



The stage is set for one of Maningrida's most exciting nights of the year — the New Year's Eve Fireworks display, funded by the Maningrida Local Authority.

## MANINGRIDA NYE FIREWORKS

The stage is set for one of the most exciting nights of the year for the Maningrida Community – the New Year's Eve Fireworks Spectacular!

Funded by the Maningrida Local Authority and delivered by West Arnhem Regional Council, this annual event has become a beloved tradition, bringing families and friends together to celebrate the end of one year and the beginning of another.

*"This is a highlight community event for Maningrida and we hope to see everyone there to bring in 2026.."*

For those who have attended in previous years, you already know this is one of the most incredible fireworks displays in the Top End.

This year will be extra special with the new Maningrida Changerooms now open – which means spectators can watch the show undercover from the grandstands.

This year's display promises to deliver an unforgettable experience, featuring a fireworks event of the highest standard. Expect

a breathtaking show that will light up the Maningrida skies.

The festivities will kick off at 7pm at the Maningrida Oval, with the fireworks display lighting up the night sky (weather permitting).

This event wouldn't be possible without the incredible support from:

- West Arnhem Regional Council
- NT Police, Fire, and Rescue
- MERGS

This is a highlight community event for Maningrida and we hope to see everyone there to bring in 2026.



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## 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.



**INFLUENZA Vaccination**

**FLU VACCINE IS FREE FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE**

**Ask your local health clinic about getting the flu vaccine**

The flu vaccine is free for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 6 months and over.

You should get the flu vaccine every year to protect yourself, your family and your community.

Speak to your local health clinic to get your free flu vaccine today!

For more information visit [nt.gov.au/flu](http://nt.gov.au/flu)

phn Workforce NORTHERN TERRITORY

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](#)



## 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!



# 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.

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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

# ACTION FROM THE MANINGRIDA FOOTY FESTIVAL



**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](mailto:volunteercoordination@pfes.nt.gov.au) or visit [www.fire.nt.gov.au](http://www.fire.nt.gov.au)

**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](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au) or call 1800 200 422

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

Contact: Kathy on 0402 338 430

## WHAT'S ON



West Arnhem communities will soon celebrate Australia Day with their own community events. Please keep an eye on your local notice boards for more information.

## 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

## DECEMBER

**Wed 3** International Day of Persons with Disability

**Fri 5** International Volunteer Day

**Thu 18** Special Finance Committee Meeting

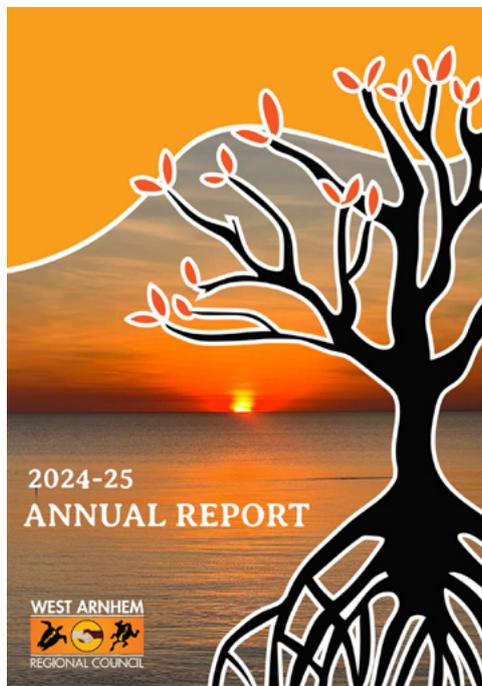
**Wed 31** Maningrida New Year's Eve Fireworks

Display

## JANUARY

**Sat 24** International Education Day

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL ADOPTS 2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT



West Arnhem Regional Council adopted its 2024-25 Annual Report at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 13 November 2025.

*"The Annual Report features Council's strategic goals and objectives, performance.."*

The Annual Report features Council's strategic goals and objectives, performance for the financial year ending 30 June 2025 as well as the financial analysis of reports and audited financial statements.

The 2024-25 Annual Report can be downloaded on Council's website, obtained by visiting the Council Offices in Jabiru, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Warruwi and Minjilang or by telephoning (08) 8979 9444.

You can also email [info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au) for a copy of the document.

Website: <https://westarnhem.nt.gov.au/corporate-documents>

Do you have a news story or community notice to share?

