National Reconciliation Week, running from Thursday, 27 May to 3 June, is an important opportunity for all Australians to recognise and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage.

"We live in a culturally significant region, encompassing Kakadu and West Arnhem."

The dates for National Reconciliation Week remain the same each year, beginning on 27 May – marking the passing of the 1967 referendum granting citizenship to Aboriginal Australians – and ending on 3 June – coinciding with the historic High Court Mabo decision.

The theme for this year’s National Reconciliation Week is Reconciliation is more than a word. Reconciliation takes action - and it urges more impactful action towards reconciliation.

The Jabiru community supported National Reconciliation Week with a special morning and Welcome to Country by Corben Mudjandi on Thursday, May 28. On Wednesday, 2 June, there will be a special story time with Marcia Brennan reading ‘Respect’ by Muir, Lawson & Kennedy at the library. This will be followed by ochre face painting and light refreshments!

West Arnhem Regional Council Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams said, “We live in a culturally significant region, encompassing Kakadu and West Arnhem communities and homelands, and more than two thirds of our population, of just over 6,000, identify as Aboriginal Australians and Torres Strait Islander peoples.”

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Selena Uibo said, “I encourage all Territorians to take this time to recognise and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage.

“The Territory Labor Government works hard to deliver with and for Aboriginal Territorians, and to ensure as a Government we deliver the aspirations of our community.”
West Arnhem Regional Council’s Community Care staff in Gunbalanya have had the opportunity to develop their skills and work towards their Certificate 2 and 3 in ‘Individual Support’ for Community Care.

Crest NT provided special ‘behaviour and communication’ training with guest trainer Gabby Mead and Andrew Beecroft. The staff really enjoyed the training and are looking forward to the ongoing training program over the next two years and achieving their goals with their professional development.

The Crest NT team also visited Warruwi and Jabiru.

Kakadu Community Care staff pictured above with Gabby Mead from Crest NT.

The West Arnhem Wire acknowledges the traditional owners of country and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders, past, present and future.

The Wire is the only regular source of news and information in the Kakadu and West Arnhem Land region. More than 700 copies are distributed fortnightly to Jabiru, Warruwi, Minjilang, Maningrida and Gunbalanya.

Our electronic edition goes out to more than 500 individual email addresses across West Arnhem Land and the Top End.

The Wire accepts advertising from businesses and government organisations. Placement of ads is subject to editorial and Council policy.

Our competitive rates start from as little as $65 (including GST). Call 08 8979 9465 today or email wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au to discuss how we can help you spread your messages around West Arnhem Land.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Bookings: 5pm Monday prior to publication
Artwork: 5pm Tuesday prior to publication

The Wire is published fortnightly on Fridays.

The Wire is published by West Arnhem Regional Council. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those held by the Council or Councillors.

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Call (08) 8979 9465 or email wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

The West Arnhem Wire | 15 - 28 May 2021

TUNE INTO TEABBA RADIO

Maringrida Radio 106.1FM
Minjilang Radio 106.1FM
Gunbalanya Radio 106.1FM
Warruwi Radio 106.1FM

Kakadu Community Care staff pictured above with Gabby Mead from Crest NT.
Numerous projects as part of Jabiru Beautification are currently progressing with works happening at a few different locations around the township.

Funded by the Director of National Parks and Northern Territory Government, West Arnhem Regional Council have been rolling out specific projects around the community to support local tourism and enhance the visitor experience as Jabiru transitions to a tourism economy.

Council are excited to announce that the 34-metre high water tower in Jabiru will soon feature an incredible mural, with the artwork concept involving a cross-collaboration by artists at Marrawuddi Gallery.

It is intended this larger-than-life project will be a tourist drawcard to Jabiru and Kakadu.

The tender to carry out this project has been released and it is hoped work will commence shortly.

Meanwhile, other significant projects as part of the beautification have all progressed this month.

This includes the Jabiru Pool upgrades and shade structure, construction of new shared facilities carpark and exterior upgrades at the Bininj Kunwok Centre.

At the Jabiru Pool, the community and visitors can look forward to the new shade structure which has been installed.

There will also be an exciting children’s splash pad and three new barbecue shelters and seating and new playground equipment.

