



The excitement surrounding the construction of the new Maningrida change rooms continues with the roof sheeting works now under way.

## COUNCIL CELEBRATES MILESTONES

West Arnhem Regional Council convened its first in-person Ordinary Council Meeting for 2025 on Tuesday, 18 February, in Jabiru. Prior to the meeting, Elected Members had a tour of the Council services around the Jabiru township, including a visit to the Jabiru Childcare Centre, Jabiru Pool, Library, Community Care and Centrelink Office. Along the way, staff provided valuable insights into the services they deliver to Jabiru residents. The tour concluded with a quick stop by Brockman Oval, which will soon boast new lighting delivered by Council and funded by the Rio Tinto Jabiru Social Infrastructure Fund.

The first item of business on the meeting agenda was the swearing in of Ms Tamar Nawirridj as the newest Elected Member, representing the Gunbalanya Ward. Mayor James Woods and fellow Elected Members

congratulated Cr Nawirridj on her appointment and expressed their excitement about working together for the Council and Communities of West Arnhem.

The meeting continued with Mayor Woods signing the Maningrida Subdivision Stage 1 Handover agreement, officially transferring responsibility from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure to the Council. The Department will be finalising some improvements to signage, drainage and the road in this subdivision in coming months. This signifies the end of a long journey for this project and reinforces the Council's ongoing commitment to maintaining and managing local roads within the Maningrida Community.

Council also received a comprehensive overview from the technical services team who are busy delivering multiple projects across the

region. As of this month, there has been significant developments including:

- The Maningrida changerooms roof sheeting has commenced
- Design of the Jabiru oval lights are under way
- The new Maningrida airport structures are being constructed
- Bollards are starting to go up at the Maningrida Cricket Oval

Another highlight of the day was the presentation of a Long Service Award to Councillor Ralph Blyth, presented by Mayor Woods on behalf of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory. This award celebrated Cr Blyth's remarkable 20 years of dedicated service to local government and his ongoing commitment to the West Arnhem region.

Continues, Page 7 >>

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

### COMMUNITY CARE OUT ON COUNTRY



Kakadu Community Care clients enjoying on country activities.

PAGE 6 >

### NEW WARC ELECTED MEMBER



West Arnhem Regional Council swears in new Elected Member for the Gunbalanya Ward.

PAGE 3 >

### CLEAN UP EFFORTS IN MANINGRIDA



The Council team has been cleaning up New Sub and Bottom Camp in Maningrida recently.

PAGE 6 >

### COOLING OFF AT GUNBALANYA POOL



West Arnhem Regional Council and SCFC join forces to make use of the Gunbalanya Pool.

PAGE 4 >



## LOCAL COLLABORATION ENSURES ACCESSIBLE SWIMMING FOR ALL



Visit to Jabiru Town Pool by Country Connect staff with client who were then assisted by WARC Staff to fully enjoy the facility.



Recently, Country Connect Foundation and West Arnhem Regional Council teamed up to ensure that a community member with mobility challenges could enjoy a fulfilling day at the Jabiru Town Pool.

Thanks to their combined efforts, the client was able to access the pool with ease using a hoist lift, marking a significant step forward in making community facilities more accessible for everyone.

Country Connect Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation that provides essential wellbeing and youth services in remote and regional areas of Australia. They prioritise culturally safe and appropriate care, connecting individuals to country, culture, and community. By offering holistic support, Country Connect Foundation helps individuals lead healthier, happier lives while fostering strong community connections.

After assessing the client's needs and the existing pool facilities, it was clear that the hoist lift would be the key to ensuring safe and easy access. West Arnhem Regional Council staff provided technical and pool safety support, whilst Country Connect Foundation provided the necessary assistance to ensure the client could enjoy a smooth and enjoyable experience in the water.

The outcome was nothing short of successful. The client was not only able to access the pool in a safe and comfortable manner but also had an amazing time swimming, an activity that is so crucial at this time of the year given the high temperatures and humidity.

"This is what community support is all about," said Damien Conboy from Country Connect Foundation. "Our goal

is to make sure that everyone has equal opportunities to participate in recreational activities. Today, it was wonderful to see how collaboration can make a real difference."

