indigenous vocalists, who also contribute their own family connections and histories in the shows.

Often there are accompanying workshops, delving into archives, and of



A group of local Aboriginal songmen and songwomen caught up with the Jessie Lloyd's Mission Songs project in Hobart.



Dougie Mansell joined the Mission Songs trio of Shellie Morris, Jessie Lloyd and Mindy Kwanten on stage in Hobart for discussions of the origin of the song *Born on Ol' Cape Barren*, which features on the 2017 *Mission Songs* album.

course plenty of yarning on her travels – more old songs have been unearthed and a few new ones written.

"Everyone wants to be a part of it."

"Sometimes I'll go to community and, if people don't remember any old songs from their area, we'll write up a song about their old mission day stories and how they came to be in town – new songs about the old days."

"We've got a great song from Port Augusta and an amazing one from Albury/Wodonga," she said.

With three new songs and four or five old ones ready to go,

mainly from South Australia and Western Australia, Jessie said there are almost enough for a second album.

The interest from choirs has led to an upcoming *Mission Songs Gospel Album*.

"It's going to have big sing ups on this one."

"A lot of people want to be involved. The budget's getting bigger; need to do more fundraising for that."

"It will happen when it's ready."

It will feature old hymns such as *Old Rugged Cross*, *How Great Thou Art*, *Amazing Grace* and *In the Sweet By and By*, collaborating with a range of

Aboriginal artists and choirs.

There's also the 'half baked' Ailand Songs Project.

"A collection of old songs and stories, mainly from around the Torres Strait Islands and Palm Islands, all kind of indirectly connected to my family story (Karareg and Gugu Yimithirr), more a Queensland, Top End version."

"These ones are also connected to the Pacific because that's how songs travelled, that's how the connection was between the islands."

Jessie started that project last year when the tour was postponed by COVID. With the

rescheduled shows finishing last week (cut short by the current COVID outbreak in Victoria), she is keen to be back into it and has her sights set on an Ailand Songs Project album out by the end of the year.

In Hobart, before the shows there, Jessie, along with renowned Aboriginal vocalists Shellie Morris and Mindy Kwanten who were on the tour's line-up, caught up with local Aboriginal songmen and songwomen.

"It was pretty special."

Her aim was to create a space where people felt comfortable sharing and inspiring others to talk about why they do what they do.

Their reasons were vast.

There were stories of performing to earn money for beer, to contribute to the community of the country you live on, to prove a point when your ability has been criticised and many about the healing nature, mental health benefits and transcendence of making music and song.

Dewayne Everet Smith pondered the question: Are you singing for the people, or yourself and there just happens to be people there?

Jessie encourages people to keep writing and singing regardless of the genre or their perceived ability.

"These songwriters, in a 100 years time there might be someone like me who is looking for these songs, not worrying whether it's pop or it's got the flash chords or anything like that. That's irrelevant at the end of the day. It's what their truth is that's going to matter; their songs could become the traditional songs of the future."

'Heart' wins the peace



THE Uluru Statement from the Heart was awarded the 2021 Sydney Peace Prize last week.

From more than 200 nominations from the community, the Sydney Peace Prize Jury chose the Uluru Statement from the Heart as a stand-out winner.

"For bringing Australia's First Nations Peoples together around a clear and comprehensive agenda for healing and peace within our nation and delivering self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, which enables Australia to move into the future united and confident," the jury said.

The statement, released at the Uluru Summit on May 26, 2017, called for a constitutionally enshrined Indigenous advisory body (a Voice to Parliament) and a Makarrata (a Yolngu word for coming together after a conflict) commission to oversee treaty making and truth-telling.

The Coalition Government is working on a design for an Indigenous Voice to Government, which would be consulted on laws, but would not be cemented in the Constitution.

Three of the main drivers of the Statement from the Heart – Professor Megan Davis, Pat Anderson, and Noel Pearson – jointly acknowledged the announcement and will receive the prize together at an official event later in the year.

"The Uluru Statement was the culmination of a dialogue process designed to take agreement and disagreement and elicit a pathway forward on the vital question of recognition," Professor Davis, a Cobble Cobble woman,



The Uluru Statement from the Heart has been awarded the 2021 Sydney Peace Prize. The announcement coincided with both National Reconciliation Week and the four-year anniversary of the Statement.

said. "This is a tribute to the men and women of the dialogues who crafted a roadmap to peace for the nation.

"We are accepting this prize on behalf of all of the First Nations that participated in the Uluru Dialogues and the National Constitutional Convention at Uluru in 2017."

Ms Anderson, an Alyawarre woman from the Northern Territory, said the Statement from the Heart was a call to action.

"The Uluru Statement was issued as an invitation to the Australian people to walk with us First Nations people, and to compel the politicians we elect to embrace change

and not be afraid of change," she said.

"As Australians we walked together once before, in 1967, and it was the highest 'yes' vote in Australian constitutional history.

"We are going to have another run at it."

Mr Pearson, a Guugu Yimidhirr man from Hopevale on South Eastern Cape York Peninsula, said that, as long as First Nations peoples remain unrecognised, then Australia is missing its most vital heart.

"The Uluru Statement was the answer to the Commonwealth's desire to recognise First Nations in the Constitution," he said.

"The evidence four years later is

overwhelmingly that Australians will support giving us a Voice.

"It's time."

Sydney Peace Foundation chair Archie Law said that the Uluru Statement from the Heart was a powerful and historic offering of peace.

"It is a landmark consensus document authored by the First Nations Peoples of Australia through multiple Regional Dialogues and the First National Constitutional Convention at Uluru in May 2017," he said.

"It is now up to us all to make its vision a reality."

Former Sydney Peace Prize winner Senator Patrick Dodson, a Yawuru man, said he was gratified to learn that the 2021 prize had been awarded to the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

"I congratulate Pat Anderson, Megan Davis and Noel Pearson, whose good work in delivering the Statement will be recognised by their receipt of the award," he said.

"More than four years have elapsed since 250 First Nations delegates attended the national constitutional convention at Uluru, and I remain immensely frustrated that the Statement from the Heart has not been comprehensively embraced by the Commonwealth Government.

"I hope that this award will serve to revive and sustain public recognition and acceptance of the Statement and its modest and plaintive pleas that a First Nations Voice be enshrined in the Constitution, and that a Makarrata Commission supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations, and truth-telling about our history."

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Deadly footy boots designed for support

By NICK PATON



WIRADJURI
Gamilaroi artist
Alan McKenzie
didn't hesitate for a
second when he
was asked to take

part in hand-painting the football
boots that were worn by players in
the NRL Indigenous round.

McKenzie, renowned for his art
and artefact-making, told the *Koori
Mail* it was an honour to be
involved in a project that gives
back to Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander youth and
communities.

"For me, this isn't even about
painting the boots, but more about
what painting the boots will
actually achieve," McKenzie said.

"And now that the boots have
been worn during the NRL
Indigenous round, we will need to
collect them all before we auction
them all off toward the end of next
week.

"All the proceeds of the auction
will go to providing our
communities with much needed
resources, so that they can in turn
provide further assistance to mob,
in the way of health and wellbeing
programs."

Up to 40 pairs of boots were
painted by McKenzie and a team
of Indigenous artists, family, and
members of other Aboriginal
communities in the lead-up to the
Indigenous round.

And now, having been worn by
football legends over the
weekend, the boots hold an extra
touch of magic, making them
highly collectable.

Proceeds of the auction will go
toward the Rising
Warriors' program, which is run in
partnership with the Mudyala
Aboriginal Corporation in Yamba.

Founder of Mudyala and Yaegl
woman Anika Kapeen said the
Rising Warriors program will then
distribute the funds to other
Indigenous businesses and
providers of health and wellbeing
programs for Aboriginal youth.

"The Rising Warriors program
is tackling mental health issues by
using rugby league as a platform
to connect with Aboriginal youth
from 15 to 24 years from Coffs
Harbour to the Northern Rivers of
NSW," Ms Kapeen said.



Young Bundjalung brother Lennox Monaghan with the boots he painted for the NRL Indigenous Round over the weekend.



Alan McKenzie, Bundjalung man Levi Caldwell and his partner, Yaegl woman Anika Kapeen.



The hand-painted boots will be auctioned off, with proceeds funding health and wellbeing programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth.



Young Bundjalung brother Tyreese Daley with the boots he painted that will be auctioned.

Bundjalung man Levi Caldwell runs the Rising Warriors program. He said young mob who might be facing challenges with their mental and physical health and wellbeing need these types of programs.

"We want as many people as possible to take part in this special auction because the more proceeds we raise, the more much-needed programs we can deliver to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the region," Mr Caldwell said.

"We need to make sure that Aboriginal people are receiving the help they need through these important programs from other Aboriginal people and organisations who know what's best for our people."

"That's why all the proceeds of the auction will go to local, and if need be, national Indigenous businesses and organisations who we know can make a real impact in the way they can change the life of an Aboriginal person who might be struggling."

To view the auction visit <https://www.facebook.com/mudyalaaboriginalcorporation/> Anika Kapeen is the daughter of Trevor Kapeen, who chairs the Koori Mail board.

acmi

The Story of the Moving Image Now open Melbourne

Still image from *Making of Bush Mechanics*, courtesy Rebel Films. See the Ngapa car on display at ACMI. Only in Melbourne.



Arrernte people welcome return of sacred objects



SENIOR Arrernte lawmen welcomed the return of sacred objects from the United Kingdom with a ceremony in Alice Springs. Return of objects from the most significant collection of Australian Indigenous art and craft held in North America is also planned.

The material received last month from the Manchester Museum consists of 19 sacred Arrernte objects gathered in the early 20th century by a number of collectors from the United Kingdom. The arrival of these items in Alice Springs followed a memorandum of understanding signed between the museum and AIATSIS in 2019.

Meanwhile, a further 17 sacred objects from the Arrernte, Warlpiri, and Warumungu language groups of central Australia are set for return later this year from the Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of the University of Virginia, following an agreement brokered by AIATSIS.

The Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection currently holds more than 2100 paintings, ornaments, weapons, tools and other items acquired by the US media mogul and philanthropist John W. Kluge – himself an enthusiast for Australian



Arrernte men and representatives from AIATSIS at an event that marked the return of sacred objects.

Indigenous art, but who also purchased objects collected by academic Edward Ruhe as a result of his field work in Australia in the 1960s.

This is the only museum outside of Australia dedicated to the exhibition and study of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Senior Arrernte man Peter Wallace Peltharre spoke of the importance of the return of sacred objects in maintaining cultural practices in central Australia.

"We are proud to do this work for our younger generation in teaching them our law, our way of living, and about our grandfathers

and all those who lived in those days," he said. "So we are proud to do this for each and everyone one of us – for all the Arrernte families. Not only Arrernte, but we can teach all our other young men too."

AIATSIS chief executive Craig Ritchie explained that the objects from the Kluge-Ruhe Collection

were identified following an approach in 2019 from AIATSIS staff working on the Return of Cultural Heritage pilot project.

"We were delighted that the staff at the Kluge-Ruhe collection responded so readily to that outreach," Mr Ritchie said. "The museum enjoys very good relationships with a number of communities represented in the collection. In partnering with AIATSIS to explore the repatriation of sensitive items the museum is respecting those relationships."

AIATSIS has begun work with senior cultural authorities of the Arrernte, Warlpiri, and Warumungu communities to determine the most appropriate means for returning those sensitive materials from the Kluge-Ruhe Collection.

The sacred nature of the items limits what can be said about them.

Beginning as a pilot project in 2018, the Return of Cultural Heritage program facilitates the return of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage material from overseas governments, collecting institutions and private collectors.

AIATSIS has identified 299 overseas collecting institutions that may hold Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage items, and has identified over 105,000 objects held overseas.

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AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

A song honouring the resilience of children

By RUDI MAXWELL



GAMILARAAY woman Maurial Spearim was so touched by the story of Stolen Generations

survivor Auntie Sharyn Egan that she wrote a song in her honour.

Auntie Sharyn was stolen from her family and taken to the St Joseph's Native School for Girls at the New Norcia Benedictine Mission in Western Australia.

The girls had no toys or personal belongings and were forbidden from practising their culture and speaking their language, so they made their own toys out of discarded sardine cans and objects, like rocks and remnants of old cloth. These handcrafted objects became each girl's own special 'sardine baby' that they endowed with all the love they were missing, and the pain and longing they felt due to the separation from their families.

Maurial attended the opening of Auntie Sharyn's exhibition about the sardine babies in Bendigo.

"I met Auntie Sharyn not long after I had my son. He was a couple of months old," Maurial told the *Koori Mail*. "I couldn't even imagine having my baby taken off me. I was really moved by her life and story. We had a real connection."

"I was so amazed by her, strength, resilience and also her openness in sharing her story."

Maurial released her song *Sardine Baby* on May 25, ahead of National Sorry Day, which honours the Stolen Generations each year.

"When I'd finished the single, Auntie Sharyn was the first person that I sent it to, so she could have a listen,"



Maurial Spearim has released a new song *Sardine Baby*, which pays homage to members of the Stolen Generations.

Maurial said. "And she loves it. I was really nervous about what she thought – if what I had written was right."

"She was really moved. She loved the song. It was very moving for her. We were both teary; we had a little cry."

It was important to Maurial that she honour the strength and creativity of Auntie Sharyn.

"They created these sardine babies that they made for themselves to bring some sort of joy, playfulness, so they could connect," she said.

"It's not a light subject. I think there's beauty in that. Yes, it's challenging, but I think that's why it's important."

"It's still relevant today, with our kids who are being removed and placed in out-of-home care."

Maurial Spearim is a multi-

disciplinary artist with three solo shows to her name: *BlaaQ Catt*, *SoapBox Exchange*, and *In Between Lines*.

Maurial's acting credits are many, most recently guest roles in *Neighbours*, *Wentworth* and *Redfern Now*. She is a prolific multidisciplinary writer and performer, who has recently written her second play, *Inside Out*, read at Melbourne Theatre Company for Cybec Electrics. Her 2018 debut single *Blak Woman* was a call to join arms in honouring the Blak matriarchy and was written to honour and pay respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, those past and present, to say thank you.

Sardine Baby is the first track from Maurial forthcoming album *From My Heart*.

Day to mark a sorry record



AS the heartbreak and hardship of the Stolen Generations was remembered on National Sorry Day, the number of Aboriginal children 'out-of-home' continues to rise.

National Sorry Day, May 26, signals the start of National Reconciliation Week and the anniversary of the parliamentary tabling of the Bringing Them Home report in 1997.

Reconciliation Week finishes on June 3, Mabo Day, marking the anniversary of the landmark High Court decision overturning the fiction of terra nullius. The Healing Foundation chair Professor Steve Larkin said the Bringing Them Home report gave voice to the experience Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants – stories that had been denied, ignored, or forgotten.

"Today we pay our respects to Stolen Generations survivors, their families and communities," Professor Larkin said.

"Despite the 1997 Bringing Them Home report, the 2008 Apology to the Stolen Generations, and many other inquiries – there have been more than 20 reports in the last 12 years alone – there has still been no systematic government response to the needs and rights of the Stolen Generations and their descendants."

"As we acknowledge Sorry Day, we share the message that healing is about restoring the wellbeing, strength of spirit, family connections and lore that have made our cultures the oldest living cultures on earth."

"Healing enables people to address their personal distress, overcome trauma, and live well."

The forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island children from their families and communities must never be repeated and the hardships endured should never be forgotten, the Stolen Generations Council of NSW and ACT executive officer Kirrily Jordan said.

"It is crucial for members of the Stolen Generations, who have endured so much pain, to be supported in their process of healing," she said.

"The impact of these past government policies has started a vicious cycle of intergenerational trauma that requires extensive support and assistance."

The organisation noted that the number of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care continues to increase and is set to double by 2029.

"Sorry Day is an annual reminder of the injustices committed against Aboriginal peoples by previous governments. Sadly, however, the impact of child removals on Aboriginal families is not a thing of the past."



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Traditional owners want a seat at the mining table



ABORIGINAL groups are not opposed to mining but want a seat at the table, the traditional owners of Juukan Gorge have said one year on from its destruction.

Mining giant Rio Tinto blew up the sacred 46,000-year-old rock shelters in Western Australia's Pilbara region on May 24 last year to extract \$188 million worth of high-grade iron ore.

The incident devastated the traditional owners, the Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura (PKKP) people, and prompted a global backlash.

In a rare video interview released last month, PKKP Aboriginal Corporation spokesperson Burchell Hayes said traditional owners felt robbed of the opportunity to share their heritage with future generations.

"You felt the emptiness that something was taken from you, something that was so significant to you and our community," he said.

"It's proof that our ancestors occupied this area for 46,000 years and for that to be taken away, it's hard to understand why that happened."

Mr Hayes said the voices of traditional owners had too often been silenced and the PKKP wanted "co-management" of



Burchell Hayes, a spokesperson for the PKKP Aboriginal Corporation in Western Australia, said traditional owners felt the destruction of sacred 46,000-year-old rock shelters at Juukan Gorge had robbed them of the opportunity to share their heritage with future generations.

projects on its country.

"We're not opposed to mining. However, we want to ensure that we're around the table when it comes to decisions about making an impact on our country," he said.

"We're not going to let this happen again."

Expert reports commissioned by Rio had outlined the caves' outstanding archaeological and cultural significance long before they were blown up.

A scathing interim report by a parliamentary inquiry last year described Rio's actions as

"inexcusable". Rio has repeatedly apologised but said none of its executives were aware the caves would be destroyed until days before the blast when explosives had already been laid.

The company's Australia chief executive Kellie Parker said it was

working with traditional owners to better manage and protect cultural heritage.

"Partnering and developing genuine relationships will guide how we do business in the future, supported by stronger governance to ensure we never repeat what happened at Juukan Gorge," she said in a statement.

Rio this month told shareholders it was reassessing 1300 heritage sites in the Pilbara in consultation with traditional owners.

About 54 million tonnes of iron ore – less than two per cent of its Pilbara iron ore reserves – have been quarantined to protect heritage sites.

Rio this month copped a "first strike" protest vote against its remuneration report, which included a substantial payout to former chief executive Jean-Sebastien Jacques.

A second strike next year would force a possible board spill.

A moratorium on mining has been placed on the Juukan site and the two parties are working to establish what compensation will be provided.

Mr Hayes said "no amount of money" would ever replace the sacred caves.

"I'd rather have the rock shelter back than you write me a cheque. That's how I feel," he said. –AAP

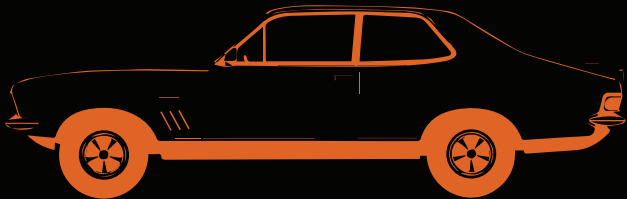
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Kamay Botany Bay Aboriginal Owners Project - Family History Sessions

The Office of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ORALRA) is undertaking an Aboriginal Owners Research Project in the Botany Bay area that will ultimately allow Aboriginal people to register as Aboriginal Owners for the Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Nature Reserve under Part 9 of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983.

The research project will focus on the Aboriginal cultural associations with Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Nature Reserve within the wider Botany Bay area and the associated Aboriginal traditions, observances, customs, beliefs and history.

The aim of the research project is to gather the information necessary, including family histories and genealogies, to allow for Aboriginal people who are descendants of the 'original Aboriginal inhabitants' of the cultural area to have their names entered in the Register of Aboriginal Owners for the Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Nature Reserve.

We are calling for Aboriginal people with an interest in the project to contact us should they wish to participate. If you would like information about the Aboriginal Owner scheme under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983, the Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Reserve Aboriginal Owners Research Project and its expected outcomes, please contact Megan Mebberson and Rachel Rewiri in the Office of the Registrar on 8633 1266 or adminofficer@oralra.nsw.gov.au. We are able to arrange:

1. Project information to be sent to you;
2. Small group information sessions by Zoom; or
3. If the current situation holds, small information meetings in person (groups of 10 people to 20 people in a COVID-19 safe environment).

Our family history researchers for the project are Kate Waters and Korey Moon. They are responsible for documenting people's family trees, with their consent, and then investigating historical and birth, death and marriage records to identify the earliest Aboriginal people (apical ancestors) we can locate in the cultural area.

Kate and Korey have been conducting face to face and video interviews for the project and correlating family tree information in an effort to identify "original Aboriginal inhabitants" of the cultural area for Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Nature Reserve. If people have family photos they're also willing to share with the researchers, they will be greatly appreciated.

Fortunately, through COVID19, our researchers have been able to arrange video meetings with individuals and in small family groups.

We would like to encourage people to share their family histories with the researchers via video, to allow us to produce a draft list of apical ancestors (original Aboriginal inhabitants) to share with community. If you would like talk to Kate Waters about an interview session, contact her on 0417 438 146.

The team will be coming back to community to talk to people as they work on the genealogical research. They will be presenting the information they've been collecting from the written records and asking people how it fits with what they know, from their experience, in the coming months.

Megan Mebberson
Senior Manager, ORALRA

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Meriam traditional owners celebrate the successful restoration of the sai at Igir.

Restoration of sai keeping Mer culture strong



ELDERS from the island of Mer were concerned that the skills required to build and restore sai – stone fish traps – are at risk of being lost, together with the knowledge of cultural protocols that govern the correct way to restore them.

So, Meriam Gesep a Gur Keparrem Le Rangers recently partnered with the community and Mer Gedkem Le Registered Native Title Body Corporate to undertake a Sai Arbir pilot project: restoration of the historical sai of Mer (Murray Island) in the eastern Torres Strait.

Sai Arbir traditionally involves the seasonal practice of community members coming together during Koki season, from January to March, to repair and maintain the 23 sai of Mer.

Sai are used year-round by Meriam Le, the people of Mer. Fish and squid are speared in the shallow lagoons left behind by the outgoing tide. Damage to sai occurs during the Sager season, from April to September, when strong south-east winds and waves damage the stone walls of the fish traps.

During the restoration, 20 community members worked alongside rangers to restore over 300m of one sai over five days at Igir.

Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) chairperson Napau Pedro Stephen said the project was an example of the exceptional work TSRA rangers deliver to bring traditional owners' aspirations for protecting land, sea and culture to life.

"Rangers responded to a concern of Elders involving the gradual loss of this traditional cultural practice," he said. "And with the support and direction of Mer Gedkem Le and Elders they worked to revitalise these skills and related traditional knowledge in community for future generations."

Mer Gedkem Le chair Falen Passi acknowledged the enormous contribution the Mer Rangers have made by spearheading this project.

"By coming together, Meriam Elders and community members have demonstrated a fine example of Meriam Le's commitment to protecting our vital cultural knowledge and teaching cultural protocols to future generations of Meriam Le," he said.

The Mer Rangers and Mer Gedkem Le plan for the Sai Arbir project to continue across the remaining fish traps of Mer – a staged restoration program that will work with the seasonal ebb and flow of the tides on this remote island.



Meriam traditional owners and Meriam rangers work on final stages of Sai Arbir.



Sai, or stone fish traps, are an important cultural feature of Mer (Murray Island) in the Eastern Torres Strait Islands. They surround the whole island and provide a stunning visual feature as well as an important means of food collection for Meriam Le, the people of Mer.

Operation Overarch to watch over the Torres Strait border

By ALF WILSON

TSI SOLDIERS from 51 Far North Queensland Regiment are supporting efforts to police Australian borders between the Torres Strait Islands and Papua New Guinea as they keep watch. Two sounds ring out in quick succession as a radar alerts a soldier to let him know it has spotted movement on the water. Another operator sights the vessel and photographs it. Within minutes information on the boat is passed to Canberra, while local Australian Border Force (ABF) officers move to where the vessel is expected to arrive. Most people in the boats are locals transiting between islands in the Torres Strait, but ABF officers are ever vigilant, making sure no-one crosses unlawfully from Papua New Guinea into Australia. The well-oiled routine has been practised many times over in the past weeks and Boigu Island locals who wander down to the jetty will often see an ABF officer next to an Australian Defence Force (ADF) soldier, chewing the fat as they watch the approaches to the island. They're all deployed on Operation Overarch, the Federal Government's commitment to



Army soldier Private Lewis Warria surveys the coastline from Goods Island, in the Torres Strait. Picture: Defence

stopping the flow of people – and potentially COVID-19 – from Papua New Guinea into Australia. It's run through Maritime Border Command, located in Canberra, and made up of staff from the departments of Home Affairs,

Defence and Foreign Affairs and Trade, among others. The soldiers on Boigu Island are used to working covertly, hiding in the bush on islands throughout the strait and watching for illegal activities, working in concert with

other ADF or ABF assets. The relationship is easy, familiar even, according to local Corporal Joseph Blanco, a soldier with 51st Battalion, Far North Queensland Regiment (51FNQR). He said the two agencies' capabilities

complement each other well. "We're here for surveillance, while Border Force can do policing and enforcement," Corporal Blanco said. "We've all fit in really well and the community has really accepted us being here." While they can't tell you the capability of the radar they have running every day and throughout the night, the soldiers did say it packed a big punch for the size of the package. Combined with their sharp eyes and the variety of optic technology they have at their disposal, nothing moves on the water without one of the soldiers noticing and documenting it, then passing the information on. But their efforts are only part of the picture. Elsewhere in the strait, a number of ABF and ADF vessels prowl the waters. A little over 50km away, on Saibai Island, Border Force officers patrol the streets, integrating into the community and protecting it. Other soldiers from the 51FNQR, occupy other islands, using similar surveillance techniques and equipment in their covert role. Aircraft, both fixed and rotary-wing, patrol the skies. The crews of each have one simple message for anyone looking to cross the border: not today.



“As an Aboriginal woman, I want to combat the myths about vaccination to protect our community.”

Ronda | Nyikina (Kimberley region)
Project Manager at Aboriginal Health Council of WA
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Artworks aim to deliver culture to cancer care

By JILLIAN MUNDY



A TRIO of large paintings by Tasmanian Aboriginal artist Takira Simon Brown, welcoming patients and their families

to cancer care and blood service outpatient clinics in Tasmania's major public hospitals and serving as a reminder to health workers of nuanced, culturally aware care, aims to contribute to better cancer survival rates for Aboriginal people.

Cancer is the third leading burden of disease for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

And while Australia's cancer survival rates are among the best in the world, there is a significant gap between survival rates for Indigenous and other people.

With lower participation in cancer screening programs, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are more likely to be diagnosed at a much later stage and have less access to and uptake of hospital and mainstream cancer care.

Indigenous people also have significantly higher 'modifiable' risk factors, such as smoking, inadequate physical activity, poor nutrition, obesity and hepatitis B and C.

Dr David Boadle is part of a national cancer expert reference group established by Australian governments, which has been developing 'optimal care pathways' for various types of cancer.

"One of the most important care pathways developed was a discreet optimal care pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with cancer," he said.

"Front and centre in that document is the importance of people providing care seeking and understanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge, values, beliefs and cultural needs, which include sensitivity around gender, concept of family, cultural



Palliative care medical specialist Dr David Boadle is with Tasmanian Aboriginal artist Takira Simon Brown alongside her paintings *Cultural Connections* at their recent unveiling at the Royal Hobart Hospital. They represent 'strength and freedom from assimilation and destruction of culture, whilst displaying a softer side of the beauty of revitalising, preservin, and making reclamations over country, continuing language and cultural connections, working together, living on and with country as community, keeping country and culture strong' – a long connection to country and country healing one's soul.

taboos, communication, appropriate physical contact and the pivotal inclusions of family, community people, elders and support people."

Hospitals are a place of fear for some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – whether it be from previous negative experiences, living memories of past government policies that resulted in the Stolen Generations or life stressors and trauma such as racism, and premature and unexpected deaths of family and community members.

Hanging artworks, such as

Takira's, helps to create culturally safe and welcoming environments for Aboriginal people.

"The group recognised that for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, health and connection to land, culture, community and identity are intrinsically linked, and that health encompasses a whole of life journey, a cyclical view," Dr Boadle said.

"The reference group recognised that such important considerations aren't consistently embedded in the approach taken by our cancer care services

across the nation."

Dr Boadle, a 45-year veteran of the Tasmanian Health Service, specialising in cancer care, has seen other well intentioned and well prepared policy documents simply gather dust over the decades.

"The national reference group insisted we take it a step further and seek each state and territory to implement that optimal care pathway in a meaningful way," he said.

"So as part of Tasmania's implementation a small group of folk, led by Carol Jackson, felt that optimal cancer care begins

with creating a safe welcoming and inclusive environment for all people."

He said the intention of hanging the commissioned art works is to assist in welcoming Aboriginal people and their families who need care for cancer or a serious blood disorder.

It is hoped they will help reduce stress in what can be a very foreign and frightening environment at a time of great personal challenge and uncertainty, and symbolise the care team's recognition of the importance of culture and spirituality to Aboriginal people.

"While I recognise that the substance of hearts and minds really underpins good care for Aboriginal people, we hope that the strategically located and enduring symbol will also serve as a reminder to the care team of the importance of culturally nuanced care when working with Aboriginal people."

Called *Cultural Connections*, Takira's paintings are displayed in the cancer care and blood service outpatient at the Royal Hobart Hospital, Launceston General Hospital and North West Regional Hospital.

Smaller prints of each of the works will be shown at other hospital cancer care sites.

The recent unveiling of the artworks followed ongoing development of cultural competency resources by Tasmania's health department, with Aboriginal community members, including short films, an interactive quiz, fact sheets, podcasts and webinars.

At the Launceston General Hospital (LGH) in January, after 15 years of discussions, the Aboriginal flag was raised, now flying permanently, and lit up at night. LGH is also developing a culturally welcoming garden with the Aboriginal community.

Other artworks by Aboriginal artists have also been purchased and installed in public hospitals, including a series of watercolours by palawa artist Janice Ross in the Royal Hobart Hospital.



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'No ill-feeling' over Port design



ABORIGINAL artist Elle Campbell has asked that people don't hassle a school girl who copied her design for a competition for the AFL's Indigenous Round. Port Adelaide confirmed a school student copied their AFL Indigenous jumper design from Ms Campbell.

Port unveiled their Indigenous jumper last week after a competition asking high school students to design the guernsey.

The winning 17-year-old entrant originally said her design was inspired by designs she saw on social media, however later apologised for copying the design.

But artist Elle Campbell pointed out that the design was her "exact painting" she posted on social media and put on display at an exhibition in May 2019.

Port chief executive Matthew Richardson said the club had confirmed the design was Campbell's.

"Clearly, no one intended for this to play out this way but we are now pleased that Ms Campbell will get the recognition she deserves," Richardson said in a statement.

Campbell met with Port officials and gave the club her blessing to wear the guernsey against Fremantle on May 30 at Adelaide Oval.

All AFL clubs wore Indigenous-

themed jumpers in Sir Doug Nicholls games in rounds 12 and 13 commencing on May 28.

"One thing that I want to stress is that I don't want people to hassle the student. She's young. She's made a mistake and owned it," Campbell said.

"I ask people to consider her feelings because there's certainly no ill-feeling from me.

"Sir Doug Nicholls Round is important to me and my people and I know it means a lot to Port Adelaide.

"I don't want to take anything away from the club or the Indigenous players representing the club.

"I definitely want Port Adelaide to wear the guernsey with great pride." —AAP



Port Adelaide Power players proudly wear their Indigenous Round guernseys with designer Elle Campbell's blessing.

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Hats off to artist Bai

By ALF WILSON



TALENTED Torres Strait Islander artist Bai Tapau has painted some of her wonderful childhood

memories of Mer on straw hats, which are now finding their way around the far north.

The 46-year-old Bai was a Thalidomide baby, born with only one finger and because

of her disability life was very difficult.

Her great strength, her love for painting, the encouragement of her family and a deep personal Christian faith has enabled her to develop her independence and artistic talent.

As a young girl, Bai sketched on boards or bits of cardboard while sitting on the Mer beach.

She has been painting since pre-school,

encouraged by her family to continue to paint because she is passionate about it.

Her artwork reflects the beauty of the island and the reefs that surround it, blending a contemporary perspective with traditional designs.

Familiar images convey the playful combinations of colours and shapes beneath the sea.

Recently Bai was thinking of the beauty at Mer and decided to paint her artwork

on straw hats.

"I have fish, shells, manta rays, Nemo, turtles and Mer Islanders going out on the water at sunset on these hats, and it takes a week to complete a batch of them.

"They seem popular," Bai said.

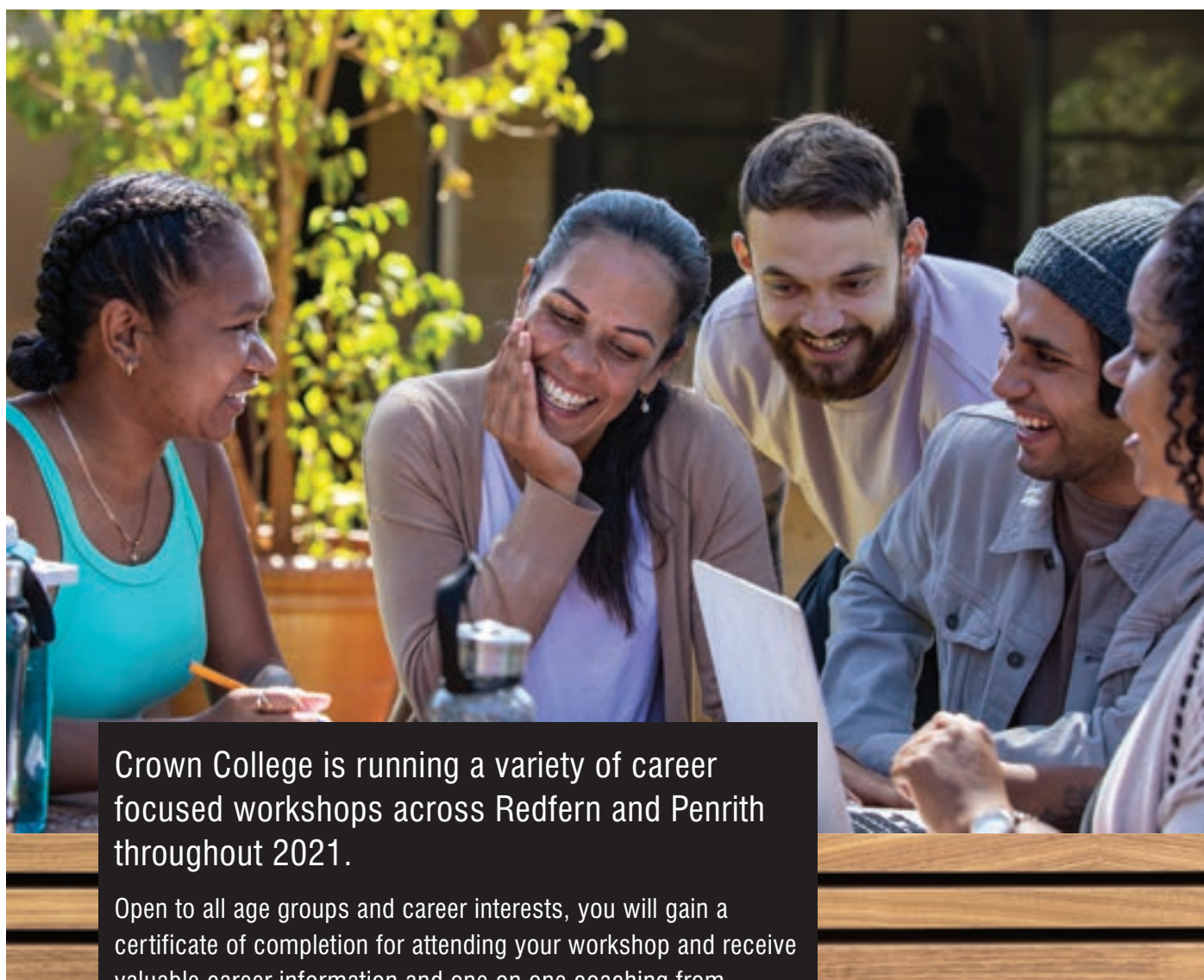
Bai has been busy painting more hats at her home in Townsville.

"I am having trouble keeping up with demand for them," she said.



Artist Bai Tapau has been painting stories of Mer on straw hats.

EMPLOYMENT READINESS WORKSHOPS



Crown College is running a variety of career focused workshops across Redfern and Penrith throughout 2021.

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Places are limited and booking is essential.

Please contact Matika.little@crownresorts.com.au or 0408 681 569 for bookings and more information.

CROWN COLLEGE RTO: 3743

Readers are warned that this poster may contain images of deceased persons.



Instagram filters online abuse



THE AFL has welcomed a move from social media giant Facebook that aims to protect players from online abuse, including racist messages on Instagram.

Working alongside sports anti-discrimination organisations like the UK's Kick it Out initiative, the Facebook-owned Instagram has developed tools aimed to protect high-profile individuals like athletes on the social media platform.

One is a new feature to filter out abusive direct message requests while another gives users the option to both block someone's Instagram account and simultaneously block new accounts that a person may create, therefore stopping them from continuing the harassment.

Carlton veteran Eddie Betts and West Coast gun Liam Ryan are among the players to have received racist messages or comments on Instagram, and AFL general manager of inclusion and social policy Tanya Hosch says the changes to the social media platform are a much-needed step.

"This is also a valuable update in supporting the safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander players, and any other person who faces discrimination and hate speech, to have a safer and more positive experience online," she said.

The direct message tool filters out direct message requests that include offensive words, phrases and emojis from a predefined list of offensive terms, while users can also add other terms to a custom list.

Indigenous voice for Olympic body



THE Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) has rewritten its constitution to ensure at least one permanent Indigenous voice on its Athletes Commission.

AOC president John Coates says their commitment to reconciliation gained significant momentum since the constitution was amended in 2015 to recognise the heritage, culture and history of Australia's first peoples and give practical support to Indigenous reconciliation through sport.

"I congratulate the Athletes' Commission and its chair Steve Hooker for this initiative. They have worked hand in hand with our Indigenous Advisory Committee led by Patrick Johnson to ensure we continue to make real progress."

Coates added Australia's Olympic team will carry a piece of ASICS kit which features a design by Indigenous Olympic boxer Paul Fleming in Tokyo.

