



The Maningrida 2023 AFL football competition grand finals were held on Saturday, 12 August. The football oval was looking its best for the big event. Read more, Page 6.

COUNT DOWN TO KURRUNG

There are only two weeks until sporting teams from across West Arnhem Land will converge in Jabiru for the 2023 Kurrung Sports Carnival – the region's biggest sporting event.

This year, the Kurrung Sports Carnival will take place on 1 and 2 September and will feature a men's AFL competition, men's and women's basketball and a 'come and try' women's AFL 9's round. Any women interested in playing AFL, are encouraged to join in.

Proudly hosted by West Arnhem Regional Council, this popular 2-day sports carnival unites talented men and women from the West Arnhem Land communities of Jabiru, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Waruwi and Minjilang and a team from Katherine.

Team registrations close on Monday, 21 August so don't miss out on participating in this exciting weekend of sport.

Event coordinator Tamzin France said, "with the vast distances of our region, it is great to be able to bring our communities together for Kurrung, thanks to the support of our sponsors. We are looking forward to a weekend of great sportsmanship, friendly rivalry on the field and courts and shared comradery."

Carnival Program: Friday, 1 September

- 'Come and Try' Women's AFL 9's – Magela Oval
- Men's Basketball Competition – Jabiru Basketball Courts

Saturday, 2 September

- Women's basketball Competition – Jabiru Area School
- Men's AFL Competition – Brockman Oval

In an exciting twist, Kurrung will welcome ABC Darwin 'Territory Grandstand' and Charlie King who will be broadcasting LIVE from

Brockman Oval on the Saturday from 11am – 1pm. Please come along and have a chat to Charlie during the broadcast.

"A weekend of great sportsmanship, friendly rivalry on the field and courts and shared comradery.."

An equally exciting addition to the carnival this year, will be a cultural dance performance known as Manyardi/Kunborrk by the communities to wrap up the 2023 event on Saturday afternoon. All welcome to watch or participate.

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Young people in Jabiru treated to a swim clinic with Olympic gold medalist Mack Horton recently.

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West Arnhem Regional Council's works crew in Waruwi welcome new machinery.

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MANINGRIDA AFL GRAND FINAL



2023 Maningrida AFL competition grand final matches played on Saturday, 12 August.

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MANINGRIDA SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN



Maningrida youth enjoyed the jam-packed school holiday program recently.

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WEST ARNHAM WELCOMES NEW AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS



Congratulations to West Arnhem's newest Australian citizens Charlotte, Faileez, Hassan, Tuyen Kim and Uraiporn! West Arnhem Regional Council Deputy Mayor Liz Williams officiated the special ceremony in the Jabiru Council Chambers on Friday, 4 August. It was indeed a very

special occasion with many of the new citizen's friends and family in attendance, including the Jabiru childcare! These ceremonies are always joyous occasions and a very special thing we are able to do for residents in West Arnhem. We wish the newest Aussies all of the best!



Election timetable

2023 West Arnhem Kakadu Ward by-election

9 September 2023

Date	Time	
Tuesday 8 August		Nominations open
Wednesday 9 August	5:00 pm	Electoral roll closes
Friday 18 August	12:00 noon	Nominations close
	1:00 pm	Declaration of nominations, draw for position on ballot papers
Monday 21 August		Postal vote mail-out commences
Monday 4 September	8:00 am	Early voting commences
		Mobile voting commences
Tuesday 5 September	6:00 pm	Overseas postal voting despatches cease
Thursday 7 September	6:00 pm	All postal voting despatches cease
Friday 8 September	4:30 pm	Early voting ceases
Saturday 9 September		Election day
		Election day voting commences: <i>Mobile voting only</i>
		Election day voting ceases: <i>Mobile voting only</i>
	6:00 pm	Mobile voting ceases
		Primary counts of ordinary, postal and early votes commence
Monday 11 September	9:00 am	Declaration vote verification checks, commence recheck of all counts
Thursday 14 September	9:00 am	Primary counts of accepted declaration votes, further postal counts
Friday 22 September	12:00 noon	Deadline for receipt of postal votes
		Final counts of postal votes commence
	2:00 pm	Distribution of preferences
Monday 25 September	10:00 am	Declaration of the election result

WIRE

West Arnhem Regional Council acknowledges the First Nations Custodians; and the many Language and Family groups who are Managers and Care-takers to each of their Traditional homelands and Waters across the West Arnhem Regions Wards. West Arnhem Regional Council pay their respects and acknowledge Elders, past present and rising.