*"It was wonderful to see how collaboration can make a real difference.."*

West Arnhem Regional Council's Pool team leader Barbara Murray also praised the joint effort. "We're thrilled to have played a role in this collaboration. Accessible facilities are essential for creating a fully inclusive community, and it's so rewarding to see our efforts lead to such a positive outcome for this individual."

The success of this initiative demonstrates the power of working together to break down barriers and ensure that everyone has access to community amenities. Both organisations are committed to continuing their efforts to improve accessibility and ensure that all residents can fully participate in local life.

With this milestone achieved, Country Connect Foundation and the West Arnhem Regional Council are now looking forward to further improving accessibility at other local facilities, hoping to inspire more positive change in the community.

For those who may need assistance, Country Connect is available to provide support and help navigate the services available in the Northern Territory.

## 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](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
Warruwi Radio	106.1 FM
Jabiru Radio	98.9 FM



**TEABBA**

TOP END ABORIGINAL BUSH  
BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

# COUNCIL WELCOMES NEW ELECTED MEMBER



West Arnhem Regional Council has officially welcomed Ms Tamar Nawirridj as the newest Elected Member, representing the Gunbalanya Ward.

Cr Nawirridj was sworn in during the Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday, 18 February 2025, where she read aloud and signed the Declaration of Office.

Mayor James Woods and fellow Elected Members warmly congratulated Cr Nawirridj on her appointment, expressing their excitement about working together for the Council and Communities of West Arnhem.

*Newly appointed West Arnhem Regional Council Councillor Tamar Nawirridj representing the Gunbalanya Ward with Mayor James Woods.*

## REMINDER ABOUT NEW JABIRU BY-LAWS

This is an important reminder about the new West Arnhem Regional Council (Jabiru Town) By-Laws 2024 regarding animals in the Jabiru township.

**"This is an important reminder about the new West Arnhem Regional Council (Jabiru Town) 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.

Please remember:

### Dog Ownership Regulations

- A maximum of two dogs per household is permitted.
- All dogs must be registered and kept under control at all times.

### Prohibited Animals

- Keeping prohibited animals will result in high penalties.

### Responsible Pet Ownership

- Ensure your dogs are registered.
- Keep your dogs on a leash when in public areas.
- Do not allow your dogs to become a nuisance through excessive barking or aggressive behaviour.

Council encourages all residents to familiarise themselves with the new regulations and appreciates the community's input and cooperation. For more information or to obtain a copy of the full By-laws, please visit the Council office in Jabiru Plaza or [www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au](http://www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au).



## 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



National Reconciliation Week is held from 27 May to 3 June each year. This year's theme is 'Bridging Now to Next'. Visit the NRW website for further information.

### 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

### FEBRUARY

**Fri 21** International Mother Language Day

**Thu 27** WARC Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting

### MARCH

**Sat 1** Zero Discrimination Day

## ADJUMARLLARL AND WARC DIP INTO NEW PARTNERSHIP

A huge shoutout to the incredibly hardworking Kat, who is not only completing Year 12, but also contributing to Adjumarllarl SCFC!

Earlier this year, she achieved her Bronze Medallion, enabling local youth and children to enjoy an after-school swim every Wednesday.

With West Arnhem Regional Council and SCFC joining forces, there are now even more opportunities to make use of

the Gunbalanya Pool- especially in this hot weather.

Without a dedicated lifeguard on staff to open the pool during set hours, many young people rely on school or sport and recreation programs for access to swimming.

These programs ensure proper supervision, provide a meal, and, most importantly, support the physical, social, and emotional well-being of participants.



## PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST MELIOIDOSIS

NT Health is warning Territorians and visitors to the Northern Territory (NT) to be on alert for melioidosis following recent periods of heavy rain.

In the past week, five cases of melioidosis have been notified in the NT. Since the beginning of the wet season on 1 October, 2024, 28 cases of melioidosis have been notified in the NT.

Melioidosis bacteria live deep in the soil. Heavy rainfall during the wet season brings the bacteria to the surface, increasing the risk of exposure.

Last wet season (1 October 2023 to 30 April 2024) there were 72 cases of melioidosis and five deaths reported in the NT. This compares to 87 cases and six deaths reported during the 2022 – 2023 wet season.

Melioidosis bacteria most commonly enter the body through cuts and sores, so it is important to cover and protect your skin where possible. Wind can cause the bacteria to be blown into the air, which can then be inhaled through dust and droplets.

