



Aboriginal Way

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Students from Hampstead Primary School at the 7th Annual Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations Breakfast.

Barngarla People's application for native title determined

On 22 January, the Barngarla People's native title claim was determined in the Federal Court by His Honour Justice Mansfield.

The determination is significant as it covers a large portion of the Eyre Peninsula and includes the regional townships of Port Lincoln and Whyalla.

It is the second native title claim to be recognised in South Australia by

the Federal Court following a trial; the first was the De Rose Hill determination in 2005.

His Honour found that since sovereignty there had been a continuous acknowledgement of the traditional Barngarla laws and customs, giving rise to his recognition of their native title rights in the lands and waters claimed.

"In my view, [the] material supports the conclusion that in the period between effective sovereignty and the present day, the Barngarla tribe as it existed at sovereignty has continued to exist, and the present claim group is the continuation of the original Barngarla people," said Justice Mansfield.

The Barngarla claim includes land and waters covering an area of about 44,480

square kilometres, was filed in April 1996. The Barngarla People now have the right to hunt, fish, camp and undertake cultural activities, such as ceremonies and meetings on their land.

Keith Thomas, CEO of South Australian Native Title Services, welcomed the decision.

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New Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation – Kyam Maher

As part of Premier Jay Weatherill's cabinet reshuffle Hon. Kyam Maher MLC is South Australia's new Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, replacing Hon. Ian Hunter MLC.

Minister Maher said he is "exceptionally proud... [and] very honoured to serve in this area". The Minister acknowledged the breadth of the position and revealed some of the direction he foresees for policy concerning South Australian Aboriginals.

In order to understand the political force that is Kyam Maher, it is necessary to turn to his early years. Mr. Maher was born in Papua New Guinea to Jim and Viv Maher. He spent the earliest parts of his childhood in Littlehampton, before moving to Mount Gambier. Mr. Maher attributes his strong value system to both his parents and the community ties he grew up with in rural South Australia.

Both Mr. Maher's parents are former State Labour Party candidates. Additionally, many members of his extended family have ties within the party too. Mr. Maher has said his natural inclination toward progressive politics began with his parents and continues into his political career to this day.

Mr. Maher has been consistently open about his Aboriginal heritage through his maternal side. He said this connection "has not played an active role in...[his]... life", but he is proud to be linked to "the oldest living culture in the world".

Before acquiring his current portfolio, Mr. Maher held several other parliamentary positions. Most notably, in 2002 he was appointed Chief of Staff to Terry Roberts, who at the time held the portfolios of Regional Affairs, Aboriginal Affairs and Correctional Services. His first job posting after completing his degrees of economics and law at The University of Adelaide, was working in a legal capacity with the Crown Solicitors Office.

Mr. Maher's passion for Aboriginal Affairs policy has carried through into other parts of his life. Most notably, he served as a board member of Reconciliation Australia for the twelve months prior to his appointment as Minister. Mr. Maher has stated that he believes the 'reconciliation' part of his portfolio is very important. He said he is determined to put his "own stamp on the Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Portfolio".

Mr. Maher's early plans for the portfolio include his desire to visit the APY Lands as soon as possible. He believes it is imperative that both his department and the communities meet to discuss the



Minister Maher.

challenges and initiatives that need to be taken in this area.

Our new South Australian Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation wants to work toward "understanding [the relationship] between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal South Australians, about the shared history we have".

In 2012 Kyam Maher delivered his first speech to the South Australian Parliament. Mr. Maher opened with an explanation of why he entered politics. Mr. Maher's answer was simple, and spoke of his rural upbringing. Mr. Maher desired "to see everyone in our community having the opportunity to share in the benefits of living in South Australia".

Mr. Maher spoke about the profound affect working in Aboriginal Affairs previously had imparted on him. In his speech, he acknowledged the disadvantages many Aboriginal Australians continue to face in modern Australia. Mr. Maher chastised this state of affairs, commenting "it makes us less of a nation when the Traditional Owners of this country endure some of the worst levels of disadvantage, poverty and dislocation that occur today".

When viewed with hindsight, Mr. Maher's passed conviction that Aboriginal Affairs "is an area that is so important we need to make every effort to keep making a difference", seems somewhat prophetic considering Mr. Maher's recent acquisition. The Minister recently made the comment that "once you start working in Aboriginal Affairs you never stop working in that area". For Mr. Maher, this work began well before his appointment as Minister.

It remains to be seen if Minister Maher will be driven by the same beliefs he held on Aboriginal Australia when he delivered his first speech in 2012 in the South Australian Parliament. It is hoped he does indeed make every effort to keep making a difference for South Australian Aboriginal communities.

