



The 2026 Spirit of Kurrung Cup, supported by the NO MORE team, was awarded to Warruwi community for demonstrating the values of respect, fair play and community spirit throughout the Kurrung Sports Carnival.

ACTION-PACKED KURRUNG IN 2026

More than 200 athletes from remote communities across the Top End descended on Jabiru over the weekend for two action-packed days of sport, competition and community spirit at the 2026 Kurrung Sports Carnival.

Proudly hosted by West Arnhem Regional Council on Friday, 28 and Saturday, 29 August, the Kurrung Sports Carnival brought together teams representing Minjilang, Maningrida, Gunbalanya, Warruwi, Kakadu and Numbulwar.

The carnival kicked off on Friday afternoon at the Jabiru Courts, with women's and men's basketball teams battling it out through the evening before the competition culminated in the grand finals and presentations.

On Saturday, the action moved to Brockman Oval for the highly anticipated men's AFL competition, with teams putting their skills, teamwork and community pride on

display throughout the day.

A special women's AFL showcase match was also held, highlighting the growing interest and participation of women in competitive football across the region.

"The weekend was about much more than the results on the scoreboard.."

The weekend was about much more than the results on the scoreboard, with the carnival providing an important opportunity for communities from across the region to come together, reconnect and celebrate through sport.

Long-time Kurrung partner NO MORE once again played an important role throughout the carnival, promoting respect, fair play and positive

relationships both on and off the field.

The Spirit of Kurrung Cup, supported by the NO MORE team, was awarded to Warruwi for demonstrating the values of respect, fair play and community spirit throughout the carnival.

Mayor James Woods said the carnival highlighted the important role sport plays in bringing West Arnhem communities together.

"Kurrung brings our communities together through sport. It gives our athletes the chance to compete, showcase their talent and proudly represent their families and communities," Mayor Woods said.

"For many of our 200 athletes, Kurrung may be the only major sporting carnival they get to compete in all year, so having that opportunity here in our region is incredibly important.

Continues, Pages 8 & 9 >>

INSIDE THIS EDITION

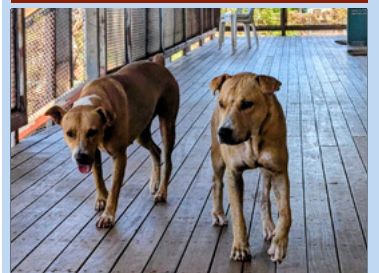
LANGUAGE SURVEY LAUNCHED



Council proudly participated in the ALPA Careers Expos held across West Arnhem.

PAGE 5 >

NEXT ROUND OF VET VISITS



Residents encouraged to use the animal management program during last community events for 2026.

PAGE 7 >

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS SUMMIT



Council representatives at the 2026-27 Higher Risk Weather Season National Preparedness Summit.

PAGE 3 >

GUNBALANYA JOBS DRIVE



West Arnhem Regional Council held a successful recruitment drive in Gunbalanya last week.

PAGE 3 >

BUILDING STRONG LEADERSHIP ACROSS WEST ARNHEM

West Arnhem Regional Council elected members are continuing to build their knowledge and skills through professional development training focused on strong leadership and good governance.

All elected council members in the Northern Territory are required to complete the training within six months of being elected.

It covers key areas including roles and responsibilities, the Code of Conduct, conflicts of interest, council finances and

decision-making.

Pictured are Kakadu Ward Councillors Dwane Baker and Ralph Blyth taking part in the training.

New Waruwi Ward Councillor Geraldine Narul will also begin the training following her recent election.

Delivered by the Northern Territory Government, the training helps councillors build the knowledge and confidence to make informed decisions and effectively represent their communities.



Kakadu Ward Councillors Ralph F Blyth and Dwane Baker taking part in the training.



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, Waruwi, 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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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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Upcoming Local Authority meeting dates:

MON, 5 OCTOBER Maningrida Local Authority

TUE, 6 OCTOBER Gunbalanya Local Authority

WED, 7 OCTOBER Waruwi Local Authority

THU, 8 OCTOBER Minjilang Local Authority

westarnhem.nt.gov.au



TUNE INTO TEABBA RADIO

Maningrida Radio 106.1 FM

Minjilang Radio 106.1 FM

Gunbalanya Radio 106.1 FM

Waruwi Radio 106.1 FM

Jabiru Radio 98.9 FM



TEABBA

TOP END ABORIGINAL BUSH
BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

WEST ARNHEM AT NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS SUMMIT

West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor James Woods and Chief Executive Officer Katharine Murray were in Canberra last week for two valuable days at the 2026-27 Higher Risk Weather Season National Preparedness Summit, hosted by the National Emergency Management Agency.