Melioidosis often causes lung infections presenting with fever, cough and shortness of breath. It can also affect many parts of the body causing abscesses and sores that don't heal. Most people experience the first symptoms of melioidosis one to 21 days after exposure to the bacteria.

At this time of year, health professionals in the NT are on the lookout for 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 in the NT leading to death.

The risk of melioidosis is greater in those who may be immunocompromised by diabetes, heavy alcohol consumption (including binge drinking), kidney or lung disease, immunosuppressive therapy especially with steroids, and those with cancer or advanced age.

To protect yourself against melioidosis, it is important to:

- 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, particularly those people with high risk factors, need to take action to protect themselves from melioidosis. Anyone concerned about having melioidosis symptoms should visit their local GP, clinic or hospital.



## REMINDER FOR THE WET SEASON

Saltwater crocodiles can be found in any body of water in the Top End at any time.

The risk is higher in the wet season, as small creeks and culverts turn into rivers, making it much easier for saltwater crocodiles to move around and get into areas they normally wouldn't. No sign – No swim!

Wet season rainfall events also cause other risks such as

fast flowing currents, flash flooding, murky water and submerged debris - all of which can cause serious injury or death.

So be safe this wet season. Be Crocwise by keeping your pets and yourself at least 5 metres away from the water's edge and never enter floodwaters. If it's flooded forget it.

Photo: Paul Thomsen (saltwater crocodile)



## PUBLIC NOTICE



### Upcoming Local Authority meeting dates:

**10 MARCH** Maningrida Local Authority

**11 MARCH** Waruwi Local Authority

**12 MARCH** Gunbalanya Local Authority

**13 MARCH** Minjilang Local Authority

Meetings are open to the public!

All meeting Agendas/Minutes are on our website



## CLIENTS ENJOY TIME AT COMMUNITY CARE CENTRE

Every week day for the past 3 weeks, West Arnhem Regional Council's Gunbalanya Community Care team have been able to resume some of the services provided at the centre. The clients have been enjoying a hot breakfast with a cup of tea at the centre and enjoying the opportunity to socialise at the same time.

*"The centre provides opportunities for socialisation, supports overall health and wellbeing of clients.."*

The staff have also been working together alongside management to improve the overall appearance of the centre by doing a deep clean and reorganising shelves.

The centre provides

opportunities for socialisation, supports overall health and wellbeing of clients and is a good way to build further rapport with the people that we support.

To provide a more welcoming environment to those accessing services and be able to resume other services in the future to increase further opportunities for socialisation experiences.

The clients really enjoy having the opportunity to help provide guidance to the Team Leader when doing the bus run in the morning as the Team Leader is still learning the area of Gunbalanya.

They really enjoy helping each other out which is instilled in their community.

The staff have commented how great it is to see the small differences being made in the centre and how much better it is already looking.

We are all looking forward to seeing what else we can achieve together as a team in the future.

## 2025 NAIDOC THEME 'THE NEXT GENERATION'

Announcing the NAIDOC 2025 Theme: "The Next Generation: Strength, Vision, Legacy".

As we celebrate 50 incredible years of NAIDOC Week, we honor the achievements of the past while looking boldly to the future.

This year's theme is a tribute to the resilience of our communities, the vision of our leaders, and the strength of the next generation.

From the wisdom of our Elders to the courage of our youth, NAIDOC 2025 is about building a legacy of unity, respect, and self-determination.

Join us as we commemorate this powerful milestone and celebrate a movement that continues to grow, evolve, and inspire.

Together, we walk forward, honoring where we've come from and embracing the bright future ahead.

The National NAIDOC Poster competition has

become an iconic feature of National NAIDOC Week and has a rich and significant history beginning in 1967 when the National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) first began producing posters. NAIDOC posters have been exhibited by various Australian cultural institutions such as the National Museum of Australia and reflect not only the many significant social changes that have occurred since 1967 but also the evolution of art over the years.

Each year the National NAIDOC Poster Competition encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists aged 16 years and over to submit their artwork which reflects that year's National NAIDOC Week Theme.

How to enter

To submit an entry visit the NAIDOC website.

The Poster Competition closes on Sunday 23 February 2025, 11:59pm (AEDT).



