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The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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Still waiting



TWENTY-five years ago, the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody

handed down its report. The Commission made 339 recommendations – including

imprisonment as a last resort – most of which have never been fully implemented.

Since the handing down of the report in 1991, the rates of Indigenous imprisonment have become much worse, with Indigenous people now 13 times more likely than other Australians

to be incarcerated – and youth rates even higher.

On the 25th anniversary of the report, Indigenous, legal and social justice organisations have called on all Australian governments to work with Indigenous communities to address the national crisis of Indigenous imprisonment.

NSW/ACT Aboriginal Legal Service (ALS) chief executive Gary Oliver said the Custody Notification Service, in which police must contact the ALS when an Indigenous person is brought into custody, was a recommendation of the Royal Commission and it has been doing the job.

“But what about the other recommendations not yet implemented?” he said.

There is no CNS in other jurisdictions.

● Royal Commission 25 years on, pages 6-7
● Editorial, page 20

This mob sees the funny side of things



Pumped for the Deadly Funny National Final and Showcase are contestants Jack Buckskin, Lynette Hubbard, Joanne Donovan, Benny Eggmolesse, Desley O'Dwyer, Derrick Vale, Rob Braslin and Jalen Sutcliffe, with showcase performer Sean Choolburra and host Kevin Kropinyeri. Picture: Jillian Mundy

● Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander comedians took to the stages of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival last week. See page 14.

● Special report on hidden domestic violence – see page 5



Robotics in top student's future

● Page 13



An activist by accident

● Page 21



Beryl makes her netball debut

● Page 73



Ash Gardner hits ton in Sri Lanka

● Page 79



THERE is a big mob of my family living on Palm Island and in Townsville and we are very close, and they are very important to me.

It was so good when many of them attended my wedding in Townsville at Anderson Park late last year.

It was such a beautiful venue for my marriage to my beautiful bride Selena Haines, who is also from a big Palm Island family.

Our family and friends also came from as far away as Brisbane, Mount Isa, Charters Towers, Thursday Island and Palm Island.

My brother Obe Geia Snr was my best man and my Auntie Inniss Haines was Selena's matron of honour.

Twelve bridesmaids and the same number of groomsmen were part of the marriage ceremony, which was emotional.

It was also a very happy wedding and having my mother Peena Geia there made it all the more special.

More than 250 attended the wedding ceremony at lush Anderson Park near giant fig trees.

The service was conducted by Pastor Apenisa Rabai, who travelled from Brisbane.

Our family are Christians. An unexpected event occurred just before the wedding was about to start when a light truck arrived with a large number of chairs.

They were unloaded much to the delight of the wedding audience even though our family was completely surprised as they did not order the chairs.

It soon surfaced that the chairs had been ordered by another group of party goers not far away.

But the chairs remained until our marriage vows were exchanged and many of the Christians in attendance described it as 'a kind act of God'.

Our Geia family has Aboriginal heritage and also bloodlines to Kubin Village, on Moa Island, in the Torres Strait.

I also have descendants from Darnley Island.

Our reception was held later on at the Aitkenvale PCYC and when we arrived we were greeted by our guests.

We had a big cake and a hearty feast and many of the out-of-towners got to meet and yarn to some family members they hadn't seen for a while.

— As told to Alf Wilson

Me (Genami Geia), right, with my mum Peena, and bride Selena.

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 myfamily@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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OUR CHILDREN



Children from Roeburn, in Western Australia, have worked together to create an award-winning interactive comic book *Neomad*. More than 30 kids helped to colour 200 scenes of the story using Photoshop, as well as injecting their own personalities in to the characters and storylines. ● Full story, page 5

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Warm reception for Goodes



THIS time there were only cheers for Adam Goodes.

Sydney's all-time Australian Football League (AFL) games record holder received a rousing reception on Saturday, April 9, as Swans supporters finally had the chance to give him the thanks they were denied when he announced his retirement after last season's semifinal loss.

Goodes and ruckman Mike Pyke were acclaimed by the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) crowd at halftime of the ninth Sydney derby between the Swans and Giants.

The boos for Goodes that marred so many games in his final season seemed a distant memory.

As the pair completed their lap of honour, the chant of 'Goodesy' reverberated around the famous old venue.

Among the spectators at the SCG was AFL boss Gillon McLachlan, who earlier in the week Goodes credited with helping him get closure on the turbulent final season of his career.

Goodes called time on his career last September after Sydney's semifinal loss to North Melbourne. It was the 372nd game of a glorious career that included two premierships, four grand finals, three club best and fairests, four All Australian nods and a Rising Star award.

"I've been able to read letters, emails, cards from people," Goodes said.

"I definitely feel the love and support out there – there is no doubt about that. I've got great closure on last year and I am now able to reflect on my career.



Former Swans player Adam Goodes thanks the crowd during a lap of honour at the round-three AFL clash between the Sydney Swans and the Greater Western Sydney Giants at Sydney Cricket Ground on April 9. Picture: Getty

"I'm very much happy to sit in the stand and be a supporter."

Goodes is now overseas, taking in some of the NBA finals and having

Boomers and Spurs guard Patty Mills show him around San Antonio.

"I'm comfortable where I'm at," Goodes said.

"I'm not too fussed about what's going to happen in the near future and it's nice.

"To have that freedom and time to do what I want is quite refreshing." – AAP

Dodson set for Senate



PAT Dodson says he is not going to try to run a 100 metre sprint in 10 seconds.

It's a diplomatic way to explain why the Yawuru (WA) Elder may not have taken his place in the Senate when it was recalled on Monday.

Prof Dodson, 66, is Labor's pick to replace resigning Western Australian senator Joe Bullock, who announced his exit last month over a personal conflict with the party's stance on gay marriage.

But Senator Bullock held off his official resignation until last week, delaying Prof Dodson's formal sign-off in the Western Australian Parliament.

Prof Dodson does not appear to harbour hard feelings, saying these types of transitions take some time. "I suppose when you get to my age you're not necessarily trying to (run) the hundred yard sprint in 10 seconds," he told the National Press Club on Wednesday.

Senator Bullock tabled his resignation on Wednesday, the incoming senator understands, and the processes to move Prof Dodson into the red chamber were under way.



Senator-elect Patrick Dodson

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has recalled the Parliament this week to deal with legislation to reinstate the building industry watchdog.

If that doesn't pass, voters will go to an early election on July 2.

Prof Dodson, who was a commissioner for the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, is not convinced that's a good enough reason to be calling politicians back to Canberra when the nation still faces issues like grossly disproportionate Indigenous incarceration.

"It should be being recalled, in my view, to deal with these appalling custody rates of the First Peoples of this country," he said.

In the 25 years since the royal commission into Aboriginal deaths in custody tabled its report, Indigenous incarceration rates have doubled. About 750 people have died behind bars since then, with one-in-five being Indigenous.

Prof Dodson said the figures showed legislators had not learnt from the past. "We must be better than that," he said.

Opposition Leader Bill Shorten revealed Prof Dodson as his captain's pick for the Senate last month, confident he would provide wisdom and guidance.

It could also provide some hope of relations across the political divide, with former prime minister Tony Abbott one of the first to call and congratulate Prof Dodson on his nomination.

Prof Dodson, known for his strong principles, promised to make his position on Indigenous affairs "well heard" on the floor of the Labor caucus.

"Old dogs are hard to teach new tricks," he said.

Labor has tough policies on voting against the party platform, but Prof Dodson said no one had tried to gag him yet. – AAP

● 25 years on from the Royal Commission, page 22



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Awards put focus on governance



EARLIER this year, Reconciliation Australia highlighted the importance of self-determination in the State of Reconciliation in Australia report.

The report shows that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people must be involved in decision making when tackling major issues because they know the needs of their individual communities.

The Indigenous Governance Awards celebrate resilience in the face of challenges and shine a light on powerful Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations driving real and meaningful change in their communities.

The applicants and finalists of the Indigenous Governance Awards show that when Indigenous people are in the driver's seat, lasting change can be made in communities.

2014 Indigenous Governance Awards finalist Waltja Tjutanku Palyapayi Aboriginal Corporation (Waltja) is driving change by addressing the needs of communities in the Northern Territory, crossing geographical, cultural and language divides.

The work of Waltja includes disability support care, emergency relief and a 'culture

car' that can be hired by families to attend significant cultural events.

Organisations and groups like Waltja are driven by an innate desire to keep country, people and culture strong and go above and beyond a job description.

They are a safe space for mob, somewhere to make a cuppa or have a yarn, use the phone and internet, referrals, a lift for an Elder or Aunty on the way to a meeting.

Not only are these organisations excellent at their core business, but community is front and centre.

There's a spirit of sharing, inclusivity and openness that cannot be found in mainstream organisations.

Applications are open for the Indigenous Governance Awards, which are an opportunity for Indigenous-led organisations and projects across Australia to showcase and be recognised for self-determination in action when culture, community and heritage are fundamental to an organisation's governance structure.

There is a share in \$60,000 up for grabs and more in prizes.

To apply or recommend an organisation or project for the 2016 Indigenous Governance Awards, visit <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/iga/apply/>



Waltja Tjutanku Palyapayi Aboriginal Corporation's Nardia Stafford, Lana Campbell and Kathy Bagot on the outskirts of Alice Springs. Picture: Wayne Quilliam

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Boost for at risk support



THE Victorian Government says Aboriginal people at risk of family violence will receive better and more culturally appropriate support.

The Andrews Labor Government has pledged to implement all recommendations from the Royal Commission into Family Violence, with \$25.7 million in the 2016-17 Victorian Budget earmarked specifically for Aboriginal programs.

The funding will go towards new prevention and early intervention programs, and ensuring Aboriginal children and families facing family violence have the support they need.

Victorian Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence Fiona Richardson said the reforms would be community-led and be developed in partnership with Aboriginal people.

Deserve to be heard

"Victims' voices deserve to be heard, which is why the Aboriginal community are leading their own reforms," she said.

"New holistic ways of addressing family violence can lead to reforms that help the entire system."

The State Government said funding would ensure community-led early intervention and prevention initiatives were delivered; work would begin on the development of a new holistic healing model for Aboriginal people facing family violence, developed in partnership with the Aboriginal community; all Aboriginal children in out-of-home care had cultural support plans; and additional assistance for Aboriginal people to become accredited mediators and conflict resolution workers.

Family Violence Prevention Legal Service Victoria chief executive Antoinette Braybrook welcomed the announcement.

"The Royal Commission highlighted our Sisters Day Out as the best practice for early intervention and prevention programs for Aboriginal women and their children," she said.

"It works because it's run by and for Aboriginal women. It builds on cultural strength to reduce vulnerability to violence and breaks down barriers to accessing services for safety."

Since 2007, the Sisters Day Out program has reached almost 8000 Aboriginal women across the state.

In its report, the Royal Commission expressed great concern that Sisters Day Out had never received sustainable ongoing funding, and described the program as an example of "the way that family violence early intervention can be creative, non-judgmental and effective. These are the ways of working that we need to see more of, not less."

Ms Braybrook said Aboriginal women were at the epicentre of a family violence crisis.

"The clear message emerging from the Royal Commission's report is that Aboriginal women must be front and centre of the Victorian Government's efforts to reduce family violence," she said.

"This \$25.7 million investment is an important step towards showing that the Government is committed to reducing the scourge of family violence in Aboriginal Victorian communities.

"Aboriginal women and the community-controlled organisations who support them should be prioritised as this funding is rolled out and the Victorian Government implements the findings of the Royal Commission."

Children's comic book wins award



AN interactive comic book series created by young people from the Ieramugadu (Roebourne, WA) community and

based on Aboriginal stories from the Pilbara has won a major award.

Neomad, a futuristic fantasy, is set around Murujuga (the Burrup Peninsula), which is home to about one million petroglyphs (etched rock art), has won the Gold Ledger Award, which recognises excellence in comics.

Artist and program facilitator Stu Campbell said *Neomad* began as a fun after-school activity to teach the young people of Roebourne some technical skills and to act as a platform to tell stories about their heritage and culture.

"Over 30 kids helped to colour 200 scenes of the story using Photoshop, as well as injecting their own personalities into the characters and storylines," he said.

"These young people are

hilarious and inspiring.

"We're thrilled to receive this award. All the hard work has paid off."

Mr Campbell spent more than 500 hours teaching the young students to apply a complex colouring system to more than 600 scenes to create *Neomad*.

Nelson Coppin, 15, one of the contributors to *Neomad*, said young people had worked together to create three groups of characters – the Love Punks, the Satellite Sisters and the Junior Rangers.

"That is wicked – and I won – that is wicked! Feels great, cool and a great honour," he said.

"The Love Punks, the Satellite Sisters and the Junior Rangers are all working together to keep industry in check, to keep our culture strong and our country beautiful. You are the new generation; you are the future."

The series is available as an interactive iPad app, as well as in book form and can be bought on iTunes.



Love Punk Nelson Coppin displays *Neomad*, an interactive comic book based on Aboriginal stories from the Pilbara.

Hidden violence

By AMY McQUIRE



IT is one of those comments that can strangle a person – the incredulous "Why didn't she leave?"

It is used to bring the blame back to the victim – to downgrade the seriousness of her experience.

It's a question that is not always easy to answer. And when we talk about Aboriginal women, it becomes even more complicated.

Despite family violence finally dominating the national conversation, reaching such a pitch that it prompted a royal commission in Victoria and a half-a-billion-dollar investment from that State Government, the unique situation faced by Aboriginal women is largely sidelined.

Within our communities, it can still be treated as a taboo subject.

This is supported by the statistics.

Aboriginal women are less likely to report family violence to police, despite being 45 times more likely to experience it than non-Aboriginal women.

According to the Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service Victoria, there is evidence suggesting a staggering 90% goes unreported.

It's particularly concerning because this underreportage remains a concern, even as reported rates rise exponentially.

The service says that in Victoria, there has been a 360% increase in family violence incidents reported alone within a four to five-year period.

At the national level, it could likely be worse.

So how do we break through this chronic level of

underreporting? How do we deal with taboos?

The reasons are as complex as the forces that have driven up the rates, according to the Indigenous Law Centre acting director Kyllie Cripps, a Pallawah (Tasmania) woman.

Aboriginal women are forced to weigh up the consequences of reporting.

"I think in terms of the underreporting ... women aren't naive," Dr Cripps told the *Koori Mail*.

"They appreciate that if I'm going to report, it's going to have a whole range of consequences.

"And it's about navigating those consequences. It's thinking about 'Right, if I report to the police, what consequences is that going to have for me? What consequences is it going to have on my partner? What consequences is it going to have for our families and our children?'"

"And what is it all going to mean ultimately in terms of getting the violence to stop?"

Reluctant

"When you are thinking about the realities of what we see on the news and media about deaths in custody, and when we see that the witnessing of family violence by children is seen as abuse and child protection will remove children on that basis ... women are incredibly reluctant to report in those circumstances.

"To even go to a shelter these days, women also think about – well I've got a 12-year-old son – where will he go?"

"They're navigating all of these situations. They're navigating the risk involved in reporting. It's a difficult place for them to be."

And then Dr Cripps says there is also a fear of community reception.



Indigenous Law Centre acting director Kyllie Cripps

"There are a number of case study examples, in the context of someone reporting and reporting sexual assault for example – and that's probably the most underreported – and the offender's family, the lateral violence that victim will cop from potentially the offender's family or more broadly the community in general in terms of what services or surveillance will come into play after that report ... and that's a very difficult place to be."

Once a report goes to the authorities, it is taken out of control of the victim – a fact that is often not realised by community members.

"The reality is that once you report something that has happened to you to the police, you become a witness in the case of the state against the offender ... it's completely taken out of your hands," Dr Cripps said.

"You ultimately don't have a choice in whether that case proceeds or not. That's entirely up to the legal system. In terms of the lateral violence and the pressure

that occurs in our community to get those charges dropped, it's incredibly misguided."

In her research, Dr Cripps has outlined a process of victimisation.

A victim or survivor will most likely first tell a family or a friend, who will then report to a health professional and then up the chain to police.

So often, it is family or a friend who has influence on whether the matter goes further," she said.

"Depending on the reception from that person, it will depend on whether it progresses.

"Typically, I think the first point of call will be the Elders or aunties, our mums, will be saying, 'Let's get your injuries attended to.'"

In some states, there are mechanisms in place that support family violence victims to speak about their abuse, if they can't find a person in their inner circle who can help them.

"But I think the resources we have in our community ... all of us live in communities where we know there is a trusted Elder or aunty ... and we have to acknowledge what they do in those circumstances.

"And they don't necessarily get the acknowledgement that they deserve."

Unfortunately, the supporters can also become victims of that same lateral violence, Dr Cripps says, which stresses the importance of how we foster a "supportive environment, rather than a judgmental one".

National Congress of Australia's First Peoples co-chair Jackie Huggins says that although rates are escalating across the country, the voices of Aboriginal women are now more likely to be heard, compared with decades ago when Aboriginal women were largely ignored.

She says that there are many programs in communities that cost very little to run, but are important in eradicating violence. She says that, although there is generational traumatic stress, 'I think at any level, you can break that cycle'.

Dr Huggins says that the attention paid to family violence, like in the recent Royal Commission in Victoria, could embolden Aboriginal women at a grassroots level.

"I will hope women will come out a lot more ... if they are feeling safe to expose family violence within their own families and within their own communities, that's a really good thing. The more spotlight on it, the better."

Safe responses

And Dr Cripps says we all have a responsibility to ensure we provide safe responses if a close family or friend wants to confide about their abuse.

"The big issue is if the person you choose to share your story with for the first time, if their response is negative, then your reporting will go no further," she said.

"Because the trust that you invested in them to hear your story and to help you understand and to help you create a safety in your life, if they don't provide that, if they turn to you and say, 'You weren't raped, when he slapped you one, you must have deserved it.'"

"If that's the response you've completely closed down the victim ... you've blown their trust. So it's about how you create people's awareness and response – it might be, 'I'm so sorry this happened to you. What can I do?'"

"If the response is a supportive one, then you are in a better position."

Still waiting for action

MEMBERS of the Change the Record (CTR) coalition – which seeks to reduce the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in prison – gathered in Canberra last Friday to mark 25 years since the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC).

CTR co-chairs Shane Duffy and Jackie Huggins said the Royal Commission's 339 recommendations were extensive and included various measures to address the systemic racism within the justice system, as well as broader actions to address Aboriginal disadvantage. But 25 years on, many of the recommendations remain unimplemented.

"The handing down of the final report 25 years ago was a watershed moment in Australian history," Mr Duffy said.

"It's now a generation on and governments at all levels have still failed to act.

Strong, resilient

"We know that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are strong and resilient, but successive government policies have been ineffective – the crisis of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander imprisonment and experience of violence continues to devastate our communities.

"This is a national crisis and requires an immediate response."

In 1991, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were seven times more likely to be in prison, now in 2016 that figure has risen to 13 times.



Change the Record co-chairs Shane Duffy and Jackie Huggins in Canberra.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men are more likely to go to prison than university. At the same time, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are experiencing high rates of violence, being 34 times more likely to be hospitalised for family violence-related assault.

Last year the CTR coalition released

'Blueprint for Change' – which provides a critical roadmap for governments to draw upon.

The CTR coalition called on all political parties to place the wellbeing of Indigenous communities at the heart of policy decisions, and urgently prioritise imprisonment and family violence rates.

"Governments at all levels can honour the findings of RCIADIC by taking immediate steps to tackle these issues head-on," Dr Huggins said.

"The strength of our 'Blueprint for Change' is that it does not try to offer a singular simplistic solution to these complex problems. Instead, it recognises that if we are truly going to change the record, we need to tackle the issue on many fronts in a coordinated and united way.

"We can be the generation to change the record, but it will require concerted effort from all levels of government, driven by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led solutions and community support.

"An evidence-based approach is in all of our interests – smarter solutions will mean safer communities."

Vital

The Change the Record coalition believes that it is vital that governments work through COAG to urgently establish a national, holistic and whole-of-government strategy to address imprisonment and violence rates, and set national justice targets to drive coordinated action across the country.

The CTR coalition also called for immediate safeguard measures to prevent any further tragic deaths in custody, including funding of custody notification systems, or similar services.

"We also need a commitment to independent investigations of police-related deaths," Dr Huggins said.

Call for unified approach



ABORIGINAL, legal and social justice organisations have all used the 25th anniversary

of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody to call for a nationally coordinated approach to reducing Indigenous incarceration.

National Convenor of the Family Violence Prevention Legal Services Forum Antoinette Braybrook called Indigenous imprisonment rates a national crisis.

"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women make up 2% of the national population, but are more than one-third of the female prison population and are the fastest growing prisoner population," she said.

"More than 80% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in prison are mothers and 87% victims of sexual, physical or emotional abuse.

"As Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women face spiralling imprisonment rates, they are also confronted by a national family violence crisis."

NSW/ACT Aboriginal Legal Service (ALS) chief executive Gary Oliver recalled the words of Royal Commissioner Hal Wootten.

"The Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody was set up very hastily ... We ended up being set up to investigate the wrong question ... The question we were set to investigate was really,

were police and prison officers killing Aboriginals, and the real question was why were so many Aboriginal people being put in jail," Judge Wootten said in 2012.

Mr Oliver said that in NSW, Aboriginal people made up some 30% in prisons and juvenile detention centres, and nearly 20% in prisons and detention centres in the ACT.

"These statistics are concerning given the steady decrease in crime rates over the past 20 years," he said.

"Even more concerning considering the statistics are at odds with one of the key recommendations of the Royal Commission, that imprisonment be a last resort.

Several options

"If we look at young people, there are a number of options available to police to ensure that arrest is the last resort. That includes cautions, warnings, cooling off periods, infringement notices and the ability to present a CAN (court attendance notice) in the field.

"And yet Aboriginal kids continue to be taken into police custody for matters which do not warrant custodial penalties.

"In NSW detention centres, more than half the kids are Aboriginal.

"The hyper-incarceration of black people not only in NSW, but across the country, suggests the



Antoinette Braybrook

lessons from the Royal Commission have not been learnt.

"Aboriginal people across the state and country are more visible to police. As Pat Dodson says (see page 22), they're more likely to be stopped, more likely to be arrested, more likely to be charged, and more likely to go to jail. This suggests legislators have not learnt from the past.

"Just the other day, in front of one of our 23 offices, six uniformed and undercover police stopped an Aboriginal young man, searched him, and finally told him to 'move on.'"

Mr Oliver said Indigenous and

community legal services were being "bled of funding".

"Next year alone, the Australian Government is reducing the ALS budget by some \$1.028 million, a drop of 6%," he said.

"That's a loss of key staff from the frontline and we estimate 4800 Aboriginal men, women and children will miss out on legal assistance.

"ALS was established in 1970 by Aboriginal people to ensure representation before the courts as a direct response to ongoing, targeted and indiscriminate police harassment of individuals.

"If funding is withdrawn, the potential loss of frontline positions may exacerbate the already grave problem of Aboriginal over-representation in custody.

"The Custody Notification Service (CNS) was a recommendation of the Royal Commission and it has been doing the job. This is evidenced by the fact there have been no Aboriginal deaths in police cell custody in NSW since the ALS Custody Notification Service – a 24-hour phone line providing early legal advice and a welfare check – began.

"But what about the other recommendations not yet implemented?"

"Aspects of the recommendations have been picked up, but on the whole they have not been introduced systemically across all jurisdictions.

"For example, the

decriminalisation of minor offences, which include public drunkenness (Recommendation 79), offensive language (Recommendation 86), and fine default (Recommendations 120 & 121).

"We need to rethink our law and order and particularly policing models and invest in local communities where crime is occurring, fast.

"Our backing of a justice reinvestment trial in Bourke is one way we hope to help convince governments the current approach is just not working.

Fearful

"We are incredibly fearful for our children, and what the future may hold as more and more of them are taken out of society and locked behind bars."

NSW Aboriginal Land Council chair Roy Ah-See said it was obvious the current system had failed.

"It's time for policy-makers to concede that the system is fundamentally broken and to work in genuine partnership with Aboriginal people and organisations on community-centred alternatives to prison," he said.

"This includes policies and programs based on justice reinvestment where power is devolved at the local level to invest in education, training, parole support, rehabilitation and community-driven courts."

Repeal the laws



KUMANJAYI Langdon was a sick middle-aged man.

He did not deserve to die behind bars.

That was the opinion of Northern Territory Coroner Greg Cavanagh, who investigated the 59-year-old Aboriginal man's death and called for the repeal of laws that put him there.

Mr Langdon died last year in a concrete police cell surrounded by strangers, three hours after police picked him up for drinking in a park.

Police had enacted their right to 'paperless arrest' – a NT law that allows officers to jail anyone they suspect could be involved in a crime with no warrant and no charge for four hours.

Many offences picked up by the law, like public drinking or swearing, could be dealt with by on-the-spot fines.

339 recommendations

Last Friday marked 25 years since the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody tabled its 339

recommendations – among them that imprisonment should be used as a last resort.

Since then, the number of Indigenous

Ugly figures in incarceration

Behind bars:

● Indigenous prisoners make up 27% of the national prison population.

● Indigenous people only make up about 3% of overall population.

● Indigenous incarceration rate has doubled from 14% at time of Royal Commission.

● Indigenous people are 13 times more likely to go to prison than other Australians.

● Between 2000 and 2010 the Indigenous imprisonment rate increased 51.5% while the non-Indigenous rate increased by 3.1%.

● In the Northern Territory, about 85% of prisoners are Indigenous.

prisoners behind bars has doubled and their risk of being put there is 13 times higher than other Australians.

The Royal Commission ran for four years and investigated 99 Indigenous deaths in custody that occurred over a 10-year period.

Most of the 339 recommendations have never been implemented.

Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion said it was important to recognise the progress that had been made since 1991.

"Over the past 15 years, in all but one year (2002-03), an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person has in fact been less likely to die in custody than a non-Indigenous person," he said.

However, international human rights organisation Amnesty International released a statement claiming Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion had "glossed over the failures of successive governments to reduce Indigenous deaths in custody and soaring Indigenous incarceration rates".

Amnesty Indigenous rights campaigner Julian Cleary said successive governments had "sat on their hands for an entire generation" while the problem escalated.

"The inaccuracies in the minister's statement continue the dodging of responsibility we have seen for 25 long years since the Royal Commission," he said.

Amnesty called on Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull to acknowledge that the system was broken and agree to a national justice target as part of the annual Closing the Gap report to Parliament, something which Labor and the Greens support.

Reconciliation Australia (RA) believes the nation faces an even deeper crisis than it did in 1991, and is calling for justice reinvestment.

Huge savings

A 1% decrease in the incarceration rate could free up \$1.7 billion to be spent on initiatives to keep people out of jail, RA says.

Last year Coroner Cavanagh called for the scrapping of 'paperless arrest' laws after Mr Langdon's death on the basis they were "irreconcilable" with the Royal Commission's findings.

However, the NT Government knocked back that call and was later vindicated by a High Court decision that the laws did not defy the Constitution.

Last week, the Australian Bar Association, which represents barristers, called for governments to scrap mandatory sentencing for minor crimes like theft, saying the rules disproportionately affected Indigenous people.

More deaths, despite report

By DARREN COYNE



MORE than 250 people gathered in Perth on Friday as part of a national day of action to highlight the 25 years that have passed since the release of the final findings of the Royal

Commission Into Aboriginal Deaths In Custody in 1991.

Deaths in Custody Watch Committee (WA) chair Bruce Campbell told the *Koori Mail* that little had been achieved to reduce the incarceration rates of Indigenous people, despite the commission's 339 recommendations – most of which have never been implemented.

"Deaths in custody are not decreasing. They are on the rise," Mr Campbell said.

"This is because the prison population keeps increasing and prisons are not safe places.

"In Western Australia there is a death in custody, on average, every month. Between 15 June and 16 December 2015, there were six deaths in custody.

"Three of these people were Aboriginal."

Mr Campbell said the 25-year point since the Royal Commission marked a point of real failure for successive governments.

"With all the talk of closing the gap the key thing is to look at where people are getting caught up in the system and why they are being marginalised further and further," he said.

Mr Campbell said the Watch Committee had long advocated for a justice reinvestment approach, whereby funds are spent in communities to improve social conditions rather than on keeping people in jail.

"Governments need to change tack and go to the root of the problem.

"Maybe that's health care, parenting skills, and all that cultural family stuff that



really helps," he said.

Meanwhile, the Perth rally heard from a range of speakers including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda, and the families of people who had died in custody.

A 'die-in' took place outside the Perth Magistrates Court to raise awareness about the ongoing deaths.

Gatherings also took place in Melbourne, Queensland and at Parliament House in Canberra to mark the 25 years since the Royal Commission.

A march in Perth marks the 25th anniversary of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

Figures speak for themselves

● Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are 13 times more likely to be imprisoned than other Australians. In WA,

Aboriginal people make up 4% of the population, yet 40% of the prison population. ● One in every two women in WA jails is

Aboriginal while young Aboriginal people make up more than 70% of the juvenile detention population in Western Australia.

VACCHO celebrates

Story and pictures by
JILLIAN MUNDY



THE Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation

(VACCHO) celebrated its 20th anniversary last week with the launch of a massive mural and a time capsule at their premises in Collingwood, Melbourne.

About 200 people attended the milestone celebration.

VACCHO chief executive, proud Gunditjmara woman Jill Gallagher said the mural provided a “visual of Aboriginal Victoria” and a bold Aboriginal cultural footprint on the landscape.

“We want Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people alike to feel a sense of pride when they walk by and look at our building,” she said.

“Our Aboriginality is intrinsic to our identity, essential to our communities and part of our world.

“Aboriginal culture is ancient and contemporary, dynamic, strong, vulnerable and valuable.”

Source of strength

“Our members’ cultural identities are an important source of strength, and this informs our ways of work and our integrity,” Ms Gallagher said.

The mural, designed and created by Aboriginal artists Ray Thomas, Kulan Barney and Ruby Kulla Kulla alongside international street artist Adnate, represents Aboriginal families, children and health, the rich diversity and vibrancy of Victorian Aboriginal cultures and the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector.

The time capsule, embedded in a wall inside the premises,



VACCHO board member Aunty Hilary Saunders with the time capsule.

contains an aspirational document that details the answers to the question “What would you want for Aboriginal families and children by 2030?” from VACCHO staff, members, students and community members.

Answers included a treaty, an Aboriginal prime minister, strengthening of Aboriginal languages, and long-term bipartisan support and funding for Aboriginal health and wellbeing.

A recurring theme was closing the Aboriginal health gap.

“We sincerely hope when it is opened in 2030, it will be a true reflection on positive and progressive changes in the political environment and the lives of our mob,” said VACCHO chairman Marcus Clarke.

VACCHO set out in 1996 to improve the lives of Aboriginal people by ensuring that every Victorian Aboriginal community had access to its own locally-

owned and operated community-controlled health service as a way to improve Aboriginal health outcomes.

Today, VACCHO has six units, 11 teams, employs 80 staff, and advocates, lobbies and builds capacity for all 27 of Victoria’s Aboriginal community-controlled health organisations.

Services and support for members and government include data collection, sexual health, maternal health, child

health and nutrition programs, workforce support and cultural safety training, just to name a few.

VACCHO is also a registered training authority.

Last week they also celebrated the graduation of 123 students from their education and training unit, with qualifications ranging from certificate II entry level health worker training to diploma level courses in counselling and management.



Baby Leatiah Thomas, whose portrait features on the building mural in the background, with, from left, VACCHO board member John Mitchell, from Echuca, Victorian Shadow Aboriginal Affairs Minister Heidi Victoria, Leatiah’s mother Cheryl Bates, grandparents Debbie Williams and Ray Thomas, who helped paint the mural, and Leatiah’s dad Frank Thomas.



● LEFT: Reconciliation Australia CEO Justin Mohamed, VACCHO CEO Jill Gallagher and Lowitja Institute CEO Romlie Mokak.

● RIGHT: Mural artists Kulan Barney, Ruby Kulla Kulla, Adnate and Ray Thomas.



Bill Nicholson Jnr, from the Wurundjeri Tribe Land Council, conducted a Tandurrum (welcome) ceremony.

Paddy wagon ordeal

Eight-year-old boy left unattended for nearly three hours



AN eight-year-old Aboriginal boy was left in the back of a paddy wagon for nearly three hours outside the Coraki police station, in northern NSW.

His mother, Jane Williams, had left her son in the care of his aunty in the Aboriginal community of Box Ridge, near Coraki.

After a group of boys was picked up by police for allegedly throwing stones at a Richmond Valley Council vehicle, Ms Williams received a call from her son's aunty at around 1pm on Wednesday, April 13.

"I left work straight away to check on my

son," she said. "On the way home I got a call from our other local police officer saying that my son had been dropped off at his aunty's house.

"I went out to get him and was told that he wasn't there. So I drove to home to see if he was there. He wasn't there either."

Ms Williams' co-worker went to the police station and was told they wanted to speak with her.

"I went down there and that is when the police officer rang to ask where my son got dropped off," Ms Williams said.

"I then followed the sergeant out to the police car and to my horror I saw the police officer getting my son out of the bull wagon.

"He had been in there for at least two hours.

"This is wrong and this needs to stop." Ms Williams told the ABC that her son had not had any water while he was in the wagon.

"He couldn't even breathe properly," she said.

"He found a little hole at the bottom of where you sit in the paddy wagon and felt the cool breeze through there. He had to lay his head on the ground, on the dirt, just to feel that little bit of cool breeze.

"My son is a dark-skinned little boy. His face was red, his body felt hot.

"By the time the ambulance arrived, they

checked him over, they've done all the observations and felt that he was OK to go home."

Ms Williams said she called for legal advice soon after finding her son.

A NSW Police spokesperson said an internal investigation was under way, which would be overseen by the NSW Ombudsman.

The spokesperson said the child had not been injured and local management action had been taken.

To compound the Williams family's distress, after Ms Williams posted her story on Facebook, she and her son were abused by trolls.

Fresh bid to stop coal mine

By DARREN COYNE



TRADITIONAL owners opposed to 'Australia's largest coal mine' in central Queensland have

launched fresh legal action to stop Indian mining company Adani's \$22-billion project.

Wangan and Jagalingou (W&J) Family Council representatives have also vowed to challenge any decision from a meeting last Saturday at which Adani claimed it secured support for an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA).

Adani claimed that more than 300 people attended the meeting on Saturday and "voted overwhelmingly" to authorise the ILUA with the miners for the construction and operation of the Carmichael mine, west of Mackay.

"The company has worked positively and constructively with elected leaders within W&J over several years to ensure that the company's mine at Carmichael not only proceeds, but proceeds with the benefits of the mine being realised by traditional owners at every stage of the project," Adani said



Adrian Burragubba

in a statement.

However, opponents last week lodged an application in the Federal Court claiming that the mining leases for the project were issued wrongly and that the process of the Native Title Tribunal and the Government was racist.

Wangan and Jagalingou Family Council spokesperson Adrian Burragubba has also sought a judicial review of the Native Title Tribunal's approval of the mine, and a complaint is being lodged under the Racial Discrimination Act regarding the administration of the Native Title system, claiming it is a racially

discriminatory process.

He claimed Saturday's meeting was a sham.

"Not just once but three times W&J traditional owners have voted to reject Adani taking our lands and digging the Carmichael mine on our country," Mr Burragubba said.

"But right from the start, foreign billionaire Adani's company has been intent on getting what it wants, and used its power and money to divide our community.

"Just last month the W&J claim group met of our own accord and said no to Adani. We made it clear that Saturday's

meeting was not a legitimate meeting of the claim group and the resolution to approve Adani's deal is not legitimate either."

Mr Burragubba told the *Koori Mail* that the native title system was discriminating against Aboriginal traditional owners opposed to the mine.

"When Aboriginal people want to challenge mining, we are always told you have to go along and negotiate," he said.

"The lawyers say you can't oppose exploration, so Aboriginal people are caught in a position where we've got no money to oppose these things so we are at the mercy of the

native title process.

"That's the situation we are in with Adani. We want to protect our country because we have a native title claim over it."

Mr Burragubba said a meeting of the claim group last month, attended by almost 100 people, had resolved that native title applicants could not negotiate further on an ILUA with Adani.

The meeting on March 19, which was open to all members but only attended by nine families, resolved to change their rules and allow for the removal of members who had lost the confidence of their families over support of the ILUA.

"Subsequently, the families removed four of the seven applicants trying to proceed with an ILUA," Mr Burragubba said.

He said the claim group was "a bit upset" to learn that some applicants had been taking sitting fees from Adani to attend meetings, and were not representing the group.

An Adani spokesman has rejected reports the company made collective payments of more than \$10,000 to seven pro-Adani W&J members or that there was a \$550,000 offer on the table for traditional owners to authorise the ILUA. - *With AAP*

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Preserving language

Torres Strait dialects critically endangered



THE Torres Strait is set to have its first traditional language plan and charter to guide the revitalisation of the region's traditional languages, thanks to the work of the Torres Strait Language Reference Group.

The draft Torres Strait Traditional Languages Plan and Charter are the products of the 2015 Torres Strait Language Symposium, hosted by the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA), which saw language specialists from across the Torres Strait come together to celebrate and plan for the future of the region's traditional languages.

TSRA chairman Joseph Elu said that one year on from the symposium, there had been significant progress made towards future language revitalisation in the region.

"The 2015 symposium was a way of bringing communities together to discuss the state of our region's traditional languages and plan for how to capitalise on some of the great work already being done in the language revitalisation space," he said.

The reference group is made up of elected representatives of each of the six language and dialect groups in the Torres Strait, and chaired by Maluyligal language group speaker Cygnet Repu.

Mr Repu said the importance



Torres Strait Language Reference Group members Phillemon Mosby, Milton Savage, Dana Ober, Benny Mabo, Bob Kaigey, Noel Baker, Alick Tipoti, Cygnet Repu (chairperson) Maria Tapim, Mariana Babia and Denna Nona with TSRA representatives Aven Noah Snr, Leitha Assan and Elsie Passi, and Mer community members Alo Tapim, Segar Passi, Nee Tabo and Lillah Noah.

of the group's work was underpinned by the knowledge that traditional languages of the Torres Strait were critically endangered.

"Traditional languages and culture can never be separated. They will always run together," he said.

"But our languages will become extinct if work is not undertaken to revitalise them.

"It's all about the betterment of our children's future. We have a collective responsibility and mandate to preserve our languages for them."

Mr Repu said the reference

group had met multiple times since the symposium last year to work on the development of the language plan and charter, which he hoped could be launched in the next year.

"There is a role for everyone to play in implementing the plan, whether it is through learning, teaching, or promoting the use of traditional languages," he said.

"It's important for the younger generation to know that they won't be the only ones being taught, but also some of their mums and dads as well."

Mr Repu said the language plan and charter would also

encourage fluent language speakers to bring traditional language out into the community.

"At the moment, when I step out of my house, I become someone else," he said.

"I have my phone with me, I have my iPad with me, and my language differentiates as well.

"So what I'm teaching back home is that you don't only have to be an Islander in the house, you need to be an Islander in the community as well."

Mr Elu said the TSRA had received funding in May last year through the Australian Government Ministry for the Arts

for the establishment of a regional language centre.

"The role of the regional language centre would be to provide support and resources to support language revitalisation in local communities through local community teams," he said.

Mr Repu praised this grassroots approach towards language revitalisation.

"It's important that we take ownership and direction," he said.

"It's about empowering ordinary people to get involved and take control of the future of our languages."

Indigenous Apprenticeships Programme

Have you left school? Do you want to go back to work? Are you thinking of a career change? This is your chance! We're looking for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians to join the Australian Public Service.

We offer opportunities across several government departments in regional and some city locations. You will receive on-the-job training while working full-time and earning a good salary.

The programme starts in mid-October and runs for 12 months. After successful completion of the programme you will have a nationally recognised certificate or diploma qualification.

Applications close on 11 May 2016.

For more information check out the Indigenous Apprenticeships Programme at humanservices.gov.au/indigenousapprenticeships

Special Measures: This employment opportunity is intended to constitute a special measure under section 8(1) of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* and is restricted to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australian applicants.

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SEE OUR AD IN THE EDUCATION FEATURE PAGE 41

This Tuka's taking off

By KEIRA JENKINS



DREAMTIME Tuka, a native food business in the NSW town of

Wellington, has become the first standalone Aboriginal company to secure a contract to supply food to Qantas.

Dreamtime Tuka owner and founder Herb Smith has only been running the business fulltime since last year but has already achieved a major goal.

The Wiradjuri man moved back to his home town of Wellington in 2013 to start the business he had been dreaming up for years, after more than 30 years in the police force.

Mr Smith won the contract after competing against 30 other companies for the opportunity as part of Qantas' supplier week interviews. Qantas has now ordered 150,000 units of Dreamtime Tuka's lemon myrtle and coconut slice, which have been served to passengers as morning tea since late last month.

Mr Smith said he hopes his story of success will inspire other Indigenous companies.



Herb Smith's lemon myrtle and coconut slices are being served on Qantas flights.

"All you need is a passion and a quality product. I hope that other businesses will see that I'm doing this from a small town and have hope," he told the *Koori Mail*.

"I've proved that big companies will take you on. It's something that's within reach and it's do-able." Mr Smith said the feedback from Qantas has been positive so far, and he

hopes this will open new doors for his company. "The feedback has been incredible. The slices have been well-accepted by the passengers and the flight crew," he said.

"I'm hoping they might be the catalyst for the start of a strong, long partnership with Qantas." Dreamtime Tuka is contracting the manufacture of the slices to larger

companies, but Mr Smith, who currently runs the business out of his home, said his vision is to eventually produce his range in Wellington.

"My dream is to create an industry in Wellington," he said.

"I want to create employment and training opportunities for the community because we're a small, disadvantaged town."

Qantas head of product and service delivery Helen Grey said the airline is always looking for new products to serve its customers.

"When Dreamtime Tuka presented its slices at one of our regular supplier weeks, we knew we had to share them with our customers not only because of the quality of the product, but also because of Herb's uniquely Australian story," she said.

Mr Smith said he is "over the moon" having been chosen for the contract and believes it is his product's different taste that attracted Qantas. "I've achieved that goal of having high volume sales and I think it's because I've developed a quality product that is unique and also represents my culture," he said.



Australia Awards



Making a difference through an international Endeavour research fellowship

Overseas study and research experiences are opening up a world of learning opportunities for a growing number of Indigenous Australians and the call is out for a new cohort of postgraduates to apply for an Endeavour Research Fellowship for Indigenous Australians.

The Australian Government's Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships 2017 round is now open and previous recipients are encouraging others to apply for a fellowship that could see them furthering their studies around the world and improving the outcomes of future generations of Indigenous Australians.

Among them is Dr Raymond Lovett who is the first Aboriginal person to graduate with a PhD from the Australian National University in the field of epidemiology. Ray's research focus is on finding out how Aboriginal culture relates to improvements in health and wellbeing.

Ray's fellowship enabled him to attend Oxford University in the UK for six months to work alongside world renowned epidemiologists.

"My Endeavour fellowship provided me with the skills and the confidence to apply world leading knowledge and expertise in my own country and for the benefit of our mob," Ray said.

Other outstanding Indigenous alumni include Tamara Butler from the University of Queensland and psychologist Yolonda Adams from Griffith University.

Tamara travelled to the United Kingdom in 2015 to work alongside researchers at the University of Dundee to conduct important experimental social research to understand why individuals sometimes find it hard to seek social support from the groups they feel strongly connected to.

To advance her skills and expertise in the area of Aboriginal prison quality Yolonda undertook her fellowship at the Native Counselling Services of Alberta in Canada.

Joining the ranks of this exceptional group is PhD student from the University

of Tasmania, Emma Lee. Through her Endeavour fellowship Emma will travel to Spain this year to build on her research into marine protected areas, specifically Basque rights to traditional fisheries.

"Personally, the Endeavour fellowship is a reward for the decades of sustained work, while professionally it is the key to so many doors that have been previously closed to Indigenous peoples," Emma said.

The research being done by this outstanding group of individuals will have lasting benefits for the wider Indigenous population in Australia and reflects the growing education opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. More details about the research undertaken by Ray, Emma, Tamara, Yolonda and others are available on the Endeavour website.

Applications for the 2017 round close 30 June 2016. For details on how to apply, visit the Endeavour website: <http://internationaleducation.gov.au/Endeavour>



Tamara Butler



Emma Lee



Ray Lovett

Reflection retreat opened



Siblings Muriel Walker-Craig, Lucas Walker-Craig and Paula Walker-Craig speak about their sister Colleen Walker-Craig at the launch of a memorial dedicated to her.



A NEW 'Special Reflection Space' located at Micks Retreat, Sawtell, NSW, has been opened in honour and memory of one of the Bowraville murder victims Colleen Walker-Craig.

Following the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry last year into the three disappearances, it was recommended that the NSW Government commit to support and establish memorial sites with the families to help them in their journey toward healing.

It is believed all the children were killed by the same man. Their killer has never been brought to justice.

Colleen was a Coffs Harbour resident, and the launch put her life into perspective with Mayor Denise Knight, Coffs Harbour councillors and council staff present, Aboriginal Affairs director Jason Ardler, Greens MP David Shoebridge, Attorney-Generals' office, Department of Premier and Cabinet, and various guests and dignitaries who were present on the day.

The families of the three victims have also planned a march on Parliament House steps next month.

They say that their fight for justice will not rest.

Suicide link claimed



A NORTHERN Territory Government hearing on the state of public housing in town camps has heard that the stresses of overcrowding has caused suicides.

The NT's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is hearing evidence on repairs and maintenance for public housing in town camps, which are Aboriginal enclaves within or on the outskirts of town centres.