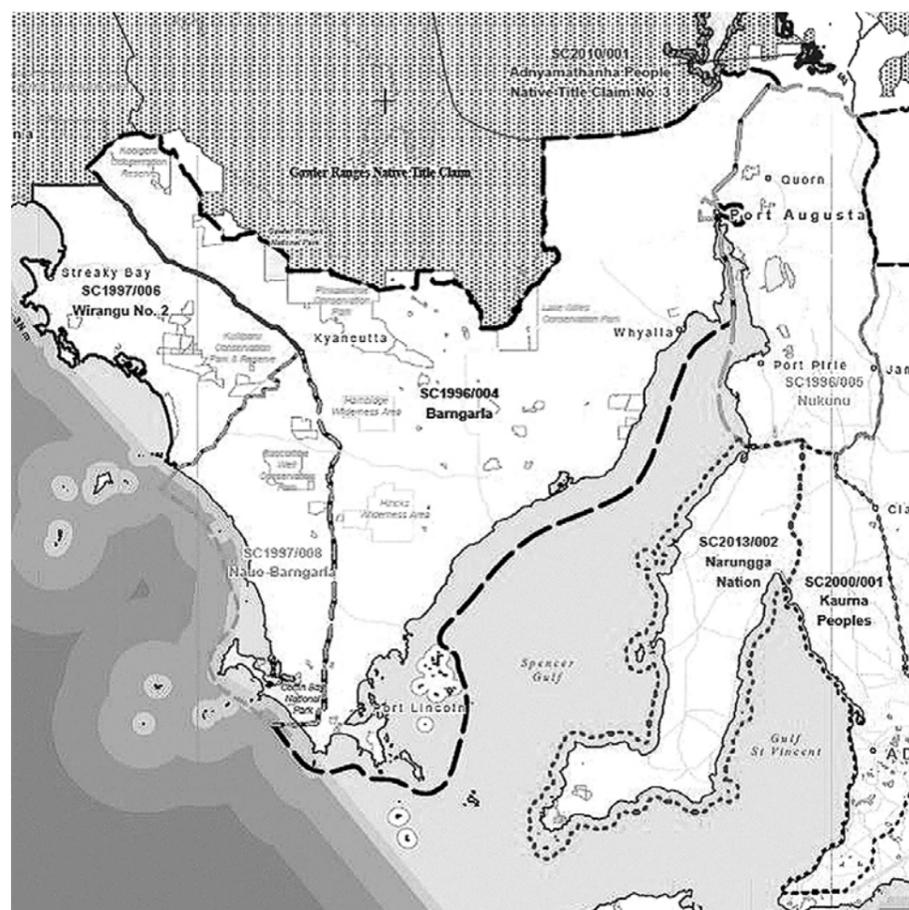
Barnjarla People's application for native title determined

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"It's a fantastic result for the Barnjarla people which gives them certainty in moving forward enabling them to plan with confidence their future economic, social and cultural aspirations. I congratulate all the

Barnjarla people on their success," said Mr Thomas.

Barnjarla people have praised the Federal Court's decision to grant native title over large areas of the Eyre Peninsula, giving special mention to those who worked tirelessly on the claim over the past 18 years.



Royal Commission to look at SA's nuclear industry potential

The State government has launched a Royal Commission to consider what role South Australia could play in the fuel cycle for the use of nuclear energy.

After a brief consultation period, the Royal Commission commenced on 19 March with former Governor Kevin Scarce appointed as Royal Commissioner, and the release of the final Terms of Reference.

The Commission, the first of its kind in Australia, will have until May 2016 to provide a final report to the State Government and will look into the production of nuclear energy, as well as the enrichment of uranium and waste storage.

It will not look into withdrawing from uranium mining or nuclear use for military/defence purposes.

Premier Jay Weatherill said more than 1000 submissions were received from

the community and industry during the initial four weeks of consultation, helping to shape the final Terms of Reference.

This is "a significant moment in our State's history – the commencement of the most thorough investigation into the nuclear fuel cycle and its feasibility in South Australia," he said.

"Minor changes have been made to the draft Terms of Reference following the second round of consultation including placing further emphasis on learning lessons from past experiences in regards to environmental impacts.

"A further change seeks to address the potential for the development of related industries and any adverse impact on other sectors," said Mr Weatherill.

A website for the Royal Commission has been established to provide relevant updates and information to the public www.nuclearrc.sa.gov.au.

Native title compensation claim filed in state's far north west



On 27 February, the Tjajiwara Unmuru native title holders filed South Australia's second native title compensation application in the Federal Court, following authorisation of the application by the native title holders at a meeting in Alice Springs on 23 February.

The application seeks compensation from the State of South Australian

for the portion of the Stuart Highway that traverses the Tjajiwara Unmuru determination area and a digital radio concentrator in the State's far north-west.

Compensation is sought pursuant to the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) on the basis that these acts occurred after the commencement of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth).

These acts 'extinguished' native title. Pursuant to the Native Title Act, the native title holders are entitled to compensation. Importantly, native title holders are entitled to 'just terms' compensation.

On 4 March 2015, his Honour Justice Mansfield adjourned the compensation application to allow the parties to progress the matter.

The compensation application will now proceed to a formal notification process by the National Native Title Tribunal.

South Australia's first native title compensation application – in De Rose Hill – was successfully resolved through the country's first native title compensation consent determination in 2012.

Aboriginal Corporations managing Aboriginal heritage

In 2014, several Aboriginal Corporations were delegated Ministerial powers under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA) (the Heritage Act). Since that time, these Aboriginal Corporations have continued to facilitate projects and mining activities, while also properly protecting Aboriginal cultural heritage.

It is unlawful to damage, disturb or interfere with Aboriginal sites, objects or remains without the Minister's prior approval.

Michael Pagsanjan, South Australian Native Title Services Senior Legal Officer said "under the Heritage Act, the Minister may delegate certain powers, including the power to oversee applications from parties whose actions may interfere with Aboriginal sites, objects or remains".

To date, the Minister has delegated that power to several Aboriginal Corporations, including Yankunytjatjara Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, De Rose Hill-Ilpalka Aboriginal

Corporation RNTBC, Ngadjuri Nation Aboriginal Corporation and Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Traditional Land Owners Aboriginal Corporation.

"This means that, if an application is made, these Corporations will stand in the shoes of the Minister to consider the application, and will need to follow the legislative procedure and rules of procedural fairness" said Mr Pagsanjan.

Lloyd Roe, current Chairperson for Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Traditional Land Owners Aboriginal Corporation says the delegation promotes the proper management of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

"We are proud to carry these Ministerial responsibilities, if the need to apply under the Act ever arises. However, we continue to work with stakeholders to try and avoid that need in the first place" said Mr Roe.

