



Gunbalanya held a great NAIDOC Week celebration with a big community day and plenty of activities for all ages. Read more, Page 7.

CELEBRATING CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

The Jabiru community held its NAIDOC celebrations on Thursday, 24 July, aligning with the return of local school students after their term break.

This timing allowed for greater younger generation participation and ensured that students, families, and community members could come together to honour the rich culture and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The day was filled with vibrant and meaningful engagement, from traditional art workshops led by local artists, to games, activities, and interactive stations. This year's national theme, "The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy," placed the spotlight firmly on intergenerational knowledge, resilience, and cultural leadership.

The celebration was made possible through close

collaboration between West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) and a host of committed partners, including GACJT, GAC, ALPA, Clontarf Foundation, Caulfield Grammar School, TEABBA, Marrawuddi, Kakadu National Park, and Sodexo. Each partner played a vital role in bringing the day to life.

A special acknowledgment goes to Caulfield Grammar School, which generously provided around 40 student and staff volunteers and WARC's work crew.

Their support was instrumental across multiple activity stations from helping with setup and logistics to engaging directly with children and Elders throughout the day.

From the Welcome to Country coordinated with the Mirarr Traditional Owners, to the live broadcast by TEABBA,

BBQ, painting workshops, face painting, and cupcakes, the event was a resounding success. Elders were honoured with shaded seating and refreshments, and children were immersed in art and play.

Events like this don't happen without a great deal of behind-the-scenes planning and dedication. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all staff, volunteers, and community partners who made the day a success. Your effort, time and commitment ensured that NAIDOC Week in Jabiru was not only a celebration, but a lasting memory for many.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all staff, volunteers, and community partners.

This National NAIDOC Week Activity is funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency.

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Exciting upgrades are happening at Brockman Oval in Jabiru.

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FINAL VET VISITS IN 2025

West Arnhem Regional Council, in partnership with The University of Melbourne, is proud to continue delivering the animal management program across the region.

This long-running and valued program brings essential veterinary services to all West Arnhem communities, supporting both animal welfare and community health.

Strongly backed by our Local Authorities, this ongoing animal management program is a great example of collaboration in action.

The program offers a range of treatments and procedures, including: Health checks, De-sexing (spaying and castrating), Para-

site control (tick/mange injections, flea treatment, tick spraying), Minor surgeries as required

Please note: Vaccinations and immunisations are an additional cost

The 2025 dates are:

- **Jabiru/Manaburduma:** 28-30 August, 18 September
- **Gunbalanya:** 15-19 September
- **Warruwi:** 15-19 September
- **Minjilang:** 22-24 September
- **Maningrida:** 10-23 August, 8-12 September

Community members are encouraged to take advantage of these visits.



JABIRU AFL PROGRAM

JOIN US FOR 4 WEEKS OF AFL FUN WITH IN JABIRU WITH AN ALL GIRLS SUPERKICK AND A BOYS JUNIOR COMPETITION.



DATE: TUESDAY ON 5TH AUG, 12TH AUG, 19TH AUG, 26TH AUG

TIME: 3:30PM- GIRLS ONLY AFL SUPERKICK (8-16 YO)

4:30PM- BOYS JUNIOR COMP (8-16 YO)

@MAGELA OVAL



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

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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

KABULWARNAMYO CULTURE CAMP A HIGHLIGHT

As part of the school holiday program, Gunbalanya Youth, Sport and Recreation teamed up with TeamHealth for a special cultural experience in Kabulwarnamyo - thanks to an invitation from Waddeken Rangers and Donna Nadjamerrek.

It was a lovely couple of days and nights enjoy the hospitality of the community,

the beautiful country and the passion and willingness to share knowledge.

"Beautiful country and the passion and willingness to share knowledge.."

There were stories, swimming, bush craft, visits to culturally significant sites and paintings, games around the campfire and strong sense of community.

This is the second time this incredible collaboration has taken place, and we hope it continues for many years to come.

Once again young Richard

proudly showed of his country and another young fella Cyril also became tour guide when Richard was unavailable.