Johnson said the cooperation between the IAC and the AOC Athletes' Commission had a positive impact on both groups.

"As an Olympian, a proud Kaanju man and chair of the IAC, I am a great believer in timing. My thanks to Athletes' Commission chair Steve Hooker for his drive to achieve this recognition."

Hooker said the constitutional change would create an enduring legacy for Indigenous advancement through sport.

"Olympians and our Olympic sport have a huge opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to reconciliation," he said.

Getting culture on track



MELBOURNE's Art Trams have returned for RISING, a new major cultural event, and for the first time are designed entirely by Victorian First Peoples artists.

Curated by RISING artistic associate Kimberley Moulton (Yorta Yorta) and rolling out over the next two weeks, the six First Peoples Art Trams reflect a sense of place.

The six selected artists whose work will be featured are Deanne Gilson (Wadawurrung), Thomas Marks (Wotjobaluk/Gunaikurnai), Auntie Rochelle Patten (Dhudhuroa/ Wemba Wemba/Yorta Yorta), Jarra Karalinar Steel (Boonwurrung/ Wemba Wemba), Ray Thomas (Brabrawooloong Gunaikurnai) and Auntie Zeta Thomson (Wurundjeri/ Yorta Yorta).

Thanks to Melbourne Art Trams Program partners, Department of Transport, Yarra Trams and Creative Victoria, the works will be showcased on the network for 12 months featuring internal QR codes, which people can scan on their phones to find out more about the artists and their respective works.

Taking to routes 5, 6, 16, 58 or 72, the first of the Melbourne Art Trams features *Mookies around the watering hole* designed by respected Elder, artist, cultural teacher and advocate Auntie Zeta Thomson.

"Mookie means spirit in Yorta Yorta," she said.

"In our culture, visitors would call out to ancestor Mookies as



Auntie Zeta Thomson's artwork *Mookies around the watering hole* is featured as one of Melbourne's six First People's Art Trams, a new project bringing our stories and culture to Melbourne's commuters through art.

they walked through the bush announcing they were coming onto country.

"They would meet and gather at sacred waterholes for ceremony. After meeting, the travellers would begin their journey across country to the next place, 'galyan woka ngana buraya moya' – a beautiful place far, far away.

"This work teaches us to respect

country and honour ancestors."

Curator Kimberley Moulton said they have had an overwhelming response to the callout for artists.

"The six selected designs share a beautiful manifestation of the strength of Victorian First Peoples artists and our stories that speak to the deep cultural layers that continue which are thousands of generations old but

are also contemporary and talk to the lived experience of First Peoples today," she said.

Jarra Karalinar Steel's *iilk* (eel) was launched last week on tram routes 48 and 109.

"From a child my mother told me stories of the iilk (eel) and their important journey cycles and role as a food source for the Boonwurrung people," Jarra said.

"In this work I have included personal icons of wattle which is my name, Jarra Karalinar (wattle tree woman), feathers of Bundjil (wedge tail eagle) and Waa (crow), patterns that reference Kulin design and Walert Murrup (possum spirits) which are healing spirits."

Ray Thomas' artwork *Djeetgun Dreaming* features on trams on routes 70 and 75.

"Djeetgun, the female blue wren, is a wrukut (women's) totem of the Gunaikurnai people of Gippsland. The linear designs pay respect to my ancestors, the markings have been inspired from shields collected in the 1800s now held in our keeping place.

"The Gunaikurnai Lit (child) is my granddaughter Bryeesha, affectionately called Djeetgun by the whole family. The gum leaves represent Djeetgun as she flutters through the undergrowth of the bush."

Auntie Rochelle Patten's *March of the Ants* is on trams on routes 58 and 59.

"This work pays respect to caring for country and community," she said.

"Our Old People learnt a lot by observing the environment. It tells us things if we are open to listening.

"The ants represent travelling, working together and participating in our community. Every ant has a role to play to ensure survival and continuity.

"The feet represent us, learning from ants and applying principles of working together to our society to care for country and each other."

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City of Melbourne Stolen Generations Marker – seeking expressions of interest

As part of our commitment to reconciliation and strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, the City of Melbourne is committed to creating a marker for the Stolen Generations in our municipality.

The marker will be designed, located and used in an ongoing manner consistent with the wishes of Stolen Generations survivors.

A working group will guide this project to delivery.

We welcome expressions of interest to join this working group from people with knowledge and understanding of the Stolen Generations and direct links to Melbourne's Aboriginal community and/or organisations.

We strongly encourage applications from:

- Stolen Generations survivors
- Traditional Custodians of the City of Melbourne
- Representatives from peak bodies working with Stolen Generations survivors.

Applications close 14 June. To submit an expression of interest for the Stolen Generations Marker Working Group, please visit our website and follow the links

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-melbourne/melbourne-profile/aboriginal-culture/Pages/stolen-generations-marker.aspx>

Or email Rebecca Morphy, Stolen Generations Marker Project Officer, Aboriginal Melbourne, City of Melbourne, E: stolengenerationsmarker@melbourne.vic.gov.au



Moree

SPECIAL ACTIVATION PRECINCT

Have your say on the draft master plan for the Moree Special Activation Precinct

The draft master plan outlines the long-term plans for the Moree Special Activation Precinct that will specialise in agribusiness, advanced manufacturing, and freight and logistics to create more local jobs, attract new businesses and improve the region's long-term economic prosperity.

The Moree Special Activation Precinct incorporates the existing Moree industrial area, as well as land adjoining Moree Regional Airport and capitalises on the opportunities the Inland Rail will bring to Moree.

Your feedback is important to ensuring the Special Activation Precinct becomes a thriving business and economic hub for the region.

Make a submission before midnight 15 June 2021.



Have your say

More information about the draft master plan is available at planning.nsw.gov.au/Moreesap

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BLZ_SB2416



Government of Western Australia
Department of Justice

Seeking new members Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee

Expressions of interest are invited from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for nominations for appointment as a member of the Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee.

The Committee is an advisory body to the Department of Justice. The role of the Committee is to provide cultural advice and guidance to the Director General on justice matters.

The Department seeks nominations from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people who have experience or an interest in focus areas relevant to the Department's portfolios.

There will be 10 appointments to the Committee which will meet at least four times per year. Members receive nominal payment for attendance and reasonable travel expenses.

If you are interested in nominating for appointment to the Committee or if you would like an information pack please contact Gina Hill, Acting Director, Aboriginal Justice Transformation at ajac@justice.wa.gov.au or on 9264 6495.

Expressions of interest close **5pm Monday 22 June 2021.**



Mr Harry Allie, RSL NSW and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans and Services Association member, standing with NSW Governor Margaret Beazley. Pictures: RSL NSW



Catafalque party in attendance at the NSW Indigenous Veterans Commemoration Service.

Service and sacrifice recognised



THE NSW Indigenous Veterans Commemoration Service was held on May 28 at the ANZAC Memorial in Sydney's Hyde Park.

The service is held annually during National Reconciliation Week and combines conventional military protocol with a smoking ceremony and features the involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, school students, current serving and veterans of the Australian Defence Force.

NSW Indigenous Affairs Minister Don Harwin said the service is held to commemorate the Indigenous Veterans who have made, and continue to make, valuable contributions to the nation.

Hosted by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans Services Association, it is proudly supported by the Returned Services League of Australia and the NSW Office of Veterans Affairs.

Mr Harwin said National Reconciliation Week highlights the importance of our Aboriginal history through culture, connecting, listening and learning.

"I recognise the service and sacrifice of many Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander service men and women and the sacrifices of their families," he said.

"It was a privilege to meet Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander veterans, their families and the committed members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans Services Association who hosted the event.

"This important event is held annually during Reconciliation Week. Unfortunately, last year's ceremony was cancelled due to COVID-19, making this year's ceremony a more powerful and moving experience."

Veterans Minister Natalie Ward said it is important to highlight the diversity of the veteran community.

"It's especially powerful to honour Indigenous veterans during National Reconciliation Week, a time for all Australians to learn about Aboriginal culture, history and achievements," she said.

RSL President Ray James said he was pleased this annual commemoration continues to gather momentum.

"Now in its 15th year, the Indigenous Veterans Commemoration Service continues to unite Australians in remembering and honouring the service and sacrifice of Indigenous veterans," he said.

Traditional practice helps to address mental health



SHANTELLE, a proud Barkindji woman, lived with postnatal depression following the birth of her first child which intensified after the birth of her twins. Unable to find a solution through professional health services, Shantelle connected with her culture on a deeper level.

She found peace on the jiu-jitsu mat. And she built on her relationship with the country, learning Dadirri – an Aboriginal approach to deep listening and quiet stillness.

Shantelle has shared her story for mental health charity Beyond Blue's podcast, *Not Alone*, which explores postnatal depression.

"I was feeling very shut-off," she said. "I wouldn't tell anyone what I was experiencing because I was so frightened that if I told anyone, I would run the risk of losing my kids. Especially as there is a history of losing children in the Aboriginal community. I was really scared that what I was experiencing was really violent. And it was really dangerous. And I didn't know how to open up."



Barkindji woman Shantelle has shared her healing story about postnatal depression for a podcast with Beyond Blue.

"I didn't know how to trust people, even those that were closest to me. After I found myself at the front of the doctor's office, I realised no one can help you until

you're ready to be helped, or to open up to that help."

Postnatal depression can vary, ranging from a feeling of sadness to a paralysing depression.



Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann discusses the practice of Dadirri – deep listening and quiet stillness – in a Beyond Blue podcast.

It may include low self-esteem, feelings of inadequacy and guilt, tearfulness, sleeping difficulties and panic attacks or heart palpitations.

Beyond Blue has also unveiled an episode featuring 2021 Senior Australian Of The Year, Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann.

Listeners will be guided through Dadirri, an Aboriginal cultural tradition that explores the value of deep listening and quiet stillness. Dadirri has been anchored to Indigenous cultural practices for thousands of years.

"Dadirri is deep listening, silent still awareness and it brings people to look into themselves," Dr Ungunmerr-Baumann said.

"When I experience Dadirri, I am made whole again."

"I can sit on the riverbank, or walk through the trees."

"Even if someone close to me has passed away, I can find my peace in this silent awareness."

"There is no need for words."

"I believe that the spirit of Dadirri that we have to offer will blossom and grow. Not just within ourselves, but in our whole nation."

To listen to Shantelle's story and learn more about Dadirri, head to Beyond Blue's *Not Alone* podcast on your podcast app or at www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support/not-alone

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Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Glenn Butler Gudjala Charters Towers

Favourite bush tucker?
Chinee apples, I love them.

Favourite other food?
Chicken stir fry.

Favourite saltwater food?
Squid, crumbed with lemon.

Favourite drink?
Coca Cola.

Favourite music?
Eighties music and Michael Jackson.

Favourite sport?
Rugby league. I am a Cowboys supporter.

Favourite read?
Used to be *Rugby League Week*, which closed. *Koori Mail* is good.

Favourite holiday destination?
Las Vegas. I have been there twice.

Favourite movie?
The Goonies.

What do you like in life?
Family and I have many members.

What don't you like in life?
Whingers.

What person would you like most to meet?
Michael Jordan.

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
Wally Lewis, Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Michael Jordan.

Who or what inspires you?
My cousin Terry Butler.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?
Get them to give up smoking and drinking.

Quote



"The Uluru Statement was issued as an invitation to the Australian people to walk with us First Nations people, and to compel the politicians we elect to embrace change and not be afraid of change."

**Pat Anderson,
Alyawarre woman and
Lowitja Institute chair**

● See page 7

Unquote

Lack of services leads to death

THE lack of mental health services in regional areas is quite literally killing people. The death recently of a Gunnedah man, Michael Peachey, should be a wake-up call for governments around Australia that police are not the answer when dealing with people experiencing mental health episodes. They simply do not have the appropriate training.

Mr Peachey knew he needed help. In fact, in the days leading up to his death after being pepper sprayed and tasered by police, he and his family had tried to get him help, but it was not forthcoming.

The Indigenous man had approached Tamworth's Banksia mental health unit, Gunnedah hospital, the police, and other mental health services in both towns but was turned away.

What happened in Gunnedah was not only a tragedy for Mr Peachey and his family, it was also a tragedy for the police who turned up without the training and skills required to diffuse such a situation.

Advocates argue that tasers are a non-lethal alternative to firearms, yet the death toll of people in Australia, and around the world, who had been tasered continues to mount.

Since the introduction into Australia of tasers – which deliver a 50,000-volt of electricity – the weapon has become standard issue for most general duties police. Looking more and more like robo-cops, police now have access to a



formidable array of weapons that can be used to immobilise, and even kill, a person. The problem with that is that police are then inclined to use those weapons instead of exploring other ways to diffuse situations.

It's also well-known that because Aboriginal people are statistically more likely to come to the attention of police as a result of racial profiling, they are therefore in greater danger of being tasered.

And with Aboriginal people also more likely to have underlying health issues such as heart problems, they are particularly vulnerable when exposed to electric shock from tasers.

What is needed to stop these deaths is complex. But better training for police, and more mental health services where they are lacking would be a start. This of course would require major investments by governments – something they appear unwilling to do.

But until that happens, it is inevitable that more and more families will be left to grieve a loved one who could have been saved if only their cries for help were acted upon.

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

Aunty Dawn's advice: Follow your dreams

By NICK PATON



ANAIWAN woman Dawn Fuller will celebrate her 90th birthday this month, and over the many decades

and through all of life's ups and downs, Aunty Dawn has witnessed rapid change.

From watching her three brothers march off to serve in a World War, to her family surviving the Great Depression, Aunty Dawn's remarkable life journey will leave a lasting impression on anyone who happens to cross her flower-lined path.

Dawn said, as the years roll on, she can see more and more of her mother's qualities in herself.

"My mum was a good person and she just had that gift where she could talk to anyone, and she always spoke well," Aunty Dawn told the *Koori Mail*.

"She had the most beautiful handwriting and she looked after us. She loved us kids and she always made sure that we were right, and that we had the best of what she was able to supply," Aunty Dawn said.

"Mum was the most wonderful cook too, and when we would come home from school we just couldn't wait to taste the fresh cakes, biscuits and scones that she'd made in the afternoon."

Aunty Dawn said that during the Great Depression, although her family lived on virtually nothing, at least her Mum was able to source flour, water, and eggs.

"Because that meant she could still make Johnny cakes and other delicious things, but most importantly she was still able to provide us the necessities like damper, bread, and the main things we ate from day to day."

For a young Aunty Dawn, there was no television, no internet, and the cordless telephone was still decades away from being invented.

"And so from a very young age I took a keen interest in swimming," Aunty Dawn said.

"The gentleman who owned the local swimming baths was our swimming instructor, and so I took lessons with him so that I could become a good swimmer."

Dawn said that once she was confident she could swim well enough, she went on to receive a Bronze Medallion, a lifesaving award created by the Royal Life Saving Society in 1892.

The medallion equipped Dawn with the necessary skills and knowledge to keep herself and others safe in and around water.

"After I had passed my Bronze Medallion I even went on to become a trained lifesaver with the Royal Life Saving Society."

While she was working in



Anaiwan woman Dawn Fuller sat down with Nick Paton to share some of her wisdom and life experience with our readers.



Anaiwan woman Dawn Fuller with precious framed images of three of her four brothers, Cecil, Leslie and Cyril Smith, who all served in the Second World War.



Aunty Dawn will celebrate her 90th birthday this month.

Dorrigo in NSW, Dawn said she took on the role of providing swimming tuition to three local schools.

"There was a nice deep creek near one of the schools, so I would take the kids there and teach them how to swim and then put them through their own Bronze Medallion so they could eventually teach others to do the same," Aunty Dawn said.

"I remember one day we were down at the creek and I saw a young boy jump off a rock, and he had no idea how to swim, so I jumped straight into the creek and rescued him."

"It's been very humbling over the years to have grown men approach me in the street and thank me for teaching them how to swim when they were kids."

In 1972, with four kids to look after on her own, Dawn enrolled in the local technical college (TAFE) in Armidale, where she learned pitman shorthand, typing, business principles and practices, and other general administration skills.

"One day my teacher at the college came up to me and said there was a job going for an Aboriginal person at the university in town," Aunty Dawn said.

"She said because I was an eager student and the best speller in the class, there was a good chance I would get the job."

"So before I went up to the university for the interview, I went into town to the hairdressers and got my hair done!"

"I found the best clothes that I had, which included a coat with a fur collar I borrowed from a friend, and I even wore high-heeled shoes."

"I think the university must have been impressed with the way I presented myself and my ability to learn new things quickly because they gave me the job and I ended up spending 23 years in the faculty of education."

Dawn said her education has been just as important as the way in which she conducts herself.

"You've got to know what to

say at an interview, and you need to lay it all on the line and just tell the interviewer what you're good at," Aunty Dawn said.

"Because they can tell just by talking to you what your level of education is, and if you're going to be any good."

If mob want to be able to compete against other people for work and jobs, Aunty Dawn believes it helps to have a decent education.

"Aboriginal people need to know how to think for themselves, and how to express to other people their feelings, and how to hold their place in society," Aunty Dawn said.

"If you're educated you can walk into any office and get any job, and like me, you'll learn how to be able to talk to politicians and people in high places – you'll be able to talk to anyone."

These days the best place to find Aunty Dawn is down at her local bowls club, where she is a bowls champion and somewhat of a local celebrity.

"I don't know why, but whenever we head off for a bowls getaway, people want to come and sit with me in my car during the trip."

"I think it's because I know my friends all so well, and they know me, and know who I am, and I just love the opportunity I still get to go away with them for bowls."

Aunty Dawn said there is no limit to what Aboriginal people can achieve in their lives.

"Back in my day there was nothing to help us," Aunty Dawn said. "But today, the options and possibilities for Aboriginal people to get educated are much better."

"The first step is to get up in the morning, and get dressed, and try to feel good about yourself."

"Then you must go out into the world, and make people see that you can do anything, and show them there is nothing that will stand in your way or stop you from achieving your dreams."

This was the third and final part in a series with Aunty Dawn.

Stolen baby: family brings brother home

This story addresses sensitive issues that some readers may find distressing.

By NICK PATON



GUMBANGERRI woman Rhonda Nicholls, 71, was just 21 when her baby was stolen by a Sydney hospital.

And when Ms Nichols and her family finally learned of the final resting place of her baby, it wasn't through the concern of the hospital, but only after decades of detective work by her daughters Zona and Dianne.

The sisters, desperate to find the unmarked spot their brother Michael had been buried in Sydney's Rookwood cemetery, never gave up putting together the shocking pieces of a puzzle that still haunts the Kelly family to this day.

Baby Michael was never seen again by the Kelly family after being admitted to the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children (known as the Camperdown Children's hospital) for health issues in 1972.

Michael's mum Rhonda Nicholls was never given the chance to see, touch, or kiss her baby before he was taken away and buried.

While Michael was being admitted to hospital, the Kelly family frantically made their way from their home in Kempsey in NSW down to Sydney to be with him.

While staying nearby with family in Redfern, it took a frustrated Ms Nicholls to call the hospital herself after she received no news on the condition of her baby, only to be told over the phone that her baby had died, and that Michael had been taken away to be buried.

The family were even more shocked to learn that Michael's death certificate cited leukaemia as the cause of death, when the symptoms of his ill health showed something completely different.

Ms Nicholls' son Steve Kelly told the *Koori Mail* that it was only through the tireless work of his sisters that Michael's final resting place was found in Sydney's largest cemetery, Rookwood.

Steve said he is disgusted that his brother was not only buried by the hospital in a pauper's grave in the first instance, but that the family had been lied to when they were given false information about the exact location of Michael's grave, not once, but twice.

"The family were forced to go to two different places in Rookwood to grieve Michael and be with his spirit, because we were told those were the areas Michael was 'most probably' buried in," Steve said.

"But that just wasn't good enough for the family, or



The grave of baby Michael Kelly will need to be dug up for the second time so that his other remains, kept without permission for 40 years by a Sydney hospital, can be buried alongside him.

Michael, more importantly.

"We needed to know exactly where Michael was buried, because he wasn't resting, and there was no way Michael was going to be spending eternity in that foreign cemetery.

"Michael needed to be found because he came from, he belonged to, and needed to be back and buried on his own country, back home in Armidale.

"It was only after my sisters searched records and scoured archives looking for clues that they had finally found the answer 40 years later. They had found our brother Michael in a third and completely different area than we initially thought."

And to make matters worse for a family already grieving, another person had been buried on top of Michael, when Zona and Dianne finally found their brother.

"Dianne and Zona contacted the family, and once that family understood the serious nature of the situation, were more than happy to give their permission for their relative to be exhumed respectfully and reburied, so that we could get access to Michael," Steve said.

"But for the cemetery to lead us on, and lie to us about the exact location of Michael, not once, but twice, and then only to find out they had reused his burial plot to bury a stranger on top of him, made me absolutely sick to the stomach.

"How dare the cemetery double dip like that."

Thanks to efforts by the Kelly family, a repatriation of Michael's remains back to Rookwood cemetery back to Gumbangerri country in Armidale took place last year.

"We thought most of this nightmare was over, and the thing my Mum is just so shocked about, and the thing that she can't even bring herself to talk about at the moment, is that when she contacted the hospital to check there were no other remains of Michael being kept there, she was lied to," Steve said.

"We wanted Michael to finally rest at home in Armidale, so we didn't want to have to dig up Michael again and bury him a third time, if there was a chance the hospital still had parts of Michael stashed away.

"Mum was told by the hospital that everything of Michael had been buried in Rookwood along with his remains, and that was it; they had no more of Michael lying around on shelves or in vials or anything like that, so we went ahead and we buried Michael for the second time.

"But the hospital lied and it now looks as though we will be burying Michael for the third time.

"After the family insisted incessantly that the hospital check all their records and archives to make sure they weren't holding on to any other parts of Michael, the hospital contacted us, and told us they actually still had parts of



Steve Kelly wants to see his mother Rhonda Nicholls compensated for ongoing trauma related to her baby being stolen in 1972.

"Michael needed to be found because he came from, he belonged to, and needed to be back and buried on his own country, back home in Armidale."

— Steve Kelly

Michael's remains. I can't describe the anger I felt, but I almost fell to the floor out of disbelief," Steve said.

"I just couldn't believe it. I thought, 'What the fuck is going on here? How could they lie to my mum like that? How could they take parts of her son, my brother, and not tell her, not tell us, the family?'

"How dare the hospital not notify Mum the night Michael died? And why did they tell us Michael died of leukaemia when he was admitted to the hospital that night for other reasons?

"The whole thing is sickening and each day Mum gets worse and worse and we are all worried about the toll all of this continues to take on her health for well over 40 years now.

"My mum deserves closure, and she deserves all the answers she needs as a grieving woman to deal with this, and without all the lies, without all the excuses, and this is still something she has not been provided with.

"This all seems so sinister, and it makes me think, 'Why were they conducting tests on Michael without permission in the first place? What role did the doctor play in the removal of parts of Michael? What else did the doctor do to Michael after he had died?'

"This isn't anything new though. We have been stolen and taken, and had tests conducted on us since invasion, and there are skulls and bones

and parts of other Aboriginal people's family members sitting in the dusty storerooms and damp basements of museums all around the world right now.

"So I ask, 'How many other Aboriginal children did this supposed doctor, who took parts of Michael, find some reason to pronounce other children dead, just so he could take their remains and conduct tests on their bodies too?'

"How many other families are out there right now who might be in a similar situation as our family, and not know which unmarked grave their loved one was eventually dumped in, after doctors had finished with their testing?'

"The questions in my mind never stop, and they're the questions my Mum asks herself over and over.

"So how do you compensate that?'

"We don't know all the answers, but what we do know, is this month we will go to Westmead Hospital and collect the other parts of Michael that have been kept there without his consent, and without our permission, and Michael will be cleansed on the way out of the hospital, and taken home to be buried with the rest of him in Armidale."

In an upcoming podcast, the *Koori Mail* talks to Michael Kelly's mother Rhonda Nicholls and her daughters Zona and Dianne about the forthcoming repatriation.



A time to create change

National Reconciliation Week is a time to not only reflect but to create meaningful change

Water is central to our cultural way of life as Aboriginal Australians. Our involvement in managing water is rooted in history, embedded in our veins and passed down from generation to generation.

I recall my grandfather telling me that he wouldn't go into a river or waterway with body paint on him after a meal or ceremony for fear of upsetting the ecological cycle.

When we harvested food from the supply and gathered resources such as reeds for weaving, fish for eating and water for our everyday use, we had to manage it. We had to make sure the water was of quality and the connectivity in ensuring the aquatic habitat was one that sustained native fish populations.

Aboriginal communities have an intrinsic understanding of water management and bring significant value to conversations about water



Proud Gomeroi man Phil Duncan looks at the Gwydir River, Moree.

management and regulation.

This is why I am so profoundly grateful to sit on the board at the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) and have the opportunity to be involved in decisions about water regulation.

This year's National Reconciliation Week theme is 'More than a word', which acknowledges that achieving real

reconciliation requires meaningful action. It's a commitment we should all be accountable for, as individuals, communities, families, organisations and as a nation.

We need to acknowledge the past, respect the future and take action to be better together.

I am proud to say NRAR, the NSW water regulator, is committed to protecting and prioritising

Aboriginal cultural and spiritual values in water regulation through its new regulatory priorities which will be released in the coming months.

I'm also proud to lead NRAR's Aboriginal Support Network (ASN), a community which is helping my Aboriginal colleagues to fulfil their leadership potential.

I am certain the ASN will help NRAR better connect with Aboriginal communities. It provides a platform for us to provide sound advice through a different cultural lens. What I am seeing is greater support for Aboriginal staff to wear their Aboriginality with pride.

But we still have more work to do.

In order to drive real, meaningful and lasting change, we need to bring everyone to the table. We need to leave our preconceived perceptions at the door and consider our next generations and the legacy we choose to leave for them.

We must leave a solid

foundation for them to continue the work to keep us moving forward together and ensure that opportunities exist for all Australians, including those who inhabited this land long before colonisation.

We need to be included in all stakeholder engagements for the protection of this precious resource. Our values are not dissimilar to yours.

We must set up a safe environment for people to come together to have the courageous, bold and robust conversations that will take us forward into being better together. One of the fundamental pillars of that is respect.

Gomeroi man Phil Duncan is NRAR's first Aboriginal board member. He has dedicated his career to encouraging recognition of the rich cultural history of Indigenous Australia, the return of lands, the improvement of living conditions and education of the next generation.

I have a dream for my island home

I have a dream that one day my old people can rest in peace on their island home without fear of being swallowed by the ocean.

I have a dream that one day my brother's children and my sister's children can go home to understand who they are and where they are from. I have dream that those who are disconnected from their cultural heritage can return and make that reconnection on their ancestral lands.

I have a dream that in another 10,000 years, we can still practise our cultural dance, tradition and language with ease on the shores of our islands where they were originally established.

I have a dream that in the future, the red, black and yellow flag along with the green, blue, black and white flag can sway in innocence and that both peoples can see tranquillity and justice.

I have a dream that my islands can be saved.

I miss home. When the voices of my Elders sing, I shed tears. The tune of their voices brings my heart and soul back to the shores of my mainland.

If nothing is done, the tune of their voices will fade and the sound of their wailing will remain.

For generations, our ancestors have maintained and preserved that tradition, lore, culture and ailankastom.

If the land becomes lost, so do we.

Our hearts are our compass. Our islands hold our heart. If it sinks, our heart goes with it and we risk losing our direction in life.

There is a difference between walking upon another's land and your own. To stand on the land that your ancestors once walked gives you that feeling of peace, serenity and connection.

If that land is lost, the past becomes forgotten history and the present suffers from the loss of ancient connection and the emerging struggle to discover their identity in the world.

Where there is pain, there is suffering and where there is suffering, there is trauma.

My tongue used to taste the saltiness of the



Mark Kabay-Saleh, a Year 12 student from the Murri School in Brisbane, speaks at the climate strike last month.

surrounding waters of my island home. Now, my tongue tastes the saltiness of my tears, for now my island home is beginning to make its way down amongst the reef.

It is never too late to make that change.

Torres Strait Islanders are warriors and strong-spirited individuals. We are fighters; for many years we have been fighting for understanding and recognition. Right now, we are fighting more than ever. Please hear us, acknowledge and understand us.

This is my tribute to my late grandfather Phillemon Mosby Senior who said: "We never give up, we retaliate."

It took one Torres Strait Islander man, Eddie Mabo, who on June 3, 1992, led the change for

this country by overturning terra nullius.

It is imperative we acknowledge and understand that our nation is going under. So let's prevent that before we witness the ending of it. This country is sacred, although at times I feel we tend to forget its success.

I feel like a minority within a minority.

I am Mark Kabay-Saleh, a proud man from the islands of Masig and Poruma in the centre of the Torres Strait.

I stand with pride, dignity and hope that my islands are to be saved.

May our forefathers guide us through this battle of preventing extinction and allow them to open their eyes, ears and heart and respect the ancient whispers, the cry for help and understand

the pain that we endure as Zenadh Kes or Torres Strait Islander people.

We're in this together; together we can make that change.

The Elders on Poruma Island in Kulkalgau Ya would say: "Ina malu a lag nithamun yadaynga mamuy yawaykre."

"The land and sea is yours; it is now your turn to look after it."

One of the grandfathers told me the story of the eagle.

"No matter how far you travel across this globe, your nest will always be there for you to return to. Home will always be there."

But now I fear that that might not always be the case.

But my Elders had a dream that the eagle would be able to fly back to its nest. That their descendants would experience the same holiness, love and compassion from their island home as they did that maternal presence.

That a young leader would become that voice not only for them but for the old people before their time.

Urr kadakaway urr mulka wadpathan.

"The water comes up, makes its mark and goes back out again."

These words are from an Elder from Masig Island. As my grandmother would say: "Time and tide waits for no one."

This world requires more love, forgiveness, kindness, honesty, compassion and understanding.

Aho, Me'ta Qeer San. I agree, and that we are all related regardless of sex, race religion or culture. As my father Kunge said, "That is the wisdom of the Lakota people in the United States."

In other words, we're one family.

My people are suffering from the effects of the rising of sea levels, and so the question remains: Will you lead with your heart and help us up too?

I am Mark Kabay-Saleh and I have a dream.

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

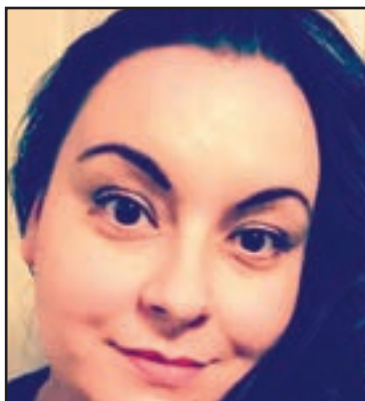
Black media matters

I WOULD like to – at the outset of this piece – acknowledge, congratulate and thank the *Koori Mail* for the 30-year milestone. To know that our issues have been reported on with integrity, that you tell our stories and that you serve the community you are part of is something to be proud of and I am personally grateful to have been a contributor for all the years I have been, knowing that the work is reaching our community because our communities provide us purpose and accountability.

The importance of Black media is never more obvious than this year where we also have marked 30 years since the release of the final report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC).

We continue to speak about how utterly wilful it has been on the part of the Government not to have implemented the recommendations, with deaths and violence continuing and calls for justice year after year left unheard.

The recommendations that came out of the RCIADIC included three separate recommendations to address the way that media reports upon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues because we know that the way in which mainstream media reports contributes to racial bias and fuels racism. In fact, at roughly the same time 30 years ago, the National Inquiry into Racist Violence said, “The media may generate a climate which provides legitimacy for racist violence.”



Natalie Cromb

We know this to be the case, particularly where a good number of the writers are without integrity and the publications that they write for are without ethics or even responsible journalistic processes for fact checking.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have long felt the gut punches that come from reading the headlines and the awful reporting we often see in the mainstream media landscape. We have seen justification for tanks rolling in the streets in the Territory; we have seen the minimisation of the violence visited upon our people, particularly women; and we have seen a constant barrage of messaging that reinforces the narratives that allow the continuation of this colonial occupation.

We have seen a great imbalance in reporting whereby White women can be victims, but

Black women are somehow painted as participants in the violence visited upon them. We see the disillusionment of our youth and the mental health crisis laid at our feet rather than critically analysed as a clear outcome of the colonial project. We have seen erasure of our people and communities that do the work every day to support and build our communities with little to no funding, whereas White saviours are funded to the hilt to commoditise photos with us under the guise of ‘opportunity’ and ‘parity’ and other nonsensical notions that continue to deny the cause of the problems that face our communities.

We have seen people who profit from our problematisation on their pages. We have seen convicted racists continue to build their platforms that maintain deficit rhetoric without any factual basis and others like them popping out of the woodwork seeking to imitate that success at the expense of our community – including those from within our community who invalidate themselves culturally by self-appointing to speak on issues in a performative way that empowers racist perception of us.

These same people recently expressed their outrage over the Australian Museum’s *Unsettled* exhibition that explores colonisation through the lens of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s eyes and factually verified. No amount of verification can satisfy a racist though, a racist that has an

audience and that audience will perceive an extraordinary exhibition as outlandish when it is completely factual.

We still have people in 2021 believing that if it is published and/or on television, that it is true and the absence of critical thought by the masses has maintained the power monopoly in this country. We continue to have to fact check what is published in mainstream media and, although this work continues to be important, oftentimes, the damage is already done.

The work of Black journalists and media companies such as the *Koori Mail*, IndigenousX, Caama, Koori Radio (to name a few) is needed now and always because the colonial power brokers can feel a shift in community insight and will continue to peddle falsehoods to attempt to disrupt the shifting consciousness occurring right now thanks to the work of Black journalists, researchers, academics, writers, lawyers and community organisations on the front line.

Where we have seen mainstream media reporting on Aboriginal people being violent, we have had Black journalists and lawyers providing the counterbalance. We have seen countless articles in the *Koori Mail* that unpack the issues, that accurately report State violence against our people. We have seen Amy McQuire and Martin Hodgson podcast on the reality of violent policing and prison systems. The work of academics in the law and

justice space such as Larissa Behrendt, Alison Whittaker and Hannah McGlade has seen significant research projects undertaken to dispel the myths of the absence of racism and violence, and Black media is amplifying this work.

We have also seen the dehumanisation of Black women in the media following the deaths in custody of Ms Dhu, Auntie Tanya Day and the brutal murder of Lynette Daley, and this sends a devastating message to our young Black women who read these headlines and articles. This is why the work of Black media in centring the victim, speaking of her love for her children, her favourite colour and zest for life is so essential on countering the malicious reporting from mainstream media. The work of so many in bearing witness to the brilliance of Black women is also such important work and sends so much love into our community – the Matriarchy series by Danny Teece-Johnson is one such example of flipping the script on mainstream media.

To the *Koori Mail* and all Black journalists, writers, media companies, radio stations, lawyers, justice activists and advocates – please know we see you and thank you for the work you do in ensuring that the message of mainstream media is disrupted, corrected and countered.

● *Gamilaraay women Natalie Cromb is a writer and advocate.*

Is reconciliation even possible?

SO, it’s Reconciliation Week. Truth is I have never felt it. It just doesn’t feel organic, truthful. That doesn’t mean I don’t want everyone to get along, respect one another, so I looked up its definitions and found the following:

“The restoration of friendly relations. The action of making one view or belief compatible with another after a disagreement”.

I then looked up the Cambridge University Dictionary:

“A situation in which two people or groups of people become friendly again after they have argued.”

Having read these definitions, the next question is: Were we ever really friends in the first place?

The short answer outside of some individuals and families, sporting teams and workmates is no. Two societies who have come together via settlement, invasion and, dare I say it, genocide involves some very blunt truth-telling around the sins of our colonial past, and unfortunately the parity we experience today in practically every social indicator of quality of life is far from resolved.

One of the



Woolombi Waters

recommendations that came from the Uluru Statement from the Heart – again how could anyone disagree with a “Statement from the Heart” – while like Reconciliation, it’s not all that Black and White. I can’t believe I just wrote that.

Whether you agree or disagree with the Uluru Statement, the general convention was for an Aboriginal Voice in Parliament, and this was to include the development of a Truth and Justice Commission responsible for the truth-telling of Australian history in relation to its Aboriginal people. That was ignored.

Truth-telling is important as it allows us to understand the true impacts of

colonisation, or invasion, or settlement...

See the problem? It can’t be any clearer.

Whatever one you believe in creates your identity and this is what divides our nation, because, whether a pioneer, or a murderer, it’s our belief systems that stop reconciliation at a much deeper level.

For many, constitutional change is about righting injustices inherent in the recognition of difference, rather than promoting an agenda of sameness. A discussion based on the idea of sameness, is seen as assimilation to many Aboriginal protesters. Plus, why would I want to be part of a constitution that is just over 200 years old when I have an established culture over 80,000 years old?

The other outstanding issue identified by protesters is the relationship between constitutional recognition, treaty and sovereignty. If we accept that mob never ceded sovereignty, the idea that Australia can grant it to us is logically impossible, as our sovereignty already exists, but that’s an article for another week. And, not everyone wants a treaty with the person responsible for

raping their grandmother and imprisoning their grandfather and stealing their children.

This all points to the ongoing failure of reconciliation to transform relations in Australia. Reconciliation may involve the pursuit of truth or justice, but neither is a prerequisite. In reality it’s this very truth and the need for frank discussions about justice that gets in the way, and the term ‘reconciliation’ suggests no actual rules as to how we gonna get there.

Reconciliation, by its very nature, may push non-Indigenous mob towards a difficult confrontation with their own past, but, in essence, it remains a nation-building project, and that’s another reason why many of our mob reject it. Similarly, as stated above, the truth behind systematic institutionalised genocide threatens nation-building by questioning if injustices of the past are so horrific reconciliation is impossible.

Then there are the claims of “unfinished business” where, despite the symbolic gestures including the 2008 Apology for the Stolen Generations, our children are still being removed today. Then there are the

ongoing effects of more than 233 years of dispossession, racism and discrimination which have left our people trapped in poverty and trauma, the low levels of education, an inability to gain meaningful employment, all leading to overrepresentation in the prison system, and appalling housing conditions with our people dying 20 years earlier than non-Aboriginal Australians.

