

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



The 2024 New Year's Eve fireworks display in Maningrida, proudly presented by the Maningrida Local Authority, turned out to be one of the best fireworks shows to date in the Community. Read more, Page 5.

## **ENHANCING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

West Arnhem Regional Council has been actively delivering several key community projects in Gunbalanya over recent months, thanks to funding provided by the Gunbalanya Local Authority.

Footy and sports and recreation in Gunbalanya are set to reach new heights with the revitalisation of the community's sports oval. The upgrades include resurfacing, line marking, and essential irrigation works, such as replacing outdated sprinklers. These improvements aim to provide a top-quality playing field for various sports and activities.

These works will further enhance the facility following the completion of the new Oval Lights in September 2024. These upgrades were also funded by the Northern Territory Government.

Two new shelters have also been constructed at

the popular Gunbalanya Billabong. Designed with the community's comfort in mind, the shelters include seating, tables, a stainless steel sink and bench and a water supply for cleaning.

"Council continues its commitment to enhancing infrastructure and services to build stronger Communities.."

These shelters will offer comfort from the heat and rain, ensuring Community members can enjoy this special location year-round. New paved paths have been installed at several Aged Care clients' homes to enhance accessibility, particularly during the challenging wet season.

These paths offer a safer and more reliable surface, significantly benefiting residents who use wheelchairs. Further paving works are planned for 2025, with upgrades set to continue at remaining homes.

A new cold-water drinking fountain has been installed outside the Gunbalanya Council Office for public use. As a central point for the Community, the convenient drinking fountain will be of great benefit during those hot days.

Thanks to the amazing support of the Local Authority, Council continues its commitment to enhancing Community infrastructure and services to build stronger Communities.

## **INSIDE THIS EDITION**



Minjilang Sport and Recreation Team host a handson cooking session with youth participants.



Council is proud to release a new song and video developed with our five Communities.



Gunbalanya's Youth, Sport and Recreation team works with stakeholders these school holidays. PAGE 5 >



The Warruwi Recreation Hall roofing upgrades are now complete.

## WARRUWI HALL ROOF COMPLETE

The Warruwi Recreation Hall roofing upgrades carried out by the West Arnhem Regional Council are now complete.

Funded by the Northern Territory Government, these works included a roof replacement and the installation of roller doors.

The upgrades are particularly important with the recreation hall being a central hub for the community, providing a space for youth activities, sports, and special events. Having it back in use ensures the community can once again enjoy and benefit from this vital space.

Great news for everyone involved!



## INFO ON TERRITORIES STOLEN GENERATIONS REDRESS SCHEME

Sharing or reading this information might bring up difficult memories and feelings. There is 24/7 support available if you need help managing the emotional impacts of this information.

Stolen Generations survivors who were removed as children from their families and or communities in the Northern Territory or the Australian Capital Territory (before self-government) or the Jervis Bay Territory, can now apply for redress.

People can apply to the www. territoriesredress.gov.au in their own time until 28 February 2026.

The Scheme offers a redress payment of up to \$75,000 and a healing assistance payment of \$7,000. The Scheme also offers the opportunity for Stolen Generations survivors to have their story about the impact of their removal acknowledged by a senior government official, should they wish, and have it acknowledged in a written and/or face-to-face way.

Applicants do not need to have records about their removal to apply but may wish to share any documentation.

Free support services are available to help applicants throughout the application process - they can access these services even if they are just thinking about applying.

The Scheme encourages applicants to contact these services to help them make a fully informed decision that best suits their personal situation. Support to submit applications is available through local Link Up services.

Independent legal advice and financial counselling in relation to applications is available through knowmore Legal Service (www.knowmore.org.au). knowmore has culturally safe, traumainformed assistance on 1800 566 966 or 1800KNOWMORE.

They have male and female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Advisors available in all of their offices.

If a member of the Stolen Generations passes away on or after the Scheme was announced on 5 August 2021 and they would have met the eligibility criteria, their family will be able to apply on their behalf.

#### How to apply

To apply for the Scheme, fill in an Application for redress form:

download a copy from territories redress. gov.au/apply

call the Scheme on 1800 566 111 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm (Australian Eastern Time), Monday to Friday (excluding Canberra public holidays).

