



NAIDOC Week in Minjilang was special this year and it was wonderful to see the whole community come together to celebrate 'For Our Elders'. Read more, page 7.

## SPORTS TEAMS UNITE AT KURRUNG

Sports people from across West Arnhem Land will compete in Jabiru at the 2023 Kurrung Sports Carnival next month.

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

With the communities of West Arnhem Land having a proud tradition of sporting excellence, the Kurrung Sports Carnival is a significant event on the calendar and a key contributor towards building stronger communities.

This year, 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 for the first time, a women's AFL 9s contest. With the growing interest in women's football in the region, this is an exciting addition to the carnival's program and Council looks forward to showcasing this

new sport following the opening ceremony on the Friday afternoon.

*"The Kurrung Sports Carnival is a significant event on the calendar and a key contributor towards building stronger communities.."*

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.

To promote and celebrate positive sportsmanship and fair play through the event, this year's carnival will once again feature the 'Spirit of Kurrung' cup which will be awarded to the community and individuals

which proudly display these qualities. Event partner, No More Violence campaign, will sponsor this award and Council are proud to continue to work with the campaign to promote the prevention of domestic and family violence in the Northern Territory.

West Arnhem Regional Council wishes to thank all supporters and sponsors of this year's carnival including Northern Territory Government, KWAAT, ERA, Kakadu Lodge, Jabiru Bombers AFL Club, Kakadu Crocodile Hotel, Coinda Lodge, 13 Yarn, Kakadu National Park, ALPA, Jabiru Area School.

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

Team registrations are now open for the event and forms are available at your local Council office. If you would like to find out more about the event, please have a chat to your local Youth, Sport and Recreation Officer in your community.

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Charles Darwin University's Art Gallery teeming with bold and colourful hand-printed textiles this month.

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# CHAT WITH COUNCIL AT COMMUNITY INFO SESSIONS

West Arnhem Regional Council will be holding a series of community info sessions across the region in the next few weeks!

All West Arnhem residents and community stakeholders are invited to attend these sessions and take the opportunity to ask questions about your community and learn more about the Yes campaign for the Voice to Parliament.

Council staff, Elected Members and Local Authority members will be present to answer your questions – they want to hear from you!

**The community info sessions will be held on the following dates:**

- Gunbalanya: Wednesday, 9 August
- Minjilang and Waruwi: to be confirmed



Member for Arafura Manuel Brown MLA, Ebony Costa, Ebony Williams-Costa from the Office of The Hon. Marion Scrymgour MP and West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor Matthew Ryan at the Maningrida community info session.



**Northern Territory  
Electoral Commission**  
EVERY vote counts!

## 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
<b>Saturday 9 September</b>		<b>Election day</b>
		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](mailto: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.

West Arnhem Regional Council  
PO Box 721, JABIRU NT 0886

[www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au](http://www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au)

Call (08) 8979 9465 or email  
[wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto: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



# CELEBRATING OUR ELDERS DURING NAIDOC WEEK

NAIDOC Week in Maningrida included a special celebration with the Malala Aged Care Centre which was a fantastic way to showcase 'For Our Elders'.

There was a great variety of activities including yam dancers, crow dancers and singers.

There was also homemade kangaroo tail stew and a big barbecue cooked by West Arnhem Regional Council. Thanks must go to 13 YARN for generously supplying the gift bags for the community members who attended.

Thank you to the stakeholders who supported these activities: Malala Age Care – Karen Yanold, RSAS – Katrina Villaflores and Community Sports Officer – Madeline Piccolo.



## WARC KAKADU WARD BY-ELECTION

The West Arnhem Regional Council, Kakadu Ward by-election has been announced, with 1 councillor vacancy to be filled. Candidate nominations are now open and will close at 12 noon on Friday 18 August, no late nominations will be accepted. The NT Electoral Commissioner Iain Loganathan is encouraging anyone who is interested in nominating as a candidate to make sure they are aware of the nomination process and eligibility requirements. "There are a number of resources available to potential candidates on our website and I encourage anyone who is interested to contact the NT Electoral Commission for more information" said Iain Loganathan. "I also recommend anyone thinking of nominating to be a candidate to contact the West Arnhem Regional Council to discuss the role and responsibilities of a councillor." A mobile voting team will be visiting locations in the Kakadu Ward from

Thursday 7 September to Saturday 9 September. Voting will be available in Jabiru on the afternoon of Friday 8 September and the morning of Saturday 9 September. Early voting will also be available in the NT Electoral Commission Darwin office from Monday 4 September to Friday 8 September. 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

The NT Electoral Commission is working closely with the West Arnhem Regional Council to raise awareness and encourage voter participation in the by-election. Information regarding the West Arnhem Regional Council, Kakadu Ward by-election and the nomination process is available on the NT Electoral Commission website.