All the while the unequal distribution of wealth remains the same as our past is perpetually re-contested with our future and the ongoing political conflict we face, as news hits of yet another Aboriginal death in custody, and only our paper, the *Koori Mail*, reporting each individual tragedy.

Put simply, if you don’t make change, change will never happen. Instead, we have more and more poorly designed policies made on our behalf which are enacted by non-Aboriginal people living on the spoils from the blood of our ancestors on stolen lands while we continue to suffer.

Reconciliation is not an outcome or a goal as much as a relationship an ongoing journey, but whatever its

terms or whoever its participants, reconciliation will be no more than a series of feel-good slogans if non-Indigenous Australians cannot come to a just and truthful understanding of our history, and truly acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, and the pain they have caused.

And my final truth: It’s now 25 years since the establishment of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, and despite all the backlashes, put-downs, and gammon politics, our people have come back stronger, more articulate, more political and more resilient than ever.

Truth is we are driving this agenda, not them and it remains on our terms. Just look at the way more people march with us now on Invasion Day than attend official Australia day celebrations. We don’t have to reconcile with you, why would we? We never invaded your country, raped your women, killed your grandfathers and stole your children. No, you have to reconcile with us.

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

Maddison hopes her swag of awards inspires others



AN inspiring Aboriginal youth worker has emerged triumphant after a "year from hell" to claim a swag of awards – including Student of the Year – at the prestigious TAFE NSW Excellence Awards for Southern NSW.

Maddison Peisley, 20, described as "surreal" the feeling of being called to the podium four times at the awards, including for Trainee of the Year, Student of the Year, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year and Technology and Business Services Student of the Year.

It comes after a challenging 2020 for Ms Peisley, when she spent more than five weeks in hospital after complications with the birth of her first child, Dakaree.

Ms Peisley, a Wandandian woman of the Yuin nation, said she had an unruly high school life before enrolling in a Diploma of Youth Work at TAFE NSW Shellharbour in 2019. It was during work placement for the course that she was offered a casual role at Southern Youth



Maddison Peisley earned four awards at the NSW TAFE Excellence Awards for Southern NSW.

and Family Services (SYFS).

She has now completed a business administration traineeship at SYFS and remains at the organisation in a role split between administration work and acting as a mentor to young jobseekers.

She said she was hoping to

use her star turn at last week's TAFE NSW Excellence Awards – Southern NSW to inspire other young people to strive to reach their potential.

"It was incredibly surreal to be acknowledged in that way and I really hope it can impact on the young people I work with to

continue studying," Ms Peisley said. "To me, education is the key to opening up so many doors.

"In a world that's forever changing, you're not going to advance if you don't keep up your education."

Ms Peisley recently completed a Certificate III in Business

Administration at TAFE NSW Shellharbour.

"TAFE NSW has been much more enjoyable to me than school because it's an adult learning environment," she said.

"My teachers all loved their job and were so experienced in their industry – they always went above and beyond in answering your questions."

TAFE NSW Shellharbour business administration teacher Jodie Moes said Ms Peisley was a shining example of how TAFE NSW could help change the trajectory of a young person's life.

"Maddie has an exceptional attitude and ability to overcome hurdles, and we are all so pleased to see her success," Ms Moes said.

"The skills you learn in a TAFE NSW business administration course are transferrable to so many industries.

"Business administration these days isn't just about office skills, it's about things like leadership, emotional intelligence and public speaking."

If you're interested in studying business administration at TAFE NSW, visit www.tafensw.edu.au or call 13 16 01.



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- International and local keynote speakers
- Social events and opportunities to network and connect with peers
- Cultural highlights and performances
- Exhibitor and poster displays

Ramo has big things in mind



WITH the blessing of Australian music royalty Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody, Ziggy Ramo has reinterpreted the classic song *From Little Things Big Things Grow*.

And for the video clip of *Little Things*, Ramo is situated on the top of the Sydney Opera House, where at the end of the song, he pays tribute to the original lyrics that tell the story of Vincent Lingiari by pouring some earth through his hands.

The Sydney Opera House collaborated with pioneering hip hop artist Ziggy Ramo Burmuruk Fatnowna on the music video for the song, which features Paul Kelly, as well as a behind-the-scenes documentary, *Making Little Things*. The music video and

documentary are both available to watch now on Stream, the Opera House's recently launched streaming platform that showcases world-class performing and digital arts.

The film clip is Ziggy Ramo's directorial debut.

The Opera House has also produced a short documentary to accompany the music video, *Making Little Things*, which outlines the development of the song and music video. From the land-rights movement that inspired Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody's 1991 original, to filming on top of the Sydney Opera House sails, the ten-minute film offers insights into the multi-generational collaborations that created this new work.

"For 50,000 years we have been storytellers and although I have been dispossessed and

disconnected, this tradition is deep rooted inside of me," Ramo said.

"Whether it is through my music or through film I want to keep preserving the stories that have been passed down to me.

"I am an artist and I want to continue to explore all mediums. I am grateful to the Sydney Opera House for trusting in my vision and supporting me to bring this story to life.

"It's not every day you simultaneously get to climb the sails and make your directorial debut.

"Working on this project has been an experience like no other, but I knew if we could pull it off it had the chance to be special.

"For all involved it has been a huge undertaking and I am so honoured to be able to share what we have created."



Ziggy Ramo has released his reinterpretation of the classic song *From Little Things Big Things Grow*.



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A Link-Up (NSW) Event

Ampilatwatja Health under administration



THE Registrar of Indigenous Corporations Selwyn Button has placed Ampilatwatja Health Centre Aboriginal Corporation (Ampilatwatja) under special administration.

Operating since 1995, Ampilatwatja provides health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Alyawarr nation, 320km north-east of Alice Springs. In the 2019-20 financial year, Ampilatwatja received \$2 million in funding for comprehensive primary health care. With that it served around 900 clients in 6400 episodes of care.

On March 28, a majority of the directors wrote to the Registrar requesting the urgent appointment of a special administrator. On April 1, in response to the 'show cause' notice (which gives the corporation an opportunity to object to the appointment) the directors reaffirmed the need, explaining that disputes between the directors and senior management of the corporation were putting health services at risk. The directors advised they were unable to resolve the matters themselves and that the dysfunction was detracting from the corporation's service to the community.

"The health service is currently compromised," Mr Button said.

"Significantly, the dispute has caused a delay in the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine to the community. It has also prompted the corporation's major funding body to withhold the latest release of primary healthcare funding.

"Under these circumstances, special administration is appropriate to rectify the matters as quickly as possible."

Culturally safe crisis centre for women



ABORIGINAL women and children at risk of family violence in the Wimmera region of Victoria will soon be able to access culturally safe crisis accommodation, giving them the best chance at rebuilding their lives.

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence Gabrielle Williams visited Horsham to announce \$9.1 million to build and operate a local Aboriginal family violence refuge.

The refuge will provide crisis accommodation and support for Aboriginal victim survivors and their families living in Horsham and surrounding areas, while also creating eight local jobs.

By establishing an Aboriginal refuge in the region, this investment ensures victim survivors can be safe from violence while maintaining their connections with friends, family, kinship networks, schools, community and culture.

The 'core and cluster' accommodation refuge model comprises up to six independent residential units – known as clusters – and an administrative support building – known as the core – on the same property. This model enables women and children to live independently, while also providing access to comprehensive on-site support services. The new service will be operated by an Aboriginal organisation and construction will commence as soon as an appropriate site is identified.

Sharing culture helps mob stay connected

By DANNY TEECE-JOHNSON



'STAY connected, keep connected' was the message as Bundjalung mob and Tweed Valley locals turned out in their hundreds in Murwillumbah recently to celebrate culture, community and join in the fun for a big Aboriginal gathering.

Set under the beauty of Wollumbin (Mount Warning), the Kinship Festival promotes a broader understanding and acceptance of the unique place Aboriginal culture has in towns like Murwillumbah.

Culture is central to the lives of our people and is a key factor in improving and maintaining health and wellbeing. It shapes Aboriginal identity, linking people to their community and country and that is what the festival is all about.

Showcasing culture through art, dance and stories, the annual Kinship Festival is a time for Aboriginal families to connect.

The festival is designed and directed by members of the local Aboriginal community in collaboration with service providers, with the aim of connecting children and families to country and a sense of community.

The traditional dance groups captured the crowd's heart as young and old danced together, keeping ancient dance and songlines well and truly alive. Traditional dance groups provide a space to learn Aboriginal dance and stories, and is a way to connect mob to mob.

The annual event has been running since 2015 through the Murwillumbah Community Centre.



The Biren Aboriginal Dance Group performs the Brolga.



Uncle Ernie Williams did the smoking ceremony in Bundjalung language.



Biren Aboriginal Dancer shakes a leg.



Combined Dubai Dancers' Camille Noter.



Aunty Deidre Currie welcomes the gathering to Bundjalung country.



Talisah Noter from Combined Dubai Dancers.



Michelle Laurie from Nini Nahri-Gali Dance Troupe.



Jahna Lugnan, Nini Nahri-Gali Dance Troupe.



Nini Nahri-Gali Dance Troupe gets ready to perform. Pictures: Kris Cook



Murdi Paaki Services Ltd
(an initiative of Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

QUALITY ASSURANCE: SOLAR PV AND AIR CONDITIONING SPLIT SYSTEMS

Murdi Paaki Services Ltd (MPSL) invites Expressions of Interest (EoI) from qualified individuals and firms experienced in the supervision of installation of residential solar PV systems and split system air-conditioning to be added to the MPSL Register of Approved Suppliers. The Electrical Supervisor will be responsible for ensuring systems installation to Aboriginal households within the Murdi Paaki Region complies with the relevant standards and contract requirements.

The EoI is the first stage of a two-stage engagement process. The objective of the process is to identify and pre-register individuals and firms which have the capacity, capability and experience to undertake the project(s) identified, and which are interested in joining with MPSL to improve the lived experiences of the Aboriginal communities of the Murdi Paaki Region. A minimum requirement would be the ability to demonstrate prior experience of working within the Murdi Paaki Region. EoIs will be assessed in accordance with designated criteria.

To commence the engagement process, please email Haylee Rogers on Haylee.rogers@mpr.a.com.au and request an EoI form. Further information in relation to this registration process will be supplied at that time. Please note that the deadline for submission of the EoI form via email to MPSL is by **5:00 pm on Friday, 18 June 2021**.

MPSL will use the register to identify, assess and engage individuals and corporate entities as contractors to undertake specific projects or pieces of work that relate to the delivery of one or more strategic initiative(s). There is, however, no guarantee of work.

Should further clarification be required, please contact Haylee Rogers, RAHLA Programme Coordinator on mobile 0447 006 997.



**PUBLIC TRUSTEE
AND GUARDIAN**

OFFICIAL VISITOR (INDIGENOUS)

*Official Visitor Act 2012
Children and Young People Act 2008*

Call for Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest are sought from highly motivated Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander persons with suitable qualifications and/or experience for appointment as the Official Visitor (Indigenous) for the purposes of the *Children and Young People Act 2008* in the Australian Capital Territory.

The role of the Indigenous Official Visitor for Children and Young People is to visit the Bimberi Youth Justice Centre and other places where children and young people are held, as well as places outside of youth detention facilities where children and young people reside and to inquire into and resolve complaints.

The Indigenous Official Visitor will liaise with children and young people, work closely with Government and non-Government Senior Management, provide quarterly written reports to Ministers and ensure that operations are in accordance with the provisions of the *Children and Young People Act 2008*.

The Indigenous Official Visitor must possess well-developed liaison and communication skills and have the capacity and willingness to communicate empathetically with children and young people in challenging situations. An understanding of the ACT's youth detention and criminal justice system would be valuable.

High standards of integrity, impartiality and objectivity are required as is an understanding of the processes for resolving grievances and a sound understanding of the *ACT Human Rights Act 2004*.

Official Visitors need to command the continuing respect and confidence of relevant stakeholders and the community.

Appointment will be based on individual expertise and suitability and not as a representative of an organisation. Appointments are for a period of up to three years.

Remuneration is determined by the ACT Remuneration Tribunal and the current Part-time Public Office Holder Determination can be found at the Remuneration Tribunal's website: www.remunerationtribunal.act.gov.au/determinations

Current employees of the ACT Government Public Service are not eligible to apply for the position of Official Visitor. This position is only open to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander candidates.

How to apply: To apply, applicants are asked to submit an expression of interest (maximum four A4 pages) detailing their knowledge, skills and experience against the selection criteria and a current Curriculum Vitae. Please contact Stefan Dzwonnik for a copy of the selection package at stefan.dzwonnik@act.gov.au or 02 6207 9800.

Expressions of interest are to be sent to: stefan.dzwonnik@act.gov.au.

Applications close on **16 June 2021**



Byron Writers Festival participants: Kaye, Elle-Noah Bancroft, Yvonne Weldon, Nardi Simpson, Coowee Caldwell, Kirli Saunders and Kris Cook.

Blak writers build on rich tradition of telling stories

By DANNY TEECE-JOHNSON



BUNDJALUNG artist Coowee Caldwell has a desire to start writing – but she has found she's missing one vital ingredient: time.

So Coowee attended the First Nations Restart program, a writers retreat run by the Byron Writers Festival.

"The writers and illustrators retreat was the restart I needed to prioritise and value my writing," she said. "Having the time and space to firstly think, rethink and put those thoughts onto paper was invaluable experience with fellow kin."

"Involvement of experienced illustrators linked art and word as a way to visually voice our stories, which I'm keen to pursue. I would highly recommend anyone interested in writing and art to consider taking opportunities as they come along, even if you're at the beginning, the retreat was a cultural nurturing space that connects you to brilliant writers and illustrators who are generous and supportive with advice and industry knowledge."

Byron Writers Festival has announced a new First Nations Restart program funded by Create NSW, which has granted the festival \$185,000 to be disbursed in residencies as well as free workshops for NSW writers and illustrators.

The First Nations Restart program offers participants a five-day expenses-paid retreat in northern NSW, shared with five other artists and mentored by First Nations writer Kirli Saunders, award winning author of *Bindi*.

The selected participants came with a dilly bag of stories from children's books, teenage coming of age stories, poetry and, of course, the genre of Black romance.

The group received feedback and guidance on their works from some of the most acclaimed Black writers in Australia with Melissa Lucashenko, Tara-June Winch, Bronwyn Bancroft and Dub Leffler all sharing their wisdom with the group.

Nyangbal man Kris Cook from



Aunty Lois Cook welcomes the writers to country.

Ballina is writing a series of children's books based on his grandfather's language, life and teachings called *Billing, the Rainbow Lorikeet*.

"It's about a young Rainbow Lorikeet who lost his family, who then travels the country looking for his family," Kris said. "On the way he meets different mobs, learning languages and stories that help him find his way back home."

"I found the week to be relaxing, a perfect setting to create and there was no pressure from mentor Kirli Saunders."

"I would recommend this program to any aspiring young or old writers because getting your stories out from your mind, onto paper is healing."

Award-winning author and program mentor Kirli Saunders reflected on the powerful web of collaboration and healing.

"The Byron Writers Festival Restart Program allowed me the time and space to support seven very talented Black writers as they dove into their own creative processes and projects," she said. "We started with a generous welcome to Nygangbal lands from Aunty Lois Cook, grounding us in Dreaming, language and landscape."

"Over the five days, we had masterclasses with local and international award-winning authors and illustrators who shared industry knowledge and writing feedback."



Program mentor Kirli Saunders shares her passion for words.

"I loved watching the confidence of the group continually expand, and seeing yarns and reflections unfold, and shape new directions for work."

"It is always powerful coming together with mob to share stories and support the creative and professional development of our communities. I feel very lucky to teach and learn this week, and can't wait to see the stories of Kylie, Kaye, Nardi, Ella, Kris and Yvonne out in the world."

The writers will now attend Byron Bay Writers Festival in early August for ongoing support and mentorship.

Danny Teece-Johnson participated the Restart program.



The Fae is a poetic and mesmerising story of displacement and belonging. Pictured in their ethereal and whimsical sanctuary are performers Natarius Mills as a crystal fairy, Dylan Lester as a water nymph, Caleb Thaiday as a moth fairy, Elijah Money as a flower fairy, and Tre Turner as a mushroom fairy (top).

Our storytellers take to the stage

By JILLIAN MUNDY



CHOOSING highlights from this year's Yirramboi ('Tomorrow', in the shared local

languages of the Boonwurrung and Woiwurrung peoples) First Nations festival's bold new shows would be like choosing a favourite child. (Hint: You wouldn't do it.)

Each was fantastic in its own way.

There were musicals, family theatre, circus, historical dramas, dance, classical music, a political cabaret and more.

They presented history lessons, challenging truths, provocation and talent, evoking

delight, celebration, tears, laughter and plenty of standing ovations.

Nyoongah/Burmese woman NazAree Dickerson premiered two fantastic and powerful debut plays: *Ngarnk*, *Giver of Life* and *Crumbs*.

Ngarnk (which means 'giver of life' in the Nyoongar language), opened on Mother's Day. It is the story of three generations of Nyoongah women, a family fighting the government's systems that remove children, forbid traditional birthing practices and have Westernised almost every aspect of child birth and motherhood.

Ngarnk was written, directed and produced by Dickerson. It is poignant and hard hitting.

Ngarnk showcases the strength and resilience of First Nations women, and highlights stereotypes, and the cruelty and absurdity of the colonisers' systems, with enough satire to give relief. It's a call to action for understanding and to advocate for change.

"Who are these savages?" asks lead character, the pregnant Missy Tannin, played by Kristel Kickett, who is preparing for a traditional birth surrounded by her people, and fears her child will be snatched into the "welfare factory".

"This is what a broken system looks like: After 40,000 years of birthing children, the government prevents it," she states.

Ngarnk is at times

harrowing. The desperation and despair in the face of injustice, and the women's resilience, resonated through the audience.

Ngarnk, while not based entirely on Dickerson's own family story, comes from a place of familiarity. Dickerson's mother, who passed away while she was writing the play, was stolen, as were at least two other generations of her family before her.

As a young mum, Dickerson herself feared the welfare coming in.

"I raised my son with that as a threat – behave yourself or the man will come and get you, and the man was always authority.

"I instilled in my son: Don't fuck with the cops. If they tell you to do something just do it.

They don't care.

"It's a huge fear. There was a point where I thought I've got to stop instilling fear into my son because we need to start thinking differently how we perceive their authority over us.

"It's been a huge barrier to break down. I don't know if it's completely gone yet," she said.

"Ngarnk: Giver of Life is an ode to all the mothers who have continued to nurture in spite of their circumstances.

"My own mother, stolen aged two, managed to raise six kids on her own. Traumatized and scarred from her experience in the system, somehow she managed to show us love, understanding and, most importantly, she taught us to

continued on pages 30-31



Carissa Lee, Kristel Kickett and Denise Kickett in the newborn scene of *Ngarnk: Giver of Life*, which opened on Mothers Day.



Brodie Murray, Balaneba Toby and Leigh Scully in historical drama *Soul of Possum*, written by Brodie Murray.



Playwright, director and producer NazAree Dickerson.



Crumbs cast Tuuli Narkle, Michelle McCowage and Rob the koala.



Manta Milmilpa (Sacred Ground), composed and arranged by Gubrun/Kokatha/Mirning man Robert K Champion (front left) tells stories of colonial violence up until current times, in instrumentals and song. He is pictured here with keyboard player Phoebe Elsworth, vocalist Shauntai Batzke, double bassist Allara Briggs Pattison, violin/fiddle player Penelope Somerville, yidaki Amos Roach, (and seated) gum-leaf player Uncle Herb Patten and drummer Michael Julian.



The whole of the talented cast of *Coconut Woman* in song for the finale of Maryanne Sam's heartfelt and humorous tale of misadventure, identity and acceptance, set in the Torres Strait Islands.



Deb Lowah Clark as Cessi in *Coconut Woman*.

continued from page 29.

be proud of who we are."

She hopes non-Aboriginal audience members left the theatre recognising Aboriginal people's depth of human character.

"Not just seeing us as the damaged race we are often stereotyped as. Yes, we do have trauma and it's still something Australia has to recognise and make amends for, but we are so much more than our trauma."

Both *Ngarnk* and *Crumbs* were written to educate non-Aboriginal people as well as to take to Aboriginal communities for Aboriginal communities.

"I wanted to speak to children around the issues of mining and destruction of country and caring for country," she said of *Crumbs*.

Billed as family theatre, *Crumbs* is set in a 9-year-old Nyoongah girl's cubby house.

It could be described as 'sovereignty and dispossession for dummies' but that would be an insult to children. *Crumbs* leaves no excuse for anyone – regardless of age, bias, philosophy, political leaning or whatever else. You can't miss the point when a child's cute cubby house is used as the analogy.

"The cubby seemed like a perfect starting point. Children know how precious these places are. Then the Juukan Gorge story happened when I started writing (when Rio Tinto blew up a sacred site in the Pilbara).

"It was just heartbreaking and that impacted me a lot. I have

strong links to that country.

"If we have more Australians on side, we have more of a chance.

"It's something all Australians should be proud of, to stand up for our country. There's not many places on this earth you can say this has 46,000-year-old human history."

Dickerson teamed up with award-winning writer pakana playwright Nathan Maynard, as dramaturg and director, who is no stranger to fighting against destruction of Aboriginal heritage. She credits Maynard for the play's quirkiness.

Like *Ngarnk*, *Crumbs* was poignant and hard-hitting, yet generous with the humour and energy – a big enough dose to keep a human of any age or

attention span captivated.

The satire is so accurate it is a fine line between tears, anger and laughter.

The delightful, clever set – a massive cubby house made of sewn-together sheets that were strung up, decorated with fairy lights, with props that are easily portable or available second-hand just about anywhere – was designed so it could be easily packed down for travelling.

As is the story. The destruction of Juukan Gorge by mining giant Rio Tinto could be unfolding in any number of places at the hands of any number of companies or governments in Australia, or other parts of the world.

After only a couple of the sold-out shows at Yirramboi, the

Sydney Opera House has spoken with Dickerson about programming it next year.

She hopes to tour it in schools also.

While 39-year-old Dickerson credits her 'performative' family for her interest in theatre, it was seeing theatre as a primary school student in Perth, especially a play about the Pinjarra massacre, performed by three Aboriginal people, that inspired her to forge a path into theatre.

"The simplicity of their work; there was no set. It was very basic. It was all about the acting and the words they were delivering.

"It opened my mind up and I thought, 'That's something I could do.'"



Wiradjuri choreographer and dancer Vicki Van Hout as a David Attenborough-esque character in *Bred*.



Jada Narkle (Yued/Wilman) and Harley Mann (Wakka Wakka) in *Arterial* by Na Djinang Circus, a celebration of strength, courage and talent of our mob, performed through dance and acrobatics.



Luke Mason looks down on Brodie Murray, Balaneba Toby and Jyden Brailey in Murray's *Soul of Possum*.



Ron Murray, father of emerging playwright Brodie Murray, spoke at the beginning his son's debut play *Soul of Possum*.

"I loved language. I started reading Shakespeare when I was about 10.

"There were a lot of things I didn't get to do in primary school, like the theatre courses as special programs.

"They weren't for the Black kids, I suppose."

She watched other kids getting involved in a world she wanted to be part of.

Then Yirra Yaakin Aboriginal-led theatre company started a youth program and that was it – she was in.

As a teenager Dickerson put a show together with a bunch of other Nyoongah kids on Aboriginal identity and skin colour.

"That was it then, no looking back."

There were some rebellious years, intravenous drug use, running amok and motherhood as a teenager, but Dickerson never strayed far from theatre.

"I draw on lots of those experiences.

"All of that stuff feeds into my work, from my experiences I've had personally and those of my peers, my family members. I know now how much those choices are intrinsically linked. They are my family's history."

Dickerson went on to study performing arts at Adelaide Theatre for the Arts. She was one of two Indigenous students at the time, the first in a decade and a half.

While she says it was a great place to learn with teachers who

were great people, she looks back to it as a space with little cultural sensitivity or nuance.

It has inspired her to act with the utmost cultural sensitivity in her work.

Dickerson was mindful that *Ngarnk* had an all female production team, given the subject matter, and while she is Nyoongah herself, she brought a Nyoongah language consultant on board.

With more than two decades of acting under her belt, including in Maynard's *The Season*, and running drama workshops with children, moving into writing and directing felt natural.

The stepping stone was an opportunity to write and workshop a series of

monologues about motherhood, then with a successful Yirramboi commission application and time in COVID lockdown they morphed into the sold-out season of *Ngarnk*.

Bred by Brief Factory International was also born during COVID lockdown isolation.

Five performers using acrobatics, magic, dance, poetry, comedy, symbolism, quirkiness and lip syncing, synthesised sound and more, presented facts, history and social commentary that lingered long after the performance.

Billed as "an artistic interrogation by some creative savages featuring a token white fella ally", *Bred* is a unique, surreal and intense cocktail of

talent and creativity, with the audience literally told to "wake the fuck up".

It is safe to say that issues *Bred* wants people to wake the fuck up about include racism, destruction of culture, destruction of the world around us, lack of human connection, our place in the universe and rampant consumerism.

"We've been forced to look at ourselves even more so," said *Bred* director Fez Faanana of COVID isolation.

And that's just a bit, about just a few, of the Yirramboi commissions the *Koori Mail* managed to get to at this year's 11-day biennial festival in Melbourne.

The program was huge with over 150 events.



Surreal and thought provoking, *Bred*, by Briefs Factory International, was also a visual feast.



Bred by Briefs Factory International.



The fantastic director and co-founder of Briefs Factory International Fez Faanana played several intriguing characters in *Bred*.



Fight for Survival political cabaret at the finale on the final night. People joined the cast on stage.

Peak body for Queensland housing

By CHRISTINE HOWES



A NEW not-for-profit peak representative body for housing in Queensland was officially incorporated and launched in Brisbane last month.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland is headed up by an interim board led by co-chairs Mary Doctor and Angie Akee.

"Our purpose is to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing outcomes in Queensland," Ms Doctor told a 150-strong crowd at Parliament House's Speakers' Green last week.

"And our vision is to remove disparities in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing."

She said it was a journey begun more than ten years ago.

"At that time there were over 80 community housing providers... Sadly now, there are just over 60," she said.

Ms Akee said the layout and incorporation of the final organisation was overseen by a Housing Working Group selected by their peers in 2019.

She said they believed real change was possible by developing partnerships with impact.

"By working in partnerships with others we want to find new solutions and set new standards," she said.

"We understand that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing challenges are complex and that they cannot be solved by a single organisation."

Queensland Minister for



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland is headed up by an interim board led by co-chairs Mary Doctor and Angie Akee.



Mary Doctor and Minister Leeanne Enoch.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Housing Queensland interim board members Charles Martin, Glenis Grogan, Angie Akee, Mary Doctor, Michelle Hooke and Gary White.

Communities and Housing Leeanne Enoch said the establishment of the peak body was a critical step in ensuring First Nations people were at the forefront of decision making.

"The new peak body will represent the Indigenous housing sector's interests, providing advocacy and connection to government," she said.

"Their extensive knowledge and geographically diverse backgrounds will provide unique insights into the housing challenges and opportunities for communities

across Queensland.

"Establishing this peak body builds on our government's commitment to addressing some of the unique challenges First Nations people face in accessing appropriate sustainable housing.

"This group will continue to be a guiding force, working with the sector to deliver a program of work including workforce development initiatives and building organisational capacity."

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland chief executive Neil Willmetts said housing providers now had a peak body to advocate for them in Brisbane and Canberra.

"Today, everyone wins," he said.

"The Queensland Government wins because they will have a trusted partner and importantly, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community wins because we will fight to address their housing needs."

Coalition to make First Nations media stronger



THE Queensland First Nations Media Coalition (QFNMC) was launched last week at Parliament House to provide a statewide integrated approach to Indigenous media.

The new body, consisting of 10 Indigenous media outlets across the state, was formed under the National Coalition of Peaks in direct response to several Closing the Gap target reforms.

The reforms include culturally relevant messages to be developed and shared by Indigenous organisations and communities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

QFNMC director Jyi Lawton said the formation of the body was significant.

"We are honoured to launch the QFNMC to voice and provide a state perspective in relation to Indigenous media in Queensland," he said.

The event was launched by the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Craig Crawford and attended by other MPs, including Leeanne Enoch, Mark Bailey, Lance McCallum, Cynthia Lui and Dr Chris Sarra, the director-general, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait



Queensland Government ministers with the inaugural board of directors of the Queensland First Nations Media Coalition.

Islander Partnerships.

There was significant sector support present with *Koori Mail* general manager Naomi Moran, chairperson of First Nations Media Australia, and representatives of

Indigenous community-controlled organisations in attendance.

"We identified the need for an integrated approach to provide consistent communication and messaging to our

community through the media," Mr Lawton said.

"We are stronger together.

"Communication and how information is not only disseminated to communities throughout Queensland, but that the information is understood, plays a vital role in addressing Closing the Gap targets and outcomes as well as providing a vehicle for ongoing engagement with community."

Mr Lawton said that QFNMC was determined to build upon the strengths of the previous body in Queensland (First Peoples Media Alliance) to promote the development and sustainability of media as an essential service.

QFNMC consists of key Indigenous media organisations: Torres Strait Island Media Association, Thursday Island; Buma Bippa Media, Cairns; Townsville Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation, 4K1G; Mackay and District Aboriginal and Islander Media Association, My105; Radio 4US, Rockhampton; Brisbane Indigenous Media Association; Mount Isa Aboriginal Media Association, MobFM; Cherbourg Radio; Bidjara Media and Broadcasting Company, 4RRFM, Charleville and National Indigenous Radio Service.

Researchers are awake to the benefits of sleep



DESPITE the well-established link between poor sleep and mental health, sleep has never been the focus of targeted intervention for improving the mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The first-ever comprehensive report on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's sleep health highlighted 18% prevalence of poor sleep in Indigenous youth, increasing the risk of emotional and mental health problems.

Therefore, according to Dr Yaqoot Fatima, timely prevention, diagnosis, and sleep management can reduce the risk and severity of mental health issues in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth and improve opportunities for living life to the fullest potential.

Recognising the untapped potential of sleep, Dr Yaqoot Fatima is collaborating with Aboriginal Elders in Mount Isa to co-design and deliver a sleep improvement program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth adolescents.

The research team will draw on published evidence and their previous research and conduct community consultations with Aboriginal Elders, parents and carers, youth and service providers to develop the program.

The team will also engage with Torres Strait Islander people to incorporate their views in the program.

The program will integrate scientific and traditional



Community Elders and research team members who are leading a sleep project in Mount Isa.

knowledge and will be responsive to local needs and challenges.

Two Aboriginal youth workers from the community are employed for this project and receiving on-the-job training and education to become 'sleep coaches' and deliver the program to young people in the community.

This work will develop novel resources and tools for sleep health improvement, generate robust evidence and work as a catalyst for incorporating culturally appropriate sleep health programs in mental health and wellbeing services.

The community Elders who play a leading role in this project were asked why this sleep is important for young people and

how sleep health can be improved.

One Elder commented, "It affects their social wellbeing, neurology of the brain."

Others suggested that young people need routine.

"They need routine. If they haven't got that at the house, it impacts on our young people, their health and social wellbeing."

All Elders involved in the project agreed that developing healthy sleep habits from early years is important. Therefore, empowering parents and carers should be a high priority.

Elders perceive that socio-demographic disadvantages, overcrowding, domestic violence, drug and alcohol issues, and lack of services are the key reason

people in the community are experiencing high rates of poor sleep.

Some said that, in addition to these factors, one of the reasons children and young people are not sleeping well is because parents or carers are not listening to them.

One Elder shared, "My grandson brings the bike over so I can fix it with him. He knows I will listen to him. I let them take the wheel off. I spend time with them. Listening to them is important."

The Elders also agreed that mainstream services or the programs would not work in the community.

"Aboriginal culture is very different to Westernised way. We

are deeply connected to living on the land and to the country. Don't put us in a box.

"We need to co-design, using Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspective."

The research team includes senior researchers from the University of Queensland, James Cook University, La Trobe University, University of Western Australia, Central Queensland University and Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute.

The project is funded by the Medical Research Future Fund grant. The program will be offered in partnership with Young People Ahead – a youth organisation that promotes the housing, safety, education, health, and support needs of Mount Isa.

Nari Nari mob purchase new defibrillators



NARI Nari Tribal Council has received funding from both the NSW Office of Sport and energy company Transgrid to purchase life-saving automated external (portable) defibrillator machines.

Transgrid provided support as part of their Community Partnerships Program, funding the purchase of two defibrillators for use on country at Gayini Conservation Area and Toogimbie Indigenous Protected Area (IPA).

The NSW Office of Sport's Local Sport Defibrillator Program sponsored the purchase of an additional unit for community

sporting use, and Nari Nari purchased a fourth unit.

IPA project manager Tara Dixon said that Nari Nari Tribal Council was grateful to both Transgrid and the NSW Government for their support.

"Our lands are isolated and these machines will potential save the lives of staff and Elders," she said.

A defibrillator is a life-saving device which delivers a controlled shock to an individual experiencing cardiac arrest, increasing their chances of survival.

Behind cancers, cardiovascular disease – including heart attack and stroke – is the leading cause of death in Aboriginal Australians.



Mark Brettschneider, Tiem Wilson and Tara Dixon from Nari Nari Tribal Council with life-saving defibrillator equipment.

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An Australian Government Initiative

Tjindu Foundation launched to drive positive change for young people in SA

By PETER ARGENT



THE Tjindu Foundation was launched in Adelaide earlier this year to drive positive change for Aboriginal youth and their communities through cultural education and supporting success in schooling.

The Foundation was the vision of the man behind the Port Adelaide Aboriginal Academy Paul Vandenberg and fellow Ceduna export April Lawrie, the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People SA, who co-chairs the educational organisation.

A proud Mirning and Kokatha woman, April Lawrie said that the Tjindu Foundation is SA's first Aboriginal-led not-for-profit.

"We are looking forward to engaging and working alongside government, private sector and community groups to achieve our objectives, which are primarily to drive positive change for Aboriginal youth and their communities through cultural education and supporting success in schooling," she said.

The Foundation partners include the Federal Government, through the National Indigenous Australians Agency, the SA Government, AFL Max, SEDA College and Northpoint Toyota.

"Ninety per cent of board members are Aboriginal and all our staff have an indigenous heritage, which is an important component as well," Mr Vandenberg said.



Tjindu Foundation co-chair April Lawrie and director of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation in SA, former Koori Mail editor Kirstie Parker.

"It's a proud moment for a couple of people from the far west coast town of Ceduna, to be chairing such a foundation, which is driving positive and powerful outcomes for our people.

"On a personal note, to have the two women that have been my strengths along this journey, my mother and second mum, Sandra Miller and Aunty Ruth Miller, at the foundation launch, was pretty special."

Initially, the Tjindu Foundation will run two keystone programs – the Tjindu AFL Max Academy and Tjindu STRONG – which combine a variety of innovative sporting, leadership, health, and cultural wellbeing initiatives.

Another new enterprise the

Tjindu Foundation is going operate is business-targeted cultural awareness workshops to allow workplaces to develop literacy and familiarity with South Australia's unique Aboriginal cultures.

The staff at Tjindu include Ngarrindjeri and Narungga woman Kellie Graves, as general manager, Arabana man Wade Thompson, the senior project officer.

The board includes Kurna, Narungga, Ngadjuri and Ngarrindjeri man Dale Agius, Narungga woman Tamia Blackwell from the Yorke Peninsula, Queensland girl Katy Bone, Nicole Hillier, Brenz Saunders, Nukunu and Kokatha women Lauren Turner and the Principal of Immanuel College for 18 years, Kevin Richardson.



Tjindu Foundation co-chair Paul Vandenberg with his mother Sandra Miller and Aunty Ruth Miller.

Anthea lets nothing stand in the way of her passion



THERE were times it felt impossible, but for Indigenous young mum Anthea Cartwright, she wouldn't let anything stand in the way of her passion for law.

And the determination has paid off.

Last month Ms Cartwright was admitted as a lawyer in the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory in Darwin.

The proud Kunibidji woman from Maningrida in north-east Arnhem Land, completed her Bachelor of Laws across six years with CQUniversity, while based in Hervey Bay, Queensland.

The hectic time also saw Ms Cartwright grow her family to five kids, take on a full-time role as an Indigenous teacher aide, and live a long distance from her Top End community.

"There were definitely times it felt impossible and I felt like giving up, but I had that dream from being a young girl, that I want to be a lawyer," she said.

"I did everything online, all my Zoom sessions with my tutor, all my oral and video assignments online. It was the only way I could have done it."

Living in Hervey Bay, Ms Cartwright said initially she'd travelled to Maryborough for exams.

"I remember once I took my husband and



Anthea Cartwright's passion for conservation led to her studying law.

my newborn with me, then fed the baby just before the three-hour exam, then the baby sat for three hours with my husband in the car, then I came out and fed again, and then we drove home," she said.

"Looking back you have no idea how you did it, but now it's all worth it!"

"Lecturers like Professor Stephen

Colbran, and Wayne Jones, Anna Farmer, Dr Amanda Stoker (now a federal senator) and Dr Anthony Marinac were so supportive. It was great to have really knowledgeable and wise people around you."

She also recalls Hervey Bay lawyer and lecturer John Milburn (acting magistrate) offering local students a weekly tutorial at his law offices.

"Even though all the study was online, you didn't feel alone; there was community."

Ms Cartwright's interest in law began with her passion for conservation.

"I originally wanted to become a park ranger – and where I was living in the bush outside Darwin, they were doing a lot of mining there," she said.

"There's a really vulnerable species in that area, the red goshawk, and I spotted one of the birds there and reported it to conservation and land management authorities, and they weren't really interested.

"I realised you don't actually have much of say in protecting wildlife and heritage in a hands-on role, and my dad said to me maybe a lawyer can make more of a difference."

Ms Cartwright hopes to begin an environmental science degree once she's practising as a lawyer.

Now living back in Darwin with her family,

her efforts to get admitted included a six-month internship with the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency in Alice Springs.

Ms Cartwright's now looking for junior lawyer roles, and she hopes to also one day be admitted into the High Court of Australia.