For remote regions like West Arnhem, local government plays a critical role in disaster preparedness, response and recovery.

The Summit provided an opportunity to strengthen relationships, share knowledge and reinforce the value of community-led approaches to emergency management.

With our communities facing unique challenges due to their remote locations, Council needs to be at the table - planning ahead, building strong partnerships and advocating for the needs of our communities.

Council remains committed to being on the front foot when it comes to emergency preparedness and continuing to be a strong voice for our remote communities.



GUNBALANYA JOBS DRIVE

West Arnhem Regional Council held a successful recruitment drive in Gunbalanya last week, with staff members Lajane Nicholls, Heidi Walton, Damian Blair and Scott Page coming together to host the community stall.

Held on the lawns outside the Gunbalanya Council Office, the recruitment drive gave local community members the opportunity to have a yarn with Council staff about current vacancies, employment opportunities, training and working with Council.

The day was a great success, with 11 local community members registering their interest in employment opportunities with West Arnhem Regional Council.

Increasing local employment across our communities remains a strong priority for Council, and events like this



provide a great opportunity to connect directly with local people interested in joining our team.

Council plans to hold more recruitment drives across West Arnhem communities in the coming months.

Council thanks everyone who visited us. All jobs are listed on Council's website.

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WHAT'S ON

Jabiru Library Holiday Program September/ October				
Monday 21/09/24	Tuesday 22/09/24	Wednesday 23/09/24	Thursday 24/09/24	Friday 25/09/24
11.00am - 12.30pm Laps at the library	11.00am - 12.30pm Art & Craft	11.00am - 12.30pm Art & Craft	11.00am - 12.30pm Art & Craft	1.30pm - 3.00pm Movie & Popc
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The September school holidays will begin this weekend! See your local noticeboards for activities in your community.

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 Fire'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 Fire's Fitness Training: Magela Oval, 5.30pm

Fridays

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

Sundays

Jabiru Fire's Fitness Training 5.30pm

SEPTEMBER

Sat 18 School Holidays begin

21 - 23 Vet Visit, Waruwi

21 - 25 Vet Visit, Gunbalanya

24 - 25 Vet Visit, Minjilang

22 - 23 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Jabiru

OCTOBER

Mon 5 WARC Maningrida Local Authority Meeting

Tue 6 WARC Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting

Wed 7 WARC Waruwi Local Authority Meeting

Thu 8 WARC Minjilang Local Authority Meeting

9-11 Jabiru, Town Camp & Bowali Vet Visit

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.



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!



EXPLORING CAREER PATHWAYS AT ALPA EXPOS

West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) proudly participated in the ALPA Careers Expos held across West Arnhem.

"Local career pathways that contribute to their communities.."

They provided an opportunity for school students

to connect with Council representatives, learn about the range of careers available within local government, and explore possible pathways into employment after school, workplace skills, training and the diverse work undertaken by Council across the region.

WARC values the opportunity to engage with young people and support them in exploring meaningful local career pathways that contribute to their communities.

Photos provided by ALPA.



Keep watch for Bird flu



Bird flu is a disease that affects birds. If you see multiple sick or dead birds, do not touch them.

If you see:

- Dead or dying birds
- Birds acting strangely or looking groggy or wobbly
- Discharge from birds' eyes and beaks

What to do:

Take a photo or video and note time, date and location.

Report

Scan the QR code and report via the online form or call the 24-Hour Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.



To find out more go to:
nt.gov.au/birdflu or birdflu.gov.au
 Agriculture Northern Territory



Conducted by University of Melbourne

GUNBALANYA VET VISIT

21-25 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

HOW DO I SEE THE VET?

See the Council Office or phone 8970 3700 to leave your name, phone number, lot number, pet description, procedure needed.

Treatments/procedures covered by the program:

Surgical desexing and parasite control are funded by the program
 Other treatments and vaccinations are at standard professional rates

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



MINJILANG CELEBRATES END OF SCHOOL TERM



West Arnhem Regional Council's Night Patrol Team in Minjilang joined with Mamaruni School and ALPA (RAES) on Wednesday, 16 September for the Mamaruni School athletics carnival and community day for the last day of term!

