



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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The Tent Embassy celebrates 50 years



First day of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy, outside Parliament House, Canberra, January 26, 1972. Billy Craigie, Bert Williams, Michael Anderson and Tony Coorey. For more, see editorial and Eastwood's View, page 20, and read about the history and politics of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy, page 21. The next edition of the *Koori Mail* will feature a wrap-up of the Embassy's 50th anniversary celebrations, planned for today, January 26. Picture: State Library of NSW, courtesy SEARCH Foundation



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Cricketers come out to play

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New play tackles identity politics

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Binar brother-boys win in Perth

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MY FAMILY

Paul Parker (Palm Island)

I HAVE hundreds of family and extended family members living on Palm Island and across the mainland in Townsville, and they are all very important to me.

That was never more evident than during the Christmas and New Year break.

On Palm, there are lots of Parker family members and it is always good to catch up with them.

And I even have some cousin brothers who live as far away as northern Tasmania.

My partner of 11 years Janaya Barnes also has many relatives from the Fulford, Palmer, Noble, Wilson, Oui and Moonlight families, so there is plenty to talk about when we see any of them.

I have been staying in South Townsville suburb and over the Christmas break we had a big feast at a house there which included a roast, ham, pork and other nice food.

One of those who I got to enjoy the company of at the family get together was Janaya's nephew Thomas Wilson, who is also a Palm Islander.

We like sitting around the yarning area in the Townsville city near Ross Creek, which is a popular gathering place for our people.

We enjoy lots of trips by ferry between Townsville and Palm Island and the ocean journey takes about 90 minutes.

Over on Palm, we love going fishing and have caught whiting, mackerel



Paul Parker, partner Janaya Barnes and cousin brother Thomas Wilson.

and coral trout which is my favourite food.

I also like a good feed of turtle when I can get some and really like seeing my brothers on Palm over a feed.

In Townsville, some of us go to the Cowboys Leagues Club in the CBD, where lots of Palm people get to.

Although the Cowboys are the local team in the NRL, I barrack for the Gold Coast Titans, which I think will do well in season 2022.

We are hoping a domestic rugby league competition starts up again on Palm this year and most of us barrack for Skipjacks Club.

Other places we like yarning at with family are along the Townsville Strand near the ocean or over at the South Townsville Drop In Centre for a meal.

I am particularly keen to speak to my cousin/brothers Bernie and Colin Lamont who were born on Palm Island and who now live at Latrobe in Tasmania.

We are related through my late uncle Victor Parker and I just received Colin's contact details and will phone him soon.

My New Year's resolution is to spend even more time with family and I'll be doing that from now on.

— As told to Alf Wilson.

OUR CHILDREN



Secondary school students Riley Sandell, Will Jones and Kaylen Thomas enjoyed working with robots and drones as part of the Polly Farmer Foundation Follow the Dream program to develop STEM knowledge. See full story, page 13.

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.

Koori Mail

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Call for help in face of 'growing emergency'

By DARREN COYNE



ALMOST 100,000 Indigenous Australians are yet to receive even a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, according to the latest figures from the Federal Government.

This is despite promises from Prime Minister Scott Morrison that the Indigenous community would be vaccinated by winter in 2021.

The shocking figures, highlighted last week by the Federal Shadow Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney, came as Aboriginal peak bodies in the Northern Territory called on the Federal Government to urgently intervene with Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) and Defence Force support to stop the spread of COVID-19.

NT Health Minister Natasha Fyles backed the request for more Commonwealth resources to battle the virus in federally supported remote and vulnerable communities.

Rapid spread of virus causing concern

The virus has spread rapidly across the territory in recent weeks with hundreds of cases in dozens of Aboriginal outstations and communities, including Yuendumu in the Tanami Desert, where 80 residents are infected.

Ms Burney told the *Koori Mail* that the Federal Government's pandemic response had been "an absolute stuff-up".

"This thing is spreading because people don't have the capacity to see if they are infected (because of the lack of RATs), and they have no capacity to isolate," she said.

"The reason this is so disturbing is that the rhetoric from the Federal Government was that Aboriginal people would be at the front of the queue, last winter. It's now mid summer and we've got 100,000 people unvaccinated.

"The virus is spreading like wildfire.

"The Government that left Australia stuck in the starting blocks of the vaccine race hasn't even gotten Indigenous Australians to the racetrack.

"The Government that let the Indigenous vaccination gap for adults blow out around the country is now letting the 12-15 year old gap blow out as well.

"We don't even know what the vaccination rate is for 5-11 year old Indigenous kids, because the Government isn't publishing the data. It's time they opened up and told us whether they were living up to their responsibilities.

"It's time the Government told us what the booster gap is for Indigenous Australians, too. We know how badly they let Indigenous Australians down on the first two doses. We need to

Mob urged to get booster to protect against virus



WITH recent surges in COVID-19 cases across the country, it's important to think about the best ways we can keep ourselves and our mob protected, according to Kamilaroi woman Raylene Gordon.

Ms Gordon is chief executive of Awabakal, an Aboriginal Medical Service (AMS) in Newcastle, and she is raising awareness about the importance of booster vaccinations.

"Getting your booster dose as soon as you are eligible will increase your protection against COVID-19," she said.

"Staying on top of our vaccinations is the best way for us to keep staying connected to each other and doing those things that we love, whether it's spending time with family, dropping in to see Uncle or Aunt, helping out in community, and being able to work."

Booster shots are available at your local AMS, through your GP or at a vaccination hub and your local pharmacist, Ms Gordon said.

"There are many places you can just walk in with no appointment, but, if you are unsure, have a yarn with your local Aboriginal health worker," she said.

In NSW, you are eligible for your booster three months after your second vaccine dose from NSW Health vaccination clinics. From January 31, this will also apply to GPs and pharmacies.

Booster doses are also recommended for pregnant women and severely immunocompromised people who have received three doses of a vaccine.

Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are recommended boosters in Australia, but for those who can't have an mRNA vaccine for medical reasons, the AstraZeneca booster will be available.

If you are eligible for a booster, but can't



Kamilaroi woman and chief executive of Awabakal in Newcastle Raylene Gordon is encouraging Indigenous people to protect themselves and their communities from COVID-19 by getting fully vaccinated. "There are many places you can just walk in with no appointment, but, if you are unsure, have a yarn with your local Aboriginal health worker," she said.

remember when you had your second dose, you can check your COVID-19 digital certificate or immunisation history statement, which you can find through the myGov website. Go to my.gov.au

If you can't access your certificate online, your vaccination provider can print a copy out for you, or you can call the Australian Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809 and ask them to post your immunisation history statement to you.

You will need to bring proof of vaccination for dose 1 and 2 to your booster appointment.

Ms Gordon is encouraging people to stay strong and look out for each other.

"It's been a tough couple of years but let's keep working together to keep our whole community safe and strong," she said.

For information on COVID-19 boosters in NSW visit nsw.gov.au

see the numbers so we know they aren't failing on boosters, too."

Aboriginal Peak Organisations (APO) NT, which is an alliance of Aboriginal medical, justice and housing organisations, along with land councils and businesses, described the situation in the Territory as a "growing emergency".

Communities struggling to cope

APONT spokesperson John Paterson said the haste towards living with COVID was pushing the health system, Aboriginal community service organisations

and the communities they serve to the brink.

"We need urgent direct support from the Commonwealth Government," he said.

"The multiple outbreaks we are now seeing in remote communities and in our towns have been fuelled by a critical shortage of workforce, testing and logistical capacity that is overwhelming local health services and exhausted staff, leading to rapid, avoidable spread of the virus.

"Critical shortages in availability of Rapid Antigen Tests is leaving Aboriginal health and community service organisations

with insufficient capacity to test their own staff, let alone the needs of the community members they serve. The result is that infected individuals are not being identified and are spreading the virus undetected."

Mr Paterson said the ongoing dispute between the NT Government and the Commonwealth over who is responsible for providing RATs must be resolved, and infected people need to be rapidly moved into adequate supported isolation.

APONT also said that a "surge workforce" was needed urgently to deal with the current outbreak, and that consideration needed to

be given to the "looming food security crisis".

"The Commonwealth Government, including through the specialised capacities of the Australian Defence Force, must be requested to bolster the overstretched capacities of the NT Government and Aboriginal community-controlled organisations," Mr Paterson said.

"This is the time, when the essential elements of the COVID response are faltering, to enlist the direct support of the Commonwealth and Defence Force to assist in critical areas of the response".

"This can include transport and logistics, emergency isolation accommodation, and clinical support teams, including doctors and nurses etc, that can make the difference between success or failure."

The plea for help coincided with the Northern Land Council's (NLC's) chairman Samuel Bush-Blanas announcing that the NLC was postponing all meetings, and directing staff to work from home wherever possible, until the COVID-19 situation stabilises.

Federal government outlines spending

In response to an enquiry to the Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt and the Federal Minister for Health Greg Hunt, the Department of Health issued a statement to the *Koori Mail* that said "vaccinating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples against COVID-19 continues to be a priority for the Australian Government".

"Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHS) have been supported throughout the Commonwealth's COVID-19 vaccine roll-out with access to flexible funding through the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) to purchase equipment required to administer vaccines," the statement said.

"This includes ACCHS being able to apply for funding to cover the costs of purchasing additional vaccine fridges."

The Department of Health said a total of \$29.4 million had been provided to NACCHO to support COVID preparedness, response and vaccine roll-out in communities and with ACCHS.

"This includes \$6.9 million in 2020 to facilitate culturally safe access to testing in communities. NACCHO distribute funding to member and non-member ACCHS and Sector Support Organisations (SSOs) to support the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The department did not provide an answer as to why 100,000 Indigenous Australians remain unvaccinated.

● 'A moral failure', page 32

Early mourning ceremony planned as our nations stop to reflect on January 26



THE award-winning We-Akon Dilynja (mourning reflection) ceremony was scheduled to again open Port Phillip's official Australia Day events today, January 26, after the *Koori Mail* went to press.

The dawn ceremony in St Kilda, presented by the Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council (BLSC), is supported by Port Phillip Council and the National Australia Day Council.

The event, planned to be livestreamed, will allow people across Australia to witness the ceremony.

The culture and history of the traditional owners is conveyed through readings, music and a smoking ceremony.

A multi-faith component adds to the inclusive spirit of the event, now in its third year.

In Perth, in the Supreme Court Gardens, the Birak Concert today will feature an Elders Marquee and local performances to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Approximately 70 Aboriginal people will deliver the concert with the event broadcast across the Pilbara and the Kimberley.

In Sydney, organisers of Yabun were inviting people to the 20th anniversary in person at Victoria Park, Broadway, or to watch the video livestream at yabun.org.au or listen on Koori Radio 93.7FM and via the Koori Radio app.

In the next edition of the *Koori Mail*, February 9, there will be a wrap-up of events and protests held around the country on January 26, including the 50th anniversary of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy.



Parbinata Dr Carolyn Briggs at the 2020 We-Akon Dilynja ceremony with Michael Julian (left) and John-Wayne Parsons.

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Broun is new head of NIAA



As the chief executive of the NIAA, Ms Broun will become the most senior Indigenous person in the Australian Public Service.

Ms Broun will commence a five-year term on February 14. She is currently the chief executive of the Aboriginal Housing Office and group deputy secretary of Aboriginal Strategy and Outcomes with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in the NSW Government.

"I feel enormously privileged for the opportunity to lead the National Indigenous Australians Agency and build on the important work the NIAA has already achieved," Ms Broun said.

"I'm particularly looking forward to working in partnership with the Coalition of Peaks and all Aboriginal community-controlled organisations on the implementation of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and the Commonwealth's Implementation Plan.

"I am committed to hearing from our communities about how

YINDJIBARNDI woman Jody Broun has been appointed as the new head of the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA).



Jody Broun has been appointed as the chief executive of the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA).

we can all do better working in genuine partnership, and ensuring that they are heard by progressing the work on the local and regional Voice."

Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt said he was immensely proud that the NIAA would be led by an Indigenous woman of Ms Broun's calibre.

"She is a highly respected public servant and is passionate about community-led co-design, the economic empowerment of Indigenous Australians and that education is a key driver of positive change in our communities," Mr Wyatt said.

"Ms Broun will bring a wealth of experience across housing,

health, education, justice, land and culture, and most notably working through the intricacies of Commonwealth and state and territory relations in a number of senior roles in different jurisdictions.

"With a national network to leverage, I am confident she is the right person to deliver on the Government's objectives to achieve the best outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

"I am thrilled we are able to appoint such an accomplished and talented Aboriginal woman to this role."

Mr Wyatt said the NIAA had spearheaded a number of significant projects since its establishment in 2019.

He thanked former chief executive Ray Griggs for his leadership in overseeing the establishment and expansion of the agency.

"Mr Griggs has been critical to the success of the NIAA and I thank him for his service," Mr Wyatt said.

"I would also like to thank Mr Blair Exell for his stewardship of the agency over the last six months as acting CEO. In that time, the agency delivered a number of significant projects, including the final report for the Indigenous voice and the recently announced Ngurra

Family feels trauma of Noombah's death

By ALF WILSON



THE stepdaughter of Indigenous man Townsville man Trevor King, known culturally as Noombah, who died in custody

following his arrest in north Queensland, has shared the family's sorrow after a Queensland coroner handed down his findings.

In his findings, delivered on January 11, state coroner Terry Ryan said Mr King received "suboptimal" care from paramedics despite being critically unwell following his arrest.

Noombah died in hospital on February 10, 2018, after being dragged to the ground and handcuffed following a violent confrontation with police in the early hours of the morning.

The coroner said paramedics who had attended failed to make any meaningful assessment of him as Noombah, 39, became unresponsive on the roadside.

"It was also apparent there was no urgency from police or paramedics in a situation where Noombah was critically unwell," Mr Ryan said.

The coroner cleared the actions of police who had responded, saying their actions were an "appropriate use of force" given the risk level.

Noombah's stepdaughter Shianne Matheson provided the *Koori Mail* with an emotional statement on January 20 after the coroner's findings.

"Noombah was my stepfather. He was a well respected man by the people in Townsville and, for the time that we lived there, he engaged in cultural activities with Uncle Alfred Smallwood and the young kids," she said.

"He also liked doing stuff like going out fishing and taking the kids down the park of an afternoon for a game of football. He was a good man and a lot of children looked up to him."

Shianne said her mother, Noombah's longtime partner of 17 years Regina Matheson, had called for help on the day Noombah died because she was worried for his safety and well being.

Regina had called 000 because she was extremely concerned after she returned home to find Noombah sniffing petrol and threatening to hang himself.

"Because he was suicidal and, when you ring for help, you expect to get that help – not for it to be fatal," Shianne said.

"It was very disturbing to see what the cops were doing to my stepfather, pushing his face into the dirt to the point he couldn't breathe and was gasping for air. It was horrible."

"We are all traumatised after watching our father die under the



Shianne and Regina Matheson when they attended an Inquest in Townsville in July last year.

"They failed Noombah and failed to do their job. What I want to come out of this is change – it's time for change. Our people keep dying in custody and we need to put a stop to it. I would like to see more done in regards to cultural awareness training for all first responders."

– Shianne Matheson

weight of police force. We were yelling at the police to get off him.

"He had a heart condition – they still ignored it after being told numerous times. He wasn't acting aggressively."

"He just wanted to be left alone to go for a walk and get himself a smoke, but instead it turned fatal. They didn't detect his heart failure in time and it's

just not good enough."

Shianne said when they arrived home from the hospital they found the police officers at their house.

"When we asked what they were doing, they said it was a crime scene," she said.

"We weren't allowed to go into our house and grab our belongings without having a

police officer with us.

"When we went inside, it was to grab some things to go stay at a family member's place because we were homeless for the rest of the night."

"When Noombah passed away, we were no longer allowed in our house. I found my cupboard was open and they went through my bag. I didn't

think until I realised they were looking for my phone.

"I recorded the police officers when they were on top of my father."

"The first thing that came to my mind was to record the police officers. They had no reason as to why the house was a crime scene," Shianne said.

The Coroner made three recommendations.

1. That Queensland Police require a mandatory assessment from paramedics when "officers observe a person in custody whose demeanour rapidly declines from a state of heightened emotion and agitation to one of apparent compliance".

2. That the Queensland Police Service review the inclusion and training of Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint in the situational use of force model.

3. That the Queensland Government work with First Nations peoples in Townsville, the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network and an organisation such as Thirrili to develop culturally appropriate referral pathways for First Nations people in mental health crisis as an alternative to assessment in hospital emergency departments.

Shianne slammed the actions of the police and ambulance officers.

"Both the Queensland Police Service and the Queensland Ambulance Service had a duty of care."

"They failed Noombah and failed to do their job."

"What I want to come out of this is change – it's time for change."

"Our people keep dying in custody and we need to put a stop to it."

"I would like to see more done in regards to cultural awareness training for all first responders."

"Also more needs to be done regarding our police liaison officers. We want them to be there as soon as anything arises with our Indigenous people and police."

"They have to be the first point of contact as they were initially brought in to be mediators between our people and the police."

"We don't want our police liaison officers being notified after the fact, in regards to whatever the situation may be with our Indigenous people."

"Our police liaison officers need to step up. They have been employed by our government to assist not only the Queensland Police Service but also our First Nations people."

"All first responders need better training on how to deal with mental health situations with First Nations people."

"My family, including me, and the community are still suffering from the loss of Noombah and the traumatic events that led to his death," Shianne said.

Motlop finds a new rhythm as he puts away the footy and picks up the guitar

By PETER ARGENT



MARLON Motlop is on the crest of a wave of a burgeoning music career. Marlon enjoyed a long tenure as an elite Aussie rules footballer, playing in the AFL and two state leagues, picking up the code's ultimate goal, a premiership with Glenelg in the SANFL in September 2019.

In the music industry, this Larrakia, Kungarrakany, and Torres Strait Islander man is known as Marlon Music and has collaborated successfully with fellow First Nations artist Rulla Kelly-Mansell and others.

His love of music was fostered by his father Maurice, known among the extended family as 'Mo', who studied classical guitar as a part of a university degree in Darwin.

"I had a guitar in my hand as early in my life as I had a footy," Motlop told the *Koori Mail*.

"At any extended family barbecues we would always see a guitar come out.

"I was in touch with a number of genres during those early years.

"We'd listen to rhythm and blues music, plenty of soul and I remember going to sleep in my youth listening to Pavarotti.

"Other early influences around these family events included Elvis and BB King.

"It was certainly a diverse grounding.

"Performing in front of crowds started back in 2004-05," Motlop continued.

"I would go to open-mic nights in Adelaide to refine my craft.

"During that era I received support from Angela Flynn, who helped me make that next step and get paying gigs."

As Motlop's football career was moving towards its end (he retired from the



Marlon Motlop is finding success as he pursues his love for music.

SANFL at the completion of the 2021 season), his performances as a musician started to blossom.

There have been plenty of highlights already, having performed on the International Stage at WOMADelaide, back at home in Darwin at the Bass in the Grass Festival and in the AFL Sir Doug

Nicholls Round, playing a set in front of over 30,000 footy fans at the Adelaide Oval during half-time of the Port Adelaide vs Fremantle match.

Marlon released three tracks in 2021 and features on Aussie Hip Hop royalty Urthboy's *Jangle Bells* with their collaborative track *Balmy Christmas Eve*.

With Rulla Kelly-Mansell, he formed a duo that opened for Midnight Oil and Vika and Linda at WOMADelaide in March 2021, along with other First Nations artists.

Their performance was well-received and gained a glowing review in the nation's premier music magazine, *Rolling Stone Australia*.

"It is interesting, as *Rolling Stone* called us an eclectic rock duo with a rhythm and blues connection," Motlop mused.

Marlon believes being a First Nation artist is a powerful tool.

"Music is a universal language that connects people across the world," he said. "This vehicle gives me a great opportunity to share Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders stories to the world.

"I like the fact as a musical performer, especially in the role of a singer/lead vocalist, up there on the stage, you can't hide

"I like the responsibility of that.

"While there really isn't much connection between footy and music, the ability to prepare well is an attribute I learnt from my time in footy."

Marlon and Rulla released their first single, *Black Swan* in mid-2021, and Motlop has now released four songs, in collaboration with different people, with another five tracks coming down the pipeline over the first six months of 2022.

Outside he music, Motlop still has a connection with our national football code.

After his strong work, following the racial vilification issues with Robbie Young last year, he started a role as the Indigenous liaison officer with the SANFL in late 2021.

Former footballer, rock star and Aboriginal leader, Marlon Motlop has the world at his feet.

Concern for policy holders as funeral fund winds up

By DARREN COYNE



A FUNERAL scheme that targeted Aboriginal people has been put into administration amid fears that policy holders will miss out on refunds.

The Aboriginal Community Benefit Fund No 2 Pty Ltd, owned by Gold Coast-based company Youpla, was placed in administration on November 28 last year, with administrators Robson Cotter Insolvency Group appointed to wind it up.

Policy holders have until mid June to lodge a proof of debt form, and advocates have begun lobbying the Federal Government to ensure people are not left out of pocket if there are insufficient funds to pay out their policies.

Previously known as the Aboriginal Community Benefit Fund (ACBF), the private business has sold funeral insurance almost exclusively to Aboriginal people for decades.

At its peak, ACBF had about 25,000 clients, predominantly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Now it still has 13,000 clients.



Solicitor Mark Holden is concerned policy holders of a funeral scheme that has been put into administration will miss out on the refunds they are owed.

Mob Strong, a financial advocacy service for Aboriginal people, has been liaising with the administrators, as well as lobbying the Federal Government.

Solicitor Mark Holden said Mob Strong was seeking clarity on the future of two other Youpla funds: the Aboriginal Community Benefit Fund (known as fund 1) and ACBF

Funeral Plans Pty Ltd (trading as Aboriginal Community Funeral Plan).

The administration of Fund 2 is the latest blow for the troubled company, which is the subject of proceedings in the Federal Court, which were commenced by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission on October 29 last year.

Mr Holden said many disadvantaged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers were owed refunds for premiums paid to companies in the Youpla group under the "false belief they were an Aboriginal community owned and controlled organisation at the time they took out their policy".

"We implore ACBF's administrators to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are paid the refunds they are owed in full," Mr Holden said.

Mr Holden said it was feared many policy holders would miss out on a refund as there is no federally funded compensation scheme of last resort, despite it being a key recommendation of the banking royal commission.

The Royal Commission into Banking in 2018 heard evidence

ACBF would deduct money from Centrelink payments before people received them – which was then legal but is now illegal – and, until a policy change in 2017, deny payouts for suicide.

Since then, in numerous determinations by the Australian Financial Complaints Authority, ACBF has been ordered to refund hundreds of thousands of dollars in premiums paid by customers.

An AFCA spokesperson said in the 2021 calendar year, AFCA received 318 complaints involving funeral plans, and 197 of these were from those identifying as being Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In 2021, AFCA ordered the payment of \$1.28 million in compensation and refunds when resolving complaints about funeral plans, \$1.01 million of that total being awarded to complainants identifying as being Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In the legal action taken by ASIC, it is alleged that Youpla – the parent company – made misrepresentations in its marketing materials to create the perception that its product was owned or managed by Aboriginal people.

The alleged misconduct took

place between January 2015 and November 2018.

The corporate regulator said Youpla had promoted and sold a funeral expenses insurance policy primarily to Aboriginal consumers, and would-be buyers were told the cover had the approval of the Aboriginal community.

The regulator is seeking declarations, injunctions to prevent further contraventions, civil penalties and adverse publicity orders.

Financial Rights Legal Centre chief executive Karen Cox said she hoped the Australian Government would step in to ensure policyholders in ACBF fund No 2 were compensated, if they did not receive what they were owed in full as part of the administration process.

"Policy holders who believe they were misled and were seeking a refund of their premiums must also lodge a complaint to the Australian Financial Complaints Authority as soon as possible," Ms Cox said.

"Anyone who was misled into joining Fund 2 and finds themselves out of pocket as a result of the administration ought to be included in any compensation scheme of last resort."

Plea for urgent action on removal of children

By DARREN COYNE



ADVOCATES in South Australia want a royal commission into the ongoing removal of Aboriginal children from their families in the state and across the nation.

Concerned members of the Nunga Babies Watch and Grannies Group, led by Ngadjuri woman Auntie Pat Waria-Read, attended a forum at SA Parliament towards the end of last year and presented a statement calling for immediate action to keep Aboriginal children with family, or in kinship care.

The group outlined 20 actions including the establishment of an Independent Aboriginal Controlled Child Care Agency, and an Aboriginal panel to review decisions taken by the Department of Child Protection (DCP).

They also want concerns about the procedural fairness of decisions by the DCP to be examined.

The latest report by the SA Guardian for Children and Young People shows that the number of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care has increased.

"Between June 2020 and June 2021, there was a 6.3% increase in the number of children and young people in out-of-home care (an increase from 4,370 individuals in 2020, to 4,647 in 2021)," the report said.

"The number of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and young people in out-of-home care grew at a rate of 7.7%. This is not in line with the targets and outcomes set out under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap."

Auntie Pat told the *Koori Mail* last week that her group was still waiting for a response from the



Members of the Nunga Babies Watch and Grannies Group Julie Toyama, Louise Davies, Jean Pinkie, Dorothy Young, Diana Grose, Pat Waria-Read, with SA Best MLC Connie Bonaros.

SA Government to their submissions.

"Nunga Babies was established as a result of concerns raised by Aboriginal women who have had dealings with the department," she said.

"They (DCP) take kids straight away from their mothers while they are in hospital, or as soon as women end up in jail.

"They would send young child protection workers into remote areas with documents saying they were taking kids until they were 18.

"The women never get a chance to get legal representation and they would use police in remote areas to take the kids while the child protection

worker sat up the street in their car."

Auntie Pat said that while there were often problems in some Aboriginal communities, such issues existed elsewhere and did not get the same response from authorities.

And, she said, there was too much focus on removing children from Aboriginal families, instead of working with parents to improve their situation so they could be reunited with their kids.

"There is no rebuilding links with mothers or families, and the majority of kids are taken straight from birth," Auntie Pat said.

"It's a disgraceful department and they have no compassion.

"Sure we have problems, but

what community doesn't?

"I believe the old welfare days are still in operation today and they are doing it more and more.

"I know one young family where the kids have been in respite care since they were babies and they are now 11 and 10 and they have no cultural awareness or connection to their community."

Auntie Pat said the efforts to raise the issues with the State Government had fallen on deaf ears so it was time to raise the issue to a higher authority.

"We need a royal commission into why they are taking away children and putting them with families who are not connected to us," she said.

"We need a royal commission into why they are taking away children and putting them with families who are not connected to us. I feel more and more kids are being lost. It's like the old missionary days of them wanting to assimilate you."

– Auntie Pat

"I feel more and more kids are being lost. It's like the old missionary days of them wanting to assimilate you."

Auntie Pat, who also serves on the Nunga Court (the SA Aboriginal courts), said she had seen an increase in the number of men and women who had been in child protection all of their life who had no idea or their identity or connections.

"This is not just happening in South Australia. Look what's happening in the Northern Territory and in other parts of Australia where they have these departments taking Aboriginal children," she said.

The most recent report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, released in May 2021, showed that 18,862 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were in out-of-home care at June 2020.

SNAICC – the national peak body for First Nations children – chief executive Catherine Liddle said that figure was 11 times the rate for other children.

"It is a disgrace," she said.

WAR cancels protest march



WARRIORS of the Aboriginal Resistance (WAR) have been forced to cancel their annual Invasion Day march in Naarm (Melbourne), due to concerns about COVID-19.

In a Facebook post last week, WAR said that the annual January 26 protest – usually the biggest in the country – would not go ahead this year, due to the high numbers of infection of the contagious Omicron variant.

"After lots of consideration

WAR has decided to cancel the Invasion Day March in Melbourne," they said.

"It would be careless to hold an event in the height of a pandemic and a virus that has taken ahold of so many in our community.

"This is the first time since 2015 WAR hasn't organised this rally and we want to be on the street fighting for our people, but the time isn't now.

"We suggest you attend the online Invasion Day Dawn Service and keep the fire burning."



Protesters at last year's Invasion Day march in Melbourne. Organisers were forced to cancel this year's march, due to COVID-19. Please check the next edition of the *Koori Mail*, February 9, for pictures and stories from those events that did take place on January 26, including the 50th anniversary of the Tent Embassy.

Natural world comes to life in Noongar language



A NEW online encyclopaedia is bringing together Indigenous knowledge and Western scientific information about plants and animals in Noongar Country, in south-west Western Australia.

The *Noongar Boodjar plant and animal encyclopaedia* links Indigenous species names with Western scientific (both Latin and common) names, as well as ancestral ecological and cultural knowledge chosen to be shared by local communities across more than 90 plant and animal species.

For example, the entry for witchetty grub includes its Latin name (*Endoxyla*), its Noongar-Wudjari name (*Baardi*), and the Wudjari group name (*Barna*). It also captures the description of “no legs or bits or spikes hanging off them”, and that it tastes like “almonds and butter”.

The project is a joint initiative of the Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation in Perth and the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA), with funding from the Australian Government’s Indigenous languages and arts program.

The encyclopaedia was developed through field trips with Elders, Western-trained and Indigenous scientists, and linguists from the Noongar Boodjar Language Centre going out on Country to share and record ecological knowledge.

Denise Smith-Ali, senior linguist at the Noongar Boodjar Language Centre, said the encyclopaedia was an important step towards better integration of traditional and Western knowledge.

“In the past there has been no formal mechanism to digitally capture the layers of Indigenous meaning around plants and animals beyond Western science.

“The Noongar-Wudjari plant and animal online encyclopaedia is the first to do



Noongar woman Lynette Knapp at the local ochre pits where she sources blue, red, yellow, green, brown, pink and white ochre.



Baardi is the Noongar Boodjar language name for witchetty grub (*Endoxyla*). Pictures: Noongar Boodjar Language Centre

this,” Ms Smith-Ali said.

“In addition to developing the online encyclopaedia, an important part of this project was establishing ‘ways of working’ protocols and strong inter-organisational relationships between the language centre and the ALA.”

Nat Raisbeck-Brown, project lead on the Indigenous Ecological Knowledge Program at the Atlas of Living Australia, said matching Western scientific names and knowledge to traditional language and knowledge is not always straight forward.

“While Western science uses

a single Latin genus and species name to document flora and fauna, there can be many species linked to a single Wudjari name. For example, *Pibaarak* for wattle or *Acacia*,” Ms Raisbeck-Brown said.

“A lot of species definitions in western science are based on what the plant or animal looks like, like how many scales on the lip or how many petals.

“By comparison, Indigenous names and classes of plants and animals can be based on what they are used for and sometimes what other plants and animals they are used with.



Gail Yorkshire discusses the uses of a plant with Steve Hopper. Lynette and Gail are lineage holders and have the wisdom of their family, who protected the ancient knowledge. Steve Hopper is a professor of botany from the University of Western Australia and a link to Western science knowledge.

“By working together on this project we are demonstrating how co-innovation can integrate Western and traditional science knowledge. The Noongar-Wudjari community is providing the traditional science knowledge and the ALA is providing a pathway to access both knowledge systems together.”

The encyclopaedia is publicly

accessible on the ALA, Australia’s national biodiversity data infrastructure funded by the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) and hosted by Australia’s national science agency, CSIRO.