Email: [wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au)



## 2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2019, the West Arnhem Regional Council 2024-25 Annual Report can be downloaded at [www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au](http://www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au), obtained from any of Council's offices in Jabiru, Minjilang, Warruwi, Gunbalanya and Maningrida, by telephoning 08 8979 9444 or by emailing [info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au).

*Katharine Murray  
Chief Executive Officer*

# SYDNEY SWANS VISIT TO PROMOTE HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

On 12 November 2025, Gunbalanya welcomed a special visit from the Sydney Swans! During the day, the Swans visited local classrooms to talk about the harms of smoking and the importance of living a healthy, active lifestyle.

In the evening, the team hosted a community footy kick-around at the oval, giving away merchandise and serving up a barbecue for everyone. The visit was part of a region-wide tour across West Arnhem, aimed at raising awareness about the dangers of smoking and how to stay smoke-free.

The event was supported by West Arnhem Regional Council, with Clontarf helping to run the barbecue and feed the crowd. Gunbalanya Sport and Recreation Team Leader, Harry Tidmarsh, said, "The Swans team, with support from the ADF, were fantastic. Their ability to connect with the community and make the kids feel special was truly something great to be part of."



# ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CRISIS SUPPORTERS AVAILABLE



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.

# NOMINATE NOW FOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

West Arnhem Regional Council has opened nominations for the 2026 Citizen of the Year Awards across the West Arnhem region, and we need your help to give our community's best the recognition they deserve.

We're looking for someone who makes a difference in our communities including Jabiru, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Warruwi and Minjilang.

The Awards are Community-driven so

we encourage you to consider putting someone forward in your networks for the 2026 Awards.

It is a pleasure for WARC to be able to facilitate these awards every year to celebrate and say thank you to the incredible people who help make the region a great place to live. Do you know someone who contributes to our community and inspires those around them?

**Your nominee could be recognised in one of our three categories:**

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year (16 to 30 years)
- Community Event of the Year

**Nominations Close:** 19 December 2025.

**For more information:** Call 89799465 or email [wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au)



Winner of the 2025 Stakeholder of the Year Award, Red Lily Health in Warruwi.



Winner of the 2025 Cultural Leader and Elder Citizen of the Year Award, Bunug Galaminda receiving the award from Geri Narul in Warruwi earlier this year.

## HOME SECURITY

**Reduce the opportunity for thieves to gain entry into your home, by doing the following:**

**LOCK your door** – the most effective way to prevent thieves from entering your home.

**Lock gates, garages and sheds** when not in use. Lock all doors and windows, even when you are outside.

**Don't leave valuables in obvious places.** Thieves often target jewellery, in jewellery boxes on bedroom dressers and other valuables in bedside drawers and cupboards.

**Keep your house keys, car keys and garage remote controls away** from the front door or in obvious places. Thieves may use them to gain entry to your home or to steal your car.

**Consider installing an alarm system,** motion sensor lighting or closed circuit cameras.

**Lock all garden tools and ladders away** so they can't be used to break into your home.

**Make sure keyed locks are fitted** to all of your doors and windows.

**Use an ultra violet (UV) pen to mark property.** Mark your valuables with your driver's licence number, prefixed by the letters 'NT' for Northern Territory e.g. NT123456.

**Keep trees and bushes in front of doors and windows trimmed** to avoid being used as hiding places.

If you see any suspicious activity in your local community, report it to Police on **131 444** or call Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**  
For further information contact your local police station or visit [www.police.nt.gov.au](http://www.police.nt.gov.au)

## 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 light-coloured 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 TOWN SQUARE TRANSFORMATION CONTINUES

The transformation of the Jabiru Town Square continues!

The revitalisation project is creating a more inclusive, vibrant space for everyone to relax and connect.

The most recent improvements within the Town Square include:

- Bench seating relocated into shaded areas
- A new cold water bubbler installed at the front of the supermarket
- New USB charging ports and power points now available at the supermarket bench

These upgrades build on the first round of enhancements,

*"More inclusive, vibrant space for everyone to relax and connect.."*

which introduced new soft furnishings, picnic rugs, umbrellas and giant games - all designed to make the plaza a welcoming hub for both residents and visitors.

This project is proudly supported through the Rio Tinto Jabiru Social Infrastructure Fund and West Arnhem Regional Council.



