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 Sydney Swans will return to the West Arnhem region this November to host the football festival. Pictured is their visit to Maningrida in 2024. Photo supplied.

MANINGRIDA FOOTY FESTIVAL

The Sydney Swans will return to the Top End this November to host a football festival focused on spreading an important anti-smoking health message.

Globally, tobacco kills more than 7 million people each year, including an estimated 1.6 million non-smokers who are exposed to second-hand smoke. First Nations peoples in the Northern Territory have among the highest rates of smoking in Australia, especially across the Top End throughout West Arnhem Land, where the town of Maningrida is located.

Last year, Swans AFL and AFLW players and staff came together with the local health service – Mala'la Aboriginal Medical Service and the ADF to host the first Maningrida Footy Festival, encouraging the community to Kick the Habit to maintain a strong body. The festival was part of the Australian Government's Tackling Indigenous Smoking

(TIS) program.

We're thrilled to announce that following the success of last year, the Maningrida Footy Festival is returning this November. The two-day event on November 15-16 will see participants from across West Arnhem Land come together to play football, share food and music, and learn about the dangers of smoking.

The TIS program supports healthy lifestyles through the promotion of smokefree environments and discouraging the uptake of smoking tobacco and products. This year, the focus is on highlighting the impact of second-hand smoking on children and young people.

The festival will cap off a seven-day trip in the West Arnhem Land that will see a contingent of Swans players and staff visit Jabiru, Gunbalanya, Ramingining and Milingimbi.

Sydney Swans First Nations Strategy and Player Development Manager Jarred Hodges said last year's event was well received and supported by the community.

"We're really excited to return to the Top End and work with Community organisations for a second year to deliver the Maningrida Footy Festival and assist in expanding the reach of current messaging about the dangers of smoking," Hodges said.

"Last year's festival was a resounding success, and it was an excellent opportunity for our players and staff to develop their understanding of First Nations Peoples' deep connection to country.

"We know our players can be powerful role models, so we are looking forward to working with the community to bring First Nations young people and families together to play footy and share some really important preventative smoke free messaging."

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Celebrating the official handover of the new lighting at Brockman Oval, Jabiru.

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AFL SEASON IN MANINGRIDA



Preparations are now underway for the AFL 2025/2026 season start in Maningrida.

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FIRST CIRCLES PROGRAM CLOSES TODAY

The Finocchiaro CLP Government is inviting Aboriginal Territorians to take part in the First Circles Leadership Program, a flagship initiative helping to grow future leaders, strengthen communities and deliver long-term certainty for Territorians.

"Through workshops, mentorship and education, we build leadership capacity, strengthen governance skills.."

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Steve Edgington said the CLP Government is encouraging emerging Aboriginal leaders to apply for the 2026 program and take an active role in strengthening their communities.

"In our year of action, certainty and security we continue to invest in a program that provides pathways for leaders from our remote areas to lead their own communities, contribute to change and help shape the future of the Territory," he said.

"Through workshops, mentorship and education, we build leadership capacity, strengthen governance skills, and empower members to directly engage with high-profile leaders, community representatives, key services and organisations."

Since the CLP flagship initiative began in

2014, 122 Aboriginal leaders from across the Territory have participated. Eleven members from the 2025 cohort will address CLP Government Ministers in October, presenting their advice on policies, projects and initiatives that directly affect their families and communities.

"This program ensures emerging leaders can provide practical solutions to community challenges while gaining certainty and confidence in navigating public policy," Mr Edgington said.

The six-month program includes four face-to-face workshops and has been instrumental in supporting Aboriginal Territorians to deliver projects that address remote community challenges and provide practical solutions.

"The initiative fosters two-way collaboration and knowledge-sharing between government and remote communities as participants deepen their understanding of public policy and its impacts on Aboriginal Territorians," Mr Edgington said.

First Circles Leadership Program 2025 participant Selmer Smiler, from Kalkarindji in the Victoria Daly region, said she applied so she could inspire the young people in her community.