All her five kids, husband and close family attended her Darwin admission ceremony, and Ms Cartwright said becoming a mum at 21, and her big family, was a vital part of her success.

"When I was studying, I was waking up at 3am to do an assignment, then cook a cake for lunchboxes, then run the dog on the beach, it was just go-go-go to keep up, but it gave me energy too," she said.

"I feel powerful being a mum, and now I've achieved what I set out to do, I've shown my kids anything is possible."

CQUniversity Dean of Law Professor Stephen Colbran paid tribute to Ms Cartwright's persistence.

"We all congratulate Anthea on her achievements.

"She's proven she has the passion for law, and brings incredible life experience and determination to the profession as well," he said.

CQUniversity's flexible Bachelor of Laws is available across three years full-time or four years part-time, and can be completed entirely online.

Laree drawn to landscape



LAREE Barney, a proud Kalkatungu woman with connections to Winnam, has been awarded the QUT Indigenous Landscape Architecture scholarship for 2021, after impressing the interview panel with her mature outlook and passion for design.

First established at the University of NSW in 2017, Arcadia Landscape Architecture offers scholarships for Indigenous students to study landscape architecture at eight universities nationally.

Alex Longley, founding principal of Arcadia Landscape Architecture, said that Arcadia established the scholarship to increase the representation of Indigenous practitioners in the landscape architecture industry.

"Having Indigenous students like Laree, on their own personal journey to further develop their understanding of country and heritage, share their knowledge and perspective with their peers, will increase our industry's capacity to connect and care for country," Alex said.

Laree Barney has commenced her first year of landscape architecture at QUT and will be supported with studio experience and mentoring from the Arcadia Queensland team.

"I am honoured to have been awarded Arcadia's scholarship while I'm studying landscape architecture at QUT," she said.

"I was drawn to this degree because I am passionate about sustainability, design, and the



Laree Barney has been awarded the QUT Indigenous Landscape Architecture scholarship for 2021.

ongoing care of country using First Nations knowledge."

When Arcadia principals Alex Longley and Michael Barnet, realised the poor representation of First Peoples in landscape architecture, they launched the Arcadia Indigenous Landscape

Architecture Scholarship to address this issue.

The intention of the scholarship is to encourage Indigenous students to enter landscape architecture, as proper representation of Indigenous people in this industry will

increase the capacity to care for country and connect with country and place and to create better performing, more meaningful spaces which share stories and knowledge, allowing for true custodianship and care.

The scholarship is currently

offered through Deakin University, Queensland University of Technology, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, University of New South Wales, University of Western Australia, University of Canberra, University of Melbourne and the University of Technology Sydney.

All Indigenous students enrolled in an AILA-accredited Landscape Architecture program are eligible to apply for an Arcadia scholarship. Each scholarship will provide support to each student for the duration of the course. This scholarship will be available to one student per university, per year.

"Arcadia's approach to Indigenous country, heritage and culture goes beyond project-based work," Alex Longley said.

"It is about learning, establishing and maintaining community partnerships, supporting Indigenous advancement in design, and building our team's capacity.

"From establishing Australia's first Indigenous Landscape Architecture Scholarship, to partnerships with Indigenous initiatives, in-house staff cultural training and our ongoing employment and mentoring of Indigenous professionals, Arcadia prides ourselves on being at the forefront of our industry in engagement, advancement and collaboration with our First People. As a part of an ongoing process of trust building, knowledge exchange and partnership forming, we have the ability to collaborate and engage with our Indigenous communities."

Theresa earns her NT inspector's card



A MALAK Malak ranger working in the Daly River region has become the first female ranger to receive a Fisheries inspector card in the Northern Territory.

Theresa Lemon participated in Certificate III Fisheries Compliance training over 12 months, which included learning and applying skills on country.

The training was carried out by Fisheries NT to support Aboriginal Sea Rangers with additional powers to protect country.

Fisheries inspectors are appointed to assist in fishery conservation, management and enforcement. They monitor and investigate fishing activity, equipment and suspected illegal activity.

Ms Lemon will also prepare evidence for police on matters that may require enforcement, and provide fisheries educational material to local fisherman and the community.

She is the seventh ranger to be appointed as a Fisheries



Theresa Lemon has received her Fisheries inspector card.

inspector in the Territory.

All up, 32 Aboriginal rangers have undertaken Certificate III Fisheries compliance training facilitated by NT Fisheries and delivered by the Australian Maritime Fishing Academy.

So far, 198 rangers have successfully undertaken Certificate II training.

NT Minister for Parks and Rangers Selena Uiibo congratulated Theresa.

"Her appointment will inspire many more Aboriginal women rangers across the Territory to become Fisheries inspectors,"

Ms Uiibo said. "Our environment and natural resources are among our greatest assets.

"The Daly River alone hosts a diverse habitat that attracts thousands of local and visiting anglers each year. Theresa will continue to support this environment in her new role, carrying out important work to conserve these resources.

"Our Aboriginal rangers do an amazing job on country to keep our environment healthy. This is why the Territory Labor Government is committed to supporting them."

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UniSA has a long-standing aim that Aboriginal Peoples comprise at least 3% of its workforce and is committed to improving

employment opportunities, supporting professional development, and creating a culturally safe and supportive workplace for Aboriginal staff members.

How to Apply

For a copy of the position description and to apply, please visit: unisa.edu.au/WorkingatUniSA. For further information about the position or the recruitment process, you can contact the UniSA Recruitment Central Team on +618 8302 1700 or via email to recruitment@unisa.edu.au using job reference number 2956.

Applications close:
11:30pm Thursday 17 June 2021

Applications will only be considered from Australian Aboriginal Peoples for this position, under special measures pursuant to Section 56 of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act 1984. You will be required to provide evidence of your Aboriginal heritage in your online application form.

Black businesses making huge impact on economy



THE extent of Indigenous businesses' contribution to the Australian economy has been revealed – at least \$4.88 billion – in a first-of-its-kind research snapshot of the sector's diversity and impact.

The inaugural Indigenous Business Snapshot Study establishes the economic power of Indigenous businesses, using data pooled from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and numerous custodians of Indigenous business data to form the Indigenous Business Longitudinal Analysis Data Environment (I-BLADE).

Head of the University of



Michelle Evans

Melbourne Indigenous Business Research Group and research lead Associate Professor Michelle Evans said that for the first time, comprehensive evidence had quantified the Indigenous

business sector's economic strength, providing insights into its social and cultural impact.

"This research is truly unprecedented," she said. "It shows us that Indigenous businesses bring not just significant economic impact, but far more. They contribute employment and deliver services to Indigenous communities including health and education services in a culturally sensitive manner that is essential for ensuring trust and accessibility of service for Indigenous people who rely on them."

"They also often punch above their weight when compared to other businesses in terms of size, employee numbers and higher

wages. On top of that, the sector is growing more quickly."

The study examined data from financial year 2006 to financial year 2018. Over that time there was a 74% increase in the number of Indigenous businesses, 115% growth in gross income, and more than 22,000 jobs created – a 100% increase.

In 2018, gross income for the sector was \$4.88 billion, more than Australia's beer industry (\$4.3 billion).

Associate Professor Evans said that while the figures in this research proved the significance of Indigenous business to Australia, over coming years it would paint an annual picture of the sector's scope and strength,

with contributions from those in the community itself playing a key role in its future success.

"This snapshot will capture an image of the Indigenous business sector each year – from community, government, corporate, banking, education, to investment stakeholders – informing the sector ecosystem. Critically, it will show the impact of focused sector support, such as the introduction of Indigenous preferential procurement programs," she said.

The Indigenous Business Research Group is a collaboration between the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Business and Economics and Melbourne Business School.

Kerrie's course plants a seed



GOMEROI woman Kerrie Saunders was working part-time at Woolaway Wines in Moree, tending the vegetable garden for owner Andrew Amos, when she enrolled in a Certificate II in Horticulture at TAFE to learn more about plants.

When she met TAFE NSW horticulture teacher Paul Moxon, a former bushfood nursery owner, it sparked a passion for bushfoods and launched a whole new career.

"When Paul took me out on country to learn more about bush tucker, that's when the connection happened. I felt like I was home," Kerrie said.

"It was instant."

"The Amos family were good mentors to me, encouraging me and treating me like family, but learning about my country gave me a different sense of belonging. Being Aboriginal and finding that connection to the land, it changes you completely."

Mr Moxon said he knew Kerrie was a natural with bushfoods right from the very beginning.

"She was outstanding from day one. She has a really good eye for identifying plants, which is exactly what you need. If you're going to be using bush tucker for eating and medicine you need to be really sure about what your plants are," Mr Moxon said.

"And she hasn't just worked hard at TAFE NSW. Kerrie took the subject to heart and now she's living it 24/7. She is an extraordinary person and it's been amazing to see her transformation. As a teacher, it's wonderful to have a student who has that passion, who has that light in their eyes."

Having found a love for and affinity with bushfoods, Kerrie established her own business Yinarr-ma – meaning 'women of known information' – to offer bushwalking and bushfood tours as well as treating tourists to bushfood cooking.

Kerrie capitalises on the tourist trade that travels to Moree for its artesian baths and is constantly adapting her business based on their feedback. She is also getting interest from local groups and services.

"I did tea and damper for an Anzac



Kerrie Saunders on country with her grandnieces Myeasha Draper, Jameliah Saunders and Shiara Saunders.

Day ceremony recently, I'm working with the local health service doing bushfood tours for mums and bubs, and I've got interest from the schools," Kerrie said.

"There are so many services in Moree

trying to help Aboriginal people and I'm very happy to work with them to share my culture and knowledge.

"I understand how learning about country can make people feel good again

and I can share the experience of what I've learnt."

Kerrie is also now working three days a week at the University of Sydney's Plant Breeding Institute in Narrabri on a research project called Indigenous Grasslands for Grain.

"They are reproducing the local native grains and seeds people would have traditionally used for baking and making things like johnny cakes and dampers," Mr Moxon explained.

"Kerrie is harvesting the grasses, processing them, milling the grain, turning it into flour and cooking with it."

"It's the full process."

"She recently held a bush tucker pizza day in Moree and she made the dough from local native seed, then put native fruits and herbs on top."

"It's extraordinary. She's become very accomplished."

Kerrie has also completed a Statement of Attainment in Aboriginal Site Work at TAFE NSW and now undertakes work identifying Aboriginal sites for the Local Aboriginal Land Council.

She is also a founding member of the Moree Urban Landcare Group, which is planting trees and restoring the banks of the Mehi River.

Kerrie's vision is to have a piece of land she can regenerate and build a native bushfood garden to run her business, create a shop and café, and train local Aboriginal young people.

"To understand bushfoods and to cook with them, you have to know what's in season and where it is. Once you learn that knowledge, it's good for your mind and good for your mental wellbeing. And I want other people to feel that too," she said.

Kerrie said TAFE NSW was the catalyst for a journey she had been waiting a lifetime to make.

"When I was a young girl, I worked in the cotton fields for 20 years, picking out weeds, and back then I didn't know what was weeds and what was bush tucker," she said.

"Now I understand my own landscape and people are interested in the knowledge I have to share. I feel proud to be Aboriginal and proud to be connected to my country."

"I finally feel like I belong."

Acclaimed novel slated for screen



WIRADJURI author Tara June Winch's award-winning book *The Yield* has been optioned for screen adaptation by Typecast Entertainment.

The project is currently slated for development, with Yorta Yorta/Wurundjeri man Tony Briggs (*The Sapphires*) co-writing alongside acclaimed screenwriter Kodie Bedford (*Mystery Road*).

Tony Briggs and Damien Pradier will co-produce for their company Typecast Entertainment.

The Yield follows Albert 'Poppy' Gondiwindi, who takes pen to paper, knowing that he will soon die. His life has been spent on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River at Prosperous House, on Massacre Plains. Albert is determined to pass on the language of his people and everything that was ever remembered.

August Gondiwindi has been living on the other side of the world for 10 years when she learns of her grandfather's death.

She returns home for his burial, wracked with grief and burdened with all she tried to leave behind.

Her homecoming is bittersweet as she confronts the love of her kin and news that Prosperous is to be repossessed by a mining company.

Determined to make amends, she endeavours to save their land – a quest that leads her to the voice of her grandfather and into the past, the stories of her people, the secrets of the river.



Tony Briggs

Rights to *The Yield* have been licensed in North America and the United Kingdom, France, The Netherlands, Germany and China.

"We feel very privileged that Tara June Winch has trusted us with this important and powerful story of language, culture and survival," Tony Briggs said.

"This layered story is a homage to Aboriginal language in a way that we haven't seen before, and we're excited



Tara June Winch

to be working with Kodie Bedford in bringing these rich characters to life."

Tara June Winch said that she was thrilled to hand over *The Yield* to esteemed artists Tony and Kodie at Typecast.

"I hope this story reaches a wider audience, and adds to our strong Australian film industry, while continuing a dialogue on the importance of Indigenous land and language preservation globally," she said.



Mitch King's yarn about Yaegl country *Flow* premieres at Norpa in Lismore in July.

Mitch King goes with the flow



MITCH King is a Yaegl Bundjalung man with a story to tell.

In *Flow*, Mitch takes the audience deep into country to discover ancient stories and the power of music, family and connection.

Joined on stage by long term collaborator and sound artist Blake Rhodes, Mitch tells his story inspired by community, country and the first clan group in NSW to have their native title rights over the ocean recognised, with the successful Yaegl claim in Yamba.

Told through contemporary dance, poetry, visual imagery and rap, *Flow* is a new dreaming, strengthening respect for Eldership and engaging young people in the living traditions held in local ancestral stories.

Flow is a yarn about Yaegl country and neighbouring nations within NSW. It's a tale of searching and finding identity in music, urban culture and nature, an ancient story acknowledging how and why water flows through this region and its cultural significance.

Flow will be staged at Norpa in Lismore on July 1-3.

It all begins with *Country in Mind*



A NEW exhibition at the University of the Sunshine Coast gallery in Sippy Downs celebrates many different ways that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make works of art about country.

The exhibition, called *Country In Mind*, has been curated by Christopher Bassi (pictured) – an artist of Meriam (Torres Strait), Yupangathi (Cape York) and British descent – and features works that are primarily from the USC Art Collection.

Mr Bassi said the exhibition included art from the Central Desert, the Kimberley, Arnhem Land and the Gulf country.

"For First Nations people the term 'country' is used as an expression of the relationship between an individual and their ancestral lands and seas," he said.

"Connection to country is inherent: We are born to it. It is how we identify ourselves. It is our family, our laws, our inheritance and our legacy.

"The artists in this exhibition represent the land as the link between spirituality, culture, language, family, law and identity. In their work, country is the centre of an ontological compass from which knowledge systems evolve but stay inextricably tied to place.

"Representation of country is full of associative information connecting the past, present and future, which always begins with country in mind."

USC Art Gallery manager Megan Williams said USC was presenting this exhibition as part of a Connecting Stories program to showcase First Nations art and culture through exhibitions, public art, cultural tours, workshops, artist talks and events at south-east Queensland regional art galleries during May and June.

The *Country In Mind* exhibition will remain on show at USC until July 31.



Employment

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100+ Jobs program outdoes own target



AN employment assistance program run by Yawoorroong Miriuwung Gajerrong Yirrggeb Noong Dawang (MG Corporation) in the East

Kimberley has continued its success, with several program participants recently passing employment milestones.

The program, 100+ Jobs, launched in 2018, has exceeded its original expectations of assisting 100 of the East Kimberley's most disadvantaged and marginalised people to gain lasting employment, with 107 placements found so far.

The program, run by the Aboriginal Corporation that manages native title interests of the Miriuwung Gajerrong people, provides intense mentoring for participants, assisting them with anything they need to become job ready, from obtaining personal documents to writing job applications.

Miriwung Gajerrong man Ethan Cox is one of the program's success stories, recently celebrating his two-year milestone at Waringarri Media.

Ethan worked his way up to becoming a broadcaster, after starting with work experience and then completing a traineeship.

"100+ Jobs helped me with getting my birth certificate, driver's licence, police check and working with children check, which were a really important part of applying for and beginning my job," he said.

"They also provided good moral support as I lacked confidence, being fresh from school. I really needed that push of support."

Miriwung Gajerrong woman Rebecca Bray has also been assisted by the program and recently passed the 12-month



Miriwung Gajerrong man Ethan Cox has recently celebrated two years working at Waringarri Media.

milestone in her job as a legal secretary for the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia.

Rebecca had been a stay-at-home mum for seven years and was struggling to get back into the workforce before she connected with the 100+ Jobs team.

"I had the skills for an administration position, but I wanted to refresh my skills or possibly gain some new skills through employment and 100+

Jobs supported me throughout the pre-employment phase by contacting potential employers," she said.

"I think 100+ Jobs is a great way of getting our people into mainstream employment, and I would definitely recommend the program to someone who's been out of work and struggling to find a job."

The 100+ Jobs initiative currently has 304 people registered, including participants

in Kununurra, Halls Creek and Wyndham.

MG Corporation spokesperson Iona Sollitt said the success of the program provided hope and inspiration for Miriuwung Gajerrong people to overcome barriers to employment.

"Often we start with the basics, like obtaining their birth certificate, so they can take the first steps toward employment, and then we support them down

the path," she said.

"Some of the people engaged in this program come from families in which none of their family members are employed, so it is a great confidence booster for them personally to realise that they can get a job, as well as set an example for the younger members of their family."

The 100+ Jobs initiative is funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency.

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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Applications close 13 June 2021 at 11:59 pm (AEST)

Artists Services Officer

We are seeking 2 individuals to join Council as Artists Services Officers. One is being offered as a 3-year contract and the other as a 1-year contract. In this role, you will leverage your professional knowledge and experience in arts practice areas to manage the delivery of grants administration and provide exceptional client service to current and prospective applicants. To obtain further information about this position, please visit our careers page at <http://australiacouncil.gov.au/about/careers/>

Applications close 13 June 2021 at 11:59 pm (AEST)

First Nations person Cultural Site Work/ Land Management/ Civil Construction

- Environmental land Management
- Cultural Site Work
- Truck Driver HR/MC

Environmental land management - preferred experience / qualifications, but not essential willing to obtain.

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We value building meaningful relationships and work to build trust with families, communities and our partners.

Our Vision is for a connected, culturally rich and thriving community where Ngunya Jarjum support our local families to nurture their children, raise them on country, and preserve our culture and strength into the future.

The Office of the Children's Guardian has recently awarded Ngunya Jarjum five years accreditation giving great stability and further growth opportunities.

We are currently looking for a part-time Reception/Administration Officer to work 5 days a week in office, Monday to Friday 10am to 2pm.

Based in Lismore and reporting to the Finance Manager, your focus will be providing high quality reception and administration services to all internal and external clients. The key objectives of the role include:

- Provide outstanding customer service to all internal and external clients in the areas of reception, record management, filing and general administration;
- Provide administrative support services to all staff; and
- Assist and support the maintenance of files, spreadsheets and databases to ensure data integrity and accuracy.

You will need a qualification in business administration or be willing to obtain this within 12 months of commencement.

Please submit your resume and application letter outlining the following selection criteria:

- You identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Experience and skills in business support, administration or reception environment including a high level of computer literacy; sound working knowledge of Microsoft Office 365.
- Sound level of literacy and numeracy with demonstrated attention to detail
- Experience building relationships with service agencies, non-government organisations and community groups at all levels
- Demonstrated ability to engage and work effectively with Aboriginal people and communities
- Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to demonstrate empathy when required
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and to exercise tact, initiative and sound judgement
- Ability to work independently and as a team member demonstrating effective time management and personal organisational skills
- First Aid Certificate, or willingness to obtain within 3 months of commencement
- Current NSW Driver's licence (open licence only, not provisional)

Appointment to this position will be subject to a National Criminal History Record Check and Working with Children Check clearance. Two reference checks will be required including one recent supervisor.

A generous remuneration package will be negotiated plus superannuation, leave loading and salary sacrifice.

We offer an excellent range of benefits including:

- Full non-profit status with salary sacrifice available to reduce tax and increase your take home pay
- An opportunity to make a difference for Aboriginal Jarjum's and families across our community
- A beautiful location on the flourishing NSW North coast.

To find out more please contact Michelle Hicks on (02) 6626 3700 Human Resources Manager. All applications will be received via seek online or email recruitment@ngunyarjarjum.com

40 hour Fortnight Part-time 12 month maximum term contract available

The closing date for this role is 9am Wednesday 9th June 2021

This position is identified for Aboriginal people and exemption is claimed under 14d of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.



Manager Aboriginal Initiatives

- Department of Education
- Clerk Grade 11/12
- Ongoing appointment
- Identified role for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders only
- Parramatta location

\$164,699 Package includes salary (\$128,473 to \$148,578), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the Department of Education

We ensure young children get the best start in life by supporting and regulating the early childhood education and care sector. We are the largest provider of public education in Australia with responsibility for delivering high-quality public education to two-thirds of the NSW student population.

For more information about the Department of Education, please visit education.nsw.gov.au

About the role: Support the delivery of vocational education and training and employment programs and services to the community, apprentices, trainees, and their employers. It forms part of a team of staff providing regulatory, quality assurance, program administration and advisory functions to support the participation and completion of people in vocational education and training and related programs across the region.

Talent Pool

A talent pool may be created through this recruitment process. A talent pool is a group of candidates who have undergone an assessment process and have been identified suitable for this role or similar roles. The talent pool will be valid for a period of 18 months. Being part of a talent pool means that you may be considered for ongoing, temporary or term employment for a range of similar roles. This offers exciting opportunities for you to gain a wide range of experiences to build your public service career.

How to apply

If you are interested in this role, please apply online and include a covering letter (maximum of 2 pages) and your resume (maximum 5 pages) in either Word or PDF format, which clearly details how your capabilities, knowledge and experience can contribute to the success of the Directorate. Please also include the name and contact details of two referees. Please address any pre-screening questions and any essential requirements. We are looking for you to demonstrate your competence in the focus capabilities as outlined in the role description in your answer, so please develop your response with this in mind.

Note: it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online via iworkfor.nsw
No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

Note: Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977*.

Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent, identify as being Aboriginal and be accepted in the community as such. Applicants who have not previously identified for the purposes of employment with the Department are required to provide a Confirmation of Aboriginality from a recognised incorporated Aboriginal Community organisation endorsed with common seal and a certified statutory declaration as defined in the **NSW Department of Education Confirmation of Aboriginality Guidelines**.

The targeted questions include:

1. Describe a time when you managed a project from end to end? What process did you follow? What was the outcome? (300 to 400 words maximum)
2. Describe a time when you managed a workload and managed different deadlines? How did you manage it and what was the outcome? (300 to 400 words maximum)

Key Knowledge and Experience

Knowledge of and commitment to implementing the Department's **Aboriginal Education Policy** and upholding the **Department's Partnership Agreement with the NSW AECG** and to ensure quality outcomes for Aboriginal people.

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: 9 June 2021

Enquiries: Call Glen Gallagher on 0457 524 957.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw website and refer to the following keyword: 00008ALI.

*I work
FOR
NSW*

BLZ KHI200



Academic opportunities at Southern Cross University

(Indigenous Identified positions)

- Associate Professor in Indigenous Knowledge
- Senior Lecturer in Indigenous Knowledge
- Lecturer in Indigenous Knowledge
- Lecturer in Indigenous Education and Indigenous Knowledge

Applications are open for Indigenous academic opportunities within Southern Cross University's Gribi College of Indigenous Australian Peoples and Faculty of Education.

The appointees will undertake student centred teaching practice and development, and enhance the profile of the University through research grant and publication activities. The appointees will also be actively involved in, or leading, engagement with Indigenous organisations and communities.

We are seeking applications from candidates who are committed to enhancing the student experience and graduate outcomes, and display an innovative and energetic approach to teaching.

For more information about these opportunities please visit scu.edu.au/about/jobsscu/vacancies/

Applications close at 9am AEST, Tuesday, 15 June 2021



Work
FOR
NSW

Aboriginal Health Worker (Child and Family)

Department: South Western Sydney LHD
Employment Status: Temporary Full-Time
Remuneration: \$1,042.24 to \$1,535.05 per week
Enquiries: Anne King on (02) 9794 0235

In this role **Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.**

Stepping Up aims to assist Aboriginal job applicants by providing information about applying for roles in NSW Health organisations.

For more information, please visit: steppingup.health.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: 20 June 2021

Applications must be lodged electronically at healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com
Search for Job Ref Number: **REQ223941.**

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



Work
FOR
NSW

Identified

Aboriginal Health Practitioner

Location: Adamstown Campus, Adamstown
Enquiries: Sharyn Tyter on (02) 4924 6645
0428 406 812 or Sharyn.Tyter@health.nsw.gov.au
Closing Date: 9 June 2021
Reference ID: REQ231923

This position is identified for Aboriginal people and exemption is claimed under 14d of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*. Aboriginal applicants must demonstrate Aboriginality in addition to addressing the selection criteria.

Targeted

Recovery Clerk

Location: John Hunter Hospital - Recovery unit
Operating Theatres
Enquiries: Mitchell Griffin at Mitchell.Griffin@health.nsw.gov.au
Closing Date: 8 June 2021
Reference ID: REQ231252

Integrated Violence Abuse and Neglect Coordinator

Location: Tamworth Community Health Service
Enquiries: Melissa Johnstone at Melissa.Johnstone@health.nsw.gov.au
Closing Date: 9 June 2021
Reference ID: REQ232146

Safe Start District Coordinator

Location: Wallsend Campus
Enquiries: Melissa Johnstone at Melissa.Johnstone@health.nsw.gov.au
Closing Date: 9 June 2021
Reference ID: REQ232158

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 Dates: see above

Applications must be lodged electronically. Please go to healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com and search Job Reference Numbers above.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



Aboriginal Programs Officer

GEO Group Australia
We are the country's leading provider of outsourced correctional services, operating in NSW, QLD and VIC. GEO aims to deliver better corrections and create safer communities. We focus on providing a continuum of care and integration of services.

The Aboriginal Programs Officer will:

- Regularly facilitate an Aboriginal Programs Orientation session. Conduct Program Suitability Assessments and make associated referrals for Aboriginal programs and services at Ravenhall.
- Facilitate GEO's Aboriginal Programs with a focus upon enhancing connections to family and culture.
- Work collaboratively with Aboriginal community organisations to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners receive timely access to appropriate cultural programs and services at the Centre.
- Work collaboratively with GEO, Alliance Partners and health services staff to facilitate integrated service delivery and Ravenhall's continuum of care.
- Provide consultation, advice and training on issues related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.
- Provide individual support to Aboriginal prisoners as required including assistance related to reintegration, family re-connection and community support

Ravenhall Correctional Centre
Ravenhall Correctional Centre is a medium security men's prison which opened in November 2017 in Victoria. Ravenhall will redefine the role of the modern prison. It's unique design and service model provides an unprecedented emphasis on offender rehabilitation and reintegration.

For more information about our organisation and Ravenhall Correctional Centre, visit our website at: www.geogroup.com.au

For the full version, including the Position Description please visit our website: <https://ravenhall.applynow.net.au/jobs/GEO1851-aboriginal-programs-officer>

Applications close Sunday 20th June 2021.

Make a real difference – Apply Now!



Work
FOR
NSW

Seeking a Temporary Full-Time (until June 2022) Aboriginal Administration Traineeship Finance & Performance in Wagga Wagga

Location: Murrumbidgee Local Health District

Over the next 12 months, Trainees will have the opportunity to learn and practice a range of key administration skills whilst gaining insight into a rural and remote health service as we work towards better health outcomes for our communities.

Whilst undertaking full-time paid work, you will study to complete your Certificate III in Business Administration with a mentor and ongoing support to help make the most of your time in the program.

Throughout the traineeship, you will work within a multi-disciplinary team to:

- Provide general administrative support, while maintaining privacy and confidentiality
- Assist colleagues and patients with enquiries
- Develop computer, technology, and office skills
- Develop communication and organisation skills
- Develop independence, time management, and study skills

You will also have the opportunity to talk with other Aboriginal employees about their pathway to working in health and consider the range of study and career opportunities that exist with our Local Health District.

- 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 descent.
- Stepping Up aims to assist Aboriginal job applicants by providing information about applying for roles within NSW Health. For more information, please visit: steppingup.health.nsw.gov.au

Applications close: 18 June 2021

Follow MLHD on FB, LI and Instagram and visit mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/careers

To learn more please visit:

jobs.health.nsw.gov.au/mlhd/jobs and search for Requisition ID **REQ231683.**

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS

Sheriff's Aboriginal Liaison Officer

- Based at Sheriff's Office Victoria (Ringwood)
- 1 x Full Time, Fixed Term role – contract until 11 March 2022 (leave backfill)

This is an Aboriginal Designated Position, classified under 'special measures' of section 12 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. Only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply.

The Sheriff's Office Victoria are recruiting a Sheriff's Aboriginal Liaison Officer (SALO) to support the Department's objectives to improve justice outcomes for Koori communities.

The SALO is a multifaceted role. It is focused on facilitating better outcomes for Koori clients in addressing their outstanding infringement matters (including infringement fines and warrants). In addition, the SALO works to build relationships, foster links and enhance communication and interactions between Sheriff's officers and local Koori communities.

Our ideal candidate will have a demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the Victorian Koori community's society and culture, including the issues impacting on it. Experience in communicating sensitively and effectively with the Victorian Koori community will be important, as well as experience in the management of developing and implementing stakeholder initiatives.

This role will benefit from a candidate that has sound communication and interpersonal skills, including the ability to be well organised in monitoring yourself and your team's performance.

For more information, and to apply for this role, go to www.careers.vic.gov.au and type in Job ID DJ9256. Click on the Apply Now button on this advertisement. Applications should include a resume and cover letter that details your motivation for applying and includes the skills and attributes you would bring to the role.



Justice
and Community
Safety

**Department
of Justice and
Community Safety**
Valuing Diversity

Anglicare Victoria



CASE MANAGER ACMS

Full-time, until April 2022

Excellent opportunity to join our Adolescent Case Management Service (ACMS). Provide focused support to make positive changes and improve the wellbeing of young people aged 12-17yrs who are involved with Child Protection.

Enquiries to: Victoria Kulyk, Team Leader on 9334 1202.

7 June 2021

To view PD and application details, please visit careers on our website.

1300 889 335 | anglicarevic.org.au

BETTER TOMORROWS

Djirra

Aboriginal Community Controlled
Culturally Safe
Prevention of Family Violence
Legal Services and Holistic Support
Cultural and Wellbeing Workshops
Policy and Advocacy

Paralegal Support Worker Coordinator
(Full time, ongoing)

Djirra is experiencing enormous growth at the moment. The Aboriginal Family Violence Legal Service (AFVLS) is a program of Djirra and a new position has been created for a Paralegal Support Worker Coordinator to provide supportive and effective leadership and guidance to the paralegal team. This position will ensure services provided to our clients are delivered in a consistent and professional manner in accordance with our service model. This position will work in collaboration with the Legal Services Manager and the Managing Lawyers to ensure that the legal team is appropriately supported. You will also be involved in creating the best possible learning opportunities to complement and support both emerging and existing expertise within the paralegal team.

For further information please go to:
<https://djirra.org.au/get-involved/work-with-us/#join-our-team>

Australian National University

Postdoctoral/Research Fellow (Implementation)

- Academic Level A or B
- Full-time, fixed-term for 2 years; part-time hours may be considered.
- Canberra ACT
- \$73,309 - \$113,165 plus 17% superannuation

A small and motivated team in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Program is seeking a postdoctoral research fellow to conduct implementation research on the early identification and management of chronic disease for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The program of work is community focussed and strengths-based and will contribute to national health policy and practice.

If you have research experience, alongside capabilities in community engagement within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector, we want to hear from you. A PhD or Masters is not a pre-requisite; **candidates with equivalent employment experience in the fields of health services and public health are encouraged to apply. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.**

For further information and to apply, go to
<https://jobs.anu.edu.au/cw/en/job/540407/postdoctoralresearch-fellow-implementation>

Applications close Tuesday 15th June 11:55pm AEST

AMaGA Victoria

Would you like to join an important collection digitisation project at Hamilton Gallery?
(Indigenous identified role)

Australian Museums & Galleries Association Victoria (AMaGA Victoria) is excited to announce we have received funding through the Victorian Government's Working for Victoria initiative to provide employment opportunities for two Indigenous identified positions at Hamilton Gallery.

These roles will involve collection digitisation and management, with a focus on the documentation of Aboriginal cultural material.

The roles offer hands-on experience to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in regional communities who have lost their jobs and are keen to pursue careers in the creative and cultural sector.

Positions on offer: Two full-time fixed term three-month positions, located at Hamilton Gallery (1FTE equivalent)

Duration: 1 July 2021 – 30 September 2021

More information: <https://amagavic.org.au/employment>

Enquiries: Julie Fenley on 0418 308 402 or at jfenley@amagavic.org.au

Closing date: COB 21 June 2021

Partner organisations: AMaGA Victoria, Creative Victoria and Jobs Victoria

Register for these positions at the **Working for Victoria** recruitment platform at:
<https://www.vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria>

I can help to create positive health outcomes through my work. I can work and live within my own community and be part of these changes, celebrating new initiatives and success stories. What motivates me is being part of an innovative culture and a friendly team, where I feel supported and can challenge myself to develop new skills and capabilities.

Aboriginal Health Practitioner
Yorke and Northern Local Health Network
Port Pirie Health Service
Job ref: 749848

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers

i can

...live and work in my community and make positive changes for Aboriginal people


Government of South Australia
SA Health

CARCLEW

Do you believe in the importance of creativity in the lives of all young people?

Carclew is recruiting 3 positions within its Arts Programs team.

Carclew is South Australia's largest multi-art form and cultural organisation dedicated to artistic outcomes by and for people aged 26 and under. Carclew is known nationally as a leader in youth arts and has been a huge part of many South Australians' lives for nearly 50 years.

Creative Producer, Arts Programs

Are you willing, able and excited by the prospect of supporting the creative projects, ideas and aspirations of young people?

The Creative Producer, Arts Programs will support young creatives to work with experienced mentors to transform Carclew house into a cultural hub. Outcomes will be youth-led events, live and digital, providing employment, professional development and connection focusing on access, equity and inclusion.

12-month part-time contract.

For further information, contact Georgie Davill, Senior Manager - Arts Programs (08) 8230 1112 or gdavill@carclew.org.au.

Senior Manager, Arts Programs

Are you excited by the prospect of leading a dynamic team committed to designing arts programs that make a difference?

The Senior Manager, Arts Programs, is a member of the leadership team, which guides development and implementation of whole-of-organisation strategic planning and delivery. This role is responsible for leading and supporting the Arts Programs team to resource, develop, implement and deliver a responsive and innovative arts program which meets organisational strategic directions and goals.

12-month full-time contract.

For further information, contact Tricia Walton, Chief Executive 0439 839 497 or twalton@carclew.org.au.

Program Officer, Arts Programs

The Program Officer works collaboratively across Carclew to deliver arts projects, which contribute to the implementation of organisational purpose and strategic objectives. The Program Officer assists in the delivery of arts projects and contributes to project planning and implementation including budgets and staffing.

12-month part-time contract.

For further information, contact Bethany Ashley-Ward, Manager - Arts Programs 08 8230 1104 or b.ashley@carclew.org.au.

Applications close Sunday 20 June 2021.

Visit carclew.com.au to download Job & Person specifications and pre-employment declaration form.

Applicants must:

- address the Job and Person specification Essential criteria
- provide a current CV
- provide two referees
- complete and include a pre-employment declaration form with their application.

Please send applications to Hana Fittes hffittes@carclew.org.au.

Interviews will take place in the week commencing Monday 28 June 2021.

Carclew is committed to fostering inclusiveness and embraces the diversity of all people, such as differences in cultural background, ethnicity, disability, age, faith, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic background or geographic location. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, CALD and people with disability are strongly encouraged to apply.



Murdi Paaki Services Ltd
(an initiative of Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly)

Chief Executive Officer

- Attractive Remuneration Package
- Salary Packaging available
- Based in Cobar

Murdi Paaki Services Ltd (MPSL) is seeking applications from motivated people interested in undertaking the role of Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

The Chief Executive Officer will effectively manage the operations and business of MPSL in accordance with the positions' operational functions and within the delegated authorities. In this capacity the CEO will provide accurate and sound advice to the MPSL Board and Chairperson to enable informed decisions and to ensure the implementation of the Board's decisions and resolutions in a timely and appropriate manner.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the Position Description and Selection Criteria and must address the selection criteria for their application to be considered. For a recruitment package contact the Administration Officer, Jasey Bruce by email: admin@mpsa.com.au, or for further information please contact Des Jones on 0439 931 769.

Applications can be forwarded to admin@mpsa.com.au or marked "Confidential" and posted to:

Chairperson
Murdi Paaki Services Ltd
PO Box 48
COBAR NSW 2835

Applications close 5pm, Wednesday 23rd June 2021.

This is an Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander identified position which is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

NSW GOVERNMENT | **I work FOR NSW**

Aboriginal Health Worker/ Practitioner (BSF) Aboriginal Children, Families and Communities – Narrandera

Requisition ID: REQ231462

Registered Nurse – Child and Family Health (BSF) Aboriginal Children, Families and Communities – Narrandera

Requisition ID: REQ231569

Registered Midwife Aboriginal Health/Maternal Infant Health Service – Narrandera

Requisition ID: REQ231556

Enquiries: Sabrina.Brown@health.nsw.gov.au
Applications Close: 11 June 2021
Department: Murrumbidgee LHD

Follow MLHD on FB, LI and Instagram and visit mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/careers

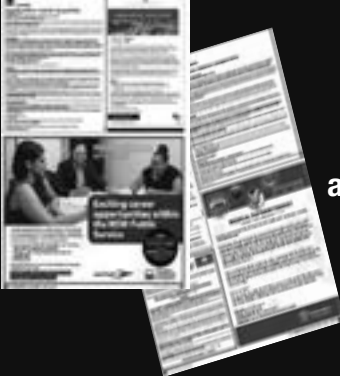
To learn more please visit:
jobs.health.nsw.gov.au/mlhd/jobs and search for Requisition IDs above.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

For all your advertising needs

email:
advertising@koorimail.com

or call
02 6622 2666



Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service (WACHS)

(Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health & Ageing)

Australian Nurse-Family Partnership Program (ANFPP)

Dubbo Positions

- Aboriginal Family Partnership Worker
- Registered Nurse and/or Midwife (Nurse Home Visitor)

Blacktown Position

- Registered Nurse and/or Midwife (Nurse Home Visitor)

The ANFPP is a comprehensive primary health care program, working with first time Mums having an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander baby from pregnancy through to the child's second birthday. The Aboriginal Family Partnership Worker and Nurse Home Visitor work closely together to develop therapeutic relationships with the client and her family, to meet the aims of the Program: Improving health through pregnancy and beyond; supporting clients to be the best parents they can be; and working with clients to develop a vision for their future. Successful applicants will be provided with core and additional training and education at a site and national level.