We would like to thank Donna, Mary, Rhonda and all family, Lorraine and all the Waddeken Rangers and Richard and Cyril as its always a privilege to get out to Kabulwarnamyo.



EXTRA MOBILE COVERAGE IN KAKADU

Visitors to Gunlom campground can now enjoy mobile phone coverage as part of the Connecting Kakadu project.

This \$7.5 million investment between the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government and Telstra is improving mobile connectivity across Kakadu National Park.

The upgrades improve visitor experience and safety,

including the ability to call triple zero in more parts of the park – an important safety boost in this remote environment.

Additional sites at Burrungkuy, Karnamarr and Maguk are scheduled to receive mobile coverage later this year.

Connecting Kakadu is supporting safer travel and a better visitor experience across this iconic part of Australia.



Conducted by University of Melbourne

MANINGRIDA VET VISIT

10 - 23 August 2025

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

HOW DO I SEE THE VET?

See Council staff to leave your name, phone number lot number, pet description, procedure needed.

Treatments/procedures covered by the program:

Health checks, surgical desexing, parasite and worming, minor surgeries

Please note: Vaccinations and immunisations are an extra cost.

Next Vet Visit: 8 - 12 September 2025



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

WHAT'S ON



National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day will be on 4 August 2025. This year's theme is 'Little Footsteps, Big Future'.

WEEKLY

Monday

Underwater Hockey: Jabiru Pool, 5pm
Fire Station Training: Jabiru Fire Station, 6pm

Tuesdays

Bombers football training: Brockman Oval, 5:30pm
Jabiru Firey's Fitness Training: Magela Oval, 5:30pm
Aqua Fitness: Jabiru Swimming Pool, 6.15pm

Wednesdays

Skins Golf: Jabiru Golf Club, 4.45pm
Jabiru Creative Group: Town Plaza, 6.00pm

Thursdays

Story Time: Jabiru Library, 11.00am
Jabiru Bombers Football training: Brockman Oval, 5pm
Jabiru Firey's Fitness Training: Magela Oval, 5.30pm

Fridays

Jabiru Golf Club raffles & Members Draw, 7pm
Pool competition: Jabiru Golf Club, 7pm

Sundays

Jabiru Firey's Fitness Training 5.30pm

AUGUST

Mon 4 National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

Tues 5 Jabiru AFL Program, Magela Oval

5-6 Warruwi Wupaj Festival, Warruwi

Sat 9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People

10-23 Maningrida Vet Visit

28-30 Jabiru/Town Camp Vet Visit

30 - 31 Stone Country Festival, Gunbalanya

BROCKMAN OVAL UPGRADES



Exciting upgrades are happening at Brockman Oval in Jabiru, with works now underway to install brand-new oval lighting.

We thank the Jabiru community for your patience and cooperation during this time and look forward to seeing the lights in action in the near future.

Oval-users are reminded to take care around the work site and follow any safety signage or directions in place.

The installation is expected to be completed by September, providing greater opportunities for evening sport and community use.

These upgrades are made possible through the Rio Tinto Jabiru Social Infrastructure Fund.

Exciting times ahead for our AFL community and all oval users across West Arnhem!



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!



GUNBALANYA SCHOOL HOLIDAYS DONE RIGHT

The Gunbalanya 6-week bush school holidays are coming to end there has been lots of activities run by sport and recreation. While community is very quiet, the youth have had a wide variety of activities on offer including weekly sessions at Injalak arts with painting, weaving, screen printing, dancing, music, rock hill tour.

We have had weekly visits from Kieran from AFLNT, lots of sport, the amazing culture camp, AFL 9s Gala intercommunity competition, NAIDOC week activities, a disco, youth centre drop in with cooking arts and crafts, pool table, ping pong, access to internet, Xbox, PS5, electric drums and swimming. These activities were identified from the West Arnhem Youth Leadership Summit as well as consultation with community and youth.

Thanks to those who collaborated with West Arnhem Regional Council and to those who attended - we hope you enjoyed the holidays!



