



Aboriginal Way

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Adnyamathanha native title holders



Dieri native title holders

Native title rights achieved for two groups

Native title rights for two Aboriginal groups in South Australia have been recognised in consecutive Federal Court hearings last month.

Firstly, parts of the Adnyamathanha native title application not determined in 2009, were finalised at Wilpena Pound Station on 25 February.

The determinations cover land to the South of Lake Frome including Glen Warwick, Curnamona, Telechie, Billeroo West and parts of townships such as Hawker, Blinman, Copley, Beltana,

Lyndhurst and part of the Murnpeowie pastoral lease.

In conjunction with the determinations, the Adnyamathanha people and the State Government executed an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) over the determination area.

Richard Bradshaw, the Adnyamathanha claim group's solicitor said the settlement of the entire claim through negotiation shows the Adnyamathanha people have strong connection to country.

"It is almost 5 years now since the first consent determinations were made by the Federal Court at Nepabunna. Since that time, Adnyamathanha have participated responsibly in discussions and mediation with other native title claim groups to reach agreement.

"The storylines of the Adnyamathanha people remain strong and real in this country, and continue to be taught to Adnyamathanha children. One of the main reasons why the Adnyamathanha have been successful in their native title

claims has been the fact that they have maintained their spiritual and physical connection with their land, uninterrupted since the coming of the white-man," he said.

Vince Coulthard, Aboriginal Leader and Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association Chairperson, firstly welcomed people to the country and thanked everyone for attending. Mr Coulthard spoke about how colonisation changed Aboriginal culture, food and practices.

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Year ahead for Native Title in SA

This year has already seen consent determinations for the recognition of further areas of native title for the Adnyamathanha and Dieri people, with further determinations planned for Wangkanguru/Yarluyandi and Kokatha later this year.

The Wangkanguru/Yarluyandi claim covers 80,000 square kilometres of the Simpson Desert, within both South Australia and Queensland. It is unique in that it has had dual native title processes needed to satisfy

both state governments' requirements. It is estimated to bring the total percentage of land determined to be covered by native title to nearly 50% of the state of South Australia.

Principal Legal Officer, Andrew Beckworth expects 2014 to be another good year for native title holders and claimants in South Australia, with another four claims, Wangkanguru/Yarluyandi, Kokatha, Uwankara and Yandruwandha/Yawarrawarrka, and further areas of the Adnyamathanha claim, on track to be determined by the end of this year.

"Once we finalise these determinations this year, we will continue to progress other claims that haven't had as much attention because they weren't a priority of the Federal Court," Mr Beckworth said.

The area of focus for new claims will be the South East corner of South Australia – with sufficient community interest, SANTS would like to see a claim lodged for the people of that area in the next 12–18 months.

As a result of the Karpany judgement in 2013, SANTS would also like to conduct workshops with the South Australian Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and with communities around South Australia to clarify native title rights to fish in South Australia. This understanding is essential for both parties: to give native title claimants and holders a proper understanding of their entitlements, and to prevent the department wrongly prosecuting native title holders or claimants.

New addition to Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre National Park

A popular campground in the state's far north will now be included as part of the Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre National Park.

The site at Halligan Bay Point was part of the neighbouring Anna Creek Station, run by pastoralists S. Kidman and Co.

The pastoralists decided it appropriate to make the site a formal part of the park for its ongoing use for travellers and tourists.

S. Kidman and Co. Managing Director Greg Campbell said the big floods of 2010 and 2011 had drawn a lot of interest from travellers wishing to visit Lake Eyre.

"It made sense to formalise the camping arrangements at Halligan Bay by expanding the national park to include the

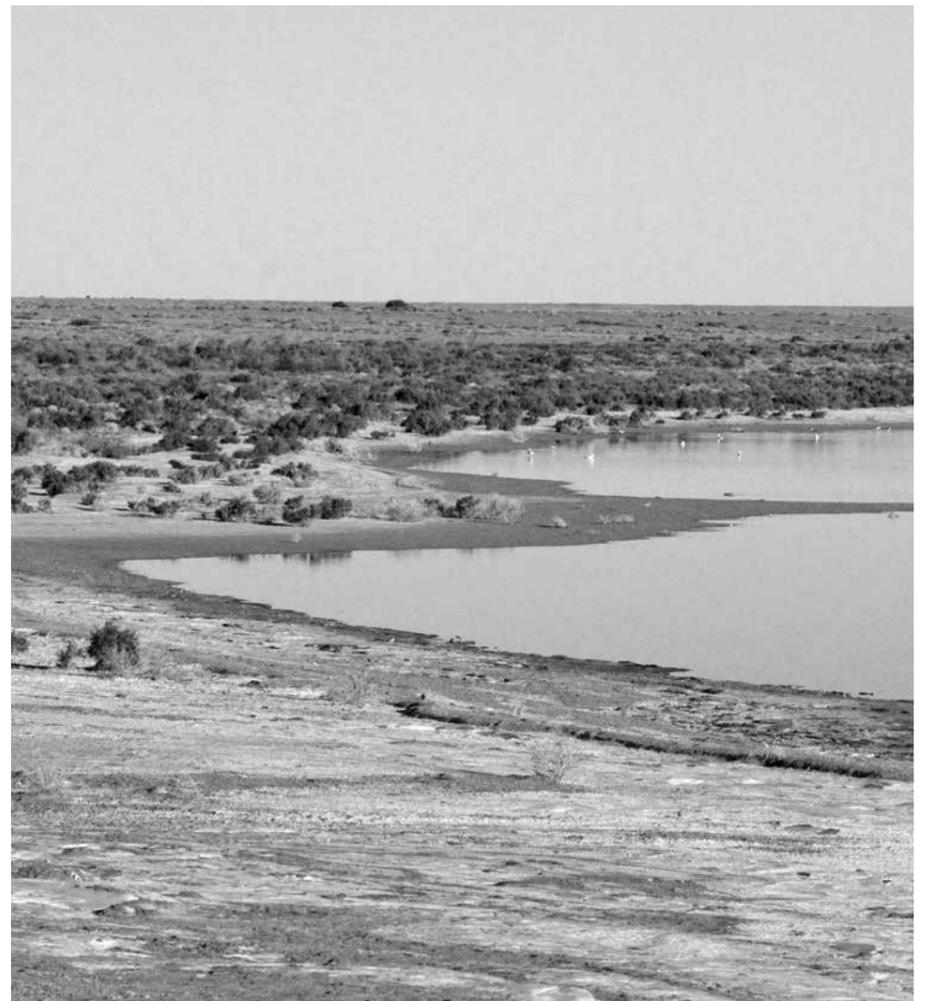
existing facilities, and to allow for further camping options in later years," he said.

Environment Minister Ian Hunter said it was always pleasing to see such generosity from a local company.

"Halligan Bay Point is one of two camping and viewing areas for Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre," he said.

In 2012 as part of the resolution of the Arabana Native Title Claim, a co-management agreement was put in place over the park, resulting in joint management arrangements between the Minister and the Arabana.

The park includes the bed of Lake Eyre, the country's largest salt lake, a number of dune systems and the lower reaches of the Cooper Creek System.



Aboriginal Regional Authorities update

The State Government's Aboriginal Regional Authorities plan has entered into its second phase, with Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Ian Hunter MLC, announcing the selection of four Regional Authority test sites in South Australia.