For details on these positions please review the information available at <https://www.wachs.net.au/work-with-us>.

Closing date is 22/06/2021.



**Exciting Management Role with Great Benefits!!!
(Salary up to \$65,000.00 plus Salary Sacrifice benefits)**

Are you looking for an exciting new challenge and have a desire to work directly with community members in a rewarding and fulfilling career? The Nungaroo Local Aboriginal Land Council (NLALC) are searching for an experienced and committed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who can take the organisation in a positive direction and accomplish a number of key projects that will secure the financial future of the NLALC. This role requires a person with key organisation and planning skills and an ability to multi task. You will be surrounded by a supportive and committed Board and Membership and have access to great salary benefits including salary sacrificing. The NLALC are one of the region's largest land owners and have unlimited potential in terms of economic and social development opportunities. For information on the position and to obtain a recruitment package please contact the contact officer Ally Patterson on 0437306344 or allypatterson79@bigpond.com to obtain further information.

Applications marked "Confidential" and posted to:

The Contact Officer
P.O. Box 28 Quirindi 2343 or e-mailed to above address.

Applications close COB: Monday 21st June 2021



i can

...make a positive contribution to Aboriginal Health

I can influence positive changes towards the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people in South Australia. My cultural knowledge and life experience will help to break down barriers and improve an understanding of the challenges facing Aboriginal people. At SA Health, my career is varied and diverse, enabling me to do truly meaningful and interesting work.

SA Ambulance Service

Patient Transfer Officer

Aboriginal Cadetship Program

Multiple positions – (Full-time Temp 12 months)

Job Ref: 758513

SA Ambulance Service (SAAS) is committed to increasing Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander participation in our workforce. Supporting our commitment is the opportunity for persons of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent to apply for our Patient Transfer Officer Aboriginal Cadetship Program.

The Cadetship is a 12-month Program that provides you with a culturally safe and supportive framework to assist you to successfully perform the role of Patient Transfer Officer with SAAS, whilst undertaking supported study and workplace orientation. You will be supported to respond to requests for non-emergency care and transportation of patients ensuring that appropriate standards of customer service and patient care are maintained.

If you enjoy helping others, being part of a strong and supportive team culture, and have excellent customer service skills, this position may be for you.

Join us at one of our Information Sessions to find out more about the role (including details of the Cadetship Program) and any special conditions.

For more information and to book your free ticket:

Scan QR Code or visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers, then search 'Patient Transfer Officer'.

In accordance with Section 56(2) of the Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (SA), applicants for this pool must be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Applications close: 10 June 2021

For more information and to apply visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers and search for Job Ref: 758513.



WM3289



Health

Justice Health and
Forensic Mental Health Network

**Aboriginal Health Workers
(Integrated Care Service)**

Location: Metropolitan Remand Centre, Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network

Classification: Aboriginal Health Worker

Employment Status: Permanent Full-time

Salary: \$54,220 to \$79,857 p.a plus employers contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading

Reference Number: REQ231861

Location: Mid North Coast, Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network

Classification: Aboriginal Health Worker

Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time

Salary: \$54,220 to \$79,857 p.a plus employers contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading

Reference Number: REQ231857

Location: Francis Greenway Correctional Complex, Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health

Classification: Aboriginal Health Worker

Employment Status: Permanent Full-time

Salary: \$54,220 to \$79,857 p.a plus employers contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading

Reference Number: REQ231862

All Enquiries: Madeline.Hill@health.nsw.gov.au

Closing Dates: 7 June 2021

Applications must be lodged electronically at iworkfor.nsw.gov.au

and search Job Reference Numbers

see above.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



**work
FOR
NSW**

**Part-Time Temporary or
Casual Roles – until July 2022
Suicide Prevention Outreach
Team/Safe Haven Mental Health
Clinician – Wagga Wagga**

Location: Murrumbidgee Local Health District

As a member of our team you will have the opportunity to work within talented multidisciplinary environments, have excellent support with ongoing development and access to key technologies connecting you with colleagues and consumers based throughout the District.

A specialised Mental Health Recovery Unit provides a large modern and comfortable facility and our community health services are co-located on the one Wagga Wagga campus.

- Career development and progression opportunities
- Affordable housing with remarkable commute times to our picturesque regional towns
- Genuine welcoming and supportive communities with a lifestyle second to none

This predominantly clinical position involves working within the Suicide Prevention Team including SPOT [Suicide Prevention Outreach Team] and Safe Haven services.

Working within a small team of peer workers and clinicians, the Suicide Prevention Team aim for a 'no wrong door' approach to ensure people have access to the support they need in a warm and welcoming, non-threatening environment.

Team members will be rostered to either SPOT or Safe Haven services dependant on availability and service need. The service will operate approximately 3-4 days per week with varying operating hours. After hours, evenings and weekend work will be a requirement of the role.

Applications close: 16 June 2021

Follow MLHD on FB, LI and Instagram and visit mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/careers

To learn more please visit:

jobs.health.nsw.gov.au/mlhd/jobs

and search for Requisition ID REQ230814.

Enquiries: Richard Parks, Coordinator, Towards Zero Suicides on 0477 710 846.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

MANAGER

**WONGKUMARA CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT
PLAN ("CHMP") WITH SANTOS LTD**

Expressions of Interest are invited from suitably qualified members of the Wongkumara People Native Title Claim Group QUD 52/2008 who wish to be considered for the position of the Wongkumara CHMP Manager.

There are 2 positions involving 2 weeks on 2 weeks off back to back. The position is based at Ballera in South West Queensland. The purpose of the position is to manage in country on behalf of the Wongkumara Endorsed Parties and Wongkumara People Native Title Claim Group the CHMP between the Wongkumara People and Santos Ltd. The skills required include a knowledge of Wongkumara Cultural Heritage, general organisational skills and computer skills. The required experience includes ability to identify cultural heritage, extensive prior participation in cultural heritage surveys and monitoring (including seismic), management of people and performance and project management.

Details of specific duties, wages and other conditions can be obtained from and expressions of interest including CV should be directed to Eddy Neumann at Eddy Neumann Lawyers, Level 1, 255 Castlereagh Street, Sydney NSW 2000, Telephone: (02) 9264 9933 Facsimile: (02) 9264 9966 Email: en@eddyneumann.com.au

It is intended the successful applicants will commence duties on 25 August 2021 and 9 September 2021.

Expressions of interest must be received by 25 June 2021.



**work
FOR
NSW**

**Aboriginal Education Consultant
(Health Manager Level 3)**

Department: Sydney Local Health District

Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time at The Centre for Education and Workplace Development at Rozelle

Remuneration: \$114,076 to \$130,046 pa

Enquiries: Rose Meiruntu on 0425 360 072

Aboriginality/Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under section 14(d) of the Anti Discrimination Act 1977.

Closing Date: 18 June 2021

Applications must be lodged electronically at healthnswgov.referrals.selectminds.com

Search for Job Ref Number: REQ231109.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

**Education Administration Support
Officer- Opportunities Available**

**BE a part of the Aboriginal
workforce at TAFE NSW**

- Are you passionate about **supporting students** in their studies?
- Do you want **education facilities** to better **reflect the communities** in which they operate?
- Are you committed to building the economy and **preparing the workforce** of tomorrow?
- Attractive salary and a range of **flexible working opportunities** available

Apply online

iworkfor.nsw.gov.au

Job reference number is: 000088ZA

**Applications close Sunday,
13 June at 11:59 pm.**



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Guyra Local Aboriginal Land Council

Chief Executive Officer

Salary Package - \$70,000

Are you looking for an exciting new challenge and have a desire to work directly with community members in a rewarding and fulfilling career? The Guyra Local Aboriginal Land Council (GLALC) are searching for an experienced and committed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who can take the organisation in a positive direction and accomplish a number of key projects that will secure the financial future of the GLALC. This role requires a person with key organisation and planning skills and an ability to multitask. You will be surrounded by a supportive and committed Board and Membership. For information on the position and to obtain a recruitment package please contact;

The Contact Officer Brenda Landsborough on (02)67791803 or Guyralalc@gmail.com to obtain further information.

Applications marked "Confidential" and posted to:
PO Box 215 Guyra NSW 2365 or email:
Guyralalc@gmail.com

Applications close at COB 16th June 2021.



Health
Justice Health and
Forensic Mental Health Network

Aboriginal Sexual Health and Harm Reduction Project Officer

Classification: Aboriginal Health Worker

Location: Malabar

Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time

Salary: \$54,220 to \$79,857 p.a plus employers contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading

Enquiries: Thomas.Wright2@health.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: 7 June 2021

Applications must be lodged electronically at iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search Job Reference Number **REQ231888**.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

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Family Assessment Consultant

Do you want more from your career? Like the chance to do important and interesting work, an exciting career path, excellent working conditions and a competitive salary and benefits package? Then we'd like to hear from you!

Legal Aid Queensland is an independent statutory authority funded by the state and federal governments. Legal Aid Queensland's vision is to be a leader in a fair justice system where people are able to understand and protect their legal rights. Our purpose is to provide quality, cost effective legal services to financially disadvantaged people throughout Queensland.

Our Family Law Services division gives legal help and support to children and adults experiencing family law issues including child protection, child support and maintenance, parenting issues, domestic and family violence, and divorce and property settlement. Where possible, we encourage people to resolve their problems without going to court by using our dispute resolution services. From helping children have a voice in the legal system through our separate representatives and independent children's lawyers, to representing people with complex disputes before the family law courts, this division plays an integral role in helping Queenslanders resolve their family law problems.

As a Family Assessment Consultant at Legal Aid Queensland your primary role will be the forensic assessment of families before the Federal Circuit Court of Australia, the Family Court, or the Childrens Court; with a further opportunity to conduct family dispute resolution conferences, if you are appropriately qualified. The role enables you to use your skills to critically assess and analyse the best interests of children and families, and to apply these skills within a legal setting. The role also offers the opportunity to assist with the professional development of others and to contribute to improvements to the legal aid and justice systems.

Salary: \$97,703 to \$105,086 a year full time hours (PO4) — plus leave, up to 12.75% superannuation & salary packaging benefits

Status: Permanent full time

Vacancy number: LAQ49/21

Location: Brisbane

How to apply:

All applications should be made online. For more details and an application package, visit www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au. If you experience any technical difficulties when accessing this website please contact 13 QGOV (13 74 68) All calls relating to the status of your application once the job has closed should be directed to the contact officer on the role description.

Applications close: 11 June 2021

We are an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to apply.

Join our team. Get a career that matters!



SICAD PROGRAM MANAGER

Full time /Part time neg. (\$70,000 to \$80,000 FTE plus super)

ARTS CENTRE PROGRAM MANAGER

Full time /Part time neg. (\$70,000 to \$80,000 FTE plus super)

OPERATIONS AND MARKETING MANAGER

Full time/Part time neg. (\$80,000 FTE plus super)

ARTS ADMINISTRATION COORDINATOR

0.6FTE (\$60,000 to \$65,000 FTE plus super)

Ku Arts is seeking talented and experienced people to become part of our dynamic creative and administrative team.

With an initial fixed term contracts, these roles offer flexible work arrangements; and will be full-time or part-time depending on the successful candidate and the experience and skills brought to the team.

Applications close Sunday 6th June 2021

For more information please visit the News page at www.theengagedspace.com.au or kuarts.com.au

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ALL THESE POSITIONS AND HOW TO APPLY, SEE OUR WEB AD ON THE KOORI MAIL WEBSITE UNDER JOBS & GENERAL WEB ADS



ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

V21/5232

Blue Mountains City Council takes pride in the partnership formed with Traditional Owners and First Nation people of the Blue Mountains to recognise the past with truth and honesty, and to work together for a better future. This role will lead delivery of Council's Caring for Country Service that seeks to improvement social, cultural and economic outcomes and protect Country 'Ngurra'.

Applicants should have relevant qualifications and/or experience. A successful candidate can demonstrate significant knowledge and experience engaging with Traditional Owners and the broader First Nations community to achieve social, cultural and economic outcomes. This is an identified position open to Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

Salary: commencing at \$3248.66 gross per fortnight.

For further information contact: Matthew Chambers on 4780 5694.

Closing date: 20 June 2021.

CONNECTING TO COUNTRY PROJECT OFFICER

(28hpw) V21/5233

The Connecting to Country Project Officer will further develop the BMCC Connecting to Country Program working with Aboriginal Traditional Owners to shape and implement a program which achieves cultural, social, spiritual and economic outcomes for Traditional Owners and the Aboriginal community on Country. The Connecting to Country Project Officer will also assist with the development of co-management relationships between the Traditional Owners and the Council.

Demonstrated understanding and experience working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and a good understanding of traditional and contemporary Aboriginal culture. This is an identified position open to Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

Salary: commencing at \$2235.39 gross per fortnight.

For further information contact: Michael Hensen on 4780 5471.

Closing date: 20 June 2021.

APPLICATION INFORMATION: It is preferred that you obtain the position description and information on how to apply from our website, www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au. Applications addressing the selection criteria, accompanied by a resume, references and copies of qualifications should be emailed to hresources@bmcc.nsw.gov.au prior to closing date. If you are unable to get access to a computer, hardcopy applications may be posted to Staff Applications, Blue Mountains City Council, Locked Bag 1005, KATOOMBА NSW 2780.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Internship Program

The NSW Director of Public Prosecutions is excited to announce the Office's new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Internship Program. The Office is seeking current Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Law students with an interest in criminal law to undertake paid employment whilst completing their Law degree.

The program provides opportunities and employment pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Law students by gaining invaluable first-hand experience in a prosecutorial environment and insight into the operation of the legal and criminal justice systems in NSW.

Positions in the program may be offered at ODPP locations across NSW depending on availability and operational requirements.

Closing Date: Sunday 27 June 2021 (midnight)

Enquiries: Mel Graczol, Deputy Solicitor for Public Prosecutions on (02) 9285 8672.

For further information, including the role description and how to apply online, please go to iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search using the job reference number **00008BHW**

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PROJECT MANAGER ASSISTANT PROJECT MANAGER (ABORIGINAL IDENTIFIED POSITION)

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR (ABORIGINAL IDENTIFIED POSITION)

HOUSING SUPPORT OFFICE (ABORIGINAL IDENTIFIED POSITION)

PORT MACQUARIE LOCATION

Located in Port Macquarie, Many Rivers Regional Housing (**Many Rivers**) is a leading not-for-profit provider of Aboriginal community housing services providing property management services for around 450 properties and support for the needs of tenants. Our vision is to Close the Gap in Aboriginal wellbeing through housing, partnerships and community development.

Many Rivers has recently secured significant funding to upgrade properties via the Aboriginal Community Housing Investment Fund (ACHIF). This is a large project that will bring positive outcomes for tenants, our partners and Many Rivers. We are now looking to recruit an experienced and passionate team to implement this project. Our footprint spans from the Hunter to the Queensland border and over the range to the Moore Plains and the New England. Some roles will require significant travel to site.

Project Manager: Provide leadership to the project team and accountable for all project delivery in a timely manner. Significant travel to site may be required.

Assistant Project Manager*: Support all project delivery including stakeholder relationships and trades management. Significant travel to site may be required.

Project Administrator*: Work closely with the project team to provide administration, finance and reporting support. Limited travel to site.

Housing Support Officer*: Deliver comprehensive and professional housing management services, including project support for smooth delivery. Significant travel to site may be required.

* These roles are Aboriginal identified positions and the successful candidates will be asked to provide confirmation of Aboriginality.

All positions are based in Port Macquarie on the beautiful Mid-North Coast of NSW. Most are fixed term contracts to 30 June 2022, with the possibility of extension.

Appointment to these positions will be subject to a National Police Check and a Working with Children Check.

We offer an excellent range of benefits including:

- Mentoring and support for career development and advancement
- Full non-profit status with salary sacrifice available to reduce tax and increase your take home pay
- An opportunity to work with a dedicated team
- A community-based culture and the opportunity to develop long-term relationships within the community

To find out more please contact Kelli Dragos from Abundance Human Resources on 0419 419 554. All applications will be received via seek.com.au.

The closing date for these roles is 9.00am on Wednesday, 16 June 2021.

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FOR SICK KIDS**





PROPOSAL TO GRANT PETROLEUM EXPLORATION PERMIT

SECTION 29 NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (COMMONWEALTH)

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 Petroleum Exploration Permit application/s applied for under section 31 of the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 (WA)*.

No.	Applicant	Area	Shire
STP-EPA-0174	BURU ENERGY LIMITED (ACN 130 651 437)	6291.9 km ²	ASHBURTON, KARRATHA

The application is located in the Northern Carnarvon Basin, near the townsite of Onslow. It extends along the coastline between Tubridgi Point and Cape Preston, west of the North-West Coastal Highway. The application includes 79 5' x 5' graticular blocks; all within the one million map sheet SF50 (Hamersley Range) for a total area of 6291.9 km². The north-east corner of the application (116°10'4.68"E ; 20°54'55.19"S) of the application is located in the coastal waters, approximately 10 kilometres south-west of Cape Preston and about 27.5 kilometres north-east of Balmoral homestead. The south-west corner of the application (114°45'4.70"E ; 22°4'55.36"S) is situated at approximately 32 kilometres north-west of Hope Point and about 62 kilometres south-west of Onslow. A technical description of the boundaries of the proposed permit area can be provided on request.

Nature of the act: The proposed act is the grant of a petroleum exploration permit pursuant to section 32 of the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 (WA)*. The permit, if granted, will authorise the permittee to explore for petroleum, and to carry on such operations and execute such works as are necessary for that purpose in the permit area for a term of 6 years from the date the grant becomes effective and to apply for renewals of the permit.

Notification day: 02 June 2021

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 **02 September 2021**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of Native Title Act 1993 (Cth). Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each petroleum exploration permit may be granted unless, within a period of 4 months after the notification day **02 October 2021**, a native title party lodges an objection with the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, or GPO Box 9973, Perth WA 6848, telephone (08) 9425 1000.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the application), contact the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or free call 1800 628 767 (ask for extension 23518).

DMIRS_2493

WaterNSW

Shoalhaven River Water Source

WaterNSW has received an application from **Gregory Charles SCARF** for an approval for a **Water Supply Work and Water Use**, for a 100mm submersible pump with a capacity of 0.97 litres/second at Lot 146 DP751262, Parish Burrawang, County Camden, and water use for irrigation at Lot 144 DP751262, Parish Burrawang, County Camden. The application relates to the Shoalhaven River Water Source, on Barrengarry Creek, subject to the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2011 Water Sharing Plan. Objections must be submitted in writing to WaterNSW, PO Box 309, Nowra NSW 2541 or to customer.helpdesk@waternsw.com.au Objections must specify the grounds of the Objection and contain the name, address and signature (or authentication) of the Objector. You may use the Objection form waternsw.com.au/advertising-and-objections. All Objections should reference Application Number A026612. Objections must be lodged with WaterNSW within 28 days of this Notice, please refer to the NSW Water Register ("closing date" column) for the final date to lodge an Objection. For enquiries contact Martin Holland, Water Regulation Officer, on 1300 662 077 or by email customer.helpdesk@waternsw.com.au. KH1220

WaterNSW

New South Wales Murray Regulated River Water Source

WaterNSW has received an application from **GAVIN JAMES HOPKINS and GWENDOLYN HOPKINS** to amend an approval for a **Water Supply Work** by replacing a work, with a 150mm pump with a capacity of 65 l/s an increase of 46 l/s at Lot 1 DP 1010380, Parish of Avoca, County of Wentworth. The application relates to the New South Wales Murray Regulated River Water Source, Darling River Wentworth Weir Pool, being that part of the river downstream of the River Murray at Picnic Point, subject to the Water Sharing Plan for the New South Wales Murray and Lower Darling Regulated River Water Sources 2016. Objections must be submitted in writing to PO Box 829, ALBURY NSW 2640 or customer.helpdesk@waternsw.com.au. Objections must specify the grounds of the Objection and contain the name, address and signature (or authentication) of the Objector. You may use the Objection form waternsw.com.au/advertising-and-objections. All Objections should reference Application Number AO26591. Objections must be lodged with WaterNSW within 28 days of this Notice, please refer to the NSW Water Register ("closing date" column) for the final date to lodge an Objection. For enquiries contact Stephanie Wight, Water Regulation Officer, on 1300 662 077 or by email customer.helpdesk@waternsw.com.au. KH1217

NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR

Stockton Groundwater Source

Boral Resources (NSW) Pty Ltd has applied for a **Water Supply Work Approval** for a bore with a capacity of 10 L/s, on Lot 1 DP 1006399 in the Parish of Stowell, County of Gloucester for dust suppression purposes (ref: A026477). If you object to this application, write to the Natural Resources Access Regulator, Licensing and Approvals—East, Locked Bag 5022, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124 or nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au within 28 days of this notice being published. You must include your name, address, the reason for your objection and the approval reference number stated above. If you have questions, call Water Regulation Officer Anisul Afsar on 0402 398 419. SB2514

NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR

Southern Recharge Groundwater Source

National Parks and Wildlife Service has applied for a **Water Supply Work Approval** for a bore with a capacity of 1.6 L/s, on Lot 2 DP 754206 in the Parish of Elongery, County of Leichhardt for recreation purposes (ref: A026324). If you object to this application, write to the Natural Resources Access Regulator, Licensing and Approvals—West, Locked Bag 5022, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124 or nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au within 28 days of this notice being published. You must include your name, address, the reason for your objection and the approval reference number stated above. If you have questions, call Water Regulation Officer Rachel Daly on 0437 977 266. SB2496

WaterNSW

Macquarie and Cudgong Regulated River Water Source

WaterNSW has received an application from **NEVERTIRE IRRIGATION PTY LIMITED** to amend an approval for a **Water Supply Work** to correct the location of existing works being 2 x 610mm axial flow pumps (no increase of capacity) on Lot 11 DP 613979, Parish of Egelabra; and addition of existing supply channel located on Lot 7 DP 235427, Lots 30, 31, 66 & 167 DP 755292, Lot 5 DP 1223515, Lot 101 DP 1179697, Crown Road and Oxley Highway, Parish of Garule, Lots 8, 10, 21 & 23 DP 755287, Lot 28 DP 727131, Lots 30 & 32 DP 727131, Lots 101 & 102 DP 532171, Lots 1 & 2 DP 456601, Lot 102 DP 532171, Lot 11 DP 613979 and Crown Road, Parish of Egelabra, Lots 8 & 29 DP 755296, Lot 1 DP 125722, Lot 2 DP 654436, Lot 7 DP 132917, Lots 4, 43, 46 & 56 DP 755296, Crown Road and Oxley Highway, Parish of Lawson; all in the County of Oxley. The application relates to the Macquarie and Cudgong Regulated Rivers Water Source on the Macquarie River subject to the Water Sharing Plan for the Macquarie and Cudgong Regulated Rivers Water Source 2016. Objections must be submitted in writing to PO Box 1018, Dubbo NSW 2830 or customer.helpdesk@waternsw.com.au. Objections must specify the grounds of the Objection and contain the name, address and signature (or authentication) of the Objector. You may use the Objection form waternsw.com.au/advertising-and-objections. All Objections should reference Application Number A024641. Objections must be lodged with WaterNSW within 28 days of this Notice, please refer to the NSW Water Register ("closing date" column) for the final date to lodge an Objection. For enquiries contact Keiley Noble, Water Regulation Officer, on 1300 662 077 or by email customer.helpdesk@waternsw.com.au KH1216



NOTICE TO GRANT AMALGAMATION APPLICATIONS

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following amalgamation applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Exploration No.	Applicant	Amalg No	Area	Locality	Centroid	Shire
38/3476	EAST LAVERTON EXPLORATION PTY LTD	619432	9.76HA	65.9km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 1' S Long: 122° 22' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
39/2033	GALEA, Michael	584794	19.49HA	59.5km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 7' S Long: 122° 10' E	LEONORA SHIRE
77/2584	STRANGE, Vernon Wesley	616898	209.52HA	18.6km S'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 37' S Long: 119° 32' E	YILGARN SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 2 June 2021

Native title parties: Under Section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to the applications. The 3 month period closes on **2 September 2021**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each amalgamation application may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 2 October 2021**), a native title party lodges an objection with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of the licence is an act attracting the expedited procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9425 1000.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

DMIRS_2532

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF MINERAL LEASE

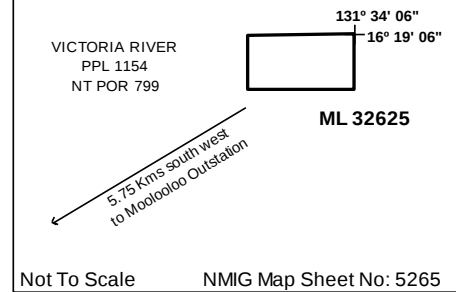
MINERAL TITLES ACT 2010 SECTION 71

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Honourable Nicole Manison MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mining and Industry and the Chief Executive Officer, Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN, NT 0801, hereby give notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) and section 71 of the *Mineral Titles Act 2010* respectively, of the intent to do an act, namely to grant the following mineral lease application.

The application to which this notice applies:

Mineral Lease 32625 sought by TERRY PHILIP HEARL over an area of 3 Hectares depicted below for a term of 20 years, within the KILLARNEY locality.



Nature of act(s): The grant of a mineral lease under the *Mineral Titles Act 2010* authorises the holder to explore and mine for minerals including (but not limited to) the processing and the removal of minerals from the lease area and the treatment of tailings or other mining material the property of the Crown on the lease area, including any extractive minerals for or in connection with any of the purposes specified in the lease document for a term the Minister thinks fit and to seek renewals. The term for which it is intended to grant the mineral lease referred to in this notice commences from the date of grant. Further information about the act may be obtained from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, or Centrepont Building 48-50 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800, telephone (08) 8999 5322.

Native Title Parties: Any person who is, or becomes a "native title party" within the meaning of the *Native Title Act 1993* is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2, Division 3, Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993*. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries concerning becoming a native title party should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, GPO Box 9973, Brisbane QLD 4001, or telephone (07) 3307 5000.

Objection or Submission, Section 71 of the *Mineral Titles Act 2010*: The landowner(s) of land in respect of which the following application is made may lodge an objection to the grant or the application; any other persons may lodge a submission. Objections and submissions must be lodged in writing with the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade at the above mentioned address or emailed to titles.info@nt.gov.au, within 30 days from the relevant Notification Date which is set out below.

Notification Day: 2 June 2021

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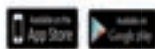
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Notice of an Authorisation Meeting of the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People Native Title Claim Group (NSD 38/2019)



When: Friday, 18 June 2021
8:00am to 9:00am – Meeting registration*
9:00am – Meeting opened
5:00pm – Meeting closed
Saturday, 19 June 2021
8:00am to 9:00am – Meeting registration*
9:00am – Meeting opened
5:00pm – Meeting closed

***Note:** Registration will be open to claim group members anytime throughout the meeting, but claim group members are encouraged to register on the Friday or Saturday between 8.00am to 9.00am to allow adequate time for all business to be addressed.

Where: Cobar Bowling and Golf Club
Bloxham St, Cobar NSW 2835

Who should attend: The meeting is open to **all members of the native title claim group in the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People native title determination application (NSD38/2019) ('NNWW Claim Group' and 'NNWW Claim' respectively)**, being all the descendants of the following apical ancestors:

1. Caroline Hilt (who was born on the Barwon River around 1847);
2. Thomas Sullivan (who was born in Brewarrina around 1860);
3. Nellie Colless (who was born in Brewarrina around 1868);
4. Billy Coleman (who was born in Cobar in 1840);
5. Mary Ann Allen (who was born in 1844);
6. Moses Biggs (who was born in 1837);
7. Polly Parkes (who was born in 1846);
8. Anne Brandy (who was born in Colane in 1874);
9. Caroline Brandy (who was born on Duck Creek in 1869);
10. Wadna Boe (who was born in 1848)
11. Richard King (who was born in 1827);
12. Jimmy Keewong (who was born in 1849);
13. Kitty Narrangie;
14. Tom Dennis (who was born in Brewarrina in 1864);
15. Winnie Pierce (who was born in Brewarrina in 1878);
16. Jack Dennis (who was born on the Barwon River in around 1855);
17. Kate Baker (who was born in Boorooma in 1874);
18. Francis "Tracker" Williams (who was born in Gundabooka in 1883);
19. William Johnson (who was born in Big Willandra in 1876);
20. Henry Parkes (who was born in 1863);
21. Topsy Harris also known as Topsy Scotty (who was born in Marfield in 1866);
22. Jack Redtank;
23. Thomas Williams also known as Thomas Broughton (who was born in Roto);
24. Maggie Redtank (who was born in Keewong in 1868);
25. Ada Arnott (who was born in Nyngan in 1865);
26. Moses Divine;
27. Jack Smith (who was born in Mossiel in 1869);
28. Ellen Sprowl also known as Ellen McHughes (who was born in Brewarrina in 1867);
29. Fanny Hippi also known as Fanny Williams;
30. Millie Wells also known as Millie Shearer (who was born in Brewarrina in 1874);
31. Pluto Williams (who was born in Trida/Mossiel in 1873);
32. Steve Shaw (who was born in Coronga Peak in 1855);
33. Fanny Brown also known as Tiltagara Fanny (who was born in Hillston in 1862);
34. David Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1850);
35. Janey Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1853);
36. Betsy Gwen (who was born in Haddon Rigg near Warren in 1849);
37. Louise Hinton (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1843);
38. Cissy Lee (who was born in 1852);
39. Boorooma Murphy (who was born in Boorooma in 1832);
40. Harry Murphy (who was born in Brewarrina around 1871);
41. Thomas Nixon (who was born in Buttabone in 1843);
42. Colaine Lumpy (who was born in 1864);
43. Charlotte Wilson;
44. Tilly Riley (who was born in 1863); and
45. Geordie Murray (who was born in 1851 in Ivanhoe).

Background

The area that is the subject of the NNWW Claim is bounded by the towns of Brewarrina, Bourke, Coonamble, Gulargambone, Warren, Nyngan, Hillston, Mossiel and Ivanhoe, from the Barwon River in the north, to the Lachlan River in the south, the Castlereagh River in the east and Ivanhoe in the west

The Applicant in the NNWW Claim ('current Applicant') comprises the following persons:

Elaine Ohlsen	Jason Ford	Carney	Peter Williams
Phillip Sullivan	Hilary Williams	John Shipp	Neville Merritt
Grace Gordon	Daniele Flakelar-	David Clarke	

The current Applicant was authorised to act on behalf of the NNWW Claim Group at a claim group meeting on 24 and 25 November 2018.

Reasons for the NNWW Claim Group Meeting

1. Replacement of the current Applicant – NNWW Claim Group instructions on an application under section 66B of the *Native Title Act*

Sadly, in March 2020, Uncle Neville Merritt passed away.

Accordingly, at this NNWW Claim Group meeting the NNWW Claim Group will be asked to consider and make decisions to authorise a new Applicant. This could involve:

- i. reauthorising the 9 living members of the current Applicant to act as Applicant without Uncle Neville Merritt; or
- ii. nominating and confirming one person to replace Uncle Neville and reauthorising the 9 members of the current applicant as well as the one additional person; or
- iii. any new composition of NNWW Claim Group members as the NNWW Claim Group decides.

2. Authorisation of the Applicant to enter into a section 31 Deeds and Ancillary Agreements

Peel Mining have applied for Minister's Consent to prospect on any land or waters on which native title has not been extinguished within Exploration Licences 7461 (near Gilgunnia) and 6695 (about 25km north west of Mount Hope).

Tritton Resources Pty Limited have applied for Minister's Consent to prospect on any land or waters on which native title has not been extinguished within Exploration Licence 4962 (about 50km west of Nyngan).

Under the Native Title Act, the NNWW Applicant has a right to negotiate with Peel Mining and Tritton Resources in relation to the grant of Minister's Consent (but not to veto).

The Applicant has negotiated separate in principle agreements with each of Tritton Resources and Peel Mining.

The in principle agreements include a package of financial and non-financial compensation in exchange for the consent of the Applicant to the grant of Minister's Consent.

In April 2021, Peel Mining lodged a future act determination application in the National Native Title Tribunal in relation to the grant of Minister's Consent.

At this Claim Group Meeting the NNWW Claim Group will be asked whether or not they wish to authorise the Applicant to enter into the Agreements with Peel Mining and Tritton Resources.

Agenda for the meeting is:

1. **Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country**
2. **Update on developments in relation to the NNWW Claim**
3. **Confirmation of the relevant decision-making process for the members of the NNWW Claim Group**
4. **Research Presentation on Claim Group Description**
 - a. Presentation by Expert Anthropologist Ms Alexandra Crowe of her research into the Claim Group Description; and
 - b. Discussion around Ms Crowe's research and findings in relation to the Claim Group Description.

5. Instructions on the Native Title Claim *Commercial rights and exclusive rights*

- (a) Discussion and background on commercial rights and exclusive rights in relation to the Claim Area and the progress so far, including update on negotiation with the NSW Government and information regarding the possible next steps which can be pursued; and
- (b) Following this discussion, the NNWW Claim Group will consider and make a decision as to which option they instruct the Applicant to pursue.

Tenure Proposal

- (a) Discussion and background on tenure proposal and s 47B of the Native Title Act;
- (b) Discussion and information regarding the possible next steps which can be pursued; and
- (c) Following this discussion, the NNWW Claim Group will consider and make a decision whether or not to instruct the Applicant to pursue the tenure proposal.

6. Peel Mining Agreement

- (a) Discussion and background on the negotiations between Peel Mining and the Applicant in relation to the Wagga Tank and Mallee Bull Exploration areas.
- (b) Discussion and information regarding the in-principle Agreement which has been negotiated.
- (c) Following this discussion, the NNWW Claim Group will consider and make a decision whether or not to:
 - a. instruct the NNWW Applicant to execute the Peel Mining Agreement; and
 - b. instruct the Applicant to consent to a determination by the National Native Title Tribunal that Minister's Consent may be granted.

7. Tritton Resources Agreement

- (a) Discussion and background on the negotiations between Tritton Resources and the Applicant in relation to the Budgery Exploration area.
- (b) Discussion and information regarding the in-principle Agreement which has been negotiated.
- (c) Following this discussion, the NNWW Claim Group will consider and make a decision whether or not to instruct the NNWW Applicant to execute the Tritton Resources Agreement.

8. Authorisation of new Applicant.

- (a) Discussion and making decisions on whether the NNWW Claim Group wishes to reauthorise the 9 living members of the current Applicant to be the Applicant; or nominate and confirm one person to replace Uncle Neville Merritt and reauthorise the 9 living members of the current Applicant as well as the one additional person to be the Applicant; or nominate any new composition of NNWW Claim Group members to be the Applicant.
- (b) The NNWW Claim Group will consider resolutions and make decisions to authorise a new Applicant. The NNWW Claim Group will be asked to authorise the new Applicant to make an application to the Federal Court for an order under section 66B of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) that the new Applicant replace the current Applicant.
- (c) The NNWW Claim Group will be asked to consider resolutions and make decisions about placing conditions on the powers of the Applicant including in relation to the Applicant's ability to enter into commercial and other agreements which may affect the NNWW Claim Group's native title rights and interests.
- (d) The NNWW Claim Group will be asked to consider and make decisions about whether to give instructions to the Applicant about the processes it must undertake in making its decisions. For example, whether or not the Applicant can make decisions by majority, and whether the Applicant can nominate certain members of the Applicant to sign documents on behalf of the Applicant.

9. Other business

Any other matters, as determined by members of the NNWW Claim Group.

Attending the meeting

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided at the meeting.

If you wish to attend the meeting, please contact NTSCORP Limited by no later than Friday 11 June 2021 so that all relevant arrangements can be made.

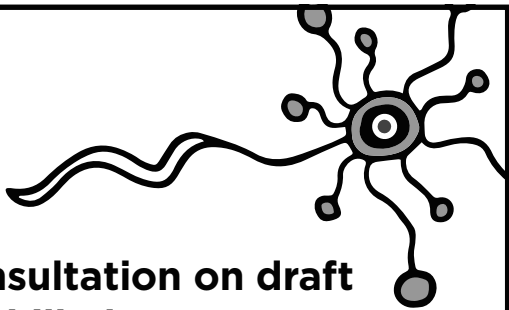
Our details are:

Freecall: 1800 111 844 or (02) 9310 3188
Post: P.O. Box 2105, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012
Fax (02) 9310 4177
Email: CFC@ntscorp.com.au

Mileage assistance and accommodation may be available to persons attending this meeting in accordance with NTSCORP's meeting assistance policies. If you require accommodation, **you will need to provide NTSCORP with a completed meeting registration form, or telephone NTSCORP with confirmed details, by no later than Friday 11 June 2021.**

Please note if you do not contact NTSCORP by **Friday 11 June 2021** to confirm your request for travel and accommodation assistance, NTSCORP cannot guarantee we will be able to assist with travel and accommodation arrangements — although you would still be more that welcome to attend the meeting.

Should you have any queries or simply require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Neville Kim - Manager Community Facilitation, James MacLeod – Senior Solicitor or Isobel Brinin – Senior Solicitor on Freecall **1800 111 844 or (02) 9310 3188 or FAX (02) 9310 4177.**



Aboriginal consultation on draft Camellia–Rosehill Place Strategy

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is preparing a draft place strategy for Camellia–Rosehill. We are consulting with the Aboriginal community to develop a Cultural Heritage Assessment that will inform and guide the place strategy.

You can participate in the consultation and help make decisions about managing Aboriginal cultural heritage. We invite individuals and groups to register your interest.