## COMMUNITY CARE ON COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

Recently, several of West Arnhem Regional Council's Community Care clients in Kakadu took a trip out on country to demonstrate traditional techniques for gathering the bark from stringy bark trees. This bark will be turned into a beautiful piece of art.

The team located a suitable tree in the bush to the rear of Mudginberri Community. The Community Care Elders

demonstrated the technique to extract the bark in one piece in order for it to be utilised as a canvas. This will now be utilised by the clients to create a stunning artwork which could end up anywhere in the world!

West Arnhem Regional Council Wellbeing Services Coordinator Aden Reeves said, "It was such an honour to be able to be a part of something like this. Spending time with

the clients in this environment shows how much knowledge of the bush they hold and how skilled they truly are not only to extract the bark in one perfect piece but to then create a stunning artwork from it! I can't wait to see the finished product!"

A number of young fellas from town camp also accompanied the group and were shown the correct technique for extracting bark.



## COMMENDING WORKS CREW FOR OUTSTANDING EFFORTS

West Arnhem Regional Council extends its gratitude to team members Ramon, Charles, Rhys, and the Maningrida works crew, led by Brad, for their exceptional efforts in keeping Maningrida clean and free of waste.

Over the past two weeks, the team has done an outstanding job cleaning up New Sub and Bottom Camp, ensuring these areas remain tidy and well-maintained.

Their work has also included pothole repairs, the removal of 20 abandoned car bodies, clearing road drains, and transporting

multiple tipper loads of general waste.

The Community has shared overwhelmingly positive feedback, commending the team for their dedication and hard work. It was also fantastic to see Council staff from other communities visiting, engaging, and working alongside the local crew.

This collaboration fostered an inclusive environment and provided opportunities for staff to exchange skills and experiences across different locations. Well done to everyone involved!





# WARC ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING WRAP UP

## << From Front Page

Council also received an important report on the 2025-26 Regional Plan and Budget. This comprehensive document outlines the Council's upcoming budget, strategic initiatives, and long-term financial planning. It will now proceed to the next round of Local Authorities for further consideration to ensure our Communities have input in shaping priorities and decision-making for the future.

This Ordinary Council Meeting was also the final meeting for outgoing Chief

Executive Officer (CEO) Andrew Walsh. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mayor Woods and Elected Members thanked Andrew, expressing their gratitude for his dedication and contributions to the West Arnhem region.

They also welcomed Interim Chief Executive Officer Ben Waugh, who will see Council through the transition until the permanent CEO recruitment is finalised. All Council meetings are open to the public, with dates and agendas available on the West Arnhem Regional Council website.



Mayor James Woods presenting Councillor Ralph F. Blyth with a long service award from LGANT.



West Arnhem Regional Council Elected Members pictured with outgoing Chief Executive Officer Andrew Walsh.



West Arnhem Regional Council Elected Members visiting the Jabiru Library this week.

## JABIRU CREATIVE GROUP

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Commencing Wednesday, 12 February 2025

#### FREE Group!

Free use of group supplies & equipment OR bring your own project!

#### Current Supplies for:

Card making, fabric crafts, painting, mosaic, screen printing, knitting, crochet, embroidery, scrapbooking and more!

#### Learn & Share skills!

#### Every Wednesday

At Jabiru Community Hall  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

For ages 14 - 100  
Visitors welcome!!

#### Why join our group?

- 1 Relaxed, fun & social group - all welcome!
- 2 Use and share creative skills!
- 3 Tea and coffee supplied

For further details or questions, contact Coordinator Tarnia Keirnan:

taniakeirnan@hotmail.com



Conducted by University of Melbourne

## 2025 VET VISIT DATES

This is a free health & animal management program for all Community members!

#### COMMUNITY DATES:

**Minjilang:** April, September 2025

**Maningrida:** April, July, September 2025

**Jabiru:** July, September 2025

**Gunbalanya:** July, September 2025

**Waruwi:** July, September 2025

\* Please note, dates can change at short notice



For further info, see the Council Office or the Vet Team

The program offers a range of free treatments/procedures, including: health checks, de-sexing, parasite control (tick/mange injections, flea treatment, tick spraying), minor surgeries as required

# LEARNING TO READ AND WRITE MY LANGUAGE

Jeanette Burrunali from the Bininj Kunwok Regional Language Centre would like to share this story about how she learned to read and write her language, Kunwinjku.