Following a phase of public consultations commenced in July 2013, communities were invited to self-nominate their governing bodies to participate in the policy implementation. A panel consisting of Local, State, and Federal Government representatives, and the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council met in February 2014 to assess potential candidates against six criteria to ensure they are ready for the policy implementation phase. The criteria included: *regional coverage; a united and inclusive regional voice; strategic direction – nation building; governance capacity and skill base; existing level of engagement with government; and*

capacity to engage with and obtain views of the local Aboriginal community.

Minister Ian Hunter said the program is a way for the State Government to engage with communities as it increases their governance skills, and gives Aboriginal people more power in the way they connect with government.

"These moves are about increasing decision-making capacity and ensuring improved coordination and co-operation of local Aboriginal organisations and groups to govern themselves, as well as generate employment and business opportunities," Minister Hunter said.

Narungga man and Aboriginal leader, Klynton Wanganeen said the model has potential to build social and economic opportunities at a local level.

"A regional authority creating Aboriginal enterprises at a local level; it's about engaging not only with existing organisations but also those organisations endorsing and

supporting community involvement in decision making.

"A regional authority makes economic sense because it gives us better buying power and allows communities to control what they need and where to get it. For example the authority may oversee buying of local goods such as cars, petrol and food. It takes back control of our futures and allows us to be leaders rather than being led," he said.

Mr Wanganeen said there has been no indication that a change of government will stall the development of the policy.

"Steve Marshall does not seem to oppose the policy but we will just need to see what happens in the next few weeks. I'm sure the department of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation will provide more information in the coming weeks.

"I think it is important for both parties to know that this model, from my view, is not about Aboriginal communities being reliant on the government but

about gaining independent governance structures. Regional authorities will make engagement for service providers and all levels of government easier and a united front at the local level is strength. It has flexibility to manage our own affairs dependent on environment, social and economic needs, and puts in place government procurement processes that enhance our capacity to do so."

The test sites chosen are the Narungga Aboriginal Corporation Regional Authority (Yorke Peninsula), Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority (Lower River Murray), Port Augusta Aboriginal Community Engagement Group, and the Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association (Adelaide Plains).

Prior to the election, the State Government committed to continued funding of the Aboriginal Regional Authorities program, to establish governance and capability training, and assist in the initial stages of setting up new Regional Authorities.

Recognition Relay takes to the road again



The Recognise relay has set off again on its epic journey across Australia, relaunching on Monday 10 March from Fremantle.

Hosted by Elders from the Whadjuk Noongar community, the traditional owners of the region, some 300 Fremantle locals turned out to welcome the Journey to Recognition and celebrate the opening of a new Aboriginal Cultural Centre in the city.

Whadjuk Noongar Elder Cedric Jacobs gave a generous welcome to country at the Fremantle event and said: "I invite you on behalf of our Elders to walk with us, at our pace, in peace and unity, as it will align us with the soul and spirit of our land. For after all, this land's resources have been managed in a sustainable way by my ancestors for 50,000 years."

The relay gives communities across the nation a chance to be part of the movement to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in our country's Constitution – and to remove race discrimination from it.

Noongar Elder Margaret Culbong of the Whadjuk tribal nation told the crowd that she particularly wanted to see constitutional recognition secured for future generations.

"The Journey to Recognition is about empowering our young people, both black and white, it's about working together to build a stronger, positive future for all in our country. Learning

how we live together, accepting and acknowledging who we are, and respecting who we are," she said.

Her granddaughter, Tiana Culbong also addressed the crowd and said: "It is now 2014 – a time for change; a time to move forward as a nation united; a time to remove a constitutional silence; a time to recognise Aboriginal people and our history in this country."

"It is time to remove the divide between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people; a time to accept and acknowledge a shared history. By doing this, we can move forward together and share Australia's future. I stand here to urge you to join the movement to make a change for a better future for us all."

The Journey to Recognition began in Melbourne last May.

Around 2000 people walked the first kilometre of the relay along the banks of the Yarra – led by AFL legend Michael Long, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and federal political figures from right across the party spectrum.

Small relay teams of Recognise campaigners have since covered almost 16,000 kilometres by foot, bike, 4 wheel drive, kayak, surfboard and paddle board. They have visited more than 90 communities and had contact with more than 7500 Australians.

The Journey travelled through South Australia mid last year, with campaigners



walking from Bordertown all the way to Adelaide on foot, then driving along the route of the seven sisters songline to Uluru, visiting communities in remote parts of the State.

When the relay arrived in Adelaide, Port Power became the first of the AFL clubs to throw its weight behind the Recognise movement with club greats Gavin Wanganeen, Byron Pickett, Chad Wingard and Jake Neade joining the journey in its walk through the Adelaide CBD amongst the big crowd that turned out that day.

Campaigners finished the last leg in Perth last December, when a crowd of 1500 was welcomed by Noongar Elder Len Collard and heard support for recognition from AFL legend David Wirrpanda and actor Ernie Dingo.

From Fremantle, the Journey to Recognition will travel through the south-west of WA, stopping in Mandurah and the Roelands Village – once the site of the Roelands Mission – before walking from Bunbury to Augusta over 10 days.

The WA leg of the Journey will end in Esperance, before campaigners head north to Queensland.

Locals are invited to community events in each town on the way.

The re-launch of the Journey to Recognition coincided with the opening of the Fremantle Aboriginal Cultural Centre honouring the thousands of years of culture, tradition, knowledge and achievements of the Whadjuk Noongar people.

To find out more visit www.recognise.org.au

Judgement disregards prior extinguishment on Yappala lands

On 19 February 2014, judgement was handed down by Justice John Mansfield in the Adnyamathanha Number 3 native title claim over Yappala, near Hawker in the Southern Flinders Ranges of South Australia.

His Honour confirmed that the purchase of the land by Indigenous

Land Corporation (ILC) meant that prior extinguishment may be disregarded.

The claim area included perpetual leases and freehold lands. Such tenure typically extinguishes native title rights and interests as they comprise an exclusive grant of land title which is inconsistent with the exercise and enjoyment of native title rights and interests.

The Court had to consider whether or not this extinguishment of native title could be disregarded given that the lands are now held for the benefit of Aboriginal people living in the area.

Section 47A of the Native Title Act provides for historic extinguishment to be disregarded where the area is held expressly for the benefit of, or is held on trust, or reserved, expressly for the

benefit of, Aboriginal peoples or Torres Strait Islanders.

This is a significant win paving the way for a future native title determination for the Adnyamathanha No 3 claimants. The case is also an important precedent which will influence the recognition of native title over many other ILC purchased properties in South Australia.

Native title rights achieved for two groups

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"Firstly I would like to thank everyone for coming here. But what I said then in language was, that a long time ago European people came to this country. They brought along jam, sugar, flour, and they gave it to my people. And my people thought that was great. It was a different taste but it was great. They hadn't realized what was happening.

"In 2009 we were successful at bush court at Nepabunna. That was a very special day. The people, my people were happy. And we are happy today.

"Native title means that we can continue our traditional practices in peace. My culture is a vital part of everything I do. We Adnyamathanha people are lucky that our culture is still strong and our language still spoken fluently.

"I have also made a commitment to sharing my culture not only with the younger generations of Adnyamathanha people but also members of the wider community," he said.

Adnyamathanha elder Geraldine Anderson, recalls the start of her people's journey for native title recognition.