FIGHTING FLU STARTS WITH YOU

2024 INFLUENZA VACCINES AVAILABLE

The INFLUENZA vaccine is recommended for people aged 6 months and over and is **FREE** for those most at risk of influenza and its complications*

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

Centrelink Customer Reference Number:

(CRN): 406957335SI

Enter your child onto the wait list:

<https://parent-portal.kidsoft.com.au/create-account/JabiruChildcare>



MANINGRIDA COMES TOGETHER FOR NAIDOC

The spirit of NAIDOC was alive and strong in Maningrida as community members gathered at the town pool on Friday, 18 July to celebrate the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The event, held in collaboration between West Arnhem Regional Council and Nja-marleya, was a great success, with families and young people coming together for a fun-filled day of activities.

The celebration featured swimming races and a

basketball hoop-throwing competition, which saw enthusiastic participation and plenty of laughter from all ages. Winners of the events were proudly presented with a range of prizes including NAIDOC merchandise, Sydney Swans jerseys and shorts, and donated shoes.

The excitement didn't end at the pool — many of the children were so thrilled with their prizes, they didn't want to take them off, with some even choosing to sleep in their brand-new gear.



CELEBRATION OF CULTURE, CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

<< From front page



NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS IN GUNBALANYA

Gunbalanya held a great NAIDOC Week celebration, with a big community day and plenty of activities for all ages!

It was an amazing collaboration between West Arnhem Regional Council, ALPA CDP, TeamHealth and Injalak hosted us at art centre. There was barbecue, tie-dye t-shirt making games with prizes including tug-o-war, spear the kangaroo, musical statues and chairs, axe throw, bow and arrow and we concluded with colour fun run.

The second part of NAIDOC event was sports festival were

young and old joined together in teams to play basketball, soccer (and walking soccer for the oldies) and AFL. It was nice to see the different ages join together. Some more prizes were handed out and a roast chicken wrap.

Adding to the celebration, we were lucky enough to have a visiting high school from NSW come along as well.

Throughout the week there was NAIDOC activities added to school holiday program with painting comp, banner making and a painting and weaving session at Injalak Arts.





VOLUNTEERS
ORDINARY PEOPLE DOING
EXTRAORDINARY THINGS

The Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) volunteers provide a fire and disaster response within the major towns and communities, and road crash rescue response along much of the Territories major road network.

Volunteer members respond in the first instance to emergency calls within their district. They may also attend emergencies in other volunteer fire brigade areas when requested to assist at major incidents.

NTFRS currently have approx 250 volunteers within 8 Volunteer Fire Brigades and 7 Fire and Emergency Response Groups.



JOIN US!

NT Fire and Rescue
VOLUNTEERS

Are you over 16 years old,
reasonably fit and healthy?

For more info email: volunteercoordination@pfes.nt.gov.au or visit www.fire.nt.gov.au

OUR WEST ARNHEM

YOUR VOTE

VOTE

IN THE 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS


Voting is compulsory

WHEN?

Voting is open from Monday 11 August to Saturday 23 August.

WHERE?

Find your closest voting centre at ntec.nt.gov.au



ntec.nt.gov.au



Northern Territory
Electoral Commission

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.

SCRAP METAL REMOVED FROM THE GUNBALANYA LANDFILL

Gunbalanya's landfill is looking clearer thanks to a major clean-up effort by Sell and Parker, who visited the site in June to remove a total of 143.18 tonnes of scrap metal.

All scrap metal collected from the site, including old car bodies, is sent for recycling. Once processed, the metal is shredded, melted down, and reused to create new products – including parts for

new vehicles.

Council is encouraging residents who have car bodies they'd like removed to get in touch with their local Council office to arrange a collection.

West Arnhem Regional Council looks forward to welcoming Sell and Parker back soon to continue this important work and further reduce landfill waste in the community.









Help at home for older people.

If you're finding it harder to do the things you used to, you might need a bit of help at home. You and your family can get help to:

Access services to support you with:

- Rides around your community (to see family, food shopping, doctor's appointments and other places)
- Help inside and outside your home (like vacuuming, preparing meals, cleaning gutters and mowing the lawn)
- Help with changes to your home (like adding hand rails or ramps)

Find information in one spot:

- Help and support for elders in your community
- Who can get help
- The cost
- People and groups specially trained to help in your community

Connect with **myagedcare** on www.myagedcare.gov.au or call **1800 200 422**

*1800 calls are free from land lines; calls from mobile phones might be charged.