Email the Scheme on help@ territoriesredress.gov.au

Write to the Scheme at Reply Paid 83394, Canberra ACT 2601

Visit your local Link Up service for a copy.

To find out more about the Scheme, visit territories redress.gov.au email or call 1800 566 111



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



The West Arnhem Wire | 21 December 2024 - 10 January 2025

## **NEW JABIRU TOWN BY-LAWS NOW IN EFFECT**

West Arnhem Regional Council is pleased to announce that the new by-laws for Jabiru came into effect on January 1, 2025, replacing the six existing by-laws for the Jabiru Town.

The West Arnhem Regional Council (Jabiru Town) By-Laws 2024 were approved at a Special Council Meeting on December 6, 2024, and subsequently received the Minister's approval on December 17, 2024. The new by-laws ensure the ongoing maintenance and regulation of the Jabiru Township.

#### Transition to the new By-Laws

This transition marks the conclusion of a three-and-a-half-year journey following the cessation of the Jabiru Town Development Authority.

### **REPRESENT MINJILANG AS AN ELECTED MEMBER**

Represent Minjilang on the West Arnhem Regional Council!

Nominations are now open to fill one casual vacancy in the Minjilang Ward.



The West Arnhem Regional Council comprises 12 Elected Members representing the communities of Minjilang, Maningrida, Warruwi, Gunbalanya, and Kakadu.

This is your chance to make a real difference and help shape the future of your community.

As a Councillor, you will:

- Listen to and represent the interests of residents.

- Influence decisions that impact your community.

- Provide leadership, guidance, and help determine the region's future direction.

- Advocate to all levels of government on important community matters.

Take this opportunity to contribute to and represent Minjilang!

Pick up a nomination form from your local Council Office.

Nominations open: Friday, 10 January 2025

**Nominations** close: COB Friday, 7 February 2025.

The prior Jabiru Town Development By-Laws, which were set to expire on January 1, 2025, have been transitioned into the new framework.

"West Arnhem Regional Council is pleased to announce the new bylaws for Jabiru.."

The drafting process began in May 2021 with numerous revisions and community consultations before finalising the new bylaws.

Council encourages all residents to familiarise themselves with the

new regulations and appreciates the community's input and cooperation to ensure a smooth transition.

Key Updates in the By-Laws One notable change in the new by-laws

is the use of Penalty Units for fines, rather than specifying dollar amounts. Currently, 1 Penalty Unit equals \$185, although this amount is subject to annual adjustments based on inflation as determined by the Northern Territory Government.

Some penalties related to dog and animal management have increased, specifically:

- Keeping prohibited animals (such as cats and chickens); and

- Penalties for dog attacks.

For additional details or inquiries, please contact the Council on 8979 9444.



#### **PUBLIC NOTICE** West Arnhem Regional Council (Jabiru Town) By-laws 2024 approved

West Arnhem Regional Council is pleased to announce that the new by-laws for Jabiru will come into effect on January 1, 2025, replacing the six existing by-laws for the Jabiru Town.

The West Arnhem Regional Council (Jabiru Town) By-Laws 2024 were approved at a Special Council Meeting on December 6, 2024, and subsequently received the Minister's approval on December 17.

The new by-laws ensure the ongoing maintenance and regulation of the Jabiru Township. This transition marks the conclusion of a three-and-a-half-year journey following the cessation of the Jabiru Town Development Authority. The prior Jabiru Town Development By-Laws, which were set to expire on January 1, 2025, have been transitioned into the new framework. The drafting process began in May 2021 with numerous revisions and community consultations before finalising the new by-laws.

Some penalties related to dog and animal management have increased, specifically:

Keeping prohibited animals (such as cats and chickens); and

Penalties for dog attacks.