At the Bininj Kunwok Centre, a new disabled carpark have been constructed, along with a new sand pit. The next stages of the project involve two new exterior hard shade structure, chairs and tables, with everything, excluding spray grass, to be completed next week.

Construction of the new-shared facilities carpark, between Marrawuddi Gallery and the Bininj Kunwok Centre, has also commenced.

Following the ground being levelled, compacted and the sub-base spread, the team will commence spray sealing with concrete works and landscaping. While line-marking is still being considered, it is expected that the carpark will accommodate a minimum of 40 vehicles and four bus parking areas.

The pool will be closed until the end of June (the gym is still open to the public).

WARRUWI HEALTH TEAM TRAINING

The Warruwi Health Team undertook some important training to help with their day-to-day roles and responsibilities recently.

Pictured are Katrina Wise (PHCM), Daniel Noonan (Ph 2), Kalina Luta (AO2), Phillip Fato (RAN) and James Marrawal (Community Liaison), attending a refresher of Stryker Stretcher training while the trainer Liam from Darwin was on the ground.

Liam also attended the annual service of the wheelchair, stretcher, emergency bed and trollies in the Health Centre.

PROJECTS SUPPORTING JABIRU’S TRANSITION

Pictured above is the approved artwork concept for the Jabiru water tower mural and (right) is the new shade structure at the Jabiru Pool.

Calling all Superhero’s

Supporting your friend with Worries

MINDBLANK are visiting Gunbalanya 9th June
Speak to Georgie at School or Sandy at TeamHEALTH
WHAT’S ON

If you have an upcoming event you would like to see listed in this space please phone the Wire on 8979 9465 or email wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au.

WEEKLY

Monday
Xango Capoeira: Jabiru Pool Gym, 5pm
Fire Station Training: Jabiru Fire Station, 6pm

Tuesdays
Jabiru Playgroup: Jabiru Court House or Lake, 9:30am
Jabiru Bombers football training: Brockman Oval, 5pm
Jabiru Firey’s Fitness Training: Magela Oval, 5:30pm
Aqua Fitness: Jabiru Swimming Pool, 6.15pm
Jabiru Art & Craft Group: private residence (enquire directly) 7.30pm

Wednesdays
Skins Golf: Jabiru Golf Club, 4.45pm
Underwater Hockey: Jabiru Pool, 5pm
Social Soccer: Magela Oval, 6pm

Thursdays
Story Time: Jabiru Library, 10.30am
Jabiru Bombers Football training: Brockman Oval, 5pm
Jabiru Firey’s Fitness Training: Magela Oval, 5.30pm
Aqua Fitness: Jabiru Swimming Pool, 6.15pm
Jackpot Joker Draw, Jabiru Golf Club 7.30pm

Fridays
Jabiru Golf Club raffles & Members Draw, 7pm
Pool competition: Jabiru Golf Club, 7pm

Sundays
Jabiru Firey’s Fitness Training 5.30pm

MAY
Thur 27 National Reconciliation Week begins
Fri 28 Taste of Kakadu, Kakadu National Park

JUNE
Thur 3 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Maningrida
Wed 9 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Jabiru
Thur 10 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Minjilang

SUPPORTING LOCAL CARERS

West Arnhem Regional Council’s Community Care team in Jabiru were very excited to see the new Carers NT mobile van that was showcased in the community recently.

Andrea and Kieran were promoting Carers NT and their new national service Carer Gateway - an NT Australian Government Initiative. This will mean extra support for carers and their families, easier access and will show what is available. Some of the things highlighted are respite care, counselling, coaching, online skills courses and financial support.

Council’s Community Care services have always worked closely with Carers NT, identifying the high risk of carers needing respite.

It is very difficult for carers being so remote so it is great that Carers NT now with the Carer gateway can help with other much needed services.

Staff, families, carers and other service providers can link in with Carers NT via phone, email or on their website to receive resources to assist community members and staff to understand what is available and how they can help.

SEEKING INPUT ON 2021-22 REGIONAL PLAN

West Arnhem Regional Council approved the draft Regional Plan and Budget at the Special Finance Meeting Committee Meeting on Wednesday, 14 April 2021, Resolution of Council (SFC5/2021).