To access the Noongar-Wudjari plant and animal online encyclopaedia visit: profiles.ala.org.au/opus/noongar



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Protesters claim hospital bias behind tragic death of Dougie



STANDING in the shadow of Dubbo hospital, Ricky Hampson Snr's voice begins to crack when remembering his son. "His spirit is inside me today," Mr Hampson Snr said.

Ricky Hampson Jnr – better known as Dougie, a 36-year-old Kamilaroi-Dunghutti man and father of eight – died after being discharged from Dubbo hospital in August last year.

Family members held a peaceful protest at the hospital in western NSW on Monday, January 17, calling for a coronial inquest into his death.

Dougie went to the hospital with "10 out of 10" pain after hearing a "popping sound" and feeling a tearing sensation in his stomach while walking on the street, Mr Hampson Snr said.

Dougie was sedated, given painkillers and sent home. He died less than 24 hours later, in the early hours of August 16, from perforated duodenal ulcers.

Mr Hampson Snr said his son did not receive life-saving treatment because he was Indigenous and identified himself to staff as a recreational cannabis user.

"As Aboriginal people, our feelings are, when we present to the hospital and there's one mention of drugs, they (assume) it's



The family of Ricky Douglas Hampson, who died after being discharged from Dubbo Hospital, stages a peaceful protest outside the hospital in Dubbo, Monday, January 17. Picture: AAP Image/Stephanie Gardiner

withdrawals," he said.

"He came here for help. He trusted them, he was polite to them, and they've just failed him."

The family want Dougie's story and his face to be seen and heard across Australia to ensure Indigenous people receive proper care in the health system.

"It needs to be changed across the board, not just western NSW, not just in NSW. It's everywhere."

A group of about 30 peaceful protesters marched outside the

hospital's emergency department, chanting, carrying signs and remembering Dougie.

Dougie's sister Anita Chatfield said the protest was a way to grieve, as many family members had been separated by COVID-19 restrictions when he died.

"It's been numb, and now that we're here in front of the hospital, it all feels so real," Ms Chatfield said. "There are just too many ... people being lost in this system, both Black and white. I believe there is

"He'd just play that song ... because he'd help everybody, no matter what you looked like or their colour."

"You help someone when they're down. My brother was down, but they couldn't help him."

National Justice Project chief executive George Newhouse said he receives "a lot of complaints" from Indigenous people about the standard of care they receive at Dubbo Hospital.

"I've been told they are prepared to drive four hours to Sydney to get medical treatment rather than attend Dubbo Hospital," he said.

"If Dougie was kept longer under observation there's no doubt in my mind that they would have discovered his serious illness and he would be alive today."

Mr Newhouse acknowledged the significant pressure hospitals face. But following coronial inquests such as that of Naomi Williams, which found implicit bias in her mistreatment, Mr Newhouse is concerned the lessons learned are not being enforced in NSW health services.

"It is absolutely essential that hospitals provide culturally safe care to First Nations people," he said.

"I see a number of cases all around Australia where Aboriginal people are discharged without a proper diagnosis and they go home to die." – AAP

COVID SAFETY

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It's up to each of us to stay COVID safe. COVID-19 booster doses are available and recommended three months after your second dose from NSW Health vaccination clinics to maintain the best protection against COVID-19 (From 31 January, this will also apply to GPs and pharmacies).

You can get your booster if you are 18 years and over. A booster is strongly recommended to help keep your protection against the virus high, particularly if you're over 50 or have an underlying medical condition.

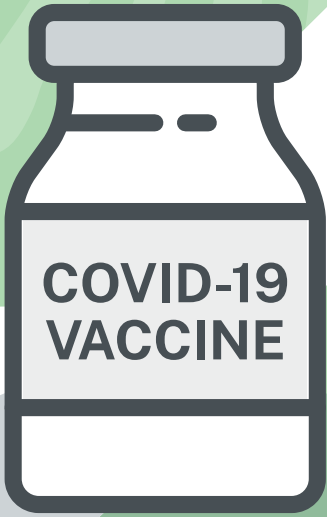
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Wiradjuri dancers and participants in a cultural heritage project held on Country that is now earmarked by NSW Government for an adventure-style tourism destination. Traditional owners are appalled by the decision and outraged that they were not consulted.

Blindsided: no consultation on tourism project

By DARREN COYNE



TRADITIONAL custodians of the Gardens of Stone area and Maiyngu Marragu Aboriginal Place, west of the Blue

Mountains around Lithgow, are 'appalled' at a NSW Government plan to create an adventure course on cliffs of spiritual significance to the Wiradjuri people.

Custodians say they were not consulted prior to the government announcement in November last year that 30,000 hectares of state forests and Crown lands were being transferred to the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

That land transfer includes the iconic Gardens of Stone extension being transformed into a new eco-tourism and adventure destination on the edge of the Blue Mountains near Lithgow.

Premier Dominic Perrottet said the centrepiece of the \$50 million investment would be the Lost City Adventure Experience, a project planned to include Australia's longest zipline and an elevated canyon walk.

Local Wiradjuri Elder Auntie Helen Riley said she felt sick when she had heard the announcement.

"We have worked for decades to protect these places. Maiyngu Marragu has rock art that is thousands of years old," she said.

"The whole area, especially Maiyngu Marragu, is part of a very significant cultural landscape and it was recently acknowledged as such when the government declared it an Aboriginal Place.

"For the Premier and the then Minister Matt Kean to now announce that Gardens of Stone is becoming a tourist attraction with infrastructure like adventure courses without any consultation with Wiradjuri people makes us question if the NSW Government and National Parks and Wildlife Service can be trusted with the

care of culturally significant places."

Auntie Helen told the *Koori Mail* that the Mingaan Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation was established to give Aboriginal people in the Lithgow area a voice in the management of the area.

She said Mingaan Wiradjuri had been caring for places of significance throughout the Gardens of Stone landscape since 2007, and in recent years had received and administered a number of government grants to support the rehabilitation, restoration and protection of the landscape.

Auntie Helen said Mingaan Wiradjuri has been wanting to establish an Indigenous rangers program to manage the land with traditional and contemporary practices such as traditional burning, and create opportunities for the local Aboriginal community and traditional Wiradjuri custodians.

After meeting with NPWS last Wednesday, Auntie Helen expressed her disappointment that a number of jobs were already being advertised to manage the area and commence planning for tourism infrastructure, again without asking traditional owners first.

"They said they still want to co-manage with us, but I said, 'You're already advertising positions.' Those jobs are not for Aboriginal people around here, which was the point of what we wanted to do: create employment for local Aboriginal people."

"They only want to contract Mingaan when they want to do any work and I wasn't happy with that because we are the traditional owners of this area.

"There are no designated Aboriginal jobs at all."

Auntie Helen said on the day of the announcement, NSW Premier Dominic Perrottet flew in by helicopter to make a public statement, despite not having consulted with local Aboriginal people.

"He announced there would be zip lines from one valley to

the next and that there would be abseiling down the rocks, but we are concerned about that because those rocks are fragile after the bushfires and they are significant to us," she said.

"Then when we met with NPWS they told us about the ranger program they want to set up and we said that's what we wanted to do."

Auntie Helen said Mingaan Wiradjuri was not opposed to properly managed adventure areas, but said it was important that the areas were managed in culturally sensitive ways with strong input from Wiradjuri people.

"I've been speaking with other Aboriginal groups and they are all going crook because they knew nothing about any of this," she said.

"We are deeply disappointed in NSW Government and NPWS for not consulting with us properly about these land transfers and development ideas before the introduction of the *Amendment Act* to NSW Parliament.

"We were first contacted on November 9 and told this is what the Government is about to announce and then hear the public announcement on November 13 and find out some legislation has gone to Parliament on November 17. You would think that after so many years, NPWS would have learnt that Aboriginal people have a right to speak for their own culture.

"Since the announcement we have been receiving support from Aboriginal groups across the country offering help in protecting this area from those that would see it destroyed.

"If they had approached the traditional custodians respectfully, we could have shown them how a project like this might have been created in a way that showcases traditional and contemporary land management and respects the interests of traditional custodians, but instead we have been blindsided."



Expressions of Interest – Suitability Panel

Appointment as Members

The Minister for Child Protection and Family Services, Hon Anthony Carlines MP, is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified people to appoint as members of the Suitability Panel in Victoria. The Suitability Panel, established under the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005, conducts hearings, and makes findings as to whether or not an out-of-home carer:

- who is alleged to have sexually or physically abused a child should be disqualified from being a carer, or
- who has been disqualified by the Panel should have their disqualification removed.

There are minimum nine Panel member positions to be appointed. Members will be chosen from a variety of relevant disciplines including law, social work, psychology, the treatment of sex offenders and other relevant disciplines.

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards and committees reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community. We encourage applications from people of all ages, Aboriginal people, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and from lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, gender diverse and intersex people. We will provide adjustments to the recruitment process upon request and consider requests for flexible working arrangements.

The successful candidates will work sessionally as Panel members for the Suitability Panel. The Victorian Government is establishing a new Worker and Carer Exclusion Scheme which is expected to commence during the term of these appointments. The Suitability Panel's present role will be absorbed into the structure of the Worker and Carer Exclusion Scheme. Following the commencement of the Scheme, persons appointed to the Suitability Panel will continue to execute their Suitability Panel role within their appointment term until matters referred to the Panel are completed. More information about the Scheme can be found at: <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/new-regulator-strengthen-social-services-sector>.

For further information about applying for this role, go to the Join a Public Board website www.boards.vic.gov.au or www.suitabilitypanel.vic.gov.au or contact Ms Enisa Murica at enisa.murica@suitabilitypanel.vic.gov.au or on 0487 320 280.

Applications must be submitted online at the Join a Public Board website at www.boards.vic.gov.au.

Closing date for applications is midnight, Sunday 13 February 2022.



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'Heartbreaking' rise in suicide numbers must drive change

Warning – this story addresses the topic of suicide and may be distressing for some readers.



SUICIDES by Victorian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people rose by a staggering 75% in 2021.

In a new report released last week, the Coroners Court of Victoria revealed 35 deaths by suicide in 2021, compared to 20 the year before.

There were 21 such deaths in 2019 and 16 in 2018.

"The increase in suicides of Aboriginal Victorians is heartbreaking," Coroners Koori Engagement Unit manager Troy Williamson, a Yuin man, said in a statement.

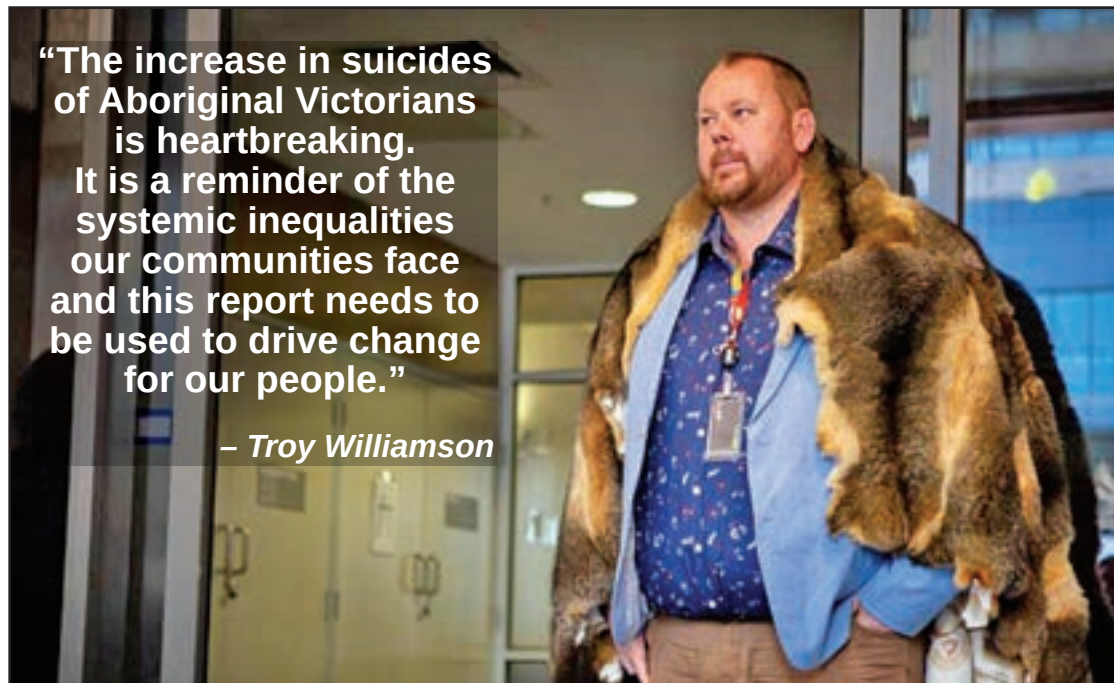
"It is a reminder of the systemic inequalities our communities face and this report needs to be used to drive change for our people."

Mr Williamson said suicide is complex and has many layers, but it is vital that barriers to seeking culturally competent support are dismantled.

"Our communities are hurting. Although confronting, I hope this report can start conversations

"The increase in suicides of Aboriginal Victorians is heartbreaking. It is a reminder of the systemic inequalities our communities face and this report needs to be used to drive change for our people."

– Troy Williamson



Victorian Coroners Koori Engagement Unit manager Troy Williamson.

that empower our people."

The 'Suicides of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Victoria, 2018 – 2021' is the third such report by the Victorian coroner.

The report found Indigenous people currently die by suicide at a rate three-and-a-half times

higher than other people.

They also tend to be younger than other people and occur most frequently in regional areas.

Suicide frequencies remain higher amongst males than females, with Indigenous men aged between 25 and 34 (27.9%), 45 and 54 (24.6%), and

35 to 44 (21.3%) continuing to be most at risk.

Among females, those aged 18-24 (38.7%) and 25-34 (25.8%) are the highest risk groups.

The stressors found are complex, including contact with the justice system, insecure access to accommodation, family

violence, and difficulties in accessing support services immediately prior to passing.

Since the Koori-led Coroners Koori Engagement Unit was established in 2019, the court has enhanced identification and accuracy of information for current and historic reportable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths.

The court's December 2021 monthly suicide report presenting data on all suicides in Victoria for 2021 was also released on Thursday, revealing suicide rates overall decreased with 683 in 2021, compared to 712 in 2020, and 700 in 2019. – AAP

Readers seeking support and information about suicide prevention can contact

**Lifeline
13 11 14**

**Suicide Call Back Service
1300 659 467**

**Kids Helpline
(young people aged 5-25)
1800 551 800**

**The National Indigenous
Critical Response Service
1800 805 801**

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Ghost nets and plastic make archipelago 'the most littered place in the Top End'



Gumurr Marthakal rangers are calling for support to help clean up the Wessel Islands from plastic waste.



WHEN researchers visited Marchinbar Island, 550km east of Darwin, they were shocked at the volume of plastics and fishing gear on the beach and in the shallow waters around the islands.

Wessel Islands Archipelago in the Arafura Sea could have some of the most littered beaches in the Northern Territory with Charles Darwin University (CDU) researchers discovering masses of plastic waste washed ashore.

Marchinbar is a narrow island about 55km long and eight kilometres wide and is the second largest island in the Archipelago.

Gumurr Marthakal rangers have managed the 1500km area around Wessel Islands since

2016. Both the land and the sea are part of the Marthakal Indigenous Protected Area.

Gumurr Marthakal executive officer and ranger Marcus Lacey has a strong family connection to the islands.

"The waste is worse than it has ever been, and it's continuing to get worse after every wet season," he said.

"You mainly get the westerlies during the wet season, and it brings all the plastic waste from the Timor Sea, then in the dry season you get winds that dump plastics on the eastern side of the islands."

Because of the isolation and resource limitations, the rangers did not have the capacity to clean it up properly, Mr Lacey said.

A solution was needed at the source.



Gumurr Marthakal executive officer and ranger Marcus Lacey.

"You look at the labels and the bottles and you can see that about 80% comes from Asia," he said.

CDU research fellow Dr Carol Palmer said she first noticed the

plastic waste on a visit to the island in 2011.

"Now in 2021, the amount of plastic and fishing gear is just astounding – both on the western side and eastern side of Marchinbar Island of the Wessel Archipelago," she said.

"The archipelago is the most littered place in Northern Territory, if not Northern Australia."

The most surprising change in waste was the number of ghost nets drifting around the island, Dr Palmer said.

These ghost nets are abandoned or lost nets that can stretch for kilometres and cause a significant number of deaths in fish and turtle populations.

Because of the islands' remoteness, it is one of the most expensive areas to do any clean-up work across

Australia, Dr Palmer said.

"It needs a clean-up as soon as possible, but importantly, ongoing management and engagement with the traditional owners, commercial and tourist vessel operators, and boat travellers who anchor across the islands, Australian Border Force and the navy," she said.

One option being considered is a ranger station on Marchinbar Island.

Mr Lacey said the last time there was a permanent settlement was in 2006 before Tropical Cyclone Monica tore through the island chain destroying all the permanent structures.

"We want a permanent ranger station there to give people, and traditional owners a chance to have access to their Country, and to care for it," he said.

Heritage Act 1977

Notice of intention to consider listing on the State Heritage Register

The Heritage Council of NSW maintains the State Heritage Register which is a list of places of particular importance to the people of NSW, including Aboriginal and other heritage.

The Heritage Council is currently considering whether or not to recommend the listing of the following place on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgment of its heritage significance.

Arrawarra Headland and Stone Fish Traps, Arrawarra

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 12 February 2022. Enquiries to Alexandra Simpson, Heritage Officer on 0457 842 734

The Heritage Council is interested in receiving information in writing, by email, telephone or in person from the Aboriginal community or Aboriginal organisations on the potential Aboriginal significance of this place.

Further details on the nominated place can be viewed at: heritage.nsw.gov.au/protecting-our-heritage/nominate-listing-on-the-state-heritage-register/nominations-being-considered/

Direct submissions to:
Heritage Council of NSW
Locked Bag 5020
Parramatta NSW 2124
or heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au

Uranium approval at Yeelirrie lapses



LAST week traditional owners of the Yeelirrie area, near Wiluna in Western Australia, were

celebrating the expiry of the environmental approval to mine this significant area.

The approval to mine Yeelirrie had a condition that required the proponent, Cameco, to begin mining within five years.

The approval expired on January 20, 2022, however Cameco has applied to the WA Government for an extension.

Traditional owners have fought against mining at Yeelirrie since the 1970s, when the uranium deposit was identified by Western Mining



Kado Muir

Corporation. Kado Muir, Tjiwarl native title holder, Ngalia leader of Walkatjurra Walkabout, chairs the West Australia Nuclear Free Alliance.

"In the last 50 years our community got together, stood up strong and has fought off three major multinational corporations," he said. "Today

we celebrate that Cameco cannot mine at Yeelirrie.

"Now we're calling on the government to not extend approvals to mine at Yeelirrie and to withdraw the approvals entirely. Cameco don't need another mine but our community needs certainty about the protection of this area."

Shirley Wonyabong, Tjupan Elder and senior Tjiwarl native title holder, said the decision was a testament to traditional owner resistance.

"Mining uranium at Yeelirrie, we're going to stop it. That's the story for the Seven Sisters... the old people told me the story for that country," she said.

"Our community has come together over this issue and

we've been clear that mining at Yeelirrie will not happen. That area is important and we have a responsibility to protect that country and keep the uranium where it is. When you stay together and united and you don't let mining companies push you around you can protect country."

Lizzie Wonyabong, Tjupan Elder and senior Tjiwarl native title holder called on the Government to withdraw all approvals.

"We've campaigned so long to stop mining at Yeelirrie because of the Seven Sisters, the importance of that area, because of the dangers of uranium when you dig it up and because of the risk of extinction of the stygofauna," she said.

Follow the Dream students discover STEM is good fun



BUILDING tech skills early has become just as important as learning science, history and maths. This is why students

at the Polly Farmer Foundation's Follow The Dream program in Newman, Western Australia, are learning how to fly drones, program robots, and apply these skills to real-world problems as part of a specially designed Drones and Robotics program.

Andrew Morgan, lead tutor at Newman Follow The Dream's STEM Leadership program, said that the program enables students to develop skills that will be crucial in an increasingly technological and complex world – innovative thinking, creativity, decision making, critical thinking, collaboration, problem solving. Mr Morgan said that this knowledge, confidence and skillset will help set the students up for future success as they pursue their chosen career path.

At the dedicated Follow The Dream site in Newman, a large shed has been converted into a 'fly zone' complete with a 'mesh cage' so students can learn to fly mini drones as well as bigger, codeable drones. Alongside this,



Teacher Andrew Morgan, Riley Sandell (Year 10), Kaylen Thomas (Year 8) and Will Jones (Year 8).

students are able to use Ozobots (desk-friendly coding robots) and Jimu robots (which can be built from kits) to learn how to code and program.

As well as mastering new skills, students also learn how this technology and equipment is used in real-world situations, such as driverless autohaul

trucks and trains on mining sites.

To further expand students' horizons and potential post-school pathways, late last year Newman Follow The Dream students took part in a STEM Leadership Camp in Perth.

They visited BAE Systems at Henderson where they explored the naval shipyard, had a site

induction in full PPE, toured a warship, and learnt about career pathways via apprenticeships and university.

During a tour of ASL Global, the students spent time in a metallurgy laboratory exploring the process of rock crushing, sampling and analysis for the mining industry.

The STEM Leadership Camp also took students to Scitech, the Construction Futures Centre, and to Cecil Andrews High School, which is a leader in STEM education.

Riley Sandell, Year 10 Follow The Dream student, said he really enjoys being part of the Drone and Robotics program "because I like to learn new things and challenge myself. The STEM Leadership Camp to Perth was incredible and we took part in lots of unique opportunities. When I complete school, I will definitely be doing something in the science field and at the moment I am aiming for environmental science or chemistry."

Mr Morgan said the STEM camp provided opportunities for leadership, helping students to build confidence and resilience. "It was a real eye opener for students and has given them valuable insight into future career pathways," he said.

Mr Morgan said that BHP has supported the Polly Farmer Foundation for nearly 20 years and it is thanks to this long-term funding and in-kind support that Newman Follow The Dream program is able to offer this incredible opportunity to students.

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Community consultation on the replacement of Water Sharing Plans for Hunter, Lower North Coast and Coffs Harbour regions

The New South Wales Government has been working with stakeholders to develop the draft replacement water sharing plans for the following areas:

- Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022
- Lower North Coast Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022
- Coffs Harbour Area Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022

The draft plan and supporting documentation can be viewed online from 17 January 2022 to 27 February 2022.

Public information webinars

Join us to learn more about:

- the draft replacement plan
- how to make a submission.

Plan	Webinars
Hunter Valley water sharing plan	Tuesday 1 February 2022 5 pm to 6 pm – General session
	Tuesday 8 February 2022 2 pm to 3 pm Managing groundwater levels in the Baerami Creek, Bylong River, Dart Brook, Lower Goulburn River, Lower Wollombi Brook, Martindale Creek, Segenhoe, and Widden Brook catchments
	Thursday 10 February 2022 12 pm to 1 pm Managing access to water in tidal pools
Coffs Harbour water sharing plan	Thursday 3 February 2022 5 pm to 6 pm Thursday 10 February 2022 3 pm to 4 pm
Lower North Coast water sharing plan	Wednesday 2 February 2022 5 pm to 6 pm Wednesday 9 February 2022 3 pm to 4 pm

To register to attend a session or to find out more information about the plans, including how to make a submission, please visit: dpie.nsw.gov.au/wsp

Submissions close at 11.59 pm on 27 February 2022.



Michelle Burchill, an undergraduate law student at Charles Darwin University (CDU), has been awarded the 2022 John Koowarta Law Scholarship.

Scholarship will make a difference



MICHELLE Burchill, an undergraduate law student at Charles Darwin University (CDU), has been awarded the 2022 John Koowarta Law Scholarship.

Ms Burchill is a proud Kuku Yalanji woman originally from Mossman in tropical north Queensland and is in her first year of law as a mature-aged student at CDU.

Since 2012, Ms Burchill has worked part-time as an enrolled nurse based in Darwin as she studies at CDU part-time.

In 2020, she decided to pursue a career in law and said she aspires to work in areas that interest her including medical-legal and criminal law, native title, environmental and planning law, human rights, international law and family law.

"I am very pleased and am thankful for this generous scholarship, as this award will be of financial benefit towards my studies in becoming another Indigenous lawyer," Ms Burchill said.

"This is a scholarship that will definitely make a difference with my continuing education.

"I am truly amazed by this award."

Ms Burchill said that some of the challenges First Nations students face present barriers for those wanting to study at university.

"I think that the lack of financial, social, cultural and emotional supports makes studying at university challenging for many Indigenous students," Ms

Burchill said. "I imagine for many Indigenous students it is quite daunting to move interstate and leave your home and family to study.

"The more we can support students at university and in their communities the more they will be encouraged to explore further education."

CDU deputy vice-chancellor First Nations leadership Professor Reuben Bolt congratulated Ms Burchill for her commitment to her academic success.

"This is a great achievement for Ms Burchill and makes a significant contribution to the broader issue of addressing the disparity rates across a range of portfolio areas," Professor Bolt said.

"Education is key to this, and I congratulate Ms Burchill for taking the step to pursue tertiary education studies."

CDU Asia Pacific College of Business and Law Dean David Low said he was excited to hear that Ms Burchill had won such a prestigious scholarship.

"Not only will it open doors for her now and into the future, but she will become yet another First Nation role model we are seeing emerge from our programs," Professor Low said.

The John Koowarta Scholarship is a national scholarship dedicated to helping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander law students achieve their ambition of becoming a lawyer.

The scholarship honours John Koowarta, a Winychanam Elder who pioneered Aboriginal land rights in Australia during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Museum awarded for truth-telling First Nations exhibit



THE Australian Museum and Laura McBride (director, First Nations) were awarded two of the top prizes in the 2021 IMAGinE awards for the groundbreaking exhibition, *Unsettled*.

Named Winner for Exhibition Project, Large Museums, and also receiving the NSW Aboriginal Culture, Heritage & Arts Association Award (ACHAA) for Excellence by an Aboriginal Curator, the IMAGinE awards recognised the breadth of curatorial research and the quality, scale and creativity of the *Unsettled* exhibition.

The awards were given to NSW and ACT museums and galleries.

Ms McBride, a Wailwan and Kooma woman, was appointed director, First Nations at the Australian Museum in March, 2021. And the IMAGinE awards caps off an amazing few years for Ms McBride.

"I am honoured to have won the Excellence by an Aboriginal curator award, which is decided by mob," she said.

"I want to thank all the many community members who shared their knowledge and stories within *Unsettled*.



Wailwan and Kooma woman Laura McBride is director of First Nations at the Australian Museum. Picture: Anna Kucera

"Driven by the desire to present our stories in our own voices, myself and co-curator Dr Mariko Smith have spent the past three years developing, researching, consulting and checking the content for *Unsettled*.

"Winning these awards along with the industry peer recognition is a wonderful way to celebrate the efforts, creativity and passion the whole Australian Museum team have put into *Unsettled*."

Director and chief executive of the Australian Museum Kim McKay congratulated Ms McBride



The Australian Museum exhibition *Unsettled* has won a major award.

and the team for their achievements.

"The *Unsettled* exhibition is a world-class example of First Nations curation, and we are very proud to be recognised with these awards," she said.

"*Unsettled* opened in May

2021 to record crowds and reviews, demonstrating that excellence and innovation can provide transformative experiences.

"The story told in *Unsettled* is one which every Australian should see and it's why we've made it

free to the public." *Unsettled* is open until January 27 (tomorrow), and free to all visitors.

The exhibition is complemented by a rich program of activities and workshops to deepen the experience.

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Indigenous doctors celebrate 25 years of providing care for mob



THIS year, the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) will be celebrating its 25th anniversary, with the theme 'Celebrating the past, Challenging the future'.

AIDA president Dr Tanya Schramm said that the organisation would be reflecting on "25 tremendous years of advocating for the cultural wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people".

"As our membership goes from strength to strength, we're looking forward to challenging the next 25 years to improve the wellbeing of our mob," she said.

AIDA chief executive Monica Barolits-McCabe said that, since forming in Salamander Bay in 1997, membership had grown steadily.

"We now have a strong network of nearly 1000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical students and doctors who we are proud to support and who support one another," she said.

"Our members bring a unique medico-cultural perspective to the health workforce in Australia, and are always willing to mentor and support the next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait



The 2019 Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association symposium. Picture courtesy AIDA

Islander doctors. We want to shine a light on as many of these members as we can in 2022."

Dr Schramm said that AIDA had come a long way in the past 25 years.

"From being a signatory to the Close the Gap Statement of Intent, to our representation at the Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges, to the launch of our cultural safety program, we

have consistently and determinedly worked towards the self-determination and equitable health and life outcomes of our peoples," she said.

"Our input in policies that affect our cohort has earned us the reputation of being a peak organisation in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health space."

AIDA is also strengthening its

vision of a culturally safe health system by expanding its renowned Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health in Clinical Practice (ATSIHiCP) Cultural Safety Training program, and continuing its advocacy efforts in alignment with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

"Cultural safety is a fundamental component in health care," Ms Barolits-McCabe said.

"AIDA will continue to advocate for comprehensive cultural safety training and resources to further strengthen the medical workforce and ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people receive culturally appropriate care."

AIDA will be celebrating this major milestone throughout 2022, with planned events including an International Women's Day event showcasing female thought leaders and how they might challenge the future; a 25th Anniversary Gala in Sydney in June; and the annual conference, where AIDA will showcase its 25 years through the release of the AIDA history project.

Details of these events will be available on the AIDA website over the coming months.

"With our members forging the way and with support from our partners and friends, AIDA has achieved beyond our means in the past 25 years," Ms Barolits-McCabe said.

"We look forward to growing and strengthening our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors and students, and continuing to serve and work with our community to make meaningful contributions to the medical workforce in Australia."



Meadows of seagrass found growing in northern waters



VITAL seagrass habitat is more widespread and diverse than previously thought, according to new research that is surveying the habitats across Marra and Yanyuwa sea country.

As a part of the research, the Mabunji li-Anthawirriyarra Land and Sea Rangers are collaborating with scientists from TropWATER at James Cook University (JCU), Northern Institute at Charles Darwin University (CDU), and the NT Parks and Wildlife Commission.

The survey area covers about 2,250km² of the Commonwealth Limmen Marine Park and the Northern Territory's Limmen Bight Marine Park.

This region is rich with cultural knowledge, but ecological knowledge is limited.

The surveys are using helicopters to map seafloor habitats that are exposed at low tide, and boat-based sampling for deeper waters.

The survey of more than 3000 sites has revealed that seagrass habitat extends from the shallow water to a depth of 20 metres, and so far, the survey has identified eight seagrass species.

Senior li-Anthawirriyarra sea ranger Shaun Evans said the mapping project was important for setting the foundation for



A joint project between the Mabunji li-Anthawirriyarra Land and Sea Rangers, James Cook University, Charles Darwin University and the NT Parks and Wildlife Commission is surveying seagrass in the Gulf of Carpentaria. Inset: seagrass habitat is a vital part of the ecosystem supporting dugong, pictured, and other sea life important to Marra and Yanyuwa people.

future monitoring.

"We need to know what resources we have and where they are located," Mr Evans said.

"These habitats support turtle, dugong and fish that are significant to Marra and Yanyuwa people. Knowing they are healthy is important for us.