Table of animal penalties (changes are highlighted in yellow):

By-Law		Max. Penalty Units	Old Penalty Units	New Penalty Units	Penalty in \$
44(3)	Keeping a prohibited animal	50	2	10	1850
47	Abandons or sets at large an animal	50	2	2	370
50(1)	Keep unregistered dog longer than 3 months	50	2	2	370
51(2)	Failure to comply with conditions of registration	50	1	10	1850
52(3)	Failure to notify change of address	10	1	1	185
53(1)	Keeps more than 2 dogs	20	1	1	185
54(4)	Failure to keep dog out of restricted area	50	2	2	370
56(3)	Dog attack	100	9	20	3700
63	Failure to comply with conditions of dangerous dog	100	9	9	1665
64(2)	Entices or incites a dog to attack or menace	50	2	2	370
65(8)	Dog causes a nuisance	50	2	10	1850
67(3)	Fails to collect dog from pound	50	2	2	370
69(7)	Fails to comply with by-laws relating to diseased dogs	50	3	3	555

Council encourages all residents to familiarise themselves with the new regulations and appreciates the community's input and cooperation to ensure a smooth transition.

The new By-Laws are available on our website: https://westarnhem.nt.gov.au/corporate-documents

## WHAT'S ON



West Arnhem Communities will hold Australia Day celebrations across the region on 26 January 2025 and 1 February 2025. Please check your local noticeboards more details closer to the date.

### 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

### JANUARY

Sat 26 Gunbalanya Community Day, Maningrida Day, Minjilang Australia Day, Warruwi Australia Day events Mon 27 Australia Day public holiday

Wed 29 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, via video

## 'STOP THE DROP' VIDEO RELEASE

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凸 35 ♀ ☆ Share □ Save …

West Arnhem Regional Council is proud to release a new song and video developed in conjunction with our five Communities called 'STOP THE DROP'.

Created with SoundED and the talented young people of West Arnhem, this powerful song and video delivers an inspiring 'Caring for country' message.

"Delivers an inspiring 'Caring for Country' message.."

It highlights the impact of litter and encourages us all to play a part in reducing waste to protect our beautiful environment.

This incredible project came to life during the September 2024 school holidays and showcases the creativity and passion of our youth. West Arnhem Regional Council Services Manager, Geri Narul, expressed her excitement about this initiative.

Geri said, "Our goal is to see our West Arnhem Communities waste-free in the near future and this project is a great way to send a strong message to everyone across the West Arnhem communities about how important it is to look after our country."

A huge thank you to NIAA, the Northern Territory Government, SoundED, the young people, and the amazing Communities in West Arnhem for making this project possible.

Let's work together to STOP THE DROP! Watch the video and share to spread the word: <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> watch?v=XwY\_J83EjbM\_

For more information about waste and sustainability in West Arnhem, visit: <u>https://westarnhem.nt.gov.au/our-</u> services/waste-and-sustainability

## ABORIGINAL CRISIS SUPPORTERS

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'S SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS SHOW









The New Year's Eve fireworks display in Maningrida has once again proven why it is one of the most cherished events in the community, with many describing it as one of the best fireworks shows the community has had to date.

"One of the best fireworks shows the community has had to date.."

Proudly presented by the Maningrida Local Authority, the 15-minute display was of the highest quality and was an unforgettable experience for all who attended.

West Arnhem Regional Council received outstanding feedback from spectators, with many praising the event.

Building on this year's success, plans are already underway to make the next event even more spectacular.

The completion of the muchanticipated Maningrida changerooms and public seating construction project later this year will enhance the venue and provide a better experience for future community events. Events like this are made

possible through the collaboration and support of many.

West Arnhem Regional Council wishes to thank:

- Maningrida Progress
- Association (MPA)
- MERGS - Stedman's Constructions

- NT Police, Fire, and Emergency Services

A special thanks goes to the Maningrida Local Authority, whose continued support ensures this annual event remains a tradition that brings the community together to welcome the new year.

West Arnhem Regional Council also acknowledges the dedication of its staff who worked tirelessly in the leadup to and during the event to ensure everything ran smoothly.

Their efforts were instrumental in creating a safe, fun, and memorable night for everyone.



## **GUNBALANYA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS**

#### << From Front Page

Stay tuned for more updates as the Council continues to bring impactful projects across the region in the coming year!



(above) Irrigation upgrades at the Gunbalanya Oval.



The Gunbalanya Local Authority funded the new shelters near the billabong which include seating and tables.



### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Did you know Council can help Community members move abandoned cars to the Landfill?

If you have an abandoned car on your property that you would like removed, pop into the Council Office and fill out a form!





The Gunbalanya Local Authority has supported paving works at the homes of aged care clients in the community.