The Wire is the only regular source of news and information in the Kakadu and West Arnhem Land region. More than 500 copies are distributed fortnightly to Jabiru, Waruwi, 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 \$72 (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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www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au

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

TUNE INTO TEABBA RADIO

Maningrida Radio	106.1 FM
Minjilang Radio	106.1 FM
Gunbalanya Radio	106.1 FM
Waruwi Radio	106.1 FM
Jabiru Radio	98.9 FM



TEABBA

TOP END ABORIGINAL BUSH
BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

HAPPY BOXES PROJECT DELIVERED IN WARRUWI



During the July school holidays, the Waruwi community received several shipments of what is known as the Happy Box Project. This is a project organised through the Waruwi School and has been in place since last year.

This is an incredible project and aims to;

- Provide basic needs to women in remote Indigenous communities,
- Support the empowerment of women through alleviating the barriers of accessing basic needs,
- Provide opportunities for women to build capacity for individual and community development; and
- Provide opportunities for women to share story and create connection to nurture positive mental health.

Over the last month, staff at the school alongside West Arnhem Regional Council staff handed out these wonderful bags

which contained essential toiletries and beauty products along with journals, candles and towels. The impact this has had on our community along with visitors from other communities has been dramatic and it has been a delight to see a smile on everyone's faces when they have received their bag which also contain a small note from the amazing person who put the bag together.

Due to the large amount we received this year we have also been able to donate a substantial amount of these items to the Waruwi Clinic and now we have essential hygiene products which will enable our Community Care staff to care for our Aged Care clients.

On behalf of West Arnhem Regional Council and the Waruwi community, we would like to say a big thank you to Waruwi School, Woolworths and the amazing people from the Happy Box project.



GET READY TO VOTE IN THE WARC KAKADU WARD BY-ELECTION

The NT Electoral Commission has today declared candidates for the West Arnhem Regional Council, Kakadu Ward by-election. At 12.15pm today, candidate positions on the ballot paper were randomly drawn at the NT Electoral Commission office in Darwin. There is 1 vacancy for position of councillor in the West Arnhem Regional Council, Kakadu Ward by-election and 2 candidates were declared. Candidates for the West Arnhem Regional Council, Kakadu Ward by-election, in ballot paper order are as follows:

- Micketja ONUS
- Charlotte Meneer

Voting services will be available at the following locations:

- Mudginberri - Thursday 7 September - 11am to 12pm
- Cooida - Thursday 7 September - 2pm to 3pm
- Kakadu National Park Office - Friday 8 September - 9:15am to 10:15am
- Manabadurma - Friday 8 September - 11:30am to 12:15pm
- Jabiru Community Hall
- o Friday 8 September - 2:15pm to 5:15pm

- o Saturday 9 September - 8am to 2pm

To accommodate electors unable to vote in person, postal vote applications are now open and will close at the following times:

- Overseas postal vote applications - 6pm on Tuesday 5 September
- Local postal vote applications - 6pm on Thursday 7 September

Early voting is available at the NT Electoral Commission Darwin office from Monday 4 September to Friday 8 September. Election day is Saturday 9 September with voting

from 8.00am at the Jabiru Community Hall. "With the voting period fast approaching, I would like to remind Kakadu Ward electors to plan when and where they will be voting.

Electors wanting more information can contact the NT Electoral Commission office for assistance," said Iain Loganathan, NT Electoral Commissioner. For more information about the West Arnhem Regional Council, Kakadu Ward by-election go to the NT Electoral Commission website.