Contact Service Centre: Lee on 08 8979 9454

Power and Water Corporation presents...

Waruwi Wupaj Festival

Come ask questions and learn about your water with us!

DAY 1

5 August 2025

Community BBQ and wupaj information stall

Outside the shop at 11 am

The Power & Water team will be there to answer your questions and listen to your concerns. Learn how you can care for water and make sure that Waruwi has enough water for the future.





DAY 2

6 August 2025

2-way science on country with the Rangers!

Rangers, Junior Rangers, Pete and Power Water staff will get out on country and learn 2-way science about wupaj together. We will look at billabong water with magnifying glasses and conduct water monitoring. We will talk about the importance of caring for country by caring for water!




REGISTRATIONS OPEN!

5 & 6 SEPTEMBER 2025

**Get your AFL & basketball
team together now!**

*Registration Packs available from
your YSR Teams!*

Registrations Close: 21 August 2025

HOSTED BY:

WEST ARNHEM



REGIONAL COUNCIL

MEN'S BASKETBALL
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
MEN'S AFL
WOMEN'S AFL



SUPPORTED BY:



National Indigenous
Australians Agency



Provided supported by
**NORTHERN
TERRITORY
GOVERNMENT**



BASKETBALL, CULTURE AND CONNECTION

On 23 July 2025, the Red Lily Health Board brought together sport, culture, and community for a powerful event that left a lasting impact.

The day centered around basketball but carried a much deeper message: the importance of living smoke-free and the strength that comes from cultural connection and healing.

Led by First Nations people and grounded in cultural knowledge, the event was part of the Hoops 4 Health initiative.

Using Dr Bruce Perry's Neurosequential Model, the program creates a safe and supportive space for young people to reconnect with their roots, regulate emotions, and build resilience.

Sport becomes more than just a game, it becomes a tool for



healing and growth.

Basketball is a favourite pastime for many young people in the Jabiru, and this event tapped into that love to deliver an experience that was both fun and meaningful.

The courts were alive with energy, laughter, and skill, while off the court, conversations about well-being, culture, and making positive choices took centre stage.

West Arnhem Regional Council supported this event by providing two marquees, two BBQs, and access to the basketball courts.

"The strength that comes from cultural connection and healing.."

A big thank you goes out to the works crew, whose efforts behind the scenes helped make the day a success.

This event wasn't just about basketball.

It was about creating a space where young people feel seen, supported, and strong in who they are. And judging by the smiles on the court, it did exactly that.



STAY AHEAD OF FLU SEASON WITH VACCINE

The time has come for Territorians to book their influenza vaccination as flu season arrives with more than 1,400 cases confirmed.

Flu vaccination is recommended annually as the Territory enters the Dry season in the Top End, and winter in our southern parts.

During this period, flu case numbers peak across Australia.

Minister for Health Steve Edgington is urging all Territorians over the age of six months to get the flu vaccine.

"Different viral strains of the flu occur each year and it is important to receive an annual flu vaccine to ensure the best protection against current strains," he said.

Flu is already circulating in the Territory. Since the beginning of 2025, there have been more than 1,400 cases confirmed, mostly in the Top End and East Arnhem regions.

The influenza vaccine is free for the following people:

- All children aged 6 months to 5 years
- All Aboriginal people aged 6 months and over.
- People aged 65 years and older.
- Pregnant women during any stage of pregnancy.
- People aged 6 months and over with conditions predisposing them to complications from influenza.

This year, Territorians aged 5 years and over who are eligible for a free vaccination under the [National Immunisation Program](#) (NIP) can also get vaccinated from a participating pharmacy.

To book a flu vaccination, contact a GP, health clinic or pharmacy.

For more information, including eligibility to receive the flu vaccine for free through the NIP, visit NT Health's [Flu vaccination webpage](#)

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.

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