"Projects and partnerships like this support us to work on country which is needed for us to achieve our sea country planning and management goals into the future."

CDU Northern Institute researcher Dr Rachel Groom said the study added to the knowledge

about migratory and threatened species that relied on these seagrass habitats.

"We are now mapping and describing the seagrass habitats that underpin ecosystem function and are critical habitats for dugong and turtle," she said.

The surveys are being

conducted over two weeks using helicopters to map seafloor habitats that are exposed at low tide, and boat-based sampling for deeper waters.

JCU's TropWATER researcher Dr Alex Carter said the survey required a huge effort from all researchers and ranger groups involved.

"In two weeks, we have surveyed more than 3000 sites and mapped extensive areas of seagrass," Dr Carter said.

"Seagrass meadows extend from shallow sandbanks next to mangroves to waters 20m deep at the edge of the marine park, with eight species recorded."

The integral role that seagrass habitats play in supporting healthy populations of fish, crabs, turtles and dugongs is well known.

These surveys are showing that seagrass habitats in the Gulf of Carpentaria are far more extensive and diverse than previously documented.

This project is jointly funded by Charles Darwin University (CDU), James Cook University (JCU), Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Indigenous Corporation, the Northern Territory Government and the Australian Government under the Our Marine Parks Grants, National Environmental Science Program and the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment.

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nbn acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, seas and skies and we pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging across Australia.

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Santos fails to consult on new fracking expansion at Beetaloo



MINING giant Santos has been accused of failing to consult traditional owners and pastoralists over its expansion of gas production in the Beetaloo Basin.

Santos last week agreed to pay \$400,000 to Rallen Australia after not alerting the pastoral company that it had added two additional gas wells to land at Tanumbirini Station, which is owned by Rallen.

The Northern Territory Supreme Court had heard that Santos had permission for nine wells on the cattle station, which had been negotiated with the previous owner, but had failed to inform Rallen of the two new wells.

Traditional owner Johnny Wilson, chair of the Nurrudalini Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, who lives in Lightning Ridge, within 20km of new fracking wells, said it was not only the pastoralists that Santos had failed to consult with.

"We hear from this court action that Santos is once more stopping pastoralists and traditional owners from knowing the true story of what is happening on Country," Mr Wilson said.

"It's not just the pastoralists that Santos is failing to properly consult with, it's also our people.

"Fracking wells risk the water systems that connect our Country and people together.

"Our songlines go through these



Nurrudalini Native Title Aboriginal Corporation chair Johnny Wilson.

waters. We have a heavy heart thinking about what will happen if things go wrong when Santos does its mining.

"Fracking is ruining our Country, but Santos is pushing ahead, hiding the truth about its operations.

"We fear what damage will be done to our land from fracking.

"Right now, a cyclone is coming to the

Territory and big rains risk waste water ponds from fracking overflowing.

"Santos is fracking and drilling through our aquifers.

"Where are the safety measures?

There's nothing.

"These mining operations are stopping our people hunting and living on Country like we have for generations.

"They are polluting our water.

"Where do we fish, hunt or camp? We can't because our water is already contaminated.

"Our fish, kangaroos, emus and turkeys are being poisoned.

"Santos is only interested in making money. It's not worried about our people, Country and culture.

"Santos made agreements with our old people a long time ago when people couldn't understand properly what fracking is all about or that one or two wells would increase to 60.

"Our old people were not told what serious damage could be done by drilling into our water systems.

"We don't want this fracking.

"The Northern Land Council has got the wrong people to talk about other people's Country.

"Santos and Origin's money talks and this has damaged relationships between us."

Following the showdown between Santos and Rallen in the NT Supreme Court, Santos agreed to pay the \$400,000 to Rallen.

However Santos will continue testing at the two new wells, but gave an undertaking that it would not undertake any further activities at Tanumbirini Station until December 31, 2022.

Santos issued a statement saying it would 'work to improve the way it engages with landholders' but made no mention of traditional owners.



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Vacancies are arising for community members and practitioner members on the State and Territory Boards of the:

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

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are warmly invited to apply, as are people from relevant rural or regional areas.

To find out more about the role and application process, visit:

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

or email statutoryappointments@ahpra.gov.au

Applications close: Sunday 27 February 2022 at 11.55pm AEDT

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



Dandenong and District Aborigines Co-operative Limited

The Dandenong and Districts Aborigines Co-operative Ltd Board of Directors would like to advise any community members who submitted Confirmation of Aboriginality requests during 2021 should re-apply now.

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VR exhibition tells the hidden stories of Stolen Generations



WESTERN Australians will be transported back in time via virtual reality to gain an insight into the personal experiences of Stolen Generations survivors as part of a new exhibition held at the State Library of WA.

Limen – At the Fence shares the personal stories of Bibblemun-Kaneang woman Edith De Giambattista (nee Smith), Wilman-Koreng-Kaneang man Tony Hansen and Koreng-Nyungar man Tim Flowers through a virtual reality recreation of the Carrolup-Marribank mission, a QR-coded interactive portrait experience and a fence art installation.

The exhibition, which forms part of the MissionsConnect project that was named a winner at the 2021 WA Heritage Awards, is presented by Curtin University's School of Design and the Built Environment in partnership with Bringing Them Home WA, BHP Billiton and the State Library of WA.

Curator and lead researcher Professor Reena Tiwari, from Curtin University's School of Design and the Built Environment, said the exhibition marked the first of many truth-telling public programs using multimedia to come out of the Stolen Generations Immersive Hub at Curtin University.

"Through this exhibition, we aim to make visible some of the loss of language, culture, family and belonging that are at the root of many ongoing issues facing Stolen Generations survivors and their families today," Professor Tiwari said.

WA Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation chair Jim Morrison said he hoped the exhibition would open eyes and hearts.



***Limen – At the Fence* enables viewers to delve into experiences of the Stolen Generations, thanks to virtual reality. Picture: Stolen Generations Immersive Hub**

"*Limen* is an organic process unifying Aboriginal corporations, universities, governments and critically, Stolen Generations survivors, with their stories of childhood resilience, in the context of the places they lived," he said.

Tony Hansen said *Limen* was about truth. "The truth is never far away from what we are sharing with you today," he said. "We need truth; we want justice. Without justice, we can't heal. We want to heal not just as individuals, but as a collective."

Professor Tiwari said a report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

found that 46% of Aboriginal people in WA are Stolen Generations survivors and descendants, who were affected by epigenetic and developmental trauma histories.

"That report paints a disturbing picture of mental health and emotional wellbeing issues, disability and poor economic security factors for the Stolen Generations and their intergenerationally traumatised families," Professor Tiwari said.

"Through *Limen – At the Fence*, we are seeking to encourage empathy and provide an alternative view of the Stolen Generations'

experience that has in the past been distorted, filtered and transformed through a colonial lens. The exhibition's name, *At the Fence*, holds a hope that Indigenous and non-Indigenous people of Australia will hold hands and cross over the fence together."

The exhibition has been led by the survivors and curated by Professor Tiwari, Dr Chamila Subasinghe and Emeritus Professor John Stephens, from Curtin's School of Design and the Built Environment.

Limen – At the Fence is on display at the State Library of Western Australia until January 31.

MissionsConnect was named the winner of the Interpretation Project at the WA Heritage Awards.

According to the judges, the award was presented to MissionsConnect "for documenting the state heritage-listed site of Mogumber mission and capturing the intangible heritage, the memories and lived experiences of the Stolen Generations survivors of Mogumber."

The judges noted that using this immersive technology to develop an interactive interpretation of the existing and electronically reconstructed physical fabric of Mogumber has allowed the survivors to tell an important and difficult story in their own voices."

The MissionsConnect project is led by Professor Tiwari, and the team includes Emeritus Professor John Stephens, Renee Parnell, Wesley Lamont and Dr Dean Chan.

The project is being directed by the views of the Stolen Generations survivors and their families, and involves close partnership with Bringing Them Home WA director Jim Morrison.

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Kenny Bedford, 2021 Master of Indigenous Business Leadership student

Danny Eastwood's view



Quote



“You would think that after so many years, National Parks and Wildlife Service would have learnt that Aboriginal people have a right to speak for their own culture.”

– Wiradjuri Elder Aunty Helen Riley on the announcement of NSW Government plans to create an adventure park on land significant to her people.

● See page 10

Unquote

Tent Embassy marks 50 years

FIFTY years ago on January 26, four young Aboriginal men hopped in a car in Redfern, NSW, and drove to Canberra. Upon their arrival, in front of Parliament House, they set up a beach umbrella and hung up a sign saying ‘Aboriginal Embassy’.

Those four men – Michael Anderson, Billy Craigie, Bertie Williams and Tony Coorey – had a point to prove: that Aboriginal people had never ceded their sovereignty, nor engaged in any treaty process with the crown.

Just over a week later, they issued their demands for land rights, compensation and recognition.

Although their action and demands were largely ignored by the government of William McMahon, the leader of the Opposition Gough Whitlam visited the site and later promised to deliver land rights under a future Labor Government.

Eventually, as Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam went some way towards keeping his promise by handing over the land title deeds to the Gurundji people in the Northern Territory, who had walked off Wave Hill station in August 1966.

The land handback led to the passing of the first legislation that allowed for First Nations peoples to claim land title if they could prove a traditional relationship to the Country.

It was as much a victory for the Gurundji people as it was for those four young men with their beach umbrella.

Throughout the years, despite the best



efforts of the white authorities, the Tent Embassy has become a symbol of continued resistance to colonial rule.

It has also become a symbol to First Nations people from all over the country as a place to gather around the sacred fire that represents their sovereignty.

Now, 50 years later, the Tent Embassy remains as a reminder that successive governments have failed to address First Nations people's demands for justice.

There is still no treaty (or treaties) with Aboriginal people.

Land rights remain conditional and subject to the demands of mining and forestry companies. The sovereign rights of First Nations people remain largely ignored.

In short, the need for the Aboriginal Tent Embassy remains as important today as it was 50 years ago.

That's why the celebrations that will be taking place in Canberra this week are not to mark particular milestones in the ongoing fight for justice, but to honour the spirit and resilience of Aboriginal people from around the country who refuse to concede defeat in a struggle that has been ongoing for two centuries.

A YARN WITH...



Albert Abdul Rahman Oonoonba Queensland

Favourite bush tucker?

Taro, I love it.
Also Sop Sop (traditional Torres Strait Islander stew) and Namas, which is raw fish.

Favourite other food?

Octopus, when I can get some.

Favourite drink?

Coconut milk.

Favourite music?

Country and rock. Kris Kristofferson is my favourite singer.

Favourite sport?

NRL rugby league. I'm a Cowboys supporter.

Favourite read?

Illustrated magazines.

Favourite holiday destination?

Palm Island.

Favourite movie?

To Sir With Love, starring Sidney Poitier.

What do you like in life?

Visits from people, as I am in a wheelchair.

What don't you like in life?

Racism and I see it.

Which person or people would you invite for a night around the campfire?

Shortie O'Neill, who now lives in Cardwell.

Who or what inspires you?

Women in leadership roles.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?

Try and get more jobs for our people so they can better themselves.

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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).

Tent Embassy an icon in the fight for justice

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised this article contains names and images of deceased people.

By BRONWYN CARLSON and LYNDA-JUNE COE



OFTEN people think about the Aboriginal Tent Embassy as something historic, dating back to the 1970s. But it should also

be thought of as a site of the longest protest for Indigenous land rights, sovereignty and self-determination in the world.

In fact, this year, the Tent Embassy is set to celebrate its 50th continuous year of occupation. Demonstrating its significance to Australian history, it was included on the Commonwealth Heritage List in 2015 as part of the Old Parliament House precinct.

In this momentous year, it's worth remembering how the Tent Embassy came to be and what it has continued to stand for since its erection in 1972 – and the significance it still has today.

The Tent Embassy began its public life on January 26, 1972. On that day, Michael Anderson, Billy Craigie, Bert Williams and Tony Coorey left Redfern and drove to Ngannawal Country (Canberra), where they planted a beach umbrella opposite Parliament House (now known as Old Parliament House).

They erected a sign that said "Aboriginal Embassy". With them on that day was their driver, *Tribune* photographer Noel Hazard, who captured the event in a series of photos.

The term 'embassy' was used to bring attention to the fact Aboriginal people had never ceded sovereignty nor engaged in any treaty process with the Crown. As a collective, Aboriginal people were the only cultural group not represented with an embassy.

According to Aboriginal activist and scholar Gary Foley, the absence of an Aboriginal embassy in Canberra was a blatant indication Aboriginal people were treated like aliens in their own land.

Initially, the protesters were making a stand about land rights following the Prime Minister William McMahon's speech that dismissed any hope for Aboriginal land rights and reasserted the Government's position on the policy of assimilation. The Tent Embassy was therefore a public display of our disapproval of, and objection to, the policies and practices of the Government.

In later years, it has become an acclaimed site of our continued resistance to the continuity of colonial rule.

Police who were patrolling the area at the time of the Tent Embassy's erection asked the



Founders Michael Anderson, Billy Craigie, Bert Williams and Tony Coorey beneath a beach umbrella, the original Tent Embassy.

protesters what they were doing outside Parliament House. They said they were protesting and would do so until the Government granted land rights to Aboriginal people. The police were said to have responded, "That could be forever."

As it turned out, it was not illegal to camp on the lawns of Parliament House, so the police could not remove them.

Later, on February 6, 1972, the members of the Tent Embassy issued their list of demands to the Government. The demands were clearly about our rights as Aboriginal people to our homelands, regardless of the fact cities were now built on the land or mining companies were interested in the bounties within.

Compensation was called for in the instances where the lands was not able to be returned. There were also demands for the protection of our sacred sites.

While the McMahon Government cared little about negotiating with the protesters, the leader of the Opposition, Gough Whitlam, visited the Tent Embassy and publicly proclaimed a promise of Aboriginal land rights under a future Labor Government.

There was widespread support for the Tent Embassy from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and allies across the continent, and indeed the world.

Media attention also grew as it became obvious the Tent Embassy and protesters were not going to move on.

Other Aboriginal activists joined the embassy, including Foley, Isabel Coe, John Newfong, Chicka Dixon, Gordon Briscoe and many others.

The Government was not too

A violent confrontation with police ensued.

On September 12, 1972, the ACT Supreme Court ruled against the use of the trespass laws, and the Tent Embassy was temporarily re-erected before being removed again the following morning.

Then, at the end of 1972, the Coalition government led by McMahon lost the federal election to Labor. Whitlam was able to keep his promise in part – he did give the land title deeds to the Gurindji people. This was captured in the historical photo by Merv Bishop of Whitlam pouring a fistful of dirt into Vincent Lingiari's hand.

While this iconic image has become a demonstration of what might be possible, the work of the embassy is not yet done. Land rights across the continent have yet to be fully achieved.

The Tent Embassy was re-established the following year and remained until activist Charles Perkins negotiated its removal pending the enactment of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act* in 1976.

In the ensuing years, it occupied several other sites around Canberra, including the site of the current Parliament House. In 1992, it returned to its original site on the lawn of Old Parliament House to mark the 20th anniversary of the original protest.

Eleven years later, much of the Tent Embassy was destroyed by fire in a suspected case of arson. The police once again attempted to remove protesters from the site under orders from Federal Government's National Capital Authority.

Today, the Tent Embassy remains on the lawns of Old Parliament House as a reminder of the successive failures of subsequent governments to address the demands for justice represented by the embassy and its people.

As Foley reflects in his history of the embassy:

"That it has endured for (five) decades as a potent symbol rejecting the hypocrisy, deceit and duplicity by successive Australian governments is a testament to the refusal of large numbers of Aboriginal people to concede defeat in a 200-year struggle for justice."

Nowhere else in the world have we seen such longevity around a site of protest.

The Aboriginal Tent Embassy is an impressive achievement that demonstrates the tenacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and our continued fight for the reclamation of our lands and sovereign rights as First Nations peoples.

This story first appeared on *The Conversation*.

THE CONVERSATION



Activist and actor Bob Maza addresses a protest at the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in front of Parliament House on July 30, 1972. Picture: *The Tribune (Australia)*



The Tent Embassy in 2016.

keen on being reminded Aboriginal people were demanding rights, so it amended the Trespass on Commonwealth Lands Ordinance to make it illegal to camp on the lawn of Parliament House.

This gave the police the authority to remove the protesters.

The ordinance was but a few hours old when police attempted to forcibly remove the embassy. They did so to the roar of the crowd chanting "land rights now".

Politics of sovereignty threatens to divide us

By TONI HASSAN



THE politics swirling around Canberra's Aboriginal Tent Embassy – set up on the lawns opposite Old Parliament House 50 years ago – have always been complex.

These politics got more layered this summer when protesters not formally connected to the embassy – people calling themselves the Original Sovereigns – defaced and allegedly set fire to the main entrance of Old Parliament House.

The Original Sovereigns come out of the so-called Original Sovereign Tribal Nation Federation (OSTNF) in Australia. The Federation blends with and borrows from the global Sovereign Citizens (SovCits) movement.

First Nations custodians of the Canberra region have rejected any connection to the Original Sovereigns, embarrassed and upset by what they see as a lack of respect shown by the interstate visitors to the capital.

From mid-December the Original Sovereigns set up a camp they called Muckudda (interpreted as “storm coming”) near but separate from the Aboriginal Tent Embassy.

They took their protest to the gates of Government House on Tuesday, led by a spokesperson, Indigenous activist Bruce “Buddy” Shillingsworth Jnr. On Thursday they went to Parliament House on Capital Hill, where they clashed with police.

On Friday, police began to dismantle the Muckudda camp. Shillingsworth Jnr was arrested and appeared in court charged with abetting arson related to the December 30 fire. He pleaded not guilty.

Twists on notions of sovereignty

Indigenous Australians have long asserted Aboriginal sovereignty was never ceded on the continent. However, ideas around sovereignty, statehood and self-government differ among First Nations peoples.

SovCits also assert the authority of the Australian state is illegitimate. Their reasons and interpretations of the law are often convoluted and conspiratorial.

According to US lawyer Caesar Kalinowski, the global movement has “no leader, no central repository for ideas, and no unifying collective mission, with most adherents gaining their information through



Bruce Shillingsworth Snr and fellow protesters from a ‘Sovereign Citizens’ camp argue with members of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy near Old Parliament House in Canberra, Friday, January 14, 2022.

Picture: AAP Image/Lukas Coch

nebulous webpages or YouTube videos”.

The movement, which originated among farmers in the US midwest, has ties to right-wing patriot or militia movements. SovCits members believe, among other things, that federal attempts to protect the environment and regulate gun ownership (and more recently mandate vaccines) interfere with their civil or constitutional liberties.

In Australia, the SovCits have tried to connect with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to gain the credibility that comes from assertions of Indigenous sovereignty.

Just how formally enmeshed members of the Original Sovereign Tribal Nation Federation are with the SovCits movement is unclear, likely made deliberately opaque by members, but they do adopt concepts and rhetoric from one another.

Both groups have deep suspicions of mainstream media and both employ similar tactics, such as targeting buildings that symbolise political power. Across the interconnected groups, there's a fair amount of testosterone, anger and ego.

There are regular lived-

streamed forums bringing together Indigenous and non-First Nations people involved with the now dismantled Muckudda Camp. When followers have questioned the group's aims, organisers point to the actions of the Yidindji Tribal Nation in northern Queensland. This group has renounced legal ties with the Commonwealth and began a process from 2014 to secede from Australia. Yidindji has its own ministers, identity cards and law enforcement agency.

But the so-called Original Sovereigns have little or nothing to do with current Tent Embassy caretakers. The embassy, which has had periods of latency since 1972, has been more active since 2000 as a vigil promoting First Nations sovereignty. It has a self-appointed committee, with its own power struggles and fundraising drives.

The embassy, which is included on the Commonwealth Heritage List, is a potent place where activists and subcultures of all kinds are drawn – a visible soapbox. Others go there because they are homeless.

Social media exchanges involving members connected to the Muckudda Camp continue to talk up plans to

#TakeOldParliament, inspired by the Capitol Hill insurrection in Washington.

Ties to political conservatives

The Original Sovereign Tribal Federation was formed in 2010 by Mark McMurtrie (who also goes by the name Dunham Badi Jakamarra). McMurtrie claims Indigenous heritage and that he's been initiated into Warlpiri Law of the Northern Territory.

The Federation's website says it has a treaty with a “large number of tribes”. It aims to unite the “original society nationally” and “expose the fraud being conducted against the tribes on behalf of the Crown Corporation by its UK and Australian parliaments”.

In 2020, the Federation signed a memorandum of understanding with the fledgling Great Australian Party led by former One Nation senator Rod Culleton.

The Federation and the Great Australian Party declared in a media release “the current state and federal governments of Australia are operating without licence”.

Members of the Federation have also been pursued by Australia's largest anti-vaccine

lobby group, Reignite Democracy Australia, a crowd shown to back the United Australia Party's Craig Kelly and Clive Palmer.

The Federation has set itself up in opposition to an older, more coherent and scholarly movement of First Nations activists called the Sovereign Union.

The Sovereign Union was organised by Ghillar Michael Anderson, an Euahlayi Elder from Goodooga in north-west New South Wales. Anderson is the only surviving member of the group that put up the umbrella as the original Tent Embassy. He has a law degree and was once an adviser on First Nations treaties to Liberal Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser.

Anderson has spent many years trying to unite Indigenous nations, working with volunteers and advisers to essentially try and work out how to “put Aboriginal law on top of Australian law”.

He puts forward shire councils as a model for what could be done, and promotes the idea of dual citizenship, not secession.

Anderson won't openly criticise those people drawn to the Muckudda resistance camp at Old Parliament House.

He told me he has more concern for what he calls “too many conservative Blacks who think these (white) fellahs will give us what we want”.

Future reckoning?

What has panned out in the Tent Embassy precinct in December and January is not black and white.

The destruction to Old Parliament House has added to the mistrust among the pro-sovereignty parties in the Canberra parliamentary zone.

There were plans to “take Old Parliament house” over the weekend, but after Friday's eviction of the Muckudda Camp, the protest seemed to fizzle out.

Tensions could continue to worsen during commemorative events planned for the 50th anniversary of the Tent Embassy around January 26.

In a sign of the new anxieties, the embassy's caretakers have insisted people who are planning to camp must formally register.

Whatever happens in the midst of a pandemic, the program will rely on the police to keep the peace.

Toni Hassan is Adjunct Researcher at Charles Sturt University.

This piece was first published on The Conversation.

THE CONVERSATION



Time to listen to Aboriginal voice

There's no pride in genocide so why do we celebrate?

Once again January 26 raises issues: Should we commemorate Australia Day, or lament Invasion Day?

Let's look at the Sydney area in 1788. Aboriginal tribes or clan groups lived on their traditional tribal areas.

The entire Australian landmass was covered by adjoining tribal areas, estimated at more than 600. The Aboriginal population at that time was estimated at around 3 million.

The colonists landed on Sydney Cove, Gadigal land.

Heading south across the Georges River, they were in Tharawal tribal land.

Going west past Parramatta they were in Darug land and further on Gundeungurra lands.

The tribes used their land for hunting, ceremonies, food gathering and meetings.

Now, the settlers were moving there and simply taking the land, pushing Aboriginal people off their tribal lands.

Aboriginal people started fighting back, with spearings of livestock, and burning of buildings. Thus a conflict developed.

The settlers then sent out shooting parties to teach the Aboriginal people a lesson, and to clear them off the land, and out of the way of the settlers.

Note the Appin massacre, ordered by Governor Macquarie in 1816.

This 'settlement' process, was actually an invasion, accompanied by many massacres of thousands of Aboriginal people over the ensuing 120 years.

However, the white leadership of today insists that it was a 'peaceful' settlement and well, there weren't that many Aboriginal people there at the time and they just sort of blended in with the settlers.

However, there are many historical records describing violent contact and massacres.

But many people choose to simply ignore these.

Sooner or later, the white leadership is going to have to face the truth of our history where they will acknowledge January 26 was an invasion of Aboriginal lands and the start of 120 years of massacres.

Why should the leadership do this?

Firstly, because it is the true history.

Secondly, it recognises the trauma faced by the Aboriginal people. To ignore it, trivialises the history and the feelings and values of Aboriginal people and the ongoing effects it has had.

White leaders say such things

as, "Well it was over 200 years ago, time to move on now." Or, "We've done so much for the Aboriginals since then. They shouldn't complain. They should be grateful." Or, "Acknowledging an invasion is simply being divisive, and we are now one country and we should think and act as one."

We must stop trivialising the Aboriginal point of view, instead recognising it is as valid as that of any other group of people who have suffered major trauma.

We weren't just a race of savages, aimlessly wandering the land. Instead, we had and have a very rich culture and ethics and value system.

Acknowledging Invasion Day is an act of empathising with Aboriginal people. Accepting our trauma, rather than trivialising it. Accepting the sense of loss felt by many Aboriginal people.

A current radio advertisement for Australia Day says we must all work together as a nation, and to do that we must talk with each other and listen to each other.

I believe it is time for the Australian general population and the leadership to listen to the Aboriginal voice.

Now is the time to listen to the Aboriginal voice.

Ross McGregor

The annual, embarrassing kerfuffle surrounding what we immigrants call 'Australia Day' can be laughable and chilling within any moment.

January 26 was once NSW Founders Day. By 1935 the other states had joined in and that day evolved into Australia Day.

What happened to the citizens of the numerous First Nations existent after February 1, 1788, is nothing short of genocide.

Celebrating the commencement of genocide leaves the privileged white folks with intergenerational guilt. Of course there will be white folks who declare "it wasn't me". I would be happy to agree, however these might be the same folks who might protest about changing the date of Australia Day. As for Black folks it is eternal grief.

First Nations Australians have continuous civilisations across this continent upwards of 60,000 years. Prospering over this vast expanse of time, as a human experience, is not achieved easily nor by accident.

The 2017 Uluru Statement from the Heart was another incredible opportunity to become a truly modern state, where the Tories have again dropped the ball.

I suggest that the Premiers of the states and Chief Ministers of the territories engaging in Zoom

meetings with Prime Minister Scott Morrison is much closer to a "third parliamentary chamber," (exclusive and not open to public scrutiny), rather than as mendaciously opined by then PM Malcolm 'Fizza' Turnbull, contemptuously batting away the Uluru Statement from the Heart, whose authors have not asked for anything approaching a chamber pot much less a third chamber.

Such hollow claims are reminiscent of Tory lies during the Mabo 'Terra Nullius' litigation: "They will be coming for your backyards next!"

Why? Because in Australia it is always about:

1. Land for grazing and/or minerals.

2. Does News Corporation have a vested interest in any outcome?

3. Keeping any challenger to the status quo, sidelined, ignored and dying – a patient slow burn genocide with an acceptable, genial presentation.

First Nations Australians have statistical life expectancy eight to nine years lower than other Australians. Why perpetuate this emotional cruelty annually inflicted on our fellow citizens? Is maintenance of January 26 equivalent to institutionalised hate?

Nicholas Union

Not happy with boycott story

Many Jews are allies too

I am writing to draw your attention to a serious error on page 8 of the *Koori Mail* of Wednesday, January 12, 2022.

Under the heading 'Artists boycott Sydney Festival in support of Indigenous rights' you adopt the position that the Jews are not the indigenous people of Israel and the Holy Land.

That is simply a lie.

Because of their revolt against the Roman Empire, the Roman Empire destroyed the Jewish centres in Israel and forcibly deported as many of the people that were not killed as they could. The Romans renamed Israel and the Holy Land Palestine. That is where the current Palestinians take their name from. The renaming of Israel and the Holy Land has not changed the fact that it is the Jews that are the

indigenous people of Israel and the Holy Land.

Your denial of Jews as the indigenous people of Israel and the Holy Land would be the same as denying that the Aboriginal traditional owners are the Indigenous people of the areas from which they were forcibly dispossessed by the

European invaders.

To assert that the so-called 'Palestinians' and not the Jews are the indigenous people of Israel and the Holy Lands would be the same as saying that the white settlers who have lived on Aboriginal land for over 100 years are in fact the indigenous people of Aboriginal

land and not the Aboriginal traditional owners who they forcibly dispossessed.

I urge you to correct the record and this serious error you have adopted. You should do that out of respect for the Jewish people who have devoted themselves to the struggle for human right and land rights.

I am one such person.

Eddy Neumann
Sydney

– There is no place in that story where it is stated – or even implied – that Jews are not indigenous to Israel. The *Koori Mail* didn't 'adopt' any position at all. We reported what Aboriginal artists were doing in response to Sydney Festival accepting sponsorship from the Israeli Embassy. – Ed



Thank you very much to the *Koori Mail* team. I'm a non First Nations white woman, and a friend introduced me to the paper.

I learn a lot reading it, and pass it onto friends in Geelong, here on Wadawurrung Country.

I'm a Jewish woman, committed to being an ally to back First Nations people, and I have a request.

Could you please distinguish between the 'Israeli government/embassy' and the peoples who live there, including the Jewish people? (eg, recent January 12 edition article about the Sydney Festival boycott).

It can be very disheartening when everyone is grouped under the heading of 'Israel'.

Many Jews in Israel and in Australia speak up against the government's oppression of Palestinian peoples, and back their self determination.

I believe that a two-state solution is possible.

Vicky Grosser
Geelong, Vic

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

Co-design report fails to guarantee self-determination as human right

LAST month, the Australian Government published the Indigenous Voice co-design final report. It's the latest step in the debate about how Australia should and shouldn't recognise a distinctive Indigenous presence in public life.

Some of the report's recommendations, which the Government accepts, will help policy making to work better for Indigenous people. But they don't go far enough to meet international human rights norms by supporting self-determination as a right that belongs to Indigenous peoples as much as to anybody else.

What is self-determination and why is it so important?

Self-determination is the right to exercise authority over one's own affairs and to participate fairly in public decision making. It encompasses the right to make decisions about things like health, education, natural resource management and economic development. It doesn't stop the state's right to govern. But as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights puts it, the state's right to govern doesn't override an obligation to recognise that:

All peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

The Voice co-design report is limited in the opportunities it

THE CONVERSATION



Dr Dominic O'Sullivan

provides for Australia to meet these obligations. Furthermore, it doesn't give effect to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which says:

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the state.

The Uluru Statement from the Heart

One limitation is the local and regional bodies will be referred to as 'Indigenous' not 'First Nations' Voices. The co-design committee wasn't allowed to consider First Nations' Voices, as the Referendum Council proposed in its Uluru

Statement from the Heart in 2017.

The Referendum Council was established in 2015 by then Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and the leader of the opposition, Bill Shorten. Its job was to recommend amendments to the Constitution to "recognise" Australia's first peoples.

The significance of the term 'First Nations' is that nationhood implies distinctive and enduring political community, whereas the term 'Indigenous' refers only to prior occupancy.

Under instruments like the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 'Indigenous' is a politically significant concept. But it's not the same as nationhood. This is important because the Referendum Council made its recommendations after widespread consultation with First Nations people and most said they preferred to be recognised as members of First Nations because of its more significant political meaning.

The Uluru Statement from the Heart recommended amending the Constitution to create a permanent First Nations' Voice to Parliament. However, amending the Constitution requires a referendum.

The Voice was to be complemented by Makarrata, a process of "coming together after a struggle". Makarrata would lay the foundation for agreement making.