Voting in West Arnhem Regional Council, Kakadu Ward by-election is compulsory.

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.



West Arnhem Regional Council will proudly host the 2023 Kurrung Sports Carnival in Jabiru on September 1 & 2.

WEEKLY

Monday

Underwater Hockey: Jabiru Pool, 5pm

Fire Station Training: Jabiru Fire Station, 6pm

Tuesdays

Jabiru Playgroup: see the Facebook page, 9:30am

Bombers football training: Brockman Oval, 5:30pm

Jabiru Fire'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

Thursdays

Story Time: Jabiru Library, 11.00am

Jabiru Bombers Football training: Brockman Oval, 5pm

Jabiru Fire'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 Fire's Fitness Training 5.30pm

AUGUST

Wed 23 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Gunbalanya

Thu 24 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Gunbalanya

Fri 25 Wear it Purple Day

SEPTEMBER

1 & 2 Kurrung Sports Carnival, Jabiru

Wed 13 Ordinary Council Meeting, Jabiru

Thu 14 Minjilang Community Info Session

Fri 15 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Minjilang

REWARDING GREAT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AT MINJILANG SCHOOL



Rewarding school attendance at Mamaruni School!

Well done Leani for Semester One 100% attendance award.

Leani was recently awarded a bike from West Arnhem Regional Council Services Manager Cathy Makings.

Thank you to Cathy and staff at WARC for your continued support of the school.

COUNT DOWN TO KURRUNG CARNIVAL

<< From Front Page

In line with the carnival's pillars, including respect, sportsmanship and fair play, this year's carnival feature the 'Spirit of Kurrung' cup sponsored by event partner, the No More Violence campaign. The awards will be presented to the community and individuals which proudly display these qualities. Council wishes to thank the team from No More for their support of the carnival.

West Arnhem Regional Council wishes to thank all supporters and sponsors of this year's carnival including Northern Territory Government, KWAAT, ERA, Blueridge Engineering, Kakadu Lodge, Jabiru Bombers AFL Club, Kakadu Tourism, Coinda Lodge, C&R Constructions, Djurrubu Rangers, 13 Yarn, ABC Darwin, Malala Health, Kakadu National Park, ALPA, Jabiru Area School, Red Lily, Gunbalanya Sports and Social Club.

If any local businesses or organisations can assist to get local teams to Kurrung, please contact your local Council Services Manager.

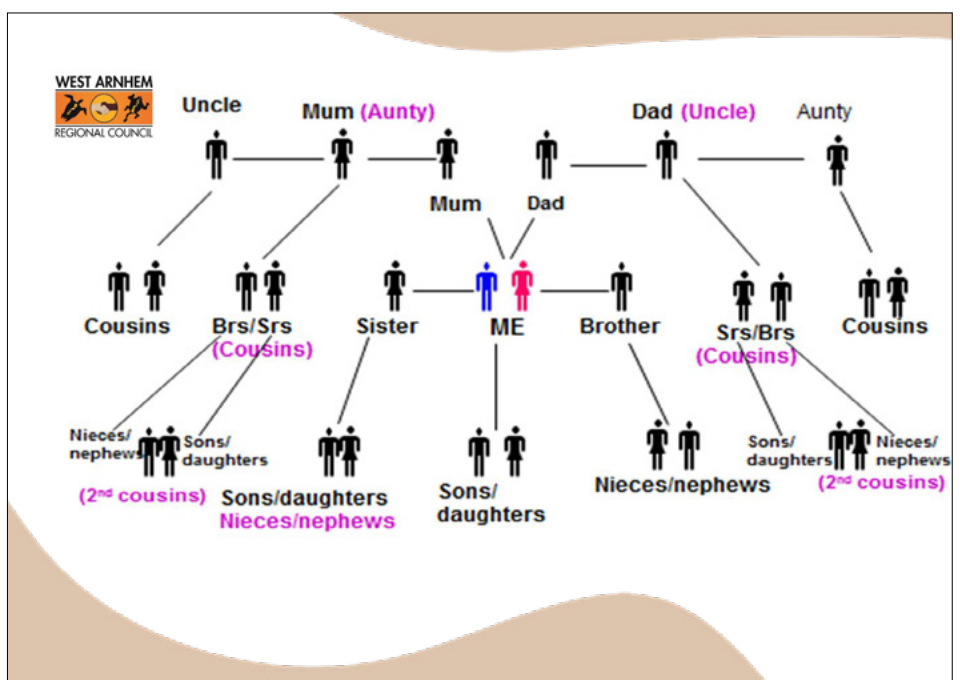
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Northern Territory Community Achievement Awards have been launched for 2023 and the search for our community champions has begun.