To register, please call **Vasiliki Cardassis** on **02 9995 6692** or email **Vasiliki.Cardassis@planning.nsw.gov.au**

To find out more, visit **planning.nsw.gov.au/Camellia**

GD1155 BLZ_SB2517



NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Mining Lease	15/1888	MACPHERSONS REWARD PTY LTD	196.81HA	9.9km S'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 2' S Long: 121° 9' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	37/1358	NAVIGATOR MINING PTY LTD	74.58HA	27km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 48' S Long: 121° 35' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Mining Lease	38/1292	THOMAS, Vanessa Erica	9.97HA	123.9km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 27° 33' S Long: 122° 2' E	LAVERTON SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of mining leases, which authorises the applicant to mine for minerals for a term of 21 years from notification of grant and a right of renewal for 21 years.

Notification day: 2 June 2021

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 **2 September 2021**. 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. 2 October 2021**), 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_2531



NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	15/1791	GTT VENTURES PTY LTD	7BL	18.4km SW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 50' S Long: 121° 18' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/3059	GOLDTRIBE CORPORATION PTY LTD	66BL	69.3km SE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 22' S Long: 122° 40' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3131	GTT METALS GROUP PTY LTD	5BL	85.6km S'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 35' S Long: 122° 24' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/1116	WESTERN EDGE RESOURCES PTY LTD	6BL	27.7km SW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 50' S Long: 120° 48' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	30/530	GOLDZONE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	48BL	84.4km W'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 55' S Long: 120° 12' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1445	RIO TINTO EXPLORATION PTY LIMITED	12BL	101.1km E'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 37' S Long: 121° 40' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3610	K20 MINERALS PTY LTD	142BL	245.9km E'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 8' S Long: 124° 51' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2239	GEOVISION PTY LTD	70BL	59.7km SE'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 4' S Long: 122° 44' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/5879	HISTORIC GOLD MINES PTY LTD	10BL	25.2km SW'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 19' S Long: 119° 34' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1382	BLACK CANYON PTY LTD	195BL	77.9km SE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 22° 12' S Long: 120° 47' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/1981	DIVERSIFIED ASSET HOLDINGS PTY LTD	17BL	26.7km SW'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 44' S Long: 118° 16' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2035	BOSENBERG, Dennis Raymond	4BL	49.4km S'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 27° 2' S Long: 118° 26' E	CUE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2036	BOSENBERG, Dennis Raymond	2BL	49.9km SE'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 27° 0' S Long: 118° 42' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2039	GOLDEN WHEELBARROW PROSPECTING NO 3 PTY LTD	124BL	119.1km NW'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 6' S Long: 117° 25' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE, MURCHISON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2041-2	YANDAN GOLD MINES PTY LTD	140BL	58.3km E'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 30' S Long: 119° 4' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2521	EMPIRE RESOURCES LIMITED	37BL	143.9km NW'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 27° 8' S Long: 116° 6' E	MURCHISON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2526	AUSQUEST LIMITED	49BL	113.1km N'ly of Mullewa	Lat: 27° 31' S Long: 115° 41' E	MURCHISON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2538	JURASSIC MINING PTY LTD	42BL	47.2km W'ly of Mt Magnet	Lat: 27° 54' S Long: 117° 24' E	MOUNT MAGNET SHIRE
Exploration Licence	69/3851	K20 MINERALS PTY LTD	124BL	269.5km E'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 12' S Long: 125° 6' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/5728	BLAZE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	63BL	33.7km NE'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 44' S Long: 118° 29' E	MUKINBUDIN SHIRE, WESTONIA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/5744	HPAA PTY. LTD.	30BL	90.4km NW'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 11' S Long: 117° 45' E	MOUNT MARSHALL SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2717	DUKETON MINING LIMITED	67BL	139.8km E'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 29° 27' S Long: 119° 6' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2782	CULLEN EXPLORATION PTY LIMITED	12BL	127.3km E'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 29° 15' S Long: 118° 59' E	MENZIES SHIRE, SANDSTONE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6596	WHITE, Andrew Roy	178.88HA	22km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 1' S Long: 120° 57' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3136	PELM RESOURCES PTY LTD	121.31HA	24.5km N'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 44' S Long: 121° 6' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3200-3	PELM RESOURCES PTY LTD	773.70HA	31.3km N'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 40' S Long: 121° 7' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	20/2390-S	ROSE, Corey Matthew	9.62HA	26.4km NW'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 12' S Long: 117° 45' E	CUE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	20/2449	TEGG, Gary Allen	3.69HA	8km NW'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 22' S Long: 117° 50' E	CUE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5524	ZOCARO, Tonino Pasquale Joseph	11.03HA	19.4km N'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 12' S Long: 120° 59' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2417-8	RESOURCE HOLDINGS PTY LTD	387.99HA	37.9km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 55' S Long: 121° 54' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4390	ANGLO AUSTRALIAN RESOURCES NL	81.27HA	22.3km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 56' S Long: 121° 33' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	29/2593	BURTON, Ian Geoffrey	9.90HA	9.5km SE'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 45' S Long: 121° 5' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	29/2637	CHASSAING, Henri Vincent Andre	198.74HA	7.4km SE'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 44' S Long: 121° 4' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	36/1920	DARLOT MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	195.88HA	44.3km SE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 9' S Long: 121° 3' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	36/1922	YANDAL RESOURCES LIMITED	56.51HA	51.5km NE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 31' S Long: 120° 57' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9456-S	BAKER, Gail Isobel	2.40HA	64.1km NE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 31' S Long: 121° 9' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9457-S	BAKER, Gail Isobel MAUGER, Wayne Ian	3.52HA	63.5km NE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 32' S Long: 121° 10' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9458-S	BAKER, Gail Isobel MAUGER, Wayne Ian	7.89HA	63.6km NE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 32' S Long: 121° 10' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9459-S	ANDREI, Frederick	9.75HA	58km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 25' S Long: 121° 3' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9496	MT MALCOLM GOLD HOLDINGS PTY LTD	181.42HA	20.3km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 55' S Long: 121° 32' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9497	MT MALCOLM GOLD HOLDINGS PTY LTD	9.68HA	18.1km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 56' S Long: 121° 30' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9498	BHASIN, Neelesh CREW, Ross Frederick	147.67HA	60.3km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 23' S Long: 121° 5' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9499-9500	BHASIN, Neelesh CREW, Ross Frederick	363.52HA	56.2km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 26' S Long: 121° 3' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9505-8	LEGENDRE, Bruce Robert CREW, Ross Frederick	751.56HA	41.5km NE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 36' S Long: 121° 36' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4533	DRILLGOLD PTY LTD	9.82HA	43.5km SE'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 58' S Long: 122° 36' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6213-4-S	GALLOP, Joseph Brian	19.84HA	56.3km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 7' S Long: 122° 31' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6215-S	GALLOP, Joseph Brian	9.21HA	57km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 7' S Long: 122° 32' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6251	MARSAMCO PTY LTD	183.88HA	35km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 50' S Long: 122° 9' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6252	MARSAMCO PTY LTD	69.57HA	31km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 122° 10' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6253	MARSAMCO PTY LTD	30.25HA	33.2km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 122° 9' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/3216	LAWES, Simon John	61.40HA	36.3km SW'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 52' S Long: 118° 19' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	52/1613	CAMP, Lindsay George PRINCE, David Charles	100.01HA	90.2km W'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 37' S Long: 117° 49' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	52/1624	PAVLINOVICH, Denise Robyn	192.04HA	62.7km E'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 44' S Long: 119° 20' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	57/1497-S	MURAT, Daney	9.89HA	2.3km SE'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 0' S Long: 119° 18' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of prospecting licences which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term of 4 years from date of grant. Grant of Special Prospecting Licences, which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term up to 4 years from the date of grant. Grant of exploration licences, which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 years from the date of grant.

Notification day: 2 June 2021

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 **2 September 2021**. 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. 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.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each licence may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 2 October 2021**), a native title party lodges an objection with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of the licence is an act attracting the expedited procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9425 1000.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

* - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km2

DMIRS_2530




VALS AND COOREE CAFÉ

ABORIGINAL COOKING CLASS

Learn how to cook delicious traditional food from professionals!

THURSDAY 17 OF JUNE 2021
11AM-12:30PM
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

\$7 TICKETS

Scan the QR Code or go to
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/victorian-aboriginal-legal-services-33298882877>



Notice of applications for determination of native title in Western Australia

Notification day: 16 June 2021



National Native Title Tribunal



These are applications by native title claim groups which are asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that they hold native title in the areas described below.

If you want to become a party to any of these applications, you must file a Form 5 (Notice of Intention to become a Party) with the Federal Court, **on or before 15 September 2021**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **15 September 2021**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to any of these applications, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determinations, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the areas concerned.

These applications were filed on 16 December 2020 and the Native Title Registrar has **accepted** these applications for registration.

Application name	Federal Court File No	Description	Relevant LGAs
Dennis Forrest & Ors on behalf of the Kakarra Part A Native Title Claim Group and State of Western Australia	WAD297/2020	The application area covers approx. 10,889 sq km, located approx. 34 km east of Kalgoorlie-Boulder extending northerly towards Menzies, south easterly to east of Kambalda and south of the Trans Australian Railway	The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the Shire of Menzies
Dennis Forrest & Ors on behalf of the Kakarra Part B Native Title Claim Group and State of Western Australia	WAD298/2020	The application area covers approx. 9,827 sq km, located approx. 98 km east of Kalgoorlie-Boulder extending east to Zanthus in the vicinity of the Trans Australian Railway	The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

For assistance and further information about these applications, call Claire Smith on 08 9425 1104 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

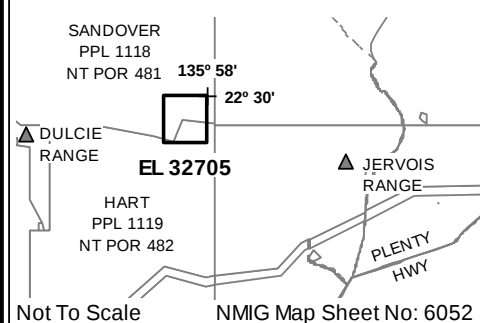
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

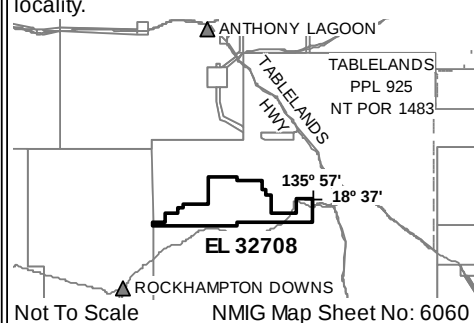
The Honourable Nicole Manison MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mining and Industry, C/- Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of her intent to do an act, namely to grant the following exploration licence applications.

Applications to which this notice applies:

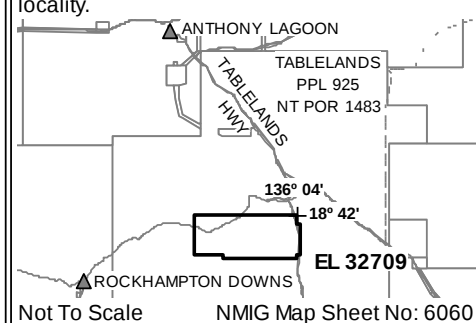
Exploration Licence 32705 sought by BURGEON PTY LTD, ACN 648 965 431 over an area of 25 Blocks (80 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the JINKA locality.



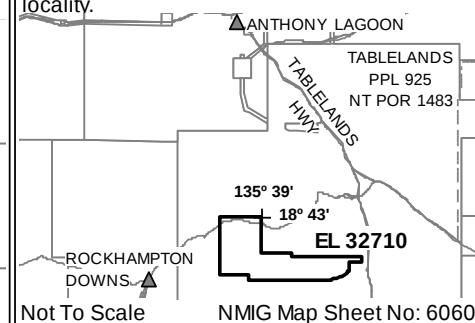
Exploration Licence 32708 sought by RED METAL LIMITED, ACN 103 367 684 over an area of 222 Blocks (723 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BRUNETTE locality.



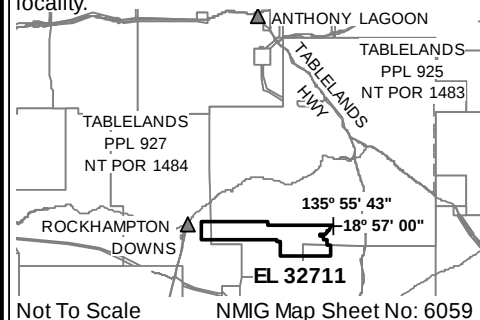
Exploration Licence 32709 sought by RED METAL LIMITED, ACN 103 367 684 over an area of 250 Blocks (813 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BRUNETTE locality.



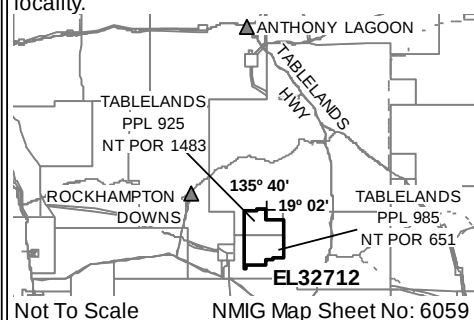
Exploration Licence 32710 sought by RED METAL LIMITED, ACN 103 367 684 over an area of 247 Blocks (796 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BRUNETTE locality.



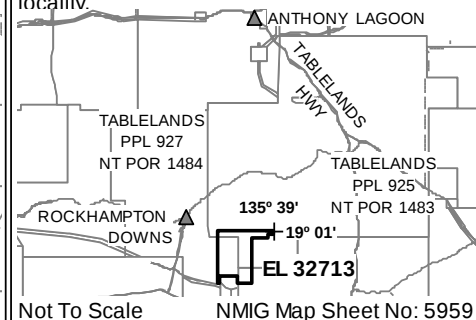
Exploration Licence 32711 sought by RED METAL LIMITED, ACN 103 367 684 over an area of 249 Blocks (799 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the PLAYFORD locality.



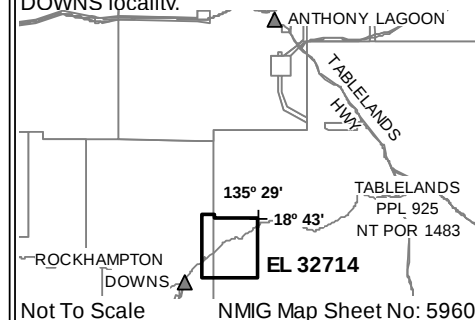
Exploration Licence 32712 sought by RED METAL LIMITED, ACN 103 367 684 over an area of 250 Blocks (811 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the PLAYFORD locality.



Exploration Licence 32713 sought by RED METAL LIMITED, ACN 103 367 684 over an area of 154 Blocks (489 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the FREWENA locality.



Exploration Licence 32714 sought by RED METAL LIMITED, ACN 103 367 684 over an area of 172 Blocks (560 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the ROCKHAMPTON DOWNS locality.



Nature of act(s): The grant of an exploration licence under the *Mineral Titles Act 2010* authorises the holder to conduct activities in connection with exploration for minerals for a term not exceeding 6 years and to seek renewal(s). The term for which it is intended to grant the mineral exploration licences referred to in this notice commences from the date of grant. Further information about the act may be obtained from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 Darwin NT 0801 or Centrepoint Building 48-50 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800, telephone (08) 8999 5322.

Native Title Parties: Any person who is, or becomes a "native title party" within the meaning of the *Native Title Act 1993* is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2, Division 3, Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993*. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries concerning becoming a native title party should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, GPO Box 9973, Brisbane QLD 4001, or telephone (07) 3307 5000.

Expedited Procedure: The Northern Territory Government considers that the acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure as defined in section 237 of the *Native Title Act 1993*. The exploration licences referred to in this notice may be granted unless an objection is made by a native title party to the statement that the act is one which attracts the expedited procedure. Such an objection must be made to the National Native Title Tribunal within 4 months of the notification day.

Notification Day: 2 June 2021

Basketball can build on its big moment



THE NBL's second Indigenous Round last week has given basketball lovers something to be proud of. According to a 2020 AusPlay survey, basketball enjoys the highest participation rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across all levels of the game. Armed with this knowledge, and a small but growing number of professional Indigenous players, the NBL has finally made toward steps a greater recognition of Indigenous people in the game today.



Brisbane Bullets' Tamuri Wigness.



Cairns Taipans' Nate Jawai keeps the Brisbane defence at bay in their round 20 match during the NBL's Indigenous Round in Cairns last weekend. Pictures: Getty Images



New Zealand Breakers' Will McDowell-White keeps guard against Illawarra Hawks.



Adelaide's Keanu Pinder and artist Shane Mankitya Cook display the 36ers' Indigenous Round design jersey. *Note: The Adelaide 36ers' Indigenous Round game was played late on Sunday, well past Koori Mail Sports' deadline.

Adelaide 36ers

Artist:
Shane Mankitya Cook

The Adelaide 36ers jersey design takes inspiration from the team's value of belonging and ensuring that all basketball fans feel like they are accepted. "The design of different sizes and different shapes represent the different communities around Australia," Shane said. "The lines connecting together represent when a team would travel from one state to the other to play against another community, while also paying respect to the traditional owners and their country which the games are played on."



Brisbane Bullets

Artist:
Janelle McQueen

Brisbane's design tells of the Bullets' history spanning over 40 years. The main element is a warrior's shield and two spears. The shield symbolises strength to guard against attacks, and the two spears symbolise speed and accuracy. These three elements are what make the Bullets players so strong and effective. The design starting on the bottom left is the Brisbane River showing echos of the time representing the club's past, present and future links to the places and people that shape the club. The yellow in the design on the right are the elements of Mother Earth and the healthy new growth for the Bullets.



Cairns Taipans

Artist:
Rhianne Williams

Cairns' jersey concept shows three main factors into one story about the people, the place and culture. The design recognises and acknowledges four key Indigenous players who have played for the Taipans over past years – Tim Duggan, Deba George, Kerry Williams, Nathan Jawai – but also reflects all our Indigenous players across north Queensland and their cultural heritage.



Illawarra Hawks

Artist:
Samantha Hill, Harry Pitt

The Hawks' jersey reveals the beauty of the Illawarra flame tree, a prominent feature in the Illawarra region and is famous for the bright red bell-shaped flowers that cover its branches. The reds, yellows and oranges used on the jersey capture the magnificent burst of colour these trees possess when in full bloom, which in turn represent our vibrant Indigenous history. The depth and length of the roots burying into the land highlight the region's long and proud Indigenous heritage. The blue side panels represent the need to press on – for the sea that borders our region is vast with many unruly storms, but through perseverance, the path can be laid before us.



Melbourne United

Artist:
Mandy Nicholson

United's jersey represents the traditional custodians of Narm (Melbourne), the Wurundjeri people, and the land on which the club plays its games. The flowing lines are inspired by Berak's (William Barak's) paintings and shields. This aspect of the design highlights Wurundjeri's different layers of country: Biik-ut (Below Country), Biik-dui (On Country), Baanj Biik (Water Country), Murnmut Biik (Wind Country), Wurru Wurru Biik (Sky Country), and Tharangalk Biik (Forest Country above the clouds – Bunjil's home). United's iconic 'M' shows these flowing lines and is bordered by the 'circled flowing line' of the mountain ranges bordering Wurundjeri country to the north.



New Zealand Breakers

Artist:
Ollie Brown in collaboration with Anthony Wilson

The Breakers' Maori design within the Kiwi embodies the values and culture of the club and is carried by the players: Legacy – from the whakapapa and winning heritage of the club and country. Unity – symbolises the coming together as one team, one club, and one sporting nation; a collective sense of purpose. Heart – the mana of the players and club. Speed and agility – symbolised through the puhoro design.



Perth Wildcats

Artist:
Richard Walley

The big theme behind the Perth Wildcats' design is quite simple: It's bringing people together, taking the game out to people. It's about the warmth and the heat that the Wildcats radiate. It's about the energy they produce. It's about the place they live, the place of the sunshine, where the sun settles in the ocean.



South East Melbourne Phoenix

Artist:
Heather Kennedy

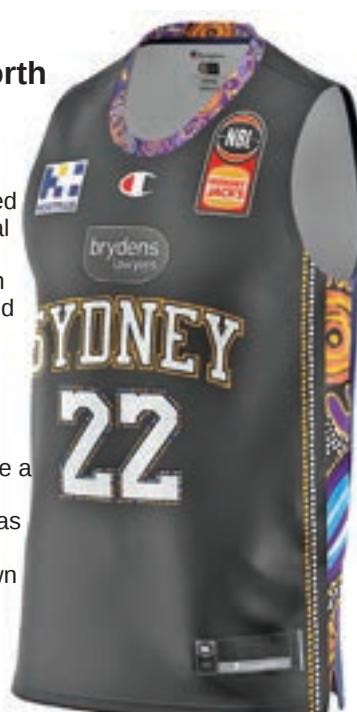
Phoenix's jersey has a number of cultural touchpoints that relate to Indigenous culture and the culture of the club. The small centre circle is the Elders making important decisions. The second circle symbolises the cohesion of family, from extended family all the way to friends and the wider community looking after each other, working together and keeping each other safe. The last circle represents the ancestral elders, the chief mentors who protect family, extended family, and community. They keep everyone safe by looking after their physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing with an underlying focus of keeping all in balance.



Sydney Kings

Artist:
Bruce Shillingsworth

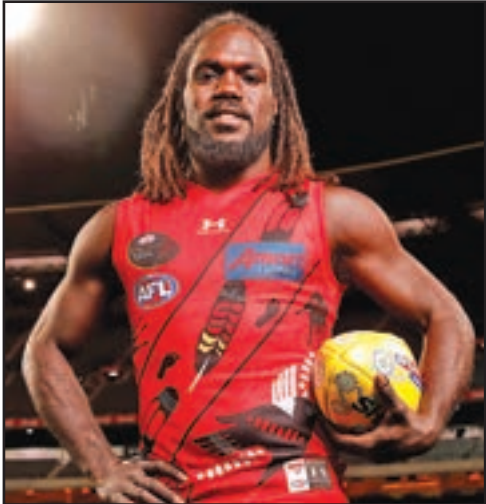
The Kings' jersey design depicts gathering of the Wangal people along the Parramatta River, who lived in the Eora Nation. Wangal members in the design include three different clan groups of men, women and children sitting around the campfires; couples fishing along the river in order to feed their clan groups. Campfires are a significant aspect of Indigenous life – they act as the sacred space where older individuals pass down the stories of the dreamtime to the young children, which allows times for individuals and families to learn together and express the values that have been passed on.



Images: Courtesy NBL



Carlton's Jack Martin.
Picture: Michael Willson



Essendon's Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti
Picture: Michael Willson

Honouring the legacy of our people in football



THE 2021 Sir Doug Nicholls Round celebrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and their contribution to Australian Football while acknowledging the individual and collective efforts of players past and present, to inspire generations of Australians.

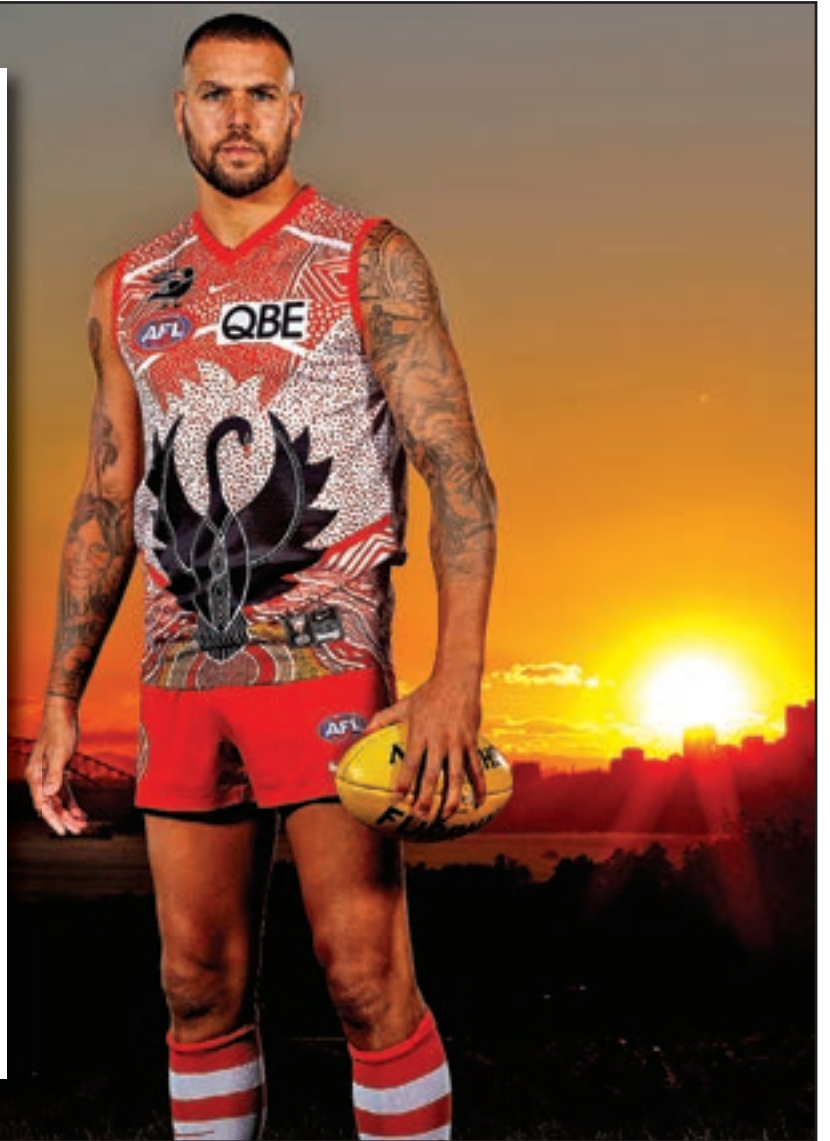
Each year, the AFL's Sir Doug Nicholls Round runs to a theme, put in place to highlight key aspects of the round and its importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The theme this year was 'Our Legacy – This is Us'. "The notion of legacy is one of persistence and rising to challenges both on and off the field," the AFL's executive general manager of inclusion and social policy, Tanya Hosch, said.

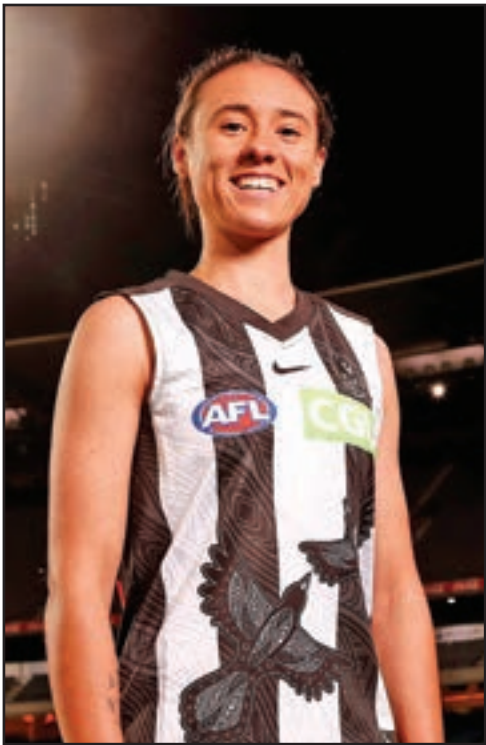
"Legacy highlights the contributions from First Nations Elders of the game, such as Indigenous Team of the Century member Syd Jackson, who was the Sir Doug Nicholls Round honouree in 2021 as result of not being able to appropriately celebrate Uncle Syd in the 2020 season due to COVID.

"We were also encouraged to celebrate the legacy of contemporary players, like Shaun Burgoyne, who is on track to play his 400th AFL game this season, making him the first Aboriginal player in our history to reach this significant milestone.

"This was the sixth year the dedicated round has been named in honour of Sir Doug Nicholls, an icon of Australian football and someone who represents the exceptional values of the game."



Sydney Swans' Lance Franklin displays the club's 2021 Sir Doug Nicholls Round jumper. Picture: Phil Hillyard



Collingwood's Aliesha Newman, the club's only Indigenous player, models the Magpies' 2021 guernsey. Picture: Michael Willson



North Melbourne's Jy Simpkin.
Picture: Michael Willson



Hawthorn's Chad Wingard.
Picture: Michael Willson



The Giants' Bobby Hill celebrates a goal against the Lions. Picture: Jono Searle



Geelong's Brandon Parfitt.
Picture: Michael Willson



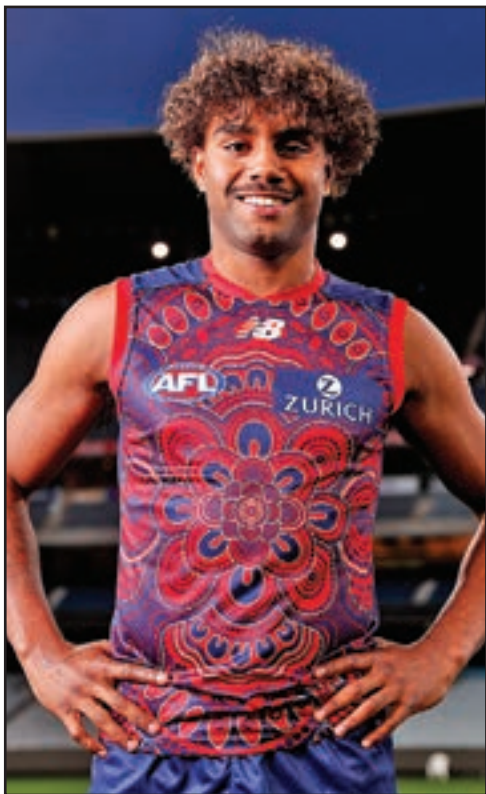
West Coast's Indigenous players (from left) Brendon Ah Chee, Jarrod Cameron, Tim Kelly, Liam Ryan, Jamaine Jones and Isiah Winder model the club's 2021 jumper. (Absent: Willie Rioli) Picture: Paul Kane



Gold Coast players (from left) Jarrod Harbrow, Joel Jeffrey, Izak Rankine, Sean Lemmens, Marcus Rosas and Jy Farrar model the Suns' 2021 Sir Doug Nicholls Round jumpers. *Picture: Chris Hyde*



Fremantle's Nathan Wilson. *Picture: Michael Willson*



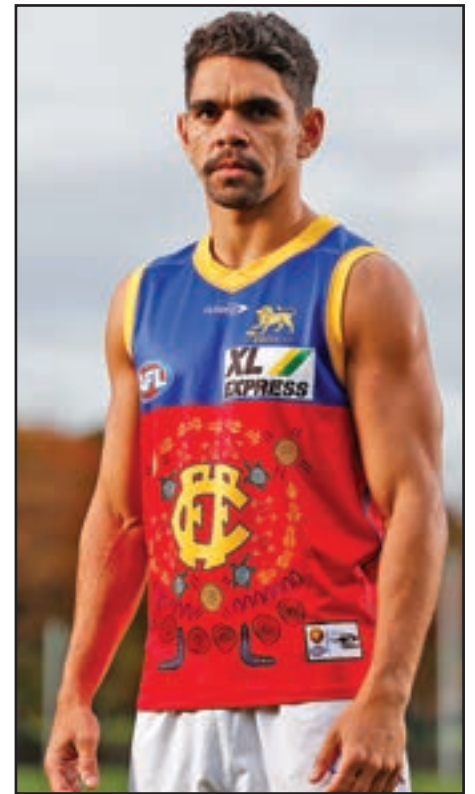
Melbourne's Kysaiah Pickett. *Picture: Michael Willson*



Western Bulldogs' Jamara Ugle-Hagan. *Picture: Michael Willson*



St Kilda's Brad Hill *Picture: Michael Willson*



Brisbane's Charlie Cameron *Picture: AFL Photos*



Adelaide's Indigenous contingent (from left) Tariek Newchurch, Ben Davis, Wayne Milera and Shane McAdam. The jumper design was by Davis and it features a dhoeri, a traditional headdress, a significant part of Torres Strait Islander culture, representing Davis' personal story of cultural discovery. The guernsey also honours the country on which Adelaide plays and trains, with a Kurna shield prominently displayed and connected to the dhoeri. *Picture: Sarah Reed*

Left: Port Adelaide's Steven Motlop. Right: Richmond's Daniel Rioli. *Picture: Michael Willson*



The numbers that stack up in rugby league



AS the NRL comes down from a terrific week celebrating Indigenous Round, it is timely to recall what Indigenous players have brought to the game.

Whether it's the scoreline, metres gained, or the length of a field goal, rugby league is a game driven by numbers. Here are some:

In total, 206 Indigenous players have played in the NRL since 1998.

Twelve per cent of current NRL players are Indigenous.

Indigenous icon Johnathan Thurston won the Dally M Medal best player award four times.

Four Indigenous players have played more than 300 NRL games (Thurston, Cliff Lyons, Sam Thaiday and Scott Prince).

Indigenous legend Greg Inglis holds the State of Origin try-scoring record with 18 for the Maroons.

Last week also, in recognition of National Reconciliation Week, the Rugby League Players' Association launched its first-ever Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (2021-23).

The RLPA's RAP features 16 'action points' that are centred around relationships, respect, opportunities and governance.

It will form an integral part of the RLPA's strategic direction moving forward, ultimately enhancing the association's connection with, and advocacy for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander players.



Melbourne's Josh Addo-Carr scores a textbook try in the Storm's match against the Brisbane Broncos at Lang Park during the NRL's Indigenous Round. Pictures: Getty Images



Pure delight by Wests Tigers' James Roberts after scoring a try against the Dragons.



South Sydney's Latrell Mitchell's boots during Indigenous Round.



Canberra's Jack Wighton dishes out a pass despite the heavy attention from the Sydney Roosters defence.



St George-Illawarra Dragons' Jack Bird is all sorts of tangled up by the Wests Tigers defence.



Canberra's Sebastian Kris in the Raiders' Indigenous Round kit.



Parramatta's Blake Ferguson with a trademark off-load against Souths.



West's Tigers' Daine Laurie joins family after his side's game with St George-Illawarra during the NRL's Indigenous Round.
Pictures: Getty Images



Melbourne's Nicho Hynes dedicates his try to a loved one.



Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow runs in a try for North Queensland Cowboys.



Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs and Penrith Panthers prepare for their Indigenous Round match at Penrith Stadium.



Souths' Alex Johnston scores in the corner for the Bunnies.



The Cowboys' Scott Drinkwater leads the team from the field in Townsville.



South Sydney's Dane Gagai and Cody Walker celebrate after Gagai scored a try.

Discovering Gems at Redcliffe

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



THE sting of defeat at the hands of Western Australia 10-6 in golden-point extra-time in the final of the 2021 NRL Women's National Championships was somewhat softened by the bigger picture for the First Nations Gems.

The Indigenous representative rugby league team made its debut at the NRL's new-look national championships which saw the Gems, the Northern Territory, South Australia, an Australian Defence Force team and WA play out over four days of competition at Dolphins Stadium at Redcliffe, 30 kilometres north of the Brisbane CBD.
Gems co-captain Rikka Lamb said

winning would have topped off a memorable week.
"We were a little bit unlucky," Lamb said of the final. "I'm not too sad about losing. Winning would have topped the week, but the week in general was a win itself. We bonded as a team, took part in cultural activities and we made a difference at the championships in representing our culture with pride from the first day we arrived.

"Other teams gave us positive feedback and we appreciated being able to contribute our culture at the championships.
"We hope it will influence and encourage young Aboriginal girls. There aren't many at the higher levels, like at the Jillaroos or State of Origin, but by us being there we hope that will inspire girls to be involved in the game and hopefully we will see more of our people at the higher levels of the game."



Takiyah Nagas shoots out a pass.



Gems co-captain Lacey Hickson considers her options in attack.



Stacey Markham (2) joins her First Nations Gems teammates in celebrating a try in their match against South Australia at the 2021 NRL Women's National Championships at Dolphin Stadium in Redcliffe. Pictures: Darren Moncrieff



Tazmyne Luschwitz plays out from dummy-half.



Akira Kelly tangles with the WA defence.



Towanna Togo and WA co-captain Kailey Thompson.

2021 nrl national women's ch'ships



The First Nations Gems representative rugby league team carried the flag for Indigenous women at the 2021 NRL Women's National Championships at Dolphins Stadium in Redcliffe.
Pictures: Darren Moncrieff



Brittany Constable gains good metres.



Kiya Simon (centre) and Maddy Tooth track a WA forward movement.



Akira Kelly kicks off for the Gems.



The Gems gather with SA after their match.



Robyn Draper was a solid contributor.



Maddy Tooth (22) lays on a strong tackle against WA.



Junior football can provide a lot for kids in country areas.

Junior footy can provide hope for youth

I WAS saddened recently to hear that the under-19s competition in Group 19 was scrapped.

Now, Group 19 is in my home area and it was where I played all my junior football. The competition includes towns with big Indigenous populations like Armidale, Guyra, Tingha, Inverell and Moree.

Proud Indigenous teams like Narwan Eels, Tingha Tigers and Moree Boomerangs have been a huge part of the football landscape in the area and are like a production line of many great and young footballers, but Group 19 just couldn't find the numbers to field any teams in the under-19s and it's been hard to take.

I just think back to when I was a kid and my last two years living in Armidale playing juniors was what got me ready to go to the NRL. I can't imagine what I would have been doing if it wasn't for that football competition. It's sad that these young kids up there are now missing out on that.

Growing up in a country town like Armidale, there is not a lot to do so the football season gave you and your mates something positive to focus on. The training, the travel and getting to play against mob every weekend was the best fun we would have had all week. It definitely kept a lot of us youngsters out of trouble.

The great lessons I learned from my early coaches back home about teamwork, work ethic, discipline and dedication have stayed with me long after I finished playing and contributed to me getting somewhere in life.

With the rise of crime and the use of drugs like ice being a major contributor to the challenges our youth face in these areas we need to at least have the game in our communities, something that can create hope for these kids. I hate to think where some of the young kids' lives will lead without hope.

I understand that there are heaps of reasons why sport struggles in the bush at the moment, especially in these COVID-times, but we must all pull together and revive the game.

