



West Arnhem Regional Council's Youth Sport and Recreation staff has been training every Wednesday with Stars and Clontarf Academy in the lead up to a basketball competition in late March.

HOUSING PUSH FOR GUNBALANYA

The West Arnhem community of Gunbalanya is a hive of building activity with the Territory Labor Government delivering ten new homes, and great progress being made on a new 24-lot subdivision. Residents of Gunbalanya have seen positive changes to their community, with upskilling, employment and new homes as part of the \$30 million invested for the construction and improvements of housing employment and upskilling for local labourers.

Works are being carried out through a joint Aboriginal Business Enterprise venture by the Gunbalanya-based Demed Aboriginal Corporation and Darwin-based, Indigenous-owned construction company Dice Australia (DDJV). Since coming to Government in 2016, the Territory Labor Government has built 38 new homes in Gunbalanya with a further 17 homes currently under construction. An

additional 12 new homes are also planned for Gunbalanya. More than 60 homes in the community have been upgraded, and builders are working on the extension and upgrade of 40 homes as part of the innovative Room to Breathe program. This means over 60 families in Gunbalanya are living healthier lives, combating overcrowding, stress, and associated disease. Gunbalanya residents will have the homes as they want, with colours, house designs, and orientations are all part of local decision making with the community. Works are delivered under the \$2.2 billion remote housing investment package jointly funded by the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments to provide more housing and employment across Northern Territory remote communities. The Territory Labor

Government is also investing in a new health facility in Gunbalanya, with the tender to be released in the coming weeks. Minister for Remote Housing and Homelands, Selena Uibo said, "Jobs and housing are key priorities for the Territory Labor Government, with the halfway mark of housing in Gunbalanya as an important achievement in the delivery of homes across the Northern Territory. "The Territory Labor Government's remote housing program is changing the housing and social landscape in remote communities across the NT, with Gunbalanya a great example of this positive change. That's why we have made such a big investment in addition to replacement homes, extensions, renovations and refurbishments.

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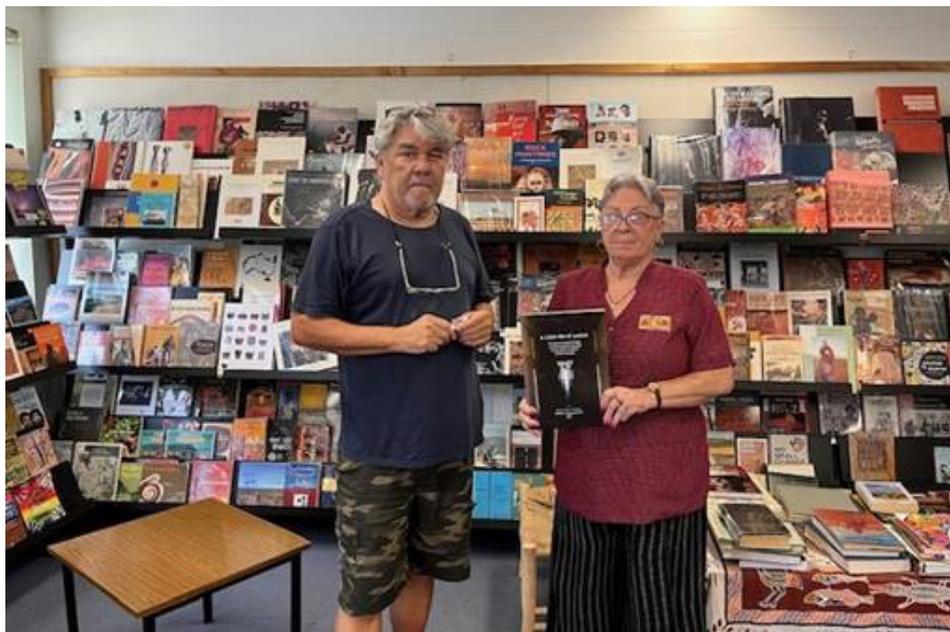
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



West Arnhem communities will celebrate International Women's Day on Friday, 8 March!

