Gunbalanya celebrated what was an incredible whole-of-community opening ceremony to kick off NAIDOC Week.

The opening ceremony was held at Gunbalanya school and involved special speeches in Kunwinjku and English from Lois Nadjamerrek and Lachlan Mckenzie who spoke about what NAIDOC represents to indigenous people. Gunbalanya was treated to some cultural dancing performed by bininj people and non-indigenous men were invited up to dance, and Jack Brown played the didgeridoo in the opening ceremony.

Jack, Lachy and TK had a dance with the men it was great to see the community come together to celebrate indigenous culture. This was followed by a barbecue lunch and movie screening at the hall.

The week also involved a great variety of activities, events and celebrations around Gunbalanya and is has been great to see the community get involved with a collaborative effort from stakeholders. There was also a big celebration at Injalak Art Centre to conclude NAIDOC Week, featuring bush tucker, bininj kunborrk and weaving.

West Arnhem Regional Council wish to give a big shout out to SCFC, AFLNT, ALPA, Gunbalanya School, Gunbalanya Meats, Nanjma Rangers, Injalak, Team Health and CatholicCare.

NAIDOC 2021 invites the nation to embrace First Nations’ cultural knowledge and understanding of Country as part of Australia’s national heritage and equally respect the culture and values of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders as they do the cultures and values of all Australians.

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920’s which sought to
EMERGING LEADER REPRESENTS NT AND WEST ARNHEM REGION

West Arnhem Regional Council’s (WARC) very own Kailah Williams (pictured) from Jabiru has been selected as the 2021 Local Government Emerging Leader in the Northern Territory! WARC are very excited and proud of Kailah who is currently the Wellbeing Coordinator in Jabiru overseeing Community Care, Childcare, Library, Pool and Youth, Sport and Recreation services in Jabiru.

Following the nomination process, the Local Government Professional Association Northern Territory (LGPANT) committee agreed that Kailah, 28, is an inspiring leader to her colleagues and the wider community, who has demonstrated motivation and drive amongst difficult circumstances in role her with West Arnhem Regional Council.

Kailah will now progress onto the national finals at the Local Government Professionals Australia National Congress and Business Expo 2021 being held 23rd – 25th August in Canberra.

OENPELLI HISTORY WINS NT HISTORY BOOK AWARD

The Bible in Buffalo Country’, Oenpelli Mission, 1925-1931 written by Sally K May, Laura Rademaker, Donna Nadjamerrek and Julie Narndal Gumurdul is the winner of the 2021 Chief Minister’s Northern Territory (NT) History Book Award.

The Bible in Buffalo Country, Oenpelli Mission, 1925-1931 was selected as the winner from four finalists out of a field of nine entries.

The winning book highlights six difficult years in the lives of missionaries Alf and Mary Dyer, in their quest to bring Christianity to a former buffalo shooting camp in Oenpelli.

Drawing on documentary and photographic resources, combined with stories from the local Aboriginal community, the research tells the story of the difficulties in establishing the mission due to location, sickness, and in brokering relationships with the local community.

The panel of independent judges highly commended Maisie Austin, Matthew Stephen and the Cummings Family for Family, Belonging and Connection to Country. Darwin: NT Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation, 2020. 2021 marks the 16th year of the Chief Minister’s NT History Book Award. Sally K May, Laura Rademaker, Donna Nadjamerrek and Julie Narndal Gumurdul will now join a host of exceptional writers as a recipient of the Award.

Administered by NT Library, the award recognises the most significant book about NT history published in the previous calendar year.

TUNE INTO TEABBA RADIO

Maningrida Radio 106.1FM
Minjilang Radio 106.1FM
Gunbalanya Radio 106.1FM
Warruwi Radio 106.1FM
NAIDOC Week celebrations in Minjilang were a great success with a fantastic event on the Friday to conclude the week. About 100 community members celebrated the very special occasion at West Arnhem Regional Council Office (WARC) gathering place. Special thanks was given in language and everyone took the time to think about the NAIDOC theme ‘Heal Country’.

Everyone enjoyed the barbecue, salads and fruits provided, however the most delicious meal was the kangaroo stew cooked by the famous WARC Senior Works Officer Dave who can, not only drive machinery and flick lures, he can make a mean kangaroo stew.

The evening was made even more special with the launch of the Minjilang music video made with Wayne Glenn from SoundEd. While in Minjilang, Wayne worked with the local children to create this wonderful video which will be cherished by all community member today and into the future. All the children gathered around to see themselves on the video and joined in the countdown for the launch on YouTube at 7pm.