There are no easy answers and I know it is always a tough challenge for everyone involved to keep these competitions running strongly.

Obviously, I work at the NRL and I try and get back and do my best to help out with whatever I can do to promote the game and highlight the positive values you can get from playing rugby league.

These communities are at risk and we must all pull together, even if that may mean I have to pull on the boots and go back for a game or two this season

**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

Kelly the 'Comeback Kid' on the right track

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



EVERYONE loves a good comeback story and Albert Kelly has given fans of the Brisbane Broncos some feelgood vibes in an otherwise dire season.

Kelly, 30, answered an SOS from the Brisbane Broncos and immediately imposed his brilliance into the contest in their round 11 match against the Sydney Roosters at the SCG.

In what has been a forgettable season for the Broncos, Kelly at halfback helped mastermind Brisbane's shock 34-16 win over the Roosters, just their third for the season.

The Bundjalung man last played in the NRL in 2014 for Cronulla and Gold Coast before playing for both Hull KR and Hull FC in the English Super League (ESL).

He was added to the Broncos' squad on a train and trial basis in the pre-season and was playing with Souths Logan in the Queensland Cup before answering the call-up from Red Hill last month.

He quickly endeared himself to fans with his efforts against the Roosters.

"I know for a fact that I've still got it," he told reporters post-match.

"You could have asked me that seven years ago. It's a game, and I love playing it.

"When I debuted, it was special, but to come here after



Brisbane Broncos' Albert Kelly with family after his first game in seven years in the NRL at the SCG. Picture: Getty Images

seven years and do it again, it was a very emotional week for myself and my family, so I'm just proud.

"I got the chance and took it with both hands. It's overwhelming really. I've been playing (in the ESL) overweight for the last year or two. I've

come home and knew what was ahead of me, what I had to sacrifice and how much hard work I'd have to put in.

"I did that and I'm just really happy to be in this position at the moment. The hunger was already there; it was just the opportunity. I never really had an

opportunity. I made the call to come home. It wasn't even a big opportunity; it was a small one.

"I robbed my kids of their families so for them to come home and see their grandparents and cousins meant more to me than an opportunity. "But I got both."

Ezra makes his mark in Queensland Cup

By CHRISTINE HOWES



EZRA Mam had an enjoyable start to his budding career in the Queensland Cup under-21s with close and extended family making the big trip to watch him play in Cairns.

The 18-year-old didn't let them down either, scoring a try and playing a solid game in his debut for Souths Logan despite their 48-34 loss to the Cairns-based Northern Pride in their round 4 match.

"We started off pretty confident. We had a big lead and then Pride just fought back," Mam said.

"Lesson learned: not to take this comp easily. You've got to put in for the whole 80 minutes and not let them back in."

His mum Tomasina AhWang, who lives on Hammond Island, was among the crowd at Barlow Park.

"I took a dinghy, a bus and a plane to get here – about 1200 kilometres," Ms AhWang said.

"Ezra's whole family are very proud of him and how far he has come. He sacrificed a lot as a

young boy to be where he is.

"He's always been very confident and very committed. I think that's the thing – he eats football, he dreams football, I think football is his girlfriend.

"Most boys his age are out partying as soon as they turn 18, but I'm just so proud that he's very switched on. He's got a goal and he's very goal-oriented."

Mam said it was good to have his Mum at his first game.

"I get a bit of support down in Brissy, but it was good to have her here, especially for my first game," he said.

"She sent me a little text before the game too, wishing me luck, so I used that as a bit of motivation.

"I wasn't expecting the whole family to come down, so that was a bit of a shock."

A long-time Brisbane Broncos supporter, Mam played his very first game for Goodna in the under-6s.

"I've played all the way through – schoolboys (rep) and all that, so football has always been in the picture," he said.

"The main goal is to make a career out of it."



Ezra Mam made his Queensland Cup under-21s debut for Souths Logan against Northern Pride in Cairns. Picture: Christine Howes



Brothers Jacob (left), Anzac and Mihail Lochowiak played in their first league football game together when they ran out for Sturt in round 4 in the SANFL recently. Picture: Peter Argent

Double Blues see triple with Lochowiaks

By PETER ARGENT



THERE was a triple-treat for the Double Blues recently when the Lochowiak brothers played league football in the SANFL together for the first time.

Mihail (21), Anzac (19) and Jacob (17) Lochowiak played in the same side for Sturt Football Club in round 4 against

South Adelaide, and they were part of a solid win when their team defeated the Panthers by 25 points.

Mihail, who has played in the NTFL for Darwin Buffaloes, was dominant up forward, kicking 3.4 for the afternoon.

Second son Anzac played through the midfield and was a solid contributor with 18 possessions and a couple of tackles.

The youngest Jacob, who is still a year 12 student at Sacred Heart College,

chimed in with a goal in the opening term.

"The boys actually said during the week it was the first time they had played in the same team so it was a special day for them," Sturt's coach Chris Trapp said.

The brothers are the second trio of Indigenous siblings to have played together in the same SANFL game, joining the Wilson brothers – Anthony, Luke and Cliff – at Norwood in the history books.

Mid-season draft fills the gap for clubs

MARLION Pickett is the epitome of a successful mid-year choice when Richmond picked him up in the 2019 mid-season draft. He is a mature-aged, mature-bodied footballer who is now a premiership player with the Tigers. That same year, he won the 2019 Norm Goss Memorial medal for best-on-ground in the VFL grand that Richmond won. Seven days later, and in a story that captured the imagination, he ran out on to the great MCG in his first-ever game in the AFL, in the grand final no less, and won another flag when the Tigers defeated the Giants. On top of that, in just his 20th AFL game, he won his second AFL premiership medal when the Tigers defeated Geelong in the 2020 grand final at the Gabba. This was able to happen, that Marlion got his chance in the AFL, because of the mid-season draft, of which I am a fan.



Shelley Ware

The criteria for eligibility includes players who nominated for last year's national draft and are without a club and players who have previously been on a club's list; for example, a delisted player and/or a retired player who has not been on a list for more than a year. Players in their 18th year or younger are not eligible.

So whose football dream will be realised next at this year's mid-season draft? Well, by the time you have read this, it will have come and gone, where players have either accepted a new opportunity or a second chance at another club.

Who will be the next Marlion Pickett or someone like him who will excel if given the opportunity? Whoever emerges from the draft this week, I just hope they can enjoy a career in the AFL, like Marlion.

Dreamtime in Perth

For the second year running, and because of exceptional circumstances, the annual Dreamtime at the 'G match between Richmond and Essendon has been shifted away from the MCG in Melbourne. It will be played in Perth, which makes sense. As you will most probably be aware, Melbourne went into a week-long lockdown last week due to an outbreak of COVID-19. The lockdown also affected football.

Richmond set up shop in WA after their game against Adelaide was played in Sydney last weekend. Essendon stayed in WA after their game against West Coast in Perth. It made a whole lot of sense for the Dreamtime match to be played in Perth.

Last year, also due to COVID, the game was moved to Darwin, where the traditional owners of the area, the Larrakia people, put on a fantastic Welcome to Country that rivalled past ceremonies. It was magical to see community so involved throughout the game there. It was so tangible what it meant to the Darwin community.

Now it's the Nyoongar people's turn in Perth, a people with a very strong connection to football, which includes Uncle Syd Jackson, who is this year's game's honoree.

Even though the AFL were forced by the lockdown to take the game away from Melbourne, and to Perth, maybe they will get the sense what the Dreamtime game means to Indigenous people around the country. And maybe in the future, in a world without COVID, the AFL can take the game outside of Melbourne and to other parts of the country – if that's even for every second year.

**Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.*



Willie Rioli has re-joined West Coast after almost two years away. Picture: Getty Images

Rioli welcomed back into the Eagles' nest



THE AFL career of Willie Rioli remains alive after West Coast decided against sacking the premiership forward, and teammate Oscar Allen revealed the Eagles eagerly await a reunion with the premiership goalsneak.

Rioli's AFL career was in the balance after he was caught with 24.23g of cannabis during a screening at Darwin airport on April 23. He was placed on a 12-month good behaviour bond.

West Coast last week announced that they will give Rioli another chance, and the star forward has since landed in Perth from his home of the Tiwi Islands.

Rioli's two-year ban for twice substituting urine during an anti-doping test and testing positive to cannabis on game day is due to expire on August 20, and he is free to resume training from June 20.

West Coast players can catch up with Rioli socially, but the goalsneak isn't allowed back at the club until June 20.

"We're excited. We haven't seen him for more than two years," Allen said.

"I remember talking about it and all the first and second year players haven't played

with him before. I had a year and a half with him.

"It's definitely been a long time. We can't wait to see him."

If all goes to plan, Rioli will be available to play for West Coast in the final game of the home-and-away season.

"We played in the forward line together," Allen said.

"We all saw what he can bring on field. He's probably the most talented player I've ever played with."

Eagles coach Adam Simpson says he is willing to trust Rioli again.

"We're a pretty empathetic industry. People make mistakes. It's just to what level," Simpson said recently.

"He's devastated. He's very remorseful and he understands the position he's put himself in."

Rioli burst on the scene in 2018, booting 28 goals in his debut season to play a key role in the club's premiership campaign.

The 175cm forward took his game to even greater heights the following year, but he was banned on the eve of the club's semifinal against Geelong after his urine substitution charge was officially announced. –AAP

Tour da Country plans return

By KRIS FLANDERS



AN Aboriginal man's innovative creation that had led to positive healthy outcomes could be on the comeback trail following a two-year hiatus

– and possibly bigger, better and maybe a bit longer than before.

Dale Wright, a keen cyclist, created the Tour da Country in 2012 with which he spread the message of good health and to give back to the community.

In five Tour da Country rides, Gomeroi/Walwon/Walbunga man Wright and a peloton of passionate cyclists hit

the road to visit countless communities and schools to talk about the importance of health, nutrition, exercise and the benefit of riding bikes.

They visited places like Brewarrina, Cobar, Bourke and Menindee in western NSW, and Albury and Wodonga on the NSW-Victorian border.

"When we stopped at primary schools with younger students, we would do talks about good food to eat, cutting down on soft drinks, spending less time on their devices and getting outdoors more," Wright said.

"When we visited high schools, I'd talk to the older ones about my story because they're at that age of being

tempted by alcohol and smoking and how there's a better way."

Now Wright plans for the Tour to return to the open road.

The Tour da Country is a gruelling 1000km ride which can take its toll on the body and mind, which was one of the reasons why it took a two-year break.

Other contributing factors for the hiatus were work and family commitments for the team of regular riders.

"The Tour is hard but it is not as hard as living with heart disease," Wright said.

"So it's for those health reasons

alone to start it again – to help our mob.

"I've started that conversation with some of the riders to do a mini-tour this year, say from Albion Park down to maybe Ulladulla, just to get us started again.

"I have missed the Tours and missed making a difference."

Wright believes that a spark to ignite the flame has begun and that he will return the Tour da Country to its former grand status.

"I think it's about time that we hit the road again," he said.

"I'd like to do a Sea Breeze tour along some of the coastline in NSW in 2022."



Dale Wright's Tour da Country takes in a variety of country and is the cycle that can break an unhealthy cycle. Pictures: Supplied

Life in the fast lane is best on two wheels

By KRIS FLANDERS



DALE Wright loves life in the fast lane and most of that time it's spent on two wheels. To put it simply, he is a cycling fanatic and the further the distance the better.

"The first time I saw cyclists was in the car with my dad, and a wave of colours came flashing by and I thought they were amazing," he said.

"But it wasn't until later, after I gave up football, that I connected with cycling again.

"When you're on a bike and you're cruising, sometimes just for a split second, it can almost feel like you're flying. That was the feeling I had when I was a kid and the same feeling I get today."

All of which led the Gomeroi/

Walwon/Walbunga man creating the Tour da Country. (See story above.)

Wright, 43, can often be seen chalking up the kilometres on his bike around Lake Illawarra on the NSW south coast or sweating it out taking on the rise of Mount Keira near Wollongong.

Whether on his lonesome or riding with friends in a peloton, Wright says cycling clears his head.

"I always say that comfort is the enemy of success," he said.

"Like, you've got to get out of your comfort zone in order to get any results. Mentally, cycling can push you to the edge but you can go through the pain. The exhilaration of getting to your destination is a thrill like no other."

"The early rides, the long trips, the falls are all forgotten when you consider the feeling of being in the saddle and the scenery."

To look at him today, you see a fit

man who takes care of himself. That is true, but it wasn't always the case.

During his teens and early 20s, Wright almost wrote himself off with a poor diet, consisting of take-away fast food, and too much alcohol.

"When you get into a bad habit, it can become normal," he said.

"For me at that time, it was normal to have a hangover and eat badly and not do any exercise. But it wasn't normal."

His lightbulb moment came in the form of some stiff news from the doctor in his mid 20s. He was told that if he didn't change his ways he wouldn't live to see 40. From that moment, Wright, promised himself that he would live a healthier way.

"Today, I'm probably now at the highest level of peak fitness that I have ever been," he said. "It came down to a choice of keep going the way I was or investing in myself to live longer."



Dale Wright (left) and Ben Russell on a previous Tour da Country ride.

Top End cricket's grand plan for Indigenous youth



INDIGENOUS engagement will be one of the key elements of NT Cricket's Cricket 365 program in the Top End, which has been rolled out recently.

Youth in Darwin and Katherine will have the opportunity to engage with and learn cricket from top-level Australian players.

Thirty of Australia's best up-and-coming players will combine with the Territory's 30 best cricketers to live and play in Darwin and nearby town of Palmerston for three months each dry (winter) season.

There will also be specific skills clinics over four days in both Darwin and Katherine. Overall, the 365 program will run for a touch over two months (10 weeks) and will begin toward the end of June.

The NT will play in a three-match series against a Cricket Australia XI.

"Cricket 365 will bring annual high-level cricket matches to the Top End, but the opportunity the program presents for the Territory is much broader than that," NT Cricket chief executive Joel Morrison said.

"Our aim is to leverage Cricket 365 and bring the game directly to kids who may

not otherwise have the opportunity to play.

"Through this joint initiative Indigenous kids will have an opportunity to engage with and learn new skills from elite sports people, participate in cricket and develop a love of the game."

"It will provide the Territory community with regular access to expert coaching, pathway opportunities to progress a career in sport and personal development opportunities through the likes of the Indigenous cricket program."

The 10-week program runs from June 20 until the end of August.

The program will feature the Strike

League One-Day competition, a three-match Top End Series between the Northern Territory and a Cricket Australia XI, and a Big-Bash-style Strike League Twenty20 tournament featuring two weeks of back-to-back cricket under lights.

A key focus for NT Cricket is leveraging the Cricket 365 program to promote the Top End and the Northern Territory as a great place to visit, study, live and play to a captive national and international audience.

● NT Cricket's Indigenous cricket program will be at Katherine from June 22-23 and in Darwin from July 21-30.

Spirit land in Japan ahead of busy pre-Games schedule



AUSTRALIA'S Olympic softball squad are among the first overseas athletes to arrive at the Tokyo Games after landing in Japan earlier this week to get some desperately needed game practice.

The 23-woman squad – which includes Indigenous women Janice Blackman, Stacey Porter and Tarni Stepto – arrived at Tokyo on Tuesday for a six-week camp in Ota, some 80km north-west of the capital, before the final 15-strong roster for the Games is selected.

Softball is returning to the Games for the first time since 2008 and the Australians will play 23 games against local professional teams to get a taste of the kind of pitching they will face at the Olympics.

"We need games," Softball Australia chief executive David Pryles said last week, explaining why the squad was leaving so early.

"We haven't played a game since February 2020.

"You can train all you like in softball but nothing can replicate the game experience."

Uncertainty still surrounds the Tokyo Games with opinion polls indicating a majority of the population of Japan are against it going ahead as scheduled with a leading newspaper last week even calling for its cancellation.

Along with a strict regime of COVID-19 testing before and after their arrival in Japan, the squad will be restricted to a single floor of a hotel at their training camp

and can leave only for trips to and from the ballpark.

"They're all determined. They know what's involved. I don't think they've had too many qualms," Pryles said of the players. "They've been on this journey since 2019. This is their dream."

Aussie Spirit 23-woman roster

Janice Blackman, Michelle Cox, Chelsea Forkin, Leigh Godfrey, Rachel Lack, Stacey McManus, Tahli Moore, Kaia Parnaby, Leah Parry, Gabbie Plain, Stacey Porter, Ellen Roberts, Justine Smethurst, Tarni Stepto, Tayla Tsitsikronis, Jade Wall, Clare Warwick, Belinda White, Tamieka Whitefield, Chelsae Robinson, Shannon Keevers, Georgia Hood, Bree Trim.



Aussie Spirit's Stacey Porter.

Tarni's rise an inspiring tale

By LIANA BURATTI



KAMILAROI woman Tarni Stepto was just nine-years-old when softball was last played at the Olympic Games. A lifetime in the making, the now-21-year-old hopes to make her Olympic debut as a softball player at the Tokyo Games next month and alongside her heroes she watched compete at Beijing in 2008.

Stepto first picked up a bat when she was six-years-old and it didn't take long for her to fall in love with the diamond. By 2017, she had made her debut for the junior national team, and for the senior national team, Aussie Spirit, a year later.

Stepto idolised fellow Kamilaroi woman, Stacey Porter, the dual-Olympian and current record-holder for the most games played for Australia.

When Porter made her Olympic debut at the Athens Games in 2004, Stepto was just five-years-old. Now, 17 years later, they are close teammates.

"I admire everything about her," Stepto said.

"She's a great athlete but she's also a great human. Being around her and seeing her work ethic drives you to work harder. Also the way she gives back to the community, she's the true definition of an amazing athlete and person."

Alongside Aussie Spirit teammate and another Tokyo Games hopeful, Janice Blackman, a Gubbi Gubbi and Butchulla woman, Porter and Stepto proudly presented Softball Australia's first Indigenous-themed training shirts to their squad during NAIDOC Week last year. It was especially

meaningful to Stepto who struggled with her identity after being bullied for the colour of her skin.

"Being able to present those shirts to my teammates and share our culture was extremely special," she said.

"I felt so humbled but also very vulnerable because when I was at school and even in competition people would say to me, 'You're not Aboriginal, your skin is white, but your dad is Black,' so I did face a lot of adversity when I was younger.

"I had to learn that there are people like that in the world. Racism happens on a daily basis, but I will always embrace my culture, embrace my family and just own being a proud Aboriginal woman.

"At the end of the day, if you know who you are, that's all that matters."

Stepto says she now harnesses any past adversity using it to become a role model for

other Aboriginal children.

"It's hard for Indigenous kids to see a pathway if they don't have anyone like them to look up to," she said.

"So, in being proud of who I am, I'm able to show other Indigenous kids that they can be too, and they can achieve anything they put their mind to."

Making her national debut just three years ago, Stepto hasn't had to weather the 13-year-wait between Games like that of some of her teammates but the significance of representing her country on the greatest sporting stage of all isn't lost on her.

"Competing at the Olympics would mean everything to me. It makes me emotional just speaking about it," Stepto said.

"I feel like it's every child athlete's dream to represent your family, your friends and your country at the Olympics and I can't wait to be there with my team."

● Tarni Stepto is poised to make her Olympic debut for Aussie Spirit in Tokyo. Picture: Getty Images



Battle of the Gulf makes long-awaited return

By ALF WILSON



RUGBY league returned to the Gulf of Carpentaria in Queensland recently when sides from remote communities in the region played off in the 2021 Battle of the Gulf competition at Normanton.

Teams from Doomadgee, Burketown, Normanton, Kowanyama and Mornington Island played out the first round.

The competition's sixth side Pormpuraaw was scheduled to play in round 1 but a road closure due to rain forced the team back.

One of the organisers Bevan Owens said the large crowd at John Henry Oval in Normanton saw the return of football for the first time in two years.

"We never had any competition last year due to coronavirus and the teams and fans appreciated having football back," he said.

"They love it at these communities and there was a big crowd."

Teams and their army of supporters face the longest distances of anywhere in the country to games, and mostly over rough dirt roads.

The 2021 competition will be held over three rounds with all matches at the central location of Normanton which has the facilities to cater for an influx of visitors.

Round 2 will be held on June 19.

Mornington Island won the 2019 Battle of the Gulf premiership when they defeated Normanton. Along with Burketown, they performed strongly in round 1, while Doomadgee and Kowanyama showed enough to expect they will improve in rounds 2 and 3.

The Battle of the Gulf first began three years ago.

This year's grand final is set down for late July.



The Mornington Island Raiders were happy to see the return of football.



● Jacqui Dover took charge of her first NBL game last week.
Picture: Getty Images

Dover making history in the NBL

By KRIS FLANDERS



THE NBL's second-ever Indigenous Round last week was memorable for many reasons and one of those was the debut of referee Jacqui Dover who became the first female Indigenous referee to officiate in the top-flight men's competition.

The Yugambah woman, who has taken charge of games in the WNBL, was in control of last week's opener between Brisbane and Cairns, won by the Bullets 101-96 in Cairns.

"It was a pretty exciting and proud moment in my career," Dover said.

"My family were all supportive, lots of proud comments. My older sister (Candice) actually surprised me by bringing my nephews along. The game itself went right down to the wire and the atmosphere was electric.

"The notable difference from the woman's game was the constant speed change. The woman's game is more structured while the men's game is fast-paced the whole time. So it was just keeping up and reading what the players are doing and what's coming next."

The whistleblower's performance was strong and the match flowed. It could earn her more NBL games.

"There are some areas for me to improve on, but I'll review the game," she said. "I take a lot of confidence from that performance and I will welcome the next opportunity."

All-Star Dodd wins second Origin call-up

By KRIS FLANDERS



THREE-time Indigenous All-Star Quincy Dodd will add another string to her bow after gaining State of Origin selection for NSW, her second Blues jumper.

Dodd helped push her case for selection playing in one of rugby league's oldest match-ups recently in the NSW City vs Country Origin game at Western Sydney Stadium. She played at hooker for City in the representative clash that saw her side win 40-16 over Country.

Dodd will now take her place in the NSW Blues team in next month's clash with Queensland.

The City-Country match also saw the emerging Caitlan Johnston, another Indigenous All-Star, playing for Country and she was among her team's best as a prop-forward.

"Our (City) coach (Lisa Fiaola) said to us once you pull that jersey on you create a bit of history and to just play your heart out. It was special," Dodd said.

"We played well, our attack was on-point, but it was great to be defensively solid as well."

It was the 21-year-old's debut for City.

"I definitely love taking on the line myself and getting into open spaces and displaying my individual skills, but I'm also very much a team player and doing what's best for everyone and making sure our team wins," she said.

The crafty dummy-half made her Origin debut in 2020 which the Maroons won. She wants to reverse that result and bring the shield back to NSW.

"I learnt that much during the week about the game and about how I can better my own performance," Dodd said.

"Plus the atmosphere was amazing. It's always a massive clash and there's so much history between the states; just enjoying the moment is the best thing you can do."

One of Dodd's proudest moments has come via her selection as an All-Star in their clash with New Zealand Maori.

The Dharug woman says it's been quite an honour sharing and learning about culture and identity in the All-Stars' camps.

"That's probably been my favourite week of the year. It's like nothing else you can compare it to," she said.

"You bond so well and you stand up with your sisters – a moment you'll never forget."



Quincy Dodd turned in another credible representative performance, this time for City in the NSW City v Country match.

Pictures: Getty Images

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Bayles lands on Kings' roster



Biwali Bayles has been signed by the Sydney Kings for the 2021/22 NBL season.



UP-and-coming basketball talent Biwali Bayles will join the Sydney Kings for the 2021/22 NBL season in what is a major get for the club.

The junior national team representative helped Australia secure a gold medal at the 2019 FIBA under-17 Oceania championships where he averaged 9.5 points and three assists.

He was also one of just four Aussies selected to attend the Basketball Without Borders Global Camp in Chicago early last year.

A proud young Indigenous man, Bayles is looking forward to representing the purple and gold.

"I'm definitely very excited to be signing with the Kings and playing for my hometown team," he said.

"It's something I've wanted to do since I was very young.

"I'm excited that I'll now be playing alongside these guys that I've looked up to

coming through my junior years.

"I'm looking forward to playing in front of my family and friends and representing my whole area.

"I'm keen to get them all more involved in watching more basketball and really putting my area on the map.

"It's been a goal of mine while I was growing up to always try to make the right decisions and be a good role model for not only the people in my community but also my two little brothers as well.

"I want to lead the way for young Indigenous kids coming through and to be someone they can look up to and see that if someone from our area is doing what I'm doing, they can do it too."

A junior with the Sydney Comets, Bayles is a product of the Basketball Australia Centre of Excellence program.

In 2020 he represented NSW at the under-20 Australian junior championships where he averaged 20.2 points, 6.7 rebounds and 6.8 assists per game. This also included a 30-point, 10-rebound and

11 assists triple-double against South Australia. He went on to be named in the All-Star Five for the tournament.

Most recently Bayles is coming off the back of a successful Freshman year at the University of Hawai'i, before making the decision to continue his playing career back home in Australia.

In his first year, the talented guard played in all 21 games where he started in 12 of them, including the final seven of the season.

Throughout the season Bayles averaged 6.2 points, 3.1 rebounds and 2.6 assists as well as shooting an impressive 43% from 3-point range and leading the team in assists. His shooting prowess was put on display against CSUN where he hit the game-winning 3-point shot to give Hawai'i the 75-74 win.

Bayles has already returned to Sydney from the US and has been spending time on court with the playing group. He'll officially join the team ahead of the 2021/22 NBL pre-season later in the year.

Black Cockatoos' bold plan to win KO again

By KRIS FLANDERS



THE only thing that is better than winning the Koori Knockout is winning the Koori Knockout again as back-to-back champions, and on home turf.

The South Coast Black Cockatoos won the right to host the NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout Carnival after winning it in 2019 when they defeated Griffith Three Ways in the final at Tuggerah on the NSW central coast.

The event was cancelled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic but it's back this year and the Black Cockatoos are ready to defend their hard-fought title.

South Coast's Ben Wellington says the side is gearing up perfectly to play Knockout football again.

"After missing out last year because of COVID, everyone is just frothing to get out there and play," he said.

"There's always changes to a team but we tried hard to keep the core group of our club together. We have a winning recipe and are training hard and we are mentally set.

"To be able to back up our previous win would be something. Like, to win just one Knockout is special but to do it twice and on your home soil, I don't even have words for that feeling."

Wellington, 39, has been part of victorious Knockout teams before but being part of this winning side in 2019 meant even more after the untimely death of his brother, James.

"It's an emotional thing for me, my brother lived and breathed football," Wellington said.

"He was a real people person and he



The victorious South Coast Black Cockatoos team celebrate their triumph at the 2019 NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout carnival at Tuggerah on the NSW central coast.

had a lot of friends and a lot of brothers.

"This team was always James' dream, so this side is a reflection of his wishes, from the jersey colours to the name of Black Cockatoos.

"Nothing compares to this. This is the pinnacle. You can't beat it. To do this for him (James) makes me proud."

To win the biggest rugby league tournament in NSW you need plenty of things to go right – a skilful 'KO brand' of football, remaining injury-free, having a talented extended squad and, of course, a bit of Lady Luck.

"Obviously a good draw can help, but you just have to win that first game. There

are no second chances," Wellington said.

"You need a good bench and good depth to cover injuries in key positions. You've got to be warriors to get through the Knockout weekend. You have to be mentally tough to prevail."

The Black Cockatoos are made up of players from around the NSW south coast, including places like Batemans Bay, Wallaga Lake and Nowra.

Wellington says this side brings together different south coast mob under one banner.

"I think we won because we had a purpose – we played for each other and played for my brother, James. We had a

love for each other and that came through in our footy," he said.

"We're already winners just by holding it here on the south coast and doing that for our families. Of course we want to win on the field, too."

The Black Cockatoos will have stiff competition from many clubs. Everyone wants to beat the champs.

"Teams will have a good idea of their opponents' strengths and weaknesses," Wellington said.

"Every side wants to win and every side will put their best possible team forward, but we are preparing well and we want this."

Wigness hails league's move into Indigenous Round



BRISBANE Bullets' Tamuri Wigness said last week's NBL Indigenous Round was as much about education as recognition after the league held its second annual

event.

Indigenous Round in the NBL coincided with National Reconciliation Week and it followed on from the success of last year's inaugural round.

All nine NBL clubs wore uniforms designed by local artists for last week's league-wide event.

The Bullets and Cairns Taipans opened Indigenous Round last week in Cairns in

which the Brisbane side won, 101-96.

"It really gives me pride that we get to acknowledge our people," Wigness said.

"I have my family on my back, not just my Bullets family but my people and my culture with me as well.

"For the entire NBL to acknowledge the Indigenous people of Australia is great, but this is about education and awareness as well.

"This round will provide the Indigenous community with so much inspiration to strive to be an NBL player. I can guarantee all the Indigenous kids around the country will be watching.

"The Brisbane Bullets jersey

recognises speed, strength and accuracy which are three major elements that we need to take into every game."

The NBL said proceeds from the club's Indigenous Round uniform sales will be invested in the development of its new Indigenous pathway programs, focused around player recruitment, development and retention.

The NBL's Indigenous stocks rose by one last week with the signing of Biwali Bayles by the Sydney Kings for next season, joining Brisbane's Wigness, Nate Jawai (Cairns), Keanu Pinder (Adelaide) and William McDowell-White (New Zealand).



Tamuri Wigness Picture: Brisbane Bullets



First Nations Gems co-captain Rikka Lamb leads the team out in the final of the 2021 NRL Women's National Championships at Dolphins Stadium in Redcliffe.

Heartbreak for Gems at nationals

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



A DESPERATE defensive effort by the First Nations Gems in golden-point extra-time was all that stood between them and glory at the 2021 NRL Women's National Championship in Redcliffe, north of Brisbane.

But a final surge by Western Australia saw the Sandropers breach the Gems' defence to win 10-6 and with it the national title.

It was a game for the ages and book-ended an entertaining four days of rugby league that will hold the game in good stead.

The Gems team was the first Indigenous representative

women's rugby league team at the championships and co-captain Rikka Lamb was full of praise for all involved.

The team met each other properly for the first time in the lead-up before the championships at Redcliffe, 30km north of the Brisbane CBD.

"We gelled really quickly and whatever the coaches wanted from us we took it to the field straight away," Lamb said.

"Maybe that was 'black magic' or whatever but coming from different parts of Australia and not being able to train together before, how we gelled came naturally and some of that was on show out on the field."

The Gems and WA were the teams to beat at the

championships. The result was bitter-sweet for Lamb, who plays for first-grade South Sydney in the NSWRL Women's Premiership.

"It was a bit upsetting. The game could've gone either way but it went their way in the end," she said.

"WA were one of the top teams in tournament. They didn't look out of place. Some of their skills were great.

"I'm all for getting more girls and communities into the game so it was good for them to maybe inspire girls in their area and to keep on developing rugby league in their state."

● **Discovering Gems at Redcliffe, pages 54, 55**

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Aussie Sevens in Trans-Tasman series warm-up



IN what was their first international fixtures in nearly 500 days, the Australian Sevens programs took a

large playing squad to New Zealand for a series of warm-up matches against the All Blacks Sevens as they refine preparations for the Tokyo Olympics.

The sides played in a series of 12 matches over three days, replicating the format of the Olympics.

Maurice Longbottom, Dylan Pietsch, Jordan Williams (men's) and Lori Cramer (women's) carried Indigenous hopes in the Australian sides.

Cramer had earlier secured a contract with the national program ahead of the Games.

● **Australian Sevens' Dylan Pietsch runs in a try in the Trans-Tasman series against the All Blacks Sevens in New Zealand. Picture: Getty Images**



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The stunning design that took centre court for Garville

By PETER ARGENT



YAMAJI/Noongah mother and daughter Melanie Pickett and Tierrah Miller were both happy and proud to see their artistic collaboration take centre court last weekend in Netball SA's Premier League's Indigenous Round celebrations.

NSA's Indigenous Round was held last weekend from May 28 to 31.

Six of the eight state Premier League netball teams wore striking and colourful Aboriginal art-inspired uniforms. Among the most striking was Garville Netball Club's, which was designed by Pickett and her daughter Miller, a Premier League player at Garville.

"From a personal perspective, to collaborate with my daughter and come up with this design was really special," Pickett said.

"We are both proud Yamaji/Noongah women from Western Australia and the symbols have been used and passed down through our art by our people telling our stories."

● Melanie Pickett (left) and Tierrah Miller model Garville Netball Club's Indigenous Round design. Picture: Peter Argent



Sport turned it on during Reconciliation Week. Picture: AAP

Sport can only do so much for wider society

JUST about everywhere you looked last week sport celebrated our people across the country and on the field of play. Flick through these very pages and you will see what sport got up to during Reconciliation Week. I love that the First Nations Gems women's rugby league team 'unofficially' kicked things off when they played at the national championships a week earlier.



Darren Moncrieff

Indigenous Round nowadays has become such an accepted component of what sport does and I am struggling to think which top-tier sport actually does not have some kind of official recognition of our people tied in within their season.

We've certainly come a long way, that's for sure. It's all a marker for how much society has changed from back in the olden days when we barely registered as human beings. It must be remembered that a lot of the groundwork for what we see today was laid by Indigenous former players in these very games, those same ones who copped shameful amounts of hate-fuelled and ignorant abuse and discrimination. Just like most things our people enjoy today, be it in sport, at work or in the society in general, it was the hard work and sacrifice of those far-sighted visionaries who came before us that paved the way for greater acceptance and recognition of all our mob in sport. No way were any of the various sports' governing bodies going to come up with anything like this, but once they got a handle of what those early pioneers were telling them they listened, to their credit.

Still, all of the pretty designs and RAPs and week-long platitudes can never mask the current ills that our people face in wider society. While it is not sport's place, nor do they have the power, to change legislation (for example, raising the age of incarceration), sport's example can at least show the powers-that-be that there is a huge base of people who don't care for their divisive politics.

Sport brings people together and it can set a great example for what is possible.

**Darren Moncrieff is a Wadjarli-Thakarli/Yinggarda man from Kuwinyardu (Carnarvon) in Western Australia who started with Yamaji News in 1997 and freelanced in WA's Kimberley region and in the Northern Territory. He is sports editor at the Koori Mail.*

Garbutt giving fans something to cheer for

By ALF WILSON



GARBUTT Magpies' Aussie rules teams are slowly turning the wheel and giving their legion of fans something to cheer for, following some positive signs on the field.

Last year, a Garbutt women's team entered the AFL Townsville competition but had failed to win a game. However, after seven rounds this season, the Magpies women have won two games and are closing in on fourth spot and a possible semifinals berth. In round 2, they defeated Northern Beaches in a thriller, 2.5 (17) to 2.4 (16) and in round 4, they thumped Thuringowa, 4.9 (33) to 3.1 (19).

The Magpie men, while yet to win a game and having suffered some heavy losses, have shown steady improvement. In round 7, they had 16 scoring shots in the loss to Northern Beaches 13.8 (86) to 7.9 (51).

Earlier this year, a Garbutt senior men's team joined the reserves competition after nearly 35 years out.



The Garbutt Magpies men's reserves team is showing steady improvement.



Melbourne Football Club's Indigenous contingent wearing the club's stunning 2021 Sir Doug Nicholls Round jumpers: (from left) Toby Belford, Deakyn Smith, Steven May, Neville Jetta and Kysaiah Pickett. The design was by Arrernte artist, Amunda Gorey. It is named 'Ayeye Anwernekenhe' which means 'Our Story' in Arrernte. The Demons are scheduled to wear the jumper when they play Brisbane in Alice Springs this weekend. *Picture: Getty Images*

Ayeye Anwernekenhe, and our place, in Australian sport



Melbourne Storm's Josh Add-Carr engages with fans post-match during Indigenous Round in the NRL.



ACROSS the codes and across the country, in major cities and in regional centres, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture took centre-stage last week as Australian sport stepped up its recognition of First Nations people during Reconciliation Week.

It has now become an annual tradition, the National Rugby League, the Australian Football League, the National Basketball

League and Super Netball each dedicated their respective rounds of games to highlight Indigenous people's significant contribution to their sports.

A highlight of Indigenous Round in sport are clubs' Indigenous-themed jumper and kit designs.

Indigenous participation in Australian sport has been a constant since organised games began in this country.

A roll-call of Indigenous former players and past greats have literally shaped the way some of these

games have been played – from Eric Simms in rugby league to Graham 'Polly' Farmer in Aussie rules. It is to them and to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people overall that sport honours that contribution.

- NBL Indigenous Round, pages 48, 49
- AFL Sir Doug Nicholls Round, pages 50, 51
- NRL Indigenous Round, pages 52, 53
- First Nations Gems, pages 54, 55

Black Cockatoos' ambitious KO plan



SOUTH Coast Black Cockatoos have set themselves the Herculean task of winning back-to-back titles in Aboriginal rugby league's main event.

The Black Cockatoos, made up of players from the NSW south coast, have begun plotting to win the 2021 NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout Carnival, known also as the Koori

Knockout, which will be held on their home turf at Nowra.

The Black Cockatoos won the right to host the Knockout following their memorable win over Griffith Three Ways in the final at Tuggerah on the NSW central coast in 2019.

The event this year will mark the first time it will be held south of Sydney.

The Koori Knockout was cancelled last year when the pandemic was in full swing.

"After missing out last year because of COVID, everyone is just frothing to get out there and play," South Coast's Ben Wellington said.

"There's always changes to a team, but we tried hard to keep the core group of our club together.

"We have a winning recipe and are training hard and we are mentally set," Ben said.

● Full story, page 61



South Coast Black Cockatoos celebrate their 2019 Koori Knockout triumph. The reigning champions will this year host the event at Nowra on the NSW south coast.



Tour da Country on the comeback after two-year hiatus, page 58



Koori Mail

FIRST EDITION



THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991

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RACIST VIOLENCE: THE HIDDEN FACTS

A report by Marcelle Muldoon on the findings of the National Inquiry into Racist Violence in Australia appears on Pages 3 and 4.

Elders to call for curfew

Following the release of the report into racist violence in Australia, Bundjalung Tribal elder Mr Frank Roberts, of Lismore, spoke of a need for curfews for Aborigines in trouble areas.