Since February, three central Australian communities have launched legal action against the Department of Housing for failing to see to urgent repairs.

Although the Government last week announced a review into how housing is provided across 43 town camps, it's seen as too little too late, with the August election falling months before the successful tenderer to operate the review would be announced.

Graham Castine, chief executive of the Kalano Community Association from Katherine, said overcrowding led to a range of social problems.

"Unfortunately now and again we have

Homelessness in the NT

- The NT has the highest rate of homelessness in Australia.
- Nine out of 10 homeless people in the NT are Indigenous.
- A quarter of Aboriginal Territorians were homeless in 2011, according to Census data.
- Many Indigenous homeless people are disabled, in poor physical or mental health, or have substance abuse issues.
- Most homeless Aboriginal people live in severely overcrowded

conditions, driven by housing shortages and familial obligations to shelter homeless relatives.

- The lack of safe and adequate housing in remote communities is a key reason why people move to urban centres, living on the street or in bush camps.

(SOURCE: NAAJA submission to the NT Public Accounts Committee hearing on Repairs and Maintenance of Housing on Town Camps, April 2016)

instances of suicides," he said.

Committee chairwoman Robyn Lambley, an independent Alice Springs MP, said public housing wasn't a politically sexy issue and it required a huge amount of money to address.

"Public housing is at the bottom of the list, and it shouldn't be because I think it's

at the root of all our social problems: overcrowding, domestic violence, child abuse, a range of health problems associated with a lack of adequate, well-maintained housing," she told ABC local radio.

Tangentyere Council chief executive Walter Shaw said the NT was 30 years

behind other Australian jurisdictions with affordable housing.

He related instances of residents living with broken ovens for 12 months, or broken air conditioners that remained unrepaired for three months during the summer while tenants sweltered in oppressively high temperatures in central Australia.

He accused Chief Minister Adam Giles and his government of being "incognito" on the issue of moving to a model of community-controlled housing.

"We've had no open dialogue with this current government," Mr Shaw said.

Community housing would accommodate culture and have the trust of residents, he said, as opposed to the range of confusing partnerships between the Federal and NT governments with different service providers in different camps.

The North Australia Aboriginal Justice Agency (NAAJA) said in its submission that homelessness also contributed to enormous mental health problems. — AAP

- For support and information about suicide prevention call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467.



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CityArt

Eora Journey Redfern Terrace
Expression of Interest No. E0616

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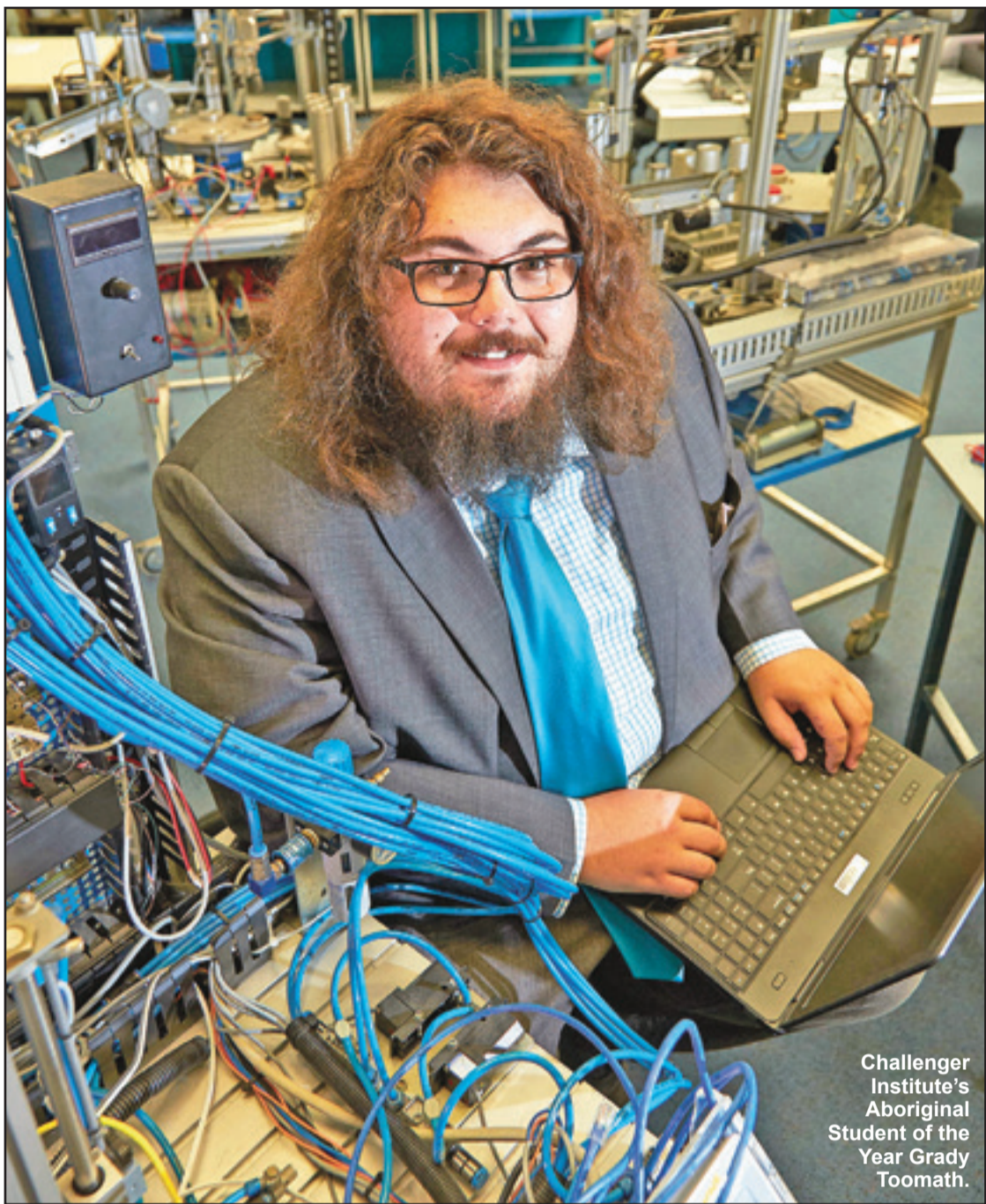
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Expression of Interest documents can be obtained by registering through www.tenderlink.com/cityofsydney.
For assistance with this website please contact 1800 233 533

Submission Deadline
AEST 11am, Monday 30 May 2016

For further enquiries, please contact Ms Michelle Tisdell, Tendering Officer
+61 (2) 9265 9449
mtisdell@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au





Challenger Institute's Aboriginal Student of the Year Grady Toomath.

Student looks to robotics



AN engineering student has claimed Perth-based Challenger Institute of Technology's Aboriginal Student of the Year Award.

Grady Toomath, of Langford, received the award at Challenger Institute's Student Awards Ceremony in Fremantle this month.

The ceremony recognised the achievements of more than 60 students from across the institute, as well as five major award winners in the categories Aboriginal Student of the Year, Apprentice of the Year, Trainee of the Year, Vocational Student of the Year and Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Schools Student of the Year.

Applying his keen interest in mathematics and electrical principles, Mr Toomath completed the Advanced Diploma of Engineering Technology – Electrical.

With a focus on the emerging field of mechatronics, the 21-year-old is on

course to fulfil a lifelong ambition to work in an industry that operates robotic equipment.

Mr Toomath is also interested in aviation and sustainable development in the mining and oil and gas sectors, and would like to be at the forefront of new developments and innovations in these fields.

“Lifelong ambition”

“It has been a lifelong ambition of mine to work in an industry that operates robotic equipment, and through my studies at Challenger I feel this goal is attainable,” he said.

Lecturer Diego Musca said Mr Toomath had displayed “enormous mental strength and determination” to complete his studies.

“Grady has developed into a real leader and is now a graduate with a keen interest in automated work practices,” he said.

The Aboriginal Student of the Year Award is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Rockingham.

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Laughing out loud

By JILLIAN MUNDY



JALEN Sutcliffe has taken out the top gong in this year's Deadly Funny competition at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

Jalen bought the house down with his awesome voice, deadly dance moves and hilarious yarns, including a dramatic anecdote about his phobia of frogs in the finals and showcase in Melbourne on Saturday night.

The 19-year-old prolific singer from Townsville, who is studying music in Brisbane and has 'self diagnosed' himself as 'BBL' (Big, Black and beautiful) was the youngest of eight contestants at this year's final and showcase, and took home \$2000 in prizemoney.

Like many of the contestants, egged on by friends and family, the Deadly Funny heat Jalen tried out in earlier this year was his first foray into the world of stand-up comedy, and he's hoping to continue.

He told the *Koori Mail* that taking out the top spot was the best feeling ever.

The judges had such a tough time choosing from the high calibre of talent that the runner-up place was awarded jointly to Benny Eggmolese, from Western Sydney, and Rob Braslin, from Hobart, who have been earning themselves regular spots in the stand-up scene in their home cities over the past few years.

Mr Baslin, a self-deprecating "stay at home son", and Mr Eggmolese, who describes himself as a run-of-the-mill public servant, earned themselves a mentorship with one of the nation's top comedians.

Other finalists were Desley O'Dwyer, from Bairnsdale (Vic), Jack Buckskin, from Salisbury (SA), Derrick Vale, from Maitland (NSW), Lynette Hubbard, from Tennant Creek (NT) and Joanne Donovan, from Canberra (ACT).

The Deadly Funny program, which celebrated its 10th anniversary this year, has been the starting block for many of Australia's top Aboriginal comedians, several of them performing in solo and group shows throughout the festival, which is one of the three largest comedy festivals in the world.

Dubbed Australia's number one Aboriginal female comedian, 2009 Deadly Funny winner Shiralee Hood gets the laughs at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival with her show 'Rock the Boat'.



Happy and hilarious trio Benny Eggmolese, Jalen Sutcliffe and Rob Braslin took out the top spots on the Deadly Funny competition this year.



The self-diagnosed 'BBL' Jalen Sutcliffe treats the Deadly Funny audience to an expressive striptease before busting a groove, all in the name of comedy, earning himself the top prize in the national competition.

No shortage for material for rising comedians

By JILLIAN MUNDY

WHILE clowning about in class may be discouraged, clowning about on stage has paid dividends for Aboriginal youth Chance Dixon from Borroloola, NT, and Gregg Andrews from Taree, NSW.

Both young men were finalists in Class Clowns, the Melbourne International Comedy Festival's national youth development program and competition, with 14-year-old Chance finishing as runner up against 12 other finalists, selected from around 500 hopefuls in a series of heats, around the country, earlier this year.

Having big families, as lots of Aboriginal people do, has paid dividends too, in the form of plenty of comic fodder for Chance and Gregg, as well as a ready-made audience to hone their skills in front of.

The quietly spoken Chance is the youngest child of 15. Egged on by his family, he travelled 10 hours each way from his home in the Gulf of Carpentaria to compete in a heat in Darwin.

The trip to the final in Melbourne last week was six hours longer.

"My family are like bulldozers: They'll push you off if there's an opportunity," he told the *Koori Mail*.

"They'll be celebrating tonight."

Gregg, 17, is the flamboyant middle child of 13, and being a gay Aboriginal youth has provided plenty of comic material.

Both Chance and Gregg's only stage experience before the Class Clown heats was at school.

After their taste of performing to a crowd of 700 odd at Melbourne Town Hall, they both hope the competition will lead

them to more opportunities and possibly a career in comedy.

Class Clowns producer Wes Snelling said one of the great unique things about class clowns is people sharing stories from different places.

"The diversity of acts this year, in both style and comedy content, is truly amazing and an exciting testament to the future of comedy in Australia," he said.

Many of the finalists shared stories, with a comic twist of course, about their heritage. Lauren Duong, from the ACT, took out the top award with her set about feeling like a fake Asian and the difficulties of learning and speaking Chinese.

The program, in its 21st year, has been the starting block for comedians such as Josh Thomas, Joel Creasey, Tom Ballard, and YouTube sensation Neel Kolhatkar, who have all earned themselves international reputations.



Gregg Andrews and Chance Dixon are class clowns.

Court officers make a difference

By KEIRA JENKINS



JUST three weeks into her new role at Lismore Court, on the NSW north coast, Wiradjuri

woman Fiona Byrne says she feels she can make a difference.

Ms Byrne, from Dubbo, is one of seven Indigenous staff in a variety of roles at the court.

She said that when she took up the position as an Indigenous court officer she looked forward to working with the team of people she saw as great examples for the community.

"I'm very happy to be working with these women, who are role models for the community," she told the *Koori Mail*.

"They really are examples for the community because when people come in here they can see all of these successful Indigenous people.

"When the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in the justice system is talked about they say we should be setting a positive example, and I think this place exemplifies that positive example."

Ms Byrne is working closely with the senior Indigenous court officer Amanda Dodds, who has been at the court for 10 years.

When she started at the court Ms Dodds said there were only two Indigenous staff members,



Indigenous court officers Fiona Byrne and Amanda Dodds at Lismore Court in northern NSW.

and is pleased to see how the number has increased since.

"It's been a passion of mine since I was young to help people," the Ugarapul woman said. "Sometimes there's not a

lot you can do with some of the younger ones because the environment they're in is often out of their control.

"All you can do is try to educate them so when they're

older and they have those choices they can remember 'Oh, I was taught this' and they can go down a different path."

The two women work closely with offenders, victims and the

local community on programs like sentencing circles, care circles and what they see as their most important role – encouraging people to show up to court.

"There's a responsibility to come to court when you're meant to," Ms Byrne said. "Not only can you get in trouble if you don't, but it shows respect to the Elders and community involved and the court staff when you take that responsibility."

Ms Dodds said one of the hardest parts of her job is finding Elders to get involved in circle sentencing and especially care circles, which are used in child custody cases where the Department of Community Services (DOCS) is involved.

"The Elders sometimes think it's about taking the kids away so they don't want to get involved," she said.

"It's not about that, and I want to try to educate people so they understand that it's not about taking kids."

While the pair see themselves as role models for the younger generation, Ms Dodds said what is more important is the high number of Indigenous school-based trainees working at the court.

"It's good for the young ones to see other young people working here, staying in school and doing well," she said.

Doctorate for great



WIRADJURI woman Evonne Goolagong Cawley has been awarded an honorary doctorate by UniSA.

Dr Goolagong Cawley received the honour for her contribution to Australian and international tennis and her promotion of better education and health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Dubbed the 'sunshine super girl' early in her career, as a child Dr Goolagong Cawley spent many hours hitting tennis balls against a wall with the boards from an apple crate, dreaming of playing at Wimbledon. In 1971 that dream was fulfilled when she won the first of her Grand Slam titles.

The first Aboriginal person to succeed in tennis at an international level, Dr Goolagong Cawley has been called a true champion.

She was ranked world number one from 1971-1976, won 92 professional tournaments, was a finalist in 18 Grand Slam events, won the French and Italian Opens, took the Australian Open four times and, in 1980, was the first mother to win Wimbledon in 66 years.

UniSA vice-chancellor Professor David Lloyd said Dr Goolagong Cawley is the perfect Australian role model.

"Her life has been one marked by determination, commitment, excellence and generosity," he said.

"From her position of success, she has used her immense talent



Dr Evonne Goolagong Cawley

and high profile to promote the sport of tennis, and through tennis, to support education, health and wellbeing initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people."

Dr Goolagong Cawley was a board member of the Australian Sports Commission, was part of the successful Sydney 2000 Olympic bid and served on the National Indigenous Advisory Committee at the games.

From 2007 to 2011 she was a board member of the Indigenous Land Corporation and in 2012 she established the Evonne Goolagong Foundation, which is dedicated to improving the lives of Indigenous children.

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Do you know someone who would benefit from a boarding school education?

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Name change after father joins



DALE Christian College in Waratah, in the NSW Hunter Valley, recently held a welcome

day for its new program that encourages young Indigenous parents to continue their education.

After the enrolment of a young father into the program with his partner, what was formerly known as the DALE Christian College Young Mums Program has now been renamed the DALE Young Parents School.

So far, there are 14 young Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander mums enrolled in the program, which can be expanded.

The DALE Young Parents School works with the local Indigenous community as well as embracing the culture and its rich diverse heritage and passing that on to the students and their families.

Links have also been made with local service providers.

The school also provides an opportunity for the young mums to receive antenatal care.

Support worker at the school Belinda Simon says it's not just about putting up a few flags, it's about making a long-term

commitment to these young parents right throughout the year.

"We will be providing the opportunity for the young Koori mums to travel to Murook Culture Centre at Williamtown, where they will be getting the unique opportunity to travel to a traditional birthing site," Ms Simon said.

She said all the staff had made a long-term commitment to the program and were hoping to expand the number of Indigenous parents at the school and were also hoping to get young Koori men on board, so they could help foster the education of young Indigenous parents.



The Welcome Day 2016 at DALE Young Parents School, Waratah.

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Service expanded for apprentices



INDIGENOUS people looking to start their career in the public service can now apply for the Indigenous Apprenticeships Program.

Last year, the Department of Human Services expanded its entry-level employment and development program to recruit for other government departments as well.

This year there will be opportunities for fulltime work and on-the-job-training for about 200 candidates across 11 government departments.

Applications close on May 11, with the program starting in October.

The Federal Government says its Indigenous Apprenticeships Program has proven very successful in recruiting and retaining employees and driving greater Indigenous representation in the public sector.

The program runs for 12 months, providing fulltime entry-level positions, and upon completion, a nationally recognised certificate or diploma qualification.

To apply, or for more information, go to www.humanservices.gov.au/indigenousapprenticeships

Tours showcase native foods



ABORIGINAL people with access to land that could be used to grow native foods are being encouraged to take part in one of three 'Bushfood Sensations' tours in NSW.

The field days will be an opportunity to look at the industry of growing bushfood and considering the prospects for landowners.

The tours will be held on the North Coast, the Hunter region and the far west of NSW.

The workshops will aim to encourage more people to grow native food.

Places for the Bushfoods Sensations North Coast were filled to capacity in less than 24 hours.

The North Coast tour, on May 2, will visit three bushfood farms in Rosebank, the Channon and Nimbin.

The Hunter region field trip will run on June 6 and will feature a presentation from Australian Native Bee Company owner Steve Maginnity, along with a visit to a bushfood nursery.

Registration for all the free tours is essential.

For more information and to register visit www.eventbrite.com.au/e/bushfoods-field-trip-workshop-tickets-24275806591

Uncle Max Eulo is a Budjedi man

ON page 29 of our April 6 edition, the *Koori Mail* incorrectly identified Max Eulo as a Yuin Elder. Uncle Max is from the Budjedi tribe of western NSW.

The *Koori Mail* apologises for the error.

Strength in numbers

By RUDI MAXWELL



BAILAI Elder Mabel Quakawoot said after attending the recent

Beyond Coal and Gas gathering in Myuna Bay, NSW, she did not feel so alone in her fight against gas companies.

Ms Quakawoot, whose country includes Curtis Island, off the coast of Gladstone, in Queensland, was one of more than 70 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to attend the national conference.

Curtis Island has become a huge gas hub, with enormous processing plants. The port at Gladstone has been dredged to allow for ships to dock.

"The gas companies have smashed our fish traps and middens, destroyed our marking trees and they didn't bother to preserve anything," Ms Quakawoot told the *Koori Mail*.

"My people have burial grounds on Curtis Island. 'Sometimes I feel like a voice crying in the wilderness. It's sad. Nothing is being done. No-one is joining together to stop it. That's why I've joined environmental groups, to stop mining from ruining our country."

"I've been fighting, quietly by myself, but it gets to the stage where you're angry and frustrated. It brings me to tears. I'm very emotional."

Other Indigenous presenters at the conference included Gadrian Hoosan (NT campaigns against fracking in Aboriginal communities), Paul Spearim (Gamilaraay people and clan groups against coal seam gas and coal mining), Kylie Sambo and Rishina Waistcoat (young Warumungu women who have been involved in the fight to stop a nuclear waste dump on their family's country at Muckaty) and representatives from youth Indigenous climate network Seed, including Larissa Baldwin.

"We were able to discuss a lot of shared strategy," Ms Baldwin said.

"I feel like as Aboriginal people, we know what works for our mob and how to get connections. We were able to talk to each other and say 'This is a successful tactic,' or 'This is how we reached more remote areas.'"

"Since Seed launched a couple of years ago, we've had young people coming from all over the country. It's pretty amazing. We're a young Indigenous-led organisation. We care about country, and people want to be connected."

"We really feel a responsibility as young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to protect country."

Ms Baldwin encouraged any young Indigenous people who were interested to attend the Seed Summit, to be held in Sydney from Friday, April 29 to Monday, May 2. For more information go to www.seedmob.org.au



Bailai Elder Mabel Quakawoot and Seed's Angel Owen at the Beyond Coal and Gas national conference.

Qld couple told to stop using name



AN Aboriginal couple in Queensland received a huge shock last week, after a 'cease and desist' letter accused their cottage business of "infringement of patent" and "deceptive and misleading conduct use of business name Gumby Gumby".

Lee Doherty, a palawa woman, and her husband Gene Blow, a Noonuccal man, began making skincare products and tea from Gumby Gumby, a Queensland native apricot after Mr Blow's aunts showed the couple how effective the bush medicine was for treating skin conditions like dermatitis and eczema.

After word on the grapevine spread about the products, last year they began an online cottage business from their house, Golden Gumby Gumby and Farmhouse Direct.

"We worked on getting a few products up and running and people love it," Ms Doherty said.

"We were also giving away free seeds, so people can grow their own plant because where we get it from, most land has been decimated by cattle, so now it's pretty rare."

However, non-Indigenous company Gumby Gumby has patented the use of leaf extract from the plant and the business name 'Gumby Gumby', meaning no-one else can use either without permission of the patent-holder and a licence.

"Their solicitor told me I have to go to a non-Indigenous person to buy a licence for a plant that has been Aboriginal medicine for thousands of years," Ms Doherty said.

"I am speechless as to why someone would even do that."



A non-Indigenous company has patented bush medicine 'Gumby Gumby'.

But Gumby Gumby company owner Katja Amato insisted that she had a right to act as she had.

"I applied for the patent. It's all legal. I didn't do anything wrong," she told the *Koori Mail*.

"Why shouldn't I? We came from Germany and were interested in the plants here and did research 10 years ago."

"It's all legal. We went through a process and paid a fortune for it."

"We are not attacking the Australian Aboriginal people. If I would do anything against them, I would have sold it to a pharmaceutical company."

"I am not a bad person. I didn't do anything wrong. Why didn't she (Ms Doherty) talk to me?"

Ms Doherty and Mr Blow have vowed to keep trading, even if they have to change the name of their company.

"The implications of the solicitor's letter says that no one in Australia can use the word 'Gumby Gumby' (spelt that way)," they said.

"So it means that no Indigenous person can use that word either, irrespective of it being used to describe Aboriginal traditional medicine for thousands of years."

Grant on advisory council



STAN Grant has been appointed to advise the Federal Government on constitutional

recognition.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten have announced that the Indigenous broadcaster had been appointed to the Referendum Council following the departure of Patrick Dodson, who had resigned to become a

Senate candidate for Labor.

"Mr Grant's extensive experience and commitment to constitutional recognition and Indigenous affairs will be invaluable in the role as a member of the Referendum Council," they said in a joint statement.

The Referendum Council was established last December to advise on referendums on recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Constitution.

The council was established last year to lead national consultations and advise the Government on how best to proceed with the planned referendum to maximise its chances for success.

Other members of the council include Indigenous leaders Mick Gooda, Noel Pearson and Galarrwuy Yunupingu. It also includes former politicians such as Amanda Vanstone, Kristina Keneally and Natasha Stott Despoja.

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The **National Australia Day Council (NADC)** is the coordinating body for Australia Day celebrations across the nation and for the Australian of the Year Awards. A not-for-profit government-owned social enterprise, the NADC's mission is to provide national focus and leadership around celebrating Australian citizenship. It does this through a network of eight state and territory Australia Day affiliate organisations and local Australia Day committees.

As **Chief Executive Officer**, you will report directly to the **NADC** board. The successful candidate will provide charismatic and motivating leadership, with skills in strategy, program development, sponsorship and stakeholder management. You will be creative in delivering strategies to inspire national pride and spirit, and be collaborative and cohesive in driving their implementation across the nation. With great advocacy skills, you will be the 'face and voice' of the NADC in public forums and media. You'll be equally accomplished in complex stakeholder management and comfortable meeting the needs of government, corporate and community partners. Commercially astute, you will have skills in securing funding, understanding the importance of media partnering and providing value to corporate sponsors. Superior achievements at CEO, MD or Business Unit Head level will demonstrate an excellence in corporate stewardship. You will lead a high-performing team focused on nurturing the NADC brand and growing its national significance.

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NADC welcomes and encourages applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



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Caring for carers

Our children will benefit



NATIONAL initiative Carer Gateway, which aims to help unpaid carers find support

services, has been launched by HealthDirect Australia and the Federal Government.

There are 2.7 million people in Australia who care for family members. Many of these people don't identify themselves as carers, like Dunghutti woman Dolly Brown.

She didn't realise she was a carer for two of her adult daughters – Gemma and Sheena – until a few years ago.

"It's not something I really noticed. It was just something that I did," Ms Brown told the *Koori Mail*.

"Maybe it's a cultural thing and it's something that we just do, or maybe it's because I come from a big family of 16 kids and I'm used to looking after my family.

"I've got a lot of family around and we look after each other. That's just what seems natural."

Ms Brown said initiatives like the Carer Gateway are important because carers need to look after themselves, too.

"To be a carer it's hard sometimes, so you need to make sure you look after yourself and make sure



Dunghutti woman Dolly Brown sits with her daughters Gemma and Sheena.

you're strong and healthy and balanced," she said.

"Sometimes we overdo it and we get drained physically and emotionally. We stretch ourselves out too much, but we need to find ways to cope."

Ms Brown's eldest daughter Gemma struggles with mental health issues, while Sheena has an intellectual disability.

"It's the basis of our community, caring for people. I just try to be balanced and strong and keep my head above water," Ms Brown said.

Information

The carer gateway will provide information for people who care for someone with a disability, dementia, a

chronic or mental illness.

It includes information and tips on 'how to care' for particular conditions, how to access respite, joining a support group and how to cope when caring changes or comes to an end.

Carer gateway is accessible on 1800 422 737 or at www.caregateway.gov.au



THE Australian Childhood Foundation's (ACF) Safeguarding Children Program has formed a partnership

with Mallee District Aboriginal Services (MDAS), aiming to improve child protection programs.

MDAS chief executive Rudolph Kirby said the opportunity for the services to partner with ACF was an honour.

He said while protecting children in the Mallee was at its core, the partnership was designed for benefits to flow into both organisations, and to flow more broadly to influence practices in communities across the country.

"Our early years programs are recognised as some of the most innovative and effective of any Indigenous organisation in Australia, and working in partnership with the ACF will allow us to be even more active in this space," he said.

ACF chief executive Joe Tucci said the two organisations had a shared determination to educate and empower communities to keep children and young people safe.

"We have been working in this space for a long time, but this partnership allows us to refine and evolve our approaches so they are specific and effective within the context of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities," he said.

"It will promote a culture that protects children and young people from abuse and exploitation, but within a framework that promotes a positive attitude towards cultural differences."

Are you kicking goals?

\$60,000 in prizes

Do you think your organisation is a great team? Is it courageous, creative and effective? Does it show real leadership? Then show your true colours and apply for the 2016 Indigenous Governance Awards!

The Awards recognise the best and fairest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, projects and initiatives from around the country and showcase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people determining and driving change.

Apply now at www.reconciliation.org.au/iga or by calling 02 6273 9200 to be in the running for a share of \$60,000 in prize money.

Applications are open until 20 May 2016.

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Indigenous Governance Awards 2016

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From left, Tammy Lee Rock, Kazman, Clinton Walker, Samuel Wagan Watson, Bob Weatherall and Vic Simms discuss the topic of cultural authority in the arts as part of Brisbane's Rock and Roll Writers Festival.

Writers festival rocks

By KEIRA JENKINS



WHO has the right to tell a story?

That was the question being asked by Palawa actor Tammy Lee Rock, from Tasmania, to a panel of activists, musicians, poets and writers at the inaugural Rock and Roll Writers Festival in Brisbane this month.

Ms Rock was the moderator of the 'Thou Shalt Not Steal' discussion, with a panel made up of Bidjigal performer Vic Simms, Kamilaroi musician Bob Weatherall, Bundjalung and Birri Gubba poet Samuel Wagan Watson, Sydney-based writer Clinton Walker, and Gangulu performer Kazman.

The panel discussed the issues surrounding creative pursuits for Indigenous people and how contemporary Indigenous music and literature have been affected by the past.

"Nothing has really changed. I do my best to encourage talent from Indigenous people," Mr Simms said.

"I've encountered a lot of prejudice outside the music world. My own spirituality takes me through my music life."

In 1973, Mr Simms recorded his album *The Loner in Bathurst Gaol*. Last year, Luke Peacock (band member of The Medics, who has just released his first solo album) worked with Mr Simms and other musicians on a reworking of *The Loner*.

Appropriation

Also on the agenda was the appropriation of Indigenous culture, stories and arts by non-Indigenous people for their own gain.

Mr Weatherall said historians and scientists often discredit what Indigenous people have to say about their own culture. "It's a continuous thing that continuously happens. Aboriginal people have had their land stolen and they've had their culture stolen," he said.

"Anthropologists come in and they insult us by interpreting us to ourselves. "Our songs, dance and ceremony,

that's how we connect with a place and with our purpose that our creator gave us."

Mr Watson brought up music in the education system, using his teenage son as an example.

"Our kids don't get that connection between language and music in their education, which is traditionally a really strong connection," he said.

"If they're lucky they'll get an hour of music lessons a week, but they pump English into them so much more thoroughly as a separate subject."

The panel ended with a conversation about the power of music for healing, as an education tool or in simply maintaining culture.

"Music is so powerful because anyone can get hold of it. That might be why it's often treated as the dumb cousin of the arts," Mr Walker said.

'Thou Shalt Not Steal' was one of 12 panels held over two days in Fortitude Valley's The Brightside Kitchen, as part of the first Rock and Roll Writers Festival in Brisbane.

Mandatory jail reform urged



GOVERNMENTS have been told to scrap mandatory prison sentences for minor crimes to keep Indigenous Australians who commit

traffic offences and small-time theft out of jails. Australian Bar Association president Patrick O'Sullivan has met with federal Attorney-General George Brandis in the hope of tackling overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the nation's prisons.

The association wants laws that force mandatory sentences on minor assaults, driving offences and minor theft, repealed or amended. More than a quarter of Australia's prisoners are Indigenous, despite making up less than 3% of the population.

"It is a shocking fact that an Indigenous young person who has served a prison sentence is more likely to return to prison than finish school," Mr O'Sullivan said.

"Australia's Indigenous incarceration rate is one of the most challenging human rights issues facing the country today."

Getting worse

And the problem is getting worse. A recent Australian Institute of Criminology report found that in the two decades since a royal commission into Aboriginal deaths in custody, the proportion of Indigenous people in prison has doubled.

In the Northern Territory a person convicted of an assault, who had

previously fronted court for a minor offence, faces a 12-month mandatory sentence. The court has no flexibility to impose a lesser sentence.

The association is also calling for a review of imprisonment for fine defaults, which it describes as unjust, unfair to poor offenders, dangerous to vulnerable offenders, expensive and disproportionate in its effect on Indigenous offenders.

It says Indigenous imprisonment costs about \$3 billion each year and a 10% reduction would save \$10 million that could be channelled into rehabilitation programs, like community housing.

Mr O'Sullivan will also meet with state attorneys-general throughout the year. — AAP

Community Crime Prevention

Your Community, Your Say

2016-17 Graffiti Prevention Grants Applications Closing Soon

Victorian Councils are invited to apply for grants of up to \$25,000 to partner with community groups to deliver local graffiti prevention initiatives.

Applications close 4.00pm

Friday 29 April 2016

How do I find out more?

Links to the application form, Grant Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions are available at: crimeprevention.vic.gov.au/graffitigrants



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Aboriginal Heritage Jane Street/Mulgoa Road Infrastructure Project, Penrith

Roads and Maritime Services invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places for Jane Street/Mulgoa Road Infrastructure Project, Penrith to register to be consulted.

To register your interest, please contact:

Mark Lester

Roads and Maritime Services,

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officer

P: PO Box 973, Parramatta CBD NSW 2124

E: mark.w.lester@rms.nsw.gov.au

T: (02) 8849 2583

Registrations must be received by phone or in writing by Thursday 5 May 2016.

Roads and Maritime Services is proposing to carry out a Stage 3 Aboriginal Heritage Investigation for proposed work to the Jane Street/Mulgoa Road intersection, Penrith.

The proposal may result in the Roads and Maritime Services:

- Applying for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Part 6 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, and/or
- Undertaking investigations in accordance with the Code of practice for archaeological investigations in NSW 2010, and/or
- Undertaking an environmental impact assessment under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*.

Z10188

DANNY EASTWOOD'S VIEW



A Yarn With...



IAN McINTOSH Yanyala man Borroloola, NT

Favourite bush tucker?
Barramundi.

Favourite other food?
Beef.

Favourite drink?
Water.

Favourite music?
Country and country rock.

Favourite sport/leisure?
Rugby league. I'm a North Queensland Cowboys fan – I'm a Mount Isa boy.

What are you reading?
Anything about racehorses.

What are you watching?
My six-year-old son Jordie growing up.

What do you like in life?
Checking out gardens.

What don't you like?
Drunks, people who waste their money, and humbugging.

Who would you invite for a night around the campfire?
Country singer Troy Cassar-Daley, Gulf Roper Region Mayor Tony Jack – he's a great fella – and North Queensland Cowboys NRL star Johnathan Thurston.

If you could, what would you do to help Indigenous Australians?
I'd enlighten our people more on the dangers of alcohol abuse, tobacco use, and the threat posed by sugar.

Quote



"It's time for policy-makers to concede that the system is fundamentally broken and to work in genuine partnership with Aboriginal people and organisations on community-centred alternatives to prison."

– NSW Aboriginal Land Council chair Roy Ah-See
● See pages 6-7

Unquote

25 years on, and still our mob die

TWENTY-five years since the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody handed down its report and our people are still dying in prison.

According to the Australian Institute of Criminology, there have been more than 340 Indigenous people who have died in custody since 1991.

One would be too many.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the Royal Commission, our hearts and sympathy go out to the families and loved ones of those who were lost when they should have been cared for.

It doesn't matter what people are locked up for – they still deserve to be treated with care and compassion.

Prison shouldn't be a death sentence.

And prisoners still have rights.

The Royal Commission made 339 recommendations, most of which have never been implemented fully.

And so Indigenous people die. And those who love them suffer and grieve.

Indigenous people are grossly overrepresented in incarceration across every jurisdiction in Australia.

Our men, women and children are being locked up at rates far too high – and still rising.

It is a national shame – and it deserves the nation's undivided attention.

Incoming Labor Senator Patrick Dodson – who served the Royal Commission in WA – made a compelling argument in his speech to the National



Press Club last week about the priorities of the Government, with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull recalling the Parliament to address a Bill to reinstate the building industry watchdog.

"It should be being recalled, in my view, to deal with these appalling custody rates of the First Peoples of this country," Mr Dodson said.

Bad laws and bad policies are hurting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as is bad policing.

In 2012, Royal Commissioner Hal Wootten asked a question that is relevant today.

"The Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody was set up very hastily ... We ended up being set up to investigate the wrong question ... The question we were set to investigate was really, were police and prison officers killing Aboriginals, and the real question was why were so many Aboriginal people being put in jail?" Judge Wootten asked.

Until we have the will of all governments to actually listen to Indigenous people, the suffering will continue.

Koori Mail – 100% Aboriginal-owned

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

Meet Josh Gilbert, an 'accidental activist'

By KEIRA JENKINS

WORIMI man Josh Gilbert likes to aim high, with his current goal to make sure farming continues for the next 40,000 years.

Mr Gilbert grew up on a farm on the NSW mid north coast, dreaming of becoming a lawyer.

But that all changed about three years ago. After attending a meeting with the NSW Young Farmers, he decided he wanted to create change in the world and carry on the tradition of providing food that his ancestors started thousands of years ago.

"I had my eyes opened up to those memories of being a kid on the farm and feeling connected to the land and my culture," he told the *Koori Mail*.

"I started to take farming seriously, thinking deeply about it and recognising there was an opportunity to be connected to culture by being on the land.

"I can make a difference doing this. I shot a video with Australia's Young Green Farmers and it has reached 100 million people in 75 countries since it was released."

Although he's only 24 years old, Mr Gilbert has achieved plenty in his life so far, travelling to Paris, France, for the international climate change summit last year; being chair of the NSW Young Farmers Council; graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce degree; and advocating for Indigenous issues and climate change action.

He works in Canberra during the week, then goes back to the farm on weekends where his focus is purely on being with his family and connecting with the land.

"I've had a lot of opportunities in my life that have come up at the right time," he said.

"Passionate"

"I see myself as a kind of accidental activist. I'm passionate about climate change and have got the chance to share how I feel about it, but I never meant to be an activist. Empowering people is important, and we've got to create change now to do what we can for the future."

Mr Gilbert's 'accidental activism' stemmed from hearing stories of coastal erosion and land clearing affecting people's ability to connect with the land.

He worried that it would become impossible for people to adapt to the climate and wanted to look at what could be changed to make the future more sustainable.

"Mining and land clearing is devastating to the land and for the people who have to fight in the lead-up to projects like that," Mr Gilbert said.

"It's a big problem. But our voices are only going to be heard if we make them heard."

In January this year, he resigned as chair of NSW Young Farmers, citing a disagreement with the way in which umbrella organisation NSW Farmers handled disagreement about native vegetation clearing policy.

Mr Gilbert said everyone has the opportunity to do what they want and to have their voices heard if they push for it.

Opportunities

He said his own opportunities have come from picking up chances and running with them, as well as hard work.

It was identifying what he wanted to do with farming, "having an adventure" to see what came up as well as having mentors in his life that motivated him to achieve what he has.

Mr Gilbert said he has been privileged to be able to share his culture and his passions with the wider public.

"I'm always happy to do that kind of thing. It's great to have someone to look up to and I'm happy to be that person to someone else," he said.

"It's good to have a kind of structure, and have someone to push you, and to have a platform where you can help someone else.

"While I'm passionate about agriculture, I'm also a big advocate for Indigenous rights.

"I'd like to propel young Indigenous farmers, and Indigenous people in general, forward."

Mr Gilbert said he would continue to work hard and take every opportunity he can into the future.

"I take everything that's presented to me, and I also create my own opportunities so I can make sure there's always a next step for me," he said.

"I identify what I want, push for it and that's how I keep my momentum up.

"There's a bit of luck involved, but also a lot of hard work, and sometimes you have to give up on one thing to jump for another opportunity."



Worimi man Josh Gilbert is a young farmer who calls himself as an "accidental activist".

"While I'm passionate about agriculture, I'm also a big advocate for Indigenous rights. I'd like to propel young Indigenous farmers, and Indigenous people in general, forward."

Locking in change

This is an edited version of an address senator-elect Patrick Dodson, a Yawuru (WA Kimberley) man, gave to the National Press Club in Canberra. He served as a royal commissioner into Aboriginal deaths in custody.

SINCE the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody handed down its report, 750 people have died in custody. Indigenous people make up 20% of these deaths.

Alarming, the rate at which Indigenous people are imprisoned has more than doubled over the past 25 years.

At the time of the Royal Commission, some 14% of those in custody were Indigenous. Today it is about 27%. This is despite the commission's recommendation that prison be a measure of last resort.

This growth isn't tied to the crime rate – it well and truly exceeds it. We are being imprisoned at a rate that is a staggering 13 times higher than that for non-Indigenous people. And, unfortunately, that rate appears to be accelerating.

In some states, like my own state of WA, these rates are higher.

At June 30, 2015, ABS statistics showed we comprise 38% (2113 prisoners) of the adult prisoner population, and get incarcerated at a rate that is 17 times higher than for non-Indigenous people.

There are some exceptions to this bleak outlook, notably the reduction in hanging deaths due to the removal of fixture points in cells.

But, by and large, the problems the Royal Commission was set up to examine and advise governments on, have become worse.

This raises questions as to how effectively the Commission's recommendations have been implemented in the period since, and whether the issues identified by the Commission are understood or even considered important.

Certainly, one has to wonder what happened to the principle of imprisonment as last resort and the 29 recommendations relating to this issue. In this regard, the role of criminal justice policies in driving the current upward trend in Indigenous custody rates cannot be overlooked.

Mandatory sentencing, imprisonment for fine defaults, paperless arrest laws, tough bail and parole conditions and punitive sentencing regimes certainly have not helped.

Neither do funding cuts to frontline legal services and inadequate resourcing for much-needed diversionary programs and re-entry programs to break the cycle of recidivism.

'Paperless arrest' laws in the NT are particularly concerning. These laws provide a new set of powers for arrest and detention without a warrant and apply to trivial offences, which do not even carry imprisonment as a penalty.

Effectively, they enable police to arrest someone who they believe or think is going to commit an offence, regardless of whether an offence has been committed.

Paperless arrests do not require police to bring the person before the court as soon as practicable, surely one of the most fundamental rights that we should have as citizens, regardless of who we are, where we live or how we live.

Paperless arrest laws, like mandatory sentencing, are typical of a 'law-and-order', 'tough-on-crime' mentality that frames a great deal of the political conversation about

Indigenous incarceration and injustice.

This rhetoric – and the policy thinking behind it – has authored the criminalisation of many of our people. As the Commission noted decades ago: "In many cases, in fact a great majority of cases, Aboriginal people come into custody as a result of relatively trivial and often victimless offences, typically street offences related to alcohol and language. Many of these 'offences' would not occur, or would not be noticed, were it not for the adoption of particular policing policies which concentrate police in certain areas, and police effort on the scrutiny of Aboriginal people."

It seems Indigenous people are still being taken into custody far too often. This suggests that legislators in some jurisdictions have not learnt from the past, and are still intent on arresting their way out Indigenous disadvantage.

The passing of Warlpiri man Mr Kumanjayi Langdon in custody last year is a case in point, and encapsulates the sheer pointlessness or absurdity of it all.

Mr Langdon had been in NT police custody for around three hours, following a so-called 'paperless arrest'.

Earlier that day, police had seen him drinking from a plastic bottle in a public park.

Mr Langdon died of a heart attack, but the Coroner later found that Mr Langdon: "Had done nothing to bring himself to the attention of police, beyond being with other Aboriginal people in a park in the Darwin CBD".

He "was not violent, was not uttering threats and not swearing or being offensive in any way".

Under the *Liquor Act*, Mr Langdon's offence carried a maximum penalty of a \$74 fine.

Following his arrest, he was issued with an infringement notice before he was taken to the Watch House, leading the Coroner to question why detention was necessary at all.

As he put it: "Kumanjayi Langdon, a sick middle-aged Aboriginal man, was treated like a criminal and incarcerated like a criminal. He died in a police cell which was built to house criminals. He died in his sleep with strangers in this cold and concrete cell."

"He died of natural causes and was always likely to die suddenly due to chronic and serious heart disease, but he was entitled to die in peace, in the comfort of family and friends. In my view, he was entitled to die as a free man."

The case of Ms Dhu, a 22-year-old woman who died in the Port Hedland lock-up, where she was detained for a fine default, is yet another devastating story.

The coronial inquest into her death is still taking place. Her story

could have been plucked at random from almost any moment in the modern story of Aboriginal injustice.

For our communities, the storyline is all too familiar: the minor offence; the innocuous behaviour; the unnecessary detention; the failure to uphold the duty of care; the lack of respect for human dignity; the lonely death; the grief, loss and pain of the family.

If the recommendations of the Commission had been prioritised and resourced by governments, could we have prevented the deaths of people like Ms Dhu and Mr Ward in WA and Mr Langdon in the NT and the many others?

I don't know for sure, but what I do know is that a quarter of century after we handed down our findings the vicious cycle remains the same:

- Indigenous people are more likely to come to the attention of police.



Patrick Dodson

- Indigenous people who come to the attention of police are more likely to be arrested and charged.

- Indigenous people who are charged are more likely to go to court.

- Indigenous people who appear in court are more likely to go to jail.

If Indigenous people are being taken into custody at an increasing rate, then it stands to reason that our chances of dying in custody also increase.

In the past decade alone, the incarceration rate for Indigenous men has more than doubled.

Indigenous youths now comprise over 50% of juveniles in detention.

As our Indigenous Social Justice Commissioner, Mick Gooda, observes, Australia is better at sending young Indigenous men back to jail than we are keeping them in school.

For Indigenous women, the rate of imprisonment is accelerating even faster – a 74% increase in the past 15 years.

As the Law Council notes, a

range of factors contributes to offending by Indigenous women, but poverty, homelessness and high rates of violence and sexual abuse against women, along with drug and alcohol abuse linked to the trauma they experience, tend to bring Indigenous women into contact with the criminal justice system at an increasing higher rate, often for trivial or minor offences.

Sadly, what this suggests is that Indigenous women who end up in prison are more likely to have been a victim themselves.

Mental illness is also a growing concern. Research shows that Indigenous people with mental and cognitive difficulties, including disabilities like FASD, are being imprisoned at higher rates.

In the absence of appropriate community based services and support, these people end up in the criminal justice system where they are managed by default by the police, courts and prisons.

The impact of all this on Indigenous families and communities, particularly children, is heart wrenching.