Discussions are underway on what agreement making through treaties might look like in Queensland, Victoria and the Northern Territory. However, the

Commonwealth doesn't like the idea of recognising Indigenous peoples' nationhood, which treaties would require.

The co-design report

The Uluru Statement from the Heart was a plan to recognise human equality by accepting that enduring nationhood, cultural perspectives and colonial experiences legitimately influence the way people want to participate in public life. However, the Coalition Government immediately rejected the statement.

More than four years later, the co-design report proposed to create 35 local and regional voices to government. How these voices will collectively appoint a 24-member National Voice to Parliament and government is yet to be worked out.

There isn't time to pass the legislation to set up these Voices before the federal election, due by May. However, the Labor party says if it is elected, it will support a referendum to establish a national Voice to Parliament as a permanent institution.

The co-design committee wasn't allowed to consider a referendum to change the Constitution. However, it did report that constitutional entrenchment was what many of the 9,400 people it spoke to actually wanted.

The next steps for the Voice to Parliament

There is potential for these Indigenous regional voices to help

improve public administration and contribute to better policy making. But it's not a guaranteed contribution at a national level. Also, because the plan is to set them up by legislation, not by referendum, they could be abolished at any time.

Stand-alone concepts like 'co-design' and 'partnership' can't assure First Nations people of the decision-making authority that self-determination requires. An entrenched Voice to Parliament also won't provide this, but the Voice was only one part of the Referendum Council's proposal. Taken alongside truth-telling and Makarrata, there is potential for politics to work differently and inclusively.

For example, in New Zealand, there are guaranteed Maori seats in parliament. In Victoria, the First Peoples' Assembly is considering whether it wants to propose a similar kind of arrangement so First Nations people actually get to make policy.

This is why, in spite of consultation's benefits for effective policy making, the co-design report is not significant from a human rights perspective.

Only a positive referendum vote would give Australia a better chance at recognising Indigenous peoples human rights.

● Dominic O'Sullivan is Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences, Auckland University of Technology and Professor of Political Science, Charles Sturt University.

Self-awareness is healing

INVASION Day protests have become so well established that last year the Victorian Government cancelled the Australia Day parade in Naarm (Melbourne) due to COVID restrictions, but permitted the Invasion Day rally to go ahead. This means times are changing; attitudes are slowly changing.

Not everyone though is changing. I pulled up this week beside a 4WD with the bumper sticker "F#ck off we're Full" and Australian and Eureka flags, used by many white supremacists as a sign of 'Australian pride'.

This driver had P-plates, a new generation having missed the memo about Australia's changing identity. We were in Logan, Queensland, where last year the local council launched its new "Pride in our City as the new narrative in celebrating its vibrant ethnic and cultural diversity".

I was listening to *No Flex Zone* by Rae Sremmurd, two young Black American rappers, and they start giving me the look, yeah you know the look. So, I give it back to them.

The young fella driving then starts revving his motor, so to go one better I turned



Woolombi Waters

up my stereo. I have a mad booming sound system and this easily countered as he continued to rev the guts out of his engine.

As the song ended, I quickly went to change it to some old school rap, but before I could go through my Spotify list, *Can You Feel the Love Tonight?* by Elton John came on.

The young driver stopped revving his 4WD. I could see they felt a bit silly. Fortunately, the light changed to green and I

drove off feeling a little bit silly myself.

The point is, whether Black, white, Indigenous or other, we all look through the world with a very different lens and we take what we want out of it. This is what shapes our identity.

The sad truth is that for all that is spoken about modernity, living within one of the richest Western developed countries in the world breeds either suffering or malevolence, defined as hostility or wishing harm upon others. It's why in the modern world we have become the most sedated, medicated and depressed people in history. This is undeniable.

Those young men did not just become racist.

Theirs, like ours, is a life journey over generations and to breed such hate as racism, you can state with almost certainty that there has been an amount of suffering endured to manifest such hate.

What is missing in these debates is empathy or even an attempted understanding from both sides as to why we feel the way we do, and they feel the way they do.

We don't even know one another. What we do know

are the perceived ideas of what both cars represent, by the symbols we have chosen to identify with culturally. It is a sad reflection on how this country was 'settled' or 'invaded' – depending on what soundtrack you are listening to – that the beginning of every year in Australia starts with such controversy, division and hurt for some while a celebration for others.

No matter what class, colour or background, most people are struggling, either emotionally, financially or mentally. Or, if they are somehow blessed to not be suffering, you can almost guarantee that someone they love or someone they are close to is suffering. Racial opposition based on left and right wing extremist views allows such pain to flourish. It masks the true hurt we are doing to ourselves no matter what side of the political spectrum you belong.

I have found that in accepting this you have a better understanding of the political, emotional turmoil we face together. This creates, I feel strongly, a progression to move outside of identity and race politics and towards greater wisdom.

It comes at a price though, as a wisdom born from isolation, you are no longer running with the pack.

You no longer have so many 'likes' as your opinion becomes divisive in no longer being divisive, which in itself becomes a cruel irony.

But it is in this search for wisdom that you create individual strategies that keep you moving forward rather than going backwards to what you already know – more pain, more trauma, more hurt.

Carrying such pain I have found can make you become bitter and resentful. You become lost and in denial, and in your refusal to accept the truth you make things worse, not better.

This produces the new generation of racist P-plate drivers as well as the transgenerational trauma I have battled my whole life, and still battle today to overcome.

I simply didn't know what was the right thing to do when I was younger, the right way to behave. But I did know plenty about what was wrong in my life, and what was hard, so this is where I began to change. I learned that if there are ways that are

wrong, there must be other ways that are right.

My healing began with the people I most admired, my grandfather, my aunty Mavis Dennison, Uncle Reg Knox and others. They became role models of how I could be. They all worked hard – each suffered in their own way – but none carried hate, malevolence or shifted responsibility to others in making their own way, and this is where my true journey of self-discovery started. In taking responsibility for myself.

Now, in my mid-50s and looking back at those people I admired, I want to now take responsibility for not only myself, but my family, my grandchildren and my community, to ensure that I am there for them when I am needed, and this is what drives me as I have become older.

This is how I overcome the historical racism I was born into in such a practical way that I am there for those who love me, and this benefits me and others in overcoming the very real pain of my past.

● Woolombi Waters is a regular Koori Mail correspondent.



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The founding members of the Black Bream cricket team Dick Davidson, left, and Gordon Santo at Mossman Park oval.



Izack Reid is ready to take water to Brothers XI teammates.

Cricketers come out to play

By ALF WILSON



HUNDREDS of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cricketers competed in the Charters Towers Goldfield Ashes carnival last week.

The carnival started on Friday and finished on Sunday with 219 teams competing in four men's and one women's division.

Indigenous players came from far and wide, including Townsville, Charters Towers, Normanton, Bamaga, Hughenden, Mount Isa, Cairns and Mackay and brought with them many supporters.

Black Bream, Garbutt Magpies and West Indigies all had men's and women's teams made up of mainly Indigenous players.

A total of 60 fields were used in Charters Towers and surrounds including at school grounds, parks, the gun and golf clubs, the aerodrome reserve, on private properties and near sporting clubs.

The Charters Towers Goldfield Ashes was first played in 1948 with just six men's teams and has grown to be one of the biggest cricket carnivals in the country.

Last year's carnival had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 so players were very keen to get back onto fields this year.

While the heat had been severe in the lead up to the carnival, it was a comfortable 32 degrees on day one.

As a bonus, rain in the days before the contest freshened up most grounds and some even had green grass growing.

The A grade and B-1 men's, as well as the women's grades, played mostly serious cricket.

However some strange rules were on show in the men's B-2 and Social grades.

These included male players who scored a duck or dropped a catch having to wear a women's dress until end of day's play.

Inspirational West Indigies captain Glenn Butler said his side had been coming to the Ashes since 2002.

"It is a place where you catch up with people you haven't seen for some time and we love it," Butler said.

Veterans Dick Davidson and Gordon Santo Snr founded Black Bream decades ago after catching fish in the Burdekin River and were both at the game at Mossman Park.

"It is good to have the Ashes back on and we look forward to it," Santo snr said.

Garbutt Magpies consists of many players from Darnley Island in the Torres Strait and Palm Island and boasted an army of supporters.



Nicole Ross and Sacha Lee support Garbutt Magpies ladies.



Sheldon Huxley played for Erkels XI at Eventide Oval.



West Indigies team at Richmond State School oval.



TJ Major, back, with Nate Carroll-Major and Jeremy Logan, played for Hughenden side Weekend Wariyas.



Brothers XI players: back row from left, Kerrod Santo and Bill Santo; front, Mathias Santo, Eddie Santo and Benjamin Simpson.



Black Bream ladies team.



Tanessa Hunter and Mariah Santo wait to bat for Black Bream women's XI.



Toni Feltes and Keiran Huen watch the Garbutt Magpies play.



Jacinta Blohm and Nadie Doolah watch from the shade.



Dan Rabuka played for Blind Mullets.



Bianca Simpson holds Malaya Santo, aged 4, and Layla Santo, 1, at the aerodrome fields.



Damien Logan was a star for the Weekend Wariyas.



Concentration is keen as players get down to some Ashes action.



Stacy Krause keeps his hat on while driving the drinks cart for Garry's XI.

Women-led enterprises receive boost to funding



FIRST Australians Capital (FAC) and Generation Australia were chosen along with 34 other global organisations to receive funds from the Google.org Impact Challenge for Women and Girls.

The \$25 million philanthropy project was launched in March to challenge the global non-profit community to submit their boldest and most innovative ideas to create a more equitable economic reality for women and girls.

First Australians Capital and Generation Australia were two of nine Asia-Pacific projects selected out of nearly 8000 applications globally.

Proposals were selected based on four key criteria: innovation, impact, feasibility, and scalability.

FAC is an Indigenous founded and women-led, non-profit organisation that started in 2016.

The organisation provides wrap-around business support and capital to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander entrepreneurs. Currently, 52% of businesses FAC supports are led by women.

FAC managing director Leah Armstrong said the funds will be used to provide capital and tailored business support to more than 50 Indigenous women-led businesses.

"For the past 230 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been excluded from participating in the economy," she said.

"Policies of colonisation have led to poorer economic, social and health outcomes for First Nations communities, particularly women.

"Our project will demonstrate that investing in women-led enterprises, supporting women entrepreneurs to exercise self-determination and creating a network for women to access knowledge and resources will positively impact all Australians and the economy."



Kids at the Kimberley Spirit Swimming and Lifesaving Carnival at the Halls Creek Aquatic Centre.
Picture courtesy Royal Life Saving WA

Royal Life Saving WA getting kids into the swimming spirit



THE Royal Life Saving WA held its first Kimberley Spirit Swimming and Lifesaving Carnival at the Halls Creek Aquatic Centre on December 3.

At the carnival 50 children showcased the swimming skills they learned in the 'Swim and Survive' and 'Swim for Fruit' programs.

Swimming and Water Safety Education senior manager Trent Hotchkin said these swimming and water safety programs were essential.

"Learning to swim and survive is a vital life skill that all Western Australian children need to safely participate on, in and around water," he said.

"Building swimming and water safety skills in young children is vital work and the single most important investment we can make as a community to prevent drowning."

The schools involved in the carnival

included Yiyili Aboriginal Community School, Warlawurra Catholic School, Ngalangangpum School and Halls Creek District High School, with the children collectively taking a round trip of more than 600 kilometres to attend the event.

Development officer Glenn Taylor said the event was more than just your average school swimming carnival.

"The children took part in the usual swimming races, but also lifesaving activities including obstacle, rescue tube and rope throw relays," he said.

"They were also be able to meet and interact with children from other communities in the Kimberley."

Mr Hotchkin said they hoped that the children involved in the carnival could become the future lifesavers in remote and regional WA.

The carnival was supported by Lotterywest, the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries and Halls Creek Shire.

Drowning numbers tell the tragic story

Royal Life Saving Western Australia research showed that Aboriginal children between the ages of 5 and 14 are 8.6 times more likely to be involved in a fatal drowning than non-Aboriginal children in WA. Half of the children who fatally drown were Aboriginal. These incidents were most likely to occur at inland waterways such as rivers.

The Kimberley region has the second highest drowning rate of any region in WA, with 20 people losing their lives to drowning in the Kimberley in the ten years from 2009 to 2019. 35.4% of people who drowned in the Kimberley were Aboriginal, the largest proportion of any other region.

Crowdfunder aims to buy back Anaiwan Country



AN ambitious fundraising campaign to buy back a block of bushland on Anaiwan Country has been launched by the Nēwara Aboriginal Corporation.

Campaign spokesperson and Anaiwan educator Dave Widders said they were well aware of the irony of having to buy back their own land.

"This campaign will make sure that there's a patch of Anaiwan Country that we, as Anaiwan people, can have easy access to for cultural purposes without all the red tape and bureaucracy," he said.

Anaiwan Country covers nearly half of the New England Tableland in Northern NSW, an area of more than 10,000sqkm but Anaiwan people own less than 0.1% of their traditional lands.

"We're not out there to take land off people like they did to us, but we should have a right to what's rightfully ours, to do



Anaiwan educator Dave Widders. Picture: Joy Lai, courtesy of the State Library of NSW

things that are positive, future driven, future focused, things that are going to benefit not only our kids and our generation, but the wider Australian society too," Mr Widders said.

Nēwara plans for the block of land to be used for cultural camps for Aboriginal kwānga (children) in out-of-home care, on-Country Anaiwan language learning, growing and harvesting native foods and medicines, and gatherings for local Aboriginal men's and women's groups.

"Aboriginal land in Aboriginal hands is essential for the survival and revival of our culture and identity," Mr Widders said.

"It's also about us reclaiming our active role as custodians of Country and playing our part in the fight against climate change.

"We're eager to team up with others in the local community who are committed to caring for Country to undertake projects like the reintroduction of traditional burning, native vegetation regeneration, and restoring waterway health."

The group intends to purchase a bush block of 100 acres or more with access to water. This is likely to cost anywhere between \$350,000 and \$450,000.

Nēwara has already raised \$20,000 towards the project and is hoping the fundraising campaign will secure a place for Anaiwan people to celebrate their culture and language for generations to come.

"We know that's a lot of money to raise, but we're optimistic that both the New England community and broader Australian community will see the importance of what we're trying to do," Mr Widders said.

Nēwara was inspired by the recent success of other Aboriginal groups who ran crowdfunding campaigns to buy back land including one in Dja Dja Wurrung Country in central Victoria last year which managed to raise \$150,000 in just eight days. Another crowdfunding campaign drew in more than \$25,000 in less than 24 hours for a block of Ngarabul Country east of Glen Innes.

To support the Anaiwan buy back go to the crowdfunding page at: chuffed.org/project/anaiwanlandbuyback

Written in the stars

Pictures by DAVE WICKENS



WHEN she was a child, Yolngu woman Naminapu Maymuru-White used to patiently watch her father paint.

Now, Naminapu Maymuru-White is an important artist in her own right and has a major solo exhibition opening next week, February 3, running across both floors of Sullivan+Strumpf's Zetland gallery in Sydney.

One of the acclaimed Bark Ladies from the Buku-Larrngay Mulka Centre in North-east Arnhem Land, currently the focus of a major exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria (December 17, 2021 – 25 April 2022), Naminapu Maymuru-White (born 1952) began painting at the age of 12, and almost 60 years later continues to inspire.

Taught by her father Nanyin Maymuru and uncle Narritjin Maymuru, two of the giants of Yolngu art from the late 1950s to 1970s, Naminapu was one of the first Yolngu women to paint miny'tji (sacred creation clan designs), later diversifying her practice to include painting, carving, screen-printing, weaving, linocuts and batik work.

Across an extended career, she has exhibited widely and won numerous awards, including two Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards: in 1996 for her limited-edition lino print triptych *Nyapilingu*; and in 2005 for one of her larrakitj memorial poles.

Despite being represented in many major institutional collections, it is only more recently that Naminapu's art has gained commercial recognition.

In recent years, her works have been featured in sell-out exhibitions in Darwin and Sydney; acquired for the *RESONANCES* exhibition at Fondation Opale, Switzerland; added to the Kerry Stokes Collection of significant larrakitj (memorial poles); and commissioned for acquisition by both the National Gallery of Victoria and the University of Virginia's Kluge-Ruhe Collection in America.

In *Milŋiyawuy – The River of Heaven and Earth*, Sullivan+Strumpf present a selection of Naminapu's intricately realised bark paintings and larrakitj, in what will be the artist's largest solo exhibition to date, opening Thursday, February 3, until Saturday, March 12, 2022.

These latest works from one of the Yolngu's master artists tell ancestral stories from the Mangalili clan.

Two Guwak men who drowned at sea are destined to become offerings to the night sky, where they and subsequent Mangalili souls are seen today in the Milky Way.

In the headwaters of the river where they drowned is the site of Yinŋalpiya, the freshwater crocodile's nesting place, and the spirit source for Mangalili people.

Naminapu's works tell of the stories and events recorded in the Milky Way, and the spirits that follow this pathway to the infinite. The stars in her barks and larrakitj represent the souls of the two Guwak men, and of all of her Mangalili clan's souls, past, present and future.

Visit *Naminapu Maymuru-White: Milŋiyawuy – The River of Heaven and Earth* at the gallery in real life, or view online at sullivanstrumpf.com/



Naminapu Maymuru-White with a major two-panelled work-in-progress for her upcoming exhibition.



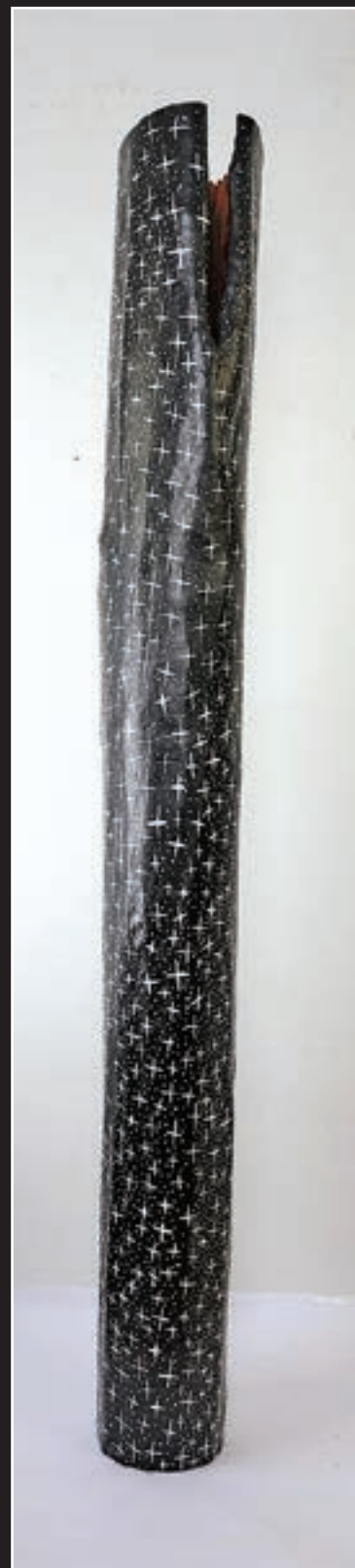
Milŋiyawuy River of Stars.



Naminapu Maymuru-White has a solo exhibition in Sydney called *Milŋiyawuy – The River of Heaven and Earth*.



Milŋiyawuy River of Stars 3.



Milŋiyawuy River of Stars 2.



Naminapu Maymuru-White at work on a larrakitj (memorial pole).

New play questions the nature of identity

By JILLIAN MUNDY



ABORIGINALITY – it's the vexed theme of Nathan Maynard's new play *At What Cost*, which premieres this

weekend in Sydney and there is little doubt the conversations will continue off stage long after the curtains are closed.

And the Trawlwoolway, Palawa award-winning playwright is prepared to cop any backlash that it is likely to draw.

"I want everyone to be able to talk about Aboriginal identity out in the open. You can't pop a pimple unless it comes to the surface. Let's get it out in the open," Maynard told the *Koori Mail*.

"In my view, it is the biggest problem our people face in Tasmania at the moment. It's ripping our community apart. I don't know how we can move forward.

"The more rights we gain and the more (skin) colour we lose, the more people tick the box.

"It's a matter that's spoken about all the time, but it's spoken in whispers. There are not many Blackfella houses where it is not spoken. This is not just a Tassie thing.

"This play is not about solving the problem; it's about getting the conversation going."

Last time Maynard broached the subject publicly was through a satirical article he wrote and published on social media three years ago about the imaginary 'Aunt Judy'. As a result he was accused, in the local press, of perpetrating lateral violence and being an Elder abuser.

He hopes *At What Cost* will give mob permission to talk about Aboriginality in the face of passive aggressive language.

"There are a lot of people in Tasmania who claim they're Aboriginal and a lot of Aboriginal people don't claim them back.

"A lot of palawa people believe that to claim a connection to palawa identity you have to have a bloodline that proves your connection, that goes back to the ancestors.

"It's about land, about who has the right to tell our story. I feel like for a lot of palawa people they are worried, because who are our spokespeople?

"Aboriginal people all around Australia are in a fight for land rights and cultural rights, and they want to make sure the rights go to the right people."

Wiradjuri actor Luke Carroll plays the lead character, Boyd, in *At What Cost*.

"It's universal around the country," Carroll said.

"I'm glad Nathan's had the balls to bring it to life and highlight it.



Luke Carroll plays Boyd in a new play that addresses the vexed question of Aboriginal identity. *At What Cost* is playing until February 20 at Belvoir St Theatre in Sydney.



The play is set at putalina (pictured). In 1847, 47 Aboriginal people were exiled there, most passed away within the decade and at least a dozen graves were robbed in the early 1990s. More recently remains have been repatriated and laid to rest. Putalina was reoccupied by Aboriginal people in 1984 and returned to the palawa community in 1995. Ceremonies and an annual festival are held there.



Actor Luke Carroll, assistant director Dom Mercer, actress Alex Malone and playwright Nathan Maynard in rehearsals of *At What Cost*. Picture: Daniel Boud

"The play is no holds barred and it doesn't apologise. It's subject matter that's been lurking in the shadows for a long time."

Gumbaynggirr/Dunghutti/Bundjalung woman Sandy Greenwood, who plays Nala, believes people who have only recently identified as Aboriginal should not be putting themselves forward as leaders of their people.

"I have compassion for them; they do want to connect, but they should not be representing the community. They need to do the journey. They need to connect," she said.

"I'm so grateful to be part of this play because it's putting it out there.

"Everyone around me is Aboriginal all of a sudden."

In Tasmania, in 2016, the then premier Will Hodgman changed Aboriginality policy, affecting who could sit on Aboriginal government boards, work in Aboriginal identified positions, have access to cultural resources on crown land and

receive Aboriginal specific services, by removing the need to prove ancestry.

"The government meddling with identity like they are – at what cost does that come to our community?" Maynard asked.

He says some people genuinely believe they have Aboriginal ancestry, although their reasons are sketchy at best. He said a classic example was 'Nan always said we were tarred with the black brush somewhere' although other family members and official records say otherwise. There are others who come across an old black and white family photo and are convinced that an ancestor looks a bit dark so is Aboriginal. There are other examples of people who have discovered their dark ancestor is not Aboriginal. Some are honest and open; others are not.

"The identity issue in Tasmania, in a way, it was making me sick, I was so consumed by it," Maynard said.

"Writing the play broke my

fever. My heart said I needed to write about this. I tried to write other ideas, but thoughts about this play kept entering my mind.

"Since colonisation there have been 60-odd definitions of Aboriginality and it's always been from the Government. Legally we don't own our identity.

"In this day and age when we are talking about treaty and rights, the first thing we should be able to control is our identity."

It is an issue also recognised up front in the 'Pathway to Truth-Telling and Treaty November 2021' report commissioned by the current Tasmanian Government.

Maynard says *At What Cost* presents a balanced view through the different characters.

Starring Luke Carroll, Sandy Greenwood, Alex Malone and Jayden Popik and directed by Noongar man Isaac Drandic, the play tells the story of the palawa community repatriating the grave-robbed remains of one of their ancestors and "trying to send them home with people

trying to claim the identity of them and their ancestors".

Belvoir St theatre in Sydney, where the play opens this weekend, has advertised *At What Cost* as "a robust and provocative modern tragedy".

The play is set at putalina (Oyster Cove), a site synonymous with the history, land rights and the resilience of palawa people.

Lead character Boyd has enough on his plate between keeping a family together and his responsibilities to land and people.

"But something's happening. Every year more and more folk are claiming to be palawa too. Folk no-one's heard of until now, who haven't been 'round before. Are they legit? Or are they 'tick-a-box'? Who decides? And how?" reads the promotion.

"If Boyd's going to take everyone forward, they're all going to have to go back, old mob or new, into the island's knotty past. And they might not like what they find there..."

Belvoir artistic director Eamon Flack said Maynard was born with the magic secrets of great playwrighting already in him.

"He's an ideal writer for the Belvoir stage – funny, human, real – but most of all he's got a story that needs to be told, and he doesn't hold back. He's writing very directly from life, and I swear you can smell putalina and its past when you watch the play. I'm glad we can make a place on Gadigal land for Nathan's play."

Originally *At What Cost* was set to premiere June 2021, but delays because of COVID meant that Maynard had more time to refine the script and the cast get closer to their characters. *At What Cost* is at the Belvoir Street Theatre (Sydney) from January 29 to February 20.

Maynard said the theatre company is determined to tour the play to Tasmania.

He reckons, "It will go off like a frog in a sock there and in Melbourne."

Marrugeku premieres new work: *Jurrungu Ngan-ga*



MARRUGEKU, Australia's leading Indigenous intercultural dance company, will present the world premiere of their new dance work at Carriageworks this week.

Originally announced to premiere in August 2021, but delayed because of the COVID-19 lockdown, the work will now be presented from January 27-29. *Jurrungu Ngan-ga* – meaning 'Straight Talk' in Yawuru – is a powerful and provocative new work reflecting on the disproportion of Indigenous Australians in custody and firsthand descriptions of life inside Australia's immigration detention centres.

The multimedia theatre production is inspired by perspectives on incarceration shared by Yawuru leader and senator for Western Australia Patrick Dodson, one of six commissioners and the only non-lawyer who sat on the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

It draws on themes from the (multi-award-winning) autobiographical novel *No Friend but the Mountains: Writing from Manus Prison* (2018) identified by the book's collaborator and translator Iranian Australian philosopher and activist Omid Tofighian.

The novel, by Kurdish-Iranian journalist and filmmaker Behrouz Boochani is an account of Boochani's perilous journey to Christmas Island and his subsequent

Emmanuel James Brown in *Jurrungu Ngan-ga*.
Picture: Abby Murray



incarceration in an Australian government immigration detention facility on Manus Island.

Marrugeku addresses local and global issues of the fear of cultural difference.

Through movement, spoken word, installation and a powerful original musical

soundscape, its multi-talented cast draw on their intersecting yet distinct cultural and community-informed experiences (Indigenous, immigrant, people seeking asylum, transgender and settler) to ask: Who really is in prison here?

Marrugeku co-artistic

director Rachael Swain said they hoped to use the arts to draw attention to an important issue.

"*Jurrungu Ngan-ga* brings attention to Australia's creation of dehumanising spaces without due process of law and the necessary social support and respect,"

she said. "The show reveals how this unique dialogue between Indigenous, settler and refugee perspectives can address the burning issues of our times, investigating that which Australia wishes to isolate and lock away from view."

Carriageworks chief executive Blair French said that the release of *Jurrungu Ngan-ga* was timely.

"Carriageworks is proud to commission and present this provocative and timely new work by Marrugeku, a work that blends searing truths with dark humour, fear, sadness and courage to highlight ways to empower us all to think and rewrite our future together," he said.

Set within a large-scale installation designed by WA visual artist Abdul-Rahman Abdullah, *Jurrungu Ngan-ga* was conceived by choreographer and dancer Dalisa Pigram and director and dramaturg Rachael Swain with Patrick Dodson, and created with performers Czack (Ses) Bero, Emmanuel James Brown, Chandler Connell, Luke Currie-Richardson, Issa el Assaad, Zachary Lopez, Bhenji Ra, Feras Shaheen and Miranda Wheen, dramaturgy Hildegard de Vuyst and cultural dramaturgy Behrouz Boochani, Patrick Dodson, Omid Tofighian, with music by Sam Serruys, Paul Charlier and Rhyann Clapham (aka DOBBY).

Jurrungu Ngan-ga was commissioned by Carriageworks and Arts House in Melbourne.

Flickerfest shares short films under the stars



JARLI Jones, a young First Nations girl in outback Australia, dreams of flying to the stars and sets out on an adventure to do just that in an animated short film that is screening as part of Flickerfest in Bondi.

Flickerfest, the annual short film festival, returned to Bondi on January 21.

And today, January 26, the festival will host Indigenous Spotlight – screening an incredible collection of some of our country's most talented and creative Indigenous filmmakers.

Beginning at 6.30pm tonight the short films include *Jarli*, an animated film directed by Chantelle Murray and Simon Rippingale and written by Jon Bell, Andrew Dillon and Erica Harrison.

Other films in the Indigenous Spotlight include *Lifeblood*, an exploration of Bourke Shire's landscape, First Nations history and folklore that brings to our attention the resilience of the natural environment and the land's inhabitants. *Strange Country* is a tale about ancient spirits that inhabit a far remote corner of Australia's wilderness, and the people they choose for special tasks to protect the



Jarli is screening tonight as part of Flickerfest in Bondi.

land from those who wish to steal from it for personal gain. And *Shiny One* is a story about a young man who dreams of escaping his bush community and finding riches, but soon learns that wealth comes in many forms.

Flickerfest is held in a pop-up festival garden under the stars and under the big top, park side at Bondi Beach and runs until January 30.

Following the festival in Sydney, Flickerfest will share the love of short films on its tour to more than 45 venues across Australia between February and October.

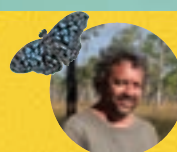
LOOKING AFTER COUNTRY WITH FIRE

Aboriginal burning knowledge with Uncle Kuu

Join Uncle Kuu as he takes us out on Country and explains cultural burning. Featuring stunning artwork by Sandra Steffensen, this is a powerful and timely story of understanding Australia's ecosystems through Indigenous fire management, and a respectful way forward for future generations to help manage our landscapes.



FOR AGES 5+



Victor Steffensen is an Indigenous writer, filmmaker, musician and consultant applying traditional knowledge values in a contemporary context, through workshops and artistic projects. He is a descendant of the Tagalaka people through his mother's connections from the Gulf Country of north Queensland.

Find out more at hardiegrant.com/au/explore

Hardie Grant
EXPLORE

Dr Jackson Blythe joins the ranks of doctors making the difference in Indigenous health



DOCTOR Jackson Blythe is a proud Kamilaroi man living on Wiradjuri country as he undertakes his training to become a specialist GP with local GP training provider GP Synergy.

"I never dreamt as a kid that someone from my background could become a doctor, but with a lot of hard work it is achievable," he said.

"I like to approach medicine holistically, including the health of communities and their environment. This is the way Indigenous people have understood health for thousands of years.

"I love working with people, not diseases, and general practice is the best way to do that."

Dr Blythe also has advice for the next generation of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who may be thinking of studying medicine.

"Make connections, find mentors in your community and reach out to people in the field to have a yarn about their journey," he said.

