



As the cool dry season settled in, our Bawinanga Djelk Rangers have been busy out on Country. Through the West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement (WALFA) project, they carry out early-dry-season burns to protect wildlife, bush plants and sacred sites. Guided by consultations with Traditional Owners, the burns are done both from the air and on the ground, reducing the risk of destructive wildfires. The carbon credits earned help support Ranger jobs and community projects.

The team has also been busy with biosecurity work—collecting bird specimens for avian influenza testing, sometimes flying into islands by helicopter when the seas are too rough for a boat trip. They have trained in Batchelor to spot and control gamba grass, an invasive weed that is one of our biggest fire risks and have found new patches in areas that have been clear for decades. They are also working with Biosecurity on buffalo post-mortems, checking for diseases like tuberculosis and foot-and-mouth disease. This means examining the animals' lungs, throats, and other organs to make sure everything is healthy. When they're not doing that, they are keeping gear in top shape and learning new skills

BAWINANGA HOMELANDS ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



BHAC NEWSLETTER

Issue 7 – July 2025

POSITIONS AVAILABLE COMMUNITY CULTURAL LIAISON OFFICER



We are seeking expressions of interest from local men and women for the positions of

COMMUNITY CULTURAL LIAISON OFFICERS.

If you speak one or several local languages, are a good communicator, are passionate about improving cross-cultural communication and knowledgeable about culture and ceremony -

please come to the BHAC office and have a yarn with Kira Bourke or Galina Lazareva about a possible position with us.

To get in touch, send us an email to executive.officer@bawinanga.org.au or call 8979 6500

We're excited to welcome **Alice Benchoam** to the BHAC team as our new **General Manager!** Originally from England, Alice moved to Sydney nearly 20 years ago and has now relocated to Maningrida from a beautiful surf town on the Central Coast of NSW, together with her husband Joe. Alice's connection to remote communities began in 1995, when she hitched a ride on a road train delivering fuel across Far North Queensland, visiting communities across Cape York. She also spent two years living and working in community in Haiti, training a women's rights organization to produce their own newspaper. Alice brings experience from both the corporate and not-for-profit sectors, most recently with The Fred Hollows

Foundation where she worked to improve eye health in remote Indigenous communities across Australia and internationally.

Alice's vision for BHAC is to help foster a workplace where culture is celebrated, communities are genuinely supported, and employees feel engaged and empowered. She's excited to contribute to this mission under the leadership of our CEO Kira and alongside the BHAC team.



A long-awaited **Nursery** update! Our green-fingered lady **Leila Nimbadja** has walked out bush and has collected some seeds that are already sprouting. The cleanup is under way and going great. A lot of hard work has been put in and is being reflected in the foot traffic of people coming into the nursery to have a look around.



The Nursery has been approached by the Health clinic to do some landscaping once their new build is complete. This is great news as word is getting around about the lovely local plants the Nursery are growing.

Congratulations – **Babbarra Women's Centre** was awarded the Asia Pacific Art Award from Creative Australia for their cross-cultural exhibition with India called **Karri-djarrk-durrkmirri** (*we work together, Kuninjku*). Supported by the Australian Government's Centre for Australia India Relations, this exhibition has been two years in the making. It honours the rich textile traditions of the Indo-pacific region and tells women's cultural and ancestral stories in a new way. They ran three workshops as part of the exhibition.

Raylene Bonson and Jess Stalenberg also went to Sydney to sell our fabulous fabrics at the National Indigenous Art Fair. The sales went well as the crowds admired the workmanship of our artists. And finally, Babbarra Women's Centre camped at Mumeka outstation to record some dancing as part of a bigger exhibition project with the National Museum of Australia.



Photos: Karri-djarrk-durrkmirri workshops, Raylene Bonson selling fabrics at the National Indigenous Art Fair; camping at Mumeka outstation