"I remember when we first started fighting for native title. It was like a tree

growing, and every time a new leaf would grow in one direction, we would be pulled in another.

"Now that we have our native title, I feel we have gained so much in our lifetime and we can enjoy our land without having to worry that someone might be looking over our shoulder. We can hunt for food and enjoy our land, and that is what native title is all about, our rights to use the land the way we always have," she said.

The next day at the Coinda Club, Port Augusta, the determination of Dieri 2 native title claim was made by Judge White, covering approximately five thousand square kilometres of land, also including parts of Murnpeowie station, or known to the Dieri as Mumpee, that was not included in Dieri's first claim.

Stephen Kenny, the Dieri People's solicitor said the land around Murnpeowie station is very significant to the group.

"To many of us Mumpee may seem like a fairly harsh and desolate environment, but I can assure you your honour the Dieri people who lived there recount a very wonderful and happy childhood in what they consider to be a very important place to them spiritually and emotionally," said Mr Kenny.

Frank Warren, Director for the Dieri Aboriginal Corporation recalled growing up on Mumpee.

"There are lots of important sites on Mumpee that are of great significance to the Dieri people. This is the reason that I am so happy that we have been able to sort out that overlap with neighbours and that we are here today for the consent determination

"I consider I was one of the lucky ones growing up on Mumpee. That's where I began to walk, and Aunty Alice and Aunty Renee used to take good care of me. My life was great growing up as a child. I remember we lived in a humpy, a bush shed, which was near the main homestead on Mumpee.

"When I lived there, there were lots of people settled at the time, family, relatives and I know we have a strong spiritual connection to that country, and I still feel it now.

"Many Dieri people put a lot of work into the consent determination, and I would like to acknowledge the work that they have done. Today, we can be proud," said Mr Warren.

Judge White, in his comments at the Adnyamathanha Consent Determination said "the Adnyamathanha people and the Dieri people are to be congratulated on reaching that agreement. Making two determinations on the one occasion is not usual."

Justice White again congratulated the groups at the Dieri Hearing.

"Negotiations usually involve some give and take and a willingness to respect the views of others, and that's what has occurred here. It is good that the Adnyamathanha and the Dieri peoples have reached agreement, they are to be congratulated."

He said the decisions under the Native Title Act are about celebrating and preserving Aboriginal culture rather than denying it.

"It is worthwhile recalling how things were in Australia only 50 or 60 years ago. The policy of assimilation had it that Aboriginal people would be absorbed into the wider Australian community.

"Today instead of denying Aboriginal history and wishing for its destruction, the court makes a public statement in recognition of it and makes a public statement which will and should assist in its preservation," said Justice White.

The consent determinations recognise the non-exclusive native title rights to access, hunt, fish, camp and to gather and use the natural resources. They recognise the right to undertake cultural activities, conduct ceremonies and meetings, and protect places of cultural and religious significance on respective determined areas.



Clockwise from top left: Mark McKenzie Snr, Terrence Coulthard and Roy Coulthard; Justice White and Vincent Coulthard; Todd Irlam, Rell McKenzie, Dolcie Wilton, Karmy Coulthard and twins, Ruby and Eli Johnson; Pauline and Diedre McKenzie; Megan Blight, Ronald Coulthard and Bronte Abrahams; Sue Coulthard, Shayden Rigney Coulthard, Marlene Coulthard and Devon Barnes.



From top, left to right: Willie Dawson, Chris Matthews and Kerrie Standley; Keryn Wiseman, Sophie Gepp, Andy Naylom, Brenda Naylon, Jeffrey Naylon, Leeanne Warren and Hailie Strangways Couthard; Bianca Dodd and Tamara Jharral Warren; Alice Lander, Betty Stewart and Mavis Dadleh; Keran Stewart; Dieri native title holders and observers; Federal Court in session; Willie Dawson and Fattie the Kangaroo; Leeann Adams and Laurel Dodd.



Above, left to right: Adnyamathanha native title holders; Richard Bradshaw and Angelina Stewart; Minister Hunter MLC, Andrew Beckworth and Peter Tonkin.

Caring for Country and Culture restores traditional owner custodianship of rock-holes park



Above: Allan Wallace. Right: Cameron Wheelock.

The rock-hole complexes throughout the Gawler Ranges are of cultural significance to the native title holders. The rock-holes and associated granite landscapes are also of ecological significance, comprising of isolated patches of mature vegetation with a high level of plant and habitat diversity and providing the only natural surface water resources across the region.

On Thurlga Station, the project *Caring for Country and Culture* is jointly applying cultural and western knowledge to restore and protect rock-holes through an integrated NRM approach. As a partnership between pastoralist Ian Morris, the South Australian Native Title Services and the Gawler Ranges Aboriginal Corporation, the project is delivering on-ground land management activities focussed on control of feral goats and weeds such as Horehound, seed collection and revegetation and the cleaning of rock-holes. Four members of the

Aboriginal community have been engaged to undertake the on-ground activities, providing them with employment and training opportunities, as well as the experiences that come with working on country.

The project team has constructed two permanent water point trapping yards and in January the project team successfully trapped and trucked off the property over 1500 goats from the Tandaie rock-hole area. The yards are designed to operate in the height of summer when the rock-holes are dry, and after a prolonged dry period and in the absence of other available water-points, the infrastructure proved very successful.

The project team has also been reintroducing perennial groundcovers through direct seeding. These sites will be destocked for a number of years to assist in the regeneration of low lying Chenopod shrub land which has been historically overgrazed and degraded.



With funding allocated through the Commonwealth Government's Biodiversity Fund for the next two and a half years, the project will progressively restore the water harvesting capacity of rock-hole complexes by removing sediment, and reduce threats to associated landscapes and biodiversity. Caring for the rock-holes continues to be an important part of contemporary Aboriginal life, to maintain cultural values and connection to country. This project is a great illustration of cultural and pastoral interests working in partnership to achieve cultural, ecological and economic outcomes for all.

'It has been a pleasure getting to know and working with the Working on Country lads Cameron, Cliff and Tristan, and has been a very rewarding process seeing them learn new skills and grow in confidence while spending time on country. Allan, who is also a traditional owner, has been a fulltime employee at Thurlga for the past three years. He has relished his role as supervisor, and has been an invaluable resource of knowledge and leadership'. Ian Morris, pastoralist Thurlga station.

Native Title Act review

The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) is calling for community input into its review of the Native Title Act.

In August 2013, the ALRC was asked by the Attorney-General, the Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP to inquire into Commonwealth native title laws and legal

frameworks. Specifically, the ALRC Inquiry will be addressing two major issues:

1. Connection requirements relating to the recognition and scope of native title rights and interests; and
2. any barriers to access to justice posed by the authorisation and joinder provisions for claimants, potential claimants or respondents.

The ALRC is releasing an Issues Paper in mid-March and will call for submissions, asking people to respond to questions in the Issues Paper and provide general feedback.

During the submission period in early May, the ALRC team will travel to Adelaide for face-to-face consultations.

If you would like to contact us about

consultations please see contact details below.

To find out more about the Native Title Inquiry and subscribe to inquiry updates, visit the ALRC website: alrc.gov.au/inquiries/native-title-act-1993.

To contact the ALRC Native Title team, phone **(02) 8238 6300** or email nativetitle@alrc.gov.au

Get kids to school: your children's future starts today

The Remote School Attendance Strategy is aimed at increasing school attendance rates of Indigenous children in remote areas from the start of Term 1, 2014.