"Studying medicine is a very



Kamilaroi man Dr Jackson Blythe is undertaking specialist training to become a GP.

long road and you need all the support you can get from your family and community.

"It's an amazing, rewarding, and interesting career and we

really need more Indigenous people from all different communities becoming doctors and applying those skills to help our people in both general

practice and hospitals.

"When I complete my specialist training, I aim to live and work in remote communities providing general practice and

emergency health care with a focus on the health of Aboriginal people."

GP Synergy chief executive Georgina van de Water said the training provider is currently supporting 45 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors undertaking specialist GP training across NSW and the ACT.

"Our Aboriginal Cultural Education Unit works closely with our medical education teams to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors are supported both culturally and educationally," she said.

"We also work closely with the 33 Aboriginal Medical Services (AMSs) across NSW and ACT, accredited to deliver GP training.

"We encourage all trainee GPs to consider training in an AMS.

"Training doctors in Aboriginal health is an important part of closing the gap in the health inequities between Aboriginal and other Australians.

"Those doctors training in an Aboriginal health setting find the experience invaluable from a learning perspective and rewarding as the Aboriginal health model is one based on teamwork and being part of the community."

Research: COVID policy has failed communities



UNIVERSITY of NSW researchers say a poor government response to COVID-19 in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities is "a failure of moral human rights responsibility".

Indigenous COVID-19 vaccination rates lag behind those for other Australians due to poor federal and state government planning, according to the UNSW team.

Coupled with a revolving door approach to vaccine advice, it has led to a shortage of trained workers to put jabs in arms and vaccine hesitancy in vulnerable communities.

"This substantial policy oversight reflects a failure of moral human rights responsibility for Australian First Nations people," say the authors of the paper published in *Jama Health Forum*.

It has also undermined planning, strategy and prevention work undertaken by the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs).

Existing inequalities are facilitating the virus spread

The researchers say existing inequalities including poor healthcare access, overcrowded living conditions and chronic health issues should have led to a more targeted and prioritised response.

Instead, it has increased the risk of the virus spreading, chronic illness and death in hundreds of communities across the country where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander double-dose rates languish about 20% lower than the national average.

"It is evident governments have not been listening or properly consulting with First

Nations peoples," Indigenous health expert Professor Mick Adams said.

"They are playing catch-up as the virus spreads into remote communities, with Yuendumu in the Northern Territory the latest remote community hit."

The outbreak, 295km north-west of Alice Springs, had risen to 94 infections by January 20, as authorities scramble to push vaccination rates up.

The community of about 1000 residents has received an influx of health workers and the double-dose rate has climbed from 41% to 58% by last week.

"The uncertainty of government messaging has led to confusion and people have not prepared in rural and remote communities," Adams said.

Virus in NT youth detention centre

Earlier this month, the pandemic reached an NT youth detention centre, with at least four children at the Alice Springs facility diagnosed with COVID-19.

Territory Families, Housing and Communities has provided few details about the infected youths, who tested positive earlier in the month.

A department spokesperson said the four, who are either being held on remand or have been sentenced to custody, were not symptomatic and were medically isolated to avoid spreading the virus to other prisoners.

"A doctor attends the (facility) morning (and) afternoon each day to assess and monitor the health of the young people," the spokesperson said in a statement.

The positive cases have led to the correctional centre suspending the intake of detainees.

"In line with COVID management plans, young people are being transferred to Don

Dale Youth Detention Centre (near Darwin)," the spokesperson said.

"There are currently no plans to relocate any further young people currently at (the Alice Springs facility) out of the centre, as they are being appropriately cared for," the spokesperson said.

Darwin lawyer and member of the Close Don Dale Movement John B Lawrence said the territory's juvenile justice system is in disarray.

"Don Dale currently holds its highest numbers ever," he said.

Among them, Mr Lawrence is representing a "traumatised and damaged 11-year-old Indigenous boy on remand in the former men's prison.

"The COVID-effect on staffing means he is kept in his cell almost 24 hours a day, seven days week in lockdown," he said.

"On top of that, we now learn the virus is circulating in the Alice Springs facility."

Territory Families said it has a comprehensive infection control and response plan for Don Dale and the Alice Springs detention centres.

This includes quarantining and testing new arrivals before they are permitted to join the general prison population. Routine COVID-19 testing is conducted twice-weekly.

Commonwealth needs to redouble efforts

The UNSW research team said that the Federal Government needs to redouble efforts and properly protect Indigenous communities instead of leaving it to the states and territories, which has led to inadequate and inconsistent preparedness.

"Government must listen with intent and act on advice from community health councils and health action teams, community

groups, including men's and women's groups, justice groups and Elder groups," Indigenous academic Lyndon Reilly said.

"The key is to listen and then urgently translate this advice into policy and action."

The Australian Health Department rejected the assessment, saying it has worked with the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector to roll out vaccines in a culturally appropriate way.

"Throughout the pandemic, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services have been prioritised for access to vaccines," a spokeswoman said.

"Where any ACCHS identified that an increase in vaccine allocation was needed to support demand, their request for additional supply was rapidly supported."

The department says \$29.4 million has been handed to NACCHO for pandemic preparation, response and vaccine roll-out, including \$6.9 million in 2020 to facilitate culturally safe testing access.

In the NT, the Government says it has worked with community leaders, ACCHOs and land councils throughout the pandemic.

"We have also been working hard to supply COVID-19 vaccine doses to remote communities and engage with people in remote communities to get vaccinated," a spokesperson said.

NT Health said its teams have offered the vaccine door to door in low vaccination rate communities and partnered with local organisations and leaders to develop strategies to bolster the remote rollout.

"This includes local messaging in language," the spokesperson said.

According to Commonwealth data, 73.2% of Indigenous people over 16 have had two vaccine doses, compared to 92.3% of other Australians. —AAP

Palm Islanders' resilience tested by spread of virus

By ALF WILSON



LIFE is very difficult for Palm Island families who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Stephanie Boyd, aged 49, her daughter Amy Boyd, 29, and brother Sandy Boyd, 58, live in the same house on Palm Island, where there has been a significant outbreak of the virus.

COVID has changed their lives dramatically.

Stephanie and Amy were both diagnosed with COVID-19 while Sandy tested negative.

Amy and Sandy both had the vaccination jabs, however Stephanie refused, saying it is against her beliefs.

Both Stephanie and Amy were placed in lockdown at home for seven days.

"I was diagnosed with COVID on Sunday (January 16) after having severe aches and pains," Stephanie told the *Koori Mail*.

"I was supposed to be picked up by ambulance to be taken to the Joyce Palmer Health Centre for treatment the next morning, but they were waiting for medication to come from Townsville."

She slammed Queensland Health, saying she wasn't advised that her appointment at the Joyce Palmer Centre had to be postponed.

"There was a communication breakdown and I should have been told. I went through a great deal of worry," she said.

Stephanie was taken to the Joyce Palmer Health Centre at 5pm the following afternoon, January 17.

"I was put on a drip and they flushed me out and I was there for three hours and the ambulance took me home," she said.

"Authorities here didn't want me walking around with COVID. I did feel much better afterwards."



Stephanie Boyd has told the *Koori Mail* that life is hard for people with COVID on Palm Island.

Stephanie said she was told that about 50 homes on Palm Island were in lockdown and that rumours spread about the identity of those affected.

"Queensland Health wouldn't release names due to privacy laws and that has people pointing the finger at others and spreading rumours they have COVID," she said.

Sandy Boyd went to the Palm Island Retail Store and was initially refused entry on Tuesday, January 18.

"They thought he had COVID, but he was allowed in the next day and came home with groceries," Stephanie said.

Although Sandy was a close contact of COVID sufferers, he was allowed to walk around, as



The Joyce Palmer Health Centre on Palm Island.

long as he followed Queensland Health guidelines.

While Queensland Health declined to comment about Stephanie's circumstances due to privacy laws, a spokesperson outlined the current requirements for close contacts (which include people who live in the same house as someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and has spent more than four hours with the diagnosed person).

"Once you are informed or you find out that you are a close contact, you must get tested for COVID-19 only if you have COVID-19 symptoms," the spokesperson advised last week.

For up-to-date health advice on quarantine, testing and travel requirements, check state and territory health department websites.

Palm Island Mayor Mislam Sam told the *Koori Mail* on January 20 there were 144 active COVID cases on the island and 60 houses had isolation orders placed on them.

"I expect the numbers of cases will grow a lot and some people who had COVID and finished their seven day isolation period have been removed from the list and others have come on it," he said.

"We have 500 houses on Palm Island and more than 10% have isolation orders."

Mayor Sam said that just under 60% of the permanent population of 2500 had received the first vaccination jab and about 50% the second.

"There are between 100 and 150 COVID tests being done here on average daily and some of them will be positive," he said.

"We are doing our best to try and stop the spread of COVID."

Mayor Sam said the Retail Store was closed for a short period of time during which staff cleaned it.

"We are also running with a skeleton Council staff who do vital jobs in water supply and rubbish collection. The rest are being paid and are encouraged to stay at home," he said.

Murris urged to quit the durri in new campaign

By ALF WILSON



THE North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health (NCACCH) is encouraging Indigenous people to give up smoking through the 'No Durri for This Murri' campaign.

NCACCH is an Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Organisation that services the Sunshine Coast and Gympie region.

The 'No Durri for This Murri' Tackling Indigenous Smoking team strives to increase health literacy rates in the region through delivering early intervention and smoking cessation activities including yarning circle, education and accurate information materials to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

With their localised campaign, they aim to

assist community to make informed decisions on quitting smoking and creating safe environments by clearing the air of cigarette smoke.

The 'No Durri for This Murri' team is part of a national strategy and is one of the 41 organisations partaking in the Tackling Indigenous Smoking initiative.

While tobacco smoking is declining in Australia, it remains disproportionately high among Indigenous people.

NCACCH recently surveyed the Sunshine Coast and Gympie community which had 386 community members participate with 95% identifying as Indigenous.

The survey showed that 31% identified as smokers, 41% ex-smokers and 52% of households are smoke-free.

When asked "Why did you quit?", the number one reason was for health and second was for family.



Are you Koori and living with type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes, or gestational diabetes?

Join us for an online focus group and have your say.

Your experiences will help Diabetes Victoria and VACCHO understand the needs of the Victorian Aboriginal community.

Register to attend by visiting the link for the group you would like to join:

- Type 1 diabetes, 1pm Monday 14 February 2022: bit.ly/type1yarn
- Gestational diabetes, 10am Wednesday 16 February 2022: bit.ly/gestationaldiabetesyarn
- Type 2 diabetes, 1pm Wednesday 16 February 2022: bit.ly/type2yarn

You will receive a \$50 Coles gift card for participating in the focus groups.

ABSTARR Consulting (a 100% black business) is running the focus groups on behalf of Diabetes Victoria and VACCHO. Any questions? Please feel free to contact us by email connect@abstarr.com.



Tika Tirka students with Kurna Elder Uncle Moogy Sumner (centre).

Graduation is a cause for celebration at Tika Tirka



THE residents of an Adelaide CBD purpose-built residence for Aboriginal post-secondary students celebrated their achievements at a graduation ceremony late last year. Students who are living or have lived at Tika Tirka – Kurna for ‘sit and learn’ – are studying courses including nursing, psychology, teaching and engineering. Aboriginal Community Housing Limited (ACHL) national operations manager Stacey Broadbent said she was extremely proud of the achievements of the Tika Tirka students. “These young people have made the decision to take up an opportunity to follow their dreams and aspirations,” Ms Broadbent said. “It isn’t easy to move away from Country and culture but, with the right support and housing services in place, our young people can definitely achieve great things. “This is the real value of Tika Tirka:

letting our young people shine.” South Australian Human Services Minister Michelle Lensink said the \$8.3 million purpose-built, 20-bed apartment-style student accommodation in Gilbert St was central to supporting the young people studying away from home. Currently, 19 students call Tika Tirka home. “I congratulate these wonderful students on their achievements,” Ms Lensink said. “Tika Tirka provides students with a culturally welcoming place, that makes moving to the city easier. “With a safe living environment and support students can concentrate on their studies.” Tika Tirka was built in 2019 thanks to a partnership with the state and federal governments and coordinated by the SA Housing Authority. The authority has contracted ACHL to manage the site and provide services to students including contracted services from several Aboriginal businesses. Residence is available to Aboriginal

students aged over 18 years with remote or regional home communities. Preference is given to SA residents, but students studying in Adelaide whose home community may be in a remote location in another state can apply. The culturally informed service model includes on-site support officers to assist students and strengthen their ability to live independently in a metropolitan environment. ACHL relationships manager Cheryl Axleby acknowledged the importance of partnerships in the success of Tika Tirka. “The real success of Tika Tirka, without a doubt, is the achievements of the students here who are making history as the inaugural residents at Tika Tirka,” she said. “They are role models paving the way for our younger generations. “I would also like to mention our work with many partners, particularly the Aboriginal Business Enterprises, who have enhanced the students’ employment opportunities and connection to community.”

Deadly storyteller wins scholarship



UNIVERSITY student Luke Hodge has been awarded the 2022 NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) Educational Scholarship. The \$10,000 scholarship is aimed at penultimate year students at a tertiary institution in NSW.

NSWALC chairperson Danny Chapman said Luke’s scholarship application clearly demonstrated his commitment to documenting Aboriginal story through film. “Luke showed his passion as an emerging filmmaker, to contribute to the growing area of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander storytelling on screen,” Councillor Chapman said.

“The council and I congratulate Luke on his successful application and we look forward to seeing his future work as he continues to gain experience and expertise.

“The NSWALC Educational Scholarship will assist Luke with funds to complete his final year of studies in the communications and screen media field.”

Luke Hodge is a Dunghutti man from the Macleay Valley of Kempsey, living in Mount Annan.

He is studying a Bachelor of Communication (Screen Media) at Western Sydney University.

Luke said that his overarching goal is to preserve and celebrate First Nations unique



Dunghutti man Luke Hodge is studying a Bachelor of Communication (Screen Media) at Western Sydney University.

cultures through his work. “As an Aboriginal filmmaker and professional storyteller, I am committed to preserving our sacred languages, stories, and cultural customs for future generations, that strengthen our cultural identities and connection to Country,” he said.

“Through film and television directing and producing, I aim to spotlight our strong cultural heritage and help provide a platform for other Aboriginal youth to creatively express themselves and share their own stories.”

The NSWALC Scholarship also includes a six-week paid internship, but due to ongoing uncertainty regarding COVID-19 restrictions in NSW, this component has been placed on hold by the council until further notice.

Check the NSWALC website in early July for information on the 2023 round. Go to alc.org.au/education-grants/

Study helps Jasmin pursue her passion to make change



A TAFE NSW Narrandera youth work graduate whose childhood was punctuated by hardship has vowed to help break the cycle of disadvantage in her community by pushing for the town’s first-ever youth centre.

Proud Wiradjuri woman Jasmin Pietsch has just completed a Certificate IV in Youth Work at TAFE NSW Narrandera and has been accepted into a Bachelor of Mental Health Science in 2022, despite never previously having owned a computer or meaningfully engaged in education.

The single mum of two said she was motivated to work with youth after being inspired by her own social worker during her difficult adolescent years.

“I had a rough upbringing and this social worker helped me move out of the family house at 17 and helped me deal with a lot of personal issues,” Ms Pietsch said.

“I want to now give back to others who are in the same predicament as me.”

Ms Pietsch, who is pregnant with her third child, said the support she received at the TAFE NSW Narrandera Connected Learning Centre (CLC) made a profound difference to her learning journey.

“I didn’t even have access to a laptop when I started so to be able to access so much support at the CLC was amazing,” she said.

“It was a culturally safe space. I was given a tutor and I was supported academically, emotionally and culturally.”

She said the qualification had fuelled her sense of purpose and Ms Pietsch will now commence a Bachelor of Mental Health Science at university next year. She hopes to eventually help set up Narrandera’s first whole-of-community youth centre.

“I want to work with multi-disciplinary teams and services to give local young people more support and lower their risk factors for suicide,” she said. “I also want to inspire other

mums to consider a course at TAFE NSW Narrandera and not feel like they have to sacrifice a career to be a mum.”

TAFE NSW community services teacher Samantha Orth said Certificate IV graduates typically found work in community centres, residential care, school support or as a pathway to working in case management.

“Jasmin had never had a positive experience with the education system, but was so passionate about creating a change for her community and has a very high emotional intelligence,” Ms Orth said.

“It was wonderful to see her growth throughout the course and she now has the practical skills and work experience to support vulnerable and at-risk young people.”

Ms Orth said both the Certificate IV and Diploma of Youth Work would be offered via a virtual classroom at TAFE NSW Narrandera CLC in 2022.

For more information, call 13 16 01 or visit www.tafensw.edu.au



Narrandera mum Jasmin Pietsch with cousin Koby Quince. She says studying with TAFE NSW helped her change the trajectory of her future.

New owners keen to give Wilcannia mob the local grocery store they deserve

By DARREN COYNE



FOLLOWING a tough year of COVID-19 outbreaks and food shortages, Wilcannia's only grocery shop has been taken over by the Indigenous training provider REDI.E, in partnership with Outback Stores.

That means residents of the small town in north-western NSW no longer have to travel to Broken Hill to stock up on essentials.

REDI.E general manager Peter Gibbs told the *Koori Mail* that it became clear during the COVID crisis in western NSW that buying the store was a practical way to do something for the community.

"It will be a great legacy for that community.

"The partnership with Outback Stores is the best one. We researched what they do in other states and territories and thought it would be the right mix," Mr Gibbs said.

Under the partnership, Mr Gibbs said the store would be properly managed with training provided for local people.

"Outback Stores has a commitment to training people from the local area and their record is there for everyone to see," he said.

"We took over last Friday and Outback Stores has a shop fitter who has been in there setting it up in an open-plan way that shows products in the best way.

"Another thing about Outback Stores is that they set up an advisory group from the local community and it has input on things like the type of produce, pricing and customer service.

"They allow Aboriginal people to have a say in how the store works.

"Secondly, a share of the profits will be going to community projects such as sporting teams, scholarships to university, and helping kids going to boarding schools.

"It's their store and it's going to be there for generations. It means they don't have to travel 400 kilometres on the round trip to Broken Hill for essentials."



Wilcannia local Naydine Whyman is being trained to work in the store by Aaron Hatfield of Outback Stores.

Marawar merger delivers a strong competitive edge



INDIGENOUS building company Marawar is taking the lead in a merger with M/Construction.

Nyoongar traditional owner and Marawar director Gerry Matera said that the move will effectively increase the company's capacity to rival Perth's construction heavyweights.

Marawar was formed in 2018 in response to the Federal Government's policy initiatives to build strong relationships, respect and opportunities for Indigenous communities.

It was formed in partnership with Perth property company M/Group, the parent company of M/Construction, in a plan to transfer skills that would assist Marawar to independently build capabilities and enable growth across the operation, its staff and project portfolio.

Mr Matera said the two-company merger is a perfect representation of what true reconciliation is about.

"It was never about creating a 'them and us' divide between cultures, nor was it aimed at encouraging tokenistic Indigenous gestures," he said.



Nyoongar man and Marawar director Gerry Matera and managing director of M/Group Lloyd Clark.

"It has always been about standing together as a strong and capable force.

"This is what has been achieved at Marawar.

"Over the past four years, both companies have grown from working closely together, and Marawar is now a sophisticated building resource backed by a string of awards and

accolades for its work.

"This merger will place the company in a new building category and give us the capacity to compete for higher value projects.

"What this means is that Perth will soon see an Indigenous-led company take on large construction projects, sending a strong message to business and setting an example to emerging Indigenous industry."

Marawar was recently named the 2021 Supply Nation Registered Supplier of the Year Award and continues to grow a strong client base.

Mr Matera said that the merged company will retain Marawar, meaning 'West' in Nyoongar, as a brand and will integrate a unique business model established to identify and address the needs of the Indigenous workforce.

He said it will be the first time an Indigenous business model will be elevated to a position of authority within a multi-cultured organisation.

M/Group managing director Lloyd Clark said the partnership has delivered much more than anticipated.

"Our association with Marawar has

provided a depth of appreciation for Indigenous cultures, with shared learnings that have resulted in a highly productive and successful work environment that not only reflects the company's values, but that of its clients and the broader objectives," he said.

"This merger signals a new era for the Australian construction industry and gives larger companies a sound and reliable vehicle to meet their own reconciliation targets.

"It is what reconciliation really looks like and we are all very proud of the part M/Construction and M/Group have played."

M/Construction was established in 2010 and has won numerous awards for its work across luxury homes to multi-storey commercial developments.

Marawar has worked on large-scale government and private sector projects, including Bunnings in Albany, Match apartments in Parry Street, Fremantle, Armadale Emergency Health Service, Department of Finance, Fremantle Ports and ongoing maintenance contracts.

For more information visit www.marawar.com.au

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT

Ash inspired by childhood experience to pursue a career in community services



A COOTAMUNDRA man has vowed to use the pain of his own childhood and the skills learned at TAFE NSW to help

light a new path for vulnerable locals.

Ash Voll, a proud Worimi man, was taken from his parents and raised by his grandparents from the age of five after an early childhood marred by dysfunction.

This exposed him to a series of Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) caseworkers, whose compassion and care inspired him to pursue a career in the same field and enrol in a Diploma of Community Services at TAFE NSW Young.

Mr Voll, 26, graduated this month and recently secured a community support officer role at the DCJ office in Cootamundra and plans to become a caseworker.

"My upbringing was rough, but I now want to help other children who are in the same position I was, just as those caseworkers helped me," Mr Voll said.

Complicating matters for Mr Voll was the fact his grandparents, who raised him, both passed away while he was studying the course.

Mr Voll said the TAFE course, which he studied in Young, gave him the practical skills, work experience and confidence to make a flying start into the industry.

"My TAFE NSW teacher was one-of-a-kind. He went above and beyond for every one of his students," he said. "He is a great motivator who has amazing industry experience and contacts."

TAFE NSW Young Community Services teacher Andrew Bailey said Mr Voll was a powerful

example of how TAFE NSW could help students unlock their potential and thrive in their chosen field.

"When Ash first came into the course he was very quiet and really lacked confidence," Mr Bailey said. "It was clear to me though that he had the makings of a great community services worker."

"I'm proud to have helped him build his skills, knowledge and confidence to the point he has now set himself up for the future."

"The fact he's able to use his past experiences to help him empathise with clients is a bonus."

Mr Voll was offered a job before graduating after completing work placement at DCJ.

TAFE NSW Young will be offering a Certificate III, IV and a Diploma of Community Services in 2022.



Worimi man Ash Voll is proud to be starting his career with the NSW Department of Communities and Justice.

National Roadmap is plan to drive economic growth



LATE last year Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt launched the National

Roadmap for

Indigenous Skills, Jobs and Wealth Creation, providing a long-term commitment to substantially lift economic outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"This National Roadmap sets the framework for Indigenous businesses to build greater financial independence and to boost Indigenous employment," he said. "It has been informed by



Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt.

wide consultation with stakeholders and follows months of roundtables with some of Australia's most prominent industry leaders.

"The Roadmap is about the

practical steps we can take to get more Indigenous people job-ready, increase Indigenous participation in the workforce, and foster Indigenous entrepreneurship.

"This Roadmap is an example of working in partnership with industry and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities to identify the immense opportunities to increase Indigenous participation in all areas of Australian industries.

"Supporting Indigenous entrepreneurs to build sustainable businesses and encouraging all business –

Indigenous and other – to employ more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will create inter-generational wealth and contribute to Australia's long-term growth and prosperity."

The National Roadmap and its focus on enabling economic opportunity will complement and help realise the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

The Roadmap will support the achievement of Closing the Gap targets on tertiary qualifications (Outcome 6), youth in employment or education (Outcome 7), economic participation (Outcome 8) and relationship with land and waters

(Outcome 15), as well as contributing to the Priority Reforms which lie at the heart of the National Agreement.

"Over the coming months, I will establish an Indigenous Reference Group to work with me, industry champions and key stakeholders to develop the action plan to implement this Roadmap," Minister Wyatt said.

Minister Wyatt thanked the Business Council of Australia's CEO Jennifer Westacott, and Minerals Council of Australia's CEO Tania Constable for their ongoing commitment to backing the Roadmap, and Indigenous wealth creation.

Your guide to employment

Welcome to the Koori Mail's Indigenous Job Opportunities section. Each edition we publish scores of employment advertisements from around the nation. To be part of this section, simply give our advertising staff Chris or Stuart a call on (02) 66 222 666, email advertising@koorimail.com or see our website – www.koorimail.com

*Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed.
No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!*

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Child & Youth Programs Coordinator
Croydon, VIC

- **Make a genuine difference in the lives of Aboriginal people impacted by family and domestic violence!**
- **Deliver educative programs to Aboriginal Community members!**

BAHWS now has an exciting opportunity for a full-time Child & Youth Program Coordinator to join their team in Croydon, VIC.

The successful applicant will coordinate the development and delivery of educative, healing, therapeutic and cultural programs to Aboriginal Community members impacted by Family Violence.

In return for your hard work, you will be rewarded an attractive salary package circa \$78,000 – \$85,000 (dependent on experience and qualifications) plus super. You will also receive a great range of benefits including a wellbeing package and in-house training!

For an opportunity to build relationships with families in the community while making a genuine difference in their lives – Apply Now!

EMPLOYMENT OFFICE Apply Online
ApplyNow.net.au/jobs/144638



Wominjeka Djeembana Indigenous Research Lab - Two Positions and Two PhD Scholarships Available

Location: Caulfield campus

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Full-time 4-year fixed-term appointment

Remuneration: \$103,153 - \$122,495 pa Level B (plus 10% employer superannuation)

Research Officer

Part-time 3-year fixed-term appointment (0.8 FTE)

Remuneration: Pro-rata of \$72,330 - \$83,083 pa HEW Level 05 (plus 10% employer superannuation)

About the Wominjeka Djeembana Lab

The vision of Wominjeka Djeembana is to provide an identity of Indigeneity at Monash Art Design and Architecture. Its vision is simple yet multiple. It aims to articulate the synergies between Indigenous ways of knowing with practice-led research specifically in the areas of art, design and architecture (and beyond).

The research program at Wominjeka Djeembana is one that is innovative in its articulation of ancient cultural practices and methodologies premised on Country and relationality within contemporary society. The significant advancement that Wominjeka Djeembana offers in this area of Indigenous knowledge production is how knowledge pertaining to art, design, architecture and beyond can be reconfigured and improved through an Indigenous lens. The main aim of the research conducted and created at Wominjeka Djeembana is to become a national and international leader in Indigenous ways of knowing through practice-based discourses.

The Lab is a supportive, dynamic and thriving community for students, academics and researchers, and this is an exciting new phase. The appointment of these roles and other new staff is key in the pursuit of excellence, creation and dissemination of Indigenous knowledge.

The Positions

The **Postdoctoral Research Fellow** will work with Professor Brian Martin (Director Wominjeka Djeembana Indigenous Research Lab), Wominjeka Djeembana staff and PhD candidate as well as the Fire to Flourish interdisciplinary research teams. The fellow will undertake research on Country and focus on cultural knowledge, practices and traditions surrounding the use of fire in Indigenous communities. The research will be community based and Indigenous led and contribute to the wider Fire to Flourish program, a five-year partnership program with communities across New South Wales and Victoria affected by the 2019/20 Australian bushfire season. This role is a full-time position; however, flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.

The **Research Officer** will work with the research team Professor Brian Martin (Director Wominjeka Djeembana Indigenous Research Lab), N'arweet Dr. Carolyn Briggs AM, Professor Nigel Bertram, Dr Laura Harper, Catherine Murphy and Dr Marilu Melo Zurita on the Australia Research Council Linkage Project Repairing Memory & Place: An Indigenous-led approach to urban water design. The research officer will play a critical role with the support of the team and under the direction of Professor Martin and Professor Bertram. This will include undertaking background contextual research, and assisting with the organisation of industry workshops and interviews, on Country learning, Yarning and research team meetings. The RA will also collect and collate archival material, documenting selected sites through drawing, and assisting in the development of three-dimensional modelling, developing digital exhibition materials. This role is a part-time position; however, flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.

*We are also seeking Expressions of Interest for a **PhD Scholarship in Indigenous Urban Water Design** and a **PhD Scholarship in Indigenous Knowledge: Bushfire Recovery/On Country Design/Learning and/or Caring for Country**.*

Enquiries

PhD Scholarships and Postdoctoral Research Fellow - Professor Brian Martin, Department of Fine Art, MADA, 0413 247 011

Research Officer - Ms Catherine Murphy, Senior Lecturer Department of Architecture, MADA, 03 9903 4937

Closing Date - Wednesday 23 February 2022, 11:55 pm AEDT

To view the position description and instruction on how to apply see our ads on the Koori Mail website under **JOBS & GENERAL WEB ADS**

We're looking for an extraordinary General Practitioner (MILDURA)

Thinking about GP opportunities in rural and remote Australia?

Live the experience of caring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities only an hour's flight from Melbourne.

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We offer:

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- Supported by a multidisciplinary team
- Salary packaging and flexible working arrangements
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- AHPRA registration required

All the details and apply at our website, or contact our HR team for a confidential discussion (03) 5018 4100

Mallee District Aboriginal Services
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www.mdas.org.au

Cultural Practice Advisor

Child and Family; Region – Brisbane and Moreton Bay; Service Delivery - Child and Family

Department of Children, Youth Justice & Multicultural Affairs

Salary: \$76,493 - \$83,861 p.a.

Location: Upper Mount Gravatt

REF: QLD/401313/22

Key Duties: Working within a multidisciplinary team, you will draw on your personal experience and knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traditions and customs to provide high quality, culturally safe and appropriate child protection services to children, families and carers serviced by the Child Safety Service Centre.

Skills/Abilities: It is a genuine occupational requirement that this position be filled by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person.

Enquiries: Katrina Lewis 07 3097 0400
To apply please visit **www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au**

Closing Date: Monday, 7 February 2022

Queensland Government

Thiyama-li Family Violence Service Indigenous Corporation.

Employment Opportunities

Thiyama-li Family Violence Service Indigenous Corporation is a FVPLS funded by NIAA. We are a regional, holistic and trauma informed community legal practice with 3 offices in north-west NSW servicing Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities.

A not-for-profit organisation providing access to free legal services (from legal advice to full legal case work/court representation) and non-legal support through an integrated case management practice model, welfare support, advocacy and early intervention and prevention for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victims or Survivors of family violence and/or sexual assault.

We currently have the following vacancies open:

Practice Manager
(identified role Full Time Fixed Term)

Solicitor
(Community Legal Education) Full Time Fixed Term

Principal Legal Officer
Full Time Fixed Term

Aboriginal applicants are encouraged to apply.

For more information, closing dates and details on how to apply, please refer to the SEEK website www.seek.com.au

SL State Library of Queensland

Director First Nations Engagement

- **Amplify First Nations voices**
- **Key Executive role**
- **Lead best practice across First Nations Engagement**

The State Library of Queensland has established itself as one of Australia's leading custodians of cultural knowledge and memory, supporting a vibrant state-wide network of more than 320 public libraries and Indigenous Knowledge Centres.