It is a great video and you can view it on https://youtu.be/rEqDx3Rp5GU

Water Quality Report
Protecting creeks in the Alligator Rivers Region

Supervising Scientist
The Supervising Scientist conducts water quality monitoring in Magela and Gulungul Creeks to ensure the environment and the people of the Alligator Rivers Region are protected from the potential impacts of uranium mining.

Water quality objectives achieved in Magela Creek

Water quality objectives achieved in Gulungul Creek

Water quality limits
Water quality limits for electrical conductivity are set that the mine must comply with. If it is below the limit, then the environment is protected, bush food is safe to eat, and water is safe to drink.

Electrical conductivity
Electrical conductivity is measured to detect any contamination in the creeks from the mine.
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.

ADVERTISING COMMUNITY CARE

Gunbalanya Community Care have made great use of a window space at the centre by re-purposing it as an advertisement board! Sylvia Badari recently painted it as a blackboard and made a border and Karyn, the Gunbalanya NDIS officer, has helped turn it into a multipurpose board including menu and noticeboard! This is a great way the centre can advertise the menu for each day to clients and also what events and activities are coming up in the community. Pictured are Sylvia and Karyn advertising it, and the centre is very happy with the outcome.

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

AUGUST

Thur 5 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Maningrida
Thur 5 Local Government Nominations close
Tue 10 2021 Census Night
Wed 11 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Jabiru
Mon 16 - 27 Local Government Election voting

SERVING UP AT COMMUNITY CARE

West Arnhem Regional Council’s (WARC) new Community Care cook in Gunbalanya started in the kitchen this week, so the team thought it is a great opportunity to change the meals up a bit. Much to the delight of Community Care clients, the breakfast meals are now served outside as a buffet style. This allows clients to help themselves and they are loving the change and love serving themselves. This also provides a lovely change of scenery and a great opportunity to enjoy the dry season weather.

The team would like to welcome Tekaharau Hack (aka TK) to the WARC family in Gunbalanya. TK comes to us with 10 years’ experience working in kitchens.

WARC would like to welcome TK’s happy can-do, go with the flow attitude to Gunbalanya.

Clients Len Naborkibilbo, Darryl Namundja and Colin Naborkibilbo enjoying their breakfast outdoors at Gunbalanya Community Care.

TK relocated with his mother Jo (also with WARC) and father from Ipswich, QLD.
NOMINATIONS OPEN!

From Friday, 16 July 2021, you can nominate to become an Elected Member on West Arnhem Regional Council.

Pick up a Nomination Pack at your local Council Office.

For further information or if you need help completing the form, please contact Anna Egerton on 0439 735 633 or anna.egerton35@gmail.com

Nominations close 12 noon on Thursday 5 August
‘Build up Skateboards’ visited Warruwi in the last week of June to show the young people how to put together ramps and make up skateboards. They also brought with them some boards, ramps and safety gear, which they have left for the community to use. While in the community, the Build Up Skateboards crew showed the young people how to skate and be safe, and as a group of accomplished skateboarders they put on a great show demonstrating their skills.

Leah, Blaze and Emma from West Arnhem Regional Council’s Youth Sport and Recreation team in Warruwi facilitated the workshop over the three days which ended with a barbecue.

Leah said, “they showed us their stunts, it was so exciting to see - I could see the eyes in the children light up so much as we have not seen skaters before. The kids picked up really quick and had so much fun.”

The mural on the 34 metre high water tower in Jabiru is now complete with artists putting on the final touches this week.

"Is one of the major parts of the Jabiru Beautification Project."
West Arnhem Regional Council’s Community Care Services in Minjilang now have a fantastic space, including a kitchen, garden and activity space, to provide additional services to their clients. The Community Care staff are looking forward to providing centre-based services utilising the community hall and outside area.

**FEATURES:**
- The kitchen is equipped to cook the favourite nutritional meals for the ‘meals on wheels’ program and great feasts for community barbecue events
- This will also help to support and teach local staff in cooking sessions and the importance of nutritional meals. They may then implement these skills at home with their families
- The new fridge and freezer to provide food storage space and to teach importance of stock control and rotation of goods
- New commercial washing machine and dryer to assist with laundry for the clients and to support a ‘health homes’ program
- The incredible garden now provides an inviting space to come and relax

In a few months, there will be fruit from the trees and vegetables from the garden beds and cook them in the wonderful kitchen.

West Arnhem Regional Council is proud to provide many services from the new refurbished kitchen through the Community Care Services, Youth, Sport & Recreation and community events. All members of the community will benefit from this new gathering place and the kitchen.

There are more than 5,000 electors who are eligible to vote in the upcoming 2021 Local Government Elections following the close of roll this week. For the 2017 elections, there were 133,927 electors enrolled to vote. At the close of roll for the 2021 elections there were 139,105 Territorians enrolled.