The Strategy targets an initial 40 communities in remote locations around Australia and aims to improve school attendance by engaging local people in each community to get children to school.

The Strategy is a partnership between the Australian Government, state and territory governments, schools, the Remote Jobs and Communities Program (and other employment providers) and remote Aboriginal communities.

Through the Strategy, remote communities with poor school attendance rates will receive School Attendance Supervisors and Officers to help improve attendance rates, working with schools, parents and families to make sure that all children go to school each day.

A School Attendance Supervisor will be employed to guide and mentor School Attendance Officers working in their region. School Attendance Officers will be local Aboriginal people who are active members of the community. They may include mums, dads, carers, uncles, aunties or grandparents.



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

What do you want to be when you grow up? A singer? A sports star? A teacher? A doctor? A community leader?

Don't miss out. No matter what you want to be, the best way to get a job and have a career in your community is to make sure you go to school and don't miss a day!

With a good education, you can be anything you want to be!

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE SUPERVISORS – HERE TO HELP

Sometimes it's hard to get to school if you don't have the right uniform, a good lunch or a way to get to school, but now there are local people in your community who can help.

School Attendance Officers and School Attendance Supervisors will be working with students, parents, school staff and community members to help make sure all kids get to school.

They're local people from your community – mums, dads, aunties, uncles and grandparents. So if you or your family need help to make sure you can get to school, ask your School Attendance Supervisor or Student Attendance Officer.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS:

I CAN FIND HIM/HER AT

Information for communities

School – don't miss a day

Families are telling the Government they want a good education and a better future for their kids. The Remote School Attendance Strategy is about working together – with schools, families, parents, and community organisations to ensure all children go to school every day.

Why do children need to go to school every day?

It's the law that all children in Australia go to school, each and every day. Going to school every day and getting a good education leads to a better future. Children should only miss school when they are sick. Parents need to let the school know when a child is too sick to attend, and need to check with the school that it's okay for the child to be away for religious, ceremonial or cultural times.

What about children living in remote communities?

It is just as important for children in remote communities to go to school every day as it is for those in the city. Many children in remote communities are not going to school every day, with attendance in some communities very low. We need to increase attendance rates in remote schools, so all children get a good education.

How will the Remote School Attendance Strategy work?

The strategy will be implemented in partnership with communities and schools in locations in New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory, from Term 1 2014. The strategy is designed to be driven by the community, and adapted to the different needs of different communities. School Attendance Supervisors and School Attendance Officers will be engaged to help children get to school. A small fund will be available to assist the School Attendance Officers work with families for things like shoes and uniforms.

What will the School Attendance Supervisors and School Attendance Officers do?

These are local people from the community and may be participants in the Remote Jobs and Communities Programme. They may be mums, dads, caregivers, aunties, uncles or grandparents who want to work to help kids in the community get to school. They will help parents and families to make sure their children have what they need to go to school each day.

They can help with things like:

Talking with children and families about the importance of regular school attendance.

- Working with families where children are not attending school to find out why and what can be done to lift poor attendance rates.
- Walking children to school or making sure they get on the bus.
- Providing practical support like transport to school, assistance with school lunches, uniforms, homework or after school care.
- Working with the school to monitor attendance and follow up on student absences.
- Celebrate and reward improved attendance.
- All Supervisors and Attendance Officers will obtain working with children checks and participate in work-related learning activities.

What about the School Enrolment and Attendance Measure (SEAM)?

The Remote School Attendance Strategy is designed to work alongside SEAM, by working with parents, schools and communities to encourage more kids to go to school each and every day. Where other strategies aren't working and children are still not attending school, additional support through SEAM may be considered in some cases.

How will the Remote School Attendance Strategy work with other activities in the community?

Getting kids to school is everybody's business. Local councils, shops, sporting groups and other organisations will all need to get involved and help out.

Social Justice and Native Title Report TWENTY YEARS ON

Last year marked the 20th Anniversary of the introduction of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, and with it, the annual Social Justice and Native Title Report.

Current Commissioner, Mick Gooda, used last year's report to reflect on the progress of the past 20 years and deliver 14 recommendations to the Government regarding the future of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights and policy making.

Looking back on the Commission's efforts since 1993, Mr Gooda reflects that there has been some progress in a number of areas including health equality, family violence, acknowledgement of the Stolen Generation and the campaign for the Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Australia's First People. However, he also notes that in other areas there has been little to no progress. These areas include alcohol management, interactions with the criminal justice system, and the policy approaches of the Federal Government. The Commissioner takes lessons from past successes and failures and uses them to present his recommendations for a stronger future for Aboriginal Australia.

The report highlights the strengths of using the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People as the compass for Government policy making, and recommends the Government make use of this framework

as a guide, particularly in the area of alcohol management. It also notes the importance of producing a National Strategy in line with The Declaration. This would involve a framework of self-determination and participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the respect for, and protection of culture, ensuring that equality and non-discrimination are remembered in all processes.

This strategy aims to increase Aboriginal communities' control over their policies and projects and ensure that Governments play a supporting role, rather than dominating the process.

Mr Gooda notes that the roadmap for our future should involve 3 consistent themes: Rights, Relationships and Responsibilities. This relates to the human rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people being met, the relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and the Australian Government, and the responsibilities of both the Government, to deliver on its commitments, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to take ownership of community issues.

While providing constructive feedback on previous and current Indigenous policy, Mr Gooda is hopeful for the future, under the new Abbott Government: "If we manage to stay the course with the things that are working and make the fundamental shift to putting our communities in control now, I am very optimistic that all of our children will be given the opportunity to grow up to be happy and healthy adults, proudly carrying our culture forward for generations to come."

The Social Justice Commissioner's 2013 recommendations to Government

1. Continue the multi-party approach in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs and base change to existing policies on rigorous evidence and consultation with communities.
2. Engage with the National Implementation Strategy to give effect to the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
3. Include the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in its definition of human rights.
4. Conduct a Referendum for Constitutional Recognition within this Parliamentary term.
5. If the constitutional amendments for recognition proposed are different to those recommended in the Expert Report, consult with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples before going to Referendum.
6. Continue to engage with the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples.
7. Invite the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples to participate in relevant Council of Australian Governments (COAG) processes.
8. Commit to the Closing the Gap agenda and the annual Closing the Gap Reporting to Parliament.
9. Negotiate a new National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in

Indigenous Health Outcomes, with a minimum investment of \$777 million over the next three years.

10. Commit to supporting and implementing the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023, and working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
11. Finalise targets as part of the Closing the Gap Strategy, focussing on increasing community safety, reducing imprisonment rates, and improving outcomes in child protection for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
12. Reintroduce and support the Native Title Amendment Bill 2012 (Cth).
13. Consider the following outstanding recommendations in the Native Title Report 2009:
 - Amend the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) to shift the burden of proof to the respondent when the applicant has met the requirements of the registration test.
 - That the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) provide presumptions in favour of claimants, including presumptions of continuity in the acknowledgement and observance of traditional law and custom and of the society.
14. Continue to support the National Anti-Racism Strategy.

Letters Patent Anniversary marks time for action

Last month a gathering was held at Government House to celebrate the anniversary of the 1836 Letters Patent.

The Letters Patent were added to the provisions of the South Australia Foundation Act 1834 by King William IV. It gave recognition of Aboriginal people's rights to the lands they occupied prior to European settlement.