Reporting to the Executive Director of Public Libraries and Engagement, this role will further expand existing First Nations partnerships to nurture meaningful connections that enable the translation of Indigenous knowledge and culture to inform best practice. Culturally informed leadership will strengthen existing First Nations strategic engagement, building on the innovative work of Indigenous Knowledge centres, Khuril Dhagan and high-profile programs and initiatives including the Black&Write fellowship.

The successful candidate will be instrumental in achieving the State Library's commitment to elevate First Nations arts and culture through language revitalisation, knowledge creation and truth-telling in culturally informed and respectful ways

To discuss this First Nations leadership opportunity, please contact Selena King at selena.king@everywhengroup.com or 0412 263 480.

Everywhen PAST PRESENT FUTURE

TENANTS ADVICE AND ADVOCACY SERVICES

Northern Rivers community legal centre

Tenant Advocates

The Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre (NRCLC) is seeking to recruit to the role of **Tenant Advocate** at Northern Rivers Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service (NORTAAS) based in Lismore.

NORTAAS operates on the principle that affordable and secure housing is a basic human right. We are committed to providing high quality free advice, particularly for low income and disadvantaged renters. Our services include telephone advice, advocacy and representation (including at the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal), community education, and providing input into policy and law reform in tenancy and housing related issues.

2022 is an exciting time to join the NRCLC team as we commence work to realign ourselves firmly on Bundjalung Country through a facilitated consultative process of Yarning Circles with staff, the Committee of Management and the broader community. To better frame our work in social justice, we are currently developing a Community Development Framework and this year the organisation we will be co-designing our Strategic Plan to ensure our ways of working are in line with the needs of our communities and clients.

There are various permanent roles available at 21 - 28 hours per week.

The position is banded at SCHADS 5 with a salary range of \$85,078 to \$90,930 per annum pro rata (dependent upon qualifications, skills and experience), plus superannuation and leave loading. PBI Salary Packaging is also available.

NRCLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Aboriginal and Torres Strait peoples and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply

Applications close at 9am on Monday 14 February 2022.

For further information about the position and to apply, please visit our website <https://northernriversclc.org.au/work-or-volunteer/>

Enquires should be directed to Brendan Ross at brendan.ross@northernriversclc.org.au

WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL *Be there of it together*

Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation

Parks Crew Trainee

Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation in partnership with Wellington Shire Council are seeking applications from people of Aboriginal Heritage who are interested in undertaking a 2 year traineeship in Horticulture.

The Parks Trainee will combine tertiary studies with on the job training to improve and maintain Wellington Shire parks, natural areas, gardens and streetscapes in accordance with team guidelines, standards and policies. The position will also provide cultural advice, knowledge and values to park staff to ensure best land management practices.

The role is based at Sale at the Wellington Shire Council and will include regular visits to GLaWAC offices in Kalimna West and Morwell.

Want to learn more?
Scan the QR code or send a cover letter and resume to jobs@glawac.com.au or contact Mardi Edwards on 0421 818 748

Closing date: 5pm, Sunday 13th February, 2022



First Nations Worker AOD & Harm Reduction, Youth and Homelessness Services

We have an exciting opportunity for a First Nations Person to engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People to provide cultural support, information, referral and advocacy to those who attend our services located in St Kilda. You will work collaboratively with our fantastic First Nations team and be encouraged to build relationships with existing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and workers in the local area.

For further information please visit
<https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/get-involved/employment-opportunities/> and search for job ref R18472



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International Engagement Adviser – North Asia

Based in Sydney, you will support the delivery of the International Engagement Strategy 2021-25 and creative, cultural and market development opportunities for Australian artists and arts organisations in North Asia. You are known to be a natural collaborator and team player with the ability to problem solve and think on your feet. Your calm and collected nature and flexible attitude will go hand in hand with your ability to strategically respond to varied stakeholder requirements.

To obtain further information about this position, please visit our careers page at <http://australiacouncil.gov.au/about/careers/>.

Applications close 16 February 2022 at 5:00pm (AEST)



International Engagement Adviser – Asia Pacific

Based in Sydney, you will support the delivery of the International Engagement Strategy 2021-25 and creative, cultural and market development opportunities for Australian artists and arts organisations in the Asia Pacific. You are known to be a natural collaborator and team player with the ability to problem solve and think on your feet. Your calm and collected nature and flexible attitude will go hand in hand with your ability to strategically respond to varied stakeholder requirements.

To obtain further information about this position, please visit our careers page at <http://australiacouncil.gov.au/about/careers/>.

Applications close 16 February 2022 at 5:00pm (AEST)

Who is Smartgroup? www.smartgroup.com.au

At Smartgroup we are passionate about people, that's why we are recognised as Australia's leading and most trusted provider of Employee Management Services. Our passion is to make the benefits of salary packaging, novated leasing, fleet management, readily available to employers and their employees.



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Permanent Full-time/Part-time ongoing positions available in various locations.

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As a Customer Service Consultant, you will play an integral role in ensuring each customer receives an exceptional experience. Responsible for answering volume inbound calls, you will be motivated to drive customer satisfaction and meet business goals. Your collaborative and customer centric approach is the key ingredient to success in this role.

Employee Guidance Consultant

Sydney

As an Employee Guidance Consultant, you will be answering inbound phone calls and guiding our customers through all aspects of salary packaging solutions and ensuring a quality customer experience.

Customer Education Specialist

Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra, Adelaide & Melbourne

As Customer Education Specialist, you will be working on the development and implementation of customer education programs both face to face and digitally to drive growth from existing clients.

Why Smartgroup?

We live and breathe our values – Accountability, Care, Team, and we embrace difference. Our inclusive culture makes us stand out from the pack, and... it's not only us that thinks so! We are a WGEA Employer of Choice for Gender Equality, an Inclusive Employer as recognised by Diversity Council Australia and a member of Reconciliation Australia's RAP network.

How we invest in you?

As people are our greatest asset, we will invest in your personal equity and growth and reward you with our fantastic perks!

- Flexible/hybrid working to enhance your work/life balance
- Extra leave and other great perks incl. birthday leave, summer leave, make a difference days and a wellbeing fund
- Progressive and gender-neutral parental leave policy with up to 20 weeks Paid Parental leave

To apply or seek out more information - Please send your resume/message to recruitment@smartgroup.com.au and we will be in touch to discuss next steps.

Gugin Gudduba Local Aboriginal Land Council is seeking a CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Gugin Gudduba Local Aboriginal Land Council is seeking applications from motivated, enthusiastic and experienced people interested in its challenging yet rewarding role of CEO. The CEO performs statutory functions in accordance with the provision of the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ARLA) being responsible for reporting to the board and managing / overseeing the day to day operation and administration of Gugin Gudduba LALC, in line with the GGLALC Community Land and Business Plan and in accordance with best practice.

The successful applicant will have demonstrable knowledge and understanding of the ALRA; the capacity to interpret and implement legislation and sound communication skills.

- An excellent level of organisational and management experience is essential; with experience with working with community-controlled organisations being an advantage.
- Understanding of accounting practices and principles along with some exposure to Land Dealings, Economic & Business Development practices and opportunities. A sound knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal issues is required, and local knowledge and experience would be an advantage. A current Drivers' License and willingness to undertake relevant police checks, including a Working with Children check is also required.
- A salary package is available inclusive of an annual salary, superannuation contribution and access to salary sacrificing.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the Position Description and selection criteria and address the selection criteria for their application to be considered.

For a recruitment package contact
reception on the 0266 321 056
Email : gglalc2474@gmail.com
or P.O.Box 597 at the top of the Advertisement

Closing Date: 9th of February 2022

All inquires are to be made to the Chairperson of Gugin Gudduba L.A.L.C on the above Numbers or email address



AOD Transition Worker First Nations Identified

- **Location:** Canterbury
- **Full time 38 hours per week**
- **Contract to 30th June 2023**
- **\$79,807 gross per annum + super + generous salary packaging**
- **First Nations Identified position**

Are you a dedicated, passionate First Nations person with experience in providing culturally safe and trauma informed AOD counselling and support? Want to make a real difference in assisting people exiting prison to address problematic drug and alcohol use? We want to hear from you!

- Play a key part in a program with proven results, and contribute to long-lasting change for our clients and the community
- Join a diverse and passionate team in a flexible and supportive organisation

We want to hear from people from all backgrounds, including those with lived experience of the criminal justice system and substance use.

Why work for us?

- Support programs that aim to break entrenched cycles of disadvantage, homelessness and imprisonment
- Be part of a community-based agency that has been delivering effective services in our field for 70 years
- Join a dedicated, energetic team with a culture of flexibility, trust, integrity and respect
- Access the support of Cultural Supervision for First Nations staff

How to apply:

CRC considers being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification as specified under section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).

APPLY NOW! <https://www.crcnsw.org.au/about-us/work-with-the-crc/>

For more information and a copy of the Position Description please email recruitment@crcnsw.org.au.



Senior Policy Officer

The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) is the peak body supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors and students. We engage in policymaking and advocacy to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander presence in the health and health workforce sector in Australia. We work to continually inform and support a culturally safe health care system as we strive toward our ultimate goal to reach population parity of Indigenous doctors in the medical profession.

We are looking for an experienced **Senior Policy Officer** with high-level research, analytical and writing skills to join our small and supportive team. Experience working in a secretariat capacity for committees or working groups will be highly regarded.

If you think you have what it takes to contribute to our important work please apply now!

Your application must include your resume and a cover letter addressing each of the essential criteria listed below.

Employee Benefits

We offer excellent benefits to our employees, including salary packaging as well as professional development opportunities.

This position is available for twelve months initially on a full-time basis. It is envisaged this role will be ongoing dependent on funding. Some work outside regular business hours may be necessary to undertake the duties of this role.

Selection Criteria

Essential Criteria

- Sound analytical and research skills and the demonstrated ability to apply these effectively to policy and project development and implementation.
- Sound understanding of current issues impacting on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, in particular those related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, education and workforce development.
- Sound understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and a demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Demonstrated high level problem solving, planning and time management skills.
- Proven experience delivering policy and project outputs within an environment of competing demands.
- Highly developed oral and written communication skills including the demonstrated ability to communicate effectively across a range of settings and stakeholders including with government and non-government agencies, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and medical bodies.
- Demonstrated ability to work individually and as a member of a team.

Desirable Criteria

- Tertiary qualification in social sciences, health, education or related discipline.

Salary \$85 - \$94K + super + tax benefits

We strongly encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants.

For all enquiries, contact our Executive Manager Policy on (02) 6270 3307.

Applications close Wednesday 9 February 2022



FAMILY WORKER (ABORIGINAL FAMILIES)

Are you a passionate Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander looking to make a difference in your local community?

Do you have experience working with Aboriginal children & their families?

If you have qualifications in the community services field and are enthusiastic to identify community needs, then don't miss this great opportunity to join this local service strengthening local families.

About the organisation

Junaya Family Development Services is a community organisation located in Blacktown and provides a range of services for families to assist in strengthening and building capacity.

JFDS offers a Target Early Intervention program (TEI) providing information and advice for families who have children 0-18 years, as well as a 12-week home visiting program for families who have children 0-18 years and who live in the Blacktown LGA. In addition, they have a Learning Difficulties/Disability project also for families who have children 0-18 years who experience a learning difficulty or disability and who reside in the Blacktown LGA.

About the job

This position provides case work services to Aboriginal children, young people and families in the local community as well as identify gaps in community services and unmet needs and be a support to staff in the organisation by providing information and learning opportunities on cultural competency.

This is a full-time position at 5 days per week, Salary for this role is classified at level 4 in the NSW SCHADS Award (Pay Point to be determined based on experience). The role is based in Blacktown but covers the whole of the Blacktown LGA and some travel will be required. The successful applicant will need a current driver's licence and a comprehensively insured vehicle.

There is a six-month probationary period.

What you'll need to succeed

You will be a dynamic, proactive and experienced professional with relevant tertiary qualifications as well as experience in all areas of case work, group work facilitation especially with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Selection Criteria

- Identify as an Australian Aboriginal, having been accepted as an Australian Aboriginal in the community in which you live
- Minimum Certificate IV in Community Services
- Minimum 2 years' experience in case work working collaboratively with Aboriginal communities and the provision of services to Aboriginal children, young people and families
- Sound knowledge of local Aboriginal communities and an understanding of issues facing Aboriginal families and communities
- Demonstrated ability to understand and have knowledge of Aboriginal kinship systems, and cultural issues and, be committed to a high level of service to the Aboriginal communities and share information/resources with JFDS staff
- Ability to identify community needs and service gaps, advocate for clients and be responsive to client/staff feedback
- Demonstrated ability to work within a strengths-based, person-centred framework
- Ability to build good rapport with clients working in a sensitive and respectful manner
- Demonstrated experience in planning, delivering and evaluating group work activities
- Cultural competence and ability to work with diverse communities
- Highly developed communication and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated experience in developing sustainable collaborative partnerships with other services
- IT skills and experience working with client information electronically
- Ability to preserve, protect and maintain confidential information
- Demonstrated experience and understanding and working knowledge of relevant legislation (e.g. Keep Them Safe)
- Current driver's licence and regular access to own comprehensively insured vehicle
- Current NSW Working with Children check number/clearance and willingness to participate in a National Police Background check/clearance and evidence of COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate

JFDS considers being Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification for this position and are authorised under Section 14(d) and Section 31(2h) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 to set this as criteria for this role specifically.

What you'll get in return...

- Salary Packaging – increase your take home pay!
- Some above Award conditions
- Opportunities for multi skilling and training
- High level of diversity in role
- Supportive team environment

WRITTEN APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON TUESDAY 08/02/2022

Please call 02 9621 3922 for information package or write to info@junaya.org.au

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander – Identified & Targeted Recruitment

We are currently recruiting for various Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identified and targeted roles. Legal Aid NSW offers attractive employment conditions, flexible working arrangements, a range of family friendly policies and opportunities for professional development.

Visit iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search 'Legal Aid Commission' for more information. General enquiries: erecruitment@legalaid.nsw.gov.au

Artwork: © Luke Penrith



FUTURE FOOTPRINTS PROGRAM ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTANT

AISWA is seeking the services of a talented individual to work with non-Government boarding schools in Western Australia to assist the schools in supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Please see AISWA website for more details:
www.ais.wa.edu.au/jobs-aiswa/

For all your advertising needs
email: advertising@koorimail.com
or call 02 6622 2666

First Nations Engagement Manager, NAVA



About NAVA

The National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA) leads advocacy, policy and action for an equitable and inclusive contemporary visual arts sector. Through the Code of Practice for the Professional Australian Visual and Media Arts, Craft and Design Sector, we set national best practice standards for the industry.

Position Summary

The First Nations Engagement Manager(s) plays a critical role in supporting NAVA's major revision of the Code of Practice. In addition to contributing to this core work at NAVA, this role supports NAVA's engagement with and for First Nations practitioners nationally.

This is a diverse and broad role in a small team. To meet the objectives of the role, flexible working arrangements can be negotiated, and the role may be filled by multiple individuals working in a part-time capacity. NAVA is working with Agency Projects to support First Nations staff with a national support network committed to professional development.

This is recognised as an identified Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander position under section 14 of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977.

Salary

\$80,000 pa pro rata + 10% superannuation + 17.5% holiday leave loading.

Deadline

No closing date has been set for this position as multiple individuals may be appointed to deliver facets of the role. NAVA will assess applications as they are received and engage in an ongoing recruitment and selection process to support NAVA's operations. Ideally, an initial candidate will be available to begin in March 2022.

Apply

Visit nava.net.au/work-with-us to access the position description and details on how to apply.

I work for NSW



Training Services Manager

Department of Education

Classification: Clerk Grade 9/10

Employment Status: Temporary full-time up to 30 June 2022 (with the possibility of extension)

(Identified role for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders only)

Location: Newcastle

\$139,077 Package includes salary (\$113,343 to \$124,901), 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

Training Services NSW (TSNSW) leads and manages the implementation of funded vocational education and training programs and services across the NSW training market including contracting and funding providers, quality assurance, leading reforms and administering apprenticeships and traineeships and Aboriginal programs.

About the role

Lead the delivery and implementation of vocational education and training and employment programs and services to the community apprentices, trainees and their employers.

The role also leads a team of staff providing regulatory, quality assurance, program administration and advisory functions for the delivery of vocational education and training and related programs across the region.

Engage with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, to inform of opportunities provided by TSNSW, including Aboriginal Programs and local training and employment opportunities.

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.gov.au. No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.

Note: Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977*.

Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent, identify as being Aboriginal and be accepted in the community as such. Applicants who have not previously identified for the purposes of employment with the Department are required to provide a Confirmation of Aboriginality from a recognised incorporated Aboriginal Community organisation endorsed with common seal and a certified statutory declaration as defined in the **NSW Department of Education Confirmation of Aboriginality Guidelines**.

Pre-screening questions:

1. Choose a project or piece of work you have done and describe how you allocated the resources that were needed to complete this work? What was the result? (300 or 400 words max).
2. Describe a time when you had to work with providers, suppliers and contractors to ensure that outcomes were delivered in line with time and quality requirements. What was the result? (300 or 400 words max).

Essential Requirements:

- Aboriginality is an essential requirement for this role. The role has been identified as an Aboriginal role in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.
- A Working with Children Check is an essential requirement for this role. The role has been identified as requiring a check in keeping with the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*.
- Current drivers licence and a willingness to travel.

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

Closing Date: 6 February 2022

Enquiries: Please call Amber Bibby, Training Services Manager on 0413 708 200.

To apply online please visit iworkfor.nsw.gov.au website and refer to the following keyword: **00008Q2B**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Darumbal Community Youth Service Inc. (DCYSI) is a not-for-profit, community-controlled organisation providing a broad range of services, activities and events to young people and families in the Central Queensland area.

DCYSI is seeking to find their new Chief Executive Officer who will be responsible for providing leadership and management to implement and progress the DCYSI Vision, Purpose and Strategic Directions. The successful incumbent will be responsible to lead the Senior Management Team in ensuring high quality and innovative services that meet all quality, operational and financial requirements.

Salary sacrificing options are available and DCYSI is prepared to negotiate an attractive remuneration package to suit the successful applicant's experience.

The Position Description can be obtained by contacting The Recruitment Officer at admin@darumbal.org.au or calling (07) 4922 6180. Please ensure that your application addresses each of the Key Selection Criteria; applications that do not address the Selection Criteria will automatically be eliminated.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 28 January 2022

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

*The successful incumbent must have a Working with Children Blue Card and Certificate of COVID-19 Vaccination.



Exciting & rewarding job opportunities

Aboriginal people strongly encouraged to apply

NSWALC have exciting and rewarding job opportunities and are seeking motivated and suitably experienced and qualified people to consider fixed term roles into Yarpa Hub. "Yarpa", meaning pathway, reflects the important role the Hub plays guiding Aboriginal people and businesses to economic and employment opportunities. The Yarpa employment team will work together with the network of employment service providers to enhance the engagement and relationships between providers, community and stakeholders to best service Aboriginal people and businesses. Yarpa will engage cultural principles and values at the core of what we do.

The following positions are available:

1. Employment Support Advisor – Liverpool

- **Contract Ending December 2022**
- **Commencing salary \$88,600 per annum plus super & benefits**

The Employment Support Advisor is responsible for providing support and advice to Indigenous job seekers about the services and support options that may be most appropriate to their circumstances. Employment support and advice will also be provided to organisations seeking to improve their Indigenous employment. These support services will be tailored to each individual and organisation, facilitating appropriate referrals between job seeker and employment provider. The role will also include management and facilitation of training, workshops and employment pathway programs.

2. Industry Relationship Manager – Liverpool

- **Contract Ending December 2022**
- **Commencing Salary \$107,300 - per annum plus super & benefits**

The Industry Relationship Manager will be responsible for establishing and maintaining relationships with industry, corporate and government organisations to connect Yarpa Hub businesses and jobseekers to various opportunities across NSW. The Manager will also work closely with these stakeholders to assist them in developing and meeting Indigenous procurement obligations and aspirations under the NSW Indigenous Procurement Policy.

3. Operations Team Leader – Liverpool

- **Contract Ending December 2022**
- **Commencing Salary \$88,600 per annum plus super & benefits**

The Operations Team Leader is responsible for the development and implementation of Yarpa Hub policies, processes and systems to support the ongoing activities of the Yarpa Hub. The position holder is also responsible for administrative functions financial management.

How to apply:

Your application should include an up-to-date resume and a cover letter addressing specifically the above Success Profile. If you are interested in this opportunity, please apply through our recruitment portal at <https://alc.bigredsky.com/page.php?pageID=106>.

Applications will close by Sunday 23 January 2022.

Should you require further information please contact recruitment@alc.org.au.



Non Executive Director (Volunteer)

Greenpeace Australia Pacific Limited (GPAP) is seeking up to 3 new directors interested in appointment at its 2022 AGM. GPAP's Board is dedicated to upholding GPAP's values, mission and purpose. These are critical as we work to project a compelling vision of an earth capable of nurturing life in all of its magnificent diversity and use our strengths to bring down the vested interests of the fossil fuel order that stand in the way.

To learn more and apply, please visit:
<https://bit.ly/3lkydUm>.

We are also seeking suitably qualified individuals to join the General Assembly (GA).

Please apply here: <https://bit.ly/3fAe2Wj>.

Applications close: 5pm, Monday 28 February, 2022.

For further information and a link to apply
see our ad on the Koori Mail website under
JOBS & GENERAL WEB ADS

Yaegl Local Aboriginal Land Council



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

The Yaegl Local Aboriginal Land Council (YLALC) is seeking applications from experienced and motivated people interested in a rewarding career undertaking the role of CEO.

To obtain a recruitment package contact the Contact Officer – Dave Brown on (02) 66 453 676 or email yaegl@internode.on.net. Applications marked "Confidential" and posted to:

The Chairperson
Yaegl Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 216
MACLEAN NSW 2463

Applications close Friday, 31st January 2022



Aboriginal Youth Justice Conference Convenor, Youth Justice – Department of Communities & Justice

- Casual rate of \$46.75 per hour plus casual loading
- Locations across NSW – Gosford, Tweed Heads, Lismore, Moree, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Tamworth, Parramatta, Dubbo, Bourke, Walgett, Blacktown, Wollongong, Campbelltown, Wagga Wagga, Young, Cootamundra

About the role

Youth Justice Conference Convenors prepare for and facilitate Youth Justice Conferences following the principles of restorative justice. It is a statutory appointee responsible for the preparation and facilitation of Youth Justice Conferences in local communities with offenders, victims, support people, police and others affected by the offence.

**Closing Date: Sunday 6 February
2022 at 11:59pm**

Enquiries: Lisa Smith on
lisa.smith3@justice.nsw.gov.au

To apply, visit jobs.dcj.nsw.gov.au
and quote job reference number: **36960**



Exciting & rewarding job opportunities Aboriginal people strongly encouraged to apply

NSWALC have exciting and rewarding job opportunities and are seeking motivated and suitably experienced and qualified people to consider fixed term roles into Yarpa Hub. "Yarpa", meaning pathway, reflects the important role the Hub plays guiding Aboriginal people and businesses to economic and employment opportunities. The Yarpa employment team will work together with the network of employment service providers to enhance the engagement and relationships between providers, community and stakeholders to best service Aboriginal people and businesses. Yarpa will engage cultural principles and values at the core of what we do.

The following positions are available:

1. Graphic Designer – Parramatta

- Fulltime Ongoing
- Commencing salary \$73,700 per annum plus super & benefits

In this role your primary purpose is to enhance the profile of NSWALC and the Land Rights network. The role is responsible for the production of collateral material for internal and external use that will include publications, printed and electronic platforms.

2. Media Adviser – Parramatta

- Fulltime Ongoing
- Commencing Salary \$88,600 - per annum plus super & benefits

In this role you are responsible for writing content for the NSW Aboriginal Land Council, as well as associated media and communications materials as required to improve the profile of NSWALC and the Land Rights network. The focus will be to effectively communicate NSWALC's strategic plan, priorities and issues that affect the network. The role will foster good relationships with media, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, external stakeholders including Government and the broader public.

How to apply:

Your application should include an up-to-date resume and a cover letter addressing specifically the above Success Profile. If you are interested in this opportunity, please apply through our recruitment portal at <https://alc.bigredsky.com/page.php?pageID=106>.

Applications will close by Sunday 30 January 2022.

Should you require further information please contact recruitment@alc.org.au.

Aboriginal Graduate: Project Officer



University of
South Australia

- Open to Australian Aboriginal Peoples only
- Three (3) full-time, two (2) year fixed term contracts to commence March 2022
- Competitive starting salary of \$68,482 per annum (plus 17% superannuation)

About the Role

The University of South Australia is committed to improving the education and life opportunities of Australian Aboriginal Peoples. UniSA was the first Australian University to make a public commitment to the achievement of reconciliation between Aboriginal Australians and non-indigenous Australians and in 2014 became the first University in South Australia to launch its own Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), a guiding document to advance reconciliation across the organisation.

Further, under our Enterprise 25 Strategic Plan 2018-2025, UniSA aspires to be the University of Choice for Aboriginal staff and students, to be a more inclusive university and to ensure strong Aboriginal futures.

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.

About the Program

UniSA provides Aboriginal graduates from all Australian Universities with the opportunity to build on the graduate qualities and competencies acquired as part of their studies and provides an opportunity to gain a broad range of business experiences, diverse skills and an understanding of the business of the University, to build their professional profile and skillset.

How to Apply

For a copy of the position description and to apply, please visit: unisa.edu.au/WorkingatUniSA.

Please address your cover letter to Deanne Hanchant-Nichols, Consultant: Aboriginal Employment and Development. For further information about the position or the recruitment process, please contact UniSA Recruitment Central on +61 8 8302 2202 or via email at recruitment@unisa.edu.au using job reference number 3715.

Applications close: 11:30pm
Monday 7 February 2022

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.

1465 - CRICOS PROVIDER NO 001215

Want a career working with our mob, for our mob?



The new YURANHA Aboriginal Employment and Training Programs (YAE&TP) run by the NSW Department of Communities & Justice (DCJ), Aboriginal Employment Strategy Team are offering pre-employment programs in partnership with TAFE NSW.

Candidates will gain a nationally recognised Certificate III in Community Services Pre-employment program (Away from Base program)

This program will prepare participants for roles such as:

- Youth Justice Officer
- Correctional Officer
- Community Corrections Officer
- Services and Programs Officer

Location: Dubbo or Campbelltown TAFE

Who is eligible?

To qualify for this course, you must be:

- External candidates outside of DCJ – current employees are not eligible to apply
- Identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person
- Aspire to be employed by DCJ in Youth Justice and/or Corrective Services NSW
- Current Working with Children's Clearance or a willingness to obtain
- Willing to undertake employee checks including criminal records check, medical/risk assessment
- Willing to undertake a Prior Conduct Check (current NSW Public Service employee only)
- Hold a current NSW Driver License, P2 or above.

If you reside more than 90 minutes from the training location and are ABSTUDY eligible, you may be eligible for support with travel, accommodation and meals via ABSTUDY Away from Base funding. If you would like further information, email awayfrombase@tafensw.edu.au

How to register

If this pre-employment program is for you register for the course at careers.dcj.nsw.gov.au/yuranha-registration

The closing date for Expressions of Interest is
5pm, Wednesday 9 March 2022.

**For Program Overview and
Information Session dates visit:**
careers.dcj.nsw.gov.au/yuranha

For more information

If you have any questions or would like more information:
Email: Aboriginal Employment Strategy Team
AES@justice.nsw.gov.au
Michelle Shipp, Manager
Aboriginal Employment Strategy Mobile:
0457 297 425.



BLZ LP3103



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About us

Northern Rivers WDVCS is auspiced by Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre (NRCLC), and provides court support and advocacy to women experiencing domestic and family violence. Northern Rivers WDVCS also provides victim-survivor liaison and secretariat support for Safety Action Meetings in Tweed-Byron and Richmond police districts.

NRCLC is seeking to recruit to the following position:

Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Worker Aboriginal - permanent - up to 35hr/week.

The service has an exemption under s31 of the Anti-discrimination Act 1977 to employ a woman in this role.

The position is banded at SCHADS 5 with a salary range of \$85,078 to \$90,930 per annum pro rata (dependent upon qualifications, skills and experience), plus superannuation and leave loading. PBI Salary Packaging is also available.

NRCLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Applications close at 9am, 21 February 2022.

Enquiries should be directed to Alison Waters at alison.waters@northernriversclc.org.au

For further information about the position and to apply, please visit our website www.northernriversclc.org.au/work-or-volunteer/



Cultural Facilitator Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Programs - KU Children's Services

About KU

KU is our place, where we all belong.

A safe, calm community of children, parents and educators. We are very proud to welcome the large and diverse KU family of children, families and staff who experience KU with us each day. Side by side, we explore the world through many cultures and perspectives. KU is a NFP Early Childhood Education provider, recognised as the sector employer of choice 6 years running.

KU acknowledges the importance of Australia's first peoples and seeks to play a role in acknowledging and reducing employment injustices against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through employment opportunities.

The Role

We are seeking to employ an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person to fill the position of Cultural Facilitator to; assist and facilitate informed and respectful staff engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and organisations, build capacity of staff to provide culturally responsive and inclusive learning and working environments, advocate for self-determination and community control in determining the cultural knowledge and expertise shared in KU, and actively promote and guide the implementation of KU's Statement of Commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and steering KU's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Framework.

This is a permanent, part time position, up to 32 hours per week. We are interested in applicants who can be based in Sydney, Melbourne or other suitable locations.

Visit www.ku.com.au/careers to learn more or contact Gisella Wilson on 0458 204 318.



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	16/571	PADDINGTON GOLD PTY LIMITED	120.74HA	27.6km S'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 36' S Long: 121° 1' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	24/997	BELLIN SUPER PTY LTD	70.91HA	18.5km NE'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 16' S Long: 121° 13' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Mining Lease	26/859	SMITH, William John	127.83HA	29.9km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 59' S Long: 121° 51' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Mining Lease	37/1361	SULLIVAN, Emma	107.49HA	22.9km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 56' S Long: 121° 33' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Mining Lease	37/1362	SULLIVAN, Emma	113.28HA	21.7km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 56' S Long: 121° 32' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Mining Lease	38/1296	S04 FERTILISER DEVELOPMENTS PTY LTD	40420.17HA	79.3km NW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 6' S Long: 121° 50' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, LEONORA 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: 26 January 2022

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 **26 April 2022**. 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. 26 May 2022**), 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_6118

Notice of a non-claimant application for determination of native title in New South Wales

Notification day: 9 February 2022



National
Native Title
Tribunal

A 'non-claimant' application has been made to the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) seeking a determination that native title does not exist in the area described below. The Applicant has a non-native title interest in the area, which is set out in their application and summarised below.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, there can be only one determination of native title for an area. Unless there is a relevant native title claim, as defined in section 24FE, over the area described below on or before **9 May 2022**, the area may be subject to protection under section 24FA and **acts may be done which extinguish or otherwise affect native title**.

A person who claims to hold native title rights and interests in this area may wish to file a native title claimant application or become a party to this non-claimant application. These may be the only opportunities to have those rights and interests taken into account in the Federal Court's determination. Any other person may also wish to become a party.

If you want to become a party to this application, you must file a Form 5 (Notice of Intention to become a Party) with the Federal Court, **on or before 9 May 2022**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **9 May 2022**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.