To submit a nomination, simply go online www.awardsaustralia.com/ntcaa.

Alternatively make the process that much easier by calling us and passing on their details and we will take it from there.

Nominations close Tuesday 12th September, for assistance please feel free to call the Awards Office on 1300 148 228 or email ntcaa@awardsaustralia.com



NEW WHEEL LOADER ARRIVES IN WARRUWI

Jack Rau from Airpower travelled to Warruwi recently to perform the handover on a new Hyundai 740TM – 9 wheel loader to the West Arnhem Regional Council team.

It is great to have the fleet back at full capacity to support quality service delivery on the island.

The machine will be used for landfill maintenance, road works and has container forks for working with the barge during unloading.

West Arnhem Regional Council was able to purchase the wheel loader through a Northern Territory Government's Waste and Resource Management Grant.

WARC wish to thank them for their support.



**Ask your mob,
your way,
RU OK?**

66

Come from a place of love and care. It's not about judging them for the way they've been behaving. 99

Karen

Meriam, Wagadagarn



**STRONGER
TOGETHER**
ruok.org.au/strongertogether

RU OK?
A conversation could change a life.

1 & 2
SEPTEMBER
2023



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Be involved in the Kurrung Sports Carnival!

We are seeking:

- **Basketball & AFL timekeeper/scorers** (Friday evening & Saturday)
- **AFL goal umpires** (Friday evening and Saturday)
- **Men's AFL water runners** (Saturday)
- **Cooking a barbecue:** (Friday evening approx 5-7.30pm, Saturday morning approx 6.30am-8am, Saturday afternoon approx 5-7.30pm)

IF YOU CAN SPARE TIME:

Contact Tamzin on 0435 537 446 or
tamzin.france@westarnhem.nt.gov.au
to add your name to the roster



GRAND FINALE TO MANINGRIDA AFL COMP

The Maningrida Football Oval is becoming one of the best in the Top End, and residents and stakeholders should be proud of the ever-improving sporting facility in the community.

With the Maningrida community 2023 AFL football competition culminating in the grand finals on Saturday, 12 August, the football oval was looking its best for the hundreds of players, spectators and supporters in attendance for the big event.

In the results, Magpies went undefeated all season in the women's competition defeating Seagulls in the grand final. In the men's competition, the Seagulls won the grand final defeating Lightning, and Seagulls only lost 1 game for the season. A special mention to the women's competition which was the first one ever played in Maningrida and the football all season was played great.

West Arnhem Regional Council has been working tirelessly getting the oval green and manicured over the last few months and it has been great to see so many community members turning up regularly to watch the weekly games under the

newly installed lights.

The latest additions to the oval includes six additional grand stands to accommodate the increase of spectators attending the games on a regular nightly basis, and additional pedestrian team gates for entry and exiting the playing area by players, coaches and staff.

These upgrades were made possible by the Maningrida Local Authority and were completed by the Maningrida works crew just in time for the AFL grand final games. Huge congratulations to all teams in the competition and the overall winners.