### PUBLIC NOTICE NEW GUNBALANYA POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS

We wish to advise from Monday, 13 January 2025, the Gunbalanya Post Office opening hours will be:

8.00am to 12.00pm & 1.00pm to 3.00pm Monday to Friday

We wish to thank you for your understanding.

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## **COLLABORATIVE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

School holidays commenced in Gunbalanya on 16 December.

West Arnhem Regional Council's Youth, Sport and Recreation team linked in with Adjumarrlarl (Youth Diversion) and Injalak Art Centre to ensure there were plenty of activities to keep young people busy these holidays.

With stakeholders having a collaborative approach, more activities could be held starting at 8:00am and finishing around 9:00pm.

This program not only targeted young people, but it was inclusive to all ages.

The movies and disco nights were a big hit with the Community and the main event for December was linking in with Adjumarrlarl (Youth Diversion) for the Adjumarrlarl's Annual Kid's Christmas Party.

"This program not only targeted young people, but it was inclusive to all.."

There were heaps of people (young and old) at the party which included a great spread, plenty of activities and even a surprise visit from Santa who kindly gave out lollies.











### **COUNCIL NOTICE**

Nominations are invited for the following positions:

## MINJILANG WARD 1 CASUAL VACANCY

#### WHEN CAN I NOMINATE?

Nominations open: Friday, 10 January 2025 Nominations close: COB Friday, 7 February 2025

#### HOW DO I NOMINATE?

Nominations Forms: Available at the Council Office and at westarnhem.nt.gov.au/corporatedocuments

Lodge your Nomination: At the 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 Minjilang Ward
- Your nomination submission may be made public



⊚Lifeli∩e<sup>®</sup>

For further information:

🕓 (08) 8979 9469 🛛 🗹 governance@westarnhem.nt.gov.au 🌐 www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au



## MINJILANG MASTER CHEF AND FISHING DAY

West Arnhem Regional Council's Sport and Recreation team in Minjilang hosted a fun and educational program on 19 December 2024, where local children learned to cook a nutritious meal, inspired by a MasterChef-style experience, and then enjoyed a cultural fishing trip with the Garngi Rangers.

"The collaboration with the Garngi Rangers was a key part of creating an enriching experience that connected the children.."

The children were taught valuable cooking skills, focusing on healthy, locally sourced ingredients, promoting lifelong good eating habits.

After preparing their meals,



West Arnhem Regional Council's Sport and Recreation team in Minjilang and the Garngi Rangers hosted a cultural fishing trip for young people these school holidays.

they ventured out on country with the rangers, learning traditional fishing techniques while connecting with their culture.

This initiative not only boosted the children's health and wellbeing by teaching them how to cook and fish sustainably, but also strengthened their cultural identity and sense of community.

The collaboration with the Garngi Rangers was a key part of creating an enriching experience that connected the children to both healthy eating and cultural traditions.

A big shout out to the amazing Minjilang Sport and Recreation team members Sophia and Chelsea and all the wonderful community volunteers that assisted us throughout the day.

Wellbeing Services Coordinator Aden Reeves said, "I have been in Minjilang now for about a week. Already the kids know my name and have massive smiles on their faces when they get to the hall and see me. I truly feel so welcomed and humbled that I get to share some time with these amazing people on their amazing country. Yesterday all the kids arrived at the hall bright an early as they knew we had a big day of cooking and fishing ahead of us. After keenly getting into the cooking, which was spagh bol, we then packaged up our dinner, loaded up the vehicles and headed out for an afternoon of fishing. The catch up the day was a big barra but we also saw numerous cod, mangrove jack and trevally landed throughout the session. Well done Minjilang!'

Thank you to the Garngi Rangers for collaborating and assisting with fishing and transport.