Applicant's name: Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council
Federal Court File No: NSD1178/2021

Non-native title interest: The application area was transferred to the Applicant pursuant to an Aboriginal Land Agreement between the Minister for Lands and Forestry, the Applicant and the NSW Aboriginal Land Council

Order sought by Applicant: The Applicant seeks a determination that native title does not exist in the application area

Description: The application area comprises Lot 2 in DP1159461, covering about 50 hectares, located east of Griffith Aerodrome and south of Rifle Range Road

Relevant LGA: Griffith City Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Catherine Boeske on 07 3052 4040 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

Are you a survivor of child sexual abuse?

If this happened in relation to a church, hospital, mission, detention centre, foster care, school, sports club or other similar organisations you may be eligible for

- Money
- Counselling
- An apology

To find out more, scan the code or call PWDA's Redress team:

Linda 0490 082 737
Wanda 0490 540 277
Karen 0434 692 845



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Wanda Matthews



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An Australian Government Initiative

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NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTh) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	04/2752-3	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	400BL	55.9km E'ly of Broome	Lat: 17° 58' S Long: 122° 45' E	BROOME SHIRE
Exploration Licence	04/2757	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	200BL	96.7km E'ly of Broome	Lat: 18° 7' S Long: 123° 8' E	BROOME SHIRE, DERBY-WEST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	04/2760	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	200BL	65.1km E'ly of Broome	Lat: 18° 11' S Long: 122° 48' E	BROOME SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/3436	LADYMAN, Geoffrey Ross	3BL	56.8km SW'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 29' S Long: 117° 12' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/3437	LADYMAN, Geoffrey Ross	3BL	54.6km SW'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 30' S Long: 117° 15' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/3438	LADYMAN, Geoffrey Ross	4BL	53.3km SW'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 32' S Long: 117° 18' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/3451	HAMPDEN RESOURCES PTY LTD	20BL	45.9km SW'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 26' S Long: 117° 18' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/3452	HAMPDEN RESOURCES PTY LTD	11BL	49.2km SW'ly of Paraburdoo	Lat: 23° 30' S Long: 117° 20' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	08/3455	WASSE, Bernfried Gunter Franz	34BL	86.2km NE'ly of Mt Augustus	Lat: 23° 59' S Long: 117° 41' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2588	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	200BL	144.3km NW'ly of Gascoyne Junction	Lat: 23° 52' S Long: 114° 36' E	CARNARVON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1797	CREST METALS PTY LTD	3BL	23.9km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 4' S Long: 120° 57' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1849	SX MINERALS PTY LTD	69BL	58.1km E'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 23' S Long: 120° 5' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1852	GOLDZONE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	39BL	88.4km NE'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 56' S Long: 120° 11' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	16/555	PHOTIOS, Michael John	2BL	23km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 30' S Long: 120° 53' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	16/584	ROBINSON, Benjamin John	1BL	30km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 34' S Long: 120° 51' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	24/221	BULLETIN RESOURCES LIMITED	20BL	33.1km N'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 9' S Long: 121° 25' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	24/229	KARP HOLDINGS PTY LTD	11BL	24.5km NW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 12' S Long: 120° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	24/234	SIBERIA MINING CORPORATION PTY LTD	4BL	21.4km W'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 17' S Long: 120° 51' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	25/608	RIVERSGOLD (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD	1BL	53km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 35' S Long: 121° 59' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/641	MOHO RESOURCES LIMITED	9BL	21.8km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 20' S Long: 121° 31' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/653	ENRIZEN CAPITAL PTY LTD	7BL	39.6km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 11' S Long: 121° 36' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/658	DOLERITE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	4BL	50.6km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 8' S Long: 121° 43' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	27/659	DOLERITE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	4BL	43.1km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 10' S Long: 121° 38' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/660	DOLERITE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	1BL	43.7km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 11' S Long: 121° 40' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/661	DOLERITE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	12BL	40.3km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 14' S Long: 121° 40' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/662	DOLERITE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	4BL	46.1km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 16' S Long: 121° 45' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2654	FREETH, Stewart Ross	4BL	59.6km SE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 14' S Long: 122° 44' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2655	KEAN, Steven Lionel	4BL	54km SE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 10' S Long: 122° 44' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/2656	FREETH, Stewart Ross	4BL	55.2km SE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 10' S Long: 122° 45' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/3087	TASEX GEOLOGICAL SERVICES PTY LTD	5BL	76km S'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 29' S Long: 122° 16' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3092	SOLSTICE MINERALS LIMITED	13BL	87.9km S'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 36' S Long: 122° 22' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3113	MINING EQUITIES PTY LTD	7BL	57km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 35' S Long: 122° 2' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3125	RUMBLE RESOURCES LIMITED	12BL	181km E'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 24' S Long: 124° 6' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3166	G E RESOURCES PTY LTD	100BL	109.4km SE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 31' S Long: 123° 8' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/1132	AURENNE MIT PTY LTD	10BL	78.1km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 55' S Long: 120° 31' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1134	COBALT PROSPECTING PTY LTD	58BL	60.9km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 54' S Long: 120° 42' E	LEONORA SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1157	RIO TINTO EXPLORATION PTY LIMITED	54BL	106.8km NW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 1' S Long: 120° 14' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1158	FORRESTANIA RESOURCES LTD	27BL	14.2km E'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 39' S Long: 121° 10' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1162	DALLA-COSTA, Melville Raymond	10BL	118.1km NW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 5' S Long: 120° 1' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1163	RWG MINERALS PTY LTD	7BL	28.6km NE'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 27' S Long: 121° 10' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1164	RWG MINERALS PTY LTD	5BL	25.6km N'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 27' S Long: 121° 5' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1166	WESSELY, David Alois	1BL	9.2km NW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 38' S Long: 120° 57' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1167	BELLPARK MINERALS PTY LTD	1BL	101.5km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 55' S Long: 120° 17' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1168	WESSELY, David Alois	3BL	28.6km NW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 31' S Long: 120° 48' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	30/538	BILLING, Garry Leonard	8BL	102.9km S'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 57' S Long: 120° 1' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	30/539	GOLDZONE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	2BL	85km W'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 33' S Long: 120° 10' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	30/540	MORGANTI, Romano Natale	3BL	89km W'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 9' S Long: 120° 10' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	31/1300	SOLSTICE MINERALS LIMITED	70BL	39.1km NW'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 36' S Long: 122° 1' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	36/1003	MLG OZ LIMITED	7BL	13.9km SE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 0' S Long: 120° 47' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1428	DARLOT MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	6BL	57.1km SE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 17' S Long: 121° 6' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1461	MCA NOMINEES PTY LTD	45BL	58km E'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 6' S Long: 121° 14' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3585	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	2BL	32.7km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 55' S Long: 122° 26' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3672	BLACK RIVER RESOURCES PTY LIMITED	30BL	147.4km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 27° 19' S Long: 122° 7' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2207	NARNOO MINING PTY LTD	112BL	129.7km E'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 58' S Long: 123° 41' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2255	KIMBERLEY EXP PTY LTD	2BL	66.3km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 13' S Long: 122° 29' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2256	KIMBERLEY EXP PTY LTD	1BL	66.6km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 12' S Long: 122° 33' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2257	KIMBERLEY EXP PTY LTD	1BL	67.7km N'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 13' S Long: 122° 32' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2293	SOLSTICE MINERALS LIMITED	3BL	65.9km N'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 13' S Long: 122° 15' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2305	JURASSIC MINING PTY LTD	44BL	92.3km NE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 19' S Long: 123° 7' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	40/405	JINDALEE RESOURCES LIMITED	10BL	44.8km S'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 17' S Long: 121° 19' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	40/413	WOLSKI, Zygmund	30BL	45.4km NE'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 24' S Long: 121° 22' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	40/424	ULYSSES MINING PTY LTD	1BL	56.9km SE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 21' S Long: 121° 33' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/6046	BATTMIN PTY LTD	151BL	179km NE'ly of Telfer	Lat: 20° 33' S Long: 123° 26' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/6056	ACCELERATE RESOURCES LIMITED	37BL	39.6km SE'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 27' S Long: 119° 58' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/6074	EDDINGTON, Kelby Alfred NOTTLE, Gavin John RUSSON, Nicholas Robert	1BL	40.5km N'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 31' S Long: 120° 5' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/6077	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	11BL	44.1km N'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 29' S Long: 120° 3' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1177	GUM CREEK GOLD MINES PTY LTD	8BL	55.8km N'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 30' S Long: 119° 28' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2628	VOLCANIC RESOURCES PTY LTD	85BL	115.3km NW'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 27° 27' S Long: 116° 3' E	MURCHISON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2630	VOLCANIC RESOURCES PTY LTD	38BL	137.6km NW'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 27° 16' S Long: 115° 58' E	MURCHISON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2633	LEGENDRE, Bruce Robert	61BL	77.7km E'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 29° 0' S Long: 118° 25' E	MOUNT MAGNET SHIRE, SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2638	GASCOYNE RESOURCES (WA) PTY LTD	25BL	21.3km W'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 28° 16' S Long: 116° 28' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	63/2155	BRYAH RESOURCES LIMITED	50BL	81.3km SE'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 32° 2' S Long: 120° 2' E	DUNDAS SHIRE, YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	63/2156	BRYAH RESOURCES LIMITED	40BL	98.8km SE'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 58' S Long: 120° 20' E	DUNDAS SHIRE
Exploration Licence	63/2157	BRYAH RESOURCES LIMITED	43BL	111.6km SE'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 32° 13' S Long: 120° 15' E	DUNDAS SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/5882	HPAA PTY. LTD.	171BL	67.9km N'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 19' S Long: 118° 0' E	MOUNT MARSHALL SHIRE, MUKINBUDIN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/5883	HPAA PTY. LTD.	30BL	85.2km NW'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 16' S Long: 117° 42' E	MOUNT MARSHALL SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2680	AURUMIN MT PALMER PTY LTD	2BL	15km SE'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 31' S Long: 119° 38' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2742	WEST AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTORS PTY LTD	3BL	100.1km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 19' S Long: 119° 12' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2822	WEST AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTORS PTY LTD	5BL	117.4km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 10' S Long: 119° 11' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2873	FORRESTANIA RESOURCES LTD	28BL	79.6km SE'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 32° 6' S Long: 119° 51' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2874	ROYALE SWAN ASSET MANAGEMENT PTY LTD	16BL	114km NE'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 3' S Long: 118° 51' E	YILGARN SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of prospecting licences which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term of 4 years from date of grant. Grant of Special Prospecting Licences, which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term up to 4 years from the date of grant. Grant of exploration licences, which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 years from the date of grant.

Notification day: 26 January 2022

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 **26 April 2022**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each licence may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 26 May 2022**), 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_6117-1



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	77/2875	WEST AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTORS PTY LTD	2BL	115.3km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 12' S Long: 119° 8' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2890	INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC SECURITIES PTY LTD	38BL	56km NE'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 31' S Long: 118° 34' E	MUKINBUDIN SHIRE, WESTONIA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2891	GOLDZONE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	33BL	159.5km E'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 29° 33' S Long: 119° 17' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2892	ROYALE SWAN ASSET MANAGEMENT PTY LTD	54BL	73.1km NE'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 22' S Long: 118° 39' E	WESTONIA SHIRE, YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5621	IGO NEWSEARCH PTY LTD	17BL	90.6km NE'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 17° 31' S Long: 128° 6' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5622	IGO NEWSEARCH PTY LTD	184BL	66.3km NE'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 17° 46' S Long: 128° 4' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5705	MXR MINERALS PTY LTD	44BL	72.7km S'ly of Wyndham	Lat: 16° 8' S Long: 128° 9' E	WYNDHAM-EAST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5706	EKEX PTY LTD	7BL	16.8km SE'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 18° 19' S Long: 127° 46' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5707	KOONGIE PARK PTY LTD	5BL	18.4km SW'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 18° 20' S Long: 127° 32' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5708-9	WORTHY EXPLORATION PTY LTD	373BL	138.4km NE'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 17° 33' S Long: 128° 46' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5719	BROWNFIELD PROSPECTING PTY LTD	12BL	67.6km NW'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 17° 46' S Long: 127° 14' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6630	TELFERSCOT NOMINEES PTY LTD	78.23HA	15.2km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 2' S Long: 121° 2' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6667-S	STRANGE, Vernon Wesley	9.51HA	13.7km E'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 2' S Long: 121° 3' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6670	FOCUS OPERATIONS PTY LTD	59.93HA	5.7km N'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 54' S Long: 121° 10' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6671-2 & 15/6675-6	FAIRPLAY GOLD PTY LTD	778.50HA	29.1km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 1' S Long: 120° 52' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6686-7	FAIRPLAY GOLD PTY LTD	370.07HA	16.3km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 2' S Long: 121° 1' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3366	RUDD, Steven John	57.81HA	33.8km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 36' S Long: 120° 50' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3369 & 16/3372-5	SLIPSTREAM EXPLORATION PTY LTD	846.13HA	28.7km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 35' S Long: 120° 55' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3376	RUTTER, John Henry	5.35HA	23.5km S'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 34' S Long: 121° 1' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5444	ZGOLD PTY LTD	200.50HA	19.3km SW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 33' S Long: 121° 10' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5445	ZGOLD PTY LTD	193.57HA	19.9km SW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 33' S Long: 121° 10' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5465	MCAULIFFE, Bernard James	178.88HA	9.9km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 26' S Long: 121° 0' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5466-7	MCAULIFFE, Bernard James	315.35HA	18.8km SW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 34' S Long: 121° 12' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5519-20	TOJO MINERALS PTY LTD	264.21HA	16.4km W'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 24' S Long: 120° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5536-7	SIBERIA MINING CORPORATION PTY LTD	251.20HA	20.4km NW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 17' S Long: 120° 52' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5548	WARRIEDAR MINING PTY LTD	167.65HA	21.6km NE'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 14' S Long: 121° 14' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5556	COOK, Matthew John	168.63HA	20.2km W'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 18' S Long: 120° 51' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5558	HASS, Neil William	6.22HA	2.2km N'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 25' S Long: 121° 19' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5559-S	RENTON, Darrall James	8.35HA	2.7km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 26' S Long: 121° 21' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2695	BLACK CAT (BULONG) PTY LTD	121.29HA	24.5km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 45' S Long: 121° 43' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2725-S	BRANCH, Ian Robert	7.04HA	42.2km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 58' S Long: 122° 1' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2726-S	BRANCH, Ian Robert	8.26HA	43.8km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 58' S Long: 122° 2' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4373-4 & 26/4376-7	POTTS, Christopher Peter	707.55HA	11.6km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 49' S Long: 121° 33' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4590	TIPENE, Stephen Andrew	91.38HA	8.1km S'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 49' S Long: 121° 26' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4653	BLACK CAT (BULONG) PTY LTD	186.19HA	28km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 0' S Long: 121° 51' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4654	WHITAKER, William Barrie	136.55HA	9.6km SW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 49' S Long: 121° 25' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4655	WHITAKER, William Barrie	141.69HA	8.3km SW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 48' S Long: 121° 25' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2484	CHAPMAN, Morgan Leslie	9.96HA	37.2km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 21' S Long: 121° 42' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2485	CHAPMAN, Morgan Leslie	9.95HA	41.1km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 17' S Long: 121° 43' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2486	CHAPMAN, Morgan Leslie	9.85HA	42.1km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 17' S Long: 121° 43' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2487	CHAPMAN, Morgan Leslie	9.66HA	42.6km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 17' S Long: 121° 44' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2488	CHAPMAN, Morgan Leslie	9.99HA	36.8km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 21' S Long: 121° 41' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2489	CHAPMAN, Morgan Leslie	9.93HA	41.7km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 17' S Long: 121° 43' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2504-5	COSTANZO, Patrick Natale	226.53HA	37.8km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 21' S Long: 121° 42' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2506-7	COSTANZO, Patrick Natale	395.11HA	40.4km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 17' S Long: 121° 42' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2508-10	COSTANZO, Patrick Natale	191.82HA	43km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 17' S Long: 121° 44' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2511	COSTANZO, Patrick Natale	192.04HA	42.2km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 16' S Long: 121° 43' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2513-S	BRANCH, Ian Robert	3.15HA	58.4km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 29' S Long: 121° 59' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2514-S	BRANCH, Ian Robert	3.15HA	58.6km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 29' S Long: 122° 0' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	29/2626	AUSTRALIAN NICKEL COMPANY LIMITED	37.84HA	35.1km NE'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 5' S Long: 121° 15' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	36/1925	LINTON, Robert William	74.84HA	40.8km SE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 5' S Long: 121° 3' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9512-21	TORIAN RESOURCES LIMITED	1922.53HA	31.3km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 44' S Long: 121° 3' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9522-4	TORIAN RESOURCES LIMITED	533.60HA	37.3km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 39' S Long: 121° 2' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9580	COSTELLO, Phillip Gerard	5.95HA	7.9km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 121° 17' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9581-2	BHASIN, Neelesh CREW, Ross, Frederick	301.51HA	48.9km N'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 27' S Long: 121° 11' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/9585	COMPLETE PROSPECTING PTY LTD	8.48HA	11.1km NW'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 48' S Long: 121° 16' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4507-S	DEAN, John Shane RYAN, Christopher Gene	7.74HA	135.9km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 27° 27' S Long: 121° 58' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4529-S	DEAN, John Shane	0.99HA	133km NE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 27° 27' S Long: 121° 56' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4534	MCLEVIE, Devin William	48.95HA	23.6km SW'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 122° 18' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4543	DIXON, Trevor John	9.82HA	43.5km SE'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 58' S Long: 122° 36' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4545	BRIGHTSTAR RESOURCES LIMITED	47.46HA	29.7km E'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 42' S Long: 122° 41' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	38/4546	BRIGHTSTAR RESOURCES LIMITED	96.89HA	33km E'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 44' S Long: 122° 42' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6210	BAILEY, Thomas Ashley BLAIR, Roland Jamieson	68.43HA	55.5km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 57' S Long: 121° 53' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6263	SIMMONS, Wayne Anthony	9.86HA	57km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 59' S Long: 121° 54' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6286	14 MILE WELL GOLD PTY LTD	197.68HA	60km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 29° 1' S Long: 121° 55' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/6287	GOLDEN CLIFFS NL	111.80HA	43.3km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 49' S Long: 121° 46' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	46/2037	AYRES, Warren John	177.32HA	32.6km NE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 46' S Long: 120° 24' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	46/2040	GILL, Jason Andrew	47.55HA	41.5km E'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 45' S Long: 120° 29' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	46/2041-2	WOELK, Adam	281.34HA	35.6km E'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 47' S Long: 120° 26' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	51/3184-6-S	HOWARD, Gary John PASZNICKI, Graeme Richard NEENAN, Bradley Wayne PASZNICKI, Raymond John	29.39HA	50.8km NE'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 0' S Long: 118° 5' E	CUE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	57/1512	SELGA, Mark	11.07HA	77.5km N'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 17' S Long: 119° 24' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4594	LARSEN, Jake Thomas	4.44HA	3.4km SE'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 29' S Long: 119° 31' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4595	ALTAN RIO MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	130.87HA	31.7km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 59' S Long: 119° 7' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4597	ALTAN RIO MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	88.48HA	30.6km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 0' S Long: 119° 8' E	YILGARN SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of prospecting licences which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term of 4 years from date of grant. Grant of Special Prospecting Licences, which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term up to 4 years from the date of grant. Grant of exploration licences, which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 years from the date of grant.

Notification day: 26 January 2022

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 **26 April 2022**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each licence may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (**i.e. 26 May 2022**), 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.

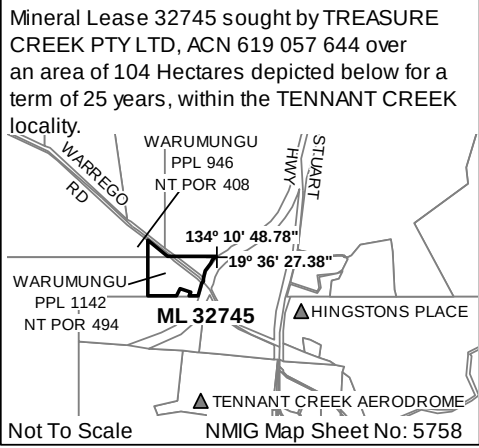
* - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km²

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF MINERAL LEASE

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Honourable Nicole Manison MLA, 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 mineral title application.

The application to which this notice applies



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 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.

Notification Day: 26 January 2022

WaterNSW and Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR)

WaterNSW and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) wish to advise customers and the community about changes to application advertising. Under recent amendments to Clause 26 Section 7 of the Water Management (General) Regulations 2018, applications made to the respective agencies that require advertising will no longer need to be featured in newspapers. From January 2022, these applications will be advertised for the required 28 days on the respective agency's website. For more information and to view a list of current applications, please visit waterNSW.com.au/advertised-applications or nrar.nsw.gov.au/public-notices.

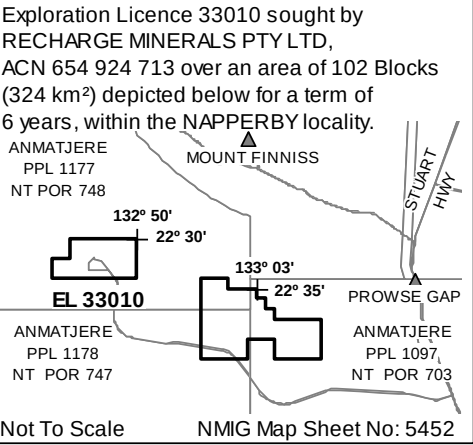
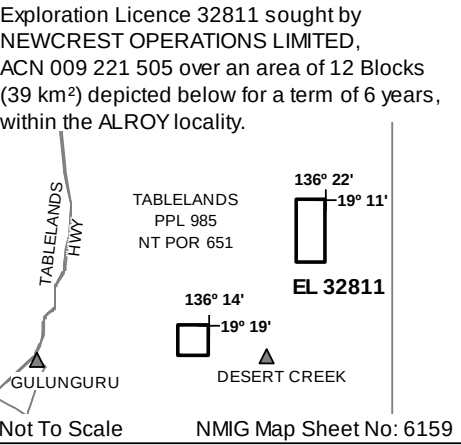
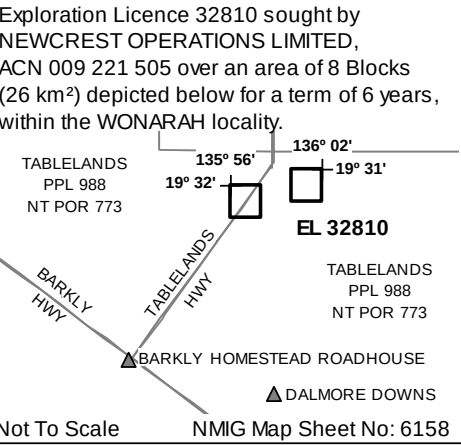
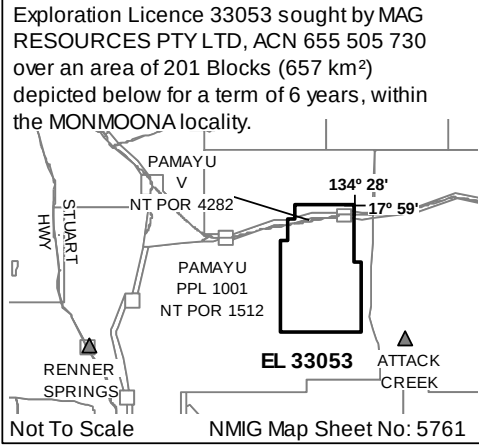
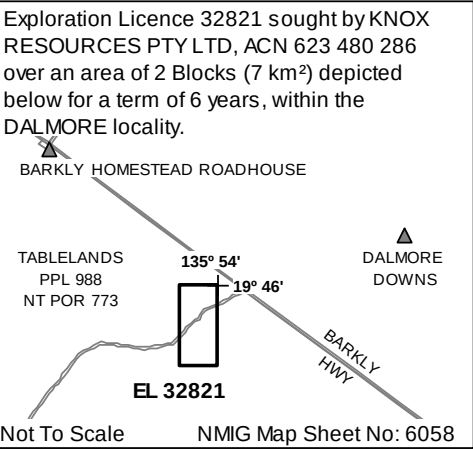
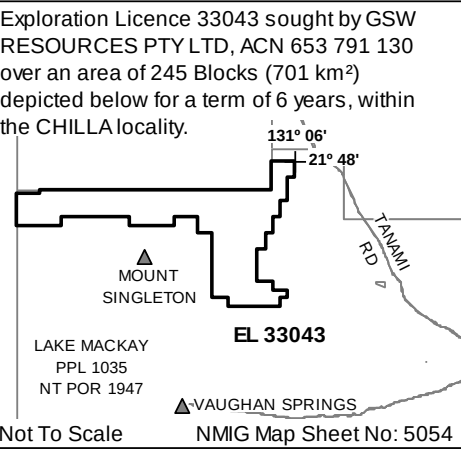
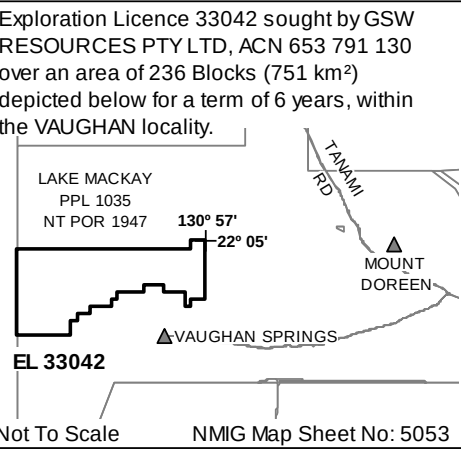
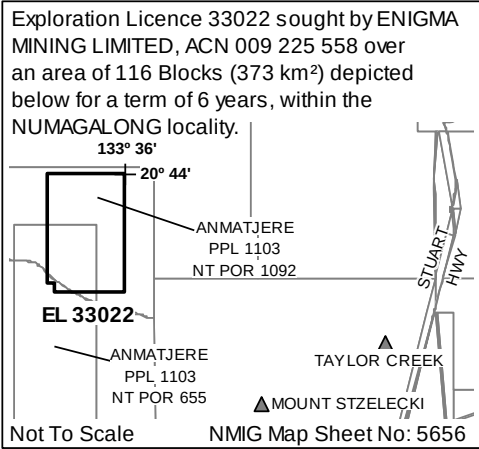
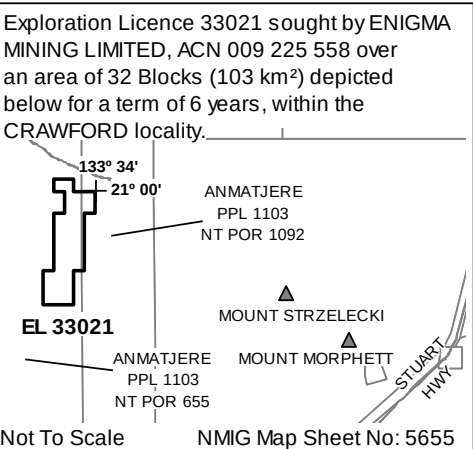
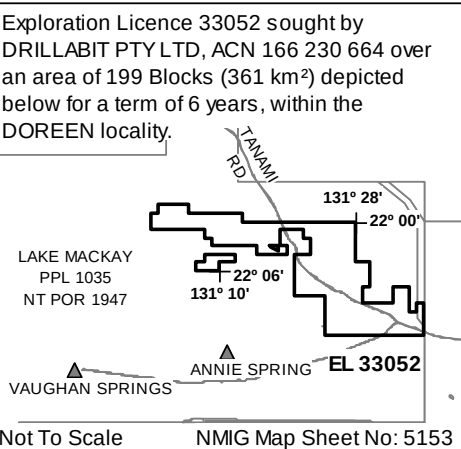
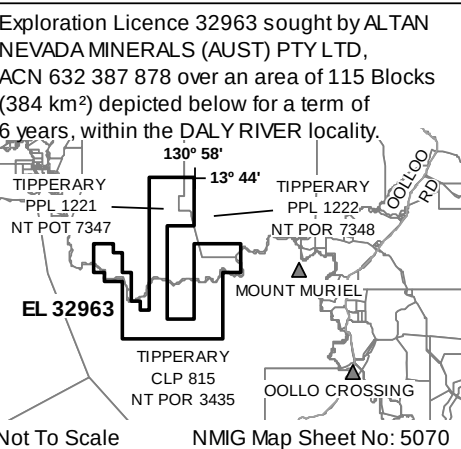
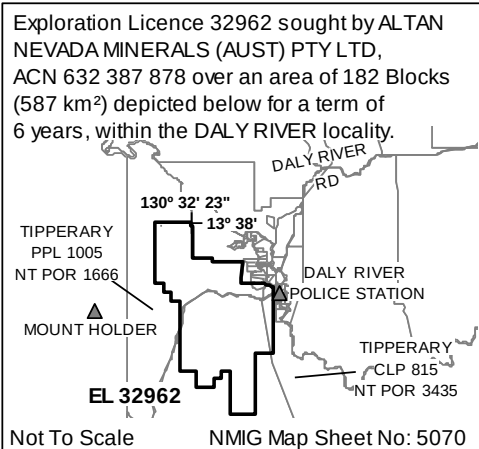


NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

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:



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: 26 January 2022

Simon joins goalfest in AC qualifier



KYAH Simon was on track to claim her first hat-trick of goals in international football before the pesky full-time whistle was blown.

Simon scored two of the Matildas' 18 – yes 18! – goals against Indonesia in Mumbai at the weekend. The match was the first of the Matildas' three-leg Asian Cup qualifying series of matches.

Simon scored her first goal, the Matildas' 16th, in the 68th minute. A mere three minutes later, in the 71st minute, she added her second. She was unable to add a third before full-time, although teammate Aivi Luik was able to in the 79th minute.

Goalkeeper Lydia Williams was rested for this game which saw back-up 'keeper Mackenzie Arnold keep a clean sheet in the 18-0 result.

The Matildas will have completed their group stage games this week, with matches against The Philippines on Tuesday (January 24) and Thailand (January 28).



The Matildas' Kyah Simon scores her first, and the Matildas' 16th, goal in the Asian Cup qualifier against Indonesia in Mumbai last weekend.
Picture: Getty Images

Darwin all set to join NBL1 North in 2022



THE Northern Territory will be represented in the second-tier of national basketball this year.

The Darwin Basketball Association and Basketball Northern Territory will join NBL1 North in 2022.

The Darwin/BNT joint venture and the North Gold Coast Seahawks are the newest teams in the NBL1 North, which will bring the conference's total number of clubs to 16.

The NT's entry also means the NBL1 becomes the first Australian sport league to have clubs based in and playing out of every state and territory in Australia.

Darwin Basketball Association executive officer Kerri Savidge was excited about entering NBL1 North in 2022.

"For 70 years, Darwin basketball has grown from strength to strength," Savidge said.

"This is the next step on an exciting new path for our players, officials and spectators.

"We are so excited to be partnering with Basketball NT in this competition to show the rest of Australia the beauty of Darwin and the talent of the future."

Chief executive of BNT John Mitchell was thrilled to partner with the DBA.

"Basketball NT are delighted to partner with Darwin Basketball Association in what will be enormous for basketball right across the territory," Mitchell said.

"We are extremely proud of our acceptance into the NBL1 North competition and look forward to being a part of a truly national sporting competition, providing a clear pathway to elite sport for our young athletes."