Northern Territory Electoral Commissioner Iain Loganathan said the increase in the number of people on the roll was pleasing when considering the Territory’s population has remained virtually the same since the 2017 elections. “Having more people on the electoral roll is a good sign for democracy in the Territory,” Mr Loganathan said. “However, it will mean little if those people don’t turn out to vote. So I encourage Territorians to go to our website and find out where and when they will be able to cast their vote from 16 August.” Mr Loganathan also reminded eligible Territorians who are still not on the electoral roll can still cast a declaration vote. “I encourage all unenrolled Territorians who believe they are eligible to vote to attend a voting centre and cast a declaration vote,” Mr Loganathan said. The same provision was in place for the 2020 Legislative Assembly Election and 1,741 electors who were not on the electoral roll were able to successfully cast a declaration vote that was included in the count. Below is a breakdown of enrolment numbers for each council and ward for the 2021 Local Government Elections. For more information about the 2021 Local Government Elections go to www.ntec.nt.gov.au
ABORIGINAL RANGER GRANTS OPEN

The next round of the Territory Labor Government’s highly-successful Aboriginal Ranger Grants have opened. The grants program continues to support jobs on country for around 1,000 Rangers from 47 Ranger groups to deliver land and sea management and conservation outcomes.

The program also ensures ongoing access to resources to protect our pristine environments and wildlife. Under the program, two types of grants are available through a competitive, merit-based system. These include:

- Capital funding – which has helped Rangers purchase vehicles and trailers, boats, fire and weed spray units, heavy equipment, information technology and communication systems and infrastructure.
- Conservation Land Management funding – which has provided Rangers with assistance for activities including feral animal management, fire and weed management, protection of threatened and ‘iconic’ species, cultural management, and training and skills development.

As part of Budget 2021, the Territory Labor Government delivered on its election commitment of investing almost $12 million in the program over the next four years.

In addition, the program has also received $24 million from the INPEX-operated Ichthys LNG, as part of its Coastal Offsets Strategy to distribute to Ranger Groups through the grants program.


COVID-19 VACCINATION ROLL OUT IN WARRUWI

Congratulations to West Arnhem Regional Council’s Community Care team in Warruwi who have had their second dose of the COVID 19 vaccine.

The team are almost up to 100 per cent of staff having the second vaccination, with two staff remaining. Well done team in protecting yourselves, our the special vulnerable clients and other people in your community.

Why Local Government elections matter:

- Your voice, your community
- Local Government Council Elections - 2021

enrol

by Tuesday 27 July 2021

nominate

by Thursday 5 August 2021

vote

Early and mobile voting commences

Monday 16 August 2021

- 2021 -

Election Day

Saturday 28 August

Local Government

2021
NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS IN GUNBALANYA

increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Well done!
Both Ways Learning is back in action with Ida and Leah from West Arnhem Regional Council and the Warruwi School. Both Ways Learning includes engagement with students through learning on country which supports school attendance.

2021 Local Government Elections

Date | Time | Action
--- | --- | ---
Friday 16 July | 5:00 pm | Nominations open
Tuesday 27 July | 5:00 pm | Electoral roll closes
Thursday 5 August | 12:00 noon | Nominations close
Monday 9 August | Postal vote mail-out commences
Monday 16 August | 8:00 am | Early voting commences
Friday 27 August | 6:00 pm | Mobile voting commences
Saturday 28 August | Election day

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

Indigenous people are encouraged to apply.

For more information:
Please phone 08 8979 9404 or email vacancy@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Electrician – Jabiru - Permanent - Full Time – Accommodation available - Applications close 8am, 4 August
Administration Officer – Jabiru - Permanent - Full Time – Accommodation available - Applications close 8am, 4 August
Food and Prep Officer – Jabiru – Permanent - Part Time – No Accommodation provided - All applications considered
Pool Officer – Maningrida – Permanent - Part Time – No Accommodation provided - All applications considered
Pool Officer – Jabiru – Permanent - Part Time – Accommodation - All applications considered
Works Officers – Jabiru - Permanent - Full Time – No Accommodation provided - All applications considered
Trades Officers – Jabiru – Fixed Term - Full Time – No Accommodation provided - All applications considered
Cleaner – Jabiru - Permanent - Part Time – No Accommodation provided – All applications considered
Administration Trainee – Gunbalanya - Permanent - Part Time – No Accommodation - All applications considered

Northern Territory Electoral Commission
EVERY vote counts!

WORK IN & EXPERIENCE
ARNHEM LAND & KAKADU

GET JOB READY

1800 898 683
facebook/NTElectoralCommission
NTEC@nt.gov.au
@NTElecComm

The West Arnhem Wire | 10 - 30 July 2021