



The Minjilang community came together on Monday, 19 October, to give local runner Nathaniel 'Sooper' Cooper a memorable send-off ahead of his trip of a lifetime to New York City. Read more, Page 7.

REMBARRNGA LANGUAGE PROJECT

People with Rembarrnga language background will be working together over the next year to help kids and future generations learn the language and bring it back.

Through the First Nations Languages Education Program (FNLE), a grant initiative developed by the Australian Department of Education and First Languages Australia, the Bininj Kunwok Regional Language Centre has secured funding for a one-year program supporting community-based language learning activities.

The program focuses on Rembarrnga, an endangered language (less than 10 fluent older speakers left), and aims to increase the number of language speakers and educators.

The initiative was developed in response to requests from Rembarrnga Traditional Owners, such as Otto

Campion and community members across Arnhem Land who expressed a strong desire to see their language revitalised and passed on to future generations.

"Language revitalised and passed on to future generations.."

To strengthen project capacity, BKRLCC has engaged doctoral student Ella Haber, ANU, to work alongside the remaining fluent Rembarrnga speakers living across the region, at Maningrida, BuluhKaduru, Bolkdjam, Malnjarnganak, Bulman, and Ngukurr.

Together they are drawing on and adjusting historical

documentation, and using new educational training models developed by FLA(ILFTS) as well as creating engaging and innovative audio-video assets to develop educational resources to be adopted by interested schools and communities.

BKRLCC is also collaborating with Homeland School Company to ensure that the program can be integrated into its bilingual curriculum at Buluh Kaduru and Bolkdjam to start with, supporting long-term Indigenous language revitalisation and learning outcomes for future generations.

To hear Ewen Martin talking about why Rembarrnga language is important (with English subtitles go to tokunwok.s.gy/kPaeML or use QR code on Page 5.

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PROTECTING NORTHERN WATERS



AFMA and NORFORCE work closely together to help protect Australia's northern waters.

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WARRUWI LOOKOUT UPGRADES



New park seating has been installed at Waruwi's popular lookout.

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JABIRU LAKESIDE DOG PARK



Council has been working on building the new Jabiru Lakeside Off Leash Dog Park.

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NEW NDIS SUPPORT FOR MANINGRIDA RESIDENTS

Mayor James Woods joined Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister, Minister for the NDIS, and local service providers in Maningrida recently following an important announcement for remote communities.

Maningrida is one of 17 additional remote NT communities and surrounding homelands being added to the NDIS Remote Community Connector program.

The program will provide locally based support to help people with disability and their families better understand and access the NDIS and connect with appropriate services.

Mayor Woods welcomed the opportunity to meet with Minister McAllister and discuss the experiences and needs of people living in Maningrida and the wider West Arnhem region.



Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister, Minister for the NDIS and West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor James Woods in Maningrida.

NEW SEATING INSTALLED AT WARRUWI LOOKOUT



New park seating has been installed at Waruwi's popular lookout, providing a welcoming space for community members and visitors to enjoy. With shaded tables and chairs, it's the perfect place to take a break, enjoy the lovely sea breezes and soak up the stunning island views. This beautification project was proudly supported by the Waruwi Local Authority, helping to create more comfortable and enjoyable community spaces.



Proudly supported by
WARRUWI
LOCAL AUTHORITY

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, 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.

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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
Waruwi Radio	106.1 FM
Jabiru Radio	98.9 FM



TEABBA
TOP END ABORIGINAL BUSH
BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

COUNCIL WELCOMES NEW ELECTED MEMBER



West Arnhem Regional Council has welcomed its newly elected Warruwi Ward representative, Councillor Geraldine Narul, at the September Ordinary Council Meeting.

Cr Narul joins Council as the twelfth and final member of the full Council, following a by-election held in July 2026.

Cr Narul was officially sworn in at the Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday, 22 September 2026, where she made her Statement of Commitment.

"A strong voice for the community in decisions affecting Warruwi and the wider West Arnhem region.."

An Iwaidja and Maung woman from Warruwi, South Goulburn Island, Cr Narul brings valuable local knowledge, strong community connections and a deep understanding of the priorities and aspirations of the Warruwi community. She also served as a member of the Warruwi Local Authority from 2023 to 2025.

Cr Narul said her strong connection to Warruwi would guide her work as an elected member.

"My lifelong connection to Warruwi, family, culture and Country informs my commitment to community representation, service delivery and strong local governance," Cr Narul said.

Mayor James Woods welcomed Cr Narul to Council and said her local knowledge and strong community connections would ensure Warruwi has strong representation on Council.

"We are excited to have Cr Narul join Council. With her deeply rooted ties to the people of Warruwi, she will be a strong voice for the community in decisions affecting Warruwi and the wider West Arnhem region."



**NORTHERN
TERRITORY**
GOVERNMENT

Department of
**EDUCATION
AND TRAINING**

New Registration application – the Homeland School Company Limited, Buluh Kaduru School

The Homeland School Company Limited submitted an application to register a new non-government school – Buluh Kaduru School. The proposed school would provide full-time education programs for Transition to Year 6 students at Buluh Kaduru community.