Valarie Tambling using the new phone charging points in the Jabiru Town Plaza.

## WORK IN & EXPERIENCE ARNHEM LAND & KAKADU

### Gunbalanya

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

### Jabiru

Manager Community Services — \$116k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Closes Wed 17 December 2025  
Customer Services Officer — \$68k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Closes Wed 10 December 2025  
Relief Administration Officer — \$73k | 6 Month Fixed Term | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Closes Wed 3 December 2025  
Early Childhood Educator Assistant — \$61-73k | Permanent | Full time | No Accommodation | Open until filled  
Pool Officer — \$61k | Permanent | 25 hrs | Subsidised Accommodation | Open until filled

### Maningrida

Casual Cleaner — \$31.35/hr | Casual | No Accommodation | Open until filled  
Youth, Sport & Recreation Assistant — \$26.53/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

### Minjilang

Child Care Senior Officer — \$73-82k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Closes Wed 10 December 2025  
Works Officer — \$31.35/hr | Permanent | Full Time | No Accommodation | Open until filled  
Broadcasting Officer — \$37.39/hr | Permanent | 12.5 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

### Warruwi

Child Care Senior Officer — \$73-82k | Permanent | Full time | Subsidised Accommodation | Closes Wed 10 December 2025  
Team Leader Works — \$40.13/hr | Permanent | 12.5 hrs | No 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 | 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



## Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards

Nominate someone who makes a real difference in your Community in the 2026 Citizen of the Year Awards.

### Award Categories:

Citizen of the Year  
Young Citizen of the Year (16-30 yrs)  
Community Event of the Year

### NOMINATE NOW:

At [www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au](http://www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au)  
Pick up a form at any WARC Office  
Email: [info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au)

NOMINATIONS CLOSE: 19 December 2025

### CONTACT:

EMAIL: [info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au)  
PHONE: (08) 8979 9465



# YOUTH, SPORT AND RECREATION BACK IN ACTION

Youth Sport and Recreation in Gunbalanya is back in action!

While the program has been on hold since superstar Sam left community, the Youth Sport and Recreation team Harry and Daicos are excited to be delivering activities once again.

They have been working extremely hard to create as many opportunities for the children to Gunbalanya to stay active and

engaged when not at school.

Activities are held at the Gunbalanya youth centre, oval and basketball court.

Night patrol come out to sport at night to ensure we have a safe environment to be in, and the works crew helps keep our oval and facilities tidy.

The community as a whole is always happy to help out and lend a hand.

“Since stepping into the role in

November, it’s been amazing to see the energy and enthusiasm from the kids. Daicos and I have been working hard to provide plenty of opportunities for them to stay active and connected, and the support from the community has been incredible,” said Harry Tidmarsh, Youth Sport and Recreation Team Leader.

Check out some of the action in the below photos!



## 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\*



Ask about the flu vaccine today  
[health.gov.au/flu](http://health.gov.au/flu)



\*Some states and territories may provide free influenza vaccines for other groups. Speak to your GP or other health professional for more information.

**MANINGRIDA LOCAL AUTHORITY  
PROUDLY PRESENTS**

*Celebrate the New Year!*

**NEW  
YEAR'S EVE  
FIREWORKS**

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**WEDNESDAY, 31 DECEMBER 2025**

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**7.00PM - 8.00PM | MANINGRIDA OVAL**  
(WEATHER PERMITTING)

**Watch the fireworks at the new Changerooms Grandstands!**

Supported by:



**MERGS**

### SLIP 'N' SLIDE AFTERNOON

West Arnhem Regional Council's Youth, Sport and Recreation (YSR) team recently partnered with Stars Academy and Clontarf Academy to host a fun-filled Slip 'n Slide afternoon.

The event takes place midway through the school term and again at the end of Term 4, giving students something exciting to look forward to as they reach key milestones.

Held on the perfect hill at Jabiru's Magela Oval, participants raced down

a tarp layered with soap and water - a simple setup that delivered big laughs and plenty of friendly competition.

This popular activity continues to draw strong attendance at the afterschool program, helping to encourage youth engagement and active participation.

YSR Officer Polly McArthur said, "The kids loved it so much - racing each other down and seeing who could get the furthest each time."



# Watch your kids in croc country. Their safety is up to you.



[becrocwise.nt.gov.au](http://becrocwise.nt.gov.au)