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SHOWCASING 'A LITTLE BIT OF JUSTICE' - THE STORY OF CHARLIE FLANNIGAN



Pictured is Library & Archives NT (LANT) First Nation Education & Engagement Coordinator Donald Christophersen and Jillian May from Jabiru Library, with a copy of Donald's book "A Little Bit of Justice".

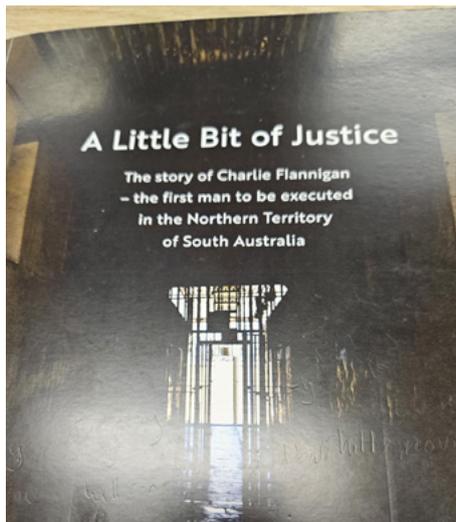
This story of Charlie Flannigan – the first man to be executed in the Northern Territory of South Australia.

A Little Bit of Justice - The Drawings of Charlie Flannigan features the story of an Aboriginal stockman who was incarcerated at Darwin's Fannie Bay Gaol between 1892 and 1893.

The exhibition features 22 of his drawings depicting scenes from his days droving on pastoral properties, the local architecture and narrate the story of his transportation to the gaol, all carried out whilst in solitary confinement.

These drawings document the workings of Flannigan's incredible mind, as whimsical in its play as it was photographic in its recollection.

Australians are indebted to Christophersen for his unwavering effort in expanding this curated research into a comprehensive written resource. Complete with



newspaper articles, photographs, journal entries, reproductions of Flannigan's drawings and more, this book endows a legacy to its subject previously uncaptured by the official records.

Carmen Ansaldo (freelance curator and writer)

ABORIGINAL INTERPRETIVE SERVICE

The Aboriginal Interpretive Service (AIS) helps to lessen language barriers faced by Aboriginal people in the NT who don't speak English as a first language. Any organisations, including councils, that need to communicate with non-English speaking clients can book an interpreter.

For most of the widely spoken Aboriginal languages in the NT, the service provides:

- face-to-face, telephone and audio-visual interpreting services
- recorded and produced messaging.

More information on the AIS, including how to book, can be found here: <https://nt.gov.au/community/interpreting-and-translating-services/aboriginal-interpreter-service>

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, 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

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

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

Warruwi Radio 106.1 FM

Jabiru Radio 98.9 FM



TEABBA

TOP END ABORIGINAL BUSH
BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

Truth, Healing and Reconciliation Grant Program.



The NT Government is offering grants to support truth-telling activities and initiatives.

Applicants can apply for a maximum of \$20,000 in each grant round.

There will be two grant rounds, each totalling \$300,000.

ROUND 1 is open from 26 February to 7 April 2024.



Find out more at:
grantsnt.nt.gov.au/GrantsNT



WHAT'S ON



International Women's Day (IWD) is on Friday, 8 March and is a global occasion to honour the achievements and contributions of women while advocating for gender equality.

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

MARCH

Thu 7 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Gunbalanya

Fri 8 International Women's Day - Gunbalanya

Fri 8 International Women's Day - Jabiru Library

Thu 14 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Maningrida

Wed 20 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting

Thu 21 WARC Local Authority Meeting, Minjilang

Tue 26 WARC Risk Management & Audit Committee Meeting

TRIATHLON REGISTRATIONS OPEN

The 2024 Kakadu Triathlon will once again take over the Jabiru Swimming Pool facility and residential roads on Saturday, 11 May 2024!

Online registrations are now open!

Popular for its shorter achievable distances, the Kakadu Triathlon is also well-known for its colourful nature and spirited vibe with people of ages and abilities joining in the fun.

In 2023, 150 open and junior triathletes participated and more than \$18,000 was raised for CareFlight.