The Letters Patent 1836 included the words: "Provided always that nothing in those our Letters Patent contained shall affect or be construed to affect the rights of any Aboriginal Natives of the said Province to the actual occupation or enjoyment in their own Persons or in the Persons of their Descendants of any lands therein now actually occupied or enjoyed by such Natives."

The occasion marked the 179th Letters Patent Day.

On the day, Members of Parliament were invited by the United Aboriginal Movement for SA Change to listen to Aboriginal political leaders and supporters of the Letters Patent; and to openly discuss the State's progress towards democratic representation of Aboriginal people in the parliament.

Lynette Crocker, Kurna Elder and Chief Executive Officer of the Aboriginal Political Party said it was King William IV's order in the Letters Patent that land rights were recognised but the path of history has ignored his command. "Successive governments have not done what they were required to do. Instead they took and are still taking our land," she said.

"We require South Australia to address the 1836 Letters Patent issues of constitutional change including: designated seats in parliament,

indentured Treaty and Bill of Rights for South Australia; and their implications for International Indigenous political alliances and Aboriginal sovereignty. We will not rest until we have our voices heard in parliament, and we have our rights under the Letters Patent", said Kurna Elder Lynette Crocker.

Klynton Wanganeen, Narungga leader said "The Letters Patent is about our right to our land as First Nations people. It also gives us the opportunity to engage in the upcoming state election to get our people into Parliament."

The Aboriginal Political Party is assisting Aboriginal parliamentary candidates. Members will act on behalf of the Aboriginal people of South Australia based on their rights and interests.

The Aboriginal Political Party is calling for proper representation in parliament

by providing seats designated to Aboriginal members.

On the anniversary at a gathering at Camp Coorong, Labor announced new legislation that sets out the guiding principles for consultation and cooperation between government and Aboriginal communities.

At the gathering, Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Minister Ian Hunter said it was important that government and Aboriginal communities were armed with the necessary expertise to take this journey together.

"By supporting Aboriginal people to undertake governance and leadership training and programs, we will equip leaders with the knowledge and tools to enable them to create a lasting legacy of progress and success that their community can build upon," Mr Hunter said.



Remembering the Stolen Generations: 6th anniversary of the National Apology

Reconciliation SA held two events for the anniversary of the national apology. Firstly, a corporate breakfast at the Convention Centre, followed by a family BBQ at Botanic Park with a focus on health, social and emotional well-being.

Reconciliation SA was pleased to welcome Ken Wyatt AM, MP as the Keynote speaker at the annual anniversary breakfast.

The Hon Ken Wyatt said the apology continues to resinate within parliament.

“The apology gives hope to an aspirational future and acknowledges the pain and grief and what has been fought for in terms of the healing process amongst leaders.

“I believe that the apology changed the minds of many who have a role in legislative context in every state and territory parliament because it caused them to reflect, it caused them to think about what it was, what it is and what it can be.

“And if we continue with this journey forward, than the next step is to have

recognition in the Australian constitution,” said Hon. Ken Wyatt.

Mark Waters, Reconciliation SA Manager said the day is about commemorating and celebrating the Apology, and remembering the Stolen Generations. “It is also about asking the question, what would recognition in the constitution mean to members of the Stolen Generation and does this take a step further towards healing and reconciliation, because mainly it is about this journey of healing that we are all on,” he said.

Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Nigel Scullion said the anniversary of the National Apology is a timely reminder of the historic day.

“The apology was a moving experience for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people and it is fitting that this important anniversary is acknowledged,” he said.

The *Apology to Australia’s Indigenous Peoples* was delivered by then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on 13 February 2008, and acknowledged in particular the Stolen Generations.



From top, left to right: Breakfast participants; Paul Senior, Megan Walsh and Sherilee Kartinyeri; Mark Waters and Commissioner Khatija Thomas; Mark Waters and Lowitja O’Donaghue; Clockwise – Nicole Clark, Alex Vickery, Colin Darcy, Leahna Vandenheuvel, John Briggs, Paul Case and Emma Hamilton; Didge McHughes and Ivan Copley; Roma Aloisi and Shane Tongerie; Breakfast participants.

CLOSE THE GAP

PM commits to Closing the Gap by 2030

Prime Minister Tony Abbott delivered the 6th annual Close the Gap Report on 12 February, providing a review of the progress of key targets and outlining actions to achieve Indigenous equality by 2030.

The Close the Gap Campaign was officially launched in 2007, following a stark reminder of the widening divide between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in areas such as education, income, housing and health, revealed in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner's Social Justice Report 2005.

The Close the Gap Campaign set out six targets, in the areas of early childhood, schooling, health, economic participation, home life, community safety and government and leadership skills and opportunities, to be achieved by the year 2030.

Since the first annual Close the Gap Day, held in March 2007, over 200,000 Australians have signed the online petition and formally pledged their support for Closing the Gap by 2030, and in March of 2008 the Rudd Government signed the Close the Gap Statement of Intent, formally agreeing to meet the six targets by their individual deadlines.

In addition to the Prime Minister's report, the Close the Gap Campaign Steering Committee released an annual Progress and Priorities Report. The Steering Committee report stated that three of the six targets are on track, but there has been little progress on two targets, and the Indigenous employment statistics have shown the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous employment to be widening.

The report provides a number of recommendations for the new Australian Government, and highlights that it is the opportunity gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians that is resulting in the health and life expectancy gap. When equal access to quality, and culturally appropriate, health care is achieved, the long term benefits in terms of maternal, child and psychological health, and rates of chronic diseases will be felt. This has been achieved in a number of communities through the development of the ACCHS – Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services,

which have increased by 30 services nationally since 2008, and delivered over 400,000 additional episodes of care.

The Steering Committee considers health care to be the primary factor in achieving the Close the Gap targets. "Good maternal and childhood health enables full brain development, which will assist in closing the gap on education, and decreases the proportion of chronic disease in the long term." Additionally, the report highlights that physically and mentally healthy individuals lead to healthy families, and healthy communities, which are then able to support school attendance and encourage employment. Most important is the positive impact that health has on the self-determination of communities, and the ability to actively drive community development, as defined by the communities themselves.

The importance of self-determination and community development is shared by the Australian Government, opposition and Indigenous community leaders. In response to the release of the report, Opposition Leader Bill Shorten said "Success will only come when Aboriginal people are central to the political process, not just subject to it... Let us empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, teachers, nurses, not-for-profits and business to tell us what works – rather than demanding policies that fit the rhetoric of the moment – an approach that empowers, not directives from the top-down."

While agreeing on this partnership approach, the Prime Minister highlighted two different priorities in his first annual Closing the Gap Report. The Australian Government's number one priority is getting children to school, followed by getting people into real jobs, and ensuring the ordinary law of the land is observed. In his introduction to the PM's Report, Mr Abbott said "Everything flows from meeting these three objectives". The PM's Report also highlighted the shift in focus from Government actions to the actual lives and experiences of Indigenous Communities.

Whilst assessing the Close the Gap targets, the Prime Minister has added an extra goal to the original six. On announcing the new target Mr Abbott said "We are all passionate to close the gap. We may be doomed to fail, I fear, until we achieve the most basic target of all: the expectation that every

child will attend school every day."

This move is supported by the ALP and the Government's Indigenous Advisory Council, whose Chair, Warren Mundine, has made a "personal commitment" to achieve a 100% attendance rate by the end of the year.