We get an insight into the ripple effects when we look at the number of Indigenous children in out-of-home care, which now numbers about 15,000 nationally.

If we are to disrupt current trends, we must invest in rebuilding the capacity of families and communities to deal with the social problems that contribute to these appalling indicators.

We need to prioritise and ensure frontline services are not only resourced to respond to crisis, but can develop preventative programs that engage the community in winding back the ravages of drug and alcohol abuse, the scourge of family violence and welfare dependency.

For the vast bulk of our people, the legal system is not a trusted instrument of justice – it is a feared and despised processing plant that propels the most vulnerable and disadvantaged of our people toward to a broken, bleak future.

Surely, as a nation we are better than this.

We need a smarter form of justice that takes us beyond a narrow-eyed focus on punishment and penalties, to look more broadly at a vision of justice as a coherent, integrated whole.

Not as a closed system, but as an integrated life process that allows some sense of healing and rehabilitation. Such an approach should consider innovative approaches to justice that can offer effective solutions to offending behaviour.

Justice Reinvestment is one such approach. Such approaches suggest that unproductive expenditure on prisons should instead be invested in programs at the front end that both reduce crime

and prevent people entering the criminal justice system.

Building more jails and enacting laws that ensure the incarceration of Indigenous peoples is not the solution, and certainly not a good use of taxpayer dollars.

Addressing the issue of high incarceration rates is not government's job alone. It requires a whole-of-community response and will only be achieved by working together. This echoes the call from the Royal Commission all those years ago.

It is time for our own communities to drive the change on the ground that is necessary to build a better future for the next generation. This must include valuing education and creating opportunities for the next generation to flourish.

We will not be liberated from the tyranny of the criminal justice system unless we also acknowledge the problems in our own communities and take responsibility for the hurt we inflict and cause to each other.

Family violence, substance abuse and neglect of children should not be tolerated as the norm. And, those who perpetrate and benefit from the misery caused to our people need to be held to account.

If we are serious about addressing these issues we must work together and agree on a way forward.

But the process must engage Indigenous people in a genuine dialogue.

And that dialogue must translate into real partnerships that enable local communities to devise solutions to the problems that confront them.

Benchmarks and the strategies to achieve them must be set with the agreement of communities, with sufficient flexibility to allow for regional variation.

The Parliament needs to be more open to the idea of engaging in a formal way with Indigenous people on matters that affect our social, cultural and economic interests as well as our political status within the nation state.

I hope that as a senator for Western Australia, thanks to Bill Shorten and the Labor Party, I can stimulate and play a constructive role in this discussion.

What is clear to me, though, is that this discussion must be framed by the philosophy of empowerment – of self-determination.

If we are to be authors of our own destinies, then governments must stop treating us as passive clients, or as targets of a policy for 'mainstreaming'.

It is imperative that the policy context changes, so Indigenous people are viewed as part of the solution – not just as a problem to be solved.

For that to happen we must recognise the common humanity we share and ask why Indigenous people in this country are being disproportionately incarcerated.

On any measure, the current incarceration rates of Indigenous people are a complete and utter disgrace.

Accepting the status quo permits the criminal justice system to continue to suck us up like a vacuum cleaner and deposit us like waste in custodial institutions.

I would hope we are better than that. We must be better than that.

There is no choice here.

This tragic outlook will only change if we work together.

Let's achieve a treaty

IT is with great interest I see that Premier Daniel Andrews of Victoria and Stuart McMillan, president of the Uniting Church in Australia, talking about the issues of treaty and sovereignty (Sovereignty in church message, page 26, *Koori Mail*, April 6 – tear sheet at right).

Aboriginal peoples were murdered, driven off their lands, assimilated and suffered other atrocious policies with the end result being a land-grab.

The Torres Strait peoples were subtly subjected to a different land-grab through the Queen Victoria 1871 'letters patent', concocted by the aristocracy and loyal public servants to provide a land-grab to the Queensland colonial authorities 30 years before Federation in 1901.

In May 2017, it will be 50 years since Indigenous peoples of this country were de-classified as 'flora and fauna'.

In 2017, to highlight this significant year, a presentation should be made to United Nations agencies in Geneva and the United Nations General Assembly in New York on the issues of treaty/sovereignty by Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait peoples.

We have the knowledge and ability to achieve this goal and the issues from the treaty forums to be held in Victoria should be distributed widely for action.

Let's start a grass roots fundraising process to achieve treaty.

JIM AKEE

Former secretary, Torres United Party

Sovereignty in church message



THE president of the Uniting Church in Australia, Stuart McMillan, used his Easter message to appeal for a serious national conversation on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sovereignty.

"The Easter message is one of renewed hope for the world," he said. "A conversation about sovereignty and how it can empower and bring hope to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is a crucial conversation for our nation."

"Sovereignty and what that means for us as a church is an issue we're committed to exploring. I don't believe that we can ever close the gap until we have First Nations as



Uniting Church in Australia president Stuart McMillan and Adnyamathanha woman Rev Denise Champion.

Tas Government needs to do some listening

THE Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre condemns the Hodgman Government's decision to abolish the sentencing option of suspended sentences in Tasmania.

Already in Tasmania, Aborigines are overrepresented in detention, making up 6% of the prison population. We predict that figure will rise to 10% if these changes go through.

The Government has again treated the Aboriginal community with high-handedness and arrogance disregarding our concerns and failing to consider the especially disadvantaged position of our community.

As far back as the report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody in 1991, governments have been aware of what needs to be done.

Recommendations 92 to 121 gave details of measures that should be taken to ensure detention was used only as a sanction of last resort. This was designed to decrease the disparity between the imprisonment of Aborigines and others in all jurisdictions.

The Government has failed to discuss these measures with the community and the differences are set to get worse.

The Aboriginal community adopts a different approach and would reserve detention for the worst offences like murder and rape. Many other options should be used, like suspended sentences with cultural excursions, working on our returned lands and community order schemes.

This Hodgman Government has arrogantly

imposed half-baked schemes without proper consultation with those most directly affected, as we have seen recently with the unintended consequences of increased tourism on small communities like Bruny Island and the Tasman Peninsula.

They continue to ride roughshod over the lives from destruction of our heritage to this inevitable increase of Aborigines detained in custody.

Time is overdue for this Government to really listen to those with a track record of achievement.

TRUDY MALUGA

State secretary, Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre

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

POETRY

Hate Should Not Live Here

This is, and always will be Aboriginal land and our homes. Hate should not live here.

You forced yourself onto our lands and forced us out of our homes. Hate should not live here.

You killed, poisoned and commit atrocities on us and still carry out the sins of your forefathers. Hate should not live here.

You stole and still steal from us and continue to suppress us. Hate should not live here.

You still treat us with disdain, utmost contempt and extremes of racial intolerance. Hate should not live here.

You hate, demonise and victimise us. Yet you don't know or question why. Hate should not live here.

Your commandments of faith are your guide yet not practised. Hate should not live here.

You know you are carrying out the original sins. Yet you continue to live the lie. Hate should not live here.

You continue to tell lies about us and make claims that we're the doers of evil. Hate should not live here.

You live knowing that Aboriginal kids are dying young of preventable illnesses. Hate should not live here.

You know that Aboriginal communities have a poor living standards and poor quality of life yet your negatives deny positive change. Hate should not live here.

You hate that other people around the world see you as a racist, yet you try to project a false image of yourself. Hate should not live here, but it does.

Rumours and lies are carried by 'haters', accepted by, 'mindless fools', and spread by 'uneducated idiots'.

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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.

It's just not cricket...

AS the dust settles on a very public dispute over T20 world cup final man of the match Marlon Samuels and Shane Warne just over a week ago, the deeper layers of concern over the incident remain.

Instead of celebrating what should have been the night of his life Marlon Samuels launched into criticism of Warne after a long history of the Australian utilising his position as a commentator to belittle the batsman publicly. "I don't appreciate the way that he continues to talk about me, perhaps it is because my face is real and his is not," said Samuels.

The next morning, ex-Australian fast bowler Geoff Lawson launched into an incredible character assassination of Samuels on breakfast show *Australia*.

"He's (Samuels) tied up with some pretty shady people back in the West Indies. He's a guy you don't muck around with on or off the field," Lawson said.

"He's tied up with the gangs there and it goes well beyond cricket."

An Australian newspaper supported Lawson's statements, writing: "Samuels grew up in Kingston on the island of Jamaica. While the tropical isles of the

Caribbean are often seen as the ideal holiday destination, statistics released in January show homicide levels on the island jumped 20% from the previous year, with 1192 murders recorded in 2015."

The problem with Geoff Lawson's statement and the news article is that any relationship between Marlon Samuels and Jamaican gangs is complete fabrication. It just isn't true. The Great West Indian fast bowler Michael Holding wrote in response: "I understand that Geoff Lawson said Marlon was a member of some gangs in Jamaica, that he was involved with 'shady people'. It is total rubbish. I don't understand how somebody who knows absolutely nothing about Marlon can make statements like that. He is trying to influence the world about a young man he knows nothing about."

As a native of Jamaica and having known Marlon Samuels since he was a baby, Holding is more qualified than most to have the last word on the issue.

For blackfellas back home in Australia, we only shake our heads when time and time again we are confronted with misrepresentation of the truth by White Australians



Woolombi Waters

against people of colour.

The same week the Murdoch press again opened up debate on the history wars, despite researchers like Henry Reynolds and Raymond Evans having extensively documented the "invasion" of Australia over and over again.

We found the same conservatives such as Keith

Windschuttle being rolled out saying, "The term 'invasion' is wrong. Australia has always been regarded as a settled country according to the leading judgments in international law, both here and around the world."

Windschuttle refers to "leading judgments" as this becomes open to interpretation, generally by white middle-aged men.

What is not open to interpretation is the International Law Commission, a mandate under the United Nations, which as recently as November 10 last year condemned Australia for human rights abuses.

But you won't hear Windschuttle mention that.

Shock jock Kyle Sandilands and the channel Seven's *Sunrise* program joined in, prompting musician Thelma Plum to call them out on social media, calling the *Sunrise* team "a bunch of racist c---s".

Conservatives Alan Jones, who only recently called for another Stolen Generation, and *Herald Sun* columnist Rita Panahi, who looked completely out of her depth when replying to our own Stan Grant's deconstruction of the 'great Australian Dream', were guests panellists on the show.

For those who don't know, the

history between Warne and Samuels goes back much further than last week's T20 World Cup, and as to Geoff Lawson, his comments regarding Marlon Samuels, as confirmed by Michael Holding, are no different to the idea carried by white conservatives of a peaceful Australian settlement – complete fabrication and denial of the truth.

This is what makes it so hard trying to have meaningful discussion with White Australia about our true history, or in wanting the country to accept responsibility for the present in moving towards the future.

There is just so much denial and misrepresentation of the truth that, as we witnessed with Marlon Samuels, when it comes to issues of colour, social commentators feel they can say what they want.

It's up to us to educate them and maintain the truth, as unfortunately what we saw with Marlon Samuels goes far beyond cricket. It lays at the very underbelly of Australian consciousness and identity.

● *Dr Woolombi Waters is an award-winning writer, educator and academic at Griffith University. He is a regular Koori Mail columnist*

All the facts must be taught about Australia's history

I'M a great fan of the TV show *Vikings*. The series is historical fiction – based on the real historical events of the early Viking raids of England and France, but with characters and storylines that are a mixture of fiction, myth and legend, and historical facts.

Vikings' characters aren't modern heroes. They commit dreadful acts – they rape and pillage, keep slaves, kill and mutilate innocent people, cheat, lie and torture.

And that's not just the Vikings. The English and French are cut from the same brutal cloth.

Yet the characters are engaging and even endearing, with stories full of complexity and moral ambiguities. The series simply depicts how people lived, interacted, thought and behaved in and around the North Sea more than 1000 years ago. As they were. Warts and all.

Recently, a mini-storm erupted over the University of NSW's Diversity Toolkit, which provides language guidelines when referring to events in Australia's history. In particular, it recommends using the term 'invasion' rather than 'settlement' to describe the way the British came to control and govern the Australian continent.

The ensuing uproar clearly demonstrates that describing British colonisation as a 'invasion' strikes a very raw nerve amongst

non-Indigenous Australians, even more than two centuries after the event.

Let's get real here. The indisputable fact is that my Bundjalung, Gumbaynggirr and Yuin ancestors experienced an invasion. Armed foreigners entered their countries and took possession of their lands through fear, intimidation, trickery and/or violence, under the authority of a foreign government. Their choices were to flee or remain in subjugation.

How is it that learned minds can look at this scenario and conclude there was no invasion in a geopolitical sense? Because of the way Britain thought about Australia and its First Peoples.

Britain assumed Australia's First Peoples didn't claim ownership of the land. They saw nomads living in unstructured societies with no recognisable civic or legal systems; who moved seemingly randomly over vast areas but didn't claim any particular territory for themselves.

Britain designated the continent as terra nullius, the land of no-one; a territory no nation claimed sovereignty over.

This assumption was wrong. In 1788 Australia had hundreds of nations, each with their own languages, laws and governance. And each knew what was their country and what was the



Nyunggai Warren Mundine

country of another group.

The British didn't recognise or understand this. It wasn't until 1992, through the Mabo decision, that the idea of terra nullius was finally rejected.

I accept that most of the British colonists didn't see themselves as invaders. The First Fleet's objective wasn't to launch an attack; the British soldiers weren't

deployed to wage war. Their mission was to establish a penal colony.

But taking land and subjugating the people of the Sydney Basin was essential to this mission. And so it went on across the continent for well over a century.

In an address to the House of Commons in 1916 on the success of Britain's aerial forces, Winston Churchill concluded with the now famous comment: "This truth is incontrovertible. Panic may resent it, ignorance may deride it, malice may distort it, but there it is."

History, too, is incontrovertible; it cannot be changed or undone. Australian law now recognises that in 1788 Australia was inhabited by people who occupied, possessed and enjoyed particular areas of land and sea to the exclusion of others which were inherited and succeeded to subsequent generations. Our ancestors didn't invite or welcome British colonists to occupy their lands. People may resent this, deride it or try to distort it but, in the end, there it is.

The teaching of Australian history has evolved from mistaken assumptions and bigotry. The facts, experiences and lived realities of our ancestors have been absent or wrongly portrayed.

It's right to remedy this oversight. But we don't need thought police or politically correct language. Just teach the facts and

the ambiguities; and teach them all.

History shouldn't be sanitised or edited to suit an agenda, to make people feel worse or to make them feel better. History is messy and brutal. People need to learn about past events, in full and as they happened, regardless of whether the details might offend someone.

This should include both the Indigenous and European perspectives, the context in which events took place and also the positive contribution that Europeans have made to building the modern Australian nation.

Portray people of Australia's history – its First Peoples, invaders, colonisers, settlers and migrants – in their full depth, not as heroes and villains, but as real people who displayed a range of successes, failings, weaknesses and virtues.

I'm sure the Scandinavians, British and French can watch *Vikings* today without feeling grievances or guilt.

Australians too should move past the emotion of historical events and see them as they are, not as they might wish them to be.

● *Nyunggai Warren Mundine is managing director of Nyunggai Black Group and Chairman of the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council.*

Stop locking us up

Open Letter: Stop locking up vulnerable people for unpaid fines.

Dear Premier Barnett,
The coronial inquest into the death in custody of Ms Dhu, a 22-year-old Yamatji Aboriginal woman, has shone a light on Western Australia's concerning practice of locking people up for unpaid fines.

Ms Dhu tragically died just three days after she was locked up in a South Hedland police station for failing to pay her fines.

At the time of her arrest, Ms Dhu was in a domestic violence situation.

We, the undersigned organisations, are deeply concerned by the escalating numbers of people being imprisoned in WA for fine default.

We are particularly concerned at the impact of this policy on vulnerable communities, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and, in particular, women, who are already significantly overrepresented in the prison population.

The most effective way to prevent another death in custody, like Ms Dhu's, from occurring is to ensure that vulnerable people aren't being imprisoned for unpaid fines in the first place.

A fine system that supports vulnerable and disadvantaged people to address complex underlying issues would be far more effective for the safety and wellbeing of those persons and the community in general.

Further, there is also evidence that domestic violence victims may be reluctant to report violence or seek help for fear of arrest or other repercussions.



Governments should therefore ensure that such barriers to reporting violence are removed.

We, the undersigned organisations, call on the Government of Western Australia to immediately commit to:

- stop locking people up for unpaid fines by amending the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Act and introducing a Work and Development Order scheme, modelled on the effective NSW approach;
- retract any plans to introduce a compulsory scheme whereby outstanding fines may be deducted from social security payments because such a scheme will further seriously disadvantage vulnerable Aboriginal people;
- ensure the adequate provision of gender and culturally relevant early intervention and diversion programs, to address the current over-imprisonment of Aboriginal women and girls in WA; and
- establish a legislative presumption against arresting victims of domestic violence at time of police intervention for

outstanding unrelated charges.

Since 2010, one in every six Aboriginal people going to prison in WA was there to pay off fines and these figures are even more striking for women.

In 2013, almost one-third of all women entering prison in WA were there for unpaid fines, and almost two-thirds of these women were Aboriginal.

Staggeringly, between 2008 and 2013, the number of Aboriginal women locked up for fine default in WA increased by almost 600%.

More broadly, to avoid any further tragic deaths in custody, the undersigned organisations also urge the West Australian Government to immediately commit to the following safeguard measures, including:

- funding the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia to provide a Custody Notification Service;
- providing for a 24-hour on-call nurse in all police watch houses;
- expanding the role of the Inspector of

Custodial Services to cover police watch houses; and

- independent investigations of police-related deaths.

- Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Services
- Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT
- Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement
- Amnesty International Australia
- ANTaR
- Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)
- Binaal Billa Family Violence Prevention Legal Service
- Deaths in Custody Watch Committee (WA) Inc.
- Federation of Community Legal Centres (VIC)
- First Peoples Disability Network (FPDN)
- FVPLS (Vic)
- Human Rights Law Centre
- Just Reinvest NSW
- Justice Connect Homeless Law
- Moorditch Gurlongga Association Inc (MGA)
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services (NATSILS)
- National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC)
- National Congress of Australia's First Peoples
- National FVPLS Forum
- Oxfam Australia
- Save the Children Australia
- Sisters Inside
- Southern Aboriginal Corporation
- Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC)

Headed down right path

Rights Matter

A column from Amnesty International Australia



WHEN talking about the overrepresentation of Indigenous kids in the justice system, it's not often we have cause for celebration or optimism.

But the Queensland Government is taking leadership on youth justice reforms and could soon be leading the way for best practice in Australia.

The question is: How far will the Parliament be willing to go?

Indigenous kids in Queensland are 25 times as likely to be in detention as non-Indigenous kids.

While Indigenous kids only make up 7.5% of the total youth population, they make up a huge 65% of the youth detention population.

The numbers of kids in detention in Queensland has been increasing as a trend,

particularly for girls.

These kids are more than statistics. Indigenous kids face many challenges in their lives and there are lots of reasons why they might end up in the justice system.

The rates of incarceration are tied up with disadvantage, health, substance abuse, family violence, child protection, education, employment and discrimination, among a number of other factors.

We need to make the system fairer to give our kids the best chance they have at breaking this cycle, despite everything they are up against.

Queensland Attorney-General Yvette D'Ath is keen to tackle this issue. Since coming into office, she's announced increased funding for Indigenous and family violence legal services, the end to military-style boot camps for kids, bringing back Murri courts and specialist drug courts, and has called for culturally appropriate services.

She has also announced the development of a new youth justice policy.

True to its word, the Palaszczuk Government introduced a Bill to undo the harmful changes to youth justice laws and policy brought in by the Newman Government in 2014.

If the Bill passes, detention will once again be a measure of last resort for kids; Children's Court judges will be able to review



Roxanne Moore

magistrates' sentencing decisions; boot camps will be abolished; and children's right to privacy will be protected in court hearings.

There's also more legislation in the works to reform youth justice in Queensland.

We understand that this legislation will look at ending the automatic transfer of 17-year-olds to adult prisons, closing Children's Courts, and reintroducing court-ordered youth conferencing, among other restorative justice programs.

We also would like to see, as part of these reforms, the

Queensland Government stop treating 17-year-olds as adults in the youth justice system.

Queensland is the only state in Australia to do this. Every child deprived of liberty should be separated from adults unless it is in the child's best interest not to do so, but there are currently 51 children in adult prisons in Queensland.

The programs and support available to 17-year-olds in adult prison is very different from those available in youth detention.

If we are going to end the cycle of reoffending, we need to be supporting these children to get out of the justice system, not further entrench them in it.

The Queensland Government has been doing consultation on many of these developments and the upcoming youth justice policy. Amnesty International has made a number of submissions to these processes, available on our website.

It is essential that Indigenous voices are heard during this consultation. We want the Government to pay attention to Indigenous leaders and communities who are already doing what they know will work for their kids.

We've been talking to Indigenous people across Queensland about this.

In Mount Isa, we've spoken with community about Mona Corporation's cultural

horsemanship program, Young People Ahead's cultural activities and a community yarning circle.

We have spoken with the Logan Elders who are breaking barriers with their program Culture in the Park.

We have yarned with Uncle Alfred Smallwood's men's group and Red Dust Healing in Townsville.

On Palm Island, we went to a community forum where we heard Indigenous women's stories about helping their young people across health and justice programs.

Our people know the answers – now we need to be heard and supported to make these changes for the future of our kids, and the safety of our communities.

The Queensland Government is moving in the right direction, and we need to show them that the public wants these changes for the better.

If you're from Queensland, please add your voice to our call on the Shadow Attorney-General to support Queensland's Youth Amendment Bill, by checking out our action at: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/action/41446/>

Together we can build a brighter future for Indigenous children in Queensland.

Roxanne Moore is a Noongar woman and Indigenous rights campaigner at Amnesty International.

Trial shows promise

A new trial, watchful waiting for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with acute otitis media (WATCH), is having positive effects on both Indigenous children and health workers.

CLAUDETTE (Sissy) Tyson, a research officer with WATCH, is touched by the impact she is having on lives of young Aboriginal parents and children in the Brisbane suburb of Inala.

"One of our patients' mothers rang me recently to say her daughter's ears were sore," she said.

"She asked to see me before any doctor looked in her ears, so I could make sure all was OK. I reassured the child that her ears were fine with no ear infection and then she saw the doctor."

The WATCH trial is a research project looking at ear disease in urban Indigenous communities.

Kira Schubert is another research officer working with WATCH at Awabakal Ltd, in Newcastle.

"Ear disease is very common in our children who have higher rates of ear disease and hearing loss than non-Indigenous children," she said.

"The problem is our community is not aware of the effects that ear disease can have on your hearing long term. Some people just think that it is behaviour issues.

Two main treatments

"A common middle-ear infection is acute otitis media (AOM). There are two main treatment options for AOM: Antibiotics or 'watchful waiting'.

Current Australian guidelines say for children over the age of two years who are not at high risk of complications, 'watchful waiting' is the best treatment.

Previous guidelines recommended antibiotic treatment for all Indigenous children.

Using too many antibiotics can cause antibiotic resistance and side effects such as diarrhoea.

Children with AOM are usually better within a week, whether they have antibiotics or not.

Ms Schubert said the WATCH trial was studying which treatment was best for urban Indigenous children.

"We hope that our community will become more aware of ear disease so we can help prevent AOM and hearing loss that may cause learning problems, social problems and problems with getting a job later in life," she said.

"We are making ear disease known in the community so our people recognise the symptoms. We provide pamphlets with information about AOM, and use posters and



WATCH research officer Sissy Tyson works with William Egert, from Inala, and his mum, Sonya Egert.

social media to encourage screening for ear problems."

In addition to Awabakal and Inala Indigenous Health Service, WATCH is working with Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation, and Sydney West Aboriginal Health Service, in Sydney, as well as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Services in Brisbane and Winnunga Nimmitiyah Aboriginal Health Service in Canberra.

Ms Tyson said part of her role was to train doctors.

"I had a patient and mother come for a day-seven follow-up and I asked a new registrar to see them," she said.

"I guided her through the forms and using the equipment and when I could see the mother was getting impatient and giving me funny looks, I politely let the registrar know that the patient needed to go soon.

"Later, the mother said to me that if I wasn't in the room with them, she would have left.

"When the registrar asked for feedback, I explained how she could do it better next time. She was happy with my feedback."

Ms Schubert said that until recently, she had no idea that ear disease was such a problem in Indigenous communities.

"This has been a big eye-opener for me. To be able to learn about such a life-changing problem in the communities and be able to help identify these issues is such a rewarding job," she said.

Ms Tyson and Ms Schubert said they had been inspired by Associate Professor Kelvin Kong, one of the research team and Australia's first Aboriginal ear, nose and throat surgeon.

"He has made me open my eyes in the bigger world in so many ways," Ms Tyson said.

"I want to better myself in my employment and am doing my Diploma in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care. I want to do further studies. I don't know exactly what path I will take, but I do know I want to stay in health to help my people."

Ms Schubert said moving from her home town of Coopernook had been a big change.

"This is the first time I have worked in a clinical role. I am really enjoying it," she said.

"I never thought I would be in this industry but I am loving it.

"I am grateful to be able to be a part of such important work in our community. This has definitely been a life-changing opportunity for me that I will be forever grateful for."



Kira Schubert, WATCH research officer at Awabakal, in Newcastle.

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 places on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgment of their heritage significance.

The Greatest Wonder of the World and the American Tobacco Warehouse and Fancy Goods Emporium, Gulgong

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 8 June 2016.

Enquiries to Mary Ann Hamilton on (02) 9873 8565 or
Maryann.hamilton@environment.nsw.gov.au

The Rock Bolting Development Site, Cooma

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 4 July 2016.

Enquiries to Barrina South on (02) 6229 7096 or
barrina.south@environment.nsw.gov.au
Alternatively, Dave Johnston on (02) 6229 7167 or
dave.johnston@environment.nsw.gov.au

Old Wentworth Gaol, Wentworth

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 4 May 2016.

Enquiries to Harvey Johnston on (03) 5021 8914 or
Harvey.johnston@environment.nsw.gov.au

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 these places.

Further details on the nominated places can be viewed at
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/NominationsOfStateHeritageRegister.aspx

Heritage Council of New South Wales

Locked Bag 5020

Parramatta NSW 2124

heritage@heritage.nsw.gov.au

(02) 9873 8500

Z10182



Have you had experience with \$500 infringement notices issued by WA Police for disorderly behaviour or stealing?

The Ombudsman is consulting with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities about the impact that these infringement notices have had on communities. You can visit our website at www.ombudsman.wa.gov.au/CCINs to read our Consultation Paper and make comments by **Friday, 20 May 2016** or call the Ombudsman's Principal Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Alison Gibson on Freecall **1800 117 000**.

Ombudsman
Western Australia

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At the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation launch are, from left, Premier Mike Baird, David Harris MP, Trevor Khan MLC, Mick Veitch MLC, Tony McAvooy SC, Jan Barham MLC, Minister Victor Dominello, Uncle Chikka Madden, Minister Leslie Williams, Teela Reid, NSW Governor David Hurley, Dale Connor and Justice Lucy McCallum.

High-powered friends for reconciliation



THE NSW Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation has been launched at Parliament House. It is the first NSW Parliamentary Friends group

to focus on Aboriginal people. The bi-partisan Friends of Reconciliation will aim to promote the importance of recognition and reconciliation for Australia's First People. NSW Governor David Hurley and Premier Mike

Baird attended, along with members of all political parties. The speakers at the launch included Mr Baird, Australia's first Indigenous senior counsel Tony McAvooy, young Aboriginal lawyer Teela Reid who is tipstaff to Justice

Lucy McCallum of the NSW Supreme Court, and Lend Lease managing director of building Dale Connor. NSW Aboriginal Affairs Minister Leslie Williams said reconciliation drives the Government's relationship

with Aboriginal people. "We are committed to reconcile the past and to work in partnership with Aboriginal people to achieve social, economic, cultural and emotional wellbeing," she said.

'Wave' of inmates warning



AUSTRALIA faces a "wave" of young Aboriginal people going to jail unless more is done to tackle drinking by pregnant women. Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda told a Senate inquiry this month that one of the keys to reducing Indigenous jail rates was to get a better understanding of foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD).

The disorder is an umbrella term for the range of physical, cognitive, behavioural and developmental problems that come from women drinking alcohol during pregnancy.

It is estimated more than one in eight Indigenous women drink at high-risk levels at least once a week, compared with one in 20 in the general population.

Mr Gooda said many young Indigenous people started out in the criminal justice system simply because they did not understand a police instruction, which could stem from them having symptoms of FASD.

More research was needed to engage with Indigenous women who drink, and better inform those within



Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda

the justice system who are dealing with children.

"We are going to see a wave of kids going into the justice system and, if the justice system can't cope, they are going to not only see them going in, we probably won't be seeing them out," Mr Gooda said.

"If we're not prepared for it, we might as well start to plan to build more prisons now." — AAP

Hard work pays off for 'barrister-to-be'

By KEIRA JENKINS



DANIELLE Hobday, from Mangrove Mountain on the NSW central coast, is no stranger to hard work. The mother of two has recently been acknowledged for her achievements in her studies, work and cadetship at the NSW/ACT Young Achievers Awards.

Ms Hobday, 22, said it was an honour to receive the Santos Indigenous Achievement Award.

"I was shocked, to be honest, and I was deeply humbled to be recognised with the award," she told the *Koori Mail*.

The Wiradjuri woman said time management has been the key to juggling her double degree in Law and Criminology, a cadetship with the Australian Federal Police, part-time work as a juvenile justice youth officer and spending time with her young family.

Ms Hobday said she and her partner, who is also studying, make sure to take turns looking after their son Tjandamura, 2, and daughter Yulara, six months.

"We always work it so there's someone with the kids, and they go to day care a few days of the week," she said.

"Also my parents are a big help, and my partner's parents. We've got a lot of support around us."

Ms Hobday also volunteers with the National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy and said working with young people is a passion.

"When I was younger I wanted to get into the police force. When I was asked if I'd be interested in a law degree I thought, 'No, I'm not smart enough for that,'" she said.

"Now I think I've grown through my degree and I really want to work with Indigenous youth because something like 52% of those in the justice system are Indigenous.



Santos general manager of energy NSW Peter Mitchley presents Danielle Hobday with her Indigenous Achievement Award at the NSW/ACT Young Achievers Awards.

"Seeing that cycle and knowing that figure, that's what motivates me through everything."

Ms Hobday doesn't plan on slowing down any time soon, saying she's got a few things "in the works" for the future.

"I'm planning on graduating around June this year. I want to be a lawyer, particularly working with young people," she said.

"But my long-term goal is to become a criminal barrister."

Evictions lead to Perth sit-in



DOZENS of Aboriginal protesters and supporters staged sit-ins outside the City of Perth's council offices and Parliament House over their eviction from the Heirisson Island parkland, near the CBD.

Mounted police watched last Thursday as protesters chanted and called for more public housing.

The group marched from Council House to Parliament and when ordered to move on, began setting up tents.

There will be no softening of the stance by authorities clamping down on campers occupying Heirisson Island, in central Perth, where tents returned only hours after forceful evictions.

Angry scenes erupted at the Swan River site on Tuesday, April 5, when more than 100 Aboriginal people were forced to leave by police and council rangers.

At least one man was arrested and two move-on notices were issued, and tents and other possessions were seized.

A handful of newly-donated tents were erected overnight, prompting the City of Perth to warn it would continue to monitor the island for breaches of local government law, and prosecutions could follow.

"Heirisson Island is local government property under local law and a valued recreational reserve," the council said.

It said it had taken care while taking away the campers' possessions and recorded the goods, which could be collected once the costs of removing, impounding and storing them had been paid.

Some of the campers said they were there to protest, but more said they were homeless, in some cases due to the closure of communities.

Some campers said they were local Nyoongar

people who had nowhere else to go, had been kicked out of public housing or Aboriginal communities and would be living on Perth streets if not at the island, including Nyoongar man Desmond Burton.

"We need water. We need food and shelter ... the Government should come and discuss it with us and not send their goon squad ... there is other police work out there in the community," he said.

"I went for a walk in town last night ... I saw homeless people out the front doors of businesses ... we can go and do that, sleep out but that's not right."

When asked where he would sleep, Mr Burton said he would be back at Heirisson Island when the police left, with tents donated by generous people "on their way as we speak".

Case managed

The council said it continued to work with agencies such as the Salvation Army and Department of Housing to assist those who were "truly homeless", adding three to four family groups had met the relevant agencies' criteria and were being case managed.

It also claimed more than 80% of tents removed from the island were vacant, while one stolen vehicle, several unregistered vehicles and one vehicle fitted with stolen number plates had been seized.

The island has been continuously occupied for about a year, initially as a protest against the planned closure of Aboriginal communities in remote parts of WA, and was also used in 2012 as the Nyoongar Tent Embassy.

The embassy says the island, known as Matagarup, is of great cultural significance and is registered with the WA Department of Indigenous Affairs as a meeting place, plant resource, camp and hunting place. —AAP



What's this then? Can't even have dinner with the Tiddas – unless you bid at an auction at Kick On, an event hosted by the Epic Good Foundation raising money for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Partnership aims to raise funds to improve literacy



AS National Reconciliation Week kicks off around the country next month, the Epic Good Foundation (EGF) will host an event on May 27, Kick On, to raise funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF).

As the first step in a new partnership between the two foundations, Kick On will feature entertainment by didg-fusion musician William Barton and singer/songwriter Georgia Corowa.

Epic Good Foundation co-founder and host for the evening Stuart Giles said he hoped the partnership would further the ILF's work.

"Through our work with the Hawthorn Indigenous Program, my wife Cathie and I have come to a greater appreciation of the role football plays in Indigenous communities, as well as the need to improve literacy rates in the same locations," he said.

"We want some of our philanthropic work to assist development in that area."

ILF executive director Karen Williams said the foundation was honoured to be working with another group that recognised the long-term importance of raising literacy levels in Indigenous communities.

"Motivating children through their sport is enormously effective and powerful," she said.

Kick On will feature a live auction with items for bidding including an autographed guitar owned by Troy Cassar-Daley, an \$8000 painting by Brisbane-based Ralph Wilson, an autographed Hawks guernsey, a Gilimbaa-designed football, and character naming rights in author Anita Heiss's next novel.

Dr Heiss, an ILF ambassador and Epic Good Foundation manager, said that they hoped to raise \$20,000 to help buy much-needed new and culturally appropriate books for more than 250 remote communities and organisations, including many Queensland-based communities.

"This new partnership between two like-minded foundations will help inspire our young people who love their footy but need the resources and skills to experience how reading will open many, many doors and a lifetime of opportunities for them," she said.

There is also a private dinner with the stars of the ABC's *Black Comedy* series, Aaron Fa'aoso and Steven Oliver, a Kate Grenville book club visit and a host of football memorabilia to bid for.

Bidding for the auction will open to the public on May 2 via the ILF website.

Children of jailed mothers in focus



ADVOCATES for human rights, inmate support organisations, psychologists and South Australia's Department of

Correctional Services have gathered to speak about how to support the children of women in prison.

The forum provided an opportunity to speak about women in prison, in the hopes of raising awareness of the effect it has on their children.

One of the speakers at the forum, Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement chief executive Cheryl Axleby, said it is crucial to continue to have these kinds of conversations.

"We need to let women know

there is support for them while they're in prison and that they can work with organisations to get better outcomes when they're released," she told the *Koori Mail*.

"There's a lack of funding, not just in the prison system, but in the wider community, to prevent women and youth imprisonment and that cycle of intergenerational imprisonment."

Ms Axleby said the statistics showing the fast-growing number of Aboriginal women going to prison was unacceptable and there hadn't been enough focus on women's issues, especially in the justice system.

"There's a terrible impact on our women when children are removed from their families,"

she said.

"It's a lack of understanding on the system's part and the impact of government involvement – it seems to be not too different from the practices of the past.

"They're really not looking at family, they're not considering women who have suffered abuse or family violence and they're forgetting the impact on these women's lives."

While Ms Axleby said pregnancy should not be an excuse to get out of imprisonment, mothers should have the right to be part of their children's lives.

"Just because someone has done something wrong to end up in prison, it doesn't mean they're a bad mother," she said.

● **RIGHT:** Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement chief executive Cheryl Axleby, Seeds of Affinity coordinator Linda Fisk, and Victims' Rights SA Commissioner Michael O'Connell at the 'Women in Prison – Every Woman and Child' forum.



1980s band seeks crowd funding



THE members of Aboriginal band No Fixed Address have not only survived – they're hoping to make some new music.

The popular 1980s group is asking for help to raise funds to enable them to record and document their journey to the South Australian Music Hall of Fame in Adelaide in June.

The band formed in 1979 at the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) in North Adelaide.

Songwriter and guitarist Ricky Harrison said the band members were from different tribal areas, which 'presented us with a lot more opportunities to cross borders and perform in our own communities'.

They adopted reggae as their 'spiritual music guide', as they say the music and politics of reggae music was an inspiration for them.

"Our songs were bold and about our experiences as Aboriginal youths, and the social conditions that our people faced and lived in," Mr Harrison said.

Their biggest hit *We Have Survived* is a protest anthem



No Fixed Address is planning to make a new album and is asking for help via crowd funding.

about resilience.

They saw and experienced racism first-hand but also experienced unity.

The band performed throughout Australia and Europe during the 1980s and recorded two albums.

No Fixed Address' songs

were played on commercial radio and the band appeared on national music programs, including *Countdown*.

Their debut EP *From My Eyes* was launched by Prime Minister Bob Hawke at the Hilton Hotel in Melbourne.

They made a documentary of

their UK tour in 1984 titled *NFA On Tour*.

The band says some of their highlights include touring England in 1984 and Europe in 1987, a royal charity performance for Prince Charles, co-starring in the road movie *Wrong Side of the Road* in 1980

and being the support act for Peter Tosh, Cold Chisel, The Clash, Ian Drury, and black American blues legend Taj Mahal.

"One of our major highlights was being a part of CASM, where we began," Mr Harrison said.

"We will be returning to Adelaide a week earlier to rehearse, record and document our journey."

The band members currently live in three different states and say paying airfares, accommodation, and costs of living while away limit their opportunities and avenues for documentation.

The band wishes to record 10 new songs for an album.

All those people who donate will have their names acknowledged on album sleeves.

Donations over \$100 will also receive a free autographed album as well.

Donations of \$250 will receive the full package including a copy of the DVD film clip of the band's live performance at the SA music the Hall of Fame.

● For more information visit <https://www.gofundme.com/79yff9zw>

Jawun's success story



A PANEL of representatives from Indigenous organisations, government bodies and corporate Australia have gathered to discuss

Australian NGO Jawun's impact evaluation report.

The report, conducted by KPMG, looked at Jawun's model – an Aboriginal-led model – to consider whether it was best practice in terms of efficiency.

One of the panellists, La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council chief executive Chris Ingrey, said the report showed that Jawun, which placed people from Australian corporations into Indigenous organisations, had achieved great outcomes for Aboriginal people.

"It's a unique model. Aboriginal people actually lead the projects, and the government organisations and the corporations are there to provide support,"

the Dhungutti and Dharawal man said.

"The Aboriginal community is actually the priority. The Empowered Communities initiative (as advocated by Jawun) has had a positive impact on the whole community in La Perouse.

"It just goes to show the Government that there's a better way to do business with Aboriginal people."

According to the report, 70-90% of Indigenous organisations saw an increase in the capacity domains tested, including strategy, structure, systems, shared culture, style, staffing and skills using Jawun's inputs.

Jawun Inner Sydney regional director Brad Cooke said the evaluation report determined the success of the organisation, a success that he attributed to the model of Aboriginal organisations working closely with corporate businesses and government organisations.

"It's just validated and justified the work that's being done and it goes to show that we're on to a winning program," he told the *Koori Mail*.

"We're very happy with the results. It showed there was a large growth in productivity in the communities, but it also showed a growth in the knowledge about Indigenous people in the corporations that were involved."

Successful partnerships

The evaluation also said that Jawun had contributed to the ability of Indigenous organisations and leaders to form successful partnerships, to collaborate within and outside of their communities, to expand their networks, increase knowledge sharing and enabling organisations and leaders to influence change.

Mr Cooke said Jawun opened up a two-way street for a relationship between Indigenous organisations and large

corporations.

"On one hand, the representatives from the corporations are learning about Aboriginal culture, but on the other, there is also a transfer of skills from the corporations to smaller Indigenous organisations," he said.

"We are pleasantly surprised with the results and the high level of success the Indigenous communities and the corporations have experienced."

Also on the panel were Jawun patron and Cape York partnership director Noel Pearson, Federal Human Services Minister Alan Tudge, KPMG's Jawun evaluation lead and global lead human services Liz Forsyth, Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council chief executive Sean Gordon, and Indigenous Engagement Taskforce and Business Council of Australia chairman Michael Rose.

The discussion was moderated by Jawun chief executive Karyn Baylis.

First Nations issues in spotlight



A SERIES of conversations about contemporary First Nations issues, 'Homeground Talks', will be held at the Sydney

Opera House next month.

On the evening of May 27, the Opera House will be lit up for *Songlines*, an exhibition by six Aboriginal artists that will animate the Opera House's famous sails as part of Vivid LIVE and Vivid Sydney, a festival of light, music and ideas.

Sydney Opera House head of Indigenous programming and *Songlines* director Rhoda Roberts is playing a leading role in the events on Bennelong Point, previously known as Tubowgule and a meeting place for the local Gadigal people for thousands of years.

'Homeground Talks' will feature artists, leaders and academics including Marcia Langton, musician David Bridie, Rosalie Kunoth-Monks and Maori activist Tame Iti debating economic opportunity and sovereignty for Indigenous people.

In the first panel, 'Open for Business: Diverse Economies in First Nations Communities', Langton, Bridie, Papua New Guinean musician John Faunt and Bundjalung environmentalist Amelia Telford will go beyond mining, examining some of the lesser-known economies at play in First Nations communities, alternative business models and ways to work that may not garner the same media attention as mining income.

The event continues with a discussion called 'Unfinished Paperwork: Recognition and Sovereignty'.

Treaty, native title and sovereignty remain hot issues in Australia and New Zealand. This panel, with a diverse and provocative range of opinion leaders, will discuss the first political question.

Speakers will include Michael Mansell, Rosalie Kunoth-Monks and Tame Iti.

Ms Roberts said 'Homeground Talks' was a platform where honest, robust opinions could be shared from the First Nations community in Australia and the Asia Pacific.

"The Sydney Opera House is the perfect setting for diverse voices to be heard in a contemporary conversation that matters to all Australians," she said.

"We hope it will become a highlight of the Indigenous program at the Sydney Opera House, along with Homeground Festival later this year."



Arrernte-Alyawarra Elder Rosalie Kunoth-Monks is one of the people featured in 'Homeground Talks', a series of conversations about First Nations issues at the Sydney Opera House.

Nyoongar pushes for 'new way forward'



NYOONGAR Elders were the guests at a lunch with representatives of all political parties held in the WA

Parliament last week.

The Wadjuk Boodja Gateway Aboriginal Corporation (WBGAC) says this represents an important next step in progressing the determination of the Aboriginal community to secure an Aboriginal cultural centre on Wadjuk Nyoongar Boodja (land).

WBGAC chairperson Ted Wilkes said Nyoongar people's history, traditions, languages and knowledge were significant to the contemporary and future lifestyle of West Australians.

"It is important that the legitimate rights and expectations of the Nyoongar peoples in this endeavour not be subordinated to other interests, as is too often the case," he said. "We come to this place in a



Nyoongar Elders attend the WA Parliament House luncheon with political leaders.

spirit of true partnership with the parliamentary representatives of the WA people to forge a new way forward.

"Nyoongar people have much to offer WA which is of relevance and benefit for securing a future we can all be proud of."

Elders Business vice-chair and director Bev Port-Louie said

it was essential for Aboriginal people to be involved in government policies and plans.

"The active and ongoing involvement of Aboriginal peoples in the development, implementation, management and monitoring of policies, services and programs affecting the wellbeing of their

communities is essential," she said.

"Community Elders have a special place in these arrangements."

Professor Wilkes said 40,000 years of Aboriginal culture was in "dynamic transition" in Perth and that Nyoongar people needed to build their mia mias

(houses/meeting places).

"This is consistent with the desire to inform all West Australians that Aboriginal culture on the west coast of Australia is surviving and reviving for us all," he said.

"We want all West Australians to share and own our place together."

WBGAC has been under development for the past 10 years, and over this time has consulted with Elders and the wider community.

Gateway

The WBGAC aims to uphold cultural heritage in the culturally right way, and establish a gateway to the Nyoongar world for all West Australians and overseas visitors.

The project aims to strengthen and build respect for the cultural knowledge and wisdom of the traditional custodians of Perth and the south-west, where there are 13 Nyoongar tribes.

Fears for children



ABORIGINAL community-controlled health services across the Northern Territory have met in Katherine to discuss the care and protection of Aboriginal children.

It was agreed at the meeting that the safety and wellbeing of children was paramount; child safety and wellbeing was a public health issue; there was growing alarm that the focus on these issues had again slipped; and that too many children were not adequately protected and were being left in unsafe situations.

It was also agreed by the services that there was no need for an intervention from the Commonwealth Government but there was a need for high-level partnership between Aboriginal leaders and organisations, governments, police and others to address the situation.

The Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT (AMSANT) has already called for the establishment of a taskforce across northern Australia to address the problem, however they say the importance of the issues also warrants the establishment of a dedicated NT Aboriginal children's commissioner to work with the existing NT

children's commissioner, Colleen Gwynne.