Held at Mamaruni School, ALPA supplied a foam cannon which was a huge hit with the kids.

Council provided a barbecue lunch which had a Night Patrol theme, giving our team the opportunity to share the important

role Night Patrol plays, including what the service can and cannot assist with.

Our Night Patrol staff play an important role in supporting safety and wellbeing in the community, and events like this are a great opportunity to connect, answer questions and recognise the hard work they do. Big thanks to Robert (Minjilang Senior Works Officer) for cooking a delicious lot of snags in bread for everyone!

This event was a well-deserved celebration for the kids.



Conducted by University of Melbourne

MINJILANG VET VISIT

24-25 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

HOW DO I SEE THE VET?

See the Council Office or phone 8970 3500 to leave your name, phone number, lot number, pet description, procedure needed. Location: The Vets will be located at Lot 100A.

Treatments/procedures covered by the program:

Surgical desexing and parasite control are funded by the program
Other treatments and vaccinations are at standard professional rates

Next Vet Visit: TBC

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



Conducted by University of Melbourne

WARRUWI VET VISIT

21-23 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

HOW DO I SEE THE VET?

See the Council Office or phone 8970 3600 to leave your name, phone number, lot number, pet description, procedure needed.
Vet Location: Lot 9 Unit 2.

Treatments/procedures covered by the program:

Surgical desexing and parasite control are funded by the program
Other treatments and vaccinations are at standard professional rates

For further info,
see Council or
the Vet Team



WORKING TOGETHER FOR BETTER ANIMAL HEALTH



West Arnhem Regional Council had the opportunity to learn more about the Animal Management Program being delivered across East Arnhem Regional Council this week.

Mayor James Woods, CEO Katharine Murray, Director Technical Services Grant McKenzie and Interim Director Community and Council Services Peter Mickleson met with the team to hear about the program's initiatives, approach and outcomes supporting responsible animal management in remote communities.

West Arnhem's Vet Program is also currently being rolled out across the region, with final

community visits underway before the wet season.

Since the program commenced, Council has seen significant improvements in animal health and wellbeing across our communities, and it has been fantastic to see so many residents taking advantage of the visits and services available.

The program continues to receive strong support from our Local Authorities and communities, highlighting the importance of accessible animal health services across the region.

Council thanks the East Arnhem team for taking the time to meet with us and share their knowledge and experiences!

LAST ROUND OF 2026 VET VISITS IN WEST ARNHEM COMMUNITIES

The 2026 West Arnhem Vet Program is continuing into the second half of the year with more community visits scheduled in coming month before the onset of the wet season.

The veterinarian team from the University of Melbourne Arnhem will visit each community to provide essential animal health services. Residents are encouraged

to take advantage of the upcoming visits:

Gunbalanya

21 September – 25 September

Jabiru/Town Camp/ Bowali

9-11 October

Warruwi

21 September – 23 16 September

Minjilang

24-25 September 2026

Third visit date to be confirmed

Visit the team for pet check ups, medications, sick animals or operations.

Please help spread the word to your family and friends about the upcoming vet visits.

TWO-ACTION PACKED DAYS AT KURRUNG

<< From Front Page

"But Kurrung is bigger than sport. It gives families from across the region a chance to reconnect, support their athletes and celebrate their communities.

"Sport creates connections that reach well beyond the court or the footy field. These communities share friendships, memories and triumphs, and events like Kurrung strengthen those connections across our whole region."

There was plenty happening away from the sporting action too, with stakeholders and community organisations hosting interactive stalls and engaging with athletes, families and spectators across the weekend.

Adding to the atmosphere in Jabiru, the much-loved Mahbilil Festival was also held over the same weekend, creating a vibrant celebration of sport, music, arts, culture and community.

West Arnhem Regional Council thanks every athlete, coach, community member, volunteer, sponsor, stakeholder, event partner and staff member who contributed to the success of the 2026 Kurrung Sports Carnival.

The carnival continues to demonstrate the important role sport plays in bringing communities together, building confidence and leadership, encouraging teamwork and creating opportunities for people to proudly represent their communities.