To achieve this new goal, the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator Nigel Scullion, has announced a new Remote School Attendance Strategy. Speaking on the value of school attendance Senator Scullion said "A child who attends school less than 80 per cent of the time has no chance of passing the curriculum. Last year, only 13 per cent of children in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory attended school to a sufficient extent to have a chance of attaining that". In order to improve school attendance rates the Strategy plans to employ an additional 150 school-attendance officers, who will work to support schools and parents in getting children to school by providing transport, lunches, uniforms, homework assistance and follow up on students who fail to attend school. In addition to the funding of the 400 school-attendance officers, the School Attendance Strategy has initiated an advertisement campaign encouraging students to attend school, and created information sheets for both parents and communities outlining the importance

of full attendance rates and a guide for supporting adequate attendance.

The Close the Gap Report concluded that "achieving health equality by 2030 is an ambitious yet achievable task". The Steering Committee has urged the new Australian Government to "stay the course" and continue to strengthen to national effort. Stating that "Staying on course will require continued action to ensure that the current "green shoots" of progress are nurtured and allowed to develop fully. "In the PM's Report, Mr Abbott committed to address the inconsistencies and overlaps in the administration of the delivery of Commonwealth-funded Indigenous services. To solve this issue, and increase the efficiency of Indigenous services, the Prime Minister has brought the administration from eight different government departments, into the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Mr Abbott has emphasised the "personal" importance of this issue and is said "Our challenge is to turn good intentions into better outcomes".

Opposition Leader Bill Shorten will urge Mr Abbott to adopt three new targets proposed by Labor, relating to higher education, criminal justice and disability support. He will defend Labor's record and plead with Mr Abbott not to discard the work of the Rudd and Gillard governments.

The Close the Gap Steering Committee's Progress and Priorities Report 2014 calls on the new Government to:

- Expanding health services to respond to health needs on a regional basis
- Continue to build partnerships with Indigenous communities for project planning and service delivery
- Drive an integrated response to health issues that looks more deeply into social and cultural factors influencing the health of Indigenous communities
- Implement the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan for 2013-2023 and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Suicide Prevention Strategy 2013
- Work in partnership with Indigenous Communities to empower communities to take responsibility for their health

Goal 1: Close the life-expectancy gap within a generation (by 2031)

LITTLE PROGRESS

While the statistics on the progress of this target are underwhelming, the 10% decrease in daily smoking rates for Indigenous Australians since 2002 (from 51% of population over 15 in 2002, to 45% in 2008, to 41% in 2013-14), and the dramatic improvement in maternal and early childhood health will begin to have a positive impact on Indigenous life expectancy in the future.

NAIDOC week 2014 – Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond

The 2014 NAIDOC theme announced early February is *Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond*.

The theme honours all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of country, including those who have served with honour and pride in Australia's military conflicts and engagements across the globe.

NAIDOC week provides an opportunity for Australians to recognise the role these people have played in shaping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identity.

As part of NAIDOC Week, hundreds of events will be held across the country to encourage all Australians to learn about, experience and celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians "to nominate fellow community members for these awards, which highlight the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people."

The celebrations to be held from 6–13 July are supported with more than \$2.2 million from the Australian

Government to organisations and communities holding NAIDOC events.

Nominations have also opened for the National NAIDOC Awards and the National NAIDOC poster competition.

There are 10 award categories, including the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Award nominations close on 23 April, and award recipients will be honoured during NAIDOC Week and at the National NAIDOC Awards Ceremony and Ball on the Gold Coast on Friday 11 July.

A poster competition provides the opportunity for national exposure to upcoming Indigenous artists, with the National NAIDOC Poster displayed across Australia in workplaces, schools and community organisations.

The annual poster competition includes a \$5,000 prize for the winning design, which will become the image for the 2014 National NAIDOC Poster. Entries close on 28 March.

For entry forms and further information on NAIDOC Week, visit www.naidoc.org.au or call your nearest Indigenous Coordination Centre on **1800 079 098**.

New government funding for Indigenous languages

The new Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs, the Hon. Nigel Scullion, and the Minister for the Arts, Senator Hon George Brandis QC, announced an additional \$2.6 million in funding to be allocated to new Indigenous language preservation projects, taking the total Australian Government investment to over \$13 million for the 2013-14 period.

The new funding comes as a result of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs 2012 Report into language learning in Indigenous communities. This Report found that language is a fundamental element of Indigenous peoples' connection to culture, kinship, land and family. It further confirmed that language is the "foundation upon which the capacity to learn, interact and to shape identity is built", and concluded that investment in

Indigenous language programs will not only improve the well-being of Indigenous communities, but will assist in Closing the Gap and encouraging Reconciliation.

Senator Brandis said that the new funding, which will support an additional 42 language activities, will "enable communities to develop culturally appropriate learning resources across a range of new media and through partnerships with schools, cultural organizations and libraries".

In many cases this will involve the digitization of resources, through the construction of webpages, audio/visual material, smart phone phrasebook apps and interactive resources.

There are currently 61 Indigenous Language activities being supported by Australian Government Funding, 11 of which are being performed by community groups and organizations within South Australia.

Goal 2: Ensure access to early childhood education for all indigenous four-year-olds in remote indigenous communities within five years (by 2012)

ON TRACK

Indigenous pre-school enrolment rates of 88% were recorded for 2012. Data for 2013 is only expected later this year, but enrolment is on track to meet the 95% target.

Goal 3: Halve the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievements for children within a decade (by 2017)

LITTLE PROGRESS

Taking the statistics from the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) results for schooling years 3, 5, 7, and 9, improvement is only shown in two out of eight areas – Year 3 and Year 5 Reading skills. In these areas the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students reaching or exceeding the National Minimum Standard had closed significantly.

However, the size of the gap is not consistent over all of Australia. There are significant differences in the size of the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students in metropolitan and rural areas, and the gap in remote communities. This is highlighted by the shocking statistic released by Mr Abbott, that only 31% of rural Indigenous students are meeting the national standard in reading skills for Year 9, compared to 81% of metropolitan Indigenous Year 9 students.

Goal 4: Halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade (by 2017)

ON TRACK

Between 1998 and 2011 the child mortality rate for Indigenous children decreased by 32%, resulting in a 37% narrowing of the child mortality gap. This target is will be achieved by 2018, if the present recorded rate of decline continues.

Goal 5: Halve the gap in Indigenous Year 12 achievement by 2020

ON TRACK

The 2006 Census found 47% of Indigenous Australians aged between 20 and 24 had completed Year 12. The completion rate has climbed steadily, to 53.9% in 2011, and will complete the goal ahead of schedule if completion rates continue on this trajectory.

While this improvement is significant, the disparity between urban/rural and remote rates of Year 12 completion is still high. The Australian Bureau of Statistics found that in 2012-13 68.1% of Indigenous Australians aged 20-24 had Year 12 (or equivalent) qualifications, compared to only 38.5% in remote areas.

Goal 6: Halve the gap in employment outcomes within a decade (by 2017)

GAP WIDENING

In the period between 2008 and 2012-13 the employment rate of Indigenous people aged between 15 and 64 had dropped from 53.8% to 47.8%, while in the same period the employment rate of non-Indigenous people aged 15-64 increased.

Get Involved

Sign the online petition at Oxfam.com

Harold Hunt receives Order of Australia for work with Aboriginal communities

When Harold received his OAM he didn't know what to think.