The meeting agreed that too many kids were living in unsafe environments and Aboriginal leaders in the health sector accepted they had a responsibility and duty of care to do something about it.

They say the problems have been highlighted by reports of inappropriate sexualised behaviours in children and adolescents, and there has been no dedicated funding for evidence-based programs, including violence prevention education, to support families and communities to respond to these complex issues.

The services say they are concerned about reporting of children presenting with sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The meeting heard from the Ms Gwynne that there were still major concerns with sexual abuse in the NT.

She said since the defunding of the special police unit investigating child sexual abuse, there had not been the capacity in the police force to properly investigate reported cases.

The services agreed that any child presenting with evidence of any form of abuse needed to be properly investigated, supported and protected.

Film carries powerful message



MEMBERS of the Walsh family were joined by rugby league's Phil

Gould and NSW Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence Minister Pru Goward at the Panthers Centre of Excellence recently to launch a new domestic violence education film, *Lana's Warriors*.

The Walsh family, originally from Bourke, lost their daughter Lana in a domestic violence homicide in 1992.

In the film, members of the family tell the story of the impact of the murder and the effects it still has on the family today.

The film will be used as part of the Tackling Violence program's domestic violence education workshops with rugby league clubs across NSW.

"*Lana's Warriors* forms the core of the highly successful Tackling Violence education workshops and will help open

safe discussions of a hidden issue," Ms Goward said.

"I am very grateful that the Walsh family have been brave enough to share their tragic family story so that others can learn from it."

Cousin Sean Gordon believes the film provides an opportunity for the family to heal some of the wounds inflicted by the violence 24 years ago.

"The pain doesn't stop when the violence stops, and in many ways the violence spreads out through the grief and trauma inflicted on the family and extended family," he said.

"I hope, and I know the family hopes, that, by telling this story, we can help other families avoid the pain and suffering that they have been through."

The launch was attended by more than 30 members of the Walsh family, who came from all points of NSW.

Many, including Lana's son Michael, had played in the

2012 memorial side at the Aboriginal Rugby league Knockout.

Lana's Warriors were brought together by Lana's younger sister Paula and it was the first time a memorial side for a victim of domestic violence had played at the Knockout.

"We have always been a football family. It is the centre of our lives," Paula said.

"The Knockout team was a memorial for my sister, but it was also a statement to the wider community that victims of domestic violence cannot be forgotten, and that all of us have to do something to put an end to violence against our family members."

Tackling Violence is a NSW Government domestic violence education and prevention program that uses rugby league as a vehicle to educate men and communities about domestic violence.

This year, 19 regional clubs and two metropolitan clubs are participating in the program.



Sean Gordon, Aunty Penny Walsh and film producer Paula Maling at the launch of *Lana's Warriors*.

Focus on Education

Your guide to what's happening in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education

Debbon trainee of the year



YOUNG Indigenous educator Debbon Webb (pictured) has taken out the 2016 Group Training NT (GTNT) school-based Trainee of the Year award.

Mr Webb, from the remote Hart's Range community north-east of Alice Springs, was recognised for his achievements and commitment to his study in Certificate III in Education Support at Batchelor Institute and the knowledge and skills that he has been sharing with the Aboriginal children at Bradshaw School.

Mr Webb said he is proud of winning the GTNT apprenticeship award because he has had to overcome many challenges. He has been working at the school for over a year and was searching for the right career development opportunity.

"I was thinking of a solution. I said to myself 'do something' and I came out of my comfort zone with a vision to become an Aboriginal educator," he said.

"Completing the qualification in Education Support at Batchelor Institute was instrumental in my success.

"Better position"

"It is a great course because it built my capacity to become a better educator and now I am in a better position to provide assistance and support to teachers and students.

"I am enjoying being part of the school, helping children with additional needs and supporting them with learning."

Mr Webb said there are rewarding careers in the education field for Aboriginal – "they just need to set their goals and start studying".

"Schools in the Northern Territory need more Aboriginal educators and together we can really bridge the gap," he said.

Bradshaw School Aboriginal and Islander Education Worker Shannan Clarke said the community is proud of Mr Webb.

"He lives in two worlds and has done an amazing job of balancing his cultural responsibilities and education commitments. Debbon is highly liked by his students because he understands their culture, as he has lived it," she said.

GTNT provides assistance for people to undertake an apprenticeship or traineeship across the Territory.

Scholarships pay off

MOTIVATED Indigenous students shouldn't be put off pursuing a university education because of affordability, the Australian National University says.

Instead, they should explore the availability of scholarships which can help ensure bright Indigenous kids reach their full potential.

Danielle Dries is a scholarship winner and first-year medical student at The Australian National University (ANU).

For Ms Dries, Indigenous health is an issue that hits close to home. "Both my grandparents had a lot of health problems growing up," she said.

"I took some Indigenous health subjects in my first degree and got a little bit upset and a little bit angry the more I learned.

"So many Indigenous health problems are preventable. I was never attracted to surgery because I'd rather prevent problems before they occur."

ANU Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre Director Anne Martin said the availability of scholarships gives students the opportunity to really focus on their studies.

"It's such a demanding program they're undertaking. Financial support is incredibly important," she said.

"To receive a scholarship

makes a huge difference for students."

ANU has a range of scholarships available to support Indigenous students. The university says that, in particular, the availability of accommodation scholarships is important because many Indigenous students come from regional or rural areas to study at ANU.

"Real benefits"

"Accommodation scholarships help supplement the costs of relocating to Canberra and living away from home, and there are real benefits to living on campus," ANU says.

"Apart from the convenience

of classes, libraries and computer labs literally on their doorstep, students find themselves immersed in a tolerant and like-minded community made up of people from all over Australia and around the world.

"When things get tough, like during exam periods, they have the support of their peers. Through shared experience they make connections and friends for life."

Garigarra Mundine grew up in Dubbo and Sydney. She couldn't find a course in Sydney that really aligned with what she wanted to do, but the International Relations

course at ANU was perfect.

"I wouldn't have been able to afford moving to Canberra, on top of paying rent. Then there's cutlery, plates, pots and pans ..."

she said. The team at the Tjabal Centre helped Ms Mundine apply for an accommodation scholarship. Now she lives in her own apartment on campus.

The Tjabal Centre says it can also help Indigenous students apply for internships and cadetships, and other opportunities that make living away from home easier, and will set them up for success at university and beyond.

● More on ANU, page 40

UTS further study program is the first of its kind – page 50

wilin | wil•in
Woi Wurrung [noun]
1. a fire or flame

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JCU program gives access

A NUMBER of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who applied via QTAC to study at James Cook University within the Division of Tropical Health and Medicine and did not receive a direct offer from QTAC are participating in the Indigenous Health Careers Access Program (IHCAP) 2016.

This year, 24 students who identified as Indigenous with QTAC are participating in the program.

IHCAP is an alternate entry pathway into a degree and aims to provide a tailored program study for Indigenous students relevant to the discipline of their choice.

The program is designed to strengthen the capabilities of students and provide practical skills and knowledge in the foundation disciplines, to enable students to progress in their chosen health degree.

Students are provided with academic and social support services by dedicated IHCAP officers and academic advisors.

IHCAP is offered at JCU's Townsville and Cairns campuses.

The students attended a compulsory three-week orientation program in Townsville from January 25 to February 12. The orientation is an intensive course where students do a variety of activities, including study skills and complete their first subject –



Indigenous Health Careers Access Program (IHCAP) 2016 students at James Cook University, north Queensland.

CU1010 Effective Writing.

The first year of their degree is spread over two years and students complete a combination of prerequisite subjects and subjects from the first-year level of their chosen course.

Students then move on to the

second year of their chosen degree and follow the standard course structure.

Upon successful completion they are awarded their degree.

IHCAP Disciplines include:

- Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences

- Bachelor of Dental Surgery
- Bachelor of Exercise Physiology (Clinical)
- Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science
- Bachelor of Nursing Science
- Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

- Bachelor of Pharmacy
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy
- Bachelor of Speech Pathology
- Bachelor of Sports and Exercise Science
- Bachelor of Veterinary Science.

Gambling in trio's sights

THREE young UNSW students – Paige Hoskin, Sarah Wellings and Tyarna Larkin – have received cadetships offered by the NSW Government's Responsible Gambling Fund (RGF) to Aboriginal undergraduates studying in fields such as psychology, social work, social welfare or health sciences.

RGF, which funds programs and services that aim to reduce the harm of problem gambling, is also funding up to 60 scholarships and six traineeships over three years to 2017 to train Indigenous health and welfare workers under its Aboriginal Problem Gambling Training Program.

It is working with the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health at the University of Sydney and TAFE NSW – South Western Sydney Institute to deliver the training program.

In addition to the training, the three 20-year-old students will undertake an optional 12-week work placement at a counselling service for gamblers.

Problem gambling is more

common in Indigenous communities than the general Australian population, according to the State Government.

But because Indigenous people are often not comfortable dealing with non-Indigenous counsellors, the Government is aiming to increase the number of Indigenous counsellors.

Ms Hoskin, who is currently

education for others," she said.

Ms Wellings, in her third year of studies in Social Work and Criminology and Criminal Justice, is passionate about closing the gap between Indigenous and other Australians in all aspects of life, but especially regarding problems such as gambling.

Ms Larkin, who moved from Tweed Heads to study at UNSW

and is currently in her third year of a degree in Social Work and a Bachelor of Arts, said she wanted to give back to her community. "I want to be the first person in my family to achieve university success and be a role model in my Indigenous community. As a recipient of this scholarship, I will be able to excel to my full potential," she said.

Poche Centre for Indigenous Health director Kylie Gwynne said the three students had been chosen because they were outstanding candidates who demonstrated academic success.

"Sarah, Paige and Tyarna show a deep commitment to their community and we are proud to support them," Ms Gwynne said.



UNSW students, from left, Tyarna Larkin, Sarah Wellings and Paige Hoskin have been awarded cadetships.

pursuing a double degree in Social Work and Criminology, said people close to her had been affected by problem gambling. "I believe educating myself is the first step towards making a change and being able to provide help and

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Aspiring teaching assistant

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NAISDA artists together to celebrate the college's 40th anniversary.



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NAISDA Dance College has been a catalyst and cultivator of the development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dance artists for 40 years.

This year it's celebrating this achievement with a program of artistic and cultural events.

NAISDA, started in 1976, is responsible for the creation of two world-class dance companies – the highly-acclaimed Bangarra Dance Theatre and previously, AIDT.

The college has an alumni list that reads like the who's who of top Indigenous creative influencers. Those who have passed through NAISDA's doors include artistic director of Bangarra Dance Theatre Stephen Page, renowned choreographer Frances Rings, actor, singer and radio host Christine Anu, as well as actors and comedians Sean Choolburra and Lillian Crombie.

With its developing artists

travelling from all over Australia to attend the college's NSW Central Coast campus, NAISDA enjoys success in terms of its retention and completion rates. Vocational Education and Training (VET) completion rates at NAISDA currently sit at 81.25%, about double the national average.

NAISDA says this success comes down to the passion of its teachers, the vision of its leaders and the skills of its developing artists.

"Rewarding"

"As we enter NAISDA's 40th year, its rewarding to not only reflect on the college's vast achievements over the past four decades, but also see how far we've come," NAISDA chief executive Kim Walker said.

"We are seeing a high volume of our graduates go on to achieve great success in the performing arts industry. Nine out of the 18 current dancers at Bangarra are

NAISDA alumni, and all recent diploma graduates now work in the sector or have achieved their next career step.

"Looking forward, we aim to create even greater opportunities for our developing artists."

Events are planned throughout the year to coincide with the 40th anniversary.

"Our 40th celebrations will culminate in a very special string of events set to take place at Carriageworks Sydney in November this year," Mr Walker said.

"Included in our program will be: *Naya Wa Yugali – We Dance* a multimedia exhibition showcasing NAISDA's past, present and future; *Speaking Countries*, a series of conversations, sharing of songs and dancers between cultural communities; and main stage contemporary works *From Sand to Stage (Past, Present, Future)*."

More information at www.naisda.com.au

Wilin Centre aims high

By Eugenia Flynn, of the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development

THE Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development has its sights set firmly on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and cultural practitioners.

With a revitalised suite of programs to engage the community as well as new teaching and research activities, the Wilin Centre is ready to harness the artistic and cultural talents of the Indigenous community.

Based at The University of Melbourne's Faculty of the Victorian College of the Arts and Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, the Wilin Centre has partnered with various schools and departments to bring arts skills programs to the community.

The School of Film and Television has a *Making Movies* roadshow that tours with Wilin to regional Victorian Aboriginal communities, and Music Theatre is also keen to partner with the centre, already offering short courses to Aboriginal community members.

Head of curriculum and programs at the Wilin Centre Richard Frankland wants to see more 'bums on seats' at the



Head of curriculum and programs at the Wilin Centre Richard Frankland, an accomplished playwright, scriptwriter and musician, wants to see more 'bums on seats' at the faculty.

faculty. By engaging with the community early on he hopes that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists will be better

prepared for the rigours of fulltime study in the arts.

"The undergraduate courses here are some of the best in the

country and we want Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to put their best foot forward in the application process so that they

can expand their voices, and the voices of the community, through art," he said.

This year has also seen Wilin launch a new suite of research activities including work in the far north of Western Australia as well as research into the connections between art, culture and wellbeing.

Wilin has started its first ever research degree programs – a Master of Fine Arts in Indigenous Arts and Culture and a PhD program – with an initial small cohort of students enrolled. Aimed at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists with an established arts and culture practice, the Masters and PhD programs allow artists to explore their art and culture through practice-led research.

The Wilin Centre is encouraging of any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and cultural practitioners interested in expanding or consolidating their career in the arts or arts research.

Applications for undergraduate courses close at the end of August and graduate courses close at the end of October, annually.

For more information, contact John Wayne Parsons, schools and community liaison officer at the Wilin Centre, on (03) 9035 9327 or through wilin-centre@unimelb.edu.au



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University of South Australia

Indigenous artwork depicting South Australia, painted by Chris Ackland and UniSA students during 2014 Reconciliation Week.

Aiming for excellence

Australian Catholic University student Cameron Preval.



AS a young swimmer growing up in Hervey Bay, Queensland, Cameron Preval dreamed of sporting excellence. He is now getting the chance to pursue his dream for excellence after enrolling in the Bachelor of Health and Exercise Science at Australian Catholic University, where he is also supported through the Elite Athlete and Performer Program.

The 19-year-old has a Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship, available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students studying in health disciplines. The scholarship assists recipients to complete their studies and join the health workforce.

Mr Preval said the scholarship, which offers up to \$15,000 a year, has meant more financial independence and also helped him to pursue his swimming career. He says it has helped him manage the pressure from his grueling sport training program and the need to work while studying.

"I am looking to be a sport psychologist or sporting coach," he said.

"I think there is a need for more Indigenous sports psychologists because I feel Indigenous people are more comfortable when learning from others within their own culture.

"I also have an interest in research, particularly around swimming. I specifically want to look at the relationship between biomechanics and psychology and how that affects performance.

"I want to be able to help both emerging and elite athletes cope with the sport/life balance and make them better in their sport and daily life."

ACU offers a wide range of support services for Indigenous students, who can study at one of the university's campuses in Canberra, Ballarat, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney or Adelaide, or by distance. The ACU Away-from-Base program offers specific multi-modal study in midwifery, education and business.

There is also a range of scholarships and bursaries for new and continuing students across education, health science, law, business, and theology and philosophy fields.

Mr Preval is one of five Indigenous students at ACU who received the Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship. Other current recipients include midwifery student Stephanie Archibald and physiotherapy students Gregg Matthews, Chloe Williams and Waka Nolan.

ACU's Faculty of Health Sciences has

developed a curriculum dedicated to producing caring graduates who promote health and prevent illness for Australia's health and sports industries.

Young people have the chance to follow in their footsteps and apply for mid-year entry to ACU. For more information, call 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228) or email futurestudents@acu.edu.au or visit acu.edu.au

"I want to be able to help emerging and elite athletes cope with the sport/life balance and make them better in their sport and daily life."



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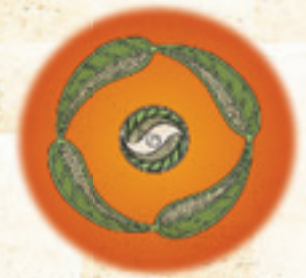
ACU is committed to providing support during your undergraduate or postgraduate studies. Our Indigenous Higher Education Units offer academic, personal and cultural support in a welcoming and culturally safe space. We offer flexible study options including Away From Base courses and provide a range of scholarship and bursary opportunities.

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Start Now! Contact your nearest Indigenous Higher Education Unit at either Brisbane, Strathfield, Canberra or Melbourne.

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Artwork by Wurundjeri artist Mandy Nicholson

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“I love the sense of community within RMIT – it’s the students, staff and the wider community.” – Hollie, RMIT Photography Student

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Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS)

ITAS is a specialised tutorial program for students who are doing well in their programs and would like to keep ahead, and for those who might need extra study support.

Students in their first year of tertiary study are especially encouraged to use ITAS, although it is available for free to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at any level.

Picture yourself at RMIT? Then get in touch today:

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Graduation celebration

WESTERN Sydney University has celebrated this month's graduation of more than 50 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Students graduated from disciplines including Health Sciences, Teaching, Nursing and Business. Among others, nine graduated with a Bachelor of Community and Social Development degree and one with a Diploma of Community and Social Development.

Bachelor of Community and Social Development graduate Stacey Dellow says that as an older Aboriginal woman, her time at Western Sydney University was very rewarding.

"Now I have graduated, I can put into practice everything I've learned in my degree during my day to day working life," she said.

"I now have the skills and resources to challenge issues involving our community wellbeing and welfare, and the one unit in the degree that I found valuable more than any other was social research."

The Bachelor of Community and Social Development is a three-year undergraduate degree offered in block mode for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The innovative teaching method sees students attend six one-week residential visits at the Penrith campus every

year. The degree provides the skills and knowledge for work in various fields in the community sector, including community development, welfare, advocacy, youth work, case management and allied health.

"I have such a passion for research and why things happen that I would love to head down the path of obtaining my PhD in the years to come," Ms Dellow said.

"Having completed the Bachelor of Community and Social Development, I am now continuing my studies and have enrolled in the Master of Social Work at Western Sydney. Thank you to all my lecturers who believed in me."

Real need

Dean of the School of Social Sciences and Psychology Professor Kevin Dunn says there is a real need for these graduates.

"Bachelor of Community and Social Development students gain first-hand experience through their field education placements, and block mode of teaching allows them to stay connected to their community," he said.

"This hands-on experience means our students are securing meaningful employment even before they graduate."



Western Sydney University's latest Bachelor of Community and Social Development degree graduates.



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You've just got to follow your dreams

James Cook University is committed to making the university experience for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students a positive and successful one.

Luana Healey, a Gura Gulu Gunggandji woman from Bilma in the bay of Yarrabah, started her first year of studying a Bachelor of Exercise Physiology (Clinical) in 2015 after completing Year 12. "I decided to go with something sports based because I love my sport – AFL is a huge aspect of my life."

Luana found the support services at JCU helped her settle into student life. "The teachers at JCU are very approachable and the Indigenous Support Officers helped me a lot throughout my first year."

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are provided with social, cultural and academic support services by dedicated Indigenous staff.

To anyone considering university Luana says, "My culture is accepted and embraced. There are many programs and people here to support you, and I think you've just got to follow your dreams. Go to university if you get the chance."

"I always knew I wanted to come to university, it was just a question of what I was going to study. Once I narrowed that down it was easy," she said.

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THE JOURNEY OF OUR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

Garigarra Mundine

B Arts (International Relations)

“I have a real interest in Indigenous policy and one day, I want to work on human rights issues for Indigenous Australians on an international level. And ANU is the best place to do that.

The hardest thing about coming to ANU was being separated from my family. But when I’m homesick, the people at Tjabal give me that support. We have Aboriginal community get-togethers and barbeques – it’s great having everyone get together.

The Tjabal Centre has been amazing. They helped me by putting me in touch with the right people to talk to about what I wanted to do and what courses would be best for me, and helped me through the application process ... they even helped me get a scholarship to cover my accommodation on campus.

Since coming to ANU, I’ve completed an internship with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, and they’ve kept me on part-time to work on Indigenous policy while I study. Next, I’m really interested in getting a cadetship with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. They have an international Indigenous community outreach program there and do a lot of work with the United Nations – which is what I want to do.

Long term, I’d love to be the first Indigenous Minister for Indigenous Affairs!”

Sam Provost

B Science (Resource and Environmental Management)

“For people who have come from all over Australia to study at ANU, Tjabal is a family and a place to get together and yarn like we would at home. Culture can get lost in a big institution like this, Tjabal reminds us of our culture and celebrates it.

For me, the environment and my Indigenous culture fall into the same category. An intrinsic part of Aboriginal culture and lore values environmental systems; that connection with country and the land.

Australia is an old, dry country and European land management practices don’t work here. I want to learn more about traditional Aboriginal land practices, developed over 20,000 years, and integrate them with current Western land management practices.

As well as studying the environment at ANU, I’m doing a cadetship with the ABC through the Indigenous Cadetships Support initiative. It’s given me the opportunity to do some really awesome things, like investigating the state of the native forest industry in Australia for Radio National. It’s also a foot in the door of the industry, if that’s what I want.

What I want in particular, is to help to conserve the culture around the South Coast of NSW, where I’m from, and have it be a part of land management down there. Whether that’s through working in government, conducting research, or raising awareness in the media. I care about the environment and I want to be able to preserve it and conserve it.”

Minette Salmon

M Biological Sciences (Advanced)

“I’ve always been a science nerd. I love science because I like to know ‘why?’.

I was in the military for seven years and after finishing training, I needed to study again and be learning something. I studied some biology subjects online and I became fascinated with genetics.

When I left the military, I wanted to study biology but I was unsure; did I want to be a full-time student again? Could my brain cope with it? It was Anne Martin, the Director of the Tjabal Centre at ANU, who convinced me.

Tjabal has been home to me. Here you have support, friends to talk to, and a great study space. It’s helped me connect with my Indigenous heritage and taught me to accept myself for who I am – that’s really cool.

I’m working at the John Curtin School of Medical Research at ANU, with the Department of Immunology and Infectious Diseases. I’m using CRISPR, a new genetic engineering technology, and attempting something that’s not been done before: to edit the red blood cell genome, infecting them with malaria parasites to investigate a gene found in mice that is resistant to malaria. This could help us figure out how to design a drug to target malaria in humans.

When I finish my Masters, I plan to go on and do a PhD. I want to be a career researcher, so I can continue asking ‘why?!’

Create your own story indigenous.anu.edu.au

Image: Garigarra Mundine and Sam Provost



STUDENTS OFFERED RENT-FREE ACCOMMODATION IN LANDMARK UTS STRATEGY

It's only been five years, but thanks to UTS's Indigenous Education and Employment Policy, the university is changing. The latest initiative Home@UTS, will offer 58 Indigenous students the option to live rent-free, right next door to campus. The most ambitious initiative will ensure that by 2018, every UTS graduate has a professional capacity to work with, and for, Indigenous Australians.

Yindymarra. Go on, say it out loud. Yindymarra.

This beautiful, singsong word from the Wiradjuri Nation essentially means that you must move through the world carefully and mindfully because everything you say and do has impacts beyond which you will never know.

It's also a fitting way to explain the thoughtful and inclusive approach taken by UTS to encourage and support Indigenous people to succeed in their education and career ambitions.

The Indigenous Education and Employment Policy (IEEP) was instituted in 2011 and for the first time, articulated a comprehensive, whole-of-university approach to creating Indigenous jobs, boosting Indigenous student participation and essentially making the university's Indigenous commitment 'core business'.

In the five short years since, UTS has been in the express lane; but Michael McDaniel is convinced the story actually started when the university was founded.

"UTS is good soil," says McDaniel, Director of Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning – a special space on campus that offers academic and cultural support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

"From its inception, UTS had its social justice identity written into its DNA. The progress we've made since is the result of attracting staff with a shared passion to grow this commitment."

To give an idea of the scale of work that has been going on since the IEEP came into play, over 50 Indigenous initiatives have been progressed across the university. In McDaniel's own words: "We are interested in every possible opportunity for Indigenous advancement across the entire agenda. It's all hands on deck!"

Supported by significant investment from the university, the strategy includes new degree programs, free-of-charge tutors, social support, international experiences, strategic recruitment, outreach programs, referral services, improved facilities, fundraising, new scholarships, on-campus programs, career opportunities and rent-free accommodation.

Right up to the bold Indigenous Graduate Attribute program (more on this later) – making connections, building community and sewing the seeds of the future has been the focus. *Yindymarra.*

One of the strategy's most important focus areas is the provision of accommodation. According to the *Behrendt Report of the Review into Higher Education Access and Outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People* (commissioned by the Federal Government and chaired by top UTS Indigenous researcher Larissa Behrendt), the difficulty of finding

affordable accommodation is a major barrier for Indigenous students who want to come to university.

"While we must keep working hard to inspire more Indigenous Australians to come to university, we must also make it possible for them to live affordably, safely and comfortably," McDaniel says.

Home@UTS opened its doors in February 2016 offering 58 Indigenous students the option of living in rent-free accommodation within a supportive community of their peers, right next door to campus. This initiative, which McDaniel believes is an Australian first, will more than double the number of students UTS is currently able to support and has been made possible by a \$1.5 million fund. Students also receive a weekly stipend to assist with living expenses.

"Residents will also be able to seek advice on practical, social and educational matters from a dedicated Indigenous Housing Officer to make their transition to uni easier," says McDaniel.

With a host of pilot projects successfully hatched and itching to spread their wings, attention has also turned to fundraising. This was addressed in March 2015 when Brigette Sancho was appointed as the newly created, full-time Indigenous Advancement Manager.

She is off to a good start. In her first year in the job, Sancho doubled her fundraising target of \$500 000 to nearly \$1 million, including a \$500 000 commitment from the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation.

Sancho's passion for her job is evident. She feels privileged to help Indigenous students achieve their ambitions and match philanthropists with the causes they believe in. "It's a real pleasure to facilitate this exchange and then witness the positive impacts on everyone involved.

"For real change to happen it is essential that more Indigenous people get into decision-making positions," Sancho says. "And education is the key."

Her focus for this year is pursuing more accommodation scholarships and funds to extend outreach initiatives such as the burgeoning Galuwa program – a five-day, on-campus residential experience for Indigenous high school students.

Perhaps the most ambitious and all-encompassing idea, and one that has seen tremendous groundwork and planning, is the aforementioned Indigenous Graduate Attribute (IGA) program.

"We are coming from the standpoint that Indigenous education is not just for Indigenous people and is not just delivered by Indigenous people. It is for all people, and it is by all people. It's about nation building. The IGA will see Indigenous knowledges embedded in the curriculum – university wide.



"What this means is that by 2018 every UTS student will graduate with a professional capacity to work with and for Indigenous Australians. That's approximately 9000 people per year!" explains McDaniel.

The transformative IGA agenda is the main priority of the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges (CAIK). The centre was established in February 2015 with the appointment of three first-class Indigenous Australian academics – Professor Michelle Trudgett as the inaugural Director and Professor Susan Page and Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews shortly after.

Trudgett says they have hit the ground running. "I'm genuinely impressed by the community and culture that exists at UTS. We have met some highly talented people and are already hard at work developing a foundation subject, for students in all disciplines, called Aboriginal Sydney Now which will play a crucial role in ensuring that students meet the requirements of the IGA."

What's really impressive about how the whole-of-university strategy has unfurled so far, has been a thoughtful recognition of the vast number of interconnected factors, some of which are invisible, that prevent Indigenous students succeeding at university. But with careful and mindful planning today, and always keeping the big picture in mind, McDaniel is confident that the future will take care of itself. *Yindymarra.*

Written by:
Penny Jones



University of Canberra
Bachelor of Biomedical
Science student
Maddison Lenord.



She'll be a medical researcher

FROM the age of nine, Maddison Lenord wanted to be a civil engineer. She was addicted to huge structures and engineering feats of genius.

When Ms Lenord was in Year 10, she was accepted to participate in a university camp and developed a keen interest in biomedical engineering.

"I couldn't believe how technology could be manipulated to cure Parkinson's (disease) and allow paraplegics to walk again. It blew my mind," the Kamilaroi woman said.

Ms Lenord chose the University of Canberra as she was offered early entry to study for a Bachelor of Biomedical Science and it meant she would be close to her family in Ganmain, rural NSW.

Ms Lenord says she makes the most of the resources at the

university's Ngunnawal Centre, accessing the computer lab and tutorial sessions to help keep her motivated and organised with her studies.

"The tutors and mentors are very helpful, welcoming, and kind," she said. "I believe that without them, I probably wouldn't have continued with my studies."

Determined

Ms Lenord's goal is to become a medical researcher specialising in auto-immune deficiencies such as asthma. As the first person in her family to attend university, she is determined to follow her dreams.

"All you have to do is believe in them and believe in yourself," she said.

"And don't fear failure, because to move forward we need to learn from our mistakes."



AN ACHIEVABLE GOAL FOR A POSITIVE FUTURE

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, the Ngunnawal Centre at the University of Canberra is like a home away from home. It exists to offer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people a range of pathways and support to achieve academic success.

The University offers valuable support including:

- Scholarships to assist with the cost education and living expenses
- Access to a Government funded tutorial assistance program
- Study areas, computer lab including a culturally safe place and learning support
- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation Program which helps Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students prepare for university study.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

T 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)
E study@canberra.edu.au

CANBERRA.EDU.AU

NGUNNAWAL CENTRE

T 02) 6201 2998
E ngunnawal@canberra.edu.au

QUT's Oodgeroo Unit

Dream big: QUT law students inspire Cunnamulla teens

They're hard at work creating their own futures, but QUT students Allison Boland and Corey Curran are also finding time to inspire other Aboriginal students to dream big when it comes to careers.

Allison and Corey are both doing double degrees in law and justice at QUT and are also the founders and coordinators of Project Imba – a program that aims to empower and create future pathways for Aboriginal high school students from Cunnamulla in western Queensland.

They both received 2015 QUT Student Leadership Excellence Awards for their work on the project and their other contributions to the community and QUT.

Project Imba, which is now an annual event, involves two stages – a visit to high schoolers in Cunnamulla to run academic and cultural workshops, followed by a week-long camp in Brisbane hosted by QUT.

Last year, the teenagers did educational workshops and social activities, including a visit to the RAAF Amberley Base at Ipswich for some aviation career inspiration.

Allison, formally of Cunnamulla, and Corey were inspired to start Project Imba because of their own deep appreciation of the power of education.

"Imba means listen and learn in Kooma language and that is exactly what this project is about," Allison said. "It is providing the Cunnamulla students with the opportunity to listen and learn about the endless opportunities a university degree can provide. We want the students to understand the importance of higher education, that it is possible, and how it can help their community as well as them."

Allison and Corey have sought sponsorship for Project Imba, which now has the Ashurst law firm and QUT's Oodgeroo Unit as its major sponsors. Other sponsors include Murri Watch, Eagle Edge Solutions, Paroo Shire Council, the Royal Australian Air Force and QUT's Faculty of Law.

Gavin Scott from Ashurst said the firm was very proud to support Project Imba.



"Corey and Allison are truly inspirational," he said. "As a firm we have committed to contribute to closing the opportunity gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through our Reconciliation Action Plan. Supporting this project has not only allowed us to help the participants build their own capacity, but has also assisted us in raising cultural awareness amongst our partners and staff."

QUT's Oodgeroo Unit director, Professor Anita Lee Hong, said meeting the young people from Cunnamulla had been a highlight for her at last year's camp.

"Project Imba shows that from little things great things grow," she said. "The young people were exposed to opportunities they would never have thought possible, inspiring them to dream big because dreams do come true. Corey and Allison are inspirational young people and this is their project. The Oodgeroo Unit is proud to be associated with Project Imba and we are already looking forward to this year's camp."



Real opportunities for the mob

The Oodgeroo Unit at QUT are a team of dedicated professional and academic staff, supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students entering, transitioning and succeeding at tertiary studies through to graduation.

Enquiries for the 2016 Centralised Assessment and Selection Program (CASP) mid-year entry are now being accepted. Contact us today to find out about our assessment process, as well as the various support programs and scholarships that are available.

Interviews will be held from **Monday 23 May until Thursday 26 May 2016**.

Discover a "whole other world". Contact QUT's Oodgeroo Unit on 1800 645 513 (toll free) or email casp.oodgeroo@qut.edu.au



UNE on the right track



Armidale's Birrillee Vale: "I had a really good time, met some fantastic people, I wasn't doing this by myself ..."

THE University of New England says Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students will get a greater opportunity to study under its pathways program.

UNE says its Tertiary Preparation Program (TRACKS) has been helping students like Armidale's Birrillee Vale gain access to undergraduate courses and achieve their education goals.

"I chose UNE because of TRACKS and because of Oorala Aboriginal Centre's rich history in assisting present and future Indigenous students in tertiary education," Ms Vale said.

"I undertook the TRACKS tertiary preparation program last year and used it as a pathway to gain entry into an undergraduate Education course."

Ms Vale said the program helped her gain an understanding of university life and culture, which has been helpful for the mature-aged student who had no previous tertiary experience.

"By participating in TRACKS I developed skills and knowledge through studying a variety of units such as University and Study Skills, Academic Literacy and Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander Studies," she said.

"I had a really good time, met some fantastic people, I wasn't doing this by myself, and I met Aboriginal students – great people – from all over Australia participating in this program. We supported each other; I didn't do it alone."

Ms Vale's goal is to become a fully qualified teacher and to educate, mentor and support Aboriginal children, helping them realise tertiary education is also within their reach.

Create strong relationships

Oorala director Gregory Davison says a peer support program is helping TRACKS students create strong relationships with Vice-Chancellor Scholars.

"The VC Scholars act as mentors to the TRACKS students, offering personal and academic support," he said.

"Our programs complement one another, allowing us to improve enrolment and successful course completion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students while delivering an outstanding student experience."



Peter Prince, a Kamilaroi student from Mungindi, NSW, has commenced a Bachelor of Social Work at UNE.

Your link to learning with Oorala and UNE

UNE has a strong tradition in providing support and opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students through its Oorala Aboriginal Centre. Oorala is a dynamic and committed 'family' of staff who are here to help you reach your goals.

More than 600 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students currently study online or on campus with UNE, accessing Oorala for a wide range of support services – from academic skills development, tutoring and social support to employment, career counseling and more.

At Oorala we understand the challenges faced by our students and we are here to help – whether you are studying at home juggling work and family, or studying on campus in Armidale.

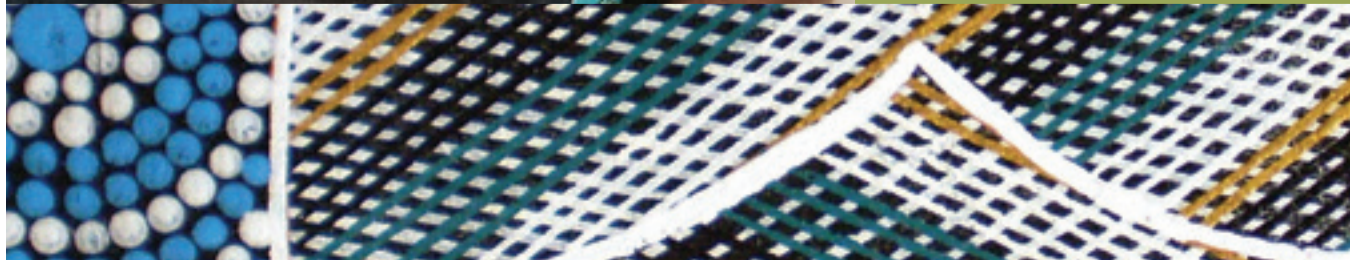
If you don't have the entry qualifications to the degree of your choice that's okay because UNE has a range of flexible entry options which provide you with personalised programs to help you fulfill your aspirations and make key decision about the future direction of your education.

This includes the TRACKS Tertiary Preparation Program, developed specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Completion of TRACKS will give you access to more than 200 UNE courses and is completely free, can be studied online in one year and comes with plenty of Oorala support.

Oorala also offers direct entry to a large number of UNE courses via our testing and assessment program: Internal Selection Program (ISP). This one-day-program assesses student suitability for direct entry to courses of their choice based on their previous education and qualifications as well as professional experience.

Apply now to start studying 27 June 2016
For further information visit: une.edu.au/oorala
Find us on Facebook: Oorala Aboriginal Centre

Visit Oorala and UNE on Open Day – 6 May 2016



Students well connected

As someone interested in law and business, high schooler Jitarna Ellis made the most of her time at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) Springfield. She was one of more than 100 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to visit the campus for the 2016 Indigenous Connections event.

Students listened to motivational presentations from former Ipswich Jets rugby league captain Keiron Lander and virtual historian and artist Brett Leavy, and enjoyed a performance by the Aboriginal Centre for Performing Arts.

For Ipswich State High School student Miss Ellis, Indigenous Connections was a chance to experience university life, while learning about study opportunities and pathway options after high school.

"I've always thought about going to uni, but have always wondered if it's something I can do and what opportunities are available," she said.

"Opened my eyes"

"Indigenous Connections has opened my eyes to what university is like, and USQ is definitely somewhere I would consider coming to study.

"I especially enjoyed listening to the guest speakers. Their stories really inspired me and made me realise that you have to work hard to realise your dreams."

USQ Head of College for Indigenous Studies, Education and Research (CISER) Professor Tracey Bunda said she could see great potential in the students at the learning and motivational experience.

"There was a real buzz around the campus and the students were genuinely



Ipswich State High School students Nicholas Short, Tyrell Woodley, Jennifer Barnaby and Jitarna Ellis with guest speaker Brett Leavy and USQ's Professor Tracey Bunda at the Indigenous Connections event.

excited to be here," she said.

"For many of the young people at this event, this was the first time the students have considered tertiary education and thought about how to achieve career and personal goals as well.

"I believe we've been able to help some of our brilliant young minds get a better idea of

what opportunities there are after school and realise university is a place where students are supported and are able to succeed."

USQ vice-chancellor and president Professor Jan Thomas said Indigenous Connections aimed to excite and inspire Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school students to consider careers

requiring a university education.

"These students are our future and we hope this event helps develop their potential and provides them with further inspiration to become leaders," she said.

For more information about the program, visit www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/



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Helping hand from Bond



Jordan Kilcoyne

BOND University has given 21 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students scholarships to help them with their tertiary education. Bond pro vice-chancellor of pathways and partnerships Catherine O'Sullivan said the university had seen a 64% increase in its Indigenous numbers in the past three years, and was committed to seeing those numbers continue to increase.

"We are strongly committed to continuing our efforts to address the disparity, helping to close the gap nationwide," she said.

"Each of this year's Indigenous scholarship recipients has demonstrated not only a commitment to their academic studies, but proven leadership skills and wider involvement in their local community."

Blake Ritson, from Kings' Christian College, and Jordan Kilcoyne, from The Southport School (TSS), are among the students to receive a scholarship.

For Blake, 17, the opportunity to study a Bachelor of Social Science means he is one step closer to his dream of joining the police force.

"I was really keen to pursue a practical career where I could give back to the community in a meaningful way, which is why I want to eventually join the police force," he said.

"When I heard about the

Indigenous scholarship, I almost didn't apply because I didn't think I would get it, but something inside me said 'give it a go' and in the end it paid off!

"When I found out I had received the scholarship it didn't register for a moment, then I was overwhelmed by excitement."

Blake said his Indigenous heritage was incredibly important to him.

"My mother's side of the family is Indigenous, but I have quite a mixture of cultures running through my blood: Aboriginal, Sri Lankan, Irish and I have recently found out I am also part Ni-Vanuatu," he said.

"Great culture"

"My Indigenous heritage has surrounded me my whole life. It is a really great culture to know and be a part of.

"I've started learning the language a bit more. I have picked up bits and pieces over my lifetime, but I would really love to be fluent one day."

Jordan Kilcoyne, also 17, dreams of becoming a criminal lawyer and has started studying a Diploma of Legal Studies at Bond University.

"I attended open day last year and I thought it was just amazing, so I set my sights on doing everything I could to get in," he said.

"I am the first in my family to attend university so everyone is very proud of me."



Blake Ritson

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This means you can study when and where it suits you.

If you're an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person and meet the following criteria:

- aged 15 years or older, and
- no longer at school, and
- living or working in NSW

then you may be eligible for a **GOVERNMENT SUBSIDISED TRAINING PLACE** with OTEN.

TAFE NSW – Open Training and Education Network Provider code: 90004

Danielle out for justice

WHEN Danielle Hobday returned home from a student expo with a leaflet about studying law, she didn't really think it was something she would pursue.

Her father had other ideas. "I remember the conversation with my dad vividly," says the 22-year-old UNSW student.

"He said 'Why don't you apply and see how it goes. What have you got to lose?'"

Fast-forward a few years, and a career in the criminal justice system appears certain for Ms Hobday.

She is undertaking an Australian Federal Police cadetship, works casually as a youth officer with Juvenile Justice, has received a scholarship with the Australian Government Solicitor's office, and looks set this year to complete a double degree in law and criminology.

Her many achievements, including volunteering in remote communities, have been recognised with an Indigenous Achievement Award at the NSW/ACT Young Achievers Awards.

Her Indigenous background (she is a Wiradjuri woman from western NSW), an interest in the police force and her experience as a mother of two young children have combined to create a powerful drive to work as an

advocate for young Indigenous people.

"I don't just want to work in an office; I want to be out in communities and working with people," Ms Hobday says.

That desire has been strengthened by several stints working as a volunteer at remote communities in the NSW town of Wellington, Palm Island off the North Queensland coast and, most recently, in the Northern Territory as a volunteer with the National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy, Australia's peak body for Indigenous sport, health and education.

Healthy

During that stint in 2014, Ms Hobday stayed in the Yuelamu community, 300km north-west of Alice Springs. She spent her time helping children at school, playing sport with them and teaching them how to lead a healthy lifestyle.

She would love to return each year to Yuelamu to maintain her relationship with the community, especially the young people there.

More broadly, when Ms Hobday finishes her studies she would like to keep working with young people in the criminal justice system, especially with Indigenous youth.

"Young people are over-represented in the criminal justice system and Indigenous youth are

over-represented among young people in the system," she says, noting that at the same time Indigenous people are under-represented in the police force.

Ms Hobday is hoping her double degree will broaden the career opportunities on offer.

Thanks to a number of internships and scholarships, she has already gained some experience in drafting briefs for barristers, drawing up legal contracts, and understanding asylum-seeker law.

She and her partner Jonathon Captain-Webb, who is an Indigenous arts and law student at UNSW and works part-time for the Australian Army, have a lot to juggle between work, study and looking after their two children. That's all on top of an average of four hours a day spent commuting from their Central Coast home.

But Ms Hobday says they are both driven by a desire to do something positive for their communities.

"We work really well together and we have an amazing amount of family support," she says.

"We are really motivated. Our people have been oppressed for so long and we now have a chance to do something to change that.

"I think being a good role model for our children also motivates us."



Danielle Hobday: "I don't just want to work in an office; I want to be out in communities and working with people."

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Students gain valuable skills



CHARLES Darwin University (CDU) students at the recent 2016 Indigenous Academic Skills Workshop, hosted by the Office of Indigenous Leadership. The event provided practical support and guidance to achieve education goals. During the workshop, enthusiastic students learnt skills, tips and knowledge to help form a solid foundation for understanding the academic requirements of studying at university.

Indigenous leadership at Charles Darwin University

Charles Darwin University (CDU) is committed to leading Indigenous participation and contributing to the social, cultural and economic well-being of Indigenous Australians.

Through our Office of Indigenous Leadership, we:

- embrace Indigenous perspectives to strengthen recognition and equity
- nurture transformational leadership and research
- support Indigenous students to thrive academically
- build aspirations, expectations and capacities of Indigenous Australians to pursue further education

Through the Australian Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Education (ACIKE), CDU proudly partners with the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education to deliver a unique range of flexible undergraduate course options specialising in Indigenous knowledges, policies and education, through to higher degree by research.

T. 08 8946 6339
E. opvcil@cdu.edu.au
W. cdu.edu.au/indigenous-leadership



Black Talk at AFTRS



AN initiative from Australian Film Television and Radio School head of Indigenous Kyas Sherriff is shining a spotlight on the practice of Indigenous filmmaking and storytelling in Australia.

Called Black Talk, Conversations with Leading Indigenous Filmmakers and Industry Peers, it is the

latest addition to AFTRS' public programs, curated and hosted by the Indigenous Unit.

It's a chance to listen to some Indigenous film mob talk about what they do and how they make the shows many love to watch. Previous guests include Guillermo Arriaga, Rosemary Blight, Ryan Griffen, Jake Nash and Deb Mailman.

Details can be found on the AFTRS website: aftrs.edu.au/blacktalk

● Pictured above are, from left, AFTRS chief executive Neil Peplow, Ryan Griffen, AFTRS head of Indigenous Kyas Sherriff, Deborah Mailman, Jake Nash and Rosemary Blight.

Picture: AFTRS

AFTRS

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AUSTRALIAN FILM TELEVISION AND RADIO SCHOOL

Image attribution: Still from AFTRS award winning student film *Clara*, directed by Larissa Behrendt



Australian Government
Australian Film Television and Radio School

aftrs.edu.au/midyear

UTS program a first

IN an effort to increase the number of Indigenous people undertaking research degrees, the University of Technology Sydney has developed a first-of-its-kind program to encourage and support undergraduate degree holders to undertake further study.