The proposed school is currently utilised as a homeland learning centre attached to Maningrida College.

The application is being considered by assessors and is now open for public comment. Written submissions from interested members of the public should be received by close of business 6 November 2026, and sent to:

Registrar Non-Government Schools
GPO Box 4821, DARWIN NT 0801
Email: registrarngs.doe@education.nt.gov.au

In accordance with section 134(2) of the *Education Act 2015* (NT), the Registrar will provide any public submissions to the Homeland School Company Limited for response.

WHAT'S ON



Hoops 4 Health and Red Lily will be running Hoops in the Park events in Jabiru and Gunbalanya. read more, Page 7.

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

OCTOBER

Mon 26 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Maningrida

Tue 27 Hoops for Health, Jabiru

Wed 28 Hoops for Health, Gunbalanya

Sat 31 Halloween

NOVEMBER

Wed 4 Community Pre-cyclone Clean Up, Jabiru

Thu 5 WARC Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting, Jabiru

25-26 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting

WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT NORTHERN WATERS

Mayor James Woods enjoyed catching up with representatives from the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) and NORFORCE during a community engagement activity in Maningrida recently.

AFMA and NORFORCE work closely together to help protect Australia's northern waters, marine environment and fishing zones from illegal foreign fishing.

It was a great opportunity to learn more about their important work across the Top End and connect on the ground in 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!



MAYOR AT GLOBAL HEALTHY CITIES CONFERENCE

Mayor James Woods recently represented West Arnhem Regional Council at the 11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities in Sydney.

Held from 1-3 September, the conference brought together more than 400 mayors, deputy mayors and international delegates from across the Asia-Pacific to discuss challenges affecting communities and opportunities to improve health and wellbeing.

Mayor Woods participated in a range of workshops and roundtables covering issues including housing, health care, cost of living and social care, highlighting the shared challenges faced by communities around the world.

Importantly, the conference provided a platform to bring a Northern Territory perspective to these discussions and raise awareness of the everyday health and social challenges experienced in remote communities.

It was also a valuable opportunity to share experiences, build connections and hear how other local governments are responding to these challenges.



REMBARRNGA LANGUAGE PROJECT

<< From Front Page

To hear Ewen Martin talking about why Rembarrnga language is important (with English subtitles go tokunwok.s.gy/kPaeMLor use this QR code below.



Ewen Martin - Rembarrnga speaker.



**NORTHERN
TERRITORY**
GOVERNMENT

Department of
EDUCATION
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New Registration application – the Homeland School Company Limited, Gochan Jiny Jirra School

The Homeland School Company Limited submitted an application to register a new non-government school – Gochan Jiny Jirra School. The proposed school would provide full-time education programs for Transition to Year 6 students at Gochan Jiny Jirra community.

The proposed school is currently utilised as a homeland learning centre attached to Maningrida College.

The application is being considered by assessors and is now open for public comment. Written submissions from interested members of the public should be received by close of business 6 November 2026, and sent to:

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STRENGTHENING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Living in remote West Arnhem comes with unique challenges, particularly during the wet season when extreme weather, flooding and access to communities can become major concerns.

That's why strong emergency planning, coordinated responses and partnerships are so important.

Mayor James Woods and CEO Katharine Murray attended the 2026 NT Emergency Management Symposium in Darwin recently, connecting with emergency services, government agencies and organisations from across Australia.

The symposium was an opportunity to share experiences, learn from others and strengthen relationships that play an important role in supporting our communities before, during and after emergencies.

Council is committed to working alongside emergency services and local organisations to help keep our communities safe and supported when it matters most.

We also extend our sincere thanks to our emergency services personnel and partner organisations for the important work they do.



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

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

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

COMMUNITY SEND OFF FOR A JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME



The Minjilang community came together on Monday, 19 October, to give local runner Nathaniel Cooper (aka Sooper Cooper) a huge send-off as he prepares for the trip of a lifetime to New York City! Nathaniel is heading to the United States to compete in the iconic TCS New York City Marathon as part of the Indigenous Marathon Project squad, proudly representing Minjilang and First Nations peoples of Australia on the international stage. Community members and

representatives from West Arnhem Regional Council, Mamaruni School, Red Lily Clinic and ALPA gathered at the Minjilang basketball court to celebrate Nathaniel's incredible achievement and wish him well. Facilitated by Red Lily Clinic, the farewell included a community barbecue provided by Council, basketball and a special banner created by Mamaruni School to show their support. What an incredible achievement for Nathaniel and a proud moment for the whole Minjilang community!

ABORIGINAL OR 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.



HOOPS 4 HEALTH
JABIRU OUTSTATION PICK-UPS
TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2026

PICK-UPS FROM 3 PM

PICK-UP LOCATIONS

● Bowali	● Mamukala
● Mudginberri	● Patonga Airstrip
● Patonga Homestead	● Jim Jim Ranger Station
● Whistleduck	● Cooida
● Kapalga	● Town Camp
● South Alligator	

Basketball & BBQ
Jabiru Basketball Courts
Community event from 4 pm

RETURN DROP-OFFS FROM 7 PM
After basketball and the BBQ

For transport enquiries:
Jabiru Health Centre: 08 8979 9900

Note: Photos and filming may occur, please make it known should you wish to opt out

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NEW OFF LEASH DOG PARK AT THE JABIRU LAKE

West Arnhem Regional Council has been working on building the new Jabiru Lakeside Off Leash Dog Park.