"It could have been a bingo prize; I didn't really know what to make of it and was pleasantly surprised.

"It's good to know your work is recognised," he said.

Growing up in western NSW and working as a shearer from a young age, Mr Hunt developed alcohol problems early on in life and struggled with alcoholism for 27 years.

Mr Hunt moved to Sydney and started working as an Aboriginal Health Counsellor in the early 70s. He developed skills along the way; he stopped drinking and decided to use his experiences to help others.

"When I first started for the health commission, there were only a few of us Indigenous health workers. I knew I had to learn more skills and take risks, but I was a hard worker, I started

lecturing and working closely with communities," said Mr Hunt.

This year on Australia Day, Mr Hunt was awarded with a Medal of the Order of Australia for his service to Aboriginal communities in NSW over the past 40 years.

Today he is working on developing new training models for counsellors, but Harold said a lot more needs to be done.

"Alcohol is the most destructive single element in our society. Given the opportunity, I would like to put a task force together to tackle these problems associated with alcoholism in our society.

"Counsellors need to be retrained as the system is not working and people need to start learning new skills based on community needs.

"I would like to keep working as it is important for elders to be involved – things need to change and a lot more can be done, given the chance," said Mr Hunt.



Above: Harold Hunt with family members.

NACCHO newspaper launched

Working with Aboriginal community controlled and award-winning national newspaper the Koori Mail, NACCHO aims to bring relevant information on health services, policy and programs to NACCHO members and key industry stakeholders at a grassroots level.

Justin Mohamed NACCHO chairperson said "We have learned that most of the communication around these important Aboriginal health areas

tend to float around the top echelons of the government and non-government sectors."

"Our intention is to broaden the reach of this information, landing in the waiting rooms and tea rooms of community health clinics, community centres, program offices and other places accessed daily by primary health care workers and our clients.

"While NACCHO's website and annual report have been valued sources of information for national and local Aboriginal health care issues for many years, the launch of *NACCHO Health News* creates a fresh, vitalised platform that will inevitably reach audiences beyond the boardrooms," Mr Mohamed said.

NACCHO will leverage the brand, coverage and award-winning production skills of the *Koori Mail* to produce a 20-28 page three times a year, distributed as a 'lift-out' in the 14,000 *Koori Mail* circulation, as well as an extra 5000

copies to be sent directly to NACCHO member organisations across Australia.

"This is a tremendous leap for the dissemination of health information across our Aboriginal population," Mr Mohamed noted. "Never before has such valuable and relevant health information become so accessible to this sector. If you have a message or job opportunity you want to get into the Aboriginal primary health care sector, *NACCHO Health News* is your ideal media."

The first edition of *NACCHO Health News* hit the presses on 17 November 2013 and was promoted heavily via various media channels and social media outlets.

To book an advertisement and/or have your article considered for publication, please contact the NACCHO media team on **02 6246 9309** or email media@naccho.org.au

SUBSCRIBE for FREE: send your name and postal address to media@naccho.org.au



Left: Board Director of the Koori Mail Trevor Kapeen presents the first copy of Australia's first Aboriginal health newspaper to Chair of NACCHO Justin Mohamed on the opening day of the NACCHO AGM in Perth.



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

Survival Day 2014 at Semaphore Foreshore

A Free Event on the Semaphore Foreshore supported by Tandanya Aboriginal Cultural Arts Centre marked the anniversary of Survival Day (Australia Day Sunday 26 January).

People came along to support our Aboriginal community on Survival Day. There was a Flag Raising Ceremony,

Traditional Dance, Food, Live Music and Community Stalls.

Janet Milera from Dreaming Connection photography took some lovely photos at the event.

Dreaming Connection PHOTOGRAPHY



Clockwise from far left: Jack Buckskin and daughter performed as part of Kumo Karo Dance Troup; Deborah (living in Ballarat) and Michelle Milera bought their children to Survival Day; Information Stalls; Kura Yerlo Kids performing; Colleen Raven and Natalie Harkin; Stephen Goldsmith.

Starring from left to right
 Kristy Coleman
 Kokolha woman
 Jocelyn Cleaver
 Boardik/Thursday Island woman
 Leilamarie Stuart-Likouresis
 Adnyamatharra/Arrabunna/
 Antakidinyi woman

For more information and help to quit, visit your local Aboriginal health team.

Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia Inc. GIVE UP SMOKES FOR GOOD

Alberton Oval to host Indigenous Aussie Rules academy

Port Adelaide's home ground, Alberton Oval, will host an Aussie Rules training academy for young Indigenous talent. The program, created in conjunction with the South Australian Aboriginal Sports Training Academy (SAASTA), will work closely with the Port Adelaide Football Club, SANFL clubs, and Adelaide high schools to recruit talent and support students who earn a place at the academy.

This year, the Academy has accepted 30 students from grades 10 – 12. The students will work on improving their Aussie Rules skills, while also studying a TAFE certificate in sport and recreation, in order to achieve their high school SACE requirements.

Acceptance into this program means that the selected student will get access to Port Power's training and facilities at Alberton Oval for one day per week for 40 weeks. The education emphasis however will remain strong. In order to remain a part of the program, students must maintain an 80% attendance rate and score minimum C grades in all their subjects.

South Australian Premier Jay Wetherill is enthusiastic about the academy's future.

"We want to make sure that our young Aboriginal students are fully equipped for work and life," he said.

"We want to make sure that they can still pursue their football careers but not neglect their studies." In order to achieve this, the Premier has allocated \$3.5 million annually to fund the program.

Opposition leader Steven Marshall agrees that the Academy's program will greatly benefit its students, and has committed to continuing the annual funding amount, should Labour lose the 2014 State Election.

"Keeping our children fit and healthy is important and we should be doing everything we can to encourage our children to participate in sport and fitness activities." Mr Marshall said.

The benefits of sporting programs have been documented worldwide, and extend beyond physical and mental wellbeing. The positive effects of social and personal development provided by sports programs lead to a decrease in problematic and anti-social behaviour, and instead improve community cohesion and provide employment opportunities for participants and mentors.



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RECONCILIATION ART COMPETITION

May 29th 2014

*Would you like to participate
in a Reconciliation art event?*

*Do you have a creative
side and an interest in
Reconciliation?*

*Do you live in the Northern
areas of Adelaide?*

If you answered yes to these questions, a competition is going to be held for you on the **Thursday 29th of May, 2014** at the Northern Adelaide Medicare Local.

Competition Theme: RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation is about building better relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for the benefit of all Australians.

To create positive change we need more people talking about Reconciliation and coming up with innovative ideas and actions that make a difference.

We would like to make a positive contribution to the Northern Adelaide community during Reconciliation Week (May 27th to June 3rd) by providing an opportunity for you to create a piece of art around the theme of Reconciliation

We will exhibit the artworks here at the Northern Adelaide Medicare Local throughout Reconciliation Week, and for a further month following the event.

This is a great opportunity for the competition winners to be acknowledged as emerging artists and have their art promoted on future Northern Adelaide Medicare Local flyers and promotional materials.

DEADLINE

The closing date for competition entries will be **Thursday May 15th at 5pm**. All entries will need to be submitted to NAML by this time, marked attention to:

Jodus Madrid
Aboriginal Wellbeing Liaison Officer
2 Peachey Road, Edinburgh North SA 5112

You are welcome to drop it off in person or you can arrange for it to be picked up if necessary.