## WORK IN & EXPERIENCE ARNHEM LAND & KAKADU

### Maningrida

**Customer Service Officer – Level 3 - \$63k - \$68k, Permanent Full Time, No Accommodation provided – Applications opened till filled.**

#### For more information:

Please phone 08 8979 9404 or

email [vacancy@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:vacancy@westarnhem.nt.gov.au)

Indigenous people are encouraged to apply





## 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](mailto: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 9** Gunbalanya Community Information Session

**Wed 9** International Day of the World's Indigenous People

**Thur 10** WARC Local Authority Meeting, Gunbalanya

**Sat 12** International Youth Day

## SEPTEMBER

**1 & 2** Kurrung Sports Carnival, Jabiru

## NEW EXCAVATOR SUPPORTS ADDITIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY

West Arnhem Regional Council's works team in Minjilang are thrilled with the newest piece of machinery on the island. The new 1.8t excavator was purchased by Council through the Northern Territory Government's Immediate Priority Grants (IPG) program, and will be put to great use supporting the delivery of Council's municipal services within the community. As Minjilang is an island community, it is really important for Council to be self-sufficient and prepared to fulfil all operations relating to parks and gardens, roads and waste.

Council also has an important role to play in maintaining community safety in relation to disaster preparedness. Since there was an engine failure in Minjilang's backhoe there was no machinery which could undertake excavation works, so the new excavator is a much needed asset within the fleet which allows great capacity for our team. The new machinery also provides further training and development opportunities for our team on the ground. Council wishes to thank the Northern Territory Government for the support.



Clint operating the new excavator in Minjilang.

## RECORD FUNDING ON OFFER FOR ABORIGINAL RANGER GRANTS

The Northern Territory Government, in partnership with the INPEX-led Ichthys Joint Venture, is providing opportunities for Aboriginal rangers and improving the environment.

There is a \$6 million dollar funding pool in Round 7 of the Aboriginal Ranger Grants Program, which opens for applications on July 31st.

\$4.5 million of the funding comes from the Territory Labor Government's Protecting Country, Creating Jobs commitment, established in 2017 to address under-resourcing of Ranger groups.

While \$1.5 million will come from the Ichthys Offset program, to support outcomes related to species listed in their Coastal Offset Strategy - including dugong, dolphins, whales, marine

turtles, and seabirds, and their habitats. The previous six rounds of the Land Management and Conservation Fund (now Land and Sea Management Fund) have delivered or committed more than \$10million to 28 Ranger groups across the Territory.

An independent review in 2021, by Ninti One found the Aboriginal Ranger Grants program had made a considerable and profound contribution to land management across the Northern Territory, with substantial outcomes and financial benefits achieved.

Information on how to apply can be found here: <https://depws.nt.gov.au/programs-and-strategies/aboriginal-ranger-grants-program>

# HIP HOP DANCE WORKSHOPS IN GUNBALANYA



Hip hop project recently visited Gunbalanya to facilitate some hip hop dance workshops with the young ones.

In a big finale, the kids performed all of their new-found moves to the community which was then followed by a showcase of the new hip hop music video clip Gunbalanya has made. This video will be released on YouTube soon!

Thanks to SFCF for organising the hip hop and Tim for cooking up feed.

The young people also had a trip to the art centre as part of the school holidays, where they learnt some painting techniques and screen printing.

Thanks to Injalak Arts for including the next generation of artists into their program.

## GUNBALANYA GETS MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Gunbalanya is the third community to welcome the National Wellbeing Alliance and their Mental Health First Aid and Suicide Prevention course.

This 2-day program was a great opportunity in the mental health area and culturally adapted for indigenous communities. This course is a safe space to talk about the different mental health issues people go through and how we all can help families around when these situations. Jabiru will be next in August.



# Ask your mob, your way, RU OK?

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

Karen

Meriam, Wagadagarn



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

**RU OK?**  
A conversation could change a life.

## Represent your community



Northern Territory  
Electoral Commission  
EVERY vote counts

### West Arnhem Regional Council Kakadu Ward by-election



When can I nominate?

**Nominations open:** Tuesday 8 August

**Nominations close:** 12pm on Friday 18 August

Where do I get a nomination form?

• NT Electoral Commission website: [www.ntec.nt.gov.au](http://www.ntec.nt.gov.au)

• Jabiru Council office 13 Tasman Crescent, Jabiru

Where do I lodge the nomination form?