When I was 13 years old, my aunty Jill Nganjmirra (Ngal-wakadj Ngal-burlarlhdja) taught me how to read and write our language, Kunwinjku.

I would go to school in the morning, then come home after school so aunty Jill could teach me to read (ngan-ngey-bukkayinj). Sometimes I would write (nga-ngey-bimbuni) on a piece of paper. She would ask me, "how about I say the words and you write them down (kamak bu nga-bim-ngeybun, dja ngudda wardi yi-ngey-bimbun)?" and I would say, "Ok that would be nice (ma kamak)".

These would be simple words like njale, baleh, ngare, dja ("what, where, I will go, and/ but")

We also would learn (ngarri-borlbmi) to read and write Kunwinjku at Gunbalanya school, which then had a bilingual program. We would read little books (djurra) in our language, written by those first Aboriginal teachers and assistant teachers in the bilingual program (birri-yuh-yungki



Jill and Jeanette reading and writing.

birri-marnbom). You can find those books today on the internet, called the "Living Archive".

And whenever we went hunting and camping, we'd take paper and pencil. Aunty Jill would always teach me to spell words by writing them down (bimbuni) so I could read them aloud (nga-bim-ngey-ngeybuni). Or sometimes I would write the words myself and read them out. If we forgot to bring paper, we would write the words in sand or dirt (ngane-ngey-bimbuni kore kukurk).

My Aunty Jill knew how to read and write Kunwinjku because she and her husband worked as Bible translators

at SIL at Berrimah (Summer Institute of Linguistics, Darwin). Her husband (na-bininj-kobeng) was Ralph Nganjmirra (Na-ngarridj Na-djalama) and his country (kunred nuye) was Marlwon. They worked with other Aboriginal translators such as Dolly Maralngurra (Ngal-kodjok Ngal-wurrik) and Lois Nadjamerrek (Ngal-ngarridj Ngal-mok). They also worked with Steve and Narelle Etherington (Na-bulanj dja Ngal-wakadj), Meryl Rowe (Ngal-wamud) and Peter Carroll (Na-kodjok).

When my aunty Jill and her husband returned to Gunbalanya they did translation work (birrih-djal-durrkmirri manbu

kunwok kunwinjku) with people such as Andrew Managku (Na-bulanj Na-mandjurlngunj), Grace Maralngurra (Ngal-wakadj Ngal-ngalngbali), her little sisters Denise and Betty Maralngurra (Ngal-wakadj Ngal-bene-ngalngbali, birri-danginj Grace) and Grace's mother, old Rachel Maralngurra (Ngal-kodjok Ngal-murrwan), Julie Narndal (Ngal-wakadj Ngal-mandjurlngunj) as well as old Hannah Girrabul (Ngal-kodjok Ngal-madjawarr), and today we have the Bible in Kunwinjku because those old people did that work and wrote those words down (kobah-kobanj birri-wok-kurrmeng, birri-marnbom).

So that's how I learned to read and write my language, taught by my Aunty Jill, so I'll always know how.

I use it now for my work as an interpreter and translator. It also helps me when I teach white people (birri-kukbele) our language when they come to our country (kunred ngadberre) to work. Sometimes we teach them when they do an online course. I also write stories to show both Aboriginal and Balanda kids and adults (wurdurd dja dabborrabbolk) so they can learn too.

That's the end (bonj).

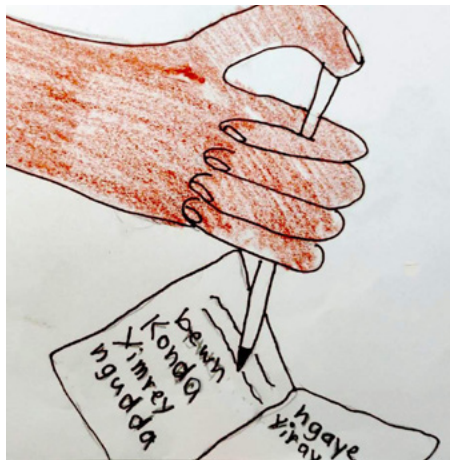
Bu kunkare ngaye ngayimi 13 years old, ngaye ngardduk ngal-badjan walawalak ngan-bukkang ngalbu Jill Nganjmirra, Ngal-wakadj Ngal-burlarlhdja, bu nga-bim-ngey-ngey-buni dja nga-ngey-bim-nani manbu ngad ngadberre kunwok Kunwinjku ngarri-wokdi.