Aboriginal Heritage is usually managed through agreements, including agreements made under Part 9B of

the Mining Act and other agreements under section 31 of the Native Title Act and Indigenous Land Use Agreements. Amongst other things, these agreements set a procedure for Aboriginal people to check areas for Aboriginal heritage before activities take place, with the goal of companies trying to avoid such sites.

"At the end of the day, it is important that Aboriginal people and companies are honest with each other and always keep lines of communication open. This way, resource exploration and production can continue while efficiently addressing risks to our cultural heritage" said Mr Roe.

Energy Company, Senex Energy has been working closely with Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Traditional Land Owners Aboriginal Corporation (YYTLOAC); Traditional Owners of the Cooper Basin region in the North East Corner of South Australia.

A spokesperson for Senex said the company has not made an Application requiring YYTLOAC approval under the Act, and has not seen any significant

impact directly as a result of delegation of Ministerial powers.

"Senex has tenements that overlap YYTLOAC land. We have worked closely together with them through early notification, Work Area Clearances and joint mitigation of potential cultural heritage risk, before commencing any activity over that land.

"Senex would always approach the Traditional Owners in the first instance, to see if an issue can be resolved with their assistance and support. If a site we have selected is very significant to the Group, we will do our best to move the project or deviate the well. If there is a significant risk to heritage being damaged, we arrange for monitors to be onsite during construction," the Senex spokesperson said.

The most recent of several attempts to review the Heritage Act – including reviewing the delegation provisions – stalled in 2014.

Healthy Welfare cards proposed for remote disadvantaged communities

The federal government is proposing a cashless welfare card to stop spending on drugs, alcohol and gambling, with an aim to reduce domestic violence in disadvantaged communities.

The trial of the Healthy Welfare Card is expected to begin at the end of the year.

The cards would operate like an ordinary visa or debit card, and could be used on anything except to buy alcohol or to gamble.

Alan Tudge, Parliamentary secretary to the Prime Minister said the Healthy Welfare Card could have a positive impact on the rates of violence.

"The rates of violence in some of the high welfare communities is completely unacceptable."

"We want to trial this card because we believe it could have an impact on reducing the assaults and reducing violence in the community," he said.

This approach was recommended by mining magnate Andrew "Twiggy"

Forrest, last year. Mr Forrest said "Technology exists that would make it possible to ban the purchase of certain products, including alcohol and cigarettes, with the value of quarantined welfare payments added to bank-controlled cards, known as healthy welfare cards".

Mr Forrest said it should be introduced for 2.5 million Australians who are of working age, currently on welfare.

But Social Services Minister Scott Morrison said there was no plan for the card to have "mainstream application".

"It's there as a key tool to target particular areas of disadvantage," he told reporters in Sydney, recently.

The Greens described the card as "patronising and paternalistic", and called for the trials to be abandoned.

"These tough love methods do not resolve complex issues," Greens Senator Rachel Siewert said in a statement.

"They have not worked in the past and will not work now."

National Native Title Conference 2015

Leadership, legacy and opportunity

Port Douglas, QLD Tuesday 16 – Thursday 18 June 2015

Registration is open for The 2015 Annual National Native Title Conference. The conference will be co-convened by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and Cape York Land Council (CYLC). This year's will be held on the traditional lands of the Kuku Yalanji people in Port Douglas QLD.

The conference will commence on Tuesday 16 June and conclude Thursday 18 June. The date coincides with the Laura Aboriginal Dance Festival, due to be held in Laura QLD the weekend following the conference, 19 – 21 June 2015. This will provide delegates the opportunity to be involved in the largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural gatherings in Australia.

The Native Title Conference is an opportunity for people to come together and engage in debate, including native title holders and claimants, traditional owners, native title representative bodies and service agencies, the Federal

Court, National Native Title Tribunal, Commonwealth and State government agencies, academics, consultants and industry representatives.

The Native Title Conference prides itself on ensuring that Indigenous people are strongly represented in the Conference program. The Conference program consists of one day of closed workshops for Indigenous people and their native title representative bodies and service providers followed by two days of a public program which may include Indigenous Talking Circles, Women's and Men's Forums, Workshops, Panel Discussions as well as the delivery of Conference papers.

The conference engages with native title as an active agenda for justice for people and country – both before and after the outcome of native title determination, and within the broader compass of traditional ownership.

To find out more go to wired.ivvy.com/event/ntc15/



Family Violence Legal Service
Aboriginal Corporation (SA)

The Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) is holding information sessions about the **ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE**

Lawyers and Counsellors will be there!

Community members
and interested
SERVICE PROVIDERS

Who is invited?

FREE BBQ
Pitjantjatjara &
Yankunytjatjara
Interpreter

Extras!



CONTACT US
1800111052 or
0886412195

QUESTIONS?

16 April 2015 at

BUNGALA

ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

1-3 Young Street

Port Augusta SA

at 11am

17 April 2015 at

Venue: TBA

Port Lincoln SA

at 11am

ABOUT THE ROYAL COMMISSION

The Royal Commission is hearing stories from lots of different people about the things that happened to them when they were children.

The institutions the Royal Commission is looking into include schools, churches, foster care arrangements or homes for kids, missions, sporting clubs and scout groups. These are all places where kids should feel safe and happy.

The Royal Commission is looking into bad things that happened to kids at these places and how institutions responded.

The Royal Commission will make recommendations about what should be done differently, to ensure this does not happen to our kids in the future.



Charles Perkins, activist and administrator. The Assistant Secretary of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs protests along with Bob McLeod (sunglasses) and Allan Sharpley. Two of Perkins' children on his right, Hetty 9 and Adam 6 in 1974. Source: Laurie Schwab collection, Deakin University Library.

50th anniversary of a defining moment for Australian Aboriginal civil rights

The Aboriginal civil rights protests at the Moree Baths and Swimming Pool forever changed the civil rights of Aboriginal Australians and is recognised as a defining moment in Australian history.