• NT Electoral Commission  
Level 3, TCG Building,  
80 Mitchell Street  
Darwin NT 0800

• Email: [nominations.ntec@nt.gov.au](mailto:nominations.ntec@nt.gov.au)

Ensure you are correctly  
enrolled before the close of roll  
at 5pm on Wednesday 9 August.



NOTE: Electors enrolled for addresses along the Arnhem Highway between the Kakadu National Park entrance and Adelaide River are NOT required to vote as this area is unincorporated. For further information consult the NTEC.

[nominations.ntec@nt.gov.au](mailto:nominations.ntec@nt.gov.au)  
[www.ntec.nt.gov.au](http://www.ntec.nt.gov.au) 08 8999 7623

Authorised by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission  
80 Mitchell St Darwin NT 0800

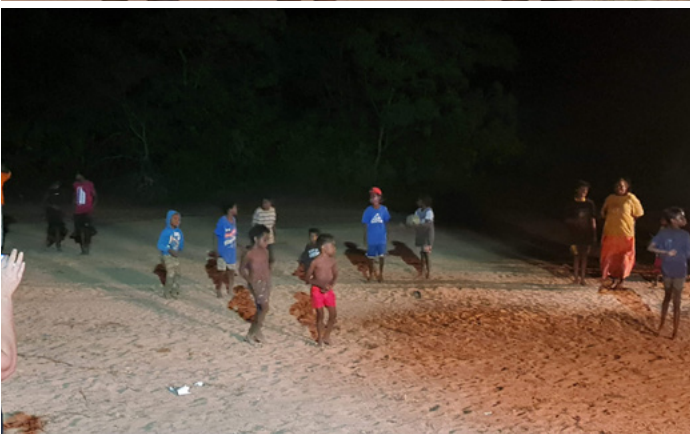


# CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK IN WARRUWI



To celebrate the 2023 NAIDOC Week theme 'For Our Elders', the West Arnhem Regional Council team in Waruwi handed all Elders in the community a certificate of recognition at the Elders recognition awards ceremony.

They acknowledged them for their hard work, dedication, contribution and commitment throughout their time. We are so grateful we are still strong in our language and culture all because our Elders have kept them alive for us today. The list of activities which were held included spear throwing contest, damper making, weaving workshop, spear making class, traditional dancing and singing, footy (Men's), basketball (Youths & Women's), Tug of War, limbo rock game (kids), youth disco and much more!





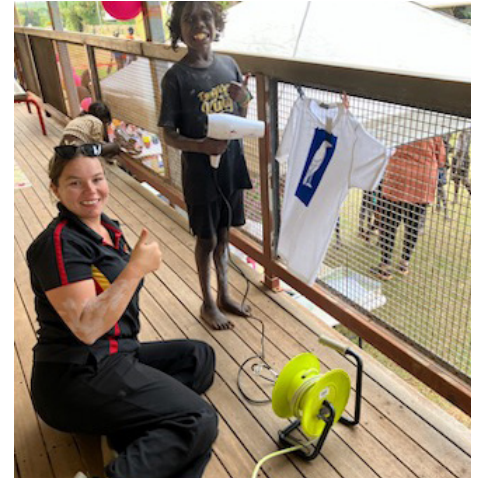
# MINJILANG COMES TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE

<< From front Page

NAIDOC Week in Minjilang was special this year and it was wonderful to see the whole community come together to celebrate 'For Our Elders'.

The day involved Welcome to Country and flagraising, followed by tug-of-war, dunk a dolly, kangaroo spear throwing, corroboree, waterslide and kids relays.

Thank you to everyone who participated and assisted to run the activities.



## ORANGE SKY MANINGRIDA

### FREE LARGE WASHING MACHINES AND DRYERS

### COME FOR A YARN!

Where will you find us?



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Side Camp 1

Top Camp

Side Camp 2

Bottom Camp

New Sub



OrangeSky  
— Australia —

## 5 DIMENSIONS OF RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation Australia's vision of reconciliation is based and measured on five dimensions: historical acceptance; race relations; equality and equity; institutional integrity and unity.

These five dimensions do not exist in isolation, but are interrelated. Reconciliation cannot be seen as a single issue or agenda; the contemporary definition of reconciliation must weave all of these threads together. For example, greater historical acceptance of the wrongs done to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples can lead to improved race relations, which in turn leads to greater equality and equity.