The Kakadu Triathlon has recently extended the event program to include the following:

- **Junior Triathlon** (for ages 13 years and under and distances are based on ability)
- **Open Triathlon** (aged 14 and above who can compete as an individual or team of 2 or 3. - Swim 250m / Bike 7.5km / Run 2.5km)
- **5km Kakadu Run Challenge** (run-only 12 years and above)
- **Colour Fun Run** (held the afternoon of Friday, 10 May around the Jabiru Lake for all ages)

Register now: <https://give.careflight.org/event/kakadu-triathlon/home>



HOUSING PUSH FOR GUNBALANYA

<< From Front Page

"Better homes mean better outcomes for health, psychological wellbeing, education and employment as well as improved living conditions and social status." Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians, Linda Burney said, "The Australian and Northern Territory governments are proud to deliver dozens of new homes for families in Gunbalanya. Our remote housing strategy is as much about job creation, training and skills development as it is about providing safe, healthy homes."

"Delivering 17 new homes, and preparing the 24-lot subdivision to begin works in the drier months to come will ease overcrowding in Gunbalanya. "It has also provided the community local employment opportunities as construction continues." Member for Arafura, Manuel Brown said, "The Gunbalanya community has welcomed the Territory Labor

Government's housing investment as they have been highly involved in the planning, design and construction works. "This has been a job-creating and upskilling project which has offered a number of certified training opportunities for locals of the community. "Nearly half the homes have been completed, which means dozens of families now have safe, healthy homes. I have heard that this has made such a difference for families to have their own home."



COMMUNITY CARE UPSKILLING IN THE KITCHEN

West Arnhem Regional Council staff at the Gunbalanya Community Care have been extremely busy!

"This program is to train up mob and have them working throughout the community in our kitchens.."

Not only are they providing a service, but the team are also undertaking LLN Training with CDU, Certificate III in Individual Support with Response Employment and Training and doing Cooking classes with Ula Williams from Sunrise to Sunset. The Cooking classes, which

are funded by Stronger Communities For Children Adjumarllarl for WARC staff and community members, will run over a 20-week program. Ula is very passionate in cooking and happy in working closely with local bininj people in showing them better ways on how to prepare and cook healthy meals for their families. The main focus on this program is to train up mob and have them working throughout the community in our kitchens (located at WARC, Adjumarllarl shop and school canteen). Cooking classes are operating out of the Community Care centre 3 times a week 4:00pm – 7:00pm. Thanks to Ralph McCoy – a Wellbeing Service Coordinator who is overseeing this program.



International Women's Day
 Happy International Women's Day
 #InspireInclusion
 #IWD2024

Don't get MELIOIDOSIS

Melioidosis is a serious disease caused by germs in our soil that surface after heavy rains. These germs enter your body through cuts and sores or you can breathe them in.

Your risk is greater if you have diabetes, kidney disease, drink too much alcohol, or have a weakened immune system.

Protect yourself from melioidosis

- Wear shoes during the wet season
- Wear gloves when working outside
- Wear a mask when using a high pressure hose
- Stay indoors during storms
- Take it easy with alcohol

For more information visit health.nt.gov.au or web search 'melioidosis fact sheet'

FIRST ROUND OF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETINGS



Local Authority meetings are an essential forum for decision making at the local level in remote communities and West Arnhem Regional Council was eager to kick off the first round of meetings for 2024 in February.

The first meeting was in Warruwi, South Goulburn Island, where there was plenty of productive conversation and shared ideas all for the benefit of the community.

Pictured is Arafura Manual Brown MLA, Mayor Matthew Ryan, and Andie and Matt from our West Arnhem Regional Council team in Warruwi.



Northern Territory Treaty Symposium

Garramilla,
Darwin
8 April 2024

You're invited to a premiere event that will bring together Aboriginal organisations, leaders and community representatives to learn about the treaty process in the NT and to share and discuss views on treaty and truth-telling in the Northern Territory.