"After completing First Circles I am able to explore further training courses and opportunities that can help me have a greater impact in my community," she said

Applications close on 31 October 2025.



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



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!



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



MANINGRIDA CHANGE ROOMS COMPLETED

West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor James Woods extends a huge congratulations to Stedman's Constructions on delivering the state-of-the-art change rooms for the Maningrida community.

Council is proud to support local businesses and partnerships like this, which show what amazing things can be achieved across the West Arnhem region!

Mayor Woods and CEO Katharine Murray are looking forward to the official opening of the Maningrida change rooms on Friday, 14 November, and to celebrating with the entire community. Stay tuned for more details soon!

This exciting project, delivered with funding from the Commonwealth Government's Aboriginal Benefit Account and support from the National Indigenous Australians Agency, marks an important milestone for the Maningrida community.







JABIRU'S BROCKMAN OVAL LIGHTS OFFICIAL HANDOVER





West Arnhem Regional Council Elected Members for the Kakadu Ward, Cr Mickitja Onus and Cr Ralph Blyth, along with Council staff and representatives from the Jabiru Bombers, visited Brockman Oval on Tuesday, 28 October 2025 for the official handover of the new oval lighting.

Council remains committed to supporting sport and recreation across the region and continuing to invest in improved sporting infrastructure, and this major community project will open up more opportunities for evening sport, events and broader community use.

Also pictured are the Jabiru Bombers Football Club men's and women's teams, who completed their first training session under the new lights last week.

Council looks forward to seeing a Jabiru Bombers home game under lights later this season!

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





The West Arnhem Wire | 27 September - 31 October 2025

WHAT'S ON



West Arnhem Regional Council will be holding Pre-Cyclone Clean Up Days in Jabiru and Minjilang in November (dates listed below).

WEEKLY

Monday

Underwater Hockey: Jabiru Pool, 5pm Kakadu Deadly Runners & Walkers, 5.30pm 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 Kakadu Deadly Runners & Walkers, 5.30pm Jabiru Creative Group: Town Plaza, 6.00pm

Thursdays

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

NOVEMBER

Wed 5 Jabiru Pre-Cyclone Clean Up Day

Tue 11 Remembrance Day

Tue 11 Sydney Swans visit in Jabiru

Wed 12 Sydney Swans visit in Gunbalanya

Wed 12 Minjilang Pre-Cyclone Clean Up Day

Fri 14 Maningrida Change Rooms Grand Opening

14-16 Maningrida Footy Festival, Sydney Swans

20 & 21 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Darwin

Sun 23 Jabiru Community Children's Christmas Party

MORE LIGHTING UPGRADES FOR JABIRU COMMUNITY

With the Brockman Oval light upgrades now complete, West Arnhem Regional Council has commenced further lighting improvements across the Jabiru township to boost community safety and visibility.

Last week, contractors replaced 14 mushroom flood lights around the Jabiru

Town Plaza and carparks, along with 8 flood lights at the Jabiru Pool facility.

Lighting upgrades remain a key priority for Council, making Jabiru's public spaces safer and brighter for all.

These works are being delivered by M.E.C NT.









NOMINATE TO BE ON THE WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

The NT Electoral Commission is facilitating the 2025 Local Government Supplementary Elections to fill vacancies on the West Arnhem Regional Council - one in Gunbalanya Ward and one in Kakadu Ward. Nominations are closing soon! These elections will be in November 2025.

Have you considered standing as a Councillor to represent your community (Gunbalanya or Kakadu) on the West Arnhem Regional Council?

Nomination Period:

Open: Friday, 17 October 2025

Closes: 12 noon, Thursday 6 November 2025

You must:

- Be 18+
- Be enrolled in the local government area you're nominating for
- Meet all requirements detailed on the nomination form

Voting

Early voting and remote voting will commence from the 17 November 2025, with election day being the Saturday November 2025.

