

CONSTRUCTION ON HOMELANDS IN FOCUS

Annual HMES (Homelands Maintenance and Essential Services) run is going well, with works having occurred at **Wurdeja, Ji-Marda, Buluhkaduru, Bolkdjam, Nardilmuk, Ji-Balbal, Ankabadbirri**.

Gochan Jiny-Jirra had a catastrophic fire within the power system end of last year, with an emergency grant being submitted and approved for interim system. Temporary system requires refuelling fortnightly. Installation of the new power system should begin by the end of next month.

Mudbrick crew have begun rebuilding BBQ's and outdoor kitchens on various homelands (**Nardilmuk, Rocky Point, Ankabadbirri**). We are awaiting repairs on Mudbrick Termite machine which will allow the mudbrick crew to increase production from 120 bricks per day, to over 800.

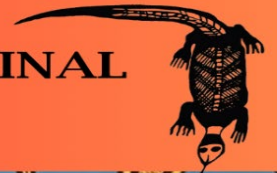
On Sunday the 30th of June, **Chairperson Jacqueline Phillips**, and **Homelands Coordinator Brett Wilbe** attended a full community meeting at Ji-Bena with stakeholders and residents to discuss the **HHIP** project and the ongoing consultation process. The meeting was held for everyone to discuss the project, raise their concerns and ask questions about the building logistics and apprentice participation on the project. After decades of not having a community meeting, it was agreed that these would be held on a regular basis.

We are so happy and proud to work alongside strong cultural leaders and stake holders that are active in consultation and the infrastructure upgrades to their Homeland.



To get in touch, send us an email to info@bawinanga.com, call 89796555 or message our Facebook page

BAWINANGA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



BAC NEWSLETTER

Issue 6 – June 2024

CULTURAL RESEARCH OFFICE – PRESERVING THE KNOWLEDGE

This month, the **Balkarranga clan** released a clan mapping publication and film, concluding the three-year project funded by the Australian Government's Indigenous Languages and Arts program. Led by key clan members and junggay, the project's aim was to document kin, Country, and culture for future generations. Outcomes for this project include over 10 hours of Martay Burarra recordings, documentation of the **Mun-jiburey manikay** (song cycle), short films featuring bunggul and clan stories, and a 70+ page full-colour publication on the clan's cultural knowledge, kinship, and history. A launch was held at the Maningrida Art Centre featuring a screening of the film and the release of the publication "An-jiburey". Clan members reflected on the project and acknowledged the contributions of everyone who worked tirelessly to bring this project to fruition.

An-jiburey is available to purchase, in limited release, at Maningrida Art Centre.



BAWINANGA EMPLOYMENT SERVICE TEAM (CDP) TRAINING

Batchelor Institute 'Automotive Vocational Preparation' 4-week training has commenced at Ye Ya, with several local men attending. Shane Jones is a great trainer and very friendly and easy with those attending to help them understand the material. Training is now being held at the Ye Yah shed and ends 19 July 2024.



Our **Men's Job Ready program** is being offered to support men with practical skills to get ready for work, have the right identifications, with mock interviews. If you are interested in this training, come see our staff at our employment services.

Reminder – If you are travelling away for '**Sorry Business**', '**Cultural Ceremony**', '**Patient transport**' – please let your employer know or talk to Centrelink to get an exemption so that your job seeker payment does not get suspended.

MANINGRIDA ARTS ON THE ISLAND

In May Assistant Manager Kelly Butler along with weavers Doreen Jingarrabarra, Freda Wayartja Ali, Anniebell Marrngamarrnga, Samantha Makuldja, Esther Yarllarla and June Wilson spent a week at Langarra for Bush Gallery alongside fellow arts center staff and artists from Milingimbi, Raminging and Gapuwiyak. Guests came to the event from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY and The University of Melbourne. Artists exhibited their woven artworks in self-built galleries on the Island.



"We chose Langarra because it's central to Gapuwiyak, Milingimbi, Raminging, Maningrida, and Elcho communities. It is the place for the Wulbukulkara clan. People brought their weavings, gunga, and tents. The best part of Bush Gallery is that it's something we have never done before—coming together with other weavers outside our community", said Ruth Namalkarra, Chairperson of Milingimbi Art and Culture

SAFE PROUD PEOPLE CONNECTED TO COUNTRY THROUGH SONG LINE

EEAI/ MANINGRIDA BARRA-RODJIBA ENGAGEMENT CREW & COMMUNITY NIGHT PATROL

The **Barra-Rodjiba Engagement Crew** have been working hard with other services such as WARC'S Sport and Rec, **Njamarleya**, **Maningrida AFL**, **Malala** and **Night Patrol** over the school holidays - to facilitate the highly anticipated and successful school holiday programs and activities! Last week during the day-time activities at the youth centre we were crafting and creating art and clay sculptures. During the afternoons the kids enjoyed Sport and Rec's evening footy games on the oval! The week gloriously ended with a dance off and Disco on the basketball courts. It has been such a joy seeing the young people having fun and engaging in these activities – the team has been hard at work (and due for a break!) but enjoying working with other services and putting on these programs and activities for the youth.

Yesterday we had the joy of taking a large group of kids out bush accompanied by Night Patrol. The young ones had an absolutely great time – learning off the staff and elders, catching fish and collecting bush tucker, as you can see in the photos!

If you have children looking for something to do over the school holidays – please send them along to the school holiday program: they will love it, and so will you!



ENTERPRISE – BUSHFOODS: INITIATIVE REWARDED!

Well done **Leannnda Mason** for bringing in her first harvest of **Kakadu plums** this month! She stated that she had never done this before. Leannnda was attending sorry business in **Ji-Balbal** with her family when she noticed a big mob of plum trees with a good crop of plums. Leannnda harvested a whopping 15 kilos which took her about four and half hours with some help from family members. She was very excited about her earnings for the day – there is always a family to put the food on the table for!.