West Arnhem Regional Council is now seeking feedback on its Draft Regional Plan and Budget 2021 - 22.

This Draft incorporates significant documents including:
- Regional Strategic Plan
- Detailed Budget Information

You can obtain a copy of the Draft Regional Plan and Budget 2021 - 22:
- In person at 13 Tasman Crescent Jabiru, or at the Regional Council Offices in Warruwi, Minjilang, Maningrida or Gunbalanya
- By telephoning (08) 8979 9444 or emailing info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Feedback and comments must be submitted by: Midnight on Sunday, 6 June 2021.

This can be sent by email to: info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au or by mail to:
Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 721, Jabiru NT 0886.

For further information, please call (08) 8979 9444.
More than 42,000 COVID-19 vaccines have been delivered in the Territory, with over 10,000 Territorians now fully vaccinated. This week NT Health staff in the Top End are vaccinating in Batchelor, Pirlangimpi, Wurrui, Gemco, Katherine and Minjilang.

"Working together and keeping our communities safe."

Almost one in six people over the age of 16 having had a first dose, and 5.5% now fully vaccinated.

There are more than 30 locations across the Territory, including Jabiru, for people to book in and receive their vaccine – either at their GPs, with our ACCHO partners and in the NTG clinics.

Under the Modified Monash scale of remoteness, most of the Northern Territory, specifically all regions outside of the Darwin and rural areas, are eligible for a whole-of-community vaccination approach.

NT Health and partner organisation have been successfully utilising this approach across the Northern Territory outside of the Darwin and rural areas, to vaccinate anyone over the age of 16 who consents to a COVID-19 vaccination.

In those remote communities, where NT Health is the primary care provider, 12% of people over the age of 16 have had their first dose – with over 2,200 doses administered.

In Central Australia the rollout for those in the Alice Springs Correctional Centre is almost one quarter complete.


Pictured is Wurrui Community Care Team Leader Maria Arcos, Aged Care client Miriam Kris and Community Care Senior Officer Grace Thompson.

Wurrui Community Care Staff and clients having their Covid-19 vaccination jabs and are working together and keeping our communities safe.
STRONG SUPPORT FOR MANINGRIDA MEN’S SHED

There was a deadly turn out for the first Maningrida Men’s Shed meeting of 2021 recently. It was great to have yarns with Fred from the ‘No More Campaign’ and hear from James and Charlie from NAAJA’s Community’s Legal Education team. If you would like to be involved in future Men’s Shed meetings, or just keen to along to listen, send an email to Nic to be added to the mailing list, at Nicholas.sharah@nt.gov.au

SPECIAL STORY TIME

11am, Wednesday, 2 June | Outside Library
Featuring Marcia reading ‘Respect’ by Muir, Lawson & Kennedy followed by ochre face painting and light refreshments!

CHECK YOUR ENROLMENT BEFORE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

Pictured is Charlie Phillips (right) who took the opportunity, like many others, to check his enrolment details before the upcoming 2021 Local Government Election in August, with Community Development Officer Colvin Crowe.

MANINGRIDA NOTICE

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN REPRESENTING YOUR COMMUNITY ON WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL?

If so, please come along to a BBQ followed by a nomination workshop to find out more information about the nomination process and what it means to be an elected member.

DATE: June 3rd
TIME: BBQ 12:00pm- 12:30pm
WORKSHOP 12:30pm to 1:00pm
WHERE: Council Meeting Room
NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK IN JABIRU

“The First Circles Leadership program has provided leadership opportunities for Aboriginal Territorians living in remote areas, to learn more about governance, and to engage directly with politicians and Government policy.

“Our Local Decision Making is having a big impact in the bush, and we will continue to keep working to ensure all Territorians have access to the very best services and opportunities, no matter where they live.”

WARRUWI ABLUTION BLOCK COMMENCES

Some exciting works in Warruwi have commenced for the new community ablution block to be situated near the playground. This is a really important piece of infrastructure for the community and once completed will also include a really special mural. This has been funded by the Warruwi Local Authority.