Bu ngarey school malamalaywi, wanjh bu nga-yakwoni wolewoleh, ngam-durndengi kured, wanjh nga-djawayinj munguyh ngalbu ngal-wakadj, wanjh ngan-ngey-bukka-bukkayinj.

Yika nga-ngey-bim-buni kore djurra manbu ngan-gey-buni kun-ngey. Wanjh ngan-djawayinj, "kamak bu nga-bim-ngey-bun, dja ngudda wardi yi-ngey-bim-bun?" Wanjh nga-yimi, "ma kamak."

Yiman kayime "njale, baleh, ngare, dja" simple words. Yika nga-ngey-bim-buni manbu ngey-buni kun-ngey.

Dja mak ngarri-borlbmi kore school bilingual dja mak kore Sunday School. Kore school ngarri-bim-nani djurra



Learning to read and write.

nawu birri-yuh-yungki birri-marnbom djurra bu kunwok Kunwinjku. Bolkkime ngarri-ngey-bun namekke djurra nawu "Living Archive", ngarri-ngalke mak kore internet.

"Bu ngarey school malamalaywi, wanjh bu nga-yakwoni wolewoleh, ngam durndengi kured, wanjh nga-djawayinj munguyh ngalbu ngal wakadj, wanjh.."

Mak bu ngarri-rey ngarri-warlbuni, dja ngulken ngarri-yoyhyoy, kunekke munguyh ngane-djal-yimi. Ngan-marne-ngey-ngey-buni manbu kun-ngey dja mak ..

Continues, Page 9 >>



# LEARNING TO READ AND WRITE MY LANGUAGE



Jill and Jeanette reading and writing.

.. bim-buni kore djurra, wanjh nga-bim-nani dja nga-bim-ngey-ngey-buni warridj. Munguyh kani djurra dja pencil, dja bu beng-middangeni djurra, wanjh ngane-ngey-bimbuni kore kukurik.

Dja ngaleng burrbuni manbu bim-ngey-ngey-buni. Bene-djarrk-durrkmirri kore translators, ngaleng dja na-bininj-kobeng ngalengarre, Ralph Nganjmirra (Na-ngarridj Na-djalama), nuye Marlwon kunred. Bedda bene-djarrk-durrkmirri kore Darwin dja Gunbalanya, manbu Bible translation. Biri-djarrk-durrkmirri nawu Steve dja Narelle Etherington (Na-bulanj dja Ngal-wakadj) dja Meryl Rowe (Ngal-wamud), Peter Carroll (Na-kodjok) dja mak birri-bad-bubuyika warridj, manbu Kunwinjku kunwok translation, yiman kayime kabohkabanj nawu Dolly Maralngurra ngalbu Ngal-kodjok Ngal-wurrik, dja Lois Nadjamerrek (Ngal-ngarridj Ngal-mok). Birri-djarrk-durrkmirri kore bolk-ngey-yoy SIL kore Berrimah.

Dja bu birrim-durndengi Kunbarlanya, wanjh birri-djarrk-durrkmirri birri-buyika, yiman kayime Andrew Managku (Na-bulanj Na-marndjurlngunij) dja Grace Maralngurra (Ngal-wakadj Ngal-ngalngbali), warridj birri-bad-bubuyika kabahkohbanj nawu munguyh birrih-djal-durrkmirri, manbu kunwok kunwinjku nawu birri-yuhyungki, yiman kayime old Rachel

Maralngurra (Ngal-kodjok Ngal-murrwan) Grace bi-yawmey) dja old Hannah Girrabil (Ngal-kodjok Ngal-madjawarr), mak Denise and Betty Maralngurra (Ngal-wakadj Ngal-wakadj Ngal-mandjurlngunij).