West Arnhem Regional Council Services Manager Craig Ballard said "The Maningrida oval was presented in picture perfect condition for the AFL Grand Finals on Saturday, 12 August. A huge thanks to Clem Beard for arranging the perimeter fence upgrades, additional grandstands, electronic scoreboard, oval lighting and irrigation systems. Thanks to Nick from JMK for setting up the grandstands, assisting with band/scoreboard preparation,

helping with barbecue duties and demobilising after the event. A big 'well-done' must go out to Bradley Shergold, SWO, Michael Sippel, Team Leader and the works crew for delivering the oval in pristine condition in time for the finals. Thanks also to Mark Jones and Bradley Shergold for the endless nights managing our electronic scoreboard throughout the AFL competition; and finally congratulations to the AFL Grand Final winning teams, Magpies (W) and Seagulls (M)." These upgrades to the oval were strongly supported by the Maningrida Local Authority, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI) and Northern Territory Government Department of Tourism and Culture. Thank you to the WARC crew for the state of the oval which was excellent, especially Mark and Mick, and all Nick's work on grand final day he was excellent.

Also, thank you to Maddie from NT Government (CSO), Malala particularly Woody, Juan and the police.

Proudly supported by
MANINGRIDA
LOCAL AUTHORITY



(above) West Arnhem Regional Council's works crew in Maningrida assembling the new grand stands for the football oval.



EXTENSION TO GUNBALANYA PLAYGROUND

The Gunbalanya playground is looking better than ever following a recent upgrade which included an extension of the roof shade structure.

Proudly funded by the Gunbalanya Local Authority, this necessary extension has created additional shade above and around the playground facility to reduce exposure to the elements including the heat and rain all-year round.

Community members, including parents and carers, can also utilise the additional seating which has been installed around the playground to comfortably supervise children's activities, relax and socialise.

The now complete playground facility is an important recreational space used by people of all ages throughout the year, including a place to hold activities and events.

Thank you to the Local Authority for supporting this key project which strengthens sense of belonging in community.



The Gunbalanya playground shade structure was recently extended and additional chairs installed thanks to the Gunbalanya Local Authority.

Proudly supported by
GUNBALANYA
LOCAL AUTHORITY

WORK IN & EXPERIENCE ARNHEM LAND & KAKADU



Director Corporate Services – Jabiru, Contract - Full Time - Accommodation provided - Applications close Wednesday 30 August 2023

Human Resources Manager – Jabiru, Contract - Full Time - Accommodation provided - Applications close Wednesday 30 August 2023

Human Resources Administration Assistant – Jabiru, Level 3/4 \$63k \$73k – Full Time - Accommodation provided - Applications close Wednesday 23 August 2023

Council Services Manager – Gunbalanya, Contract - Full Time - Accommodation provided - Applications close Wednesday 6 September 2023

Customer Services Officer – Maningrida, Level 3 - \$59k - \$64k – Full Time – No Accommodation provided – All applications considered

Landfill Officer – Maningrida, Level 5 - \$74k - \$77k - Full Time - Accommodation provided - Applications close Wednesday 30 August 2023

For more information:

Please phone 08 8979 9404 or email vacancy@westarnhen.nt.gov.au

Indigenous people are encouraged to apply



KAKADU COUNTRY'S CALLING COFFEE TABLE BOOK LAUNCHED

Kakadu photographer Peter Keepence is celebrating the launch of his second photography book which is now on sale.

The publication of Peter's second coffee table book 'Kakadu Country's Calling' shows the dedication and desire to continue with his passion of Kakadu and his photography.

'Country's Calling' is the continued story of 'Kakadu Through The Lens'.

Full of more spectacular

images that showcase the extreme wild beauty of Australia's largest national park.

'Kakadu Country's Calling' is not only an unforgettable memory but an opportunity to share with the rest of the world a place we are lucky enough to call home.

Through his ambitions and desire to capture the landscape and nature of Kakadu, Peter has now become a committed photographer of Kakadu.

KAKADU

Country's Calling



Ubirr

Peter Keepence

TOP ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

The Maningrida community were treated to a jam-packed school holiday program recently and there was fantastic attendance at all activities.