2026 CARNIVAL RESULTS

Women's Basketball MVP: Thadeus Allan – Numbulwar Green Ants

Men's Basketball MVP: Ryan Marshman – Jabiru Bombers

Women's Basketball Runner's Up: Waruwi Storm

Women's Basketball Winners: Numbulwar Green Ants

Men's Basketball Runner's Up: Minjilang Eagles

Men's Basketball Winners: Jabiru Bombers

Women's AFL MVP: Shania Cooper – Jabiru Bombers

Women's AFL Winners: Jabiru Bombers

Men's AFL Runner's Up: Waruwi Storm

Men's AFL MVP: Oscar Randerson, Jabiru Bombers

Men's Basketball Winners: Jabiru Bombers

Spirit of Kurrung Cup: Waruwi Storm



The Waruwi Storm men's AFL team played hard all day, making it to the grand final and crowned the runner's up!



The Jabiru Bombers men's AFL team taking the win in a back-to-back triumph at Kurrung.



The Numbulwar Green Ants women's basketball team taking the win pictured with Mayor Woods! It was great to have the team join the carnival.



Jabiru Bombers took the win over the Arnhem Land Wild Fires in the women's AFL showcase match! It was a great game.



Men's AFL most valuable player was awarded to Oscar Randerson of the Jabiru Bombers.



Women's AFL MVP winner Shania Cooper from the Jabiru Bombers.



Women's AFL runners up the Arnhem Land Wild Fires Team.



Women's AFL showcase match winners the Jabiru Bombers.



The Waruwi Community celebrating winning the Spirit of Kurrung Cup, supported by NO MORE.

TWO-ACTION PACKED DAYS AT KURRUNG



Well done to the Waruwi Storm women's basketball team - runners up at the 2026 Carnival!



Men's basketball competition champions the Jabiru Bombers before the carnival commenced.



The Gunbalanya women's basketball team coming together for a photo before the competition got under way.



Women's Basketball MVP winner Thadeus Allan from Nubulwar Green Ants pictured with Mayor James Woods.



Ryan Marshman from the Jabiru Bombers was awarded the MVP in men's basketball and is pictured with Mayor Woods.



The amazing basketball umpires team from JLP Basketball.



The Minjilang Eagles women's basketball team displayed great talent at the carnival.



Maningrida's men's basketball team coming together before the competition got underway on Friday night.



The Waruwi men's basketball team getting ready to take to the court on the Friday night.



Congratulations to the men's basketball competition runners up Minjilang! They are pictured with the Minjilang women's basketball team.



The Jabiru Bombers women's basketball team did well in the competition.

PROTECT YOURSELF, GET YOUR FLU SHOT

Territorians are urged to get vaccinated against influenza (flu) following increased cases in urban and rural Darwin, Katherine and East Arnhem.

Protecting yourself against the flu is especially important during the dry season with increased visitors to the Northern Territory (NT) and large-scale community events.

Influenza is spread from person to person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced during coughing or sneezing.

Influenza often has an abrupt onset, and symptoms include tiredness, fever, headache, chills, sore throat, loss of appetite, cough, runny nose and sneezing.

People can reduce the risk of passing influenza by staying home if they are unwell, hand washing, physical distancing and wearing a mask.

Since the beginning of 2026, there have been 775 confirmed cases of the flu, 218 hospitalisations and 2 deaths

reported in the NT.

During the same time in 2025, there were 3052 reported cases of the flu, 785 hospitalisations and 11 deaths.

As the flu season will vary each year and the NT is experiencing a later start of the flu this year, now is the time to get your 2026 flu vaccine.

Territorians can access the flu vaccination from the GP, health clinic and participating pharmacies.

People who are a greater risk of complication from the flu and are eligible for a free vaccination include:

- All children aged 6 months to under 5 years
- All adults aged 65 years and over
- Pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 6 months and over
- People aged 6 months and over with certain medical conditions that increase the risk of severe flu.



Jabiru Pre-Cyclone Clean Up

Wed, 7 October & Wed, 4 November 2026

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 visit the Council Office or phone 8979 9444.



WHAT'S ON



Jabiru Library Holiday Program September/ October 2026

Monday 21/09/26	Tuesday 22/09/26	Wednesday 23/09/26	Thursday 24/09/26	Friday 25/09/26
11.00am - 12.30pm Lego at the library	11.00am - 12.30pm Art & Craft	11.00am - 12.30pm Art & Craft	11.00am - 12.30pm Art & Craft	1.30pm - 3.00pm Movie & Popcorn
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