The Indigenous Higher Degree Research Information Program, developed by the UTS Centre for Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges (CAIK) and supported by Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning, will launch with a free two-day workshop at UTS on July 13-14.

CAIK director Professor Michelle Trudgett said the initiative was driven by the centre's research into the experiences of Indigenous postgraduate students.

She said the first Indigenous Australian to be awarded a PhD was most likely Bill Jonas, in 1980. Drawing on a range of government statistics, it was estimated that a total of 372 Indigenous Australians have graduated with a doctoral qualification in Australia since then.

While the number of research students from Indigenous backgrounds has increased slightly over the years, PhD completion rates for Indigenous students have barely changed. By contrast UTS has recently seen increased numbers in postgraduate coursework and undergraduate degrees.

"Despite representing approximately 2.5% of the Australian population, Indigenous people are only accounting for 0.5% of all domestic doctoral completions in Australia," Prof Trudgett said.

"This means that we need to increase the number of Indigenous doctoral completions by a multiple of five.

"The Centre for Advancement of



Students working at the University of Technology Sydney.

Indigenous Knowledges is committed to making a real difference in this.

"There is no excuse for the current levels of disparity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in terms of the completion of education qualifications in 2016 – particularly at the postgraduate end of the spectrum where the difference is most visible.

"We've developed a robust program

which will provide people with a range of information about the application process and support available for people undertaking a master's or doctorate degree at UTS."

Over the two days, senior Indigenous academics will deliver a series of lectures on research design, developing a literature review and Indigenous methodologies.

Integral to the application process, UTS

says program attendees will be taught the fundamentals necessary to develop a research proposal.

The program is only available to Indigenous Australians and has a capped number of places.

To register for the event or receive further information, contact Gavin Stanbrook of CAIK at gavin.stanbrook@uts.edu.au

Kahli keen on policing

SINCE being named the WA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year for 2015, Mandurah resident Kahli King Elliott has taken a great leap in her career with Western Australian Police.

Having started as a police cadet, completing a two-year traineeship in the process, Ms King Elliott has now been accepted into the WA Police Academy.

She has also become an ambassador for recruitment, visiting schools in her home town of Kununurra, as well as those in the Mandurah area, to mentor Aboriginal people and encourage them into the workforce.

"Being part of the WA Training Awards has been an incredible opportunity to represent myself and the training pathway I took," Ms King Elliott said.

"Being able to be a voice for the Aboriginal community, WA Police, the vocational education and training pathway, and also for people from rural areas has been one of the best things about winning a WA Training Award."

Ms King Elliott is hoping her experience will inspire other outstanding individuals and organisations to showcase their achievements as part of the WA Training Awards 2016.

"My hot tip for anyone thinking about applying for the awards is to just be yourself, as the judges want

to get to know you personally and professionally," she said.

"And have fun. The end result doesn't matter – at least you get to experience this incredible opportunity."

There are 13 categories in this year's awards, including WA Apprentice of the Year, WA Cultural Diversity Training Award, WA Small Training Provider of the Year and the WA Industry Collaboration Award. Applications close at 5pm on May 13.

Prizes

Award winners will be announced in September and each will receive \$5000 in cash or prizes. Winners may also be eligible to compete against the nation's best in the Australian Training Awards later this year.

This year's awards sponsors include CCI Energy Apprenticeships Group, NECA WA, Australian Medical Association (WA), The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation, Crown Perth, CCI Apprenticeship Support Australia, Department of Education Services, MEGT, PAV Complete Event Solutions, Picton Press, State Training Board, Training Accreditation Council and *The West Australian*.

The WA Training Awards are presented by the Department of Training and Workforce Development and the State Training Board. For more information, visit the WA Training Awards website at dtwd.wa.gov.au/trainingawards or telephone (08) 6551 5608.



WA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Kahli King Elliott.

Nanga Mai award to Amberlilly



Artist Judy Watson at work.

Work shows life at Coranderrk



WAANYI (western Queensland) artist Judy Watson says her installation *the scarifier* at TarraWarra Museum of Art in the Yarra Valley, Victoria, responds to the history of the Coranderrk Aboriginal Station near Healesville, located not far from where the exhibition is being held.

Exhibition curator and TarraWarra Museum of Art director Victoria Lynn said the museum commissioned Ms Watson to create the installation to coincide with its *Panorama* exhibition, which presents a suite of landscape paintings from its collection.

"In this context it was important to provide audiences with a self-reflexive understanding of the museum's location on Indigenous country," Ms Lynn said.

"In combination with the *Panorama* exhibition, Watson's installation of paintings, bones, soil, saplings and clothing provides a creative perspective on the scars and psychological impact of the relationship between Indigenous people and the colonial landscape."

Watson's Aboriginal matrilineal family

is from north-west Queensland and in this new work she collaborates with local Wurundjeri (Victoria) people, working with stories and memories of Indigenous country.

The installation captures daily life at Coranderrk.

Watson's research of Coranderrk Aboriginal Station examined the hop plantation at the station, alongside the minutes of a documentary record of the 1881 Parliamentary Inquiry into conditions and management at Coranderrk.

Several new paintings feature the detailed work of the scarifier as it followed the plough and incised the landscape, along with the topographic view of country.

"The scarifier follows the plough," Watson said.

"It evokes images of cutting into the ground and the body, leaving wounds, mark-making as it traces the contours of country and blood.

"Words and actions imprint deeply within the psyche.

"Descendants carry the scars and memories of their ancestor's stories."



Award recipient Amberlilly Gordon and Dubbo College Senior Campus deputy principal Marisha Blanco.



A DUBBO College student who has been dancing for a little more than a year has taken out a state school Nanga Mai award for outstanding achievement in the performing arts.

Amberlilly Gordon, 17, developed a love for dance when she was selected as part of the State Aboriginal Dance Group in 2015.

She had previously taken part in hip-hop classes at the Dubbo PCYC, but said she wasn't serious about dancing.

"It was just a bit of fun and I didn't take it too seriously," she said.

Amberlilly's role in the 2015 Aboriginal Dance Group took her to Sydney several times and included performances at the Schools Spectacular and the opening ceremony of the Netball World Cup.

Her exposure to dance at state level, combined with her decision to take classes at the Dubbo Ballet Studio, has changed Amberlilly's aspirations.

"At this stage I am not sure where I

will study, but I would like to apply to NAISDA and to Brent Street School of Performing Arts in Sydney," she said.

"Whatever the outcome, I would definitely like to have a future in dance."

Amberlilly was accompanied to receive her award by her father Doug and Dubbo College Senior Campus deputy principal Marisha Blanco.

The award, presented during a ceremony at the Australian National Maritime Museum, was one of two Nanga Mai performing arts awards given to students.

Proud

Dubbo College Senior Campus principal Andrew Jones said the college was proud of Amberlilly's achievements.

"She makes an outstanding contribution to our college team and always shows pride and respect for her cultural heritage," he said.

"I am sure she will go on to have a positive and successful future in the performing arts."

Good vibrations for dancer

By KEIRA JENKINS



TYRONE Gordon has danced all his life. So when he wanted to give back to the community, it was obvious to him what he should do. As a young kid at school in Dubbo, Gordon loved to dance, and so he decided he would allow other children to share that passion through the dance group he started recently, Thikkabilla Vibrations.

Gordon left school early to do a Certificate in Aboriginal Dance and Movement, through which he learnt different styles of dance including jazz, contemporary and ballet.

"Everything I know today I learnt at that course," the Ngempaa man said.

"Dance is a way to learn about culture at a community level because dance is so important to Aboriginal culture."

Gordon started Thikkabilla Vibrations through Facebook. He advertised an event on the social media site, and to his surprise 30 kids turned up.

He made it a weekly occurrence after that, and now a group of about 80



Young dancers learn culture at a Thikkabilla Vibrations dance workshop in Dubbo.

kids gathers for the dance workshops.

"It's about promoting culture through dance, and my next goal is to work out how to bring it into schools," Gordon said.

"I want to show that there's still love and respect of our culture in the community.

"The community needs something like

this. With the (drug) ice epidemic and the thievery epidemic that's in the media, I want to get under that and show that there is still love and respect."

Gordon has so far self-funded the venture, with a few businesses and sponsors coming on board to help him out.

"I'm a volunteer. There's no funding for it," he said.

"A local photographer takes the pictures for me and a friend of mine helped me get the website up."

Gordon said dance has taken him around the world, with performances across Europe.

"Culture is for free. I want to give back to community and get culture back to community," he said.

"Kids bring people together. If there are 80 kids there might be 60 or so parents sitting around, watching, chatting to each other and enjoying talking to people they might not have known before.

"I'm teaching the kids their culture so it's not forgotten and we can bring it back as a norm so they can have a sense of identity and self-respect."

Artist lends a hand (and feet) for Games mascot



KALKA-DOON (north-west Queensland) artist Chern'ee

Sutton was filled with pride when Borobi, the new Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games mascot, was revealed.

The 19-year-old artist designed the Indigenous component on Borobi's hands, feet and surfboard.

Miss Sutton was commissioned last October to add some Indigenous flare to the mascot design.

"It's great to see all of the elements come together and to see my designs taking pride of place on Borobi's hands and feet," she said.

"Whether it's a handshake, wave or gesture, the hands are very symbolic of welcoming people from all around the world to Australia.

"The hands and the feet tell the story of the Commonwealth Games, which is left behind in the sand as Borobi travels.

"Aboriginal art has told stories for the last 60,000 years, whether it's rock art on cave walls, songs and coroborrees, or even pictures depicted in the sand.

"My story, which is imprinted behind Borobi as he travels on his journey, is left for the world to see."



Artist Chern'ee Sutton and Borobi the Commonwealth Games mascot show off Chern'ee's artwork. "It's great to see all of the elements come together and to see my designs taking pride of place on Borobi's hands and feet," she said.

Elder's life on display



A NEW exhibition at the University of Western Australia's Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery in Perth explores the life and legacy of Ngarinyin lawman, Elder and artist Bungal (David) Mowaljarlai.

A philosopher, artist, activist, storyteller, bush professor and statesman, Mowaljarlai was a major figure throughout the 20th century and an advocate for the land rights and culture of the Kimberley Wandjina people.

Opening this Friday (April 23), *Mowaljarlai Vision and Voice* will draw on the personal and professional archives of Mowaljarlai, recently donated to the university's Berndt Museum collection by two of his close friends.

Mowaljarlai Vision and Voice curator and Berndt Museum archivist Eve Chaloupka worked with the collection donors to contextualise, arrange and describe the archive material that make up much of the exhibition.

"Enduring legacy"

"Mowaljarlai's enduring legacy is in his tireless commitment to the intergenerational transfer of knowledge among his own people, and the sharing of knowledge across cultures," Ms Chaloupka said.

Through taped conversations, artwork, photography, videos and more, *Mowaljarlai Visions and Voice* introduces audiences to Mowaljarlai's cultural reach and role in research in the western Kimberley.

"He made sure that his work and knowledge would outlive him," Ms Chaloupka said.

"The materials he left behind provide an insight into his influence and knowledge of complex knowledge systems imbued with wisdom, transmitted through eons past and into the future.

"It will be a valued resource accessible to future generations of Ngarinyin people.

Mowaljarlai Vision and Voice runs until September 17 at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery in Perth.

ACT plan unveiled



THE Australian Capital Territory Government has released its draft Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan for the next five years for consultation. Assistant Health Minister Meegan Fitzharris and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Minister Chris Bourke said the draft ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2016-2020 aims to identify and address key issues such as mental health and wellbeing, chronic disease and adult and young people's health.

"This plan provides a platform for improving access to health and healthcare services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples," Ms Fitzharris said.

"It aims to ensure that programs and services are appropriate to the specific health needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and provided in a culturally skilled and safe health environment."

Mr Bourke said every effort must be made by health services to ensure Indigenous health is addressed so that close the gap targets can be met.

"Babies born to Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander mothers die at more than twice the rate of other Australian babies, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience higher rates of preventable illness such as heart disease, kidney disease and diabetes," he said.

"Strategic direction"

"We still have a long way to go, but it's good to see that this plan sets strategic direction for the ACT in relation to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in our city and the region.

"I would encourage our

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to see how this plan will affect you and to give us some feedback so we can make sure it achieves real results for our people."

The ACT Government says the draft health plan is based on the principles of the right to survival, dignity and wellbeing, and recognises a holistic approach to healthcare.

Key policies included as part of the plan include the ACT Government's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2015-2018, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of

Indigenous Peoples, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander concept of 'holistic health'.

The ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body, community organisations such as Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service, Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation and a range of health services delivering programs will be included in the consultation process.

Consultation on the health plan closes on May 13. To have a say, go to www.timetotalk.act.gov.au/



Officials and participants at the launch of this year's Aboriginal Knockout Health Challenge.

Teams rise to challenge



ABORIGINAL communities from across NSW have kicked off a statewide health challenge in Sydney, pledging to fight obesity and improve Aboriginal health.

They've teamed up with NSW Rugby League Origin and Blues' coach Laurie Daley and NSW Health to launch the 2016 Aboriginal Knockout Health Challenge at Homebush.

Daley, a challenge ambassador, said the 800-plus participants from 32 teams should be cheered on for making a commitment to themselves and their teams to lose weight and improve their health.

"This is a team effort that not only results in better health but raises

community awareness of the benefits of physical activity and healthy eating to combat obesity and other life threatening diseases," he said.

"It's about striving to do your best and achieve results that benefit your whole team – just like rugby league players aiming for a win on the field."

The annual NSW Aboriginal Knockout Health Challenge is a joint initiative of NSW Health and NSW Rugby League, inviting Aboriginal communities to participate in a program to lose weight.

This year's Knockout Health Challenge consists of four events from April to October.

Teams can enter the George Rose, Julie Young and Ronnie Gibbs challenges, setting their own exercise

program targets and milestones with the aim of reducing their average team weight loss.

The Kyle Saunders Challenge is also open to teams to design a three-minute workout or nutrition video that demonstrates teamwork, strength, stamina, rugby league and cooking skills.

Healthier lifestyle

NSW Health Centre for Population Health executive director Jo Mitchell said participants in the Aboriginal Knockout Health Challenge, now in its fifth year, had proved that through commitment and a cooperative team approach, it was possible to lose weight and adopt a healthier lifestyle.

"More than 800 people from

communities across NSW participated in last year's challenge, achieving an average weight loss of 2.7kg of body weight," she said.

"An average weight loss of 2kg reduces the risk of developing type two diabetes by 30%."

Dr Mitchell said it was important to maintain a healthy weight as the risk of developing chronic disease increased as people put on weight.

"People living with obesity are at increased risk of developing type two diabetes and other conditions such as cardiovascular disease, osteoarthritis and reproductive problems," she said.

For more information on the Challenge go to: www.facebook.com/nswknockoutchallenge

Warning on need for health workers



A SHORTAGE of Indigenous workers in the Queensland healthcare industry makes study places in pathology and medicine vital for

regional communities, a health service veteran says.

Wide Bay healthcare professional of 35 years and Indigenous health care practice manager of Galangoor Duwalami Primary Health Care Service Ann Woolcock said 'culturally appropriate' training was essential to the long-term wellbeing of regional communities.

"Healthcare workers are so vital to the long-term health of communities, no matter their size," Ms Woolcock said.

"Healthcare workers are the people on the front line and are often the vital person addressing the issues first hand and connecting those in the community to nurses, allied health and GPs."

Ms Woolcock said that in her experience, finding well-trained healthcare workers to staff health facilities, particularly in remote and Indigenous communities, was not easy.

"The healthcare workers need to be culturally appropriate," she said. "They are vital to the model of care needed to link Indigenous people to specialist and other allied care services."

Training

Training organisations Look Now Training, Five Bridges and LTT Group have partnered with several industry employers to give students experience as well as accredited training, hoping to address cultural divides in the health sector.

Karen Dolci, who is part of the first intake of 45 students to complete a Certificate II in Community Services or a Certificate III in Pathology, says she wants to be a part of the change for regional health centres.

"We had one trainer for the whole course who was so passionate and understanding," Ms Dolci said.

"She empowered the class to believe in ourselves, and to enter the workforce with renewed passion and commitment to use our newly found skills in a gentle and calming manner on the patients who access the Pathology services".

Qld Health, QML and Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology have each joined the project, offering placements to upskill Indigenous students, funded through the Skilling Queenslanders For Work program.

The first group of students has now completed the program and is undergoing interviews with employers in Bundaberg. The second group is undertaking the pathology component in Hervey Bay, while the third group is undertaking the community services training in Gympie.

Retiring CHAC worker Merle Morgan with Courtney Hunt.



Coomealla farewells Merle



COOMEALLA Health Aboriginal Corporation (CHAC) has

farewelled one of its longest serving staff members, Merle Morgan.

Ms Morgan has retired after 39 years of work for her community in Melbourne, Echuca, Barmah, Mildura and Dareton.

A Yorta Yorta woman, Ms Morgan started her career as a trainee at the Aboriginal Advancement League in 1977, and joined CHAC in 2003 as an administration officer.

Since that time she has taken on management of CHAC's fleet as well as becoming a Centrelink agent, helping people access Centrelink services at CHAC.

Ms Morgan said her proudest achievement at CHAC was working with people on accessing Centrelink.

"It's a service that's so needed in this community because we are isolated," she said. "You end up becoming an advocate for the community and that's what I'm most proud of. It's a good feeling."

CHAC chief executive Barry

Stewart said Ms Morgan's lifetime of dedication to her community has left Dareton and CHAC a better place.

Ms Morgan said her first priority as a retiree will be spending more time with her family. "I'm really looking forward to spending time with the grandkids and also focusing on my health and wellbeing," she said.

Flu vaccine for at-risk groups



A NEW four-strain flu vaccine protecting against the Brisbane virus is being made available free for at-risk Australians – including Indigenous people – from this month.

The goal is to help those most under threat build up their immunity in time for the peak flu season in August.

Federal Health Minister Sussan Ley said the Government had already begun rolling out the new vaccine, with \$31.3 million made available for up to 4.48 million free doses of the new flu booster.

Ms Ley said the Government had moved to widen Australia's flu vaccine stocks from three strains to four, after the arrival of the Brisbane flu strain last year led to 2015 being recorded as the worst flu season in years.

"While many of us view the flu as nothing more than an annual inconvenience, some recent strains have seen serious complications in normally healthy people and

it's important for the health, safety and productivity of not only yourself, but the nation, you get the flu shot before the flu gets you," she said.

Ms Ley encouraged all Australians to begin planning their flu shot sooner rather than later, with particular focus on ensuring high-risk groups like pregnant women and young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were covered.

"Recommended"

"There is a low level of knowledge that the vaccine is safe and recommended during pregnancy," she said. "A flu shot reduces the risk of complications for both a woman and their unborn child, as well as providing the infant with protection in the first six months of its life."

"I am also aware of vaccination rates at less than 10% for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under five years of age. More concerning is these youngsters are twice as likely to be hospitalised as a

result of infection and five times more likely to die."

Last year, of more than 100,000 people diagnosed with confirmed influenza, about 17,000 were hospitalised, with an estimate 7% of these requiring admission to an intensive care unit.

"This is a number we want to see lowered, and the best way to achieve this is ensuring people in a high-risk category get their annual flu shot," Ms Ley said.

Those at increased risk of severe influenza and its complications include people aged over 65; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged six months to five years and older than 15; pregnant women; and someone with a medical condition, such as severe asthma, diabetes or heart disease.

For more information about the seasonal influenza vaccine, visit www.immunise.health.gov.au/ or call the Immunise Australia Information line on 1800 671 811.

We welcome items for our National Calendar of Events. Keep them short and include a daytime telephone contact number. Send them to any of the addresses in the panel on page 23.

National

Upcoming: The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) will run workshops in Hobart, Sydney, Brisbane and Darwin that tackles the questions 'Can we do better than 'I treat everyone the same'? Details: www.racgp.org.au/yourracgp/ to register or contact Salome Pinto on (03) 8699 0528.

Ongoing: Lifeline – saving lives, crisis support, suicide prevention. For assistance call 13 11 14.

Ongoing: Carer Line is a free national telephone information and support service for and about carers that provides access to information, emotional support and referrals to a range of services for carers. Call 1800 242 636, Monday to Friday.

Ongoing: Care Leavers Line. Contact 1800 994 686 from Mon-Fri, 9am-4.30pm or email CareleaversLine@facns.gov.au

Until April 25: 2016 Max National Indigenous Art Competition Entries Now Open. The competition features an 18-25 youth category. Details: (07) 3727 1394 or email communications@maxsolutions.com.au or visit www.maxsolutions.com.au

NSW-ACT

Until April 24: *The Most Gaoled Race on Earth* exhibition. An exhibition by artists Blak Douglas and Adam Geczy that speaks to racism and the cultural repression and misrepresentation of Indigenous Australians. Held at The Lock-Up Art Gallery, 90 Hunter St, Newcastle, Wed-Sat, 10am-4pm, Sun, 11am-3pm. Details: (02) 4925 2265.

Until April 25: The Frontier Wars Story Telling Camp. Elders & researchers from all tribes across Australia discuss the true history of the invasion of Australia. Held at the Aboriginal Tent Embassy, King George Terrace, Canberra, daily at 11am and 4pm and film at 7pm nightly. Included is a public forum on Saturday, April 23 and Remembrance march on April 25. Details: Email to sovereignty.parliament@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/events/827943440683440

Until April 30: *Djuwin* exhibition, featuring a collection of works by Aboriginal men from the South Coast of NSW. Held at Bundian Way Gallery, 66a Bombala Street, Delegate, Mon-Fri, 10am-3pm. Details: (02) 6458 8388 or Nat Bateman on 0404 289 475.

Until May 4: Moree Reconciliation Gala Awards 2016 nominations open. The awards recognise individuals, businesses, community organisations and initiatives advancing reconciliation and respectful relationships in Moree in more than 15 categories. Details: Mijay Birray on (02) 6752 6038 or AES on (02) 6752 3422 or email Glen Crump at glen@mijaybirray.ngo.org.au or Jess Duncan at jess@be.org.au

Until May 6: Calling Indigenous artists. Apply now to be part of the *Ngarakal Githabal Dialect Exhibition* for artists living in the Northern Rivers, with the theme of exploring Bootheram Lore which uses landscape and the sky as a reference for this creation Lore. Details: Mark Cora: (02) 6628 8120 or mark@artsnorthernrivers.com.au

Until May 22: *Punuku Tjukurpa* touring exhibition, celebrating the stories and law of Anangu culture told through carvings and artefacts. Held at Penrith Regional Gallery and The Lewers Bequest, 86 River Road Plains, Emu Plains, open daily from 9am-5pm. Free. Details: (02) 47351100 or visit www.penrithregionalgallery.org

Hermannsburg potters' work comes to Lismore

WORK by the Hermannsburg Potters is now on show at the Lismore Regional Gallery, on the NSW north coast.

The colourful and distinctive pots are produced mainly by women at the central Australian community, about 130km west of Alice Springs.

The medium of ceramics was introduced there in the 1960s, but it began to flourish after 1990 when senior law man Nashasson Ungwanaka invited potter and teacher Naomi Sharp to teach pottery to families.

The Lismore exhibition, *Insight*, includes pots with imagery from the everyday lives of the potters, including scenes with people, native animals, livestock, feral animals and imaginary animals.

Insight features the work of potters Hayley Coulthard, Irene Mbitjana Entata, Clara Ngala Inkamala, Judith Pungkarta Inkamala, Carol Panangka Rontji, A Rontji, Lindy Panangka Rontji, Rona Panangka Rubuntja, Rahel Kngwarria



Mission Days by Irene Mbitjana Entata Ungwanaka and Dawn Ngala Wheeler.

It continues at the Lismore Regional Art Gallery until June 4. More details at <http://www.lismoregallery.org/>

April 23: Blak Markets joins Eel Festival. Celebrating the Indigenous heritage of Parramatta, its connections to the eel and fascinating story of Country. Held at Elizabeth Farm, 70 Alice Street, Rosehill, from 10am-3pm. Entry by gold coin only. Details: Sarah Martin on 0499 252 599 or visit slm.is/eelfestival

April 26 & 28: Money Counts information sessions. Get free legal help and advice on unpaid fines, bill, debts, Centrelink, renting, discrimination and more. Held at The Tuckerbox, Jubullum Village, Tabulam, on April 26, 10am-2pm, and Box Ridge Community Centre, Box Ridge, Coraki, on April 28 from 10am-2pm. Lunch provided. Details: ALS on (02) 6623 4400 Or Legal Aid on (02) 6621 2082.

April 27-29: Traditional Weaving Workshop: Three days of traditional weaving for Aboriginal women living in Kempsey and surrounding areas. Held at Thungutti Local Aboriginal Land Council. Places are limited, must register. Details: Shar Goodwin on (02) 6658 1315 or email shar@saltwaterfreshwater.com.au

April 27: Supporting Children After Suicide Workshop. Aims to raise awareness about resources, including practical 'hands-on' activities and support services available for children and their families. Held at Invercauld House, Goonellabah, from 9.30am-12.30pm. Free workshop, but places are limited. Details: Jo Grenfell on (02) 6620 1800 or email jo.grenfell@nrsdc.org.au

April 28: Traditional healing and Indigenous Knowledges – The Gap that's missing? – a Poche Key Thinkers Forum event. A panel of leading Indigenous health experts and traditional healers will meet a special Q&A forum. Held at Law School Foyer, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney, from 9am-12pm. Cost: Free, online registration requested. Details: Emily Jones on (02) 8627 1433 or email emily.jones@sydney.edu.au

April 30: A NSW Reconciliation Council (NSWRC) Event. 'Defining your future: a conversation about constitutional recognition, treaty and sovereignty'. An autonomous discussions of the ins, outs, pros and cons of the current movement to recognize Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia's Constitution. Held at Mid Mountains Neighbourhood Centre, 9 New

Street, Lawson from noon-2.30pm. Details: (02) 8095 9600 or email Georgia.behrens@nswreconciliation.org.au

Queensland

Until May 13: Registrations now open for the Kanji Waiburra: Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages forum. Held at Sofitel Hotel, 81 Surf Parade, Broadbeach, Gold Coast, on May 30-31. Cost: \$200. Details: (07) 3807 6155 or email accounts@tyugambah.com

Until May 14: *Kang ka nam (old one) Ying ka nam (new one) Phi in (big one)* exhibition. Featuring artists from Wik-Kugu Art Centre (Aurukun) featuring 20 sculptures and paintings that include birds, a crocodile and Aurukun dogs. Held at Woolloongabba Art Gallery, 613 Stanley Street, Woolloongabba, from Tues-Sat, 9am-5pm. Details: (07) 3791 5551 or visit www.wag.com.au

Until May 29: *Black Velvet: your label* exhibition, exploring a range of social, political and cultural issues affecting Indigenous women through a showcase of works by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artist Boneta-Marie Mabo. Held at Kuril Dhugun, Level 1, State Library of Queensland, Cultural Precinct, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane, daily from 10am-5pm. Details: (07) 3842 9061 or visit slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on

May 21-August 28: *Major Sally Bagori* retrospective exhibition of more than 50 artworks by the late Bentinck Island and senior Kaiadilt woman, Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori. Held at Queensland Art Gallery, Gallery of Modern Art, Stanley Place, South Brisbane, daily from 10am-5pm. Free entry. Details: (07) 3840 7303 or visit www.qagoma.qld.gov.au

Victoria

Until May 15: *Ngujarn and Nakun: belonging in the other* exhibition, showcasing four generations of the Mullett family. Held at Koori Heritage Trust, Level 1 and 3, Yarra Building, Federation Square, Melbourne, daily from 10am-5pm. Details: (03) 8662 6300 or visit www.kooriheritagetrust.com

Until July 31: *the scarifier* exhibition. By artist Judy Watson, the installation captures an intimate and powerful evocation of daily life at Coranderrk Aboriginal Station. Held at

TarraWarra Museum of Art, 311 Healesville-Yarra Glen Road, Healesville, from Tues-Sun, 11am-5pm. Cost: Adults \$7.50, Seniors \$5.00, concession and children under 16, Free. Details: (03) 5957 3100 or visit www.twma.com.au

Until May 27: Victorian Statement on Self-Determination forums: Involves discussions on issues around self-determination for Aboriginal people, constitutional recognition and treaty. Forums held at Mallee District Aboriginal Services, Mildura, on April 18; Grains Innovation Park, Horsham, on April 19; Eastbank Centre, Shepparton, on May 3; Bairnsdale RSL, Bairnsdale, on May 10; and Melbourne, location to be set, on May 26-27. Details: www.consult.aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au

April 20-21: Koorie Youth Summit 2016. To be eligible, people must be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander aged 16-28 and living in Victoria. Held at Mantra Bell City, 215 Bell Street, Preston. Cost: \$0-\$89. Details: Jirra Harvey on 0475 230 880 or email Jirra@kalinya.com.au

Western Australia

Until May 29: *Revealed* exhibition. Features Mangkaja artists Issac Cherel, Billy Chestnut, Mervyn Street and Illium Nargoodah. Held at Fremantle Arts Centre, 1 Finery Street, Fremantle, open daily 10am-5pm. Free entry. Details: (02) 9432 9555 or visit www.fac.org.au

Until May 29: *Ngayuku ngura – My Country* exhibition. This exhibition focuses on the artists of Amata in APY Lands. Held at Short St Gallery, 7 Short Street, Chinatown, Broome, from Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm & Sat, 10am-2pm. Details: (08) 9192 6118 or visit www.shortstgalkery.com

April 23-Sept 27: *Mowaljarlai Vision and Voice* exhibition. Explores the life and legacy of Ngarinyin Lawman, Elder, philosopher, storyteller, bush professor, statesman and artist Bungal (David) Mowaljarlai, OAM (c.1925-1997). Held at The University of Western Australia's Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley from Tues-Sat, 11am-5pm. Details: (08) 6488 3707 or visit www.lwgallery.uwa.edu.au

May 5-22: *Standing On Ceremony* exhibition. Highlighting the history and importance of the Utopia artists who have been documented over the past several decades. Held at Earlywork, 330 South Terrace, South Fremantle, from Wed-Sun, 11am-5pm. Details: Anna on (08) 9336 7787 or email info@artitja.com.au or visit www.artitja.com.au

Northern Territory

Until May 8: *Hidden Arrente* exhibition. A first solo exhibition by Emma Stuart showcasing the natural beauty of the landscape around Alice Springs. Held at Araluen Art Centre, 61 Larapinta Drive, Alice Springs, Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm, Sat-Sun, 11am-4pm. Entry fees apply. Details: (08) 8951 1120 or visit www.artsandmuseums.nt.gov.au/araluen

Until May 30: Applications now open for Bush Bands Bash. The biggest celebration of Indigenous music in Central Australia is calling for application to perform at the 14th annual Bush Bands Bash concert and gain invaluable skills and mentoring at the three-day Bush Bands Business Skills development camp in Alice Springs on August 24-28. Details: Amy Hetherington on (08) 8981 1995 or visit www.mucisnt.com.au/BBB

April 22-25: Tjungu Festival 2016. A vibrant celebration of Australian Indigenous culture featuring, music, dance, film, fashion, food, sport and more. Held at Voyages Ayers Rock Resort, near Uluru, Northern Territory. Cost: Refer to event organisers. Details: 1300 134 044 or visit www.ayersrockresort.com

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT



Queensland Ambulance Service's Indigenous Paramedic Program recruits, from left, Ann Wilkinson, Jessica Age, Shakia Owens and Alisha Peter.

Ambulance boost



INDIGENOUS paramedic cadets are working across Queensland as part of a program to bolster regional ambulance

services. A total of 17 recruits from the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) Indigenous Paramedic Program have started working in regional and

rural areas from the Torres Strait to Bundaberg.

Health Minister Cameron Dick said the program was designed to improve health in Indigenous communities and increase diversity in the QAS workforce.

"These new recruits will strengthen service delivery in remote communities and provide specific pre-hospital care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander communities with an aim to improve mortality rates," he said.

"This is a one-of-a-kind program which is bridging the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people by building a closer relationship and understanding between the QAS and the communities it serves.

"But, most importantly, it also builds the self-confidence,

leadership and teamwork skills of participants and develops their sense of place and worth in the community."

Mr Dick said the program followed the Queensland Government's commitment to employ 75 extra ambulance officers statewide.

QAS Commissioner Russell Bowles said the program recruited Indigenous people into

formal education and paved the way for them to become either qualified paramedics or to pursue other QAS roles, such as emergency medical dispatcher or patient transport officer.

The recruits will be stationed in Cooktown, Ravenshoe, Cairns, Doomadgee, Mount Isa, Normanton, Palm Island, Thursday Island, Woorabinda, Bundaberg and Nambour.

It's 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 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!

Advertising disclaimer: Budsoar Pty Ltd, publisher of the *Koori Mail*, reserves the right to alter, omit or change advertisements, and while every care is exercised, it is not responsible for errors or non-insertions. No adjustments will be made for errors unless attention is drawn to them within the first week of

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who provide prizes for competitions or reader offers. If you would prefer that we do not do this, please write to us at: admin@koorimail.com or phone (02) 66 222 666, or fax (02) 66 222 600. Mail can be sent addressed to General Manager, Budsoar Pty Ltd, PO Box 117, Lismore NSW 2480.

AlfredHealth

Aboriginal Healthcare Pathways Worker Community Development Worker – Class 2B Yr 6

A full time fixed term (12 month) position is available in the Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Office at The Alfred.

An experienced and enthusiastic worker is sought to collaborate with the Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officers (AHLO's) to ensure ongoing integration and follow-up in care for all Aboriginal patients. The Aboriginal Healthcare Pathways Worker will work with clients, and carers, to provide practical and culturally appropriate support to ensure they are followed up post discharge from acute health care with improved linkages to GP's, community health etc.

Please address selection criteria with your application.

**Enquiries: Bridget Wall, Manager,
Social Work, Pastoral Care and AHLO Program,
Telephone: (03) 9076 3026
b.wall@alfred.org.au
Closing Date: 4 May 2016**

Support Worker



**Work Type: Full time
Location: Hunter Region, NSW**

This is an Aboriginal identified position.

We are seeking a female Support Worker who is passionate about becoming involved in modern, progressive, flexible service delivery under the context of the NDIS to work within our Hunter Region Aboriginal Services.

If you have a passion for supporting the human rights of people with disabilities, we look forward to receiving your application.

For information on this role and on how to apply, please visit our website www.hwms.com.au

HWNS is an EEO employer. The role is an Aboriginal identified position under Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).

Only Australian citizens, permanent residents or those with working rights in Australia are eligible to apply. No smoking in the workplace is company policy

Let's Go!



Director Policy Planning and Design Innovation

**Band 1
Department of Family & Community Services
NSW Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO)
Reference No: 4C4Q**

- Location: Greater Sydney Area, Parramatta
- Total Remuneration Package: \$193,607 per annum

Role Description:

The primary purpose of this role is to Lead Policy, Planning and Design (PP&D) unit which provides leadership, advice and analysis across the range of policies and programs that the AHO deliver to support better outcomes for Aboriginal tenants.

Job Notes:

This is an Ongoing Full-Time role under the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013*. This recruitment will be used to create a talent pool that will be accessed to temporarily back fill other roles.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply for this role.

If successful in this role you will be required to provide a Working with Children Check clearance number prior to commencing in the role.

To apply on-line: www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au
Refer to Requisition No: 00004C4Q

Closing date: Friday, 29 April 2016 at 11:59pm

For enquiries: Please call Jennifer Iorfino on (02) 8836 9422

Thank you for your interest

Z09985



Family & Community Services

Aboriginal Trainee (Business Administration)

**Clerk Grade 1/2
Department of Family & Community Services
Requisition No. 00004CAE**

Salary range \$58,687 pa – \$63,801 pa plus employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Role Description:

Provide a range of administrative services to support the achievement of business unit outcomes in a timely, reliable and efficient manner.

Aboriginality is an essential requirement for this position. The position has been identified as an Aboriginal position in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 (d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.

Job Notes: This is a temporary full-time role in accordance with the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013* for a period of up to twelve (12) months.

Expressions of interest will be accepted from those currently actively involved in the Traineeship program currently running in line with the partnership and local agreement with the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council and Corporate Services, Family and Community Services.

A talent pool may be created to fill both on-going and temporary opportunities if and as they arise.

If successful in this role you may be required to undertake a National Criminal History Record Check in accordance with the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014*.

Enquiries: Craig Napper on (02) 9765 3645

To apply on-line: www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au
Refer to Requisition No: 00004CAE

Closing date: Wednesday, 4 May 2016

Z09983

Aboriginal Community Corrections Officer



- **Make a difference in the Koori community**
- **Full term, ongoing position based in Reservoir**
- **Salary range \$60,551 - \$69,630 plus superannuation**

Aboriginal Community Corrections Officers, provide culturally appropriate guidance and counselling and a range of specialist functions to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal offenders, while also assisting offenders to participate in programs and community work.

Aboriginal Community Corrections Officers develop strong links with both Aboriginal and mainstream agencies to provide meaningful and safe placements that assist offenders in their caseload to successfully complete their community based order.

As our ideal candidate, you will have:

- an understanding of the Aboriginal community, with a proven ability to communicate sensitively and effectively with Aboriginal people
- excellent problem solving, influencing and written communication skills, with a keen eye for detail
- and experience in case management and report writing.

For further information on this position and to submit your application, please visit correctionsjobs.vic.gov.au by 5pm, Wednesday 4 May, 2016.

This is an Aboriginal Identified Position. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

Z0660342

Australian General Practice Training

Applications for the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) program open at **10:00am (AEST*) Monday 11 April** for medical doctors who wish to specialise in a career in general practice and/or rural and remote medicine in Australia.

The AGPT program delivers the vocational training program of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP).

Training commences in early 2017.

What does the AGPT offer?

- Regionally-based flexible training
- Dynamic, team-based medicine
- Access to a salary while you train
- Financial incentives for eligible doctors

Successful applicants will train towards a fellowship of ACRRM and/or RACGP which leads to specialist (general practitioner) registration.

Interested?

Visit the AGPT website (agpt.com.au) and download the 2017 AGPT Applicant Guide, which contains detailed information on eligibility and how to apply.

For Further Information

Email: AGPTSelection@health.gov.au or phone 1800 DR AGPT (37 2478) Monday to Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm (AEST*).

Please Note: Certain eligibility criteria apply. Applicants must be Australian or New Zealand permanent residents or citizens to apply and hold general medical registration with the Medical Board of Australia.

Applications Close

10:00am (AEST*) Friday 9 May 2016.

*Australian Eastern Standard Time

AGPT



Australian Government
Department of Health

GT20591



GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICER

**Aboriginal targeted position
Shoalhaven Local Area Command, NOWRA
Clerk Grade 1/2 Permanent Full-Time
Jobs.NSW Requisition No.00004DPM**

Salary Package: \$70,404. **Salary:** \$58,687 – \$63,801. Package includes annual salary, employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Job Description:

The General Administrative Support Officer provides support within the Shoalhaven Local Area Command, focusing on quality advice and high-level customer service to members of the public as well as other members of the NSW Police Force. The General Administrative Support Officer also provides administrative, clerical and keyboard support at various NSW Police Force locations.

Job Notes:

- This position is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants **only** in accordance with the NSW Police Force Employment Strategy. Applicants for this position must satisfy the Aboriginality criteria.
- This position operates under the non-continuous shift award with rostering undertaken in accordance with Flexible Rostering Guidelines. The position will generally be rostered to perform work in business hours on weekdays and may be rostered to perform afternoon shifts and weekend shifts on the front counter.
- Applicants **must** hold a current driver's licence with no traffic offences recorded on their driving history within the last six (6) months.
- For your application to be considered, you **must**:
 - o Give written responses addressing each of the selection criteria in text boxes provided in the online application.
 - o Attach an up-to-date Resume/CV to your application.
- The successful applicant will be subject to a rigorous National Police Check (criminal history) prior to commencement.
- It is a requirement to obtain and maintain a security clearance as determined by the NSW Police Force at the level appropriate to the position held and/or information/data accessed.
- Applications can only be submitted electronically online via the I Work for NSW website (iworkfor.nsw.gov.au).

Enquiries: Sue Bucknell – Local Area Manager on (02) 4421 9632

For the selection criteria, a full downloadable position description, information package and to apply, please go to I Work for NSW (iworkfor.nsw.gov.au) and search for Requisition Number 00004DPM

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: SUNDAY 1 MAY 2016

Z10195

WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



Pro Vice-Chancellor Engagement and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Executive Assistant

Ref No. 556/16

Full-Time, Ongoing Position
Parramatta Campus

This is an identified position and applicants must be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person. Being an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person is a genuine occupational qualification as authorised under Section 14(D) of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977 NSW.

Are you an organised, communicative and highly-motivated individual with an aptitude for challenges and success? Then this opportunity may be one for you! Western Sydney University is looking for an Executive Assistant to the Pro Vice-Chancellor Engagement and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership.

The Executive Assistant will be responsible for managing all aspects of the PVC's private office including administration and executive support.

You must be an experienced administrator at an executive level in a busy environment, with outstanding administrative skills including computer literacy and excellent attention to detail; highly-developed analytical, research, problem-solving and communication skills; demonstrated ability to work efficiently both independently and as a member of a team.

Remuneration Package: Higher Education Worker Level 6 \$87,796 to \$94,141 per annum (comprising Salary \$74,189 to \$79,550 p.a., plus 17% Superannuation and Leave Loading)

Position Enquiries: Zeita Davis, (02) 9685 9349 or z.davis@westernsydney.edu.au

Closing Date: Wednesday 4th May 2016

Full details on how to apply for this position can be found at our website.
www.westernsydney.edu.au/vacancies
Western Sydney University values workplace diversity.



WESTERNSYDNEY.EDU.AU/VACANCIES

**Position Vacant:
TEACHER**

*Do you wish to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and other young people for whom the traditional schooling sector has not worked?
Are you excited by an opportunity to work crossculturally in a community that is committed to Reconciliation?
Have you ever questioned the relevance of traditional schooling for 21st Century learners, especially those on the margins of our community?*

Jabiru Community College (JCC) is based in Bracken Ridge, North Brisbane. We are a young, small community that provides education for 75 young people seeking a flexible, caring and holistic approach to learning. 20% of our current students identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

JCC has been simplistically described as a cross between a drop in space and a learning space. We aspire to it being much more than this.

We are looking for a teacher (eligible for registration with the Qld College of Teachers) to come on the journey with us as we reimagine quality education for young people on the margins. Teachers who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander are strongly encouraged to apply. Workers in our learning community aspire to the following:

- Giving young people the space to take charge of their own lives;
- Inventively applying social constructivist ideas in a learning community;
- Contributing to the reconciliation process and working together with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities for the benefit of all of our community members;
- A willingness to listen to and share the diversity of experience of the young people and workers in the community, including those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, those who come from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, those from marginalised or disadvantaged backgrounds and those who have a diversity of gender or sexual identities.
- Listening out for the hopes, dreams, capacities and skills of young people and the colleagues we work with;
- Working collaboratively with peers and students to constantly reinvent learning opportunities;
- Engaging in an action research cycle with a reflective team that learns and grows together;
- Working in a transdisciplinary way sharing with and learning from colleagues from other disciplines and backgrounds;
- Taking care of ourselves and holding on to hope and optimism;
- Reimagining how school can be and having the courage to try new ways of working;
- Being able to work hard to lovingly put our ideas into action.

If you are interested in joining us, please prepare a cover letter explaining why you are interested in this position, and what you would bring to the role. Please:

1. Complete the application form at <http://bit.do/jccjobapp>
2. Email your Cover letter and a copy of your CV to Emma Chambers via emma@jabiru.org.au

Please also provide upto date phone numbers and email addresses for at least 3 professional referees.

Closing date for applications is Friday April 22nd.

For any further information regarding this position, please phone Frances Missen or David Powell (Co-Principals) at Jabiru Community College on 3269 0044



RECONCILIATION OFFICER

About Us

Adelaide City Council's City Community Program builds community capacity to develop strong neighbourhoods that promote participation and inclusion.

About the Role

As part of the City Community Program the Reconciliation Officer will have key responsibility for the development, implementation and review of Council's Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan. In this position you will deliver executive support to Council's Reconciliation Committee and be the primary contact for both internal and external enquiries on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander matters. Critical to your success will be the ability to develop strong collaborative relationships across Council and to promote Aboriginal employment and provide ongoing mentoring support to staff and Managers.

About You

To be successful in this role you will have:

- Extensive experience in working with Aboriginal communities, including knowledge on the diversity and relationships of language groups;
- Understanding of cultural, social and

economic matters impacting on Aboriginal communities;

- Knowledge and demonstrable experience of community development, social justice and social inclusion principles; and
- Applicable knowledge of political environments.

Tertiary qualifications in Social Science or a generic arts diploma/degree is required for the role.

How to Apply

Please submit a Resume and Cover Letter expressing the skills, experience and qualities you can bring to this position addressed to Andrea Tunbridge, Team Leader Community Planning. Please review the position description prior to submitting an application.

All enquiries regarding this position will remain private and confidential and can be directed to Andrea Tunbridge on (08) 8203 7166.

To apply, please visit www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/careers

Applications close Sunday 1st May 2016.

Please be advised as part of the recruitment process a police check will be required.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are encouraged to apply.

ADELAIDE CITY COUNCIL. BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER.