All eligible voters must participate in the Northern Territory Local Government elections. If you don't vote and don't have a valid reason, you may receive a fine under the Local Government

All candidate details and resources are available on the Northern Territory Electoral Commission website.

Visit ntec.nt.gov.au to check your enrolment or apply for a postal vote. Our Territory, Your Vote.



Jabiru Pre-Cyclone Clean Up

Wed, 1 October & Wed, 5 November

Place unwanted hard waste on the kerbside at the front of your house BEFORE the day and Council will collect it for you!

✓ WHAT WE CAN COLLECT:

Household items: furniture, white

goods, timber

E-waste: TVs, computers Scrap metals: Bedframes, toys

X WHAT WE CAN'T COLLECT:

Green waste, tyres, batteries, commercial waste, oils or chemicals



Any enquiries, please contact the Jabiru Council Office on 8979 9444 or info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

NOMINATE

FOR THE 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Thinking of running for your local council?

This is your opportunity to represent your community.

Nominations close 12 noon Thursday, 6 November 2025 Complete and submit your nomination form at ntec.nt.gov.au/25LGE

For information about the role and responsibilities of a councillor contact your local council.

NEED HELP NOMINATING?

Contact the NT Electoral Commission





CANDIDATE

ntec.nt.gov.au

- Thursday 6 November 2025 at 12:00 noon
- Postal vote mailout commences: Monday 10 November 2025
- Early voting and remote voting commences Monday 17 November 2025
- Election day: Saturday 29 November 2025
- Declaration of election results: Monday 15 December 2025

What is happening?

The 2025 Local Government Supplementary Elections be held to fill six vacancies after the 2025 Local Government elections, where there were insufficient candidates for the number of vacancies in the six wards for five councils.

Supplementary elections are required to fill one vacancy in each of the following wards:

| , | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Council | Ward |
| Central Desert Regional Council | Akityarre |
| MacDonnell Regional Council | Rodinga |
| Roper Gulf Regional Council | Yugul Mangi |
| West Arnhem Regional Council | Gunbalanya |
| West Arnhem Regional Council | Kakadu |
| Litchfield Council | North |

What is the election for?

Voters will elect a Councillor to represent a ward. Local councils manage many of the everyday services closest to you like roads, footpaths, rubbish collection, libraries and parks.

Who can nominate as a candidate?

You can nominate as a local government election candidate if you are

- an Australian citizen
- 18 years of age or older
- enrolled to vote in the local government
- a resident within the local council area

To nominate as a candidate you must:

- download and complete the nomination form available at ntec.nt.gov.au
- be nominated by at least one other person enrolled in the local government area in which you are standing.
- provide a recent head and shoulder photograph of yourself.
- your completed nomination form and photo can be lodged in person at an NT Electoral Commission office or uploaded via the NTEC website at ntec.nt.gov.au
- nominations can only be lodged after the nominations open and must be submitted by 12:00 noon on Thursday 6 November 2025. Late applications can not be accepted.
- Contact the NTEC or your council office if you require assistance with your nomination

For more information

It is recommended that you review these handbooks and form

- Nomination form
- Candidate handbook
- Scrutineer appointment form
- Scrutineer handbook

For information about the role and responsibilities of a councillor contact your local council

For more information about the nomination process, reach out to the NT Electoral Commission:

- Phone: 1800 698 683
- Email: ntec@nt.gov.au



MANINGRIDA CROWNS BASKETBALL CHAMPS

After 20 solid rounds, the Maningrida basketball competition wrapped up with the grand finals on Friday, 24 October.

The Women's game saw Sparks take the win over Burduk, and in the Men's game, the Grizzlies came out on top against the Jets. It was a massive night for the community with great energy, barbecue, and plenty of good sportsmanship all around.

The competition was supported by West Arnhem Regional Council's Youth, Sport & Recreation team, NTG Sports, Njamarleya, Traditional Owners, the local church group, and the wider Maningrida community.