SHARING TRADITIONAL LANGUAGES

Mahni kunwok ngarriwokdi manbu karrardwarreken

We speak our mother’s tongue

Artist Chips Mackinolty made this poster with Kaye Namundja, Jeanette Burrunali and Jill Nganjmirra from the Bininj Kunwok Regional Language Centre. The poster is saying that it is important for mothers to pass on their traditional languages to their children.

SoundED CALLING FOR ALL SINGERS AND DANCERS IN WEST ARNHEM

SoundED will be coming out to communities in West Arnhem throughout the dry season to create some new music videos with bands, community members and young people.

Last year’s projects on Croker Island and Goulburn Island were huge so SoundED are looking forward to hearing some new stories and reconnecting with people on some of the most beautiful country on earth.

SoundED will be looking for singers, rappers, dancers, musicians and story tellers. It will also be a chance to learn more about music recording and video production if that’s your thing.

Everyone is invited to get involved so speak with staff from West Arnhem Regional Council if you want some more information about the projects.

DATES:

GUNBALANYA Band Project:
June 7 - 11

MINJILANG Community Project:
June 14 - 18

GUNBALANYA Youth Project:
August 23 - 27

WARRUWI Community Project:
To be confirmed

SoundED will be coming out to communities in West Arnhem throughout the dry season to create some new music videos. Photo credit: SoundED.
Young people in Jabiru enjoyed taking part in 'National Simultaneous Storytime from space' on Wednesday, May 19.

The special event was held at the Jabiru Library and young people from Childcare, FaFT and Jabiru School were able to watch a real life astronaut read the book 'Give me some space' on the big screen.

Dressed in their best space costume, the young ones all enjoyed the special 'space' treats afterwards. Thank you to everyone involved in the morning.

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MINJILANG NOTICE

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN REPRESENTING YOUR COMMUNITY ON WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL?

If so, please come along to a BBQ followed by a nomination workshop to find out more information about the nomination process and what it means to be an elected member.

DATE: Thursday June 10th
TIME: BBQ 12:00pm- 12:30pm
WORKSHOP: 12:30pm to 1:00pm
WHERE: Council Meeting Room

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GET JOB READY

TUESDAYS 11:00AM - 12:00PM
JABIRU PUBLIC LIBRARY

Need help updating your Résumé?
Come to the Jabiru Public Library for assistance.
Computers and WIFI free to use.

For more information contact Jillian May on (08) 8979 9460 or jillian.may@westarnhem.nt.gov.au
The Mainingrida Eco Warriors have done it again, with another huge clean up of the community’s beaches during the month of May. They had lots of helpers and they all enjoyed their special swim and barbecue afterwards. The group of volunteers all work together to clean the beaches in Mainingrida and hopefully keep them that way. You can find out when the next clean up days are by following their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Mainingrida-Eco-Warriors-102424004667956

Pictured are West Arnhem Regional Council Community Care clients in Gunbalanya Nehemiah Burunali and Amos Nganjmirra recently had some cooking lessons from Bek at Territory Therapy solutions, while they were in the community doing an OT assessment.

The very first JabiruFlix event kicked off with the movie ‘Sonic The Hedgehog’ on Friday, May 7. The new deckchairs and mega inflatable screen looked great set out on the lawn in front of the Jabiru Library. Dinner was a sausage sizzle cooked by Red Lily, with the funds raised going to the Jabiru Men’s shed. Thank you very much to all of the staff that helped with the set up and pack down.

The Maningrida Eco Warriors have done it again, with another huge clean up of the community’s beaches during the month of May. They had lots of helpers and they all enjoyed their special swim and barbecue afterwards.

The group of volunteers all work together to clean the beaches in Mainingrida and hopefully keep them that way. You can find out when the next clean up days are by following their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Mainingrida-Eco-Warriors-102424004667956

Pictured are West Arnhem Regional Council Community Care clients in Gunbalanya Nehemiah Burunali and Amos Nganjmirra recently had some cooking lessons from Bek at Territory Therapy solutions, while they were in the community doing an OT assessment.
WARRUWI COMMUNITY SCHOOL SLIME FUN

The Warruwi school and community enjoyed the Slime Fun Run on Monday, 24 May. With the students wearing light coloured clothes to look extra slimy, they all had a great time running around with teachers and stakeholders in the community. The event was also a fundraiser to support the school camp.