Adelaide City Council is committed to employing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, but more than that, we actively celebrate First Peoples culture through many events and facilities. Joining our team gives you opportunities to link with other like-minded individuals, and be supported at every step. So step into a role where you can be a part of something bigger. adelaidecitycouncil.com/careers



Employment Opportunity at UNE

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander designated position
Online Learning Student Engagement Officer
Ooralala Aboriginal Centre**

Reference No: 216038

For further information and to apply visit: www.une.edu.au/jobs-at-une



Sydney Story FACTORY POSITION OPEN!

Are you an Indigenous teacher with a love of creative writing? Would you like to run innovative storytelling programs that change the lives of young people?

The Sydney Story Factory is looking for a creative and adaptable Indigenous person to work part-time (three days per week) as a Deputy Storyteller, with the possibility of full-time in the future.

S/he will join our team and lead writing workshops with young people aged 7 to 17, from diverse backgrounds. Workshops range from storytelling to poetry, animations, script writing and more.

S/he will have experience as an educator and have completed, or nearly completed, an education degree. S/he will be encouraged and supported to develop new and innovative writing and storytelling workshops, with professional development opportunities available. S/he will work with Indigenous young people, and young people from diverse cultural backgrounds.

This is an Indigenous-identified position in accordance with Part 9A of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977. Applicants must demonstrate Aboriginality or Torres Strait Islander heritage in addition to addressing the selection criteria.

For a detailed job description, email info@sydneystoryfactory.org.au Applications will be assessed as they come in. We are looking to fill the role as soon as possible.



Aboriginal Child Protection Caseworker

NSW Family and Community Services aims to transform the lives of vulnerable children by recruiting and developing outstanding individuals to be leaders in Child protection practice.

As an Aboriginal Child Protection Caseworker you will be working with vulnerable children and young people who are at risk of abuse and neglect, communities, interagency partners and peers, to be agents of change in the lives of children.

Being a Child Protection Caseworker is tough. It takes a special kind of person. But the rewards are huge.

We are looking for people with a strong commitment to children, families and community capacity building, people who possess a high level of resilience to become part of a team of skilled and dedicated professionals.

Do you identify as Aboriginal and have two years experience working with Aboriginal children, young people and families or communities?

If so apply now! Please visit www.jobs.nsw.gov.au and enter job reference no: 0000410M

Join a team of dedicated and professional Child Protection Caseworkers in your area and benefit from:

- professional support and training
- flexible working conditions
- great career opportunities

Note: Aboriginal Caseworker must identify and be recognised as Aboriginal.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information visit www.facs.nsw.gov.au/careers/caseworker

The *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*, requires persons engaged in children related work to have Working with Children clearances. If successful in this role you will be required to provide a Working with Children Check clearance number prior to commencing in the role.

AOD Practice Support Worker (Aboriginal Identified) Orange, NSW

- * Pivotal identified role within community-based NGO!
- * Attractive salary package circa \$68k - \$75k + salary packaging up to \$16,050!
- * Come to work every day knowing you've made a difference!



The Lyndon Community has an opportunity for an **Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Practice Support Worker (Aboriginal Identified)**, to join their team in Orange, NSW, on a full-time basis.

You will be primarily responsible for the facilitation of, and participation in, evidence-informed, education programs aimed at minimising the harmful effects of substance use and misuse and supporting existing service providers to this end.

On offer is an attractive remuneration package circa \$68,000 - \$75,000 alongside salary packaging up to \$16,050, a mobile phone, a laptop, access to company vehicles, and flexible working options.

This is an opportunity to join a committed and passionate organisation in the provision of community support services and witness direct positive impact on service provision and the greater community - **APPLY NOW!**

EMPLOYMENT OFFICE Apply Online ApplyNow.com.au/job78037



Aboriginal Specialist Worker

21 hours p/w Mon-Wed
Permanent part-time position

Penrith Women's Health Centre is a non-government organisation funded by NSW Health and Legal Aid NSW. The Centre provides a variety of services for women.

We are seeking an Aboriginal Specialist Worker to join the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service program. To be successful in this role you will be a capable and proactive worker. You will have experience working with women experiencing domestic violence, sound understanding of social policy and issues that face women in Western Sydney and strong experience in networking with multidisciplinary services and agencies.

In order to apply candidates **MUST** obtain an application package by contacting the WDVCS Coordinator on email cheryl@dvcas.net.au or call 47315098.

Being female is a genuine requirement under S31 Anti Discrimination Act.

Being an Aboriginal woman is a genuine occupational qualification for this position.

Applications close on 28th April 2016



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

Applications can be lodged online at liveandworkhnehealth.com.au/work/opportunities-for-aboriginal-torres-strait-islander-people/ Application Information Packages are available at this web address or by contacting Aboriginal Employment - Workforce on (02) 4985 3286.

Aboriginal Sexual Health Worker (Male)

Population Health, Site Negotiable (Tamworth, Taree, Wallsend)
Enquiries: Carolyn Slattery, (02) 6799 2909
Reference ID: 314736

Applicants must be male. This is a genuine qualification under Section 31 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.

Project Officer (Identified)

Population Health, Site Negotiable (Tamworth and Wallsend)
Enquiries: Karen Gillham, (02) 4924 6241
Reference ID: 314804

The above positions are for identified Aboriginals. Applicants must be of Aboriginal descent. Exemption is claimed under Section 14d of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.

Project Officer

Population Health, Site Negotiable (Tamworth and Wallsend)
Enquiries: Karen Gillham, (02) 4924 6241
Reference ID: 314509

Closing Date: 8 May 2016

Salary and conditions in accordance with relevant award. Hunter New England Health promotes the values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect & Empowerment and is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



Entry-Level Audio Engineer

We are looking for a dynamic, enthusiastic and motivated Audio Engineer to join the team in Radio National.

If you're keen to develop your audio craft skills check out the job ad at: abc.net.au/careers GT21021



Aboriginal Correctional Officer, Casual & Ongoing Opportunities State-Wide

A core duty is supervising inmates in accordance with the correctional centres routine or structured day.

This role is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants only, in accordance with the Department of Justice NSW Aboriginal Employment Strategy, and in accordance with in accordance with Part 5 of the NSW Government Sector Employment Rules 2014.

Essential to this role is the ability to drive official vehicles, possessing an appropriate and current NSW driver licence and the willingness to complete further training and tertiary studies.

You must be willing to work on a rotating roster system (24/7) where shifts can vary between 3-8 hours. Fantastic benefits and team culture!

Hourly rate of \$29.37, plus 1/12th in lieu of annual leave and casual loadings (Mon – Fri, weekends and public holidays)



Apply now at www.jobs.nsw.gov.au



Cullunghutti Aboriginal Child & Family Centre

GENERAL MANAGER

Full Time

SCHCADS Award Level 8

Cullunghutti Aboriginal Child & Family Centre (CAC&FC) provides a new and exciting opportunity to make significant improvements in the health, wellbeing and quality of life for Aboriginal Children & Families. The centre is a place for children and families to connect, grow and learn together, reflecting and strengthening Aboriginal identity within the wider community.

The centre is one of nine across NSW initiated by COAG and now funded by the NSW Government through Family & Community Services.

This position will provide high level strategic management to Cullunghutti, and oversee the management of day to day operations, including a 39 place early learning centre. The General Manager will

incorporate the cultural, spiritual & family context within which local families live.

"This is a Targeted Position. Preference will be given to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants. Exemption is claimed under Section 21 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977. In the event that there are no suitable Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants, applications from Non-Aboriginal people will be considered. Non-Aboriginal applicants will need to demonstrate an understanding of the issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and an ability to communicate sensitively and effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people."

For an application package please contact Tracey Kirk-Downey or Tara Leslie on 02 44286900

All application close on Friday 29th April



Our Vote Our Future

Work as a polling official *and make votes count.*

We're looking for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to work on election day and throughout the election period.

Register now and help your community to have a say in Australia's future. Visit www.aec.gov.au/Indigenous or call us on 13 23 26.

If you wish, you can ask to be put through to an AEC Indigenous and Community Engagement Officer.

Note that for some positions you must be over 18 years. Any person who is, and is seen to be, active in political affairs, and intends to publicly carry on this activity, may compromise the strict political neutrality of the AEC and cannot be considered for temporary employment.

www.aec.gov.au/Indigenous 13 23 26



Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 50 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra ACT 2601. Original artwork by Marcus Lee Design.

Help your community to have a say in Australia's future.



Australian Government
Aboriginal Hostels Limited

Southern Central Australia

Alice Springs NT

EL 1 Regional Manager

AHL is seeking suitably experienced and enthusiastic candidates for the position of Regional Manager for the Southern Central Australia Region. The position is located in Alice Springs, Northern Territory. This is a challenging role managing an environment where our hostels are operational on a 24/7 basis. To be successful in this role, you will be savvy, self-motivated, hard-working and have high energy whilst showing empathy, patience and respect for the people you work with.

The Regional Manager is responsible for the coordination, planning and direction of the day-to-day operations of their region, to ensure goals and objectives of AHL are met.

Salary
\$93,975 - \$97,030 per annum plus superannuation

Vacancy
Non-ongoing, 18 months, with the potential to become Ongoing

How to Apply
For further information on the position and how to apply – <http://ahl.gov.au/?q=employment>

Position contact
Brendan Moyle (02) 6212 2025

Closing date
Sunday 8 May 2016

This is an identified position.
One APS Career ... Thousands of Opportunities

www.ahl.gov.au



GT20970A



ABORIGINAL CHILD AND FAMILY MENTOR

Young children and their families thrive in connected, local communities

Connect Child & Family Services Inc. helps families nurture and educate their children. We are a charitable, non-government organisation delivering a range of programs and services for young children and their families across the Blue Mountains and Western Sydney regions.

Position Description:

This position exists to provide support to Aboriginal children 5-12 years of age and their families who may be experiencing external stress and trauma in their lives. The person in the position will work in partnership with a Child Play Therapist. The mentor would need to be highly regarded within the community and be able to work closely with the play therapist. This is a mobile counselling service whose primary activity will be located within two Western Sydney primary schools in the hope of improving the level of access to therapeutic services for Aboriginal children and families.

Essential Criteria:

- Ability to engage Aboriginal children and families at the point of initial service contact and build relationships of trust and cooperation and problem solve.
- Experience in working with families experiencing challenges such as Domestic Violence, Child Protection issues, Parent Drug and Alcohol Misuse, Learning Difficulties and Isolation.
- Ability to work within guidelines described in the Code of Conduct and Ethics and other statutory requirements.
- High level verbal communication skills, with experience developing case summaries.
- Ability to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (ATSI) Diverse organisations and communities.
- Ability to implement Work, Health & Safety (WHS) procedures at all sites.
- Ability to adhere to policies and procedures addressing the requirements of Equal Employment Opportunity, Anti-Discrimination, Affirmative Action and WHS.
- Ability to promote the service in a range of forums if required.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and willingness to work in a multi-disciplinary team.
- Current NSW driver's licence.
- Current Working with Children Check.
- Current National Police Check.

This is a contract position for 15 hours per week ending Friday 23 December 2016 - Remuneration and conditions are as per the SCHADS Award - Level 8.1.

Forward all applications to elizabeth.smith@connect.asn.au or PO Box 2, Hazelbrook, NSW, 2779. Enquiries to Leonie Herczeg on 02 9672 4173 or Chris Gardiner on 0412 057 060.

Applications close 5pm Friday 6th May

This is an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander identified position



Office of Environment & Heritage



Discovery Guide (Aboriginal) Customer Experience Division

Mungo National Park Interpretive Assistant
Vacancy Ref: 000042KI

Casual (8 roles available up to 12 months)

Duties: Delivers local Discovery interpretive activities of guided tours and talks which fosters community awareness, appreciation and understanding for conserving the state's natural and cultural heritage, and the role of the Office of Environment and Heritage, as part of a statewide coordinated education program.

Total Remuneration package: \$31.35 - \$32.47 per hour plus applicable casual loadings and employer contributions to superannuation scheme.

To Apply: Applications are to be lodged online at www.jobs.nsw.gov.au

Enquiries: Mary Mudford (03) 5021 8900

Applications Close: Sunday, 24 April 2016, 11.59 pm

Z0996



Yerin Aboriginal Health Services Inc.

Auspice of Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Health Centre

Position Vacant

P/T Watch Trial Research Officer

(Watchful waiting for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children with Acute Otitis Media)

Overview of Position

We are looking for an enthusiastic Aboriginal person to undertake the role of a research support person. The successful candidate will work closely with the University of Western Sydney Coordinator and Yerin Aboriginal Health Services Inc. to assist in a range of research activities that include children's ear screening, data collection, clinic & or home visit & community engagement.

Learn More: To obtain a job application pack, please email recruitment@yerin.org.au or contact Alydia Strike on 02 43 511 040.

This is an identified Position under Section 9A of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Job Applications close 5pm 26th April 2016



Health
South Western Sydney
Local Health District

Aboriginal Health Worker at Drug Health Services, Permanent Full-Time

Ref: 313300

Salary: \$49,121 - \$72,346 pa

Enq: Steven Dunn, (02) 4634 4177

Closing Date: 4 May 2016

This is an Identified Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Position. Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent through parentage, identification as being Aboriginal and being accepted in the community as such. Exemption is claimed under Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.

Risk Management Assistant (Administrative Officer Level 3), Permanent Full-Time at Liverpool

Ref: 315247

Salary: \$53,979 - \$55,758 pa

Enq: Renee McGlynn, (02) 9828 6065

Closing Date: 4 May 2016

This is a targeted position in accordance with Part 9A of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*, Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply and greater consideration will be given to suitable Aboriginal applicants, in order to improve access to employment and career opportunities. Aboriginal applicants must demonstrate Aboriginality in addition to addressing the selection criterion.

Please apply online by visiting:
nswhealth.erecruit.com.au

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

Z10013

Employment Opportunity at UNE

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Identified Position

Project Officer

School of Law

Reference: 216036

For further information and to apply visit:
www.une.edu.au/jobs-at-une

Equity principles underpin all UNE policies and procedures



WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD?

Work for us!

Program Manager, IMPACT

FYA has a fantastic opportunity! We're seeking a Program Manager to join our team and support IMPACT - a four-year leadership program aiming to assist Indigenous students to lead positive change in their communities. The IMPACT program encourages the development of confident, self-aware and resilient young people who contribute in positive ways to their communities. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

To apply for this job go to:
www.fyacareers.com & enter ref code: 2746904.

FYA.ORG.AU



Family & Community Services

Aboriginal Trainee (Business Administration)

Clerk Grade 1/2
Department of Family & Community Services
Requisition No. 00004CAE

Salary range \$58,687 pa - \$63,801 pa plus employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Role Description:

Provide a range of administrative services to support the achievement of business unit outcomes in a timely, reliable and efficient manner.

Aboriginality is an essential requirement for this position. The position has been identified as an Aboriginal position in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 (d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.

Job Notes: This is a temporary full-time role in accordance with the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013* for a period of up to twelve (12) months.

Expressions of interest will be accepted from those currently actively involved in the Traineeship program currently running in line with the partnership and local agreement with the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council and Corporate Services, Family and Community Services.

A talent pool may be created to fill both on-going and temporary opportunities if and as they arise.

If successful in this role you may be required to undertake a National Criminal History Record Check in accordance with the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014*.

Enquiries: Craig Napper on (02) 9765 3645

To apply on-line: www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au
Refer to Requisition No: 00004CAE

Closing date: Wednesday, 4 May 2016

Z09663

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Education

Aboriginal Education and Engagement Officer

SEO1 (ETS)

Temporary full-time role up to 26 January 2017

Position number and location: 174149 - Coffs Harbour

Total remuneration package valued to: \$131,853 p.a. (salary \$109,867 to \$118,947 p.a.) including employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Providing high level support and advice to educational services team and schools to assist in the implementation of strategies relating to Aboriginal education.

Please address selection criteria in your application. **Please note that it is a requirement that all candidates submit their applications online. No paper based, email based or late applications will be accepted.**

This is a child-related position. If you are not currently employed in a child-related position in the Department of Education, you will be required to obtain a Working with Children Check (WWCC) Clearance number as a condition of employment (if you do not already have this). For more information, visit www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check. In addition, your employment may be subject to the Department's National Criminal Records Check to determine your suitability for employment.

Note: Under new provisions for permanent teachers taking up non-school based temporary appointments, the right of return to their substantive position has been extended to up to 3 years. Current Non-School Based Teaching Service officers are advised that the 3 year right of return period is accumulative and is inclusive of both **higher duties** and/or **temporary periods of appointment** in existing Non-School Based positions.

Note: Recent school based experience is either direct classroom teaching within the past three years or school executive experience within the past three years. Direct classroom teaching or school executive experience is full-time service in a school based position in a departmental preschool, infants, primary, central/community, secondary, environmental education centre or special school for a continuous period of one (1) year. For more information please review [Rules Oct 2015](#).

Note

Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*.

Selection Criteria

- Aboriginality.
- Teaching qualifications and recent school based experience.
- Proven skills, knowledge and/or experience in the following key priority domains as they relate to Aboriginal students:
 - Readiness for School
 - Engagement and Connections
 - Attendance
 - Literacy and Numeracy
 - Quality Teaching
 - Pathways to Real Post-School Options
- Demonstrated high level project management experience and organisational abilities including well developed skills in the writing and preparation of reports, submissions, presentations, briefings and speeches.
- Proven ability to establish and maintain constructive relationships with a broad range of stakeholders, including Aboriginal communities and the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc.
- Demonstrated high level skills in providing professional development in the broader spectrum of Aboriginal education.
- Knowledge of and commitment to the Department's Aboriginal education policies.

Enquiries: Lynne Hugginson (02) 6656 6612

To apply online please visit JobsNSW website and refer to the following keyword: 174149

Closing Date: 4 May 2016

Z09608



Child and Youth Support Worker, Part Time

Location: Based in South West Sydney
Remuneration: Level 4 SCHCADS Award, Pay Point dependent on years of experience, plus the option of salary sacrificing
Hours: 21 hours per week (Tuesday to Thursday)

About the Organisation:

Bonnie Support Services Ltd (BSSL) is a specialist Domestic and Family Violence service and was established in 1974. BSSL supports women and their accompanying children who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or are affected by Domestic or Family Violence. BSSL services are based on a feminist, client-centred model aimed at assisting women to maintain and sustain their tenancy in a violence-free environment. BSSL's aim is to be a leading provider of support services in Sydney's South West to "at risk" women and their children.

About the Opportunity

Bonnie Support Services Ltd is looking for a compassionate and dedicated Child Support Worker to join their team. You will be working alongside our Family Workers and with parents to provide an assessment of immediate needs of the children entering the service and provide case management to address those needs. You will also have the opportunity to facilitate workshops for children and young people in liaison with another Child Support Worker.

Your key responsibilities will include, but may not be limited to:

Providing assessment and direct case management, as well as coordinated support and care for women and their children;
Developing, implementing and monitoring individual care plans;
Organising and participating in case conferences and inter-agency meetings;
Working collaboratively with other agencies on client case management;
Linking women to child and youth services and support networks within the community;
Facilitating child and youth specific workshops; and
Assisting with the administrative functions of BSSL.
Being a female is a genuine requirement as specified under section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Please contact the Program Manager for a Position Description or further information on 02 9729 0939 or email: programmanager@bssl.org.au

Applications addressing the selection criteria, close 2 May 2016



CAREERS @ COUNCIL

Working for Council is a stimulating and rewarding career option, providing the opportunity to be part of a team contributing to shaping the success and future of our Region.

Current career opportunities are:

- TRUCK DRIVER
- BACKHOE OPERATOR

Please visit www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au/careers for further information and to apply.



NEW SOUTH WALES ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRPERSON (WYONG)

Commencing Salary \$86,118

This is an ideal opportunity if you are looking for a position that will provide a rewarding and challenging career, a pivotal role within a dynamic organisation while receiving an attractive remuneration package together with an extensive range of benefits and conditions.

As Executive Assistant you will be primarily responsible for providing high level secretarial support to the Chairperson. Diary and travel management, coordinating meetings, communicating and liaising with key internal and external clients, receiving calls and emails together with preparing and tracking correspondence will form essential components of the position.

The successful applicant will have effective interpersonal, planning, organising and priority setting skills together with the capacity for sound judgment, initiative, confidentiality and the ability to work independently. Superior computer, keyboard and secretarial skills and an understanding of Aboriginal issues are also essential. A willingness to travel is also required.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the Position Description and selection criteria. All applicants must address the selection criteria for their application to be considered. For a recruitment package contact Kody Boney by email recruitment@alc.org.au or on (02) 9689 4490.

Applications can be forwarded to recruitment@alc.org.au or marked "Confidential" and posted to:

Human Resources Officer, NSW Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 1125, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Applications close 9am Monday 2 May 2016

We will require a cleared National Criminal History Check. We are an EEO Employer and are committed to principles of diversity.

Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply.



REGIONAL MANAGER CENTRAL SOUTH EASTERN

- Base in Redfern with travel
- to \$110,100 pa + PBI tax benefits + mobile + FBT vehicle
- Reporting to Chief Executive Officer

ALS began in 1970 as the first legal service of its kind in Australia. Today we boast 23 offices and more than 180 staff working in urban, regional and remote areas in NSW and ACT, determined to get justice for Aboriginal people and communities.

We remain an Aboriginal community organisation funded by the Federal government to assist Aboriginal men, women and children with legal advice and information, and representation in court in the areas of Criminal, Family, and Care and Protection law.

We also operate the only Custody Notification Service in Australia, have a partnership with Legal Aid to run Work and Development Orders, and are backing the first justice reinvestment trial occurring in Bourke NSW.

We're looking for a highly experienced and motivated Regional Manager to join our team. In addition to the day-to-day management of 56 staff members working across six offices, you will provide strategic oversight to ensure organisational deliverables and performance standards are continually met.

Externally, you will build on existing and develop new relationships with communities, community services, Aboriginal organisations and government departments.

A detailed employment package is available on our website. See www.alsnswact.org.au

Applications due by midnight **Sunday 1 May 2016** addressed to Gary Oliver, Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Limited via email to gary.oliver@alsnswact.org.au.

For more information, please contact Gary Oliver on 02 8303 6699.

This position is Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander identified as authorised by s14d of the Anti-discrimination Act 1977.



ALS
Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Limited



Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officer (AHLO) Community Development Worker – Class 2B Yr 6 (48 hrs p/f)

A part time fixed term (6 months) position is available in the Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Office at The Alfred.

An enthusiastic worker is sought to provide face to face secondary consultations with patients, families and health professionals in order to improve access and care for Aboriginal patients. The AHLO will work with clients, and carers, to provide practical and culturally appropriate support to ensure they are followed up post discharge from acute health care with improved linkages to GP's, community health etc. The AHLO will also be expected to work collaboratively with positions at Caulfield Community Health Service (CCHS) and Inner South Community Health Service (ISCHS) to develop efficient and coordinated services in response to the needs of the local ATSI community.

Please address selection criteria with your application.

Enquiries: Bridget Wall Manager,
Social Work, Pastoral Care and AHLO Program
Telephone (03) 9076 3026
b.wall@alfred.org.au

Closing Date: 4 May 2016

VPSC

Victorian Public Sector Commission

Senior Adviser, Aboriginal Employment Unit (VPS 5)

- Salary Range: \$86,493 - \$104,650
- Melbourne CBD location
- 18-month fixed-term position
- Exciting program implementation role

This is your chance to join the Aboriginal Employment Unit within the Victorian Public Sector Commission (VPSC) and make a real difference to employment outcomes for Aboriginal people across the Victorian public sector.

The Unit is responsible for initiatives to increase the number of Aboriginal employees and leaders across the Victorian public sector and to support the career development, mobility and progression of Aboriginal employees. The Unit also manages the Aboriginal Pathway to the Victorian Public Service Graduate Recruitment and Development Scheme (GRADS).

With the support of the Aboriginal Employment Unit team, the position will implement and administer an agreed Victorian Public Service Aboriginal Cadetship and Scholarship program model. Working closely with a broad range of internal and external stakeholders, including government departments, universities and Aboriginal applicants, we are looking for candidates with:

- demonstrated experience in implementing and overseeing programs
- proven ability in stakeholder engagement and negotiation
- high level written and verbal communication skills
- a team-oriented and customer-focused approach

This role is an Aboriginal Identified position. Applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged.

For more information, contact Mason Atkinson, Manager Aboriginal Employment Unit, VPSC on (03) 9651 5423 or at mason.atkinson@vpvc.vic.gov.au. To apply online, visit www.careers.vic.gov.au.

Applications close 5pm, Friday 4 May 2016.



ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER

Darling River Local Area Command, Brewarrina
Clerk Grade 3/4 – Permanent Full-Time
Jobs.NSW Requisition Number: 00004DJ3

Salary Package: \$79,274. **Salary:** \$65,608 – \$71,839. Package includes annual salary, employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Job Description:

The Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer (ACLO) is responsible for providing advice and support to Police in the management of local Aboriginal issues. They assist in establishing and maintaining close personal rapport with Elders, Leaders and the grass roots members of the Aboriginal community by developing network contacts to strengthen cooperation and communication and to assist community members in their dealing with local policing issues and their contact with other statutory bodies.

Job Notes:

- Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification as authorised by Part 6, Clause 23 of the Government Sector Employment Rules 2014.
- This position is 35 hours per week on a rotational roster system and may include overtime/shift allowances.
- Applicants **must** include/attach date and place of birth, driver's licence number and other supporting documentation.
- In accordance with the NSW Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998, applicants for this position will be required to sign a Prohibited Employment Declaration and the preferred applicant will be subject to criminal record, probity and prior employment checks.
- The position is subject to the terms of the NSW Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998. Under the terms of the Act, persons who have been convicted of certain serious sex offences are prohibited from applying for this position as it involves child-related employment.
- The successful applicant will be subject to a rigorous National Police Check (criminal history).
- A Working With Children Check (WWCC), is a prerequisite for this position. The applicant is responsible for applying their own WWCC (**an employer cannot apply on behalf of a worker**) and if the outcome is a clearance, the Check is valid for five years and may be used for any child-related work in NSW. You can apply for your Working With Children Check here: www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check
- For your application to be considered, you **must**:
 - o Give written responses addressing each of the selection criteria using the text boxes provided in the online application; and
 - o Attach an up-to-date resume to your application.
- Applications can only be submitted electronically online via the I Work for NSW website (iworkfor.nsw.gov.au).

For the Selection Criteria, a downloadable position description and to apply, please go to the I Work for NSW website (iworkfor.nsw.gov.au) and search for Requisition Number 00004DJ3

Enquiries: Ainslie Smith – A/Local Area Manager on (08) 6870 0806

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: Sunday 1 May 2016



Australian Government
Director of National Parks

PARK MANAGER
BOODEREE NATIONAL PARK
EL2 (SPECIAL MEASURES)

The Director of National Parks is looking for an exceptional Indigenous leader to take Booderee National Park forward in its vision for sole management.

Are you passionate about protected area management? Does working hand in hand with the Traditional Owners towards their vision of park management resonate strongly with you? Do you believe excellent people management is the key to a successful and productive team? If your experience, skills and passion speak to these questions then this is the job for you.

Parks Australia is seeking a highly motivated Indigenous leader with protected area and operational management experience to be the next Park Manager for Booderee National Park. This amazing opportunity will see you provide leadership, strategic direction and management of Booderee National Park and Booderee Botanic Garden, in conjunction with the Board of Management, Traditional Owners and Parks Australia.

You will be responsible for managing successful relationships with a range of partners and key stakeholders, building on strong science and biodiversity conservation links as well as negotiating the marine and terrestrial conservation challenges faced by the park. Knowledge of sustainable tourism development is an advantage as the park experiences a growing demand in tourism.

Salary Range \$117,360 - \$136,354 plus 15.4% superannuation.

How to apply

Please apply through the department's online recruitment system, where you will find a full position description and the selection criteria:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/jobs/opportunities/index.html>

For more information please contact:

Agnese Hubbard
Director – People and Workforce Development
02 6274 2342

This position is open only to Indigenous applicants. Applicants must identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and be accepted as such in the community in which they live or have lived.

GT21011



ACT
Government

Justice and Community Safety

ACT Corrective Services
Alexander Maconochie Centre
Offender Services and Corrections Programs

AMC Indigenous Case Manager

Administrative Services Officer Class 6
Salary Range: \$77,482 - \$88,676 (PN: 35794)

- Make a difference in the community
- Pursue an outstanding career opportunity
- Ongoing learning and development opportunities

ACT Corrective Services is looking for values-driven professionals to be part of a highly skilled team committed to providing effective case management for detainees. Working closely with other AMC Case Managers, and under the direction of the Team Leader, Case Management Unit, you will deliver case management for offenders in the Alexander Maconochie Centre with a view to identifying and reducing risk while supporting rehabilitation and community integration on release from custody. You will also deliver case management in line with international best practice.

To be successful in this role you will be able to demonstrate an understanding of and commitment to contemporary best practice in relation to case management. You will also be able to demonstrate significant skill and expertise (or a capacity to quickly develop relevant skill and expertise) in developing, implementing and monitoring individualised case plans. You will also be able to demonstrate a capacity for developing useful relationships with detainees to enable the accurate identification of risks and needs.

Contact Officer: Mark Bartlett (02) 6207 8983 mark.bartlett@act.gov.au

Applications Close: 29 April 2016

GT21044

Great careers
come with the Territory.

For more information on these positions and how to apply, visit www.jobs.act.gov.au



PROJECT OFFICER

Continuous Quality Improvement – CQI

The AH&MRC is looking for an experienced Project Officer to join its team. The Project Officer [CQI] will work on developing, implementing, promoting and evaluating the AH&MRC CQI Support Program. The AH&MRC CQI Support Program aims to:

- build NSW ACCHS CQI related capacity, capability, activity and effectiveness;
- contribute to national and state level initiatives that support CQI in Aboriginal primary health care; and
- support the implementation of the National CQI Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care.

The role includes contributions to the development, implementation, promotion and evaluation of the AH&MRC program and CQI-related support for NSW Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHS) and working collaboratively with ACCHS's and other AH&MRC teams.

The position is funded until the 30 June 2016, with the expectation that funding will be renewed. The salary range is \$70,000 to \$80,000 and we are able to provide Salary Sacrifice to the successful application.

Applications should include a current resume and please address the following criteria:

Essential

1. Qualification in Public or Community Health, Health Science or an associated Health related discipline.
2. Demonstrated knowledge and/or experience of CQI concepts and activities in an Aboriginal primary health care context.
3. Demonstrated relevant experience in clinical or public health-work in an Aboriginal context that shows an understanding of ACCHSs, contemporary Aboriginal health issues and the key social determinants to health.
4. Relevant experience or the demonstrated ability to work effectively within an Aboriginal or Community Based Organisation including the proven ability to communicate, negotiate, form partnerships and consult effectively and credibly with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, organisations and professionals.
5. Project management experience that demonstrates your skills to plan, set and prioritise workloads to meet deadlines.
6. Ability to work as an effective team member.
7. Written communication skills that demonstrate your ability to assist in the preparation of comprehensive reports, funding submissions, briefs and general correspondence.
8. Intermediate knowledge of the Microsoft Office Suite including Word, Excel and Powerpoint and the demonstrated ability to effectively utilise management information technology.
9. A current driver's license and capacity to undertake travel including to rural, remote and regional NSW communities and interstate

Desirable

1. Skills and experience in public health practice

Please send all applications to Victoria Jones, Chief Operations Officer by email vjones@ahmrc.org.au by COB Friday 13th May 2016.

Previous Applications Do Need Not Apply

For all your advertising needs
email: advertising@koorimail.com
or call 02 6622 2666



Healing Foundation
Strong Spirit • Strong Culture • Strong People

Deputy Director Programs

The Healing Foundation is seeking a dynamic and highly motivated person to fill the newly created role of Deputy Director Programs.

- This is a unique opportunity to contribute to the development of the Healing Foundation's work, including knowledge creation
- Full time
- Location negotiable

Working as part of a small team you will be responsible for driving program development, reporting and contract management, as well as evaluation processes to ensure the delivery of high quality programs.

The Healing Foundation is a national organisation which supports culturally strong, locally run Indigenous healing programs.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged apply.

For a copy of the duty statement and information about the application process go to www.healingfoundation.org.au

For further information contact Lisa Hillan, Director of Programs and Knowledge Creation on 0487 770 119

Applications should be emailed to lisa@healingfoundation.org.au by **COB Wednesday 4 May 2016**



Health
Justice Health &
Forensic Mental Health Network

Aboriginal Health Worker – Primary Health Care (Aboriginal Identified)

Classification: NSW Health Service Aboriginal Health Workers' (State) Award

Location: Emu Plains, Silverwater Correctional Complex Womens Clinic, South Windsor Dillwynia Correctional Centre Clinic

Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time

Salary: \$49,121 – \$72,346 pa

Enquiries: Leo De Jesus, (02) 4582 2583

Email: cornelio.dejesus@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au

Reference No: 315671

Closing Date: 1 May 2016

To apply for this position please visit nswhealth.erecruit.com.au

Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network is committed to Work Health & Safety, Equal Employment, Ethical Practices, and the Principles of Cultural Diversity. Personal criminal records checks will be conducted. Prohibited persons as declared under the *Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998* are not eligible to apply for child-related employment.

Z10273

NSW Health Service: employer of choice



AIATSIS
AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES

Join Australia's leading collecting, research and publishing institution on the cultures and histories of Indigenous Australians.

Over its 50-year history, AIATSIS has evolved into a national authority on Indigenous studies. It is a hub for collaborative, ethical collecting and research and develops Indigenous staff and researchers. AIATSIS Collections are one of the world's leading collections of printed, audio and visual materials on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, history and societies.

Online Communications Manager

Executive Level 1 – Ongoing, full time
Salary \$89,922 - \$98,639 pa

The Online Communications Manager is responsible for managing the quality and standards of all aspects of the Institute's online communication activities, from the website through to digital and social media, including consolidating and building the AIATSIS brand across all online digital campaigns for AIATSIS public promotions and programs.

Volunteer Coordinator

APS Level 5 – Ongoing, part-time
\$65,627-\$70,047 pa, pro-rata

We are looking for an enthusiastic Volunteer Coordinator to join the Collection Services team, to develop and manage the day-to-day activities of the volunteer program, including recruitment, induction, training and rostering.

These are Identified positions

Closing Date: 5pm Wednesday 4 May 2016

How to apply:

Applicants must address the selection criteria which include the ability to demonstrate knowledge and an understanding of both Indigenous cultures and the issues affecting Indigenous Australians today and an ability to communicate effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Please consult the AIATSIS web site www.aiatsis.gov.au for more information including the position description and selection criteria and follow the steps for how to apply at <http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/about-us/work-us/how-apply>

The Institute values a skilled and diverse workforce to meet the needs of the organisation in the promotion of knowledge and understanding of Australian Indigenous cultures, past and present. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

DENTAL ASSISTANT (Trainee) and ASSISTANT IN NURSING (Trainee) roles

Echuca Regional Health is pleased to offer two 12 month traineeships for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants to undertake a funded dental assistant or assistant in nursing traineeship.

These will be full time positions which include paid study time and completion of a Certificate III/IV in Dental Assisting or Assistant in Nursing qualification with our local training provider. This opportunity has been funded by the Department of Health and Human Services through the Koolin Balit grant scheme.

The role is supported by our Education Team, Dental and Nursing Services Staff, and our Aboriginal Liaison Officer.

We are seeking committed, passionate applicants who are interested in joining our team. You must be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Echuca Regional Health offers a culturally safe and supportive environment with;

- all staff undertaking cultural awareness training;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff network.

You must be eligible to undertake the Certificate III/IV for this role, having completed Year 10 or equivalent. Literacy and numeracy are screened as part of the interview and selection process. *This position requires completion of a satisfactory National Police Check and Working with Children Check.*

How to Apply:

All applicants are required to apply online using the link at www.erh.org.au. If you experience technical difficulty please contact: 1300 366 356 for assistance. If you require access to a computer to complete your online application please contact our Education Department: 03 5485 5286.

Applications must include:

1. A covering letter;
2. Resume;
3. Completed online questionnaire;
4. Three professional referees; and
5. A document addressing the Key Selection Criteria within the Position Description

Enquiries about this position should be directed to Sarah Brownhill, HR Coordinator on: (03) 5485 5135.

Application close
midnight on 6 May 2016



Aboriginal Caseworker: Out of Home Care Full Time: 38hrs/week

Creating Links is a growing not-for profit community organisation that focuses on developing dynamic, resilient, confident and inclusive communities and families in Metropolitan Sydney. Our Out of Home Care program is a newly established service and has a dynamic and passionate team who strive to provide safe and nurturing home environments for children and young people.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Relevant tertiary qualifications (for example Social Work, Psychology)
- Excellent knowledge, understanding and experience of working with Aboriginal children and their families with complex needs., particularly in Out-of-Home Care
- Experience in working with children and families from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds.
- A well-developed understanding of child protection, the relevant legislation and knowledge of research and theoretical frameworks for working with children and young people who have experienced trauma through abuse or neglect.
- Relevant experience in undertaking comprehensive assessments.
- A well-developed understanding of and ability to appropriately respond to the needs of people from all communities including Indigenous; Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD); and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) communities.
- Experience of report writing, using analytical skills.
- Ability to prioritise competing demands and meeting

deadlines while working independently.

- Computer literacy.
- Possession of a current driver's licence and Working with Children's Check
- Willingness to undertake a Criminal Records Check
- Ability to work flexible hours including evenings and some weekends.
- Ability to meet the physical demands of the position (i.e. lifting children).

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

- Aboriginal decent
- Experience in working with Aboriginal communities.
- First Aid Certificate.

How do I apply or find out more information?

To apply for this exciting opportunity, see www.creatinglinks.org.au for further information.

Please send applications addressing the selection criteria, via email to tamenay@creatinglinks.org.au. Contact Tamena Yarak on 8713 7700

Closing date for applications is:
Tuesday, 26th April 2016



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 and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	15/1504	REED INDUSTRIAL MINERALS PTY LTD	49BL	31km W'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 12' S Long: 121° 20' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1506	ALLOY RESOURCES LTD	4BL	16km NW'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 5' S Long: 121° 34' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	27/557	NORTHERN STAR (KANOWNNA) PTY LIMITED	7BL	30km N'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 29' S Long: 121° 31' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/562	CAMERON MINING PTY LTD	15BL	78km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 9' S Long: 121° 54' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/567	CAREY MINERALS PTY LTD	1BL	59km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 20' S Long: 121° 51' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/2596	KAMAX RESOURCES LTD	200BL	97km N'ly of Rawlinna	Lat: 30° 13' S Long: 124° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/2597	DALLA-COSTA, Melville Raymond	14BL	113km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 31' S Long: 122° 37' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/966	BLACK MOUNTAIN GOLD LIMITED	19BL	34km SE'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 58' S Long: 121° 10' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	31/1120	VALEMORE PTY LTD	31BL	77km N'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 5' S Long: 121° 43' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	36/867	AGNEW GOLD MINING COMPANY PTY LIMITED	17BL	25km S'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 8' S Long: 120° 36' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1250	CGM (WA) PTY LTD	34BL	58km N'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 22' S Long: 121° 25' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1251	CGM (WA) PTY LTD	69BL	58km E'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 5' S Long: 121° 15' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1252	ROMAN KINGS PTY LTD	69BL	58km SE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 5' S Long: 121° 15' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	37/1253	ROMAN KINGS PTY LTD	7BL	56km N'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 23' S Long: 121° 11' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3107	WRASSE RESOURCES PTY LTD	31BL	151km SE'ly of Cosmo Newberry Mission	Lat: 28° 58' S Long: 123° 58' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/1914	CGM (WA) PTY LTD	3BL	96km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 29' S Long: 122° 20' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/4669	GREAT SANDY PTY LTD	23BL	13km E'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 11' S Long: 119° 52' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1045	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	70BL	97km W'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 22° 25' S Long: 120° 52' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1108	RWG MINERALS PTY LTD	1BL	47km NE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 38' S Long: 120° 28' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1109	GEOSTATS PTY LTD	6BL	33km NE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 40' S Long: 120° 19' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	46/1112	GEOSTATS PTY LTD	10BL	28km NE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 41' S Long: 120° 16' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	52/3348	BORAL RESOURCES (WA) LTD	54BL	13km S'ly of Newman	Lat: 23° 28' S Long: 119° 43' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE, MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/3583	ROCLA PTY LIMITED	1BL	19km W'ly of Gingin	Lat: 31° 20' S Long: 115° 42' E	GINGIN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/4818	CAREY MINERALS PTY LTD	79BL	4km E'ly of Narembeen	Lat: 32° 3' S Long: 118° 26' E	NAREMBEEN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/4819	GUTHRIE, John Richard	1BL	29km NE'ly of Bencubbin	Lat: 30° 35' S Long: 118° 1' E	MOUNT MARSHALL SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/4821	MAQ COMMODITIES PTY LTD	14BL	19km SW'ly of Corrigin	Lat: 32° 24' S Long: 117° 42' E	CORRIGIN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	74/576	DEVLIN, Stephen Peter	1BL	9km E'ly of Ravensthorpe	Lat: 33° 35' S Long: 120° 8' E	RAVENSTHORPE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2297	COCKBURN CEMENT LIMITED	11BL	43km N'ly of Merredin	Lat: 31° 5' S Long: 118° 16' E	NUNGARIN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6009	NEWMONT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	118.13HA	27km NW'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 59' S Long: 121° 30' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	16/2931	KENT, Timothy Ernest	8.80HA	45km NW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 37' S Long: 120° 52' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/2932	KENT, Timothy Ernest	8.25HA	45km NW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 37' S Long: 120° 53' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	21/741	HARRIS, Evanton Ross	131.06HA	18km S'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 34' S Long: 117° 55' E	CUE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	21/742	MALATESTA, Nathan	50.81HA	7km SW'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 27' S Long: 117° 49' E	CUE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/4996	CASCADE RESOURCES LIMITED	85.77HA	32km NW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 29' S Long: 121° 18' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5036-9	SCORPION MINING PTY LTD	591.41HA	45km NW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 25' S Long: 121° 12' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5040-3	SCORPION MINING PTY LTD	586.09HA	46km NW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 23' S Long: 121° 13' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5046	MITHRIL RESOURCES LTD	129.99HA	62km NE'ly of Menzies	Lat: 30° 13' S Long: 121° 12' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5047-59	MITHRIL RESOURCES LTD	1932.21HA	49km NW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 21' S Long: 121° 14' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5060	GPM RESOURCES PTY LTD	9.21HA	43km NW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 24' S Long: 121° 16' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4106-11	CASCADE RESOURCES LIMITED	727.81HA	32km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 4' S Long: 121° 58' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4113	CASCADE RESOURCES LIMITED	121.23HA	34km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 2' S Long: 121° 58' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4112, 26/4114-5 & 26/4141-2	CASCADE RESOURCES LIMITED	769.17HA	29km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 58' S Long: 121° 49' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4143	CASCADE RESOURCES LIMITED	54.01HA	33km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 57' S Long: 121° 52' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4149	GOLDENMILE MILLING PTY LTD	197.87HA	13km S'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 51' S Long: 121° 30' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	31/2093	MCCLAREN, Kym Anthony	166.84HA	128km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 46' S Long: 122° 21' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/8657	MANSEN, James Karl				
Prospecting Licence	37/8657	LORENTZ, Wolfgang Michael	40.37HA	41km NE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 38' S Long: 121° 38' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/8658	CGM (WA) PTY LTD	27.16HA	34km E'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 50' S Long: 121° 40' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	37/8659-65	STEHN, Anthony Paterson	1001.06HA	13km NE'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 47' S Long: 121° 24' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/5594-7	MAGNETIC RESOURCES NL	761.12HA	45km W'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 46' S Long: 121° 58' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/5598-9	EXTERRA RESOURCES LTD	234.19HA	79km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 20' S Long: 122° 24' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	39/5600-1	CGM (WA) PTY LTD	266.65HA	96km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 29' S Long: 122° 21' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	46/1858	PANZICH, Damir	151.81HA	39km E'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 52' S Long: 120° 29' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Retention Licence	46/2	SPITFIRE AUSTRALIA (SWM) PTY LTD	100.00HA	125km SW'ly of Telfer	Lat: 22° 20' S Long: 121° 13' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Retention Licence		PLANET MINING PTY LTD				

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 retention licences which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 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: 20 April 2016

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 **20 July 2016**. 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. 20 August 2016**), 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 and Petroleum, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

* - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km²

adcorp WG14697



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NATIVE TITLE SERVICES LTD

SENIOR LEGAL OFFICER (Native Title Services) – Full Time Permanent

South Australian Native Title Services Ltd (SANTS) delivers services to native title claimants and native title holders in South Australia to have their native title rights and interests recognised and protected. The Native Title Services team exists to deliver a full range of statutory services to our clients.

We now seek an outstanding Senior Legal Officer to work within our Native Title Services Team reporting to our Principal Legal Officer. The Senior Legal Officer is accountable for ensuring the provision of high level legal services and advice to assigned native title claim groups, Native Title Bodies Corporate and SANTS. An interest or experience in working with Aboriginal communities will be highly regarded.

SANTS strongly encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants to apply.

This is a full time position based in the Adelaide CBD. To be successful in this role you will have:

- Required to be admitted as a Solicitor in South Australia.
- Eligibility to apply for a South Australian practicing certificate.
- High level skills, knowledge and experience in native title law
- Understanding of Australian Federal Court procedure and experience in the Federal Court.
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of Indigenous Australian societies and cultures, and the issues affecting these cultures in Australian society.
- Knowledge of and commitment to the principles and practices of Equal Employment Opportunity and Workplace Health and Safety.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in the application of the principles of dispute resolution and mediation.
- South Australian Driver's License or equivalent and 4WD training.
- Proven leadership skills and the capacity to identify and initiate change and to respond to changing circumstances and priorities.
- High level communication skills including the ability to provide clear, concise and comprehensive advice both verbally and in writing, and to negotiate effectively at a senior level, both within and external to the public sector.

