Fortnightly news in brief from Jabiru, Warruwi, Minjilang, Maningrida and Gunbalanya



wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au 08 8979 9465 Published by West Arnhem Regional Council



2024 Kakadu Triathlon participants celebrating at the finish line. Photo credit: Peter Keepence.

## OUNCIL SHOWS STRONG S

With End conducting multiple emergency missions to the West Arnhem region every month, the small town of understands Iabiru importance of aeromedical services for all remote Communities in the Top End.

Demonstrating their support for this lifesaving service, the West Arnhem Regional Council proudly hosted the 11th annual Kakadu Triathlon on Saturday, 11 May, raising an impressive \$21,117 for CareFlight Top End.

The 2024 event saw an incredible turnout, attracting nearly a record number of participants with 130 open competitors and 50 juniors who challenged themselves in the short course triathlon. The race took place in the Jabiru Swimming Pool and along the residential streets of Jabiru, providing a scenic and supportive environment for all involved.

West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor James Woods said he is proud that the Council can deliver such an important and equally impressive event within the

"The funds raised will significantly aid CareFlight in continuing their essential work in our region."

"It's heart-warming to see so many participants and supporters coming together to contribute to such an important cause. The funds raised will significantly aid CareFlight in continuing their essential work in our region."

CareFlight Fundraising and Engagement Community General Manager Trent Osborn said, "As the General Manager of Fundraising for CareFlight, I am honoured to witness the Kakadu Tri emerge as one of CareFlight's largest community fundraising events. The overwhelming generosity of the Kakadu region and Top End residents, coupled with the unwavering dedication of our event organisers, underscores the profound commitment to CareFlight's lifesaving mission. It is truly heartwarming to see participants and supporters unite in support of such a crucial cause. The funds raised will play a pivotal role in empowering CareFlight to continue delivering essential medical services across our region."

"From 2013 to 2023, the Kakadu Triathlon has raised \$125,927.84, and with this year's contribution of \$21,117, our total rises to an impressive \$147,044.84. These funds play a vital role in sustaining CareFlight's critical services in the Northern Territory."

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There was a huge turn out at the Colour Fun Run held at the Jabiru Lake on Friday, 10 May.

## **APRIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

West Arnhem Regional Council held an Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday, 23 April and Elected Members delved into a lot of Council business with robust recommendations to support strong Communities in our region.

Throughout the meeting, Council heard from managers and staff who provided informative updates from their respective work areas.

As a result of some of these reports, Council endorsed West Arnhem Regional Council's Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Strategy 2024-34 for publication and implementation across the region, aligning with Pillar 5 of Council's strategic plan 'Sustainability and Climate Action'. Council also approved the 2023-24 second revised budget for Council for the final

quarter of the financial year.

In some exciting news, Council has secured two Immediate Priority Grants for the Minjilang Community. These will go towards the purchase of a new garbage compactor for better service delivery and urgent staff housing repairs to support local employment.

In other business, Council resolved to extend the Maningrida casual vacancy nomination period for a further 20 business days to provide additional time for Community members to consider nominating to become an Elected Member on the West Arnhem Regional Council.

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 21 May 2024 in the Jabiru Council Chambers. The meetings are open to the public.



## **GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WEST ARNHEM**

West Arnhem Regional Council's Business Development Team accesses a lot of information about grants.

Each month, we highlight two grants that West Arnhem residents may be interested in. Check the grant guidelines to make sure you qualify to apply and the grant does what you want it to, then give it a crack.

There are literally hundreds of grants happening at any one time. If you have a project or a passion, you are welcome to contact us to see if we can find a grant that might help you grow your idea.

If you are interested in health, agriculture, education, sustainability, technology, music, conservation, art, sport and so much more, the opportunities are there.

To find out if there is a grant we know about that can help you, please contact grants@westarnhem.nt.gov.au Here are this month's highlighted grants:

Aboriginal Tourism Development in NT Parks and Reserves Grant Program

(closing date 29/11/2024)

Tourism NT is offering Aboriginal owned (at least 50%) and NT operating organisations grant funding to support the development of Aboriginal cultural experiences and tourism product in Northern Territory joint managed parks and reserves. Aboriginal Tourism Development in NT Parks and Reserves Grant Program | Tourism Northern Territory (tourismnt.com.au)

**Aboriginal Ranger Grants Program** (Closing date 31 May 2024)

The NT Government are offering two grants for Ranger programs: Land and Sea Management Fund and Ichthys LNG Conservation Management Offset. The grant programs provide support to Aboriginal Ranger groups and land and sea managers to undertake conservation and land and sea management on their country. Aboriginal Ranger Grants Program | Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security.