The Symposium will provide delegates a forum for open dialogue about treaty and related matters in the NT, to be informed through the exploration of the treaty-making framework and recommendations proposed in the Northern Territory Treaty Commission's Final Report.

This is an ideal opportunity to be inspired, learn, celebrate and provide valuable feedback for progressing Treaty in the NT.

Who should attend?

- Aboriginal Leaders and Elders
- Community Representatives
- Aspiring and Future Leaders
- Aboriginal Organisations
- Academics and Researchers
- Land Councils
- All levels of Government including regional councils
- Anyone with an interest in Aboriginal leadership, governance, Treaty and truth-telling in the NT.

Registration

General Admission is free, however registration is essential.

Tickets will provide admission to the NT Treaty Symposium in Darwin on Monday April 8, 2024.

To find out more contact:
The Office of Aboriginal Affairs
08 8999 8905 or aaa@nt.gov.au

SCAN ME

Registration closes
Thursday 21 March 2024
Unless sold out prior



aboriginalaffairs.nt.gov.au



CRISIS SUPPORTERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE

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 phone

- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporters to yarn to.



Maningrida Local Radio

Tune in to 106.1



WEST ARNHEM



REGIONAL COUNCIL



TOP END ABORIGINAL BUSH BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

RECONCILIATION WEEK

NOW MORE THAN EVER

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2024 27 MAY - 3 JUNE #NRW2024 RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU

National Reconciliation Week's theme for 2024 has been announced! The theme, Now More Than Ever, is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will –and must –continue. There have been many moments in Australia's reconciliation journey that make us want to turn away. But when things are divisive, the worst thing we can do is disengage or disconnect. Now more than ever, we need to tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation. We know that the 6.2 million Australians who voted YES are committed to better outcomes for First Nations people, and are with us. It is imperative that supporters of reconciliation stand up to defend and uphold the rights of First Nations peoples. To call out racism wherever we

encounter it, and to actively reinforce the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across this continent. Now more than ever, the work continues. In treaty making, in truth-telling, in understanding our history, in education, and in tackling institutionalised inequity. We need connection. We need respect. We need action. And we need change. Now more than ever, we need reconciliation. The National Reconciliation Week 2024 artwork and design represent the momentum of the theme Now More Than Ever. The chevron, a universal symbol for pointing the way, signifies advancing as one as we look towards a reconciled future; and the vibrant artwork of Gubbi Gubbi artist Maggie Douglas encourages connecting with one another, understanding and continuing to move forward.

www.13yarn.org.au

Available 24/7

Confidential & anonymous

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporters

"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

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

Gaaya Dhaw (Proud Spirit) Australia provides an essential service supporting in crisis and everyday wellbeing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This service has been developed in collaboration with Gaaya Dhaw!



Aboriginal Leadership and Governance Forum NT Treaty Symposium

Mparntwe, Alice Springs
4 - 5 April 2024

You're invited to a premiere event that will bring together Aboriginal organisations, leaders and community representatives for two days to share stories, challenges and opportunities about Aboriginal leadership, governance and discuss treaty and truth-telling in the NT. Day One will comprise the Aboriginal Leadership and Governance Forum, hearing first-hand about, different leadership styles and governance practices, along with the challenges and opportunities facing Aboriginal people. The theme for this year's forum is 'Truth and Healing' and will compliment treaty discussions the following day. Day Two will provide delegates a forum for open dialogue about treaty and related matters in the NT, to be informed through the exploration of the treaty-making framework and recommendations proposed in the Northern Territory Treaty Commission's Final Report. This is an ideal opportunity to be inspired, learn, celebrate and provide valuable feedback for progressing Treaty in the NT.

- Who should attend?**
- Aboriginal Leaders and Elders
 - Community Representatives
 - Aspiring and Future Leaders
 - Aboriginal Organisations
 - Academics and Researchers
 - Land Councils
 - All levels of Government including regional councils
 - Anyone with an interest in Aboriginal leadership, governance, Treaty and truth-telling in the NT.