The dog park provides a safe and secure space for dogs to exercise and enjoy some time off-leash. The park is open for residents and visitors to enjoy while Council completes some finishing touches over the coming weeks.

Final additions are currently being installed including signage, two water bubblers with dog bowls and dog exercise/play equipment.

The dog park is part of Jabiru Lakeside Precinct Project intended to provide more functional recreational spaces for residents and visitors.

This has been funded through the Rio Tinto Social Infrastructure Fund.



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.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Need an old car body removed?

Council can help community members with removing abandoned or unwanted car bodies from their property.

To arrange collection, the vehicle must be outside your yard fence boundary so Council can safely access it.

Council will take the car body to the tip for you.

CONTACT COUNCIL TO HAVE A CAR REMOVED



If you have a car on your property that you would like removed, pop into the Council Office and fill out a form!



Contact your local Council Office if you have questions



GIVE THE FLU THE FLICK AND GET VACCINATED

Territorians can give the flu the flick by getting vaccinated to reduce the risk of transmission.

Influenza cases have been increasing across the Northern Territory over the past few weeks, following a late start to the flu season, which can vary each year.

Since the beginning of 2026, there have been more than 1,300 reported influenza cases, including 370 hospitalisations and 3 deaths.

Vaccination remains the most effective way to protect against influenza and its complications, including severe illness, hospitalisation and even death.

Influenza is spread from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when coughing or sneezing.

Symptoms can be abrupt and include tiredness, fever, headache, chills, sore throat, loss of appetite, cough, runny nose and sneezing.

The influenza vaccine is updated every year in line with

new strains.

All Territorians aged 6 months and over are recommended to get the influenza vaccine each year as protection can decrease over time.

People who receive their yearly vaccine can maintain their protection against new strains and are less likely to develop severe illness, experience serious complications or require hospitalisation.

People can reduce the risk of transmission by staying home if unwell, regularly washing hands and wearing a mask.

People who are at a higher risk of severe influenza and develop influenza symptoms should seek medical advice as soon as possible.

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

People who are at a greater risk of complications from the flu are eligible for a free vaccination include.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Trailers available for hire in Maningrida!

Do you have rubbish or unwanted items in your yard?
Council can help!

West Arnhem Regional Council has trailers available for community members to hire for **FREE** to help clean their properties in Maningrida

HOW TO HIRE A TRAILER



The resident must fill out a hire form at the Council Office.

Council will then drop the trailer off at your yard.

You fill it with your unwanted rubbish.

Council will collect the trailer and take the contents to the landfill for you!



The trailers can only be used within community (not homelands)

MORE INFORMATION

Pop into the Maningrida Council Office or call 8979 6600.

FREE USE!



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: Kathy on 0402 338 430

Get DIPHTHERIA Outta Here!

Skin sores or sore throat?
See your clinic.



Check with the clinic if your family is safe and up-to-date with immunisations.

KEEP SAFE:



✓
COUGH AND SNEEZE INTO YOUR ELBOW



✓
KEEP WOUNDS CLEAN AND COVERED



✓
CLEAN HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND SURFACES



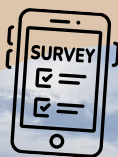
If you need an interpreter we can book one for you.





HELP SHAPE COUNCIL'S NEXT 5 YEARS

Tell us what matters most
in your Community.



5 MINUTE SURVEY

**YOUR PRIORITIES.
YOUR IDEAS.
YOUR COMMUNITY.**



Scan the QR code
to complete the
survey



Visit www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au



Paper Copies at Council Offices
Our team can help you!



Survey Closes: 23 October 2026

Waruwi | Maningrida | Minjilang | Gunbalanya | Jabiru

Have your say
about the future of
your community!

LAST CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY

West Arnhem Regional Council is preparing its next Strategic Plan and is inviting people across the region to have their say.

The Strategic Plan will help guide Council's decisions, services and priorities over the next five years. Council wants to hear what matters most to people in Jabiru, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Waruwi and Minjilang, as well as people and organisations with a connection to the region.

Complete a survey today via the below link or scan the QR code on the poster:

- **Community Survey:** <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/jeivXFvxnd>
- **Stakeholder Survey:** <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/q1mGJeP8De>

The Community Survey is for community members and asks about local priorities, what Council is doing well, what needs improvement and what success should look like.

The Stakeholder Survey is for organisations, service providers, businesses, government agencies and other partners. It asks about regional priorities, opportunities, challenges and ways to work together.

Council is encouraging everyone to take part. Community members can complete the survey online, fill in a paper copy, or ask Council staff for help to complete it.

Complete the surveys online, or pick up a paper copy from Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Maningrida, Minjilang and Waruwi.

The two surveys will close Friday, 23 October!

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

BE CROCWISE

becrocwise.nt.gov.au