The general manager of NBL1 Dean Anglin said this was a testament to the growth of the league and the work behind the scenes to make it happen.

"We look forward to bringing NBL1 to the Top End," Anglin said.

"The inclusion of Darwin/BNT into NBL1 North and the launch of NBL1 East in 2022 completes the national roll out of NBL1. We are now a truly national product.

"It is quite amazing to see how far we have come in just a few years, despite all the challenges that have been thrown at us.

"The states, clubs, players, coaches and officials have stayed committed to reaching this point and it's only just the beginning."

Lalor rejoins Renegades for Indigenous Round

By KRIS FLANDERS



JOSH Lalor has been playing in the Big Bash League since his debut in 2011 and thought he may have missed his opportunity to ever play cricket in an Indigenous Round.

That has become a reality now as Cricket Australia and the BBL celebrated its first Indigenous Round recently (January 8-14) where 11 matches celebrated, acknowledged and paid respect to Indigenous people.

Dharug man Lalor, who was born and raised in Mount Druitt in Sydney's west, was excited to be involved with his Melbourne Renegades team.

"We are very much at the start of this journey, so I'm very appreciative that Cricket Australia is celebrating an Indigenous Round," he said.

"With the reach that cricket has in this country there is a huge responsibility and opportunities to educate people about our culture and the real history of this country.

"There's a whole process to it, that awareness, then you need learning, then you need respect and then actions off the back of that. It can be tough to do correctly as a sporting organisation.

"If cricket can create a topic of



The Renegades' Josh Lalor is back in action in the Big Bash League.

conversation that leads people to learning more about Indigenous cricketers and also our history and culture, then that's a great start.

"I am thrilled to be in it, of course, but to also see that it has come to fruition after being involved with the working group for Cricket Australia's last Reconciliation Action Plan.

"To see this from that RAP plan

getting ticked off and come to life, it's a nice reminder that things are moving forward."

Lalor says that the game has embraced Indigenous Rounds in both the BBL and WBBL.

"Our Renegades side are actually playing three games during this round and we get to wear our amazing Indigenous-designed shirts for all of those

games," he said.

"To also see what Mikayla Hinkley did with her input into the Brisbane Heat's shirts and design was unbelievable."

It has been a testing 11th edition of the BBL for the paceman.

The 32-year-old has had to bide his time as a bystander from the stands.

Lalor finally got his chance in the opening match of Indigenous Round and it was a tough assignment as the Renegades got hammered by 129 runs by Sydney Thunder.

Lalor was luckless in his allotted four overs, returning figures of 0-38 in the Thunder's total of 7-209 off their 20 overs.

The Renegades' run chase was poor and the side managed just 80 runs from 14.1 overs with Lalor getting one run from five deliveries faced.

While it wasn't the glamorous return to the BBL that Lalor was hoping for the quick bowler was just happy to be back in the thick of the action.

"It's been a minefield of a season to be honest. We are probably sitting on the ladder where we deserve to be," he said.

"We started off without a lot of our big names due to injury and Australian duties, so we got a little behind the eight ball."

Keilee Joseph made her All Stars debut in Townsville last year.



Debutantes with great futures ahead

WITH the All Stars match just around the corner and the NRLW starting in the weeks following, I thought I'd take the opportunity to talk about some of the players to watch and some of my predictions for the women's league in 2022.

Last year in Townsville, the Indigenous women's All Stars team was one of our youngest ever. The young team included a couple of debutantes – Keilee Joseph from the Roosters, the Dragons' Jaime Chapman and Jasmine Peters, who I will talk about here.

It has been a great pleasure to see the continued development and improvement of Keilee Joseph. As a 16-year-old she made the move from Queensland to Sydney. There, she played in the Indigenous Academy team in the Tarsha Gale Cup, an under-18s NSWRL competition.

Bigger tests are ahead for Keilee, but she is on the right track to keep her career progressing. She is very professional in her approach to the game and this shone through last year at the national under-19s where she was one of the players of the tournament. She came up with some unbelievable moments in big games which included one of the best try-saving cover tackles I've seen in any form of the game.

Jaime Chapman is one of the most athletic players we have in the game and it is no mystery as to why she has already been involved in the NRLW while still a teenager.

Jaime has been around a little while and 2022 is the year she needs to capitalise on her potential starting with a big game in Sydney next month. She is a match winner and can break open a game at any time. She needs a real narrow focus off the field which will help her close out distractions and climb to the top of the game and hopefully play for the Jillsaroos.

Mackay product Jasmine Peters has come through the Gold Stars program at North Queensland Cowboys. She was recommended to me by All Stars coach Ben Jeffries.

Last year Jasmine played in the centres and fullback and her versatility is going to be a big bonus for her as she progresses in her career. She is such a strong runner for someone so young. Being in the cowboys system and also part of the Titans NRLW team, she will gain knowledge and experience to go far with her footy.

Next edition, I will profile a couple of other young stars in the women's All Stars team in Bree Chester, Kyra Simon and Bobbi Law, all from Newcastle. I encourage our *Koori Mail* readers to get behind these young players at the All Stars game in Sydney and support them in their careers going forward.

**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

All Stars – when two great cultures collide

By KRIS FLANDERS



IT is the thousands of years of 'real' which makes this day so unreal – Real Culture, Real Connection, Real Pride. That's how the NRL is promoting the upcoming All Stars clash when two great cultures collide to kick-off the rugby league season on February 12.

For the first time, the annual Indigenous-Māori All Stars match will be played in Sydney on the traditional lands of the Dharug people at Western Sydney Stadium.

The pre-season blockbuster event will see men's and women's teams share their cultures and trade blows, in a football sense, on the field.

The Indigenous and Māori sides have played against each other in the pre-season since 2019.

In the men's games, the sides share one win each with last year's clash ending in a spectacular 10-all draw. The games bring together the best-of-the-best Indigenous and Māori NRL players.

Previously, former players and legends Preston Campbell, Greg Inglis, George Rose and Nathan Merritt represented their families and heritage for the Indigenous team and the Māori teams have been proudly represented by the likes of Dallin Watene-Zelzeniak, Brandon Smith and Jordan Kahu.

The sides will play for the Arthur Beetson Trophy, named in honour of rugby league immortal, and the man-of-the-match award walks away with the Preston Campbell Medal.

The 2022 edition is likely to see new Canterbury signing Josh Addo-Carr, Canberra ace Jack Wighton and tough St George-Illawarra forward Josh Kerr in action for the Indigenous side.

The Māori team will look to retain the trophy with players like Penrith gun-forward James Fisher-Harris, who was named man of the match in last year's game.

In the women's match, the Māori enjoy a 2-1 advantage since 2019.

Some of the finest women's footballers in the country will step out for their respective cultures in this match.

The Indigenous side is expected to see premiership and Origin winner and six-time Indigenous All Star Talisha Harden play her seventh match alongside St George-Illawarra young gun Shaylee Bent for her fourth outing for the Indigenous women.

The Māori women could look to Brisbane NRLW star and premiership winner Raecene McGregor who scored two tries in last year's triumph to get them home again this year.

The women's fixture kick-starts an exciting season with the opening round of the NRLW season just 15 days later.



Indigenous All Star Latrell Mitchell offloads in the game against New Zealand Māori in Townsville last year. Picture: Joseph Mayers

Titans coach wants larger NRL squads



GOLD Coast coach Justin Holbrook believes expanding NRL squads is the easiest way to avoid disruptions to the 2022 season. Holbrook has experienced firsthand the chaos a COVID outbreak can have on a first-team squad, with over 20 of his squad forced to isolate recently after testing positive.

The majority of those players have since returned to training with a further 12 rejoining the squad last week on Thursday.

The Titans coach says the impact of the outbreak only emphasises the need for plans to be put in place to avoid the chaos which has gripped several summer sporting codes in recent weeks.

"I think the bigger squad is definitely the way to go. You look at the BBL now and you probably could get a game yourself," Holbrook said.

"We've got to be flexible and adaptable. We want the season to go ahead and we want to play every week as scheduled,



Gold Coast's David Fifita. His coach wants to see NRL squads increase in number. Picture: GC Titans

so however that has to happen, I'm sure Peter V'Landys and all those guys will work hard to make it happen."

The Titans aren't the only team to have had their pre-season impacted by the virus, with Queensland rivals Brisbane having 16 players placed into isolation two weeks ago.

Rugby League Players' Association chief Clint Newton has spoken with league bosses amid player concern over COVID-19 protocols and restrictions placed on players leading into the season.

Holbrook said he was hopeful isolation periods would be further reduced as Australia comes to terms with living with the virus and he agreed that a return to a hard 'bubble' similar to that imposed in the past two years is the last thing anyone wants.

"The beauty of the vaccinations and the fact that people aren't getting rushed to hospital and ICU, the majority of them now live literally just at home with the flu, once we get closer to the season and we realise that, I don't think we'll have to go back into those heavy bubble situations," Holbrook said. – AAP

Cameron is key to the Eagles' on-field fortunes

By HALIM MELLICK



WEST Coast power forward Imahra Cameron started the 2022 AFLW season strongly when round 1 got underway recently.

The Eagles made the trek to Fremantle Oval to take on home side Fremantle in the highly anticipated Western Derby.

Unlike with their male counterparts, where West Coast dominate Fremantle in the Derbys, the reverse is true in the AFLW where the Eagles have yet to defeat the Dockers.

In typical windy Freo weather, and with over 5500 home-team fans, the visiting team had a rough day.

Cameron, who was West Coast's first pick in the 2019 AFLW draft, graduated from the midfield to the forward line.

In the Derby, she tallied up five possessions, laid on four tackles and took a mark. Unfortunately for her side, the Eagles couldn't stop the Dockers who won by 28 points, 6.7 (43) to 2.3 (15), to maintain their perfect record in Derby to 4-0.

West Coast got close, however. They were within five points at one stage, but Fremantle scored 3.5 to nothing in the final quarter to run out winners.

As a forward, and once the Eagles can get their delivery better, Cameron can provide a genuine focal point near goals. This is the key the team needs to begin winning games.

Outside football, Cameron is a mentor for the Deadly Sista Girlz, an Indigenous women's youth role model program.



West Coast Eagles' Imahra Cameron has a shot on goal in the AFLW match against Fremantle at Fremantle Oval recently. Picture: Halim Mellick

Pride Round is a great time to open our hearts

PRIDE Round in the AFLW means so much to so many people within the LGTBQ+ community and their allies.

For the second year running, the AFLW held a round of games dedicated to support of the community. This year, its messaging was bigger, brighter and stronger, proclaiming to all that everyone is welcome at the footy. It is an opportunity for us all to come together and celebrate diversity and inclusion within football itself and the wider community in general.

The AFL's general manager of inclusion and social policy Tanya Hosch said, "Pride Round reflects the competition's commitment to being a sport for all, acknowledging we are working together with communities to make this more and more a reality with each season."

The fun part of the AFLW's Pride Round was the changes we saw in how the round was presented. The central and boundary umpires wore rainbow-coloured sweatbands, the goal umpires swapped their traditional white flags for rainbow ones, the competition's logo was changed from the usual coral-coloured one for a rainbow-themed one and I particularly loved seeing the 50-metre arcs painted as a rainbow. And of course, 13 of the 14 clubs incorporated the rainbow colours onto their guernsey designs.

Unfortunately, not all were happy about this. West Coast's AFLW coach Michael Prior, in an interview with the WA's *The West Australian* newspaper, said, "I think we've done the Pride stuff to death to be honest."

I would say this to Michael: We are in our second year of Pride Round, and when I saw your comment I had to check the date of the newspaper; I thought I had somehow been magically transported back in time by 20 years. I was confused.

The Eagles, incidentally, were the only club to not alter their playing jumper for the round, opting instead to wear rainbow-themed singlets and socks at training. Prior later apologised when called out for the comment, and so he should.

We still have so much to do in this space of equality and inclusion, particularly so that when someone like Carlton's Darcy Vescio tells us their biggest fear is telling us they are non-binary through tears. They don't have to; it is just a regular statement of pride and confidence in themselves. We can unite and support those who need us, not tell them that Pride Round "has been done to death".

Unfortunately not everyone and every team got to play due to COVID-related issues (again!) but hopefully we will see them playing in their special jumpers in the coming weeks. Among the jumpers, my personal favourite was Melbourne's. The Demons' Pride design was by former Melbourne player Tegan Cunningham. This was the club's first one.

My hope is that what comes from Pride Round is that we listen to the stories, learn from each other and welcome one another with open arms and an open heart.

**Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.*



Shelley Ware

Clubs place unvaxed players on inactive list

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



FOOTBALL clubs in the AFL and AFLW are placing players who have yet to be vaccinated on the inactive list in a move to protect their playing groups from COVID-19.

Last week, two players from two AFL clubs were placed on their respective clubs' inactive lists due to maintaining an unvaxed stance, despite the threat of COVID-19 transmission.

Under the AFL's COVID-19 policy, all AFL and AFLW players and football department staff are required to be vaccinated.

Brisbane Lions' Cameron Ellis-Yolmen and West Coast's Jack Darling have reportedly refused to be vaccinated and last week were placed on the inactive list by their clubs.

As the clubs move to protect the playing group, they are also mindful of respecting their players' stances.

In a statement last week, the Brisbane Lions said, "The Lions fall under stage 3 of the league's vaccination roll-out which stipulates doses one and two must be completed respectively by January 21 and February 18, in advance of practice matches.



Brisbane's Cameron Ellis-Yolmen. Picture: Brisbane Lions

"The Lions respect Cameron's right to personal choice but are also committed to the protocols put in place by the AFL to safeguard the competition and protect the health and well-being of its players.

"Neither the Lions nor Cameron will make any further comment."

Ellis-Yolmen, a powerfully built

midfielder, joined the Lions in the 2019 trade period after eight seasons with Adelaide. His list-inactivation opens up a position on the club's rookie list. The Lions will now investigate an opportunity to acquire a replacement player.

In the west, Eagles premiership player Darling has yet to be officially placed on the club's inactive list, but he is unable to train.

In a statement, the club said, "Jack Darling has not adhered to the AFL's COVID-19 training and playing mandates and therefore – under the AFL rules – he will be unable to attend the club's facilities ... and by extension any club training sessions.

"While Jack will take some time to assess his future, he will train independently of the remainder of the squad.

"The club will continue to support Jack as he contemplates his options and is optimistic that he will return to build on his outstanding career to date.

"While the club does respect the right to personal choice, it also supports the protocols put in place by the AFL and governments – both federal and state – as they navigate their way through this persistent and challenging pandemic.

"Neither the club nor Jack will make any further comment on the matter."

Boland the Beautiful lights up the Ashes series



Scott Boland claims the wicket of England captain Joe Root in the Fifth Test in Hobart. Boland snared Root's wicket four times in five of England's innings in the three Tests Boland played.
Picture: Getty Images

Paceman a stand-out on commemorative tour – Cooley

By KRIS FLANDERS



cricket.

It was during that England tour, which commemorated the 1868 Aboriginal cricket team, that Cooley first met a young paceman called Scott Boland.

Cooley was team manager of the Australian Indigenous side retracing the steps of the Aboriginal team 160 years earlier. He said he was instantly impressed by Boland, on and off the pitch, during that tour.

"Scott was this quiet and humble man," Cooley said.

"He's not a show-off and doesn't speak out loud or anything like that. He just

observed and processed. He talks when he has to. But he is a very big leader by his actions.

"And like all the players on that tour, Scotty was proud to be representing his family, but also the Aboriginal cricketers who had gone before them on that 1868 tour. He really immersed himself in the cultural activities and talks, and he wanted to know more."

Like everyone else, Cooley was blown away by Boland's brilliant Test debut for Australia in the Boxing Day clash against England in the Ashes series.

Boland's match-winning second-innings bowling figures of 6-7 may have surprised many, but Cooley knew that the Victorian quick had the talent to produce something special.

"Seriously, they were some of the best economical and most accurate bowling figures you'd ever see by a bowler in such an important match, a Boxing Day Test,"

Cooley said. "(That was) sustained quality bowling against some of the best batsmen in the game at the moment (and) a phenomenal effort that day. And the following Tests (Sydney and Hobart) proved that he is a world-class bowler."

That performance from Boland in the Third Test at the MCG earned him the Johnny Mullagh Medal as player of the match. Cooley said after the 2018 tour the stars aligned for Boland to win the medal.

"Scott is connected to that Mullagh story too. When we were in Victoria before the commemorative 1868 tour, the players visited Mullagh's waterhole – where he camped – and we heard his story and spoke to descendants of his family. I know that had an effect on Scotty," Cooley said.

"We all hoped and we dreamed that Scotty could win that medal, but to actually see that happen was unbelievable."

Boland's heroics in Melbourne would have been a tough act to followup on, but

Cooley says his lethal line and length bowling made sure that the wickets kept coming in Sydney and in Hobart.

"Scott's accuracy is astonishing," he said.

"He just plugs away and puts the ball in the right areas. He backs himself and believes in his ability. He is relentless and is great at building pressure on a batsman which he can, then force them into playing a bad shot, or just knocking them over."

Cooley believes Boland is suited to the Test arena and thinks he should be packing his bags for the upcoming tour of Pakistan in March.

"He is a Test match bowler," he said.

"He is such a wonderfully skilled bowler. He knows his role in the team and now he is a proven match-winner. I don't know how they could possibly leave someone out with those type of figures. He will get plenty more Test matches under his belt in the future, for sure."

Boland can inspire a generation of youth

Peter Cooley was on the 2018 tour to England where he saw firsthand the talents of Scott Boland.



By KRIS FLANDERS



INDIGENOUS cricket figure Peter Cooley believes fast-bowler Scott Boland's presence in the Australian Test team has the power to inspire more Indigenous people to take up cricket and aim to play at Test level.

Boland made his Test debut during the Ashes series against England and was player of the match in the Third test at the MCG.

He retained his spot for the fourth (Sydney) and fifth (Hobart) Tests despite fierce competition for spots.

"I think it's going to have a huge impact and Scott is a national hero at the moment," Cooley said.

"The buzz around Scott at the moment, I don't think even 'Dizzy' (Jason Gillespie) reached those levels, and Gillespie was our first Indigenous male (in Test cricket) and he had an incredible career himself.

"You know, I think people watched the fourth and fifth Test matches just to watch Scott Boland. He put people in front of television screens and put bums on seats at the grounds.

"He is a great role model for our young mob. I just think when our kids are playing backyard cricket now they are going to be saying

'I'm Scott Boland'. The possibilities that our mob will be inspired to play cricket are greater now (because) we have someone who's on our screens, in the papers, on social media and who Indigenous kids can finally see at the elite Test level.

"He's brought people together and Scotty is the shot-in-the-arm that cricket needed."

Cooley mentored Boland on the 2018 tour (see above) and was more than happy to see him succeed in the Test arena.

"I'm so happy and so proud of him to see him put on that baggy green cap and to reach those heights of Test cricket, the pinnacle of any form of the game."

Jason with the Dizzy spells

By PETER ARGENT



AUSTRALIA'S first Aboriginal men's Test cricketer Jason Gillespie will become the first inductee into the South Australia Sport Hall of Fame for 2021*.

A descendant of the Kamilaroi people, Gillespie played 71 Tests during the most successful era of Australian cricket (1996-2006) since the great teams of the early 1970s.

In what proved to be his final Test match, Gillespie created another unique milestone, coming in as nightwatchman and making an unbeaten double century.

Gillespie is just the second Indigenous sportsman inductee into the SA Sport Hall of Fame, following in the steps of basketball pioneer, Michael Ah Matt.

"Being my home state, it's fantastic and it genuinely caught me off guard. I had no inkling that this type of honour would be bestowed so I'm very grateful and it's totally unexpected," Gillespie said.

"In junior cricket, you tend to do a bit of everything and I had some injuries through growing pains as a teenager so I did play a season as a batsman, but I think deep down I always loved bowling and I loved trying to bowl fast."



Jason Gillespie celebrates his maiden Test double century against Bangladesh in 2006. Picture: AFP

Gillespie debuted in first-class cricket as a 19-year-old in the Sheffield Shield in 1994 and within two years he earned his first baggy green for Australia against the West Indies.

An out-and-out quick bowler, Gillespie combined with the metronomic Glenn McGrath to lead the nation's bowling

attack over most of the next decade.

In what proved to be his final Test match, at Chattogram in the Second Test of the 2006 tour of Bangladesh, Gillespie scored his maiden first-class hundred, before converting that into a record-breaking 201 not out as a nightwatchman.

"I'd never scored a hundred in any form

of the game so to then go and get 200 was a bit of a fairytale really," Gillespie said.

"We won the Test, we won the series and it was a good way to sign off and to be able to lead the team song in my final game, score a few runs and take a few wickets was nice.

"It's been a good sportsman's-night story to dish out over the years and I have a bit of fun with it."

Gillespie was man of the match in that Test and player of the series.

In all his first-class career overall, Gillespie claimed 613 wickets at an average of 26.98.

He added another 255 wickets in one-day 50-over games (designated as List A games), including 142 in Australian colours.

His only Twenty20 match for Australia was the single game on the 2005 tour of England and Scotland.

Gillespie is the current coach of both the SA Redbacks in the Sheffield Shield and Adelaide Strikers in the Big Bash League.

He received the nickname 'Dizzy' after the famous American jazz trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie.

*The 2021 SA Hall of Fame induction was postponed until April of this year.

Redback Doggett works to combat bowlers' curse

By PETER ARGENT



PACEMAN Brendan Doggett, who was once on the brink of earning a baggy green, has been cooling his heels due to injury this cricket season.

A proud Worimi man, Doggett was looking to revive his career in South Australia this summer, but he has spent as much time on the sidelines as he has thundering towards the popping crease during the 2021-22 Sheffield Shield season.

Recruited from Queensland to play for the Redbacks this season, Doggett managed just two Shield games for his new team because of injury.

Redbacks management, headed by 71-Test Aboriginal cricketer Jason Gillespie, suggests that Doggett will return for the second half of the season, which (COVID willing) is expected to be in February.

In the Redbacks' first match of the Sheffield Shield season against Western Australia in October, Doggett

was forced from the field due to injury midway through his 11th over (10.2).

Contracted to play for Sydney Thunder in the Big Bash League, Doggett made a return to the field, against Adelaide Strikers on New Years Eve, where he bowled three overs.

Doggett was born in Toowoomba.

He played for Queensland in the Imparja Cup and made his first-class debut in the 2017-18 Sheffield Shield season, also for Queensland.

Doggett traded the Bulls for the Redbacks last season.

He was part of the 2018 Indigenous XI that toured England, retracing the steps of the 1868 Aboriginal cricket team.

His teammate on that tour was Scott Boland, who recently made his Test debut in the recently completed Ashes series against England and was a regular for the Victorian pace attack since that tour.

If Doggett is to replicate the feats of his former teammate, he will need to grow those key ingredients needed for fast bowlers: endurance and resilience.



Brendan Doggett (left) and SA Redbacks coach Jason Gillespie. Picture: Peter Argent

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Baira is the new boss at Blackhawks

By ALF WILSON



ROY Baira will call on his rugby league expertise as the new coach of the Townsville Blackhawks' Mal Meninga Cup (under-18s) side in the QRL this year.

The 43-year-old Baira, with family connections at Palm Island and Badu Island, led Brothers as coach to win the 2021 Townsville & District Rugby League A-grade premiership when they defeated Centrals 32-0 in the grand final.

Later, Baira coached Badu team Kulpiyam to win Bamaga's Dan

Ropeyarn Memorial NPA Cup carnival in October. Baira said he was confident the young Blackhawks side would do well in a competition that many graduate to and scouted for senior football in the QRL and potentially the NRL.

He said Damon Marshall, Tajshon Santo-Messa, Tremaine Body, Elijah Joe and Tekelui Mene are just some of the names to watch.

"They are all very talented footballers and should have big seasons," Baira said.

"There are some highly talented Indigenous boys in my squad and I think that will have a big bearing on how we go."

Baira, who played in more than 50

regional rugby league carnivals as a player, said he would demand every one of his players to train hard and be disciplined and they would be selected on form with trial matches to start soon.

"My first carnival was for the Palm Island Barracudas in 1996 and I learnt discipline at those carnivals," he said.

"It held me in good stead when the going got tough, and I'll be telling the boys that."

The young Blackhawks lost in last year's Mal Meninga Cup grand final to Tweed Seagulls 30-24.

Baira will get a good look at the side when they play Cairns in round 2 of the new season on March 5 (nine of the 15 teams will have a bye during round 1).



Roy Baira has been appointed coach of the Townsville Blackhawks' under-18s side in the QRL for this season.

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Jada closing in on a rare football record



SYDNEY FC goalkeeper Jada Mathysen-Whyman is on track to surpass Matildas goalkeeper

Lydia Williams in a significant record in national women's football.

Mathysen-Whyman, the A-League Women Sky Blues' No 1 stopper, has kept a clean sheet for the past six rounds for the ladder leaders. Should she deny Melbourne Victory in this week's match (Tuesday, January 25) she will break Williams' record of six consecutive matches in keeping a clean sheet.

The pair had already broken the women's National Soccer League (1996-2004) record of five clean sheets.



Sydney FC goalkeeper Jada Mathysen-Whyman is on track to secure a rare record in national women's football.
Picture: Getty Images



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The Binar team that won the Perth Summer Jam basketball competition were (from left) Diquane Juli, Terence Kelly, Fabian Johnson, Xavier Shaw, Troy Kelly, Johny Narkle, Max Groom and John Fui. Pictures: Halim Mellick

Binar brother-boys win at Summer Jam

By HALIM MELLICK



NYOONGAR organisation Binar Sports brought their skill, teamwork and determination to the recent Summer Jam basketball tournament and walked away as happy winners, and a date in Melbourne.

The Summer Jam is a street-ball 5x5 (and 3x3) basketball tournament that celebrated its 10th year. This was the first time it was played in Perth.

Binar, which means 'meteor' in the Nyoongar language, is an Indigenous not-for-profit organisation that works to support youth from all walks of life.

The team was led by Troy Kelly with Max Groom, Terence Kelly, John Fui, Fabian Johnson, Diquane Juli, Johny Narkle and Xavier Shaw. Part of the Binar team played earlier in the 3x3 tournament and made it to the quarterfinals. But it was in the 5x5 game where Binar hit their straps.

The Binar boys defeated 3-Stroke Club, 19-6, in round 1, and later Hoopwiththem, with the same score, to advance to the final.

In the final, Binar were too great for Gilead's Greatest and won 14-9, and \$5000 for their organisation.

The team will be invited to play at the national Summer Jam in Melbourne in February.

Troy Kelly was happy with the win. "I think it's just the chemistry," he said by way of explaining his team's success. "We have been playing together and against each other for years.



Fabian Johnson on the attack.

"We didn't have to set up plays and be 'robotic'; it's street-ball, it's pick-up, it's no different to when we are hanging out and playing together."

Summer Jam first started in Prarhan in Melbourne in 2012 and has since grown into a globally recognised street-ball tournament where up to 32 teams of the best ballers battle it out for cash prizes,



Binar team captain Troy Kelly.

recognition and respect.

It is a high-energy tournament that can't be replicated in the traditional version of the game.

It also attracts a diverse crowd. At the tournament in Perth, AFL stars Micheal Walters and Liam Henry from Fremantle and West Coast's Nic Naitanui were cheering on from the sidelines.

Year 3 of Covid and what have we learned?

PLENTY, and not much it seems, in answer to that question. I do not for one second envy those within the various sports bodies of the games that we follow having to move and adapt to the shifting goal-posts to wherever the pandemic takes them. They are earning their pay, that's for sure.



Darren Moncrieff

Still, within those organisations, some folk will take about seven steps back for every half-step forward. Although, to be fair, they are becoming the minority. By which I mean, after having everything laid out for them, some will reject peer-reviewed and proven science for... what, feelings?

Aside from all of that, what will be interesting to see is just how restless the sports-loving public – that is, us – becomes when inevitably our favourite sportsball teams and games must take a direction toward safety over scoring due to COVID-related situations out of their control.

For what it's worth, and as much as I am loving watching my favourite AFLW team doing well right now, I am half-expecting a disruption to the current season. Well, if not a wholesale disruption, then a compromise that may render the current season incomplete, like in early 2020 when the comp was stopped and we (my team, not me, 'cos I didn't play, but, you know...) wuz robbed, basically.

But seriously... what I have seen the past two years is non-sports folk complaining about the footbolls and the basketbolls and the otherbolls all going ahead while regular people having to figuratively jump through hoops to cross an invisible line (what them mob call "borders"). Of course, those teams and entire competitions, even, all lived within a bubble and stayed within their respective hubs. However, putting yourself in the shoes of non-sports-loving people (eww!), the optics of all of that did not look great, actually.

The challenge, then, is not so much keeping competitions afloat, but, while doing everything they can to keep their competitions afloat, to not then alienate the very people who underpin the success of those competitions – the fans.

We live in interesting times.

Boland them over

What can be said that hasn't already of Scott Boland's remarkable Test debut for Australia?

As it all unfolded, I wondered how far into the future will he be able to play. He is after all 32 (33 in April). Two things on that: Just how much time was squandered due to his non-selection three, four, five years prior? And to actually perform at Test level given his age shows what a talent this guy actually is.

However it all plays out, Scott Boland's Test career will be the one career we will all remember for its impact, and the storyline behind it. He was the actual 'Scott' we all enjoyed watching in those glorious weeks from the third Test to the fifth.

**Darren Moncrieff is a Wadjarri-Thakarri/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*

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Fremantle's Gemma Houghton models the Dockers' Pride Round guernsey at the Containbow which stands as an entry point of the port city in Western Australia. Picture: Fremantle Dockers

AFLW Pride in standing with Rainbow community



THE entire AFLW took a powerful stand at the weekend in support of the Rainbow community. The league-wide Pride

Round (January 21-23) saw all 14 teams wear rainbow-themed guernseys in support of the LGBTIQ+ community and a celebration of diversity and inclusivity within the game and wider community.

● More page 47

All Stars all set for Sydney showdown



PREPARATIONS are continuing for the football and cultural showcase that is the annual pre-season NRL All Stars match, despite some reservations by club bosses.

The fourth instalment of the Australian Indigenous and New Zealand Māori match will be played at Western Sydney Stadium in the city's west on Saturday, February 12.

Remarkably, it will be the first time the All Stars event will be played in Sydney in this, its 12th year.

The Indigenous-Māori fixture has been played since 2019, first in Melbourne, then on the Gold Coast in 2020 and in Townsville last year.

And since 2019, both nations have been represented by their respective men's and women's teams.

The match-up has proved a hit with fans. Crowds have largely increased over the past three years, even in the face of the COVID pandemic in the last two.

In Melbourne, 18,802 fans turned out, on the Gold Coast, 23,599 fans showed up, and in Townsville the game attracted

20,206 fans. Following the match, all 16 NRL clubs will play two trial matches each over the following fortnight before taking a week off.

Round 1 of the season proper kicks off on Thursday, March 10.

Late last week, NRL club presidents met with the ARL Commission to, among other things, raise concerns about their players' preparations in the face of COVID and how the All Stars match might impact upon that.

● When two great cultures collide, page 46



The Indigenous All Stars' Tyrone Peachey takes on the Māori defence in last year's match in Townsville. Picture: Joseph Mayers



Baira the new coach at Townsville Blackhawks, page 50