Bolkkime wanjh ngarri-karrme nawu Bible ngalengarre Kunwinjku kunwok ka-wok-bimdi, birri-wok-kurmeng nawu kobahkabanj birri-marbom. Wanjh kunekke ngaye nga-borlbmeng bu ngan-bukka-bukka ng Ngal-wakadj manbu kunwok, nga-bimbuni dja nga-ngey-buni. Dja bu bolkkime ngaye nga-borlbmeng bu nga-wok-bimbun dja nga-wok-ngey-bun, ngayeman ngad-jalyime kunekke munguyh.

Dja mak bolkkime bu use ngayime for work, yiman kayime interpreter dja translator ngaye nga-yimerranj. Yika story nga-marbun, nga-bimbun dja mak nga-ben-bukka-bukkan birri-buyika, yiman kayime nawu wurdurd dja daborrabbolk ba bu kabirri-borlbme, dja mak birri-kubele nawu kabirrim-re kore kunred ngadberre bu kabirri-durrkmirri. Yika birri-kukbele ngarri-benkan kore Online Course, dja bedman kabirri-borlbme walakki, bu yiman kunwok kabirri-bim-ngeynan dja kabirri-bim-ngey-ngey-bun. Bonj.

## WORK IN & EXPERIENCE ARNHEM LAND & KAKADU



### Darwin

**Human Resources Manager** - \$125K - Permanent - Full Time - No Accommodation provided - Closes 12 March 2025

**Regional Roads Manager** - \$108K - Permanent - Full Time - No Accommodation provided - Closes 19 March 2025

### Gunbalanya

**Landfill Officer** - 74K - Permanent - Full Time - Subsidised Accommodation available - Open until filled

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

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

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

**Youth Sport and Recreation Assistant** - \$48k - Permanent - Part time - No Accommodation provided - Open until filled

### Jabiru

**Early Childhood Educator Assistant** - \$63K - Permanent - Full Time - Subsidised Accommodation available - Closes 12 March

**Administration Officer - Business Development** - \$74K - Permanent - Full Time - Subsidised Accommodation available - Closes Wednesday 12 March 2025

**Council Services Manager** - \$112K - Permanent - Full Time - Subsidised Accommodation available - Closes 26 February

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

### Maningrida

**Utilities Support Contract Operator** - \$79K - Permanent - Full Time - Subsidised Accommodation available - Closes 12 March

**Youth Sport and Recreation Assistant x 2** - \$48k - Permanent - Part time - No Accommodation provided - Open until filled

**Customer Services Officer** - \$63k - Permanent - Full time - No Accommodation provided - Open until filled

### Minjilang

**Community Care Officer** - \$57k - Permanent - Part time - No Accommodation provided - Open until filled

### Waruwi

**Community Safety Assistant x 2** - \$30.95 per hour - Casual, No Accommodation provided - Open until filled

**Wellbeing Services Senior Officer** - \$79k - Permanent - Full time - Subsidised Accommodation available - Closes 5 March

**Childcare Senior Officer** - 68K - Permanent - Full Time - No Accommodation provided - Open until filled

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

**Centrelink Officer** - \$63k - Permanent - Part time - No Accommodation provided - Open until 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





## AFTER SCHOOL BASKETBALL THIS SCHOOL TERM

On Thursday 6 February 2025, West Arnhem Regional Council's Youth, Sport and Recreation team in Jabiru held the first session of after school basketball.

This event will complement the ever growing after school activities that Council support within Jabiru and will occur every second Thursday throughout

the school term.

The session saw a great turnout and participants engaged well to ensure a fun and energising session.

We are engaging stakeholders such as Caulfield Grammar and Red Lily who have tentatively offered to assist with this program.

Youth, Sport and Recreation Officer Leah Holt-Narul said, "It was great to see such an amazing turn out of kids for our first session! It was so good watching them play and interact on the court and I am really looking forward to see how this program progresses throughout the term."



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

**AQUA FITNESS** on Tuesday 6.15pm - 7.00pm (weather permitting)

**CLOSED** Good Friday, Christmas Day, New Year's Day

No School, No Pool Policy

Regular & casual pool passes available



56 Kinchela Road, Jabiru

Ph: 08 8979 9447 | [www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au](http://www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au)



## 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 strengths and emerging skills.

### Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 7.30am - 5.00pm

### Contact Us:

0417 927 890 or

[JabiruChildcare@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:JabiruChildcare@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>