PRIZES

Entrants will be eligible to win the following prizes across 2 categories:

- **Best Aboriginal Representation of what Reconciliation means to you**
1st Prize: \$500 2nd Prize: \$250 3rd Prize: \$150
- **Best Non-Aboriginal Representation of what Reconciliation means to you**
1st Prize: \$500 2nd Prize: \$250 3rd Prize: \$150

WHEN & WHERE

The competition will be held from **11am until 2pm on Thursday May 29th, 2014** at the Northern Adelaide Medicare Local at **2 Peachey Road, Edinburgh North SA 5112**.

SCHEDULE

Exhibition viewing	10:30 - 11:00 am
Welcome to Country	11:30 am
NAML Reconciliation Reps Speech	11:45 - 12:00 pm
Winners announced	12:00 - 12:15 pm
BBQ lunch	12:30 - 1:30 pm
NAML walk through	1:30 - 2:00 pm
Close	2:00 pm

APPLICATION FORM

Please complete this application form (including the signed consent statement at the bottom of this page) and return to the Northern Adelaide Medicare Local.

Multiple entries are welcome. Please ensure an Application Form is completed for each entry.

Participant Details

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Community: _____
(If applicable)

Contact Number: _____

Postal Address: _____

Please indicate the number of guests that you would like to bring to the event: _____

Consent Statement

I hereby give permission to Northern Adelaide Medicare Local to display the submitted artwork in the NAML Reconciliation Art Competition Exhibition. Permission is also given to NAML and its employees to reproduce my artwork for promotional purposes (ensuring that I am acknowledged as the artist).

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Artwork Details

The details you provide below will be used on a plaque that will be displayed with your artwork whilst it is being exhibited.

Name of artwork: _____

Brief description of artwork: _____

CONTACT NAML

Offices

2 Peachey Road, Edinburgh North SA 5113
13 Elizabeth Way, Elizabeth SA 5112

Postal

PO Box 421 Elizabeth SA 5112

Phone

08 8209 0700

Fax

08 8252 9433

Email

enquiry@naml.com.au

Website

www.naml.com.au

For all enquiries regarding the competition, please contact our Aboriginal Wellbeing Liaison Officer, Jodus Madrid.

Email

jmadrid@naml.com.au

Mobile

0423 761 655

NAML acknowledges that the artwork used on the front page of this flyer was produced by local artist Rhiannon Sparrow.

Medicare Locals gratefully acknowledge the financial and other support from the Australian Government Department of Health.

paper tracker

The Anangu Lands Paper Tracker is an online project of Uniting Care Wesley, Adelaide.

The website tracks government commitments to Anangu (Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara people). It publishes accurate, up-to-date information on projects and services that are important to Anangu.

The Paper Tracker aims to make it easier for Anangu to work with governments as equal partners. It helps Anangu make sure governments are following through on commitments.

Aboriginal Way will assist Paper Tracker by highlighting some of the issues it is following.

If you want more information on any of these items log on to www.papertracker.com.au

Rent payments in APY communities

Housing SA is responsible for the maintenance and management of most Anangu housing on the APY Lands. This includes calculating and collecting the rent from its Anangu tenants.

As of 31 December 2013, Housing SA had tenancy agreements in place with 336 households on the APY Lands.

The average rent for these properties was \$72.05 per week.

On 10 January 2014, Housing SA advised the Paper Tracker that at the end of last year 55 of these households (16%) had been more than 20 weeks behind in their rent payments.

Housing SA also advised us that it had referred 64 of its APY tenants to Centrelink for an assessment in the last six months of 2013 for the purpose of recovering outstanding rent arrears and/or making it easier for these tenants to pay future rent on time.

Child protection protocols under review

In October 2013, the South Australian Government commenced a review of its APY child protection protocols.

The protocols – developed in response to the recommendations of the Mullighan Inquiry – have been operational since 2011.

The protocols provide a “framework” for the way government agencies and non-government organisations respond to child protection notifications. They are also supposed to hold each agency

accountable for its role in the provision of services to children and young people who have been or who are at risk of being abused or neglected.

The current review, headed up by the South Australian Commissioner for Victims’ Rights (Mr Michael O’Connell), is overseen by a “review committee,” comprising representatives from a range of agencies which are signatories to the existing protocols

Child protection jobs still empty on APY Lands

In 2008, the Mullighan Inquiry into child sexual abuse on the APY Lands called for two child protection workers to be based on the APY Lands to respond to mandatory notifications.

Although the State Government promptly accepted this recommendation, recruiting and retaining staff in these positions has proved difficult.

On 27 November 2013, the Minister for Education and Child Development (Hon Jennifer Rankine MP) advised Parliament that both of the positions were “currently vacant”.

The Minister’s advice continued:

One position has been vacant since August 2012 and the second position since December 2012. Every effort has been made by Families SA Coober Pedy office to fill both positions, however it remains difficult to attract suitably qualified and skilled social workers who are willing to live in a very remote area.

The Paper Tracker has been monitoring the Government’s response to this specific recommendation of the Mullighan Inquiry since mid 2008. For the past two years the Government has maintained that this recommendation has been “fully implemented.” However, the Paper Tracker considers this claim to be misleading given that, since mid 2010, one or both of the positions have usually been vacant.

New legislation for Aboriginal Lands Trust

Last month, the South Australian Parliament passed legislation to overhaul the operation of the Aboriginal Lands Trust.

The Trust – established in 1966 – holds the titles for more than 60 properties including two Anangu communities (Umooona and Yalata).



While the legislation has not yet come into operation, its passing marks the culmination of almost a decade’s work by the Government’s Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division.

The Paper Tracker has been monitoring the review of this legislation since March 2008. This included recording a radio show interview in February 2013

with staff from the Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division.

Go to papertracker.com.au to access electronic copies of each profile.

If you’d like to know more you can contact Paper Tracker on (08) 8202 5867 or subscribe to their newsletter at www.papertracker.com.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.

For Love of Country by Vonda Last



Vonda Last is a Wongai woman who grew up in Kalgoorlie surrounded by music and singing. Vonda wrote ‘For Love of Country’ in honour of the hundreds of South Australian Aboriginal men and women who served in the Australian Defence Force.

Vonda’s strong vocal and rhythmic guitar articulates a story about love, pride and duty for our Island home. Her song shows both the fragility and honour of war and does well to promote a subject that has often been disregarded by history, and ignored within the context of popular Australian culture (including music).

The production of the song was fully supported by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander War Memorial Committee, funded by the Gladys Elphick Awards and Reconciliation SA. Launched last November, The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander War Memorial was built to honour the thousands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service men and women. This remarkable memorial now sits at the Torrens Parade ground, Adelaide.

in review.



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Editor
Keith Thomas

Communications Officer
Kaliah Alice

Advertising Enquiries
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editor@nativetitlesa.org

Aboriginal Way
South Australian
Native Title Services
Level 4
345 King William Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000
Ph: 8110 2800
Fax: 8110 2811
FREECALL: 1800 010 360

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



FOSTER CARERS NEEDED URGENTLY

Aboriginal Family Support Services are looking for family based carers who are committed to providing safe and culturally appropriate homes.

You can be single, couples, with or without children.

If you are willing to provide assistance with emergency, short term, respite or long term foster care, we would love to hear from you.

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ISSUE 56