Led by a young Charles Perkins, a group of passionate and courageous university students, known as the Freedom Riders arrived in Moree (northern New South Wales) in 1965 during their travelling campaign to raise awareness of Aboriginal discrimination and poor living conditions.

Moree was known to be a town where segregation was practiced. The students focused on the swimming pool for a public protest. The pool became a scene of tension and aggression as they attempted to assist Aboriginal children from the reserve outside town to enter the pool while locals angrily defended the race-based ban.

The demonstration brought racial discrimination to the attention and consciousness of the wider community.

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Minister for the Environment Greg Hunt said the action taken by the Freedom Riders 50 years ago, led to a change in attitude toward Aboriginal people by the wider community.

“The Moree Baths and Swimming Pool represents a significant part of the modern Australian story.

“The events at Moree in February 1965 helped create an environment for change that moved public opinion towards a ‘Yes’ vote in the 1967 referendum to remove the discrimination against Aboriginal Australians from the Australian Constitution” he said.

Following the events at Moree, Dr Perkins continued his work and commitment to the advancement of Aboriginal people in Australia throughout the rest of his life. He was awarded the Order of Australia in 1987.

The significance of events at the Moree Baths and Swimming Pool is recognised by its place on the National Heritage List.

Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Nigel Scullion, said it was sobering to think that just 50 years ago, such actions as those led by Dr Perkins were required to help end discrimination against Aboriginal people.

The story of the Moree Baths and swimming pool

On 20 February 1965, a young Aboriginal activist, Charles Perkins, led a group of students from the University of Sydney to protest the official segregation of Aboriginal people from the town swimming pool.

In the lead up to the events at Moree, the students, known as the Freedom Riders, had been travelling throughout rural towns in New South Wales and southern Queensland to draw attention to inadequacies in health and housing and the common discrimination against Aboriginal people.

Moree was the first place the Freedom Riders encountered official discrimination in the form of a by-law targeting Aboriginal people.

The ordinance stated *That no person being a full blooded or half cast aboriginal of Australia, or being person apparently having a mixture of aboriginal blood, shall use, occupy or be present in or upon, or be allowed or be permitted or invited to use, occupy or be present upon the premises of the council known as Memorial Hall... and that no such person as aforesaid shall use, occupy or be present in or be allowed or*

permitted to use or occupy or be present in or upon the premises of the council known as the Moree Baths or in or upon any of the buildings or places therewith

Charles Perkins and the Freedom Riders collected a number of children from the mission and attempted to gain entry into the pool. This led to three hours of heated negotiations and during this time a large and hostile crowd gathered. Fights broke out, people were knocked over, punches were thrown at the protesters and several arrests were made.

The protests at the Moree Baths and the stand-off between Freedom Riders and local authorities has become one of the most significant events of the modern Indigenous civil rights movement. The protest ended when Moree Council rescinded the by-law.

The Moree Baths and Swimming Pool Complex was included on the National Heritage List in 2013 as the 100th place on the list.

For more information go to the Department of Environment website.

Charles Perkins: footballer, activist, administrator

By Roy Hay

Charles Perkins was a pioneering figure in the recognition of the Aboriginal people of Australia. In the 1960s he led the freedom rides which brought discrimination against Aborigines into Australian politics. He was the first male Aboriginal graduate of the University of Sydney. He became chair of the Aboriginal Development Commission and head of the Federal Government's Department of Aboriginal Affairs. For four decades he was one of the most recognised figures across a range of issues affecting the indigenous peoples of Australia. Yet it was football where he first made his name and football which set him on the way to his later achievements. As he said 'Football serves a three-fold purpose. The first was to provide me with finance for my study. Second, it enabled me to keep fit because I needed to study for such long hours. Third, it was the means whereby I could mix socially and enjoy myself comfortably.'

Life was very tough for the youngsters who had to cope with discrimination and abuse.

Born in 1936 near Alice Springs, his mother was of the Arunta people, a very inclusive group, and his father whom he only saw once, was of the Kalkadoon people from Mount Isa. Charles was taken to Adelaide at the age of ten along with several other children by a Church of England pastor. Among the Aboriginal children in the school at Murratville was John Moriarty, another who made his way through football to an important career in Australian life. Life was very tough for the youngsters who had to cope with discrimination and abuse. In 1951 the state Under-18 was practising near the school. The boys from St Francis's took them on and gave them the runaround. Perkins and Moriarty and some of the others joined the squad soon after. That started the love affair with football.

Charles Perkins rose through a number of junior clubs in Adelaide including Port Thistle juniors, International United (Redskins), and Budapest which he joined in 1956. His speed, power and ferocious

shooting skills were recognised and in 1957 when he was at Fiorentina a scout from Everton offered to pay half his fare for a trial with the club in England.

His speed, power and ferocious shooting skills were recognised and in 1957 when he was at Fiorentina a scout from Everton offered to pay half his fare for a trial with the club in England.

Like other young Australians, including Craig Johnston and Tony Dorigo, Perkins found the gulf between the football he had been used to in Australia and that in United Kingdom was huge. He tried hard but he could not break into the Everton team and though he was offered a part-time contract in the end, he decided instead to try his luck elsewhere. He had a spell with local team in Wigan and then joined Bishop Auckland. On the face of it this was a curious move, going from a top professional team to an amateur one, but as he pointed out the amateur players were getting just as much money at the professionals in those days of the maximum wage in England. A game against Oxford University opened his mind to the possibility of going to university himself one day. In the short run he turned down offers in England, including one from Manchester United, and returned to Australia.

Meeting the future premier of South Australia Don Dunstan helped to develop his interest in the politics of Aboriginal advancement and in 1961 he moved to Sydney.