The grand finals were a great opportunity celebrate the end of the basketball season and bring the community together through sport.

More than 300 people came out to watch and cheer. Council worked alongside Traditional Owners, Community Elders, the church mob Elders, NTG Sports, and Njamarleya, who helped with the barbecue and crowd support.

Mayor James Woods, Traditional Owners and Leaders also joined in to present the trophies and medals, which made the night even more special. It's been a big 20 rounds, and to see the community turn out like this makes it all worth it.

The energy, the teamwork, and the pride on everyone's faces that's what keeps us going.

Over the past few prelims rounds we've had between 300 to 400 people turn up, which really shows how important sport is for this community.

These games aren't just about basketball, they bring people together, create connection, and show what community spirit really looks like here in Maningrida.













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AFL 2025/26 SEASON LAUNCH IN MANINGRIDA

Following the success of the basketball competition, preparations are now underway for the AFL 2025/2026 season, which will officially launch during the Sydney Swans' visit in November. Team registrations open from 29 October, and planning meetings have already been held to finalise logistics and scheduling.

The competition is supported by West Arnhem Regional Council's Sport & Recreation team, NTG Sports, Traditional Owners, and the wider Maningrida community.

To keep the momentum of community engagement going and continue providing regular sporting opportunities for youth and families.

A short gap between the basketball and AFL competitions has been planned intentionally, as this approach has proven to keep the community engaged and supportive from one competition to the next. Social media promotion has already started, generating strong excitement for the season ahead.

After the energy we've seen around basketball, it's important we keep that same spirit alive. By keeping a small gap between competitions, we've found that the community stays interested and connected. The AFL season will be another great way to bring everyone together and keep that positive momentum rolling.



The Maningrida women's AFL team before their showcase match against Jabiru at the 2025 Kurrung Sports Carnival.



The Maningrida men's AFL team were runners up in the 2025 Kurrung Sports Carnival AFL competition.



Minjilang Pre-Cyclone Clean Up

Wed, 22 October & Wed, 12 November

Place unwanted hard waste at the front of your house BEFORE the day and Council will collect it for you!

✓ WHAT WE CAN COLLECT:

Household items: furniture, white goods, timber **E-waste**: TVs, computers

Scrap metals: Bedframes, toys

WHAT WE CAN'T COLLECT:

Green waste, commercial waste, oils or chemicals



Any enquiries, please see the Council Office.



WORK IN & EXPERIENCE ARNHEM LAND & KAKADU

Darwin or Jabiru

Regional Roads Manager | \$116K | Permanent | Full time | No Accommodation | Closes 12 November 2025

Gunbalanva

Post and Administration Officer | \$73k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Open until filled

Works Officer | \$31.35/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation |

Community Care Team Leader | \$79k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Open until filled

Youth, Sport & Recreation Assistant | \$26.53/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Works Assistant | \$26.53/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation

Community Safety Senior Officer | \$37.39/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Community Safety Officer | \$31.35/hr | Permanent | 27.5 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Centrelink Assistant | \$26.53/hr | Permanent | 30 hrs | No Accommodation

Jabiru

Tenancy Coordinator| \$85k – Permanent | Full time| Subsidised Accommodation| Closes Wednesday 19 November 2025

Early Childhood Educator Leader| \$85k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Open until filled

NDIA Remote Community Connector | \$79k | Fixed term | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Closes Wed 5 Nov 2025

Centrelink Senior Officer | \$73–82k | Permanent | 30 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Works Assistant | \$26.53/hr | Permanent | Full time | No Accommodation

Early Childhood Educator Assistant | \$61–73k | Permanent | Full time | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Pool Officer | \$61k | Permanent | 25 hrs | Subsidised Accommodation

Maningrida

Post and Administration Officer | \$73k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Closes 12 November 2025

Utilities Support Contract Operator | \$85k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Closes 19 November 2025

Casual Cleaner | \$31.35/hr | Casual | No Accommodation

Youth, Sport & Recreation Assistant | \$26.53/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Miniilana