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#### <u>Darwin</u>

Manager Technical Services - \$125k – Permanent – Full time – No Accommodation provided – Closes 15 January 2025

#### Gunbalanya

Community Safety Assistant - \$48k - Permanent – Part time, No Accommodation provided – Open until filled

Community Safety Officer - \$57k - Permanent – Part time, No Accommodation provided – Open until filled

Community Senior Safety Officer - \$68k - Permanent – Part time, No Accommodation provided – Open until filled

Centrelink Assistant – \$57k - Permanent – Part time – No Accommodation provided – Open until filled

Broadcasting Officer - \$68k - Permanent – Part time – No Accommodation provided – Open until filled

#### <u>Jabiru</u>

Council Services Manager - \$112k - Permanent – Full time -Subsidised Accommodation available, – Closes 15 January 2025

Pool Officer - \$57k - Permanent - Part time - Subsidised Accommodation available - Open until filled

#### <u>Warruwi</u>

Centrelink Officers X 2 – \$63k - Permanent – Part time – No Accommodation provided – Open until filled

Broadcasting Officer - \$68k - Permanent – Part time – No Accommodation provided – Open until filled

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

Indigenous people are encouraged to apply



WEST ARNHEM



## 2025 JABIRU RUBBISH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Commencing 7 January 2025, Council's weekly rubbish collection schedule will be:

Tuesdays – red lid bins Thursdays – yellow lid bins



If you have feedback regarding this new schedule, please contact the Jabiru Council Office on 8979 9444 or email: info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au



ALBERTO LUGLIETTI MEMORIAL POOL

## **OPENING HOURS**

Monday	1.30pm - 6.30pm
Tuesday	1.30pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday	1.30pm - 6.30pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	Closed
Saturday	1.30pm - 6.30pm
Sunday	1.30pm - 6.30pm
Public Holidays	1.30pm - 6.30pm

Olympic-sized pool with shade - Gym - Children's Splash Pad & Pool - Playground - Barbecue - Shower Facilities - Kiosk - Aqua Fitness -Shaded picnic tables - Mobility Lift - Monorail - Jumping Pillow



### Report WATER LEAKS Our water is precious.



to report leaks

The West Arnhem Wire | 21 December 2024 - 10 January 2025

**PowerWater** 

## CHANGE TO JABIRU RUBBISH COLLECTION

The new weekly rubbish collection schedule in Jabiru has commenced. Going forward, the collection will be:

- Tuesdays Red lid bins
- Thursdays Yellow lid bins

This will enable our staff on the ground more time to focus on keeping our parks and gardens neat and tidy and ensuring our landfill meets environmental regulatory standards.

It will also align collection with Council's current rates declaration available at: <u>www.</u> <u>westarnhem.nt.gov.au</u>

Please ensure you let all your neighbours and friends know, who may not be on social media about this change to the schedule.

"The new weekly rubbish collection schedule in Jabiru has commenced.."

If you have feedback regarding this new schedule, please contact the Jabiru Council Office on 8979 9444 or email: info@ westarnhem.nt.gov.au



# Nominations Open

### PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST SALT MARSH MOSQUITOES

NT Health is urging Top End residents and visitors to protect themselves from the salt marsh mosquitos as numbers are expected to increase, following heavy rainfall and high tides.

Elevated saltmarsh mosquitoes numbers can be expected between now and January.

To minimise the chance of being bitten by mosquitoes people should:

· Wear protective light-coloured clothing with long sleeves, long trousers, and ankle protection with socks, in mosquito-prone areas

• Use a protective repellent containing DEET, picaridlin or oil of lemon eucalyptus (PMD) and other mosquito protection devices as a supplement to protective clothing when outdoors in areas of mosquito activity

Avoid exposure to coastal swamps and mangrove areas

 Use mosquito coils, lanterns and barrier sprays in outdoor areas and near the home to prevent mosquitoes from entering houses.
Ensure infants, children and

animals are adequately protected



### **Jabiru Childcare Centre**

Currently taking enrolments for 2025!

Our program is based on the national Early Years Learning Framework, which focuses on the children's interests, strengths and individual needs. Our educators work closely with the children to develop a play-based program which is enriching and encourages collaboration with peers, while building on their

<u>Opening Hours:</u> Monday to Friday 7.30am – 5.00pm

<u>Contact Us:</u> 0417 927 890 or abiruChildcare@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Centrelink Customer Reference Number: (CRN): 406957335SI

Enter your child onto the wait list: https://parent-portal.kidsoft.com.au/create-account/JabiruChildcare

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Yarn to your nurse or GP to get your flu shot today.

The flu shot

stops you from getting really crook.