Adelaide Croatia, presided over by the leading housebuilder, Branko Fillipi, agreed to pay his fare home as they wanted his drive and direction for their push for promotion. Within months of coming home, he was helping the club



Charles Perkins in action. Source: John Maynard, *The Aboriginal Soccer Tribe*, p. 51, from *Australian Soccer Weekly* via Paul and Col.

to win promotion and cups as player-coach and becoming vice-captain of the South Australian state team. His experience in England had sharpened his skills including his tactical awareness and organisational capacity. John Moriarty and Gordon Briscoe were two other Aboriginal members of the Croatia team in these years. Meeting the future premier of South Australia Don Dunstan helped to develop his interest in the politics of Aboriginal advancement and in 1961 he moved to Sydney. After a false start at Bankstown he was offered a contract at Pan Hellenic, where he was an immediate hit. Once he settled among the Greek community he combined success on the football field with study for matriculation and then at Sydney University. Under his leadership Pan Hellenic finished fourth in Division One in New South Wales in 1961 and 1963. He finished his career as a player at Bankstown in 1965, but he remained involved in the game off the field.

When the National Soccer League started he was president of Canberra City and became a member of the Australian Soccer Federation and its vice-president in 1987. He also helped promote the

indoor game in Canberra along with his long time friend Johnny Warren and was president of the Australian Indoor Soccer Federation for a decade.

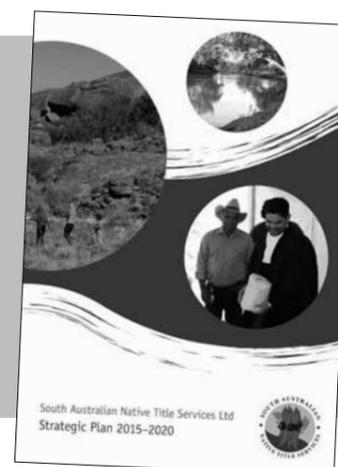
His influence persisted long after he died in 2000, because he paved the way by his example for the next generation of talent to come through.

He never forgot what he owed to the game and his autobiography *A Bastard like Me* tells the story, warts and all. His influence persisted long after he died in 2000, because he paved the way by his example for the next generation of talent to come through. Harry Williams worked closely with Perkins in Aboriginal support services in Rockdale in Sydney and went on to play for Australia in the World Cup in Germany in 1974. The modern generation of Aboriginal players, men and women, owe a great deal to the pioneering career of Charles Perkins.

SANTS new Strategic Plan

South Australian Native Title services (SANTS) has launched a new Strategic Plan to establish the goals and direction of SANTS for the next five years.

To get a copy of the Strategic Plan please visit nativetitlesa.org or call 1800 010 370.



Five new board members appointed to the council of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Studies

A renowned research, collections and publishing organisation, the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) is aimed at promoting knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island cultures, traditions, languages and stories. The organisation gives crucial advice to industry and government and provides access to Aboriginal heritage and knowledge. It welcomes:

- **Ms Donisha Duff:** National Manager, Indigenous Affairs at Kidney Health Australia. Ms Duff was recognised in 2014 as the NAIDOC Scholar of the Year.
- **Ms Rachel Perkins:** Founder and managing director of Blackfella Films whose notable body of work is a tribute to her work as producer, screen writer and director, including her film "Bran Nue Dae".
- **Professor Cindy Shannon:** Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Indigenous Education at the University of Queensland. Professor Shannon is renowned for her leading contribution to the development of Indigenous health policy.
- **Ms Jodie Sizer:** Principal of PwC Indigenous Consulting. Ms Sizer was named as Victorian Aboriginal Young Achiever in 2000, when she was working as an accounting auditor.
- **Mr Geoffrey Winters:** Associate lawyer with Clyde & Co and Director

of Design Your Future, a not-for-profit organisation that provides community-building art workshops for young Indigenous women.

The new council members will join Chair, Professor Mick Dodson AM and the rest of the council to continue the important work.

Outgoing Council members are Ms Neva Collings, Mr Dana Ober, Ms June Oscar AO, Ms Robynne Quiggan and Dr Mark Wenitong.



NAIDOC Week

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique and timeless connection to land is the special focus and theme of this year's National NAIDOC Week celebrations.

The theme – *We all Stand on Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate* – highlights Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' strong **spiritual and cultural connection** to land and sea.

For more information visit www.naidoc.org.au

Almost \$3m for road safety in Fleurieu, Riverland and Murray Mallee

The Fleurieu Peninsula, Riverland and Murray Mallee regions are currently undergoing a \$2.8m project to upgrade key roads.

The Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan said 23 sites have been identified for the resurfacing works.

"About 40 kilometres of regional roads will be resurfaced through this project which will make for a safer, smoother drive, while also extending the life of these roads," Mr Mullighan said.

Works will be undertaken at the following locations:

- Callington to Goolwa Road, Woodchester Township for 900 metres.
- Callington to Goolwa Road, approximately 2 kilometres south of Woodchester for 2 kilometres.
- Noarlunga to Victor Harbor Road, northern approach to Mt Compass for 1.3 kilometres.
- Noarlunga to Victor Harbor, approximately 2 kilometres south of Mt Compass for 1.2 kilometres.
- Noarlunga to Cape Jervis, approximately 14 kilometres south of Normanville for 400 metres.