The Maningrida Youth, Sport and Recreation team worked with other community groups to facilitate a diverse program consisting of sports such as basketball, cupcake making, dodgeball, AFL, soccer, pool parties as well as cultural activities like fishing!

Up to 50 people attended the activities during the two daily sessions which was great to see. Fun was had by all.



CELEBRATING...
UNITING SPORTS TEAMS FROM WEST ARNHEM LAND

KURRUNG SPORTS CARNIVAL

with...

**ISLANDS - MANYARDI | MANINGRIDA - KUNBORRK
GUNBALANYA - KUNBORRK | JABIRU - KUNBORRK**

BE INVOLVED!
Join in traditional dancing after the Kurrung Sports Carnival
2 September | Magela Oval
after the medal ceremony to conclude Kurrung for 2023
All welcome!

13 YARN

www.13yarn.org.au

Available 24/7

Confidential & anonymous

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"We're here to help, call us for a yarn"

13 92 76

13 Yarn is the first national support line for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people in crisis. We offer a confidential one-on-one over the phone yarnning opportunity and support with a Lifeline trained Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporter for mob who are feeling overwhelmed or having difficulty coping. We are here to provide crisis support 24/7 to enable our community to yarn without judgement and provide a culturally safe space to yarn about their needs, worries or concerns.

Culturally Safe Space

Available 24/7 across Australia from any phone

We listen, without judgement or shame

Lifeline®

This initiative is funded by the Australian Government, Department of Health

Gayana Dixon (Pitjara) Australia
Member of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research Council
This service has been developed in collaboration with Gayana Dixon

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS

Japanese encephalitis (JE) is caused by the Japanese encephalitis virus. Encephalitis is inflammation of the brain tissue and is usually caused by an infection. The virus is spread through mosquito bites.

Infection in humans is most commonly asymptomatic.

On rare occasions, it can result in severe disease with brain damage and even death.

How it is spread

JE is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. It cannot be spread from person to person.

In countries or regions where the virus is present, the transmission is more common in areas of increased mosquito activity.

Pigs and wild water birds help spread the virus. It multiplies in infected pigs, leading to very high levels in their blood.

Mosquitoes feeding on infected pigs and water birds pick up the virus and may spread it to humans.

Symptoms

It usually takes 5 to 15 days between getting bitten by the infected mosquito and becoming unwell.

Symptoms include:

- headaches
- fever
- seizures or fits (especially in young children)
- neck stiffness
- drowsiness
- confusion, delirium and coma in severe cases.

Treatment

There are no specific treatments for JE. In most cases, individuals are admitted to hospital where they are closely observed and given supportive care.

How to protect yourself

There are 2 ways to prevent JE:

- avoid being bitten by mosquitoes
- there is a vaccination.

There is currently a limited supply of JE vaccines. If you're a Northern Territory (NT) resident you may be eligible to receive a free vaccine.

YOUTH LEARN FROM AN OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST

Young people in Jabiru were treated to a swim clinic at the Jabiru pool with Olympic gold medalist Mack Horton earlier this month. Thanks to everyone who came along and improved their water confidence and stroke technique. A lot of fun was had! West Arnhem Regional Council wishes to give a huge thank you to Mack for his generosity.



Maningrida Local Radio

Tune in to 106.1



MINJILANG COMMUNITY INFO SESSION

Outside Minjilang Council Office

1.00pm – 3.30pm

Thursday, 14 September 2023

With a community barbecue - come along for some manna!

Ask Council staff questions about your community!





ERA

KURRUNG SPORTS CARNIVAL

UNITING SPORTS TEAMS FROM WEST ARNHEM LAND

REGISTRATIONS OPEN!

1-2 SEPTEMBER 2023

**MEN'S & WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | MEN'S AFL |
WOMEN'S COME & TRY AFL 9'S**

Team managers can collect a **registration pack** from your local Council Office or youth, sport and recreation officer.

Team registrations will close 21 August.



Kakadu Lodge



IBYARN