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, 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 \$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

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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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## TUNE INTO

Maningrida Radio

106.1 FM

Minjilang Radio

106.1 FM

Gunbalanya Radio

106.1 FM

Warruwi Radio

106.1 FM

Jabiru Radio

98.9 FM





TOP END ABORIGINAL BUSH BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

## SUPPORTING EMERGING LEADERS IN WEST ARNHEM

Gunbalanya's newest youth sport and recreation star recruit at West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) Stella Dirdi was handpicked by Youth Leadership Summit organiser Amanda Marshall-Bell to assist with the West Arnhem Youth leadership forum held recently in Jabiru. Stella attended the first one as a year 12 student in 2023 and attended this one as a WARC Sport and Recreation staff to assist in all aspects of the leadership Summit for professional development and to support the next cohort of young leaders.

## "Use their skills and voice to drive positive outcomes for community.."

Activities were designed to support students showing leadership and courage. Stella and the youth had to get out of their comfort zone as she led group activities and students and Stella spoke in front of a crowd.

Students from each community spoke about what they would like to change about their community both negatives and



Stella said, "I learnt about running the leadership camp, helped setting up and organising all the resources for activities, run the games, talked to students and teachers. I loved being the DJ by changing music from the different activities."

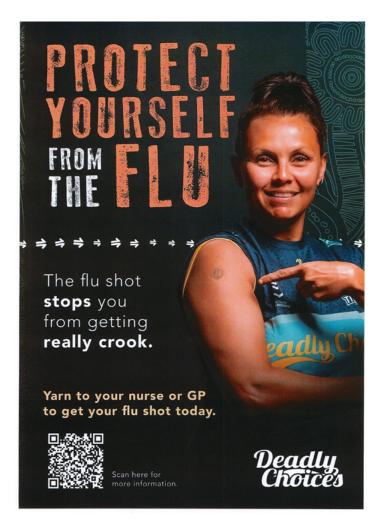
Discos were one activity youth wanted



more of in community so Stella can utilise her DJ skills to enact one of the youth's recommendations!

Now that the summit has wrapped up Stella and other youth can use their skills and voice to drive positive outcomes for community.

Well done to all involved.





#### COUNCIL NOTICE

Nominations are invited for the following positions:

### MANINGRIDA WARD 2 VACANCIES

#### WHEN CAN I NOMINATE?

Nominations open: Friday, 3 May 2024 Nominations close: COB Friday, 7 June 2024

#### **HOW DO I NOMINATE?**

Nominations Forms: Available at the Maningrida Council Office and at www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au/corporate-documents

Lodge your Nomination: At the Maningrida Council Office or email governance@westarnhem.nt.gov.au, including a written statement or a 3 minute video submission outlining why you are nominating

#### Please note:

- You must be eligible to nominate under section 46 of the Local Government Act
- · You must be enrolled in the Maningrida Ward
- · Your nomination submission may be made public

For further information:







## WHAT'S ON



National Reconciliation Week will run from 27 May to 3 June 2024. Please keep an eye on your community noticeboards for more details.

#### **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 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

#### **Thursdays**

Story Time: Jabiru Library, 11.00am 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

**Tue 21** WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Jabiru **Wed 22** National Simultaneous Storytime, Jabiru Library (11am)

Thu 23 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Warruwi

Sun 26 National Sorry Day

Mon 27 - 3 National Reconciliation Week

#### JUNE

Mon 3 Mabo Day

# ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS ACROSS WEST ARNHEM REGION

#### **MINJILANG**

The ANZAC Day Ceremony in Minjilang was well-received by the Community with a great turnout and lots of comradery following the service.

of comradery following the service.

Councillor Henry Guwiyul opened the ceremony and welcomed the Community. Students from Mamaruni School read a poem and placed poppies and an amazing handmade wreath.

Acting Council Services Manager Rick Withers conducted the formal address of the ceremony as an active Naval Officer whilst our local WARC ex-service woman Lee Kirschner presented 'The Ode.'

We were also fortunate enough to have one of our local NORFORCE service members attend the ceremony in uniform.

Once the ceremony was complete, we had a community barbecue breakfast with bacon and egg rolls and lots of fruit.