- Noarlunga to Cape Jervis Road, approximately 1 kilometre south of Second Valley for 2.7 kilometres.
- Sturt Highway, approximately 7 kilometres east of Truro for 700 metres.
- Sturt Highway, approximately 3 kilometres east of Yamba for 800 metres.
- Angaston to Loxton Road, approximately 10 kilometres east of Swan Reach for 2.5 kilometres.
- Alawoona to Paruna Road, Paruna Township for 600 metres.
- Loxton to Pinnaroo Road, approximately 33 kilometres south of Loxton for 2.2 kilometres.
- Loxton to Murray Bridge Road, approximately 3 kilometres west of Wanbi for 5.8 kilometres.
- Sedan to Sanderston Road, approximately 9 kilometres south of Cambrai for 1.6 kilometres.
- Sanderston to Mannum Road, approximately 1 kilometre south of Sanderston for 2.6 kilometres.
- South East Highway, Murray Bridge Bypass for 1.7km.

- South East Highway, approximately 10 kilometres south of Murray Bridge for 1.1 kilometres.
- South East Highway, approximately 14 kilometres south of Murray Bridge for 2.5 kilometres.
- Mallee Highway, approximately 5 kilometres east of Taillem Bend for 1.2 kilometres.
- Mallee Highway, approximately 10 kilometres east of Sherlock for 2.3 kilometres.
- Mallee Highway, approximately 6 kilometres east of Parilla for 1.9 kilometres.
- Pinnaroo to Bordertown Road, approximately 30 kilometres south of the Mallee Highway for 2.1 kilometres
- Pinnaroo to Bordertown Road, approximately 42 kilometres south of the Mallee Highway for 400 metres.
- Princes Highway, approximately 28 kilometres south of Meningie for 3 kilometres.

Weather permitting, the works are expected to be complete by the end of April.

Commercial Fishery for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people

The commercial Bêche-de-mer Fishery in the Torres Strait is now owned exclusively by Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal People.

The Australian Government invested \$1.5 million to supporting a total Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal ownership of the Bêche-de-mer Fishery.

Nigel Scullion, The Minister for Indigenous Affairs has cited this development as an example of how the Australian Government can help to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Senator Scullion said this "will increase industry opportunities and help

traditional inhabitants achieve financial independence".

Senator Scullion was joined by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Senator Richard Colbeck, in recognising the significance of the commercial fishing license by the Torres Strait Regional Authority.

It is the second commercial fishery in the Torres Strait to be completely owned by Traditional Owners and is an important step toward a commercially viable fishing industry for Torres Strait Island and Aboriginal communities.

Seven years since apology

On 13 February over one thousand people attended the 7th Annual Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations Breakfast. The breakfast was held to honour the survivors of the Stolen Generations and to inform the non-Aboriginal community about their ongoing needs.

The keynote speaker was AFL legend Michael O'Loughlin. Michael is a Narungga, Kurna and Ngarrindjeri man who grew up in Salisbury, Adelaide. He went on to play 303 AFL Games for the Sydney Swans and was named in the Indigenous AFL Team of the Century. He is the Founder and Director of The Go Foundation. He is currently working as the High Performance Manager with the Sydney Swans and serves as a Recognise Campaign Ambassador. Mr O'loughlin was an inspiring guest speaker. He spoke about the importance of remembering the Stolen Generations, about his work with the Go Foundation, and his quest for a positive future for Aboriginal Australia.

"I have had close family affected by this tragedy and it is important to recognise all Stolen Generation survivors in South Australia," he said.

Mr O'loughlin also encouraged people to get behind recognition of Aboriginal people in the Australian constitution.

"Aboriginal people from this land are part of Australia's history. I think every fair-minded Australian can understand

why recognition will help us to heal old wounds", he said.

Professor Peter Buckskin , Co-Chair of the Reconciliation South Australia Board said the success of the breakfast shows there is growing support in remembering and acknowledging the Stolen Generations.

"Each year, our Apology Breakfast continues to grow, and this year we've broken records with over a thousand people attending. This indicates the growing respect and support that people have in SA for our Stolen Generation Survivors," said Professor Buckskin.

The support was also noted by the event's long list of sponsors. The main sponsors were Telstra, Port Power and Adelaide Crows.

Reconciliation SA promotes the People's Movement for reconciliation at a State level. Its website states Reconciliation SA aims "to increase understanding of the shared history of all South Australian that recognises and enacts the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to live in a just and equitable society".

The Annual Anniversary Breakfast of the National Apology is a significant State event that allows reflection and encouragement for people to come together to heal and to celebrate our achievements. The breakfast is always followed by a community BBQ, also hosted by Reconciliation SA.



From top, left to right: xx; xx; xx; xx; xx; xx; xx; xx; xx.



Clockwise from top left: The Numkerettes Belinda, Diana, Shelly and Sara; Jean, Ky and Linda Wilson with Gloria Sumner, Joe and Genie Lehotski; Jane Lemont Williams; xx; Centacare Staff; Tanya Michelle from Link Up; Dean Whitaker and Anthony Hughes; Randy Saunders and Warren Miller from Wirrangu Traditional Foods and Cooking; xx; Jose Nemorin at the SA Letters Patent stall.

Tim Wilson – Human Rights Commissioner National Press Club Address

Australia's sixth Human Rights Commissioner, Tim Wilson, spoke at the National Press Club on Wednesday 18 February 2015, on the subjects of freedom, education and human rights. The Commissioner dedicated a substantial part of his speech to property rights and housing as basic human rights. Below is an excerpt of Mr Wilson's address, the full speech is available online at www.humanrights.gov.au/news/speeches.

Property rights are human rights

Magna Carta's anniversary also provides the opportunity to reconnect Australia's human rights discourse back to their origins, particularly the importance of property rights.

The very foundation of human rights is that people own their own bodies and should be free to pursue their lives, their opportunity and their enterprise.

Preservation of property rights is central to the human rights cause.

They underpin autonomy, security, and the foundations of a market economy through physical and intellectual property to deliver the growth to deliver higher standards of living, art and culture, innovation and education and health outcomes.

Property is the foundation of industries past, and the entrepreneurialism and creativity of tomorrow.