Works Officer | \$31.35/hr | Permanent | Full Time | No Accommodation

Broadcasting Officer | \$37.39/hr | Permanent | 12.5 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Child Care Senior Officer | \$73–82k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Open until filled

Warruwi

Team Leader Works | \$40.13/hr | Permanent | 12.5 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Child Care Senior Officer | \$73–82k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Open until filled

Broadcasting Officer | \$37.39/hr | Permanent | 12.5 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

Centrelink Officer | \$34.59/hr | Permanent | 7.6 hrs | No Accommodation

For more information:

Please phone 08 8979 9404 or email <u>vacancy@westarnhen.nt.gov.au</u>



Indigenous people are encouraged to apply

BE MOSQUITO-MINDED THIS WET SEASON

Top Enders are reminded to be mosquito-mindful during the peak-population period from October to January.

Salt marsh mosquitoes are aggressive biters that can transmit mosquito-borne diseases such as Ross River virus and the Barmah Forest virus disease.

This announcement comes as NT Health sounds the alarm to look out for the menagerie of other wet season monsters: murky mud, menacing stingers, mango madness, and mean extreme heat.

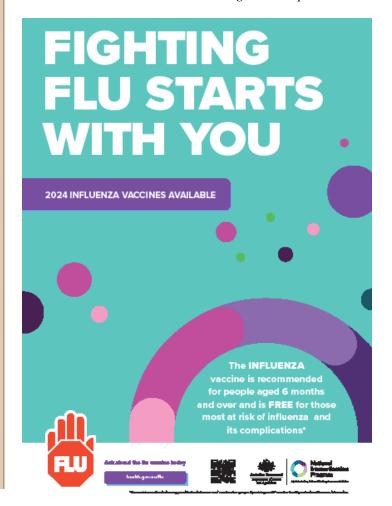
The Northern Territory is home to more than 100 different species of mosquitoes, of which some spread diseases to people, pets, and livestock.

Diseases transmitted by mosquitoes include Ross River virus, which can leave you feeling achy and worn out, and more serious ones like Murray Valley encephalitis and Japanese encephalitis virus, which can be life-threatening.

To minimise the chance of

being bitten by mosquitoes people should:

- Wear protective lightcoloured clothing with long sleeves, long trousers, and ankle protection with socks, in areas where mosquito bites are likely.
- Use a protective repellent containing DEET, picaridin 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 against mosquito bites.







JABIRU COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN PARTY

Caulfield Grammar held the Jabiru Community Halloween party on Tuesday, 28 October at Djibidjibi College.

All members of the community were invited to celebrate Halloween through a wide range of activities and a delicious

West Arnhem Regional Council's (WARC) Youth Sport and Recreation team provided their help through setting up during the day, running basketball as an activity and providing drop offs after the event, ensuring that all children were able to enjoy the event.

The event was able to promote social and community connection.

We thank Caulfield for providing this amazing event.

WARC YSR Officer Polly McArthur stated that it was one of the best community event she had seen, so many kids and everyone was having fun.

JABIRU ADULTS DOUBLE TENNIS

West Regional Council's Jabiru Youth, Sport and Recreation Team has commence Adults Double Tennis in the community.

Every Wednesday night, six teams take the IS courts to compete in a socially competitive round of doubles

tennis. The competition is being thoroughly enjoyed by all with background music and spectators cheering on! This is to promote social connection and being able to promote a healthy weekly activity for the adults of people.





myagedcare



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: Find information in one spot:

- 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
- - · Help and support for elders in vour 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

Contact Service Centre: Lee on 08 8979 9454



Maningrida

FESTIVAL

Save the date November 14-16, Maningrida Oval.

Sydney Swans players, football carnival, music, sausage sizzle.

We're looking for local teams to participate.

To register your interest contact Riley Thompson 0477 710 509 Riley.thompson@nt.gov.au