Registration

General Admission to both days is free, however registration is essential. Tickets will provide admission to the Aboriginal Leadership Governance forum and the NT Treaty Symposium in Mparntwe, Alice Springs. To find out more contact: **The Office of Aboriginal Affairs** 08 8999 8905 or oaa@nt.gov.au

Registration closes Thursday 21 March 2024 Unless sold out prior



We are recruiting

Come and be part of a world-class rehabilitation project. We are actively seeking suitable candidates to help set the benchmark for mine closure.



- Opportunities exist in:
- Capital & Closure Projects
 - Asset Management
 - Health Safety & Environment
 - Finance
 - Supply Chain & Procurement
- Scan the QR code or contact Jade Hughes: 0413 748 177



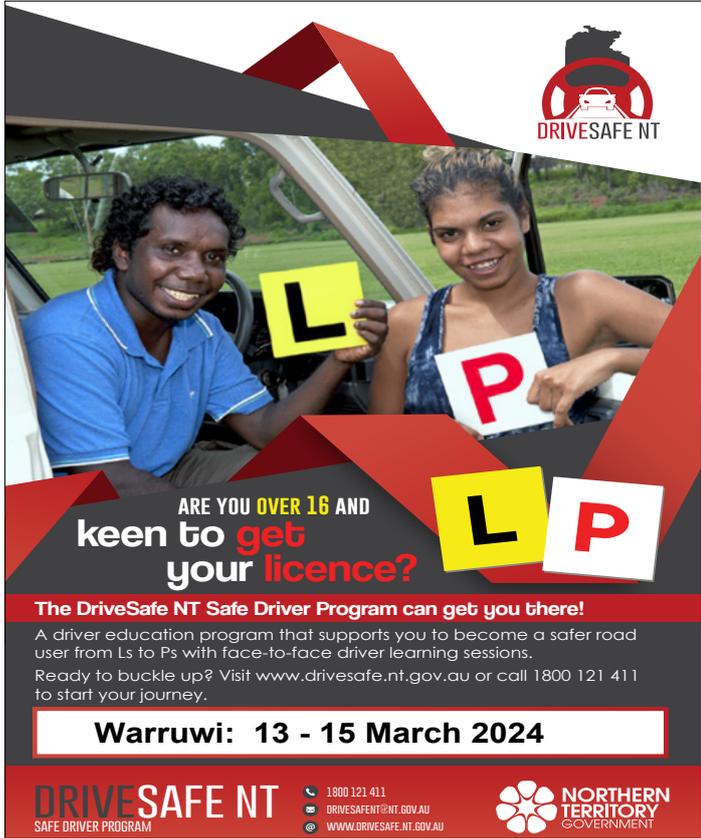
CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

West Arnhem communities will celebrate International Women's Day 2024 on Friday, 8 March! In 2024, the campaign theme Inspire Inclusion emphasises the importance of diversity and

empowerment in all aspects of society. International Women's Day (IWD) is a global celebration of the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. Each year, this day serves as a powerful reminder

of the progress made towards gender equality and highlights the work that still needs to be done. And when women themselves are inspired to be included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment. In Jabiru, residents will come together for a high tea at the Jabiru Library. There will be some lovely refreshments, giveaways and a guest speaker. If you would like a bus pick-up, please contact Red Lily. In Gunbalanya, the community will celebrate and show

appreciation for the women in the community with a day of relaxation, good food, giveaways and converse over a cup of tea whilst connecting to stories of women's strength and growth. West Arnhem Regional Council wishes to thank the Northern Territory Government for supporting these events. Collectively, let's forge a more inclusive world for women. When we inspire others to understand and value women's inclusion, we forge a better world.



DRIVESAFE NT

ARE YOU OVER 16 AND keen to get your licence?

The DriveSafe NT Safe Driver Program can get you there!

A driver education program that supports you to become a safer road user from Ls to Ps with face-to-face driver learning sessions. Ready to buckle up? Visit www.drivesafe.nt.gov.au or call 1800 121 411 to start your journey.

Warruwi: 13 - 15 March 2024

DRIVESAFE NT 1800 121 411
SAFE DRIVER PROGRAM DRIVESAFENT@NT.GOV.AU
WWW.DRIVESAFE.NT.GOV.AU

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT



International Women's Day celebrations in Warruwi in 2023.