By JANINE WILSON

Mr Roberts said that when North Coast elders met at Tabulam on Saturday, a major consideration at that meeting would be the call for a curfew.

He said it was a drastic move and was something that was being contemplated in an attempt to prevent deaths and murders among the 'children'.

He said it was an extreme measure to give Aboriginal youth and children maximum protection and safety under an Aboriginal-instigated umbrella.

"The three deaths of Aborigines at Bowraville has revealed a dangerous situation in Aboriginal history," Mr Roberts said. "There could be a breakout in violence against Aboriginal youth."

Mr Roberts described the move as an initiative by North Coast elders that the elders hoped would flow through to the whole of Australia.

He said the need for such a consideration had arisen because the situation had become desperate. Mr Roberts said an undercurrent of racism always existed, and that this should not be tolerated.

Mr Roberts was also critical of the role of churches in the suppression and degradation of Aborigines.

He said that "90 percent of police and politicians belonged to the church".

"In the final analysis churches are to blame for the present situation," Mr Roberts said.

He agreed that Aborigines had low self-esteem due to suppression, exploitation, racism, and said that they were the recipients of the worse treatment in Australia.

He said Aboriginal people had been indoctrinated to such an extent that they lost their esteem, which deteriorated until they were a non-entity.

"At a low ebb, this gives away to depression," Mr Roberts said.

He said Aboriginal youth needed an anchor. "The ball is in the Aboriginal court," he said.

Mr Roberts spoke of the new generation and optimism, moves by the Human Rights Commission to look at the Australian Aborigine situation but realised that should new legislation be introduced, that did not provide an instant answer.

He recalled the words of former captain of the West Indies cricket team, Sir Frank Worrell.

"Legislation won't change a man's heart, but it will change his behaviour towards me."

FIRST EDITION

The Koori Mail has arrived and will now appear in newsagencies on a fortnightly basis.

The first edition of the Koori Mail is a positive step in providing a voice for Kooris everywhere.

It aims to provide information on issues important to Kooris.

The paper is striving to give a Koori perspective and greater detail that is generally available in the media, providing important information for both the Koori and non-Koori population.

Apart from current issues, the Koori Mail will carry a range of features, personality profiles highlighting Koori achievements, book and film reviews, children's pages and sport.

The first edition will be distributed throughout New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria with plans to go national as soon as possible.

The Koori Mail is based in Lismore and is printed by The Northern Star at Goonellabah.

The Koori Mail wishes to acknowledge the valuable assistance provided by The Northern Star so that we could take our first step, and the help provided by John Muldoon, of Lismore Enterprise Development Agency, and the Koori Mail staff.

★
LOOKING
FOR
A JOB

Pages 9, 10

★
PRACTICAL
ADVICE ON
COMPILING
YOUR
FAMILY TREE

Page 11 — 14

★
KOORI KIDS'
CLUB

Page 20

★
RUGBY
LEAGUE
PROFILE

Back page

Memorial stone for Aboriginal soldiers

Australia's first memorial to Aboriginal servicemen and women is a large rock painting, which was unveiled recently at an ancient Bora Ground on the Gold Coast.

The memorial was organised by descendants of the Gold Coast's traditional Aboriginal owners, the Kombumerri clan.

Kombumerri Aboriginal Corporation for Culture (KACC) spokeswoman Ysola Best said the memorial paid tribute to servicemen and service-women from more than six clans who lived in the extreme south-east corner of Queensland.

The clans were known collectively as the Yugambeh tribal group.

Many Aboriginal people had to fight for the right to defend their country according to author David Huggonson, who has traced more than 400 Aboriginal servicemen and servicewomen in every major campaign since the Boer War.

The names of more than 60 Yugambeh ex-servicemen and women have been recorded. In his address to about 400 guests Huggonson, of Canberra, said there were many reports of Aborigines being rejected from the recruiting office because they were 'too Aboriginal'.

To avoid rejection some Aboriginal people hid their ancestry by claiming they were Maoris or Islanders, he said.



Captain Wesley Aird, the only Aboriginal graduate from Duntroon, at the unveiling of the Aboriginal memorial stone at Burleigh Heads. The stone was painted by Aboriginal artist Michael Bell.

Aboriginal lore says the bora site symbolises the fighting waddy of the giant creation spirit Jabreen, who made us human.

As Jabreen, the boomerang maker, came out of the water and picked up his huge fighting waddy he caused a rocky outcrop now known as Little Burleigh.

For Aboriginal people bora sites were specially preserved areas used for initiation and learning ceremonies.

The Jebbribillim Bora ground on which the memorial stone stands has been returned to the custody of the Kombumerri people by the Gold Coast City Council.



Owen Carriage creates a voice for our people

By DARREN COYNE



THE mob around the campfire at the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in Canberra

thought Owen Carriage was joking. "I'm going to start a newspaper," the young Walbunja man told them, and their laughter filled the cold night air of Australia's capital city.

Thirty years on, after founding the *Koori Mail* in 1991, Mr Carriage recalled that moment recently and admitted their mirth was somewhat justified.

"They laughed at me for the simple reason I knew nothing about journalism and nothing about newspapers," he said.

What he did know about, however, was anger and frustration.

"That frustration was to do with the fact that the newspapers of the day, every story that they put in them was negative about Indigenous people, especially the tabloids."

With a burning desire to create a voice for Indigenous people, Mr Carriage sold his home in Sydney and moved north to Ballina.

Just up the road was Lismore, the site of the regional newspaper, the *Northern Star*.

"My daughter Christine was about seven years of age at the time and I asked her, 'What would you call a newspaper?'"

"Being a Yuin person of the Walbunja clan, she said, 'Dad, I'd call it the *Koori Mail*.'"

"There were no grants or funding from the old ATSC days, but I managed to secure the services of a journalist from the *Northern Star* who joined the crew on a part-time basis, sometimes paid, sometimes not.

"It was a struggle at the beginning, but we got through it and, of course, I eventually ran out of puff, and the organisation, financially-wise, wasn't in a viable situation, so I spoke to the local land councils there in Lismore and Coraki and I said, 'Do you want to buy the newspaper and continue it?' and, of course, they said yes."

A deal was struck in 1992, and ownership of the *Koori Mail* was transferred to five small Aboriginal organisations in Bundjalung country which control the paper to this day.

From that initial idea around the campfire, Mr Carriage had put his money where his mouth was and proved the doubters wrong.

"That's where I departed from the *Koori Mail* but I supported the newspaper by way of any advice the board wanted from me 24/7 for some time later, and then they ran it on their own and it's still going today," Mr Carriage said.

"The aim was to start the fortnightly paper and end up a weekly paper, but at the time my ambition, as I said, was running high with frustration and anger



Page 2 of the first edition of the *Koori Mail* shows the original team including Owen Carriage with editor Janine Wilson as they plan for the edition.

with the current media.

"Plans changed of course and I couldn't afford a weekly paper so we kept it as a fortnightly, and it still is today.

"I'm still proud of the paper and the job that you guys are still continuing on it.

"There're great stories in it and I know it's beneficial to the general public, the mob, and also to the non-Indigenous, so it's doing its job.

"Everyone I talk to now, they give it big wraps. A lot of the issues that you're posting in the paper, some of them are gone now, but some of them are still

there, and it makes me angry that the system still ignores the Indigenous voice in this country.

"We are still not recognised per se, and our rights are still not where they should be. The voice of our mob is still not in Canberra.

"Even in state politics, the voice of our mob is not even there."

In the early days, the *Koori Mail* was printed on a press located at the Northern Star media centre in a suburb of Lismore.

Somewhat ironically, the *Koori Mail* is now located in the old Northern Star building in downtown Lismore.

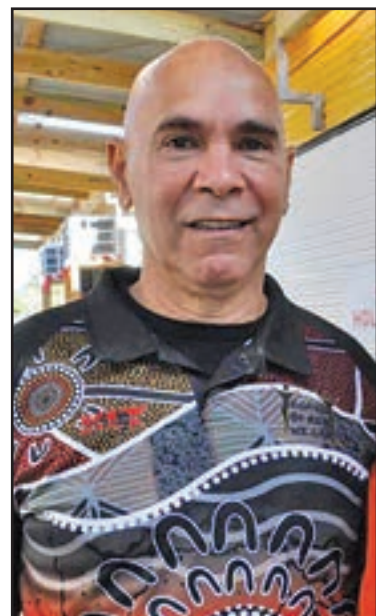
Most recently the newspaper

has started branching out into podcasting, and other forms of digital media in an effort to provide more platforms to spread news to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and others.

"It shows you there is such a demand for the content of it," Mr Carriage said.

"Even the government agencies purchase the *Koori Mail* at state and federal levels, and it's informative to the shire councils that buy it, so it's certainly made a difference with communications to communities.

"In the early days, the stories were limited by what we could



Koori Mail founding father Owen Carriage continues to give his support and time to community.

access on the day.

"Communication was a difficult part of it, but we dealt with the hand we were dealt.

"What we had access to, we utilised that."

Thirty years on, Mr Carriage is still keeping busy.

"I'm retired of course and on the pension, but I'm assisting the community in various ways, mentoring young people on the construction of the highway, and bridge construction on the South Coast, creating employment by way of negotiations, and I'm also involved with the cultural burning with our young people and some Elders.

"Of course, with the fire that went through down here on the South Coast, the demand is really high with regards to the practice of fire burning.

"I came from the meeting today regarding cultural burns with our private landowners.

"They're frustrated with the Rural Fire Service, their rules and regulations and their practice, because they don't know how to manage cultural fires.

"Nine times out of 10, they use hot burns. And the flora and fauna is totally destroyed or partially destroyed where it doesn't come back.

"A lot of landowners are realising that they don't need the RFS anymore.

"They want a modern way of dealing with it using the old practices."

Thirty years on from creating the *Koori Mail*, Mr Carriage is still on a mission to share information and impart knowledge.

"The enthusiasm is to look after community and to try to create employment," he said.

"It's also important to continue to attack the system, to continuously move our people forward, and the only way to do this is by creating employment and training programs.

"That's where I'm at in my life now."

Proudly 100% Aboriginal owned and managed

**Jing gee la ngee jingii waala gala ba *Gurii Mail* nguu 30th Warrai ween Edition nguu
Hello and welcome to the Koori Mail 30th Year Edition**



'RACIST violence: the hidden facts' – that was the first main headline on the first edition of the *Koori Mail*, published on May 23, 1991.

Thirty years on, the *Koori Mail* remains proudly and staunchly situated on Bundjalung country, in Lismore, north-east NSW, and is still committed to telling the stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the country.

The *Koori Mail* publishes fortnightly and is the only 100%-Aboriginal owned and managed independent national newspaper, and is also a certified Supply Nation business.

The *Koori Mail's* profits go back to the five Aboriginal organisations that have owned the paper since they bought it in 1992: Nungera Co-operative (Maclean), Bundjalung Tribal Society (Lismore), Kurrachee Co-operative (Coraki), Buyinbin Co-operative (Casino) and Bunjum Co-operative (Cabbage Tree Island).

Nungera Co-operative, an Aboriginal housing co-operative located in Maclean, is a proud owner of the *Koori Mail*.

Nungera board member Trevor Kapeen, who is also the chairman of the *Koori Mail* board, said the co-operative was formed in 1975.

"It was formed by a group of Elders sitting under a tree at the mission," Mr Kapeen said.

"They applied for funding from the State Government to house our people, and we now have 32 homes, which are rented at a rate set by the co-operative."

Nungera also owns a farm on Corolama Island, with a house and manager, and runs a range of programs through the Lower Clarence Aboriginal Youth Service, providing support for youth aged between 12 and 18 years in the Maclean and Yamba area.

"We do run other programs, but our youth program is number one," Mr Kapeen said. "We also auspice the Lower Clarence Aboriginal Women's Resource Centre in partnership with Milgirr Ungwirri Aboriginal Womens Group."

"This service works in partnership with other support services to work with and engage young people who may need further support."

Mr Kapeen said being a part-owner of the *Koori Mail* enabled the co-operative to provide housing, with dividends spread between keeping homes in good shape and helping kids in sport.

"We've had a few ups and downs, but we're running strong," he said.

The Bundjalung Tribal Society (BTS), first established in 1974, is another of the five proud Aboriginal-controlled organisations that own the *Koori Mail*.

BTS chairperson Tracey King, who is also on the board of the newspaper, said the Bundjalung Tribal Society, which is located in Lismore, was established to help



Koori Mail board member Janice Kapeen, right, with family Ranald Duncan, Vanessa and Alvina Kapeen.



Koori Mail board member Tracey King and chair Trevor Kapeen.



Uncle Ron Randall is chairperson of the Buyinbin Aboriginal Corporation, based in Casino.



Bundjalung man Lawrence Roberts is the chair of the Bunjum Aboriginal Corporation.

meet the needs of local Aboriginal people.

"We started out to provide low cost, rental housing and we now own 16 houses and manage three others," she said. "We also own and lease out Namatjira Haven, a drug and alcohol service which provides culturally appropriate support for men in recovery."

Ms King said the BTS also owns Namabunda Farm near Alstonville, which consists of three separate properties with a combined area of almost 30 hectares.

"We have partnered with (sustainable farming not-for-profit) Ethos Global to develop the property, which has two houses on it," she said. "Originally when it was first planted out they grew lychees, but we are now looking at other farming alternatives."

"The idea is to regenerate the place by planting bush tucker, garden plots, vegetables and small crops."

"We want to use the site for education, sharing cultural knowledge, and training programs for our young people."

Ms King said the BTS was proud to be a part of the *Koori Mail* history,



The first Bundjalung board of the *Koori Mail* in 1992. From left, vice-chairman Russell Kapeen (Box Ridge), chairman Robert Cameron (Casino), public officer the Rev Charles Harris (Lismore) and secretary Charles Moran (Goonellabah).

describing the 30-year-old newspaper as a "good investment".

Kurrachee Co-operative, based in Coraki, also provides affordable housing for Aboriginal people.

In 2019, Janice Kapeen took the reins of Kurrachee, following the death of her father Russell Kapeen, who had been chair of the *Koori Mail* board for more than 20 years and who was also one of the original board members.

"We do Aboriginal housing and we also do special events like NAIDOC, Reconciliation Week and put on a Christmas party for the kids," Ms Kapeen said. "We sponsor community events too. It's very important for Kurrachee as a community organisation to support and help families who are struggling to get a home."

"My father was so passionate about the *Koori Mail* and I feel good and excited to take on my father's role."

And, as well as taking on her father's role, Ms Kapeen also inherited Russell's love of Coraki, where she has lived all her life.

"It's a great little town. We all get along, Indigenous and others," Ms Kapeen said. "Coraki is right on two rivers that meet. It's like it's in the middle of all the organisations that own the *Koori Mail*."

Ron Randall is a freshwater and saltwater person of the Bundjalung Nation. He also belongs to Yaegl country.

"Buyinbin Aboriginal Corporation started in the mid 1970s and what we do most is work with the community in terms of Aboriginal housing options," Uncle Ron told the *Koori Mail*.

"Back then, Buyinbin was more of a 'jack of all trades' organisation, in that we developed and delivered successful community training programs to mob, sourcing and obtaining suitable housing options, and securing any sports funding we could get our hands on."

"These projects and programs were referred to at the time as Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP), but since the government stopped CDEP a number of years ago, we have had to fend for ourselves."

"We are now proudly a stand-alone organisation because we no longer receive any government funding, and all our funding is sourced internally."

"We just don't see the same level of government funding and grants today like they used to be, and it seems as though the government of today really don't care what happens to Aboriginal

people.

"That's why Buyinbin is such an important organisation, because we need to cater to our Goori people, even if the government won't."

Uncle Ron said he is looking forward to seeing what the next 30 years brings for the *Koori Mail*.

"We need to make sure we are keeping up with the times so we have just built a new podcast studio to complement the newspaper, and this will help to further our reach and deliver news to mob, and that's something I am really excited about," he said.

"With the *Koori Mail's* amazing general manager, our deadly editor, and all the staff there, and everything being above board with what we do, we know that as Australia's only national Indigenous newspaper we can do anything."

Lawrence Roberts chairs Bunjum Aboriginal Corporation, which has seven other directors supporting the organisation.

"I am so proud of the *Koori Mail*, not just the paper, but the employees and staff who have made this such a successful publication also," Uncle Lawrence said. "Over the 30 years the *Koori Mail* has been operating, it has done so much good for our people."

"My brother and a couple of my uncles have been involved in the *Koori Mail* in the past too, so it holds a special place in my heart."

"We need this newspaper, because our communities rely on it as a critical source of information."

Bunjum began as an Aboriginal co-operative, producing sugar cane for many years.

It also provided CDEP and other programs that provided training, employment and business opportunities.

"We took an opportunity and invested in the *Koori Mail*, and this turned out to be the best long-term investment that continues its growth, and, as one of the five owners, we get a dividend," Uncle Lawrence said.

"In late 1990, we commenced building the Bunjum Construction Company and this provided jobs for trainees and apprenticeships in building and construction where we built homes for our Aboriginal community."

"We continue to provide and manage social housing for Aboriginal people in Wardell, Alstonville, Wollongbar and Ballina."

"In 2012, we applied for a tender to deliver, manage and operate an Aboriginal Childcare and Family Centre."

"We were successful and now operate a fully accredited licensed childcare centre for 59 children and family support programs at Jarjum Bugal Nah Childcare Centre in West Ballina."

In 2016, Bunjum changed from a co-operative to an Aboriginal corporation. Bunjum continues to offer support services to Aboriginal children, their families and community, employing around 40 permanent and part-time staff.



Former *Koori Mail* editor Kirstie Parker at the 20-year celebrations in 2011.

Former editor reflects on the strength of the *Koori Mail*



WHEN Yuwallarai woman Kirstie Parker was editor of the *Koori Mail*, from 2006-2013, she used to love opening the paper and looking at all the Black faces from different walks of life. She still does.

"I remember when I was at the *Koori Mail* as editor and we celebrated the 20th anniversary," she said.

"That was a big deal, but it's 10 years on from that and such an important milestone for the national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander newspaper.

"It's an indication of the love that is felt in our community and more broadly in Australian society."

Kirstie said one of the strengths of the *Koori Mail* was that the paper covered such a broad range of events and gave a voice to many different people.

"Obviously things like the National Apology to the Stolen Generations and the Northern Territory intervention, but also the magnificent achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

people around the country in every sphere," she said.

"There are too many stories to mention them all but every single one gave my heart a boost.

"The *Koori Mail* has reported on Australian Indigenous community life in all its glory and always from the widest possible range of Indigenous perspectives."

Kirstie's time with the paper began as the north Queensland correspondent in the 1990s, before going on to be Indigenous Affairs Minister Robert Tickner's communications advisor.

She returned as editor in 2006.

"It was probably the most exhausting but also most rewarding part of my career," Ms Parker said.

"Because I loved being a journalist. I'd trained in the mainstream media, but there was nothing like being a journalist with the *Koori Mail*.

"There is always so much going on in our communities and so much trust placed in the *Koori Mail* by our communities that you could fill the paper twice."



Pat Turner chief executive of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and head of the Coalition of Peaks.

"I am just so proud of everyone at the *Koori Mail*, each and every one of you," Ms Turner said.

"I also want to congratulate everybody who has been associated with the organisation's operations over the last 30 years because the *Koori Mail* has always been our main go-to newspaper, and it's always been a reliable source where we can catch up on all the news from around the country.

"This is a celebration of the dedication, and the professionalism, and the commitment, to make sure our people hear the news, and see the stories, over the many decades the *Koori Mail* has been in operation.

"I wish the *Koori Mail* all the very best for the next 30 years."



Lisa Maza a director of Ilbijerri Theatre Company, Melbourne

"The *Koori Mail*, it's a connection to community and what's going on. I always read it at Ilbijerri, and there's something about having the physical paper."



Fotis Kapetopoulos senior contributor, *Neos Kosmos*

Dear *Koori Mail*,
We want to congratulate you on your 30-year anniversary.

As one of the older multicultural media organisations, *Neos Kosmos* (a newspaper for the Greek community in Australia) wants the multicultural media ecology to grow and succeed. *Neos Kosmos* was the first ethnic media outlet to endorse the Uluru statement in 2018.

So χρόνια πολλά (wish you many years) from *Neos Kosmos*.

From the manager's desk



Unapologetically 30 years strong. For three decades the *Koori Mail* has been sharing the voices of Black Australia – unapologetically and authentically from our communities around the country.

As we celebrate 30 years of being a trusted source of truth telling for our people, we also celebrate a significant milestone for Black media in Australia and acknowledge that the *Koori Mail* follows in the footsteps of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media organisations that have been part of a long history of trailblazing for our Black media sector.

The many platforms that carry the voices of our people today are a testament to the strength and will of those who built the foundations for our media many years ago. The legacies of our media organisations continue to be upheld, and the *Koori Mail* tributes its success to those who played an integral role in supporting the newspaper and its operations over the past 30 years.

To the many contributors and writers, some who have been writing for the *Koori Mail* for more than 20 years, we thank you for each word you have given us, each story you have told, each photo you have taken and all the voices you have provided a space for to be read and heard.



Koori Mail school-based trainees Tanayah Harley and Aliya King in the paper's new podcast studio.

Our staff, past and present – thank you for your dedication and commitment to supporting the operations of the *Koori Mail* as a newspaper and business and contributing to a strong sense of cultural responsibility to echo the voices of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The sustainability of the *Koori Mail* over the years – during a time when the landscape of print media has drastically changed – could not have been possible without the support of our readers and our advertisers who, too, are a big part of the strength of our product. We thank you for

acknowledging the role Black media plays in delivering messaging and information to our mob around the country, in a way that resonates with our communities in the most appropriate and effective way.

Some of our most loved stories throughout the years have been those that applaud the wonderful achievements of our people and celebrate the extraordinary strength and survival of our culture. Don't forget us when you have a yarn to tell – we are here, and we want you to keep sharing with us.

Too, now more than ever – as we continue to report on the same



Bundjalung Dunghutti woman Naomi Moran, the *Koori Mail* general manager, speaks at Converge.

stories of injustice, discrimination, inequality, and the many tyrannies inflicted on our people and communities – we need to keep uplifting and supporting our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media platforms so we can continue truth-telling.

What a beautiful page the *Koori Mail* has now turned, in its 30th year.

We now look forward to presenting our news and stories more in the digital space, allowing our readers and supporters to access our content online and through other digital platforms.

Our hope is that we can continue providing employment

and training opportunities for our mob to work in the Black media sector, including school-based trainees, and support our young Black aspiring journalists and writers to develop their skill with the support of an organisation that continues to be 100% Aboriginal owned and run.

Thank you to each person who has read the *Koori Mail* and supported the *Koori Mail* as the voice of Indigenous Australia.

Bundjalung Dunghutti woman Naomi Moran is the general manager of the *Koori Mail* and also chairs First Nations Media Australia.

Koori Mail is a source of comfort, cultural solidarity and awareness



IT gives me great pleasure in congratulating the Aboriginal board of directors, the staff, and the many readers and subscribers of the *Koori Mail* newspaper.

As a proud member of the Wadjanbarra and Bundebarra clans of the Yidinji Nation on the Atherton Tablelands of far north Queensland, and the *Koori Mail*'s first Aboriginal editor, the paper has always been a source of comfort, cultural solidarity and awareness of the treatment of all our mobs across Australia.

Thirty years in the print media sector is a remarkable achievement as it is particularly difficult environment for newspapers, with many forced to close shop. The ability for the *Koori Mail* to evolve into the online digital format is something to admire.

Working at the *Koori Mail* newspaper has been a stepping stone for many First Australians working in the media sector.

I'm proud to say that the skills I gained, networks I made, as well as a lifelong commitment to the rights of the First Peoples of this country were forged at the *Koori Mail*.

After the *Koori Mail*, I worked for five years at the Northern Land Council in the media unit, which again was an honour to work with traditional owners throughout the Top End during this time, with a highlight



Former *Koori Mail* editor Todd Condie with his mother Lorna.

being the handing down of the Blue Mud Bay case in the High Court.

In the past 12 years, I've been developing and implementing Reconciliation Action Plans for the City of Port Phillip in St Kilda in Melbourne, which again has been a privilege working with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and the Yalukut Weelam clan of the Boonwurrung.

Having worked at the *Koori Mail* for 10 years (1994 to 2004), and worked in the reconciliation and native title spaces for 20 years, it is frustrating that the issues, barriers and challenges faced by First Australians are still essentially the same – proper land rights, access to an economic base, a meaningful treaty process for all states and territories, and a well-funded community-based response to the scourge

of community, family and domestic violence.

Two points I'd like to make in relation to the reconciliation and native title areas I've worked in most recently:

Reconciliation. While there is a lot of goodwill in the general public, in my experience, the 'heavy lifting' is still being done by First Australians, which ultimately means we need the 97% to help out the First 3% more.

Native title. The native title process, which took over 15 years in my family's case, has established the genealogies for my mob, which has been invaluable in establishing connection to country before the White man came to Australia.

However, I'd just like to point out even when your mob gets native title status, the playing field is pretty unfair. The senior members of my family/clan travel to meetings with State Government, universities, water catchment authorities and private companies in second-hand cars, by bus, they volunteer their time, to ultimately be told what is going to happen on our land and waters, whether we like it or not.

C'mon Australia, give us a 'hand up' instead of 'hand outs'.

As you can probably tell, I still have the 'fire in the belly', due, in part, to my time at *Koori Mail*. Well done, you mob!

Yidinji man Todd Condie was the first Aboriginal editor of the *Koori Mail*.

Accidental cartoonist becomes an institution

By RUDI MAXWELL



ARTIST Danny Eastwood never meant to become a cartoonist.

He'd been reading the early editions of the *Koori Mail* in 1991 and was intrigued by the fledgling paper.

"They'd been doing a lot around black deaths in custody," Eastwood said.

"I sent in samples of my art, including a pen and ink drawing of an Aboriginal person reading the *Koori Mail* – I often wonder what happened to that artwork!"

And the editorial team was clearly impressed, because in the 17th edition, at the start of 1992, the *Koori Mail* employed Danny as a cartoonist.

And he put his skills to use with a caricature of Prime Minister Paul Keating (see cartoon, right).

"I'm not really a cartoonist; I'm an artist – but I do have a little bit of wit and comedy around my friends," he said. "I'm pretty quick with puns. That's more or less where my cartoons come from."

And while Danny considers himself an accidental cartoonist, over the decades his distinctive style has caught the eye of many political watcher, including the *Behind the Lines* exhibition curator, meaning Danny's cartoons have featured in several exhibitions of Australian political cartoons of the year at Old Parliament House in Canberra.

"I've been doing cartoons for a while now, so being an artist, when a topic comes up, straight away I have three or four ideas," he said.

"I've learned not to be too graphic; you've got to watch that."

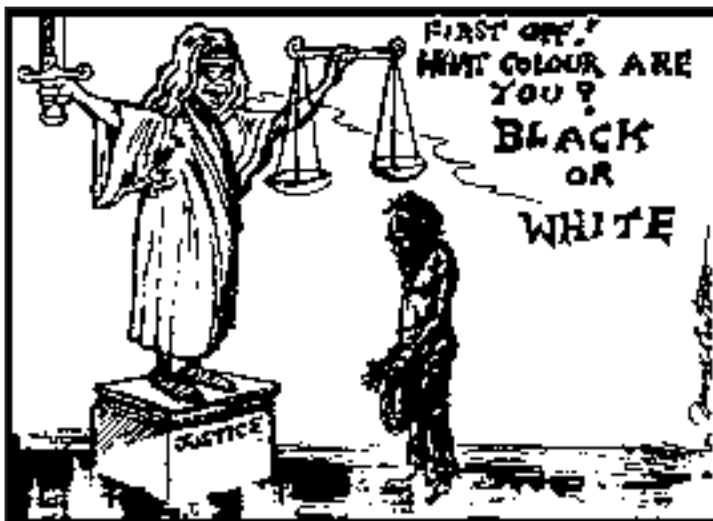
"Over the years, I've watched so many prime ministers go through the office, so many politicians, and I've had the chance to draw a lot of them."

"I'll do a cartoon about anything that affects Aboriginal wellbeing. It's the chance to draw and bring it to life."



Danny Eastwood has created many public artworks, including this new mural as part of the Pemulwuy Project in Redfern.

Picture: Mike Jeffrey



Our stories through sport

By **DARREN MONCRIEFF**



Koori Mail's first decade on the Australian media landscape coincided with that of a young Aboriginal woman making her way in track and field, and who would later claim the biggest prize on world sport's biggest stage.

Along the way, both would converge.

Throughout the 1990s as *Koori Mail* began finding its feet from its Lismore base in northern NSW, a young woman by the name of Catherine Freeman from far north Queensland would also begin her journey – first in bare-feet on dusty tracks on country, then in state-of-the-art Nike spikes on the plush tracks in the other-world of global athletics.

Koori Mail's sports section duly documented Freeman's steady ascension from state to national to international arenas. A quick flick back over those early editions and you would see Freeman as one of the newspaper's first true 'poster girls' of Indigenous sport – when she proudly carried the Aboriginal flag at the Commonwealth Games in Canada, and when those mad at her for doing so pushed to divide public opinion, and when she united the states of Australia for that brief and magical moment by winning gold at the Sydney Olympics.

Koori Mail was present also during the seismic shifts in other areas of Australian sport. It documented the birth and rise of national football organisations in both Aussie rules and rugby league. It followed-up on the steps and missteps of the three-year-old AFL when the great Nicky Winmar took a defiant stance for our people that day at Victoria Park in 1993. When the 'Super League War' threatened to engulf 'the greatest game of all' in 1995 and for a few years after, *Koori Mail* let the mainstream press duke that out to focus on our brothers' barnstorming efforts on the field in defence or attack.

In 1994, when a couple of mates in the Northern Territory decided they wanted to play cricket but on a larger scale, *Koori Mail Sport* was there too. Later, these mates would become the co-founders of the Imparja Cup, a national Indigenous cricket tournament. Such was its success that today Cricket Australia is now on board, and we've followed each step along the way.

As the 1990s gave way to the 2000s, and after the Sydney Games, *Koori Mail Sport* began the new millennium determined to stick to its guns, documenting our people on the field of play.

All along this way and that, *Koori Mail Sport* never forgot its roots, and that was community and grassroots. Perhaps the most successful, certainly the most iconic, community-driven sports event is the NSW



Broncos great Wendell Sailor celebrates his team's victory in the 1997 Super League grand final at Lang Park. Getty Images

Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout Carnival, abbreviated simply as the Koori Knockout. As the biggest Aboriginal sports carnival in the country, which has transcended even sport, *Koori Mail* has had a front-row seat and its coverage of the event, before and after, is a big hit with readers.

The so-called 'fringe' sports, too, receive a good run whenever our people play them. If its vigoro cricket, tenpin bowling, roller derby, lawn bowls, Elders Olympics – if our people are in it, there's a good chance we've covered it.

And we're there when the big tent comes to town too – the Olympics, Commonwealth Games, World Cups – documenting Indigenous athletes in all their exceptional forms.

Today, just like the paper itself, *Koori Mail Sport* has grown – not necessarily in size but in its outlook. While our core coverage of sport is our people on the field of play, we are no longer passive observers in the organisation of sport. If a sport's governing body is somehow lacking in its Indigenous engagement, we want to find out why. If they are receiving Black dollars and their 'RAP sheet' looks a bit suss, they can expect a call.

The most important person in *Koori Mail* sport is you, the reader.

We, as a team of writers and photographers spread across Australia, hope that our sports coverage is as entertaining as it is informative, and that you can enjoy it for another 30 years.



Cathy Freeman celebrates with both Aboriginal and Australian flags after winning the 400m final at the Commonwealth Games in Victoria, Canada. Freeman won the gold medal with a time of 50.38s. Picture: Tony Feder/Allsport.



Hawthorn's Cyril Rioli Jr. was best-on-ground in the 2015 AFL grand final at the MCG.



The first Indigenous Australians to play Test match cricket for their country, Jason Gillespie and Faith Thomas.



The annual NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout Carnival, known informally as the Koori Knockout, has become one of the largest sports gathering in Aboriginal Australia today.

Representing a strong, proud Indigenous voice



THIS artwork is based on the concentric circles of a bora ring (Casino having one of the biggest bora rings on country), where people come together for ceremony, initiation and important business.

Each layer represents different aspects of the overall story, whether it be cultural, natural, representational or technological.

The *Koori Mail* brings many people together allowing them to share culture and exchange knowledge.

The central circle represents two creation stories.

The first story begins with three brothers and the birth of the Bundjalung and Yaegl nations.

This story parallels with the three Elders who initiated the push to gain interest to start (or birth) the *Koori Mail*: Frank Roberts, Charlie Harris and Charlie Moran.

The middle figure has been outlined more heavily, representing another pivotal person in the *Koori Mail* story: Owen Carriage.

The canoe that the brothers stand in is also a message stick – a visual metaphor for the *Koori Mail*.

The three series of wavy lines represent the three major rivers of the region: the Richmond, Clarence and Wilson rivers.

The dots represent the descendants of the brothers and their wives (the Bundjalung Nation).

The second story refers to the creation of Goanna headland and Snake Island, two significant landmarks on Bundjalung and Yaegl country.

Moving outward, the next layer represents freshwater and saltwater coming together; freshwater travelling from the hinterland, meandering across the open country and through the mangroves, before reaching the coast and turning into saltwater.

Different totems and various food sources are represented on the following layer. the bush turkey is the significant totem for Wollumbin (Mount Warning) and Wanjee (dog) is the totem for Yaegl Nation. Mudcrab and mullet are some of the food sources found toward the coast.

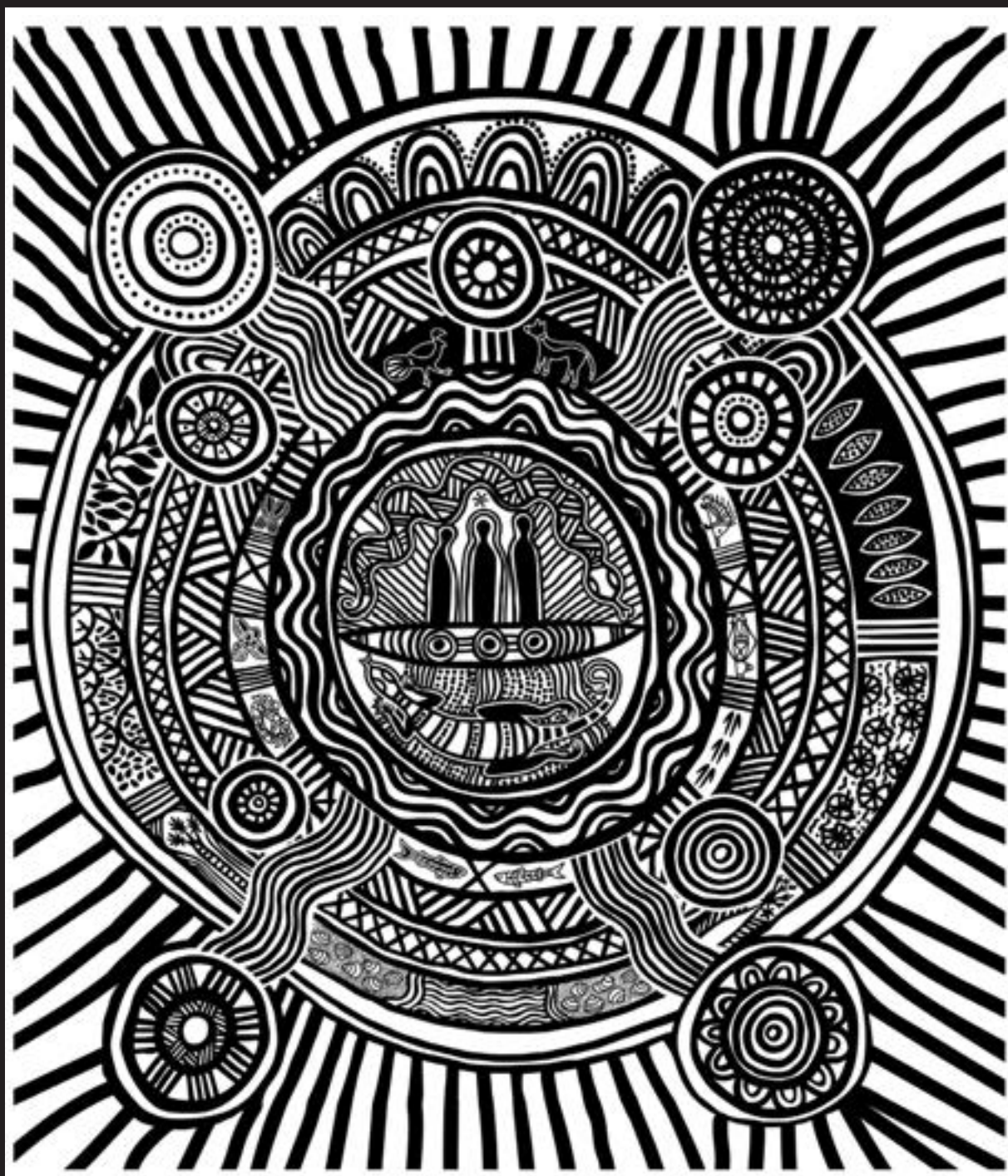
The patterning and the circular motifs signify the five communities that started the *Koori Mail* 30 years ago, and continue it today: Lismore, Casino, Coraki, Cabbage Tree Island and Maclean.

The woven motif speaks of strengthening bonds of the five communities, showing dedication and commitment to keeping the voice of Indigenous Australia strong and vibrant.

The outer ring represents the natural landscape, from the mountain ranges, to rainforest country, Big Scrub and swamp country through to river country and out to the beaches and saltwater country.

The four large circles represent the four corners of the nation, Australia, and the world, where the *Koori Mail* is sent to be read and where stories are discovered and uncovered.

The *Koori Mail* – where knowledge is exchanged, culture is shared, the country comes together and is connected keeping the voice of Indigenous Australia strong, proud and relevant.



Knowledge, Culture, Country, Connection by artist Riki Salem.

Celebrating



Years

KOORI MAIL

• KNOWLEDGE • CULTURE • COUNTRY • CONNECTION •