Then with some great tunes in the background, we had a big game of cricket. We had fantastic feedback from

everyone and considering the staff circumstances, the team really pulled together to produce a great event.

I want to thank Lee, Shane, Kenny, Charles and Clint from WARC, Kenny and Louise from ALPA, Brian and Nancy from Garngi Rangers, and the staff and students from Mamaruni School for all of their assistance and support.

#### **MANINGRIDA**

Maningrida's ANZAC Day service was well-attended by 50-60 Community members on Thursday, 25 April.

Killa, Rani and Deb had a 4:30am start setting up the barbecue and for the ceremony itself.

Mayor James Woods took the lead with Jo Killmister for the morning's ceremony.

At the close of the ceremony, everyone had bacon and egg sandwiches and Dama Stride supplied ANZAC biscuits to have with their cuppa.









## ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS CONTINUED...

#### Maningrida













## BUILD UP SKATEBOARDING WORKSHOPS IN GUNBALANYA

The Build Up Skateboarding crew Allan and Eugene recently visited Gunbalanya for three great days of skateboarding!

They split their time between the school and then after school hours, they collaborated with West Arnhem Regional Council's sport and recreation team. While skateboarding is far from being number one sport in community, it was great to expose youth to different sports and activities that they may not get access to being remote.

The younger cohort in particular got right into it. Our two best skateboarders for the week were females. It was great to see some youth that may not excel at the mainstream sports really enjoy and grow in confidence on the skateboard







## ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS CONTINUED...



#### **GUNBALANYA**

Council linked in with SCFC Adjumarllarl in hosting the Gunbalanya dawn service, barbecue and watching the traditional ANZAC football match between Collingwood and Essendon on the inflatable screen.

The service was held at the front of Adjumarllarl Store and Adjumarllarl Recreation Hall, and around 40-60 Community members came together as one to honour those who lost their lives at Gallipoli.

As not many turned up for dawn service, the barbecue was held later on at Adjumarllarl Rec Centre.

Ralph McCoy (SCFC) was given the honour of raising the flag and Amanda Roberts-McCoy had the honour of laying the ANZAC wreath.

It was a warm heart felt moment, when a member of the Community laid a native plant beneath the flag post.











## ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS CONTINUED...

#### WARRUWI

On Thursday, 25 April, Warruwi honoured our service men and women with a dawn service in front of the WARC office (beach front).

Veterans marched into the venue and throughout the service there was a 2 minute silence, Acknowledgement of Country and an acknowledgement of service to all service men and women.

There was also the playing of a hymn, reading of an ANZAC Day poem, commemorative address, wreath laying and the veterans were dismissed to conclude the service.

Thank you to our staff members and veterans Lance Corporal, Misman Kris and Sergeant, Ida Waianga.

The service was followed by a bacon and egg breakfast. While attendance was lower, it was still a beautiful morning in Warruwi.

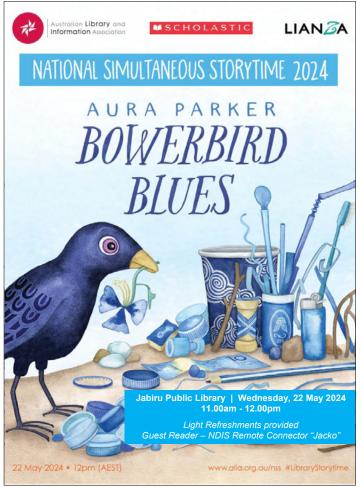


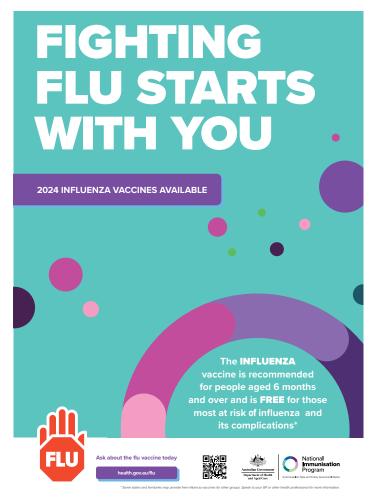












## ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS CONTINUED.

#### **JABIRU**

On Thursday 25 April, Jabiru held a Dawn Service followed by a march to the lake for a barbecue breakfast prior to a RAAF flyover.