Denying them has the reverse effect. In Perth I met with property groups who articulated the human cost of excessive environmental laws that destroy the security and opportunity for farmers to invest in their own future.

In Alice Springs we went to art galleries that ensured remote Aboriginal communities earned an income through the sale of artwork that is built on a respect for their intellectual property.

In his compelling book, *The Mystery of Capital*, Hernando de Soto, identified "Without formal property, no matter how many assets the excluded accumulate or how hard they work, most people will not be able to prosper".^[3]

The freedom to exercise property

If you need evidence to demonstrate the human consequences of denying

property, you just need to look at Aboriginal Australia.

Mabo established recognition of the common law right of native title and the road for Aboriginal Australians to reclaim their available lands. But it was only the beginning of the story.

It's not enough for Aboriginal Australians to simply have property rights; they must also have the freedom to exercise them.

Unleashing the freedom to exercise native title must be part of the next chapter in ensuring our Aboriginal Australians, as Noel Pearson wrote in a recent essay, achieve their "equal liberty ... [and] the freedom to take responsibility".^[4]

Aboriginal leaders from Broome to Cairns have detailed to me the complex bureaucracy after native title is secured, including:

- Excessive regulations that undermine self-determination and entrench poverty.
- Land tax bills for property that they've never had the opportunity to develop.
- And legal restrictions that stop land being used as equity to raise the capital to be entrepreneurial.

This is neither fair, nor just.

We can't complain about the cost of welfare programs for Australia's first citizens, when we concurrently deny them the freedom to use the primary asset they own to escape dependency.

It is not our place to tell Aboriginal Australia how to use their land. But it is our duty to ensure they can by removing red tape. Reform requires:

- Flexible legal instruments enabling communities to use their title as they see fit, including with different ownership structures that meet their needs.
- Complimentary new business models that ensure finance can be raised, and

risk can be priced, so communities can build economic opportunities.

- Mechanisms to raise finance for the development of housing and ownership.

Having met with leaders, there is an appetite for constructive reform to set native title free.

Reform must respect native title's unique role as a sacred bond between Aboriginal Australians and their homelands.

Therefore, I'm proud to announce that my colleague, Mick Gooda, and I will be hosting a high-level forum on this subject later this year.

Any proposals from this forum will require the consent of native title holders if implemented and will not compromise the protection of the inherent legal rights of Aboriginal Australia.

We will be bringing together parties interested in reviewing and reforming native title to remove legal and regulatory barriers that hold Aboriginal communities back from reaching their full potential.

Housing affordability

These challenges don't just befall Aboriginal Australia. Undermining the free exercise of property rights contributes to the housing affordability crisis in our cities and suburbs.

During an interview on a youth radio station in regional New South Wales I asked the host what issues her listeners had raised after reading my consultation paper. I know you all read it too. There was only one answer: property rights.

Housing affordability has been raised with me all across the country by business groups, younger Australians, rural Mayors and homeless support centres.

Most advocacy is dedicated to increasing the supply of social housing. Others have raised concern about security of rental tenure, particularly for older Australians.

But you cannot fix the problems of renting and ownership unless you fix the private market.

The wealthy can take care of themselves.



Human Rights Commissioner, Tim Wilson.

But middle and working class Australians, especially the young, face housing stress. Ignoring their problems simply pushes the problems further down the market to the detriment of the poor and disadvantaged.

That is the story I heard from disaffected homeless people at the Hutt Street centre in Adelaide. They raised concerns about accessing reliable accommodation with so much pressure on social housing.

Many factors contribute to rising house prices, from wealth disparity between generations, land release, environmental and planning regulations, as well as labour costs.

All increase costs and slow release of supply.

That isn't the end of the story. We stop people using websites to rent out their homes for short term tenancies.

There are also geographic differences. The problems in our capital cities where land is scarce are different to communities like Halls Creek in outback WA where land is plentiful.

Solving the challenge of housing affordability is not just about building more houses on the outer fringe of our great capital cities where families will struggle to commute; nor towering skyscrapers in our CBDs where families will only temporarily fit; especially when established suburbs stop medium density development that can deliver proximity, livability and affordability.

There isn't a one-size fits all solution.

Making sure all Australians can access shelter is an area I intend to work on in the years to come.

Aboriginal people eat less fruit and veg says ABS report

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people eat less fruit and vegetables than non-Aboriginal people, according to a report released last month from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Diets high in fruit and vegetables can help protect against chronic diseases like heart disease, stroke and some cancers.

The results are from the first ABS survey to collect detailed nutrition information from over 4000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, which forms the nutrition component of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in urban areas ate 25 per

cent or 23 grams more fruit and 30 per cent or 30 grams more vegetables than those living in remote areas.

Other results from the survey showed one in eight Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over reporting that they were on a diet. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dieters were more likely to be on a diet

to control diabetes compared with non-Indigenous dieters, who were more likely to be on a low fat or cholesterol diet.

More information is available in Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey: Nutrition Results – Food and Nutrients (cat. no. 4727.0.55.005) available for free download from the ABS website www.abs.gov.au

Closing The Gap report

The 2015 Closing the Gap Report was released earlier this year. The aim of the report is to assess the gains and losses made in the previous 12 months toward reaching targets outlined in 2008 by the Council of Australian Governments in addressing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander disadvantage.