SATURDAY, 11 MAY 2024

JUNIOR TRIATHLON

Ages 13 & under
Suitable distances per age & ability

NEW RUN EVENT

5km Kakadu Challenge
Open Individual

PLUS..

The Colour Fun Run
Friday 10 May, 5pm




KAKADU TRIATHLON

JABIRU, NT

OPEN TRIATHLON

Ages 14 and above
Individual or Team of 2 or 3
250m swim/ 7.5km ride/ 2.5km run



give.careflight.org/kakadutri



All funds raised goes to **CareFlight**

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST MELIOIDOSIS

A reminder to be on high alert for melioidosis as the wet season conditions continue.

Health professionals in the NT are on high alert at this time of year to identify possible melioidosis cases, as it is important treatment is started as soon as possible.

If left untreated, melioidosis can lead to severe pneumonia and blood poisoning, with around 10 per cent of infections leading to death.

Melioidosis most often causes lung infections presenting with fever, cough and shortness of breath but can also affect many variable parts of the body causing abscesses. Skin sores that don't heal can be caused by melioidosis bacteria.

Melioidosis is a disease caused by the bacterium, Burkholderia pseudomallei, found in tropical soil and water. While melioidosis bacteria live deep in the soil at the start of the wet season, heavy rain brings the bacteria in the soil and water to the surface. Wind can cause the bacteria to be blown into the air, which can then be inhaled through dust and droplets.

Melioidosis bacteria in soil and surface water most commonly enter the body through cuts and sores so it is important to protect your skin. Most people have their first symptoms of melioidosis one to 21 days after they are exposed and infected with the bacteria.

Take precautions against melioidosis:

- wear covered waterproof footwear when outdoors
- wear gloves while working in the garden or a soil-based environment
- wash then cover sores and abrasions with waterproof dressings
- wear a face mask while using high pressure hoses around soil and paths
- stay indoors during heavy wind and rain
- seek medical attention early.

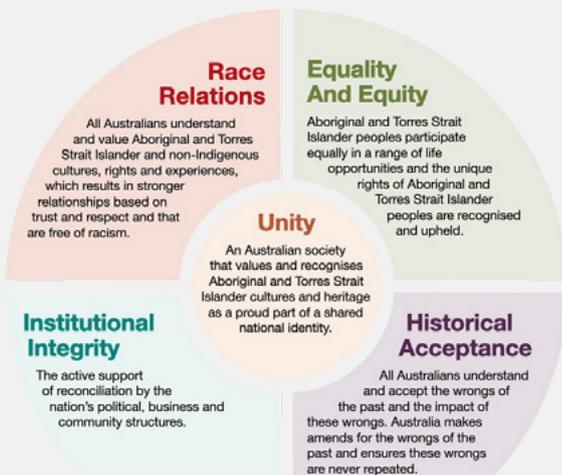
Everyone and especially those with high risk factors need to be aware of these precautions and take actions to protect themselves from melioidosis.

Anyone concerned about having melioidosis symptoms should visit their local GP, clinic or hospital.

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.






FRI 8 MARCH

11am - 1pm

JABIRU LIBRARY



International Women's Day

#IWD2024 #InspireInclusion

Guest Speaker Alicia Smith,
Red Lily Health Public Health Team Leader

Enjoy a High Tea & give-aways - all welcome!

FOR BUS PICK UP: Contact Red Lily

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, Wagadagam





RU OK?
A conversation could change a life.

ruok.org.au/strongertogether

PARTICIPATING IN NEW SPORTS AND SKILLS



The West Arnhem Regional Council's Youth Sport and Recreation team in Maningrida has been working with the young people to facilitate skateboarding, dodgeball, football and basketball in the last weeks. Check out the photos below.



JABIRU PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL

MOBILITY LIFT

Now accessible to all pool users!

Open to the public, including visitors

Regular & casual passes available

Open 7 days a week!

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Located 56 Kinchela Road, Jabiru
Mobility chair funded by Tourism NT