A volunteer group was established and thanks to the following people for the input prior to the day, as well as on the day: Deputy Mayor Liz Williams was MC for the Dawn Service. Jabiru thanks Reverend Rodrigo from St Peters Catholic Church Jabiru for giving a prayer reading and Lance Corporal Ortega from NORFORCE delivered a guest speaker Numerous address. businesses and local organisations participated in laying wreaths. The Ode was read by Ameilia Nagawalli, an Army Cadet of Unit 72 Arnhem Land Army Cadets.

The Dawn Service had over 200 people in attendance. There was

representation from residents, contractors, management from ERA, current and ex-service personnel (from both Australia and New Zealand Armed Forces), even an exserviceman from Sydney.

There was less attendance at the barbecue after the dawn service, but still over 100 people.

The RAAF flyover was at 0835 over the lake, with the jet doing a loop around. This excited the entire Jabiru Community who heard or saw it.

Special thanks Ashleigh, Heidi, volunteers, Porridge, John, Deputy Mayor Liz Williams, Flag Bearers Gwynn, Lajane, Karen, Charlotte (local Fire Station), Unit 72 Arnhem Land Army Cadets, Jabiru Fire Station and Volunteers, Jabiru Supermarket, NORFORCE and Greg from Sodexo.

Photo credits: Peter Keepence Photography















## RECORD NUMBERS AT 2024 KAKADU TRIATHLON



Photo credits: Peter Keepence Photography.



#### << From Front Page

CareFlight's presence and rapid response capabilities are crucial in providing timely medical assistance to remote areas, ensuring that residents have access to critical care when they need it most. The funds raised from the triathlon will stay in the Territory and help sustain these vital services and support ongoing operational needs.

West Arnhem Regional Council extends its gratitude to all participants, volunteers, and sponsors who made the event possible. Their combined efforts and community spirit demonstrates the strong support for CareFlight and highlights the commitment to enhancing the wellbeing of all residents in the region and across the Top End.



Nico Human, Pedro Luiz and Tim Ellison were the winners of the men's open Triathlon. They are pictured with WARC CEO Andrew Walsh.



Well done to all Caulfield Grammar students who volunteered and participated in the 2024 Kakadu Triathlon



Trent Osborn from CareFlight awarding Celia Grigg with a prize for being the highest fundraiser.



The Junior Triathlon has around 30 young participants on the course.



Well done to all of the young people who participated in the iunior triathlon.



Open women's triathlon winners Leisa Puckering (second) and Rose Schuddinh (first) with WARC CEO Andrew Walsh and Terri the bear.



Winners of the Open Triathlon Team event.



The young people who participated in the junior triathlon receiving their medallions.



Thanks to the Crocodile Hotel for bringing the croc cart.



## **SPORT**

## FUN AND LAUGHTER AT WATER BALLOON FIGHT

What a wonderful way to spend Friday afternoon at Maningrida College, having an awesome time at the water balloon fight on Friday, 26 April.

It was great to watch students, staff, families, Maningrida Police (Jack), Malala Health Clinic (Zac, Kim and Emma) RSAS (Tim and Melvin)

and West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor James Woods come together, scream, shout, have fun and laugh. Great relationship building. Well done to everyone.















## COMMUNITY SPIRIT AT JABIRU COLOUR FUN RUN









There was a huge turn out at the Colour Fun Run which was held at the Jabiru Lake on Friday, 10 May.

As an additional event included on the Kakadu Triathlon calendar, there was a great crowd of Jabiru Community members and triathlon participants of all ages enjoying the afternoon.

Strongly supported by ALPA, NBN and West Arnhem Regional Council, other Community organisations also got involved in the fun by holding different colour stations around the Jabiru Lake.

To end the event, participants got to enjoy the foam machine, a spray down from the Jabiru Fire Station truck and a barbecue. All funds raised from the event were donated to CareFlight Top End.

Organisers wish to thank West Arnhem Regional Council, ALPA, NBN, the Jabiru Fire Station, Caulfield Grammar and all other organisations involved in the great afternoon.

Photo credit: Tim Nicol - NBNCO

### 13YARN CRISIS SUPPORTERS AVAILABLE

Going through a tough time?

If you, or someone you know, are feeling worried or no good, we encourage you to connect with 13YARN on 13 92 76 (24 hours/7 days) and talk with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporter.

This is your story; your journey and we will take the time to listen.

No shame, no judgement, safe

place to yarn.

We're here for you.

https://www.13yarn.org.au/

- 13YARN is run by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Free and confidential service available 24/7 from any mobile or pay
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporters to yarn to.



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