TARGET	TARGET YEAR	STATUS	RESULTS
Close the gap in life expectancy within a generation	2031	Not on track	
Halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade	2018	On track	
Ensure access for all Indigenous four-year-olds in remote communities to early childhood education	2013	Not met	
Close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous school attendance within five years	2018		New target, baseline 2014
Close the gap in reading writing and numeracy achievements for Indigenous students	2018	Not on track	
Halve the gap for Indigenous Australians aged 20-24 in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates	2020	On track	
Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians	2018	Not on track	

Prime Minister Tony Abbott has said "it is profoundly disappointing that most Closing the Gap targets are not on track to be met". However, The Close the Gap Campaign's 2015 Progress and Priorities Report has cautioned that time is required to see results. Additionally it cautioned that reducing effort and drive behind the campaign amounts to a waste of the investment the Australian nation has done up until now. Kirstie Parker, co-chair of the campaign, has said that Australia as a nation will need to maintain the current campaign momentum to see a rise in Indigenous Australian's life expectancy.

The Closing the Gap Prime Minister's Report 2015 acknowledged the importance of Indigenous recognition in the Australian Constitution. The Prime Minister stated that he hoped this would be achieved on the 50th anniversary of the 1967 referendum, which would fall on 27 May 2017. The report states that "constitutional recognition is critical to fully acknowledge the heritage of our nation". The report went on to highlight that education, employment and safer communities are key factors in driving the Closing the Gap campaign and that health and wellbeing are interconnected to these factors. This opinion was mirrored by Ms Parker, who said there needs to be a clearer connection between the Closing the Gap Campaign and the Australian Government's Indigenous Advancement Strategy. It was echoed in the 2015 Progress and Priorities Report, produced under the co-chairperson commission of Mick Gooda and Ms Parker. There was a particular emphasis on the need to relate education, which is an Indigenous Advancement Strategy, and health.

Key recommendations have been forward by the 2015 Progress and Priorities Report. The recommendations include that the Australian Government should revisit the decision to discontinue to National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee; funding for the Tackling Indigenous Smoking programme is increased; and that the Closing the Gap targets focused on reducing imprisonment and violence are developed, and this should be implemented alongside justice reinvestment activities.

The Report highlighted the need for appropriate services that target detecting, managing and treating chronic diseases in Indigenous Australians. Evidence shows that Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services are able to provide the best kind of service in this area. The Report went on to state that the artificial divide between chronic disease and mental health needed to be removed. The two are closely linked and any separation detracts from achieving the targets set for the Closing the Gap Campaign.

Closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians is an agreed national priority for all Australians. In order to see these targets met there needs to be patience and unwavering commitment. **The small improvements that have been achieved so far show that the campaign is working, but it needs to be acknowledged by all that addressing centuries of entrenched disadvantage is not something that can be achieved overnight or with only partial support.**

TO READ THE FULL REPORTS VISIT www.humanrights.gov.au

Our column in review features reviews and stories on Aboriginal writers, artists and musicians. We welcome your feedback and suggestions. So if you know of a new work about to be published or an artist or musician please contact us on (08) 8110 2800.

Black Diggers

Directed by Wesley Enoch and written by Tom Wright, *Black Diggers* is the result of lengthy research into the lives and deaths of Aboriginal soldiers who fought for the British Commonwealth in World War I.

Tom Wright's narrative explores the experiences of the young men who hoped their involvement in the War would mean a better future for them when they returned to Australia.

It is performed by an all-male Aboriginal cast who capture this chapter of Australian history with the use of humour, sensibility and historical fact.

It begins with the Diggers enlisting with enthusiasm and then follows the challenges of fighting in Gallipoli and their return. It tells of the Black Diggers mateships with the white Diggers during the war, only to be painted black as soon as they set foot on Australian soil.

The simple dark set is utilised well as a backdrop for the in-depth dialogue and compelling truths conveyed from the perspective of the Black Diggers.

This is a play to be celebrated, not only as one of the highlights of this year's Festival, but as a demonstration of our nation's readiness to observe these pages of history, with meaning and maturity.



REVIEW



Radio program
**Aboriginal
Message...**

...is recorded weekly at
Radio Adelaide.

If you have an interesting story or event that you would like to share on radio, please contact Kaliah Alice on (08) 2110 2834 or email aboriginalmessage@nativetitlesa.org



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The Editor has the final decision on all stories and advertising that appear in this publication.

SA Native Title Services pays respect to Trevor Griffin, former attorney general and native title supporter

Mr Griffin, 74, died on 7 March after an illness and is survived by his wife and two sons.

His Honour was a member of the Legislative Council for 24 years and served twice as attorney-general. He spent his later years working on his vineyard in the Adelaide Hills.

As attorney general, Mr Griffin assisted in devising the concept of settling native title claims through negotiation and the set-up of legal processes, including Indigenous Land Use Agreements

and Consent Determinations. To this day, the reforms continue to play a large part in how native title is run in South Australia.

Keith Thomas, South Australian Native Title Services CEO said "Mr Griffin played an integral role in the history of native title in South Australia".

"He helped South Australia become a national leader in native title in pursuing negotiated native title outcomes instead of litigating claims."

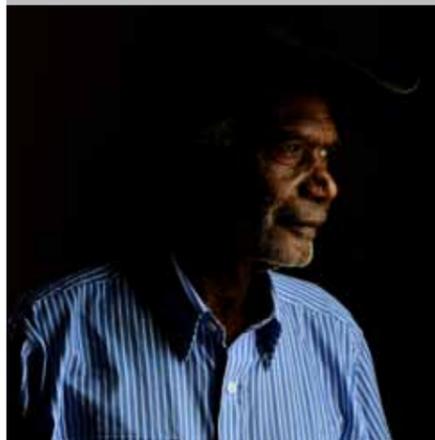
"Mr Griffin obtained Cabinet backing and funding for Indigenous land use agreements and other initiatives."

"He was a good man and a good politician and he will be sadly missed," Mr Thomas said.

Mr Griffin was the leader of the government in the Legislative Council from September 1979 to November 1982 and served as attorney-general twice from September 1979 to November 1982 and again from December 1993 to December 2001.

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