A position description is available on request. Please note that intra and interstate travel is a strong possibility with this role.

If you believe you have the relevant skills, experience and attitude to make a success of this role, please submit your expression of interest including application letter and current resume to mariaa@nativetitlesa.org by 5:00pm Monday, 29 April 2016.

Notice of an application for determination of native title in the state of Queensland



National Native Title Tribunal

Notification day: 4 May 2016

This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

A person who wants to become a party to this application must write to the Registrar of the Federal Court, PO Box 13084, George Street Post Shop, BRISBANE QLD 4003 on or before 3 August 2016. After 3 August 2016, the Federal Court's permission to become a party is required.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



Application name: Angela Braun & Ors on behalf of the Jirrbal People #4 v State of Queensland

Federal Court File No: QUD983/2015

Date filed: 22 October 2015

Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has accepted this application for registration.

Description: The area subject to this application covers approximately 2,900 sq km and extends from Atherton to Kirrama Homestead and from Milla Milla to Innot Hot Springs.

Relevant LGA: Cassowary Coast & Tablelands Regional Councils.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Michelle Mann on freecall 1800 640 501 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

GT20931

Shared country, shared future.

Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements



National Native Title Tribunal

Notification day: 27 April 2016



QI2016/005 Rainbow Beach Ambulance Station ILUA
State of Queensland

Description of the agreement area:

The Agreement Area covers 2558 sq metres, being Lot 1 on CP817467 on the corner of Carlo Road and Karoonda Court, Rainbow Beach.

Relevant LGA: Gympie Regional Council

The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

5.1 The parties consent to the extinguishment of all Native Title rights and interests over the Agreement Area by the surrender of those Native Title rights and interests to the State [of Queensland].

5.2 The Surrender over the Surrender Area takes place upon Registration. [The Surrender Area is the same as the Agreement Area, namely, Lot 1 on CP817467 as described and shown on the locality map above.]

5.3 The parties consent to the validation of any acts attributable to the State [of Queensland] on the Agreement Area, including the Freehold Grant and the Project, to the extent that they were done invalidly for the purposes of Native Title and can be validated by this Agreement.

5.4 If the project commences prior to Registration [of this agreement on the ILUA Register], the parties consent to the Project to the extent it is a Future Act.

5.8 Subdivision P, Division 3, Part 2 of the NTA is not intended to apply to the Surrender, the Project or the Validation.

[The Project means all activities and works necessary for and incidental to the construction of the ambulance station to be constructed on the agreement area and the construction of infrastructure necessary for or incidental to the ambulance station.]

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

State of Queensland acting through the Department of Health
(on behalf of the Queensland Ambulance Service)

C/- Crown Law
GPO Box 5221
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Gemma Cronin, Roderick Tobane, Belinda Barrowcliffe, Bronwyn De Satge, Sandra Page, Lurline Lillian Burke, Shirley Blake, Brett Nutley and Cepha Maria Roma on their own behalf and on behalf of the Butchulla People

c/- Queensland South Native Title Services
PO Box 10832
Adelaide Street
Brisbane QLD 4001

Objections to the registration of an ILUA where the application for registration has been certified:

This application for registration of an indigenous land use agreement (ILUA) has been certified by Queensland South Native Title Services, the representative body for the area. Any person claiming to hold native title to any part of the area covered by the ILUA may object in writing within the notice period to the registration of this agreement if they think that the application to register the ILUA has not been properly certified. If you wish to object to the registration of this agreement (and you hold or claim to hold native title in any part of the area covered by the agreement) you may only object for one reason: in your view, the application to register the ILUA has not been properly certified, as stated in section 203BE(5)(a) and (b) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth). You must make this objection in writing and send it to the Native Title Registrar, National Native Title Tribunal, PO Box 9973, Cairns, Qld, 4870 by 27 July 2016.

Generally, procedural fairness will require that the material you provide is given to certain other persons or organisations for comment. It may also be taken into account in the registration of other ILUAs and claimant applications and thus be provided to relevant persons or organisations for comment.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Michelle Mann on freecall 1800 640 501 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

GT20984

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Australian Government
Indigenous Business Australia

making a difference
www.iba.gov.au

Senior Manager, Traditional Owner & Sustainability Unit Canberra, Sydney or Brisbane

IBA7 Salary: \$126,040 to \$147,678
plus superannuation of 15.4% p.a.

Are you:

- + experienced in Indigenous economic development, capacity development or strategic planning
- + passionate about achieving economic development outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- + a strong lateral thinker, with excellent stakeholder management, communication and organisational skills?

IBA's Investments program makes strategic investments in commercial enterprises with a view to creating wealth, employment and other opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and groups. Our portfolio comprises over \$200 million in investments across Australia in a variety of sectors, including tourism, property, manufacturing, energy & resources, primary industries and retail businesses.

We seek a high calibre and motivated professional with experience in sustainability, social investment or a related field to join our team.

The successful applicant will play a key role in developing and implementing a strategic approach to economic development and capacity building across the investments portfolio, including in respect of Indigenous employment, training and skills development. You will also be responsible for further developing IBA Investments impact measurement and evaluation framework.

The successful applicant will report to the General Manager, IBA Investments.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

This is a unique opportunity for candidates to join a dynamic, successful and outcome focused organisation.

For further information including job description, selection documentation and how to apply go to www.iba.gov.au. If, after reading the job documentation you have any questions, please contact Rajiv Viswanathan on (02) 9207 6357.

Applications close 1 May 2016.

GT21071

IBA is a progressive, commercially focused organisation that promotes and encourages self-management, self-sufficiency and economic independence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



**NSW OFFICE OF WATER
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WATER
MACQUARIE BOGAN UNREGULATED AND ALLUVIAL WATER SOURCES
LAWSONS CREEK WATER SOURCE**

An application for a new COMBINED WATER SUPPLY WORKS AND USE APPROVAL has been received from **BRENDON BRETT FLYNN and LARA VIARNEY HOOPER** for a 50mm centrifugal pump on Lawsons Creek on Lot 1 DP 798296 or Lot 4 DP 550641 Parish of Bumberra County of Phillip, for the purpose of irrigation on the same lots. (A007924)

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water, PO Box 717, DUBBO NSW 2830 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must be signed and must include your name and address and must specify the grounds of the objection.

Any queries please call (02) 6841 7414, Richard Wheatley, Senior Water Regulation Officer

Z09973

**NSW OFFICE OF WATER
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WATER
LACHLAN FOLD BELT MDB GROUNDWATER SOURCE**

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL under Section 92 of the Water Management Act 2000 has been received as follows:-

Tinobah Trading Pty Ltd for a new bore on Lot 2 DP 852772, Parish of Wellington, County of Mudgee for industrial / commercial purposes (Ref: A007928).

Objections to the granting of the approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water, PO Box 717, DUBBO NSW 2830 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of objection.

Any queries please call (02) 6841 7414, Richard Wheatley, Senior Water Regulation Officer.

Z10041

**NSW OFFICE OF WATER
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WATER
FOREST CREEK FLOOD PLAIN**

An application for a FLOOD WORK APPROVAL has been received from **F S FALKNER & SONS PTY LTD** for earth works and access track within a floodplain on Lots 8; 33; 34; 35 and 35 DP756268 and Lot 1 DP133987, Parish of Conargo, County of Conargo.

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water, PO Box 205, Deniliquin NSW 2710, within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address to specify the grounds of objection. (A7825).

Any queries please call (03) 5898 3935, Jane Taylor, Water Regulation Officer.

Z10208

**NSW OFFICE OF WATER
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WATER
LOWER MACQUARIE ZONE 3 GROUNDWATER SOURCE**

An application for a new WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from **NAMOI COTTON CO-OPERATIVE LTD** for an existing bore on Lot 481 DP 877514, Parish of Gin Gin, County of Narromine, for industrial purposes on the same lot. (A007936)

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water, PO Box 717, DUBBO NSW 2830 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must be signed and must include your name and address and must specify the grounds of the objection. Any enquiries may be directed to Richard Wheatley, Senior Water Regulation Officer (02) 6841 7414.

Z09982

**NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (DPI)
WATER**

BILLABONG CREEK ALLUVIAL GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for a WATER USE APPROVAL has been received from **BRYAN AND LUCINDA CORRIGAN** for irrigation purposes on Lot D//412317.

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water, P O Box 829, ALBURY NSW 2640 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address to specify the grounds of objection. (A007946)

Any queries please call (02) 6024 8859, Clare Purtle, Senior Water Regulation Officer.

Z10042

**DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (DPI) WATER
MURRAY RIVER VALLEY**

An application to amend a Flood Work Approval has been received from **GREGORY NORMAN SANDFORD AND KYM MICHELLE SANDFORD** for earth works within a floodplain on 66//756331, Parish of Thurgoon, County of Townsend (Reference No. 50FW513374).

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to Department of Primary Industries, Water, PO Box 205, Deniliquin NSW 2710, within 28 days of the date of this notice. The objection must include your name, address and specify the grounds of objection.

Any queries please call (03) 5898 3935, Jane Taylor, Water Regulation Officer.

Z10133

**NSW OFFICE OF WATER
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WATER
SOUTHERN RECHARGE GROUNDWATER SOURCE**

An application for an amended WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from **COONABARABRAN SHOWGROUND TRUST** for one new bore for recreational purposes on Lot 590 DP 721790, Parish of Coonabarabran, County of Gowen.

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to NSW Office of Water, PO Box 717, DUBBO NSW 2830 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address to specify the grounds of objection. (A007984)

Any queries please call (02) 6841 7414, Richard Wheatley, Senior Water Regulation Officer.

Z10170

**Notice of an application for
determination of native title
in the state of Queensland**



**National
Native Title
Tribunal**

Notification day: 4 May 2016

This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

A person who wants to become a party to this application must write to the Registrar of the Federal Court, PO Box 13084, George Street Post Shop, BRISBANE QLD 4003 **on or before 3 August 2016**. After **3 August 2016**, the Federal Court's permission to become a party is required.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



Application name: Warrgamay People

Federal Court File No: QUD882/2015

Date filed: 24/09/2015

Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has **accepted** this application for registration.

Description: The application area covers about 2499sq km located to the north and west of Ingham.

Relevant LGA: Hinchinbrook Shire Council, Tablelands, Cassowary Coast and Charters Towers Regional Councils.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Michelle Mann on freecall 1800 640 501 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

GT20901

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**Notice of an application to
register an area agreement
on the Register of Indigenous
Land Use Agreements**



**National
Native Title
Tribunal**

Notification day: 27 April 2016



**WI2016/001 Yinhawangka BHP Billiton Project Agreement
Initial ILUA**

State of Western Australia

Description of the agreement area:

The Agreement Area covers about 10,108 sq km in the vicinity of Paraburdo.

Relevant LGA: Shires of Ashburton, East Pilbara and Meekatharra.

The agreement contains the following statements:

13.4 For the purposes of section 24EB(1) of the Native Title Act, the parties consent to all acts covered by this document to the extent they involve future acts without conditions but in accordance with this document.

13.6 The process set out in Subdivision P of Division 3 of Part 2 of the Native Title Act, known as the "right to negotiate" process, is not intended to apply to any act covered by this document.

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

Churchill Jones, Nicholas Cook, David Cox, Adrian Condon, Stuart Ingie and Roy Tommy in their capacity as registered native title claimants in relation to the Yinhawangka Claims and on behalf of the Yinhawangka People

c/- Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

Level 8, 12-14 The Esplanade

Perth WA 6000

BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Limited in its capacity as the BHP Billiton Manager as at the Commencement Date, and for and on behalf of:

(a) BHP Billiton Minerals Pty Ltd as its agent

(b) United Iron Pty Ltd as its agent

(c) the participants in the Mount Goldsworthy Mining Associates Joint Venture as at the Commencement Date as their manager and agent and; and

(d) the participants in the Mt Newman Mining Associates Joint Venture as at the Commencement Date as their manager and agent.

c/- Ashurst Australia

Level 10, Brookfield Place Tower 2

123 St Georges Terrace

Perth WA 6000

Objections to the registration of an ILUA where the application for registration has been certified:

This application for registration of an indigenous land use agreement (ILUA) has been certified by the Central Desert Native Title Services and Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation, the representative bodies for the area. Any person claiming to hold native title to any part of the area covered by the ILUA may object in writing within the notice period to the registration of this agreement if they think that the application to register the ILUA has not been properly certified. If you wish to object to the registration of this agreement (and you hold or claim to hold native title in any part of the area covered by the agreement) you may only object for one reason: in your view, the application to register the ILUA has not been properly certified, as stated in section 203BE(5)(a) and (b) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth). You must make this objection in writing and send it to the **Native Title Registrar, National Native Title Tribunal, GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA, 6848 by 27 July 2016**.

Generally, procedural fairness will require that the material you provide is given to certain other persons or organisations for comment. It may also be taken into account in the registration of other ILUAs and claimant applications and thus be provided to relevant persons or organisations for comment.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Claire Smith on freecall 1800 640 501 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

GT20950

Shared country, shared future.

**NSW OFFICE OF WATER
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WATER
LOWER MURRUMBIDGEE DEEP GROUNDWATER SOURCE**

An application to amend water supply work approval 40WA416530 has been received from **David Anthony, Gregory Francis and Michael Gerard STAR** for a new irrigation bore on Lot 49 DP 756299, Parish Morton County Townsend.

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water, PO Box 10, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650, within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address to specify the grounds of the objection. (A007968).

Any queries please call (02) 6932 9132, David Stephens, Water Regulation Officer. Z10144

**NSW OFFICE OF WATER DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WATER
HAWKESBURY AND LOWER NEPEAN RIVERS WATER SOURCE
WALLACIA WEIR MANAGEMENT ZONE**

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORK AND USE APPROVAL has been received from **Zhi Jie Zhong and Yimei Huang** for 1 x 100mm centrifugal pump, for irrigation of 2 hectares on Lot 3 DP 583435, Parish of Warragamba, County of Camden. (A007907)

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water, Locked Bag 5123, Parramatta NSW 2124 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address to specify the grounds of objection. Any queries should be directed to (02) 8838 7531, Wayne Conners, Senior Water Regulation Officer

Z09974

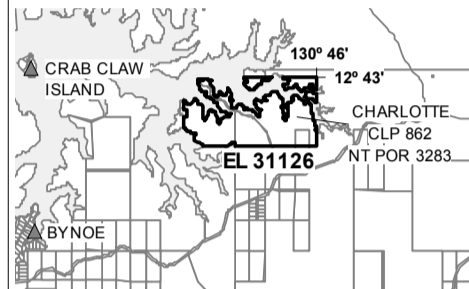
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Honourable David William Tollner MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mines and Energy, C/- Department of Mines and Energy, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of his intent to do an act, namely to grant the following exploration licence applications.

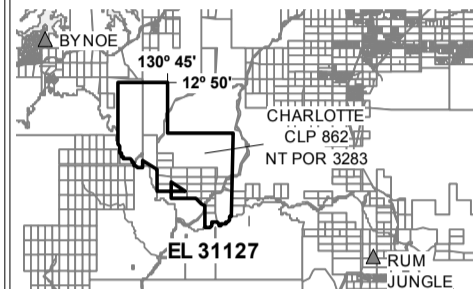
Applications to which this notice applies:

Exploration Licence 31126 sought by DBL BLUES PTY LTD, ACN 140 024 442 over an area of 8 Blocks (19 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BYNOE locality.



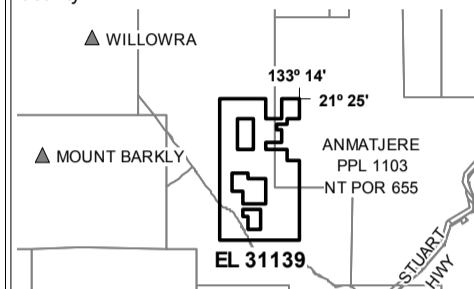
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5072

Exploration Licence 31127 sought by DBL BLUES PTY LTD, ACN 140 024 442 over an area of 37 Blocks (110 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BYNOE locality.



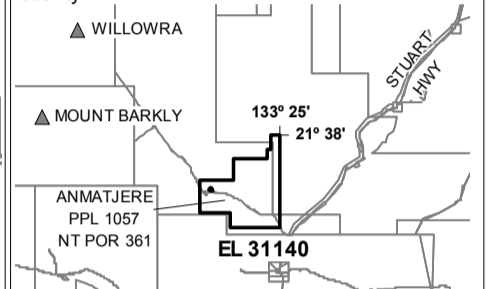
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5072

Exploration Licence 31139 sought by DBL BLUES PTY LTD, ACN 140 024 442 over an area of 246 Blocks (786 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the ANNINGIE locality.



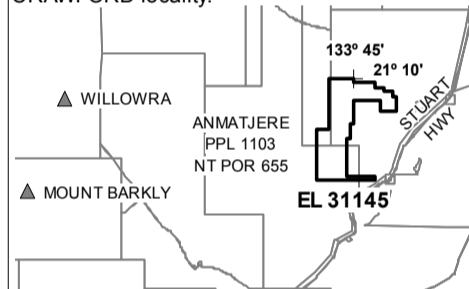
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5554

Exploration Licence 31140 sought by DBL BLUES PTY LTD, ACN 140 024 442 over an area of 236 Blocks (753 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the ANNINGIE locality.



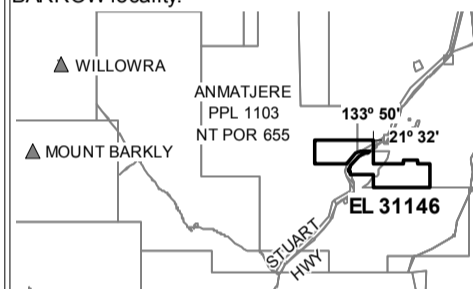
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5554

Exploration Licence 31145 sought by DBL BLUES PTY LTD, ACN 140 024 442 over an area of 190 Blocks (608 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the CRAWFORD locality.



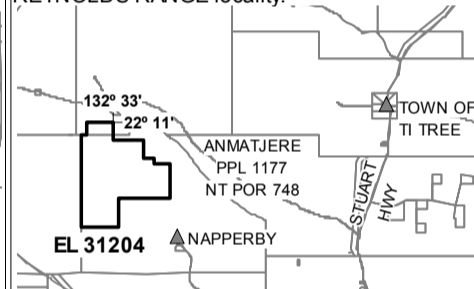
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5655

Exploration Licence 31146 sought by DBL BLUES PTY LTD, ACN 140 024 442 over an area of 150 Blocks (464 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BARROW locality.



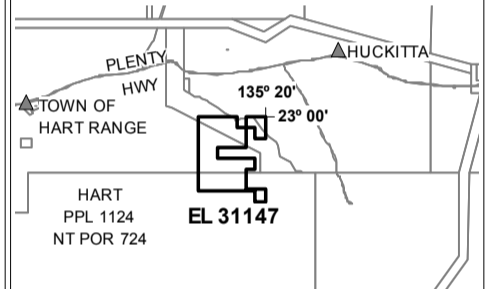
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5654

Exploration Licence 31204 sought by EXCEDO EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 607 686 322 over an area of 203 Blocks (636 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the REYNOLDS RANGE locality.



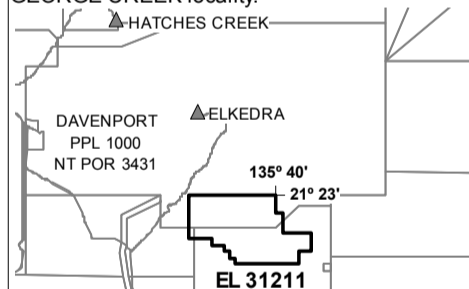
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5453

Exploration Licence 31147 sought by GEMPART (NT) PTY LTD, ACN 081 859 896 over an area of 39 Blocks (115 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the QUARTZ locality.



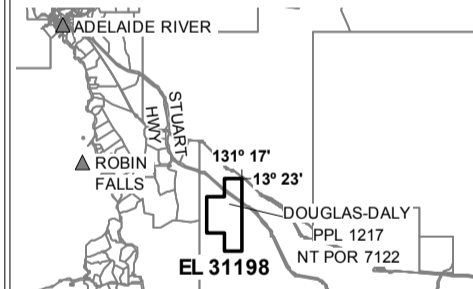
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5951

Exploration Licence 31211 sought by PENINSULA RESOURCES LTD, ACN 125 415 189 over an area of 169 Blocks (541 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the GEORGE CREEK locality.



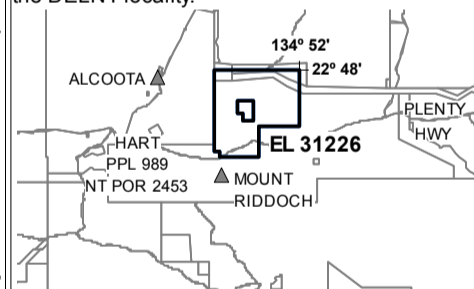
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6055

Exploration Licence 31198 sought by ROBERT DEAN STEPHENS, over an area of 6 Blocks (21 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BATCHELOR locality.



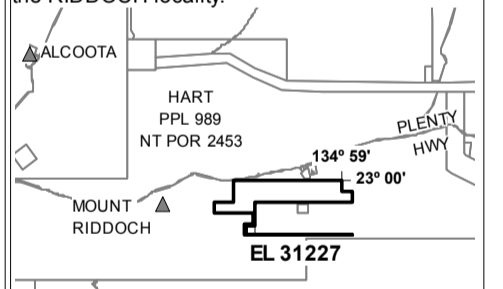
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5171

Exploration Licence 31226 sought by TERRITORY EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 123 338 376 over an area of 166 Blocks (526 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the DELNY locality.



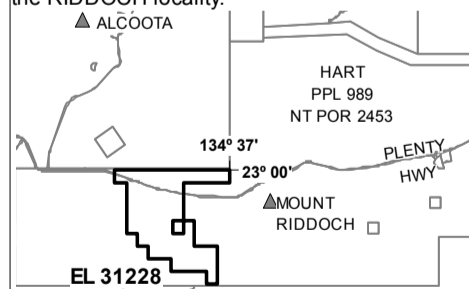
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5852

Exploration Licence 31227 sought by TERRITORY EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 123 338 376 over an area of 40 Blocks (87 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the RIDDOCH locality.



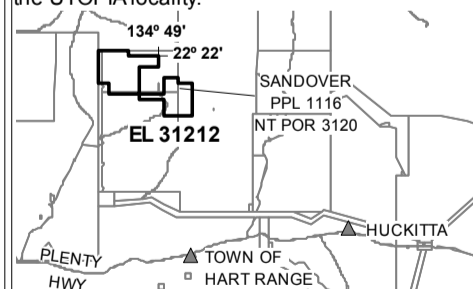
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5851

Exploration Licence 31228 sought by TERRITORY EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 123 338 376 over an area of 49 Blocks (147 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the RIDDOCH locality.



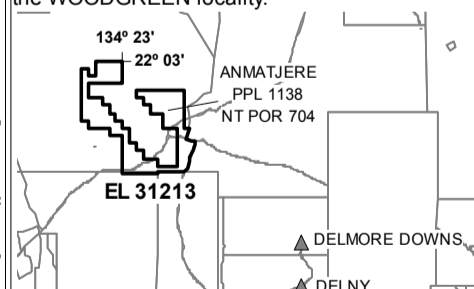
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5851

Exploration Licence 31212 sought by UNIVERSAL RARE EARTHS PTY LTD, ACN 147 044 942 over an area of 110 Blocks (345 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the UTOPIA locality.



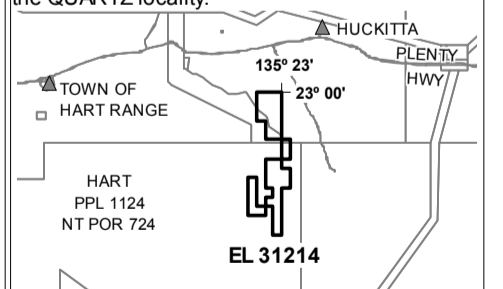
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5853

Exploration Licence 31213 sought by UNIVERSAL RARE EARTHS PTY LTD, ACN 147 044 942 over an area of 95 Blocks (287 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the WOODGREEN locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5753

Exploration Licence 31214 sought by UNIVERSAL RARE EARTHS PTY LTD, ACN 147 044 942 over an area of 34 Blocks (108 Sq Kms) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the QUARTZ locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5951

Nature of act(s): The grant of an exploration licence under the *Mineral Titles Act* 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 Mines and Energy, GPO Box 4550 Darwin NT 0801 or Centrepnt 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* is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2, Division 3, Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act*. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act*, 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, Melbourne VIC 3001, or telephone (03) 9920 3000.

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*. 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: 20 April 2016

Hill involved in probe



HAWTHORN Australian Football League (AFL) premiership player Bradley Hill is involved in a police investigation following an alleged nightclub assault.

Detectives are looking into allegations of an altercation between a man and three other people on January 24 at suburban Narre Warren.

Victorian Police said that the 21-year-old man was treated for minor facial injuries.

"Two of the members of the other party, a 22-year-old man from Ashwood and a 22-year-old woman from Pakenham, have since been interviewed by police in relation to their involvement.

The Hawks have confirmed a player is involved, without naming him. – AAP

PUBLIC NOTICE

QUEENSLAND SOUTH NATIVE TITLE SERVICES

Correction: The Public Notice posted by QSNTS on page 81 in the Public Notices section last Wednesday, 6 April 2016, incorrectly lists a 'Besty' as an Apical Ancestor of the Port Curtis Coral Coast People. The correct Apical Ancestor is 'Betsy'. QSNTS apologises for the typographical error.



Blaze090813

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (DPI) WATER

YOUNG GRANITE GROUNDWATER SOURCE

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL has been received from **AHMED ABBAS & BILLAL ABBAS** for an irrigation bore on 1/1203052, Parish Wombat, County Harden (to amend approval 40WA416696 from a stock and domestic to irrigation). (A008024)

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water, PO Box 156, Leeton NSW 2705 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of the objection. Any queries please call (02) 6951 2510 Tracie Scarfone, Senior Water Regulation Officer.

Z10290

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (DPI) WATER

WARIALDA CREEK WATER SOURCE (UNAMED WATER COURSE)

An application for amendment of an existing WATER SUPPLY WORK APPROVAL (90WA828208) has been received from **SUNDOWN PASTORAL CO PTY LTD** for additional Water Supply Work/s, being 1 X in river dam and 1 X 150mm centrifugal pump with capacity of 20 Litres per second with in Lot 3 DP1188941 county of Burnett and parish of Burnett. (A007731)

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to DPI Water PO Box 550 TAMWORTH, NSW, 2340 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address and specify the grounds of the objection. Any queries please call (02) 67631470 Water Regulation Officer Ben Hanks.

Z10289

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (DPI) WATER

PEEL FRACTURED ROCK WATER SOURCE

An application for an amended WATER SUPPLY WORKS AND USE APPROVAL has been received from **VALMA JOY FLINN** to add an additional bore on Lot 103 DP 243169 for irrigation purposes. (A008017)

UPPER PEEL TRIBUTARIES WATER SOURCE

An application for a WATER SUPPLY WORKS APPROVAL AND USE APPROVAL has been received from **KEVIN RAYMOND TONGUE** for two works on Lot 22 DP 755329 County of Parry, Parish of Loomberah. The first work is a 150mm centrifugal pump on Reedy Creek while the second work is an off-river storage for irrigation purposes. (A008026)

Objections to the granting of this approval must be registered in writing to Department of Primary Industries Water, PO Box 550, Tamworth NSW 2340 within 28 days of this notice. The objection must include your name and address to specify the grounds of objection. Any queries please call (02) 6763 1470, Ben Hanks, Senior Water Regulation Officer.

Z10288

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AUTHORISATION MEETINGS FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE MANDANDANJI PEOPLE NATIVE TITLE CLAIM

Date of Meetings: Saturday, 7 May 2016

Venue of Meetings: Roma Explorers Inn Convention & Function Centre, 44778 Warrego Hwy, Roma QLD 4455

Time of Meetings: **Authorisation Meeting #1:** 9:00am. Registration opens 8:00am.

Authorisation Meeting #2: Not before 11:30am. Registration will occur before the meeting starts.

The:

- persons entitled to attend each meeting; and
- the purposes of each of the above meetings,

are set out below.

Two (2) authorisation meetings are scheduled, however, it may not be necessary to hold the second meeting depending on what is decided at the first meeting.

AUTHORISATION MEETING #1

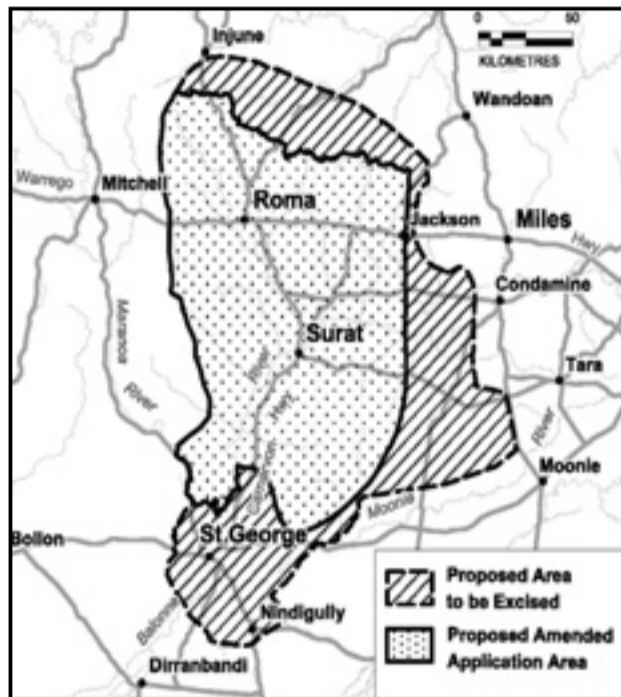
Who may attend: This meeting is open to all of the persons in the current Mandandanji People Native Title Claim Group, namely, the biological descendants of:

- Nellie Edwards;
- Weribone Jack Senior;
- Combargo Bill;
- Mary Weribone,

(the Current Claim Group).

Purposes of Authorisation Meeting #1:

- To consider whether to reduce the current claim area as indicated generally at **Map 1** below in accordance with the available evidence. The proposed changes are to:
 - retract the current claim boundary in the north to follow the watershed and crest of the Great Dividing Range, and to further consider the location of the north-western boundary;
 - retract the current claim boundary in the east to about Alton and Glenmorgan;
 - retract the current claim boundary in the south to about Bindle to remove that part of the St George area over which other Aboriginal (non-Mandandanji) people assert interests.



Map 1

AUTHORISATION MEETING #2

If the description/make-up of the Current Claim Group **is amended** at the first authorisation meeting (Authorisation Meeting #1), Authorisation Meeting #2 **will then** take place.

Date of Meeting: Saturday, 7 May 2016

Venue of Meeting: Roma Explorers Inn Convention & Function Centre, 44778 Warrego Hwy, Roma QLD 4455

Time of Meeting: Not before 11:30am

Who may attend: Authorisation Meeting #2 will be open to any person who is a member of the **Newly-Described Claim Group**.

Purpose of Authorisation Meeting #2:

- To authorise an Applicant (which may include re-appointing members of the current Applicant) to:
 - where required, make application for an order pursuant to section 66B of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* (the **Native Title Act**); and
 - make the proposed further amended claimant application, as authorised, on behalf of the **Newly-Described Claim Group** and deal with all matters arising under the Native Title Act in relation to it.

REGISTRATION FOR EACH MEETING

Registration will occur before each meeting commences. Participants are required to register under the name of the ancestor through whom they claim to be Mandandanji People.

Before the meetings, any person descended from any of the ancestors referred to in this Notice is invited to contact QSNTS Community Relations Officer Ron Fogarty on **free call 1800 663 693** to advise of their intention to attend and participate in the meetings and of the name of the ancestor through whom they claim to be Mandandanji People.

MANDANDANJI PEOPLE NATIVE TITLE INFORMATION SESSIONS

In order to inform the descendants of the people named in this Notice about the upcoming Authorisation Meetings, QSNTS has organised the following information sessions:

Information Session #1

Date: Saturday, 30 April 2016

Venue: Roma Explorers Inn Convention & Function Centre, 44778 Warrego Hwy, Roma QLD 4455

Time: 10:00am – 4:00pm

Information Session #2

Date: Friday, 6 May 2016

Venue: Roma Explorers Inn Convention & Function Centre, 44778 Warrego Hwy, Roma QLD 4455

Time: 10:00am – 4:00pm

All members of the **Mandandanji People** are invited to attend **any or all** of the information sessions above.

To register for an information session, please contact QSNTS Community Relations Officer Ron Fogarty on **free call 1800 663 693**.

QSNTS regrets that it is not able to assist with transport to or from the meetings or information sessions outlined above, or with accommodation costs. However, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided to participants at the meeting.

- To consider the outcomes of the latest anthropological and genealogical research and decide whether to amend the description/make-up of the Current Claim Group in accordance with traditional law and custom by:
 - either retaining or removing the descendants of Weribone Jack Senior;
 - including the descendants of:
 - Bella (mother of May Cavanagh);
 - Nellie of Surat;
 - Jinnie West;
 - Mollie of Roma;
 - Ellen Daisy.

Descendants of Bella (mother of May Cavanagh), Nellie of Surat, Jinnie West, Mollie of Roma and Ellen Daisy will be invited to address the meeting as to whether they should be included in the claim group but will not be able to be present for or participate in decision-making at the meeting.

If the description/make-up of the Current Claim Group **is not authorised to be amended** at the first authorisation meeting (Authorisation Meeting #1), there will be no need for any further meeting and Authorisation Meeting #2 will **not** take place. The description of the Current Claim Group does not change.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If the description/make-up of the Current Claim Group is **authorised to be amended** such that the descendants of any of the persons referred to above at paragraph 2 are authorised to remain or be newly included, those descendants, **together with** the descendants of Nellie Edwards, Combargo Bill and Mary Weribone, become members of the **Newly-Described Claim Group** who will then be entitled to participate in further meetings of the Mandandanji People.



Blaze090890

Crows unveil jumper



A JUMPER designed by Susan Betts – aunty of Eddie Betts – will be worn by the Adelaide Crows in the 2016 Australian Football League (AFL) Indigenous Round. The vibrant and culturally significant jumper will be worn against Greater Western Sydney at the Adelaide Oval in round 10.

The design features a crow in full flight on a navy blue base, surrounded by red, gold and white circles and dots.

The jumper also features the 'R' RECOGNISE logo, which represents the club's commitment to Reconciliation in Australia.

Susie is the sister of Eddie's father, Eddie

Betts II. Their family belongs to the Wirangu people, as well as the Kokata and Mirning communities on the far west coast of South Australia.

In the Wirangu culture, the crow is called 'Garnga' and plays an important role spiritually as a messenger and healer.

All-Australian forward Eddie Betts said he was looking forward to pulling on the jumper as part of the inaugural 'Sir Doug Nicholls Round' under lights at home on Saturday, May 28.

"The round is a very important round, not just for Indigenous people, but non-Indigenous people as well," he said.

"Going through all the AFL clubs, every team has a different design and different

story. You learn a lot about different cultures around Australia.

"This is a significant one as well. It's a story about our family, our culture and Garnga – the magic man. It's a powerful message."

Crows chief executive Andrew Fagan praised the jumper design and said the Indigenous Round was an important weekend in the AFL calendar.

"Susie Betts has done a fantastic job with this year's Crows Indigenous jumper design which is eye-catching and culturally significant," Fagan said.

"As a football club, we really value Indigenous Round and during fixture discussions we made it a key request to the

AFL that we hosted a game at Adelaide Oval that weekend.

It will be the fourth time the Crows have worn a specially-designed jumper in Indigenous Round.

The previous two jumpers were designed by Adelaide and AFL legend Andrew McLeod, with help from artist Laurie Nona in 2015. It will also be the third straight year the Club has hosted a game in Indigenous Round.

It's not the first time Susie Betts has created a design on the national stage. Susie designed (under Balarinji Designs) the 'Nalanji Dreaming' Qantas 747 plane.

More of Susie's work can be viewed on her Facebook page: 'Wiyana Spirit'.

PUBLIC NOTICE

MARDIGAN PEOPLE QUD26/2007

NATIVE TITLE AUTHORISATION MEETINGS AND INFORMATION SESSION

The Mardigan People have a native title determination application (QUD26/2007) currently with the Federal Court of Australia that is seeking recognition of their native title rights and interests under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth). The external boundary of the native title determination application is depicted on **Map 1** below.



The Mardigan People's native title claim group for the application is described as the biological descendants of the following people:

1. Charlie Zouch;
2. Judie and Tinker Wells;
3. Mother of Fred Collins, Jesse Dixon, Jack Dixon, Nancy Colin and Tom Napoleon;
4. Paddy Murphy;
5. Charlotte Wandilla;
6. Tommy Conbar;
7. Mary Darrie;
8. Henry 'Goodyene' Tilbooro;
9. Henry Clive (also known as Harry Clive);
10. Kitty Rebel;
11. Mary Rebel;
12. Mary Ellwood and 'Beechal' Bob;
13. Alick Brown.

Map 1

INFORMATION SESSION

This Notice invites all members of the Mardigan People to attend an Information Session at the time, date and location below:

Date of Meeting: Saturday, 14 May 2016
Venue of Meeting: Cunnamulla Shire Hall (Supper Room), 3 Jane Street, Cunnamulla QLD 4490
Time of Meeting: 9:30am – 11:30pm (Registration to commence at 9:00am)

The purpose of the Information Session is to:

1. Inform the Mardigan People about the progress of the relevant native title determination application (QUD26/2007);
2. Discuss the Mardigan People's claim group description as described above;
3. Consider whether the Applicant remains authorised by the claim group; and
4. Invite all members of the Mardigan People to ask questions or raise any concerns they may have before the Authorisation Meetings.

AUTHORISATION MEETING #1

This Notice invites all members of the Mardigan People to attend Authorisation Meeting #1 at the time, date and location below:

Date of Meeting: Saturday, 14 May 2016
Venue of Meeting: Cunnamulla Shire Hall (Supper Room), 3 Jane Street, Cunnamulla QLD 4490
Time of Meeting: 1:30pm – 2:30pm (Registration to commence at 1:00pm)

The purpose of Authorisation Meeting #1 is:

1. For the Mardigan People to consider the claim group description as described in the Mardigan People's native title determination Application (QUD26/2007), and if appropriate authorise any necessary changes. In particular, whether the apicals Kitty Rebel, Alick Brown and Mary Ellwood and Beechal Bob should be removed from the claim group description, and whether Nellie Ardock should be added to the claim group description.

AUTHORISATION MEETING #2

This Notice invites all members of the newly described claim group description of the Mardigan People (who may include the descendants of Nellie Ardock), to attend an Authorisation Meeting at the time, date and location below:

Date of Meeting: Saturday, 14 May 2016
Venue of Meeting: Cunnamulla Shire Hall (Supper Room), 3 Jane Street, Cunnamulla QLD 4490
Time of Meeting: 3:00pm – 5:00pm (Registration to commence at 2:30pm)

The purpose of Authorisation Meeting #2 is:

1. For the newly described Mardigan claim group, that may include the descendants of Nellie Ardock, to discuss and consider whether the current Applicant is authorised by the newly described claim group to deal with matters arising in relation to the Mardigan People's native title determination Application (QUD26/2007); or
2. If required, for the newly described Mardigan claim group to authorise a newly appointed Applicant in accordance with section 66B of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).

QSNTS regrets to advise that it is not able to assist with transport to or from the information session and authorisation meeting, or with accommodation costs. However, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided.

To register your attendance at the Mardigan People's Information Session and both Authorisation Meetings, please contact QSNTS Community Relations Officer Ron Fogarty on free call 1800 663 693.



Eddie Betts models the Crows' Indigenous Round jumper designed by his aunty Susan Betts.



Tahj Werner in action on the futsal court.

Tahj, 10, off to NZ with futsal side



TEN-year-old Tahj Werner, who attends Avoca Beach Public School, is off to New Zealand in October as part of an Australian futsal team.

They will be contesting the Oceania Cup.

Tahj has been a member of the Central Coast Mariners skills acquisition program (SAP) for the past two years.

He began playing futsal to assist with his outdoor soccer skills last year and represented the Central Coast at the national futsal championship last January Sydney.

At the conclusion of the championship, an Australian team was selected and Tahj was chosen.

His parents say Tahj is very proud of his Indigenous heritage and his favourite player is Jade North, from the Brisbane Roar.

Tahj has played soccer since the age of five and hopes to one day play for the Socceroos.

Bowen packs a punch

By ALF WILSON



TO take some words from the song about former boxing champion Muhammad Ali, Hope Vale's favourite son Matty Bowen floated like a butterfly and stung like a bee in his impressive boxing debut.

The former rugby league star scored a points win over rugby union identity Shane Laskey in the main bout at the Second to None Nutrition April Fool's Footy Fight Night in Townsville.

A crowd of more than 1500 watched nine bouts in a ring on the football field at Townsville's Brothers Leagues Club.

Proceeds went to the Bishop Michael Putney Fellowship, which is raising funds to investigate youth suicide in the North Queensland rugby league community, and also to local sporting clubs.

The late Michael Putney was a long-time Catholic bishop who was well loved and respected in the community.

Nervous

On the day of the bout, Bowen told the *Koori Mail* he was a 'bit nervous but happy to be helping to raise money for such a good cause'.

His trainer Brian Pearson, from Body Torque Club, said that Bowen didn't look nervous before and during the bout.

"Matty did it easy and won well. When he got on top of his opponent, he eased off and didn't want to hurt him," Pearson said.

Pearson was asked if Bowen could have more bouts following footballers Paul Gallen and Sonny Bill Williams.

"He could have some amateur bouts, but I think he won't. But he



Matt Bowen the boxer.

has already been on to me and wants to keep training so that is good," Pearson said.

Spectator Anton Schulz said Bowen looked sharp and fast in the ring.

"The crowd went crazy cheering and everybody knows Matty from his football days," Schulz said.

SOME of Bowen's supporters were also at 1300Smiles Stadium, Townsville, to see another Bowen – Javid – make

his National Rugby League (NRL) debut.

They weren't disappointed. Javid, a nephew of Matt Bowen, scored a try in the 55th minute in the North Queensland Cowboys' 36-0 demolition of St George Illawarra.

There was a large contingent of family and fans from Hope Vale and Cairns to there to see Javid Bowen debut.

He came into the Cowboys line-up after shining for the Cairns-based Northern Pride in

the Queensland Super competition and got his chance playing in the centres for the Cowboys after an injury to regular Kane Linnett.

With Linnett out for at least another three weeks, the 23-year-old Javid will have a chance to cement a spot in the side.

Javid answers to the nickname 'Jango', because he is a Johnathan Thurston look-alike, hence half 'JT' (Thurston) and half 'Mango' (Bowen).

Matty Bowen told the *Koori*

Mail that Javid deserved his chance to play in the NRL.

"Javid had been in such good form for the Northern Pride and has lots of ability," Matt Bowen said.

Cowboys coach Paul Green said: "I thought it was an impressive debut by Javid, who ran 114m and had one line break."

● See page 77 for Preston Campbell's comments on Javid Bowen's debut.



Javid Bowen runs on to the field for his NRL debut.



Javid Bowen's mum Renae and dad Bradley. Pictures: Bruce Muller

Kickstart title heads



WESTERN Australia took out both divisions of the 2016 under 15 Australian Football League (AFL) National Diversity championships in

Townsville earlier this month.

Led by head coach Jermaine Davies, the West Australia Kickstart side remained undefeated, overcoming a physical Northern Territory side to win by 31 points, and coming out on top for the sixth year in a row.

In the All Nations grand final, Western Australia kicked the first three goals of the match before a determined Victorian/Tasmanian side brought the margin back to a few points. With scores level late in the second half, Western Australia managed to kick a goal and hold

on to win by five points.

Now in its third year, the AFL National Diversity championships has been developed to provide a supported talented player pathway that complements the AFL under 16 championships and exposes Indigenous and multicultural players, coaches, umpires, and trainers to an elite AFL program environment.

The week-long championships featured more than 300 young Indigenous and multicultural players across 13 teams representing all states and territories.

Games were officiated by 12 umpires who represent the National Diversity Umpiring Academy, selected from state diversity academies based on high performance.

AFL general manager (game and market development) Simon Lethlean said the

championships were a huge success and it was great to see so many people involved.

"The AFL National Diversity championships are a genuine elite talent pathway providing opportunities for Indigenous Australians and people from diverse backgrounds to embrace all aspects of football and hopefully either reach the elite level one day or remain involved in football at state or community levels," he said.

"This is the first time I have been able to attend these championships and it was great to see firsthand how much this event means to the players, umpires, support staff, and everyone involved – there are lots of great coaches and mentors out there.

"These championships are key to the future successes of the AFL, especially as

the game aims to be truly representative of our country.

"Townsville was a great location offering a great backdrop."

The championships formed the basis for selection in the Boomerangs and World teams at the AFL under 16 championships.

Day one KickStart results: Qld 24 d NSW/ACT 20, WA 32 d NT 6, Vic/Tas 41 d SA 15, NT 74 d NSW/ACT 1, SA 37 d Qld 36, WA 67 d Vic/Tas 7.

Day 2: Vic/Tas 52 d Qld 1, NT 30 d SA 14, WA 83 d NSW/ACT 0, NT 36 d Vic/Tas 8, WA 60 d QLD 7, NSW/ACT 51 d SA 21.