RECONCILIATION  
AUSTRALIA



# BÁBBARRA PRINTED TEXTILES GRACE CDU GALLERY

Charles Darwin University's (CDU) Art Gallery will be teeming with bold and colourful hand-printed textiles this month, with the launch of new exhibition *Manburrba: our story of printed cloth* from Bábbarra Women's Centre. The exhibition celebrates the creative journey undertaken by Maningrida women over the past 37 years, featuring more than 85 striking and colourful hand-printed textiles made by 24 artists, as well as limited edition prints-on-paper, sculptures and basketry. It is the first major survey exhibition of Bábbarra's textile printmaking to be held in the Northern Territory. Bábbarra Women's Centre artist Raylene Ngarridjjan Bonson said her artwork in the *Manburrba* exhibition highlights three generations of textile artists in her family. "I feel happy to see my mum's printed textile featured in the *Manburrba* exhibition," Ms Bonson said. "I printed the lino-block print Marebu (pandanus mat) on behalf of my mother. I hope it inspires Rosanna, my eldest



Raylene Ngarridjjan Bonson and Genevieve Smith screen print *Bawálba*, designed in 2018 by Lucy Bulandjan Yarawanga. Image reproduced courtesy of Bábbarra Women's Centre. Photograph by Ingrid Johanson, 2018.

daughter to print for me." CDU Art Gallery and exhibition curator Dr Joanna Barrkman said this partnership rekindles connections from more than 25 years ago, when the University was active in introducing limited-edition printmaking techniques to artists in Maningrida. "It has been an honour to partner with Bábbarra Women's

Centre to curate this exhibition over eighteen months with the stunning textiles produced by this innovative group of women," Dr Baarkman said. "Workshops in lino-block printing and etching were delivered at Bábbarra Women's Centre in 1998-99. The *Manburrba* exhibition charts the terrain covered by the artists since that time."

Manburrba is the word for cloth in the Kuninju language of Arnhem Land. As one of Australia's major First Nations textile enterprises, Bábbarra Women's Centre has fostered the technique of printing on cloth for many years, with their reputation for large-scale, repeat, screen-printed textiles spanning Australia and the globe. "Bábbarra's prints and textiles have been widely exhibited, nationally and internationally, in cities such as Los Angeles, Kolkata, Paris and Sydney," she said. "Textile art has emerged as the creative medium to achieve improved economic livelihoods for three generations of Maningrida's women, while also enabling them to maintain, transmit and express their cultural practices and expand their creativity on Country." *Manburrba: our story of printed cloth* from Bábbarra Women's Centre opens at CDU Art Gallery on Friday 4 August 2023 at 6pm. The exhibition continues until 15 October 2023. **Story credit: Charles Darwin University**

**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!

[www.13yarn.org.au](http://www.13yarn.org.au)

Available 24/7

Confidential & anonymous

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporters

# 13 YARN

"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 yarning 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

Yarna Dine (Pitjara) Australia  
We are here to help, call us for a yarn  
This service has been developed in collaboration with Yarna Dine



## 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.

## SUPPORTING NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

In preparation for National Child Protection Week, West Arnhem Regional Council's Youth, Sport and Recreation program had some great discussions about what gives our kids a sense of belonging and safety at home.

Common themes were family, friends, school and country.

After a brainstorming session

everyone created an art work that represented this feeling. Those who choose to submit their completed art works may have them featured on the NAPCAN website (<https://www.napcan.org.au/art-activity-ncpw-2023/>) in September in recognition of national child protection week.



## Maningrida Local Radio

Tune in to 106.1



## NOMINATE FOR YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### BECOME A LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITY!

The Local Authorities central function is to support local decision-making. Each Board receives an annual allocation of funding to be used towards projects of local importance.

### What does this mean for you and your community?

A strong Local Authority will make informed decisions on issues and get things done based on recommendations which come from within the local community.

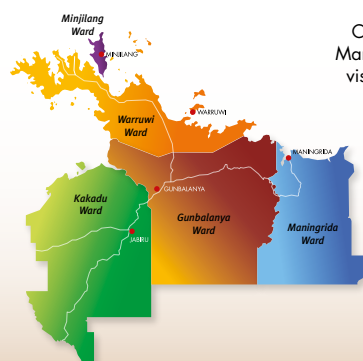
WARC has Local Authorities in Gunbalanya, Waruwi, Minjilang and Maningrida.

### What is the commitment?

Local Authority members meet four times a year.

### More information?

Chat to the Council Service Manager in your community, or visit the local Council Office.



Dated: October 2021





# 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 AFL 9s**

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

Team registrations will close 21 August.

*This is an inter-regional competition only*