Day 3: Vic/Tas 42 d NSW/ACT 20, NT 42 d Qld 3, WA 64 d SA 7.

Day 4: Vic/Tas 29 d Qld 23, SA 36 d NSW/ACT 9, NT 36 def Vic/Tas 7.

Day 5 final: WA 50 d NT 19.



The victorious West Australian team celebrates after winning the National Diversity Kickstart title for the sixth straight year. Pictures: AFL Media

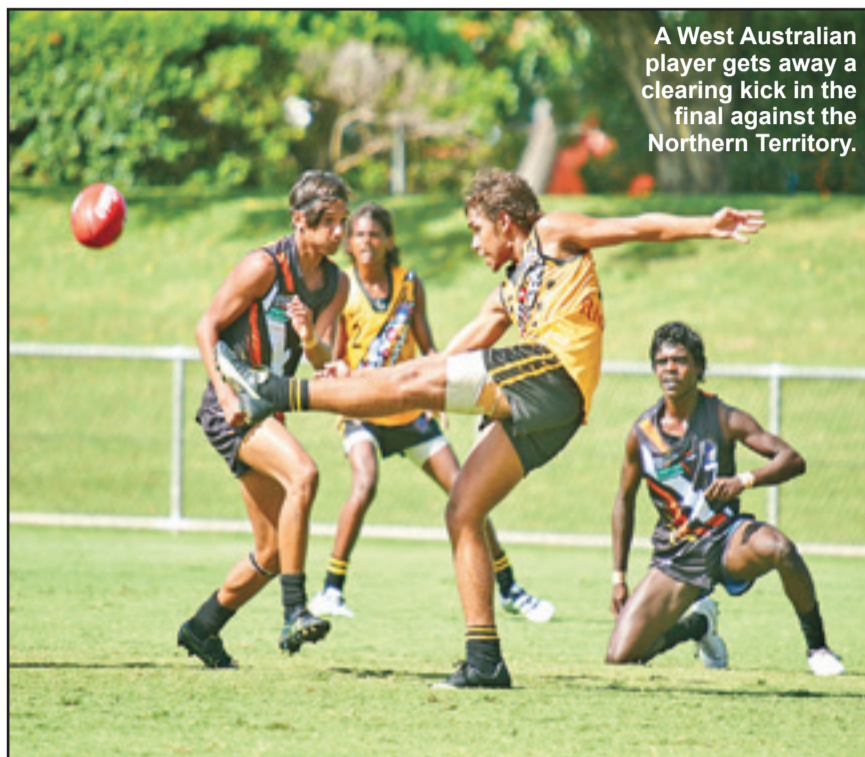


The Northern Territory team was beaten 32-6 by Western Australia on day one of the carnival and came up against the Sandgropers in the final on day five. Western Australia won that game 50-19 to remain undefeated throughout the carnival.

west... for sixth time



Third-quarter final action, with WA leading 27-7.



A West Australian player gets away a clearing kick in the final against the Northern Territory.



It's a mark by Western Australia in front of the goalposts in the final against the Northern Territory.

2016 Flying Boomerangs named



THE Australian Football League (AFL) under 16 championships on the Gold Coast in July awaits 30 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youngsters selected in the Flying Boomerangs squad.

The squad was named after the 2016 AFL National Diversity championships in Townsville earlier this month.

They were selected by AFL club recruiters and were chosen based on school attendance, leadership skills, and football ability.

The AFL Flying Boomerangs program is a personal development and leadership program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young men aged 14-16 years old.

West Australians dominated the

selection after winning the National Diversity championship in Townsville. There are 12 WA boys in the squad.

Seven boys from the Northern Territory also made the squad.

Also selected after the Townsville carnival was a World squad of 30 who also will play in the national under 16 championships.

The World team is made up of upcoming AFL multicultural players from across the nation.

The AFL Flying Boomerangs will be coached by Jermaine Davies (WA) with Shannon Motlop (NT), Peter Yagmoor (Qld) and Peter Mongta (Vic) named as assistants.

AFL general manager (game and market development) Simon Lethlean said the AFL Flying Boomerangs and

World team programs were a great opportunity for the best rising Indigenous and multicultural talent in the nation to develop on and off the field.

"Those selected will be exposed to the best training, coaching and mentoring, as well as personal development opportunities during the AFL under 16 championships in July," he said.

"These are more than just programs – we are now preparing the next generation of young leaders and footballers with the skills, qualities, and experiences to become positive role models amongst their own families and within their broader communities.

"Over the past couple of years we have seen the Diversity championships grow into a genuine elite talent pathway and we look forward to witnessing the

next stage of development for these players, coaches, and umpires."

The 2016 Boomerangs squad: Treigh Stewart (NSW), Che Munro (NSW), Malcolm Rosas (NT), Kaiya Jones, (NT), Joel Jeffery, (NT), Kyle Gowley, (NT), Dillen Brown, (NT), Brandon Rusca, (NT), Robert Campbell, (NT), Philemon Baira, (Qld), Hammiso Tabau, (Qld), Tyran Hill, (SA), Anzac Lochowiak, (SA), Kobe Brown, (Vic), Jai Taylor, (Vic), Todd Garner, (Vic), Jamarra Ugle-Hagan, (Vic), Leiwyn Jones, (Vic), Tyrone Thorne, (WA), Robbie Johnson, (WA), Liam Henry, (WA), Jon Humphries, (WA), Cox Khai-Arn, (WA), Kaije Slater, (WA), Tarkyn Brogan-Henry, (WA), Malek Wallum, (WA), Elijah Taylor, (WA), Ashley Colbung, (WA), Christian Miller-Sabbioni, (WA), Rueben McGuire, (WA).



The 2016 Flying Boomerangs.



Borroloola children are at the Sydney Football Stadium ahead of the FIFA World Cup qualifier between Australia and Jordan. With them is Borroloola's favourite son, John Moriarty (centre, back row) and other high-profile people. Pictures: David Maurice Smith/Oculi

Memorable trip for children



THE *Koori Mail's* April 6 edition told of how soccer was getting serious with developing Indigenous talent, starting at grassroots level.

To launch a major fundraising initiative for John Moriarty Football (JMF), a group of young Indigenous footballers from Borroloola, in the Northern Territory Gulf region, walked out with the Socceroos at the 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifier at Allianz Stadium, Sydney on March 29.

The JMF initiative is supported by Football Federation Australia (FFA), Professional Footballers Australia, SBS and FOX Sports.

The plan is to raise more than \$200,000 for JMF, a not-for-profit organisation that works to improve education and life outcomes for young Indigenous footballers and their families in remote Australia, at the same time ensuring that Indigenous football succeeds in Australia.

Moriarty, who in 1961 was the

first Indigenous soccer player to be selected for Australia, was also born in Borroloola, and has been running the program since 2012. It employs local coaches, provides hundreds of training sessions and games each year and links soccer to education, healthy lifestyle and opportunity.

Hyundai A-League star Jade North and rising elite player Shadeene Evans joined the group of young Socceroo fans, FFA CEO David Gallop, Professional Footballers Australia chairman Craig Foster, and John Moriarty, founder of JMF, to announce the initiative.

Shadeene Evans, 14, is the first elite athlete to emerge from the John Moriarty Football program.

Hailing from the Northern Territory's remote Gulf of Carpentaria, Shadeene was scouted by Matildas coach Alen Stajcic in 2015 and has moved to Sydney's Westfield Sports High School and the NSW Institute of Sport as the next step in her burgeoning football career.



● ABOVE: Borroloola children with rising star Shadeene Evans (front centre) and former SBS Socceroo and SBS commentator Craig Foster (standing at right) are ready for the CEO breakfast at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence in Redfern. Shadeene, from Borroloola, now attends Westfield Sports High in Sydney and is with the NSW Institute of Sport.

● LEFT: Children from the John Moriarty Football Program in Borroloola accompany Socceroos players on to the field ahead of the FIFA World Cup qualifier against Jordan at the Sydney Football Stadium.



● LEFT: Tamarama Beach, just south of Bondi, was the venue for games of beach soccer by children from the John Moriarty Football Program visiting Sydney from Borroloola.

● RIGHT: Socceroo Jade North poses with one of the Borroloola youngsters at the Sydney Football Stadium ahead of the FIFA World Cup qualifying match between Australia and Jordan.



At last, Beryl debuts



AFTER warming the bench for 12 months, Beryl Friday made her ANZ netball championship debut for the Queensland Firebirds on April 11, and made an immediate impact.

The North Queensland came on in the last five minutes of the game against New Zealand side Central Pulse in Brisbane and scored a goal – the last goal of the match.

The partisan crowd saved their warmest applause for shooter Friday when she stepped on to the court.

Equalling their great winning streak set in 2001, the Firebirds won 61-45.

The Firebirds showed they are in no mood to relinquish their champions' crown, scoring their 15th straight victory, and were just one game away from equalling the league's all-time high of 16 held by Adelaide.

Ironically, the Firebirds will play Adelaide this week in Adelaide.

Friday is one of three Queenlanders and one of five Indigenous people who are One Netball ambassadors for 2016.

The One Netball program is aimed at focusing on the development of inclusive netball communities, from the clubhouse to

the Australian Diamonds.

Friday is an Australian under 21 representative and last year was a finalist in two Queensland Indigenous Sports Awards.

The 21-year-old Friday, who hails from Ingham, in far north Queensland, was a contender for the Eddie Gilbert Medal that recognises Queensland's best Indigenous sports person, along with the Robbie Williams Encouragement Award for the best emerging sports person.

"I feel really privileged to be in contention for awards with such big-name athletes," Friday said ahead of the awards night.

"It's such an honour to be put into the same category with people like Johnathan Thurston and Sam Thaiday."

In 2015, Friday was part of the Firebirds' ANZ Championship title-winning squad, captained Queensland at the under 21 national titles on the Sunshine Coast and represented the Queensland Fusion in the Australian Netball League.

Friday also completed her Diploma of Remedial Massage.

"It's really awesome to have all these extra opportunities come from playing the sport that I love," Friday said.

"I'm lucky to have so many once-in-a-lifetime opportunities available for me."



Beryl Friday and her mum. Picture: SMP Images.com

Rugby league camp on Yam Island

By ALF WILSON



FUTURE stars of the game attended a rugby league holiday camp at remote lama (Yam) Island, in the Torres Strait.

It was held from April 4-6 and was referred to

by Cairns-based National Rugby League (NRL) game development officer Sean Durant as Australia's most remote rugby league holiday camp.

The tiny island is about 100km north-east of Thursday Island and measures about two square kilometres.

Yam Island side Magun Warriors competes at several Torres Strait and North Queensland All Blacks carnivals and these camps will ensure a flow-on of juniors in the future.

In a partnership between the Torres Strait Island Regional Council, Zenadth Kes Rugby League, The Queensland Rugby League (QRL) and the NRL, the staff were flown in by a six-seater charter flight from Horn Island, 45 minutes away.

"With 30 eager participants aged between six and 12 years proudly wearing their new Play NRL gear, the campers were given a healthy breakfast to start off each day," Durant said.

"Each day was action packed with skills in all the basics of rugby league, plus competitions and a league tag competition that ran over the three days.

"It was inspiring to get an insight into the amazing culture of this remote community in the Torres Strait. Taking rugby league to these passionate rugby league areas is essential in fostering community spirit and engagement and promoting a healthy lifestyle."



From left are Sean Durant, Thomas Loban, QRL's Robbie Moore and Keith Pabai (healthy lifestyle officer).



Smiling faces at the rugby league camp.



Thomas Loban with participants.



Some of the youngsters at the rugby league camp on Yam Island.



We're not sure about oranges being distributed at half-time, but papaw was available.

Return of the Boomerangs

Bennell out for half a season

MAGIC'S MOMENTS



With MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN

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These Northern Territory boys were selected in the 2016 Flying Boomerangs squad. Picture: John de Rooy Photography

ONE of my most rewarding experiences in the game was my involvement with the Flying Boomerangs program and it was great to see the announcement of this year's squad to compete at the 2016 Australian Football League (AFL) under 16 championships on the Gold Coast in July.

Selected by AFL club recruiters following the 2016 AFL National Diversity championships in Townsville, the squad of 30 young men has been chosen based on school attendance, leadership skills, and football ability.

Football ability is obviously required to be selected, but the other criteria are equally if not more important in delivering outcomes for the players and the communities they come from

Personal development

The Flying Boomerangs program is a personal development and leadership program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young men aged 14-16 years old.

The AFL Flying Boomerangs will be coached by Jermaine Davies (WA), with Shannon Motlop (NT), Peter Yagmoor (Qld), and Peter Mongta (Vic) named as assistants.

This is another benefit of the program in that it also provides a pathway in the game for developing coaches which certainly benefited me in my current role at the Swans.

Those selected are exposed to the best training, coaching and mentoring, as well as personal development

opportunities during the championships.

They are more than just programs: They are preparing the next generation of young leaders and footballers with the skills, qualities, and experiences to become positive role models among their own families and within their broader communities.

The Boomerangs program is a genuine elite talent pathway.

In this sense, the game is getting a return on its investment, but the outcomes are far more valuable than just those related to footy.

If you look at the opportunities that would otherwise be unavailable to kids from an area like the Northern Territory, you begin to understand the importance of the program.

After a strong showing at the AFL National Diversity championships in Townsville, AFL Northern Territory is proud to have seven boys selected for the Australian Boomerangs squad.

AFLNT Diversity championship Kickstart coach Shannon Motlop has also been chosen as an assistant coach for the Boomerangs squad after his NT team finished with wins against all teams, except overall winner Western Australia.

Motlop said he looked forward to coaching some of the boys again in a few weeks.

"I really enjoyed working with the whole group. They came together well to become a really tight team by the end of the Diversity carnival," Motlop said.

"All the boys performed well and did NT proud. The ones selected for the Boomerangs squad are great leaders."

AFLNT is also proud to have one player, Lodviko Cokanauto,

from Waratah, named as a key forward for the World squad.

AFLNT high-performance manager Wally Galio said great opportunities awaited the players.

"The players who were selected were consistent performers over the seven-game series and they deserve their spot," he said.

"They continued to show good leadership on and off the field and when they head to the Gold Coast in July, they will be better exposed to the leadership, cultural and educational side of the AFL."

The impact of the program can have on the players can be gauged by the experience of Tennant Creek football star Liam Holt-Fitz, who had a 2015 he will never forget.

The teenager became the first from his home town to co-captain the under 15 All-Australian team and has been recognised as one of the best young footballing talents to come out of the Barkly for generations.

It is an incredible feat, considering Tennant Creek lacks a regular junior football competition, and opportunities can be limited for many kids from the remote Northern Territory town.

"It's been great actually playing footy all around the world, all around Australia. It's taken me to lots of places," Holt-Fitz said.

The teenager has been compared with former Essendon champion Michael Long, and his parents hope he can further his football and education outside of Tennant Creek.

Randall Gould runs Tennant Creek's Clontarf Academy, which

uses football as an incentive to get Aboriginal boys to attend school.

"He's the all-round package. He's a funny guy, always loves a joke. He's been doing pretty well at school. He's very supportive of not just his teammates, but his schoolmates as well, his friends," Mr Gould said.

Those who know the young man say it is not just his football that makes him a star on the rise, but his off-field leadership and his work ethic.

In November, Holt-Fitz played for the Flying Boomerangs against an AFL Diversity All Stars team at Richmond's Tigerland in Melbourne.

Holt-Fitz was awarded the Michael Long Medal by his peers for the player who best represented the four pillars of the program.

"If Liam did eventually move away for school, he's the type of kid that's very resilient and loves the challenge, so I see this young man being a kid who's going to last in the AFL system," Flying Boomerangs coach Shannon Rusca said.

Though Holt-Fitz said talk of AFL was a little premature, he was confident 2016 would be his biggest year yet.

"Never be shy to go out there and have a go. Show 'em what you've got," he said.

These programs should never be just seen as a financial investment, but the game can justify the return by success stories such as these.

But the real return is the educational and leadership opportunities it provides our youth form these communities.

Go the Boomerangs! Until Next Time... Keep Dreaming!

FREMANTLE recruit Harley Bennell won't be available to make his Dockers Australian Football League (AFL) debut until the second half of the season as he is set to undertake an eight-to-10-week program to rehabilitate his injured calf.

Bennell, 23, re-injured his calf playing in round one of the West Australian Football League (WAFL), playing for Peel Thunder just a week prior to the start of the AFL season.

Dockers coach Ross Lyon said the club had sought specialist advice on Bennell's calf issues from Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) head of physical therapies Craig Purdam.

The Dockers confirmed last week that Bennell would be out for eight to 10 weeks in an effort to fix the calf issues for the long term.

Bennell was 'haunted' by calf tweaks during his time at Gold Coast, and the issue has already flared up twice since his switch to Fremantle at the end of last season.

The Dockers are in desperate need for Bennell to return after a poor start to the season.

"It's more than about the first five weeks of the season," Lyon said.

"We want Harley to be an eight to 10-year player with us.

"We know he's got that level of ability in him and he's committed to do that.

"We certainly won't be taking shortcuts. So when he returns, it will be when we feel he can sustain it."

Lyon didn't rule out the possibility of bringing Bennell straight back into AFL ranks when he was ready to resume playing duties.

Bennell left Gold Coast in bitter circumstances after becoming embroiled in several off-field controversies.

But Lyon has been pleased by the commitment Bennell's shown since being traded to the Dockers. - AAP



Harley Bennell during his days with the Gold Coast Suns.

SANFL debuts show promise

By PETER ARGENT



TWO exciting indigenous football talents in different phases of their careers – teenager Nick Yarran and Rigby Barnes –

made their debuts in the opening round of the South Australian National Football League (SANFL) 2016 season.

At 26, Barnes is a late arrival at SANFL level, playing in the Panthers season opener on Good Friday against the Glenelg Football Club at the Panthers home ground, Hickinbotham Oval.

In his first outing, Barnes finished with 17 disposals, laid a pair of tackles and kicked a couple of majors in his side's exciting nine-point win.

"It was a very pleasing debut for Rigby," South Adelaide senior coach Brad Gotch said.

"He is all class and showed it in the opening contest with a couple of telling goals and a number of quality possessions.

"Rigby is still adapting to the higher level, but you would expect him to improve each game he plays.

"Being a smart and talented player, he will be a very handy addition as the season progresses and he gets more comfortable with his game.

"It is a great story for those hidden gems who are clearly out there in our rural zones, the Great Southern and Southern Leagues.

"His effort shows if you are prepared to commit to playing and get yourself fit, if you have the talent, the opportunities are there."

Barnes arrived back at South Adelaide after a pair of Mail Medals (association best and fairest awards) with the Encounter Bay Eagles.

He was a key member of the Southern Districts zone, South Australian Country championship win in Port Augusta last July, and also played for SA Country in a victory over their West Australian counterparts in Perth.

While Barnes is an experienced footballer, Yarran won his opportunity as a diminutive 18-year-old small forward, just 168cm tall and weighing 65kg.

In the Easter Monday game against Sturt at Peter Motley Oval, his explosive speed was on show.

He collected 13 possessions and kicked two goals in the Eagles' strong 39-point victory over the Double Blues.

Worked hard

"Nick has worked extremely hard over the pre-season to win a spot in our round one team," Eagles 2011 premiers coach and Tarrans mentor Michael Godden said.

"Playing forward, Nick showed some real toughness at times while having the ability to find the ball and use it well.

"There is still a lot to improve on, but in his debut game to kick two goals and an assist as a small forward is a really good start."

In 2015, Yarran spent the season playing in the SANFL under 18 competition. He was a member of the Eagles side that made it to the grand final.

The Eagles couldn't match to potent Norwood side, going down by 18 points in the season decider at Adelaide Oval. Yarran has a strong heritage in the game, related to Chris Yarran at Richmond, and the Burgoyne and Wanganeen clans.



Tylah Saunders Picture: Peter Argent



Rigby Barnes



Nick Yarran Pictures: Peter Argent

Back to the bush for Saunders

By PETER ARGENT



AUSSIE rules football talent Tylah Saunders is returning to the rural game in the highly respected Barossa, Light and Gawler

Football Association after two seasons with South Australian National Football League (SANFL) club, the Glenelg Tigers in Adelaide.

His new coach at the Angaston Panthers is also a former Tiger, Paul Sherwood, who played 190 games at Glenelg before Saunders was at the Brighton Road-based seaside SANFL club.

Sherwood, who had a long career as a tall defender at the Bay, has already been impressed with Saunders, calling him 'as tough as nails, with the ability to win inside and outside ball'.

Saunders has an impressive football resume, despite not getting a crack with Glenelg league side over the past two seasons.

For the 2014 and 2015 campaigns, Saunders was running around in the Glenelg reserves, playing 24 games across the two years and notably being among the best players during last year's finals campaign.

"I missed the country football, that Saturday afternoon

environment of footy and netball," Saunders said about his return to the rural game.

"A couple of my mates from home club Hatherleigh down in the south-east played at Angaston a couple of years back – Todd Watson and Josh Wight.

"They loved their time at Panthers.

"When you had mates from back home talk up the place, it's not a hard decision.

"Also (new coach) Paul Sherwood had a strong reputation with the lads at Glenelg, which always helps."

Saunders grew up in the south east South Australian coastal town of Beachport, but did his Year 11 and 12 studies at the renowned football school St Patricks College, in Ballarat, where he also played in premier Victorian underage TAC Cup competition for the Ballarat Rebels.

Before coming to Adelaide, Saunders was back with Hatherleigh Eagles in the Mid South East (MSE) competition, returning to his foundation club in 2010.

Since then, he was a regular league and zone representative, playing with the SA Country team at the last national championships Wagga Wagga in 2012.

He also played 2013 SA County-City MAC Cup challenge.

Mills set for NBA playoffs

By CHRIS PIKE



AUSTRALIAN basketball star Patty Mills is preparing for his seventh appearance in the NBA playoffs and hopes the end result is his second championship in three years.

The NBA regular season has concluded with Mills' San Antonio Spurs finishing with a 67-15 record to be in second position in the Western Conference.

That sees them just behind the defending champion Golden State Warriors who have set an NBA record winning 73 games and losing just nine during the 2015-16 season. That has seen them break the 72-10 record set by Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls in 1995-96.

The Spurs went through winning their first 39 games at home as well until losing to the Warriors in the second last regular season appearance at AT&T Centre.

But San Antonio bounced back to beat the Oklahoma City Thunder in their last regular season game at home, and then the Dallas Mavericks on the road, to gear up for their first round playoff match up with the Memphis Grizzlies.

Great season

The 2015-16 season has been a tremendous one for the 27-year-old Australian for the Spurs.

He was limited to just over half a season in 2014-15 following shoulder surgery and that came after he was a key contributor in the Spurs winning the 2014 NBA championship.

But he has been back to full health this season and as a result, played in 81 of San Antonio's 82 matches, averaging 8.5 points a game, including a high of 22 against the Orlando Magic on February 1 when he shot 9-of-13 from the field.

Mills has now completed his seventh season in the NBA, starting with two at the Portland Trailblazers and the last five with the Spurs.

Remarkably, he is now gearing up for his seventh appearance in the playoffs as well.

Last year he stepped his game up in the post-season with San Antonio with 10.1 points a game and now he is looking forward to being back there again starting in the first round against the Grizzlies.

But he always takes the time to reflect on some more difficult times so he enjoys the good times he's part of.

Seventh playoff season

"This is my seventh year of being in a playoff team and it's quite amazing to be able to think that from where I came from in Australia and the roads I took to get here," he said.

"To know I will play in my seventh playoff season now is amazing."

In 2014, Mills and the Spurs used the disappointment of losing in the finals in 2013 to the Miami Heat to earn a measure of revenge and win the championship against the same opponent.

Now, after last year again ended in disappointment, being eliminated in the first round by the Los Angeles Clippers, Mills and his teammates are using that as some motivation, but really just achieving the ultimate drives them on enough on its own.

While those outside the Spurs might be looking to future playoff match-ups with the likes of the Warriors and Thunder, for Mills, he knows it's important they don't look past the Grizzlies in this first round and make sure they are at their best if they do meet one of those opponents down the track.



Kira Phillips was the dominant player in the first ever women's Australian football game between the Fremantle Dockers and the West Coast Eagles, kicking five of the Eagles' 13 goals. She is pictured here in the Eagles' blue colours contesting possession with the Dockers' Chloe Colegate.

Women take centre stage

By CHRIS PIKE



KIRA Phillips put in a scintillating performance for the West Coast Eagles in a big win over the Fremantle Dockers in the first ever Australian Football League (AFL) western derby held at Domain Stadium, Perth.

With a national women's competition set to be launched as early as 2017, clubs across the country are getting the chance to showcase their talents in preparation for that.

And at Domain Stadium, ahead of the traditional West Coast-Fremantle derby, it was Western Australia's best players who donned those colours to do battle for the first time.

In the end it was the West Coast Eagles team that proved too strong, winning 13.10 (88) to 3.5 (23).

There was plenty of Indigenous talent on show for the occasion as well, including Phillips and Demi Okely representing the Eagles, and Courtney Ugle and Chloe Colegate turning out for the Dockers.

Phillips proved to be the star of the match for the Eagles, despite coming off injury.

The Peel Thunderbirds product played up forward and finished up kicking five of West Coast's 13 goals where she provided a strong marking target and was too good for the Dockers' defenders.

Phillips has also been a regular part of the AFL's annual matches between the Western Bulldogs and Melbourne.

In 2013 and 2014, she played with the Bulldogs before moving to play with Melbourne in 2015 and she kicked the winning goal in the opening contest of that year.

She enjoyed that experience and is looking forward to more of it.

"Being at the Dogs was good, but being at the Dees feels that much better. It feels like family here any time we get to come over, and I'm looking forward to



The Dockers' Chloe Colegate was in the thick of the action.

doing more of it," Phillips said.

"You gain a lot of experience by meeting a lot of people from interstate, and to bond in three days is great. Then to go out and play and give it everything, it's a great feeling."

To highlight the physical nature of the game and the toughness of the female players, West Coast's Hayley Miller played out the game despite it later being revealed she had broken her leg. She still kicked two last-quarter goals despite the fractured fibula.

Players from the two teams will now make up a West Australian team that will take on the Western Bulldogs at Melbourne's Etihad Stadium on June 5.

The Dockers-Eagles women's game was broadcast live across the country on Fox Footy as part of the AFL's push to launch a national women's competition in 2016.

The derby from Perth was the first match in 2016 to be televised as a curtain-raiser to an official AFL fixture. The next women's game will be at the MCG on Sunday, May 22, between

Melbourne and Queensland.

Then, on Sunday June 5, a South Australian team will take on one from NSW at the Adelaide Oval.

It is all building towards a national competition beginning in 2017 that will be made up of eight teams across the country. At this stage, it appears four of those teams will be based in Victoria, and one each from Western Australia, South Australia, NSW and Queensland.

The AFL is behind the national women's competition and the league's general manager (game and market development) Simon Lethlean is the man working most closely to see it eventuate.

"It's the right thing to do. There's a lot of growth at the community football club level," Lethlean said.

"The number of female players has jumped from 8000 to 17,000.

"Also, it's an aspirational thing and it gives young girls somewhere to go as a player if they want to."



Courtney Ugle readies to kick for the beaten Fremantle Dockers.

Jango and Mango

RUGBY LEAGUE



With PRESTON CAMPBELL



Javid Bowen touches down for his first NRL try playing for the Cowboys against the Dragons at 1300Smiles Stadium on April 2.

Picture: AAP

ONE thing I miss about not playing in the National Rugby League (NRL) is the banter between the boys at training.

Poor Javid Bowen not only has to contend with being the nephew of Matt Bowen, but he is also a dead ringer for Johnathan Thurston.

At Cowboys training, Javid answers to the nickname 'Jango', because he is half 'JT' (Thurston), half 'Mango' (Bowen).

I can think of worse nicknames!

His family name immediately raises the expectations of fans, but given his form since making his debut against the Dragons, he is already beginning to carve out his own identity in the NRL.

But for all his natural talent, Bowen, who followed his famous uncle out of the tiny town of Hope Vale, has taken a long and

gruelling route to breaking into the NRL.

Even with the advantage of following Matty's footsteps, it is a huge challenge coming from a small community to a major city and an NRL club.

Hope Vale even makes Tingha look like a big town!

As a teenager, Javid Bowen made the toughest call of his young life, leaving north Queensland to chase his NRL dreams in the big smoke in Sydney.

Never settled in city

Snapped up by the Roosters in 2011, the 17-year-old never settled, drowning in the hustle and bustle of a city that can ruthlessly ruin the hopes of starry-eyed country products.

In his hour of need, the Cowboys issued a lifeline.

The rangy utility found himself back on familiar terrain and now Javid has the opportunity to uphold the legacy of his pint-sized uncle.

"I went to Sydney straight after school and it was tough," said Javid.

"I had a year-and-a-half down there and I guess I learned a lot. At first it felt alright, but being a young country boy in the big city, it all became too much and I needed to go back home.

"Like Matt, I grew up in Hope Vale and there's not that many kids who come out of there to play NRL."

Javid got an early chance to impress when he was selected in the Cowboys' squad that won the Auckland Nines last year.

Javid laughs off the physical comparison with JT and sees his links with Matty as an advantage rather than a pressure.

At 190cm and 88kg, Bowen is bigger than Thurston, but they share the scruffy-haired look.

And while Matt Bowen is one of the greatest players to don a North Queensland jumper, Javid doesn't feel burdened by his uncle's achievements.

"I get the comparison to 'JT' a

fair bit, but at least I talk a bit more than Matt," Javid joked.

"Growing up, I used to watch him all the time and as a family we would attend his games whenever we could.

"But there's no pressure to be like him. I just play my game, but at one stage, I lived with Matty and he taught me a fair bit."

Signed until the end of 2016, Bowen prefers playing centre, but is equally adept at fullback or wing.

His dream debut was capped by a 55th minute try as North Queensland bounced back from the previous round's golden point loss in a grand final rematch against Brisbane.

Matt Bowen watched proudly from the stands as the Cowboys ran out convincing winners over the Dragons, scoring six unanswered tries, including a double to winger Kyle Feldt.

Bowen – replacing injured centre Kane Linnett – impressed on debut as North Queensland shook off their gut-wrenching loss in Brisbane.

'Impressive'

"I thought it was an impressive debut," Cowboys coach Paul Green said of Bowen.

Preparing for the game, Javid acknowledged the support of Matty and the expectations fans would have because of the family name.

"I guess it does, after what Matty has done in the game, but I'm ready for my shot," he said when asked about the pressure of being compared with one of the region's most iconic sports figures.

"I used to come down (to Townsville) and stay with him a lot and came to every game, and he's given me a lot of advice about footy. He's helped a lot.

"Just the way he carried himself at home and the things that he's done, and just watching him when he's playing."

Family is a big deal for the BOWENS.

Just like his past travels to

see 'Mango' play, Javid has his own travelling convoy, with his parents making the 4.5-hour trip down from Hopevale to Cairns for Northern Pride home games.

The extended family were all there to watch his debut against the Dragons, and he did them all proud.

Nobody was prouder than Uncle Matty sitting in the stands.

"Watching him grow up from a young kid into starting playing rugby league and getting his first crack in first grade and with the Cowboys is always good," Matt said of Javid.

"He's keeping the Bowen name alive and it will be good,

"He has some boys to look up to – obviously 'Johnno' (Johnathan Thurston) – we've played alongside him.

"It will be good for him and be good for his family."

Both Matt and coach Paul Green gave the same advice to Javid as he worked towards and NRL career.

The advice was to just be himself and play within his comfort zone.

"He can't go out and do stuff he hasn't done before; just do the same thing he's been doing week in, week out for the Pride," Matt said.

"He's just got to go out there and enjoy it.

"It's going to come around quick but in saying that, it will be one to remember, so hopefully he can get it done and play well.

"He's obviously in a good system. 'Greeny' had him thereabouts last season, but he's injury-free now and Javid has just been biding his time.

"If he takes his chance with both hands, the coach will hopefully continue to show faith in him."

As I have said before, Matty Bowen was always my favourite player to watch.

Javid will be his own player, but I will watch his career with interest.

He has the name and the looks to be a great success. He also has the talent.



Javid Bowen's extended family attended Javid's NRL debut match for the Cowboys against the Dragons in Townsville. Picture: Bruce Muller

Harradine on plane to Rio



DISCUS thrower Benn Harradine is the only Indigenous track and field athlete to so far qualify for this year's Rio de Janeiro

Olympic Games.

Harradine did not compete at the 94th Australian track and field championships in Sydney in late March and early April, having already qualified for Rio.

"Off to our 3rd Olympics! Rio here we come!" Harradine said on Facebook on April 3.

He is one of four athletes to compete in three Olympics – the others being Alana Boyd, Sally Pearson and Dani Samuels.

Twenty-eight athletes were announced at a gala dinner at Sydney Olympic Park following the four-day Australian championships. Athletics Australia head coach Craig Hilliard is thrilled with the make-up of the team.

"The athletes named so far are a fantastic mix of youth and experience making us well placed for Rio and for beyond to Tokyo," Hilliard said.

There's still time for other athletes to make the team. They can do so by reaching Olympic qualifying standards before the end of the qualifying period



Benn Harradine competes in the men's discus throw at the 20th Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland, in July, 2014. Picture: AAP

in mid-July.

Long jumper Robbie Crowther missed his opportunity to book a seat on the plane to Rio when he finished 10th in the final of the men's long jump.

The Queenslander's best leap was 7.43m – well short of the 8.27m by winner Fabrice Lapierre and 8.16m by runner-up Henry Frayne.

Lapierra and Frayne have qualified for Rio.

The marathon athletes should be nominated to the Australian Olympic Committee from Athletics Australia around April 25, additional 20km walk and 10,000m athletes at the end of May, and final nominations in all other events by mid-July

Mahalia part of winning women's 7s



MAHALIA Murphy retained her place in the Australian women's sevens rugby union squad that contested the Canada Sevens last weekend in Langford (British Columbia).

The injured Taleena Simon (shoulder) was not considered for selection.

The Canada Sevens followed hard on the heels of Australia's win in the series in Atlanta (USA).

Head coach Tim Walsh turned to youth for the Canadian leg of the 2015-16 HSBC Sevens World Series, with three players making their debut.

Australia was drawn in Pool A for the tournament alongside France, Brazil and Russia.

Despite needing a maximum of 27 points over the final two legs of the series in Langford and Clermont-Ferrand (France) to claim Australia's maiden World Series title, Walsh said his side wasn't paying too much attention to the current standings.

"Clearly, we're in a pretty good spot on the World Series ladder, but come the weekend all of our energies will be channelled towards France, Russia and Brazil," Walsh said.

Before last weekend, Australia led the Women's Sevens series having won the first three tournaments – in Dubai, Sao Paulo and Atlanta.

The Australian women moved a step closer to claiming a first World Series crown with a 24-19 win over New Zealand in the final of the Atlanta leg of the competition.

Australia led the series with just two rounds remaining, picking up 20 competition points for the win in the US.

The victory over the Kiwis followed a 26-14 victory over Canada in the semifinals and a 22-5 quarter-final win over the USA.

"I'm so proud of the team and with our experienced players who played a lot of minutes," said coach Tim Walsh.

"They had to find ways to adapt their game, particularly today, with the amount of time they were on the pitch."

Two Indigenous Australians in Hong Kong rugby sevens



TWO Indigenous Australians – George Morseu and John Porch – competed in the Hong Kong World Series rugby men's sevens

tournament, but for different countries.

Sydneysider Porch was part of the Australian squad, while Morseu, from Badu Island, played for Papua New Guinea in the 12-team Qualifier draw.

The Australians were forced to settle for fourth in Hong Kong.

Australia beat England 14-5 in the Cup quarter-finals before being outplayed by Fiji 34-5 in the semis.

A nail-biting 14-12 loss to South Africa meant Andy Friend's side took 15 points from the weekend.

In making the last four, it was the first time that Australia had reached four consecutive Cup semifinals since 2001.

Coach Andy Friend said: "We had a solid performance against England which made our performance against Fiji hurt even more.

"I don't think we missed a tackle all game against England but we missed seven tackles in something like the first minute against Fiji. That's not good enough.

"I've told the boys I can't question their character, but we also need to improve our execution under fatigue."

George Morseu, left, and his brother Maipele.



Elsewhere, at a sold-out 40,000 Hong Kong Stadium, series leaders Fiji defeated New Zealand 21-7 in the Cup final while England won the Plate after downing the USA 19-0 to finish fifth.

The 15-point haul from Hong Kong sees Andy Friend's side cement fourth spot in the Sevens World Series standings, 17 points behind third-placed

South Africa and ahead of the USA in fifth by the same margin.

With just three rounds of the season remaining, the 2015-16 HSBC Sevens World Series headed to Singapore last weekend for the first time since 2006.

In the Qualifier series, Papua New Guinea sits at the bottom of the table in 21st place.

Mahalia Murphy



Ash's blazing century



ASHLEIGH Gardner, playing for the Southern Stars, scored the only century of the limited-over tri-series between Australia, England and Sri Lanka, hosted by Sri Lanka.

The future looks bright for Cricket Australia's national second XI team, with some promising performances.

Australia's next crop of national female talent plied their trade across Sri Lanka in the limited-overs tri-series against England and Sri Lanka development teams and Indigenous star Ashleigh Gardner was in the thick of it.

Playing six 50-over matches and two T20 contests on the spin-friendly Test wickets of Sri Lanka, the Shooting Stars – the national second XI side – claimed victory in five of the eight tour games with some future stars emerging with astonishing individual performances.

Sydney Sixers 18-year-old WBBL right-hander Gardner struck the only century of the tour, plundering a match-winning 117 against the hosts in the first match of the three-week circuit.

The 18-year-old allrounder has had a solid run of cricket, starting in the inaugural Women's Big Bash League before playing in the National Indigenous Cricket Championships ahead of a May tour to India with the Indigenous Blackcaps XI.

The tour opened with a one-day game against England on March



Ashleigh Gardner hits out in the Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) for the Sydney Sixers. Picture: Sydney Sixers/Ben Cuevas

27 and ended on April 10 with a T20 game against England.

The 13-player squad was led by former Southern Stars coach Cathryn Fitzpatrick and former batter Leah Poulton.

Women's National Selection

Panel chairman Shawn Flegler said the Sri Lanka tri-series was an opportunity for players to push their case for international selection, with the Southern Stars set to tour the nation in September.

"We've identified these players

as having the potential to play for Australia," Flegler said.

"These players have all impressed at different stages this summer ... we're keen to see the continued development of these promising and exciting players."

Out of the 13-player squad, all but one featured in the inaugural season of the WBBL, while five were named in the history-making Governor-General's XI which met India in a washed-out clash in Sydney at the start of the year.



Brandon King wears the Tasmanian colours. Picture: Peter Argent

Brandon King at cricket camp



FORMER Northern Territorian Brandon King has returned from a cricket camp in Brisbane for players embarking on the first steps of their

professional careers.

Cricket Australia hosted the camp at the National Cricket Centre in Brisbane, with 20 of the country's most promising players gathering for a four-day talent combine.

The squad included 18-year-old Indigenous off-spinner Brandon King, who recently relocated from the Northern Territory to Tasmania to further his cricket after an offer to join Cricket Tasmania's High-Performance Squad.

Since making the move to Tasmania, King has become a consistent member of Tasmania's Futures League side and was selected as the Hobart Hurricane's community rookie in BBL |5.

King also represented his adopted state at the inaugural National Indigenous Cricket Championships in Alice Springs last month, his fifth appearance at a national Indigenous competition since making his debut at the Imparja Cup for the Northern Territory as a 14-year-old.

State talent managers, coaches and

high-performance general managers were at the camp to scout for players with a view to signing them to rookie contracts as part of their 2016-17 state player contract lists.

The players, hailing from each state and territory, were nominated by the National Youth Selection Panel of Greg Chappell, Troy Cooley and Graeme Hick and state talent managers following performances at national championship level and in international youth tours, Toyota Futures League 2nd XI, Cricket Australia XI and first-class cricket during the 2015-16 season.

The camp followed on from a series of initiatives over the past 12 months by Cricket Australia to identify, engage and retain more talented teens than ever before.

This included the introduction of CA XI teams in the Matador Cup and national youth titles designed to stretch and extend the most promising young players from under 15s through to senior cricket.

Cricket Australia national talent manager Greg Chappell anticipated that a number of the players who attended the Brisbane camp will earn a rookie contract with one of the state squads in 2016-17.



First Mango, now Jango...
● See pages 69, 77



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The Voice of Indigenous Australia

Buddy back with a bang



SUCH is the form of Lance Franklin that some Australian

Football League (AFL) pundits are re-evaluating their gloomy pre-season expectations of the Sydney Swans.

That's the view of Greater Western Sydney (GWS) coach Leon Cameron after the Swans thumped the Giants by 25 points on April 9.

Franklin kicked four goals for the third consecutive round in Sydney's 14.9 (93) to 10.8 (68) victory at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG).

On a day when Swans supporters paid tribute at half-time to club games record holder Adam Goodes and fellow premiership winner Mike Pyke, Sydney displayed much polish and consistency.

Franklin tallied 18 disposals and six marks in a busy display and his haul included one booming set shot goal from just over 55 metres.

"His work rate has been really solid," Swans coach John Longmire said of Franklin.

"He's another one who had a good pre-season so he's banking on that, getting the benefit of that."

— AAP

Lance Franklin kicks a goal during the match against the Greater Western Sydney Giants at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Saturday, April 9. Picture: AAP



IMP squad named



INDIGENOUS Broome lawyer Megan Highfold did not need to look any further than her home

town to find inspiration to try out for the Indigenous Marathon Project (IMP).

Ms Highfold was impressed with the achievements of 2014 IMP graduate Adrian Dodson-Shaw, who went on to become the first Indigenous Australian to travel to the North Pole and finish the North Pole Marathon.

"I saw the incredible impact the program had on Adrian and his life, and I knew this was my last shot. I turn 30 this year and that is the age limit to be part of IMP," she said.

"I am so passionate about the health of my people, particularly mental health. It is such a chronic issue in the lives of Indigenous Australians and I am determined to influence positive social change and continue the legacy Adrian has already created."

Ms Highfold now is one of 12 Indigenous athletes from around Australia who have been named in the 2016 IMP squad to prepare for the New York Marathon in November.

Murray Bridge representative Candice Love is another who did not have to look beyond her home

town to find inspiration.

She saw the impact of IMP following 2013 IMP graduate Luke McKenzie and more recently, 2015 graduate Daniel Lloyd.

There was a record number of applications received for the 2016 squad.

The IMP is a key program of the Indigenous Marathon Foundation (IMF), established in 2009 by world champion marathon runner Robert de Castella, and annually trains and mentors a squad of 12 Indigenous Australians to run the New York Marathon with just six months of training.

The IMP also provides a compulsory educational pathway with all squad members required to complete a Certificate III in Fitness.

In just seven years, the IMP has ignited a running culture in Indigenous communities across the country where distance running was once unheard of.

The IMP has since graduated 53 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island men and women who have inspired a ripple effect to thousands of other Indigenous Australians nationwide.

The 2016 IMP squad includes six female and six male runners who were selected from a record number of 183 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applications



Megan Highfold

from small, remote, regional and city Indigenous communities nationwide.

The 2016 men's IMP squad is Zibeon Fielding, 22, from Mimili, APY Lands, SA; Billy Bell, 27, from Heywood, Vic; Jesse Thompson, 24, from Mt Druitt, NSW; Saliman Bin Juda, 25, from Thursday Island, Qld; Wade Mongta, 19, from Bodalla, NSW; Wayne Sloane, 22, from Condobolin, NSW.

Women squad members: Tahnee Sutton, 27, from Adelaide,

SA; Kimberly Benjamin, 22, from Perth, WA; Jacinta Smith-Robins, 28, from Bourke, NSW; Kristika Kumar, 24, from Nowra, NSW; Candice Love, 27, from Murray Bridge, SA; Megan Highfold, 29, from Broome, WA.

Each year the IMP selects, educates, and trains a group of Indigenous Australians to compete alongside 47,000 other competitors at the world's biggest marathon.

Gruelling six months

Squad members begin their 2016 marathon journey with hardship, sacrifice and determination as they face a gruelling six months of training to prepare for the New York Marathon.

De Castella said the record number of high quality applications highlighted the powerful message being sent to Indigenous Australia.

"This year we received nearly 200 applications from Indigenous people who are committed to driving change, and through running, encouraging healthy lifestyles in their communities," he said.

"Many applicants were inspired by IMP's 53 graduates and have witnessed their life-changing transformation, in addition to watching the graduates continue

to achieve long after their marathon finish.

"Our primary goal is to promote healthy lifestyles, increase pride, instil a sense of achievement and have a positive impact on social dysfunction and lifestyle-related illnesses."

Head coach and manager Mick Rees undertook a two-month national tour conducting trials in 26 regional, remote and city communities across the country.

He said the next six months were one of responsibility and sheer hard work for the squad members.

"I couldn't be more proud of the squad we have selected and I know they will embrace this opportunity, and they are equally aware of the work ahead to reach their marathon goal," he said.

The squad will meet for the first time in Canberra on May 11 for their first training camp which will also include training sessions and the first units of their education component, aimed at assisting with employment in health related fields.

Athletes will participate in camps and running events in the Gold Coast, Sydney and Alice Springs.

The final squad to travel to New York in November will be announced following a 30km time trial in Alice Springs in September.

● Carnival gives youngsters an AFL kickstart: pages 70-71