

NJERNDANEWS

Senator visits



It was an honour to host the First Nations Labor Senator Malarndirri McCarthy during her recent visit to Echuca-Moama. Senator McCarthy learned about Njernda and met our Elders during her stay. Story, pictures - Page 3.

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Njernda
Aboriginal Corporation

WELCOME TO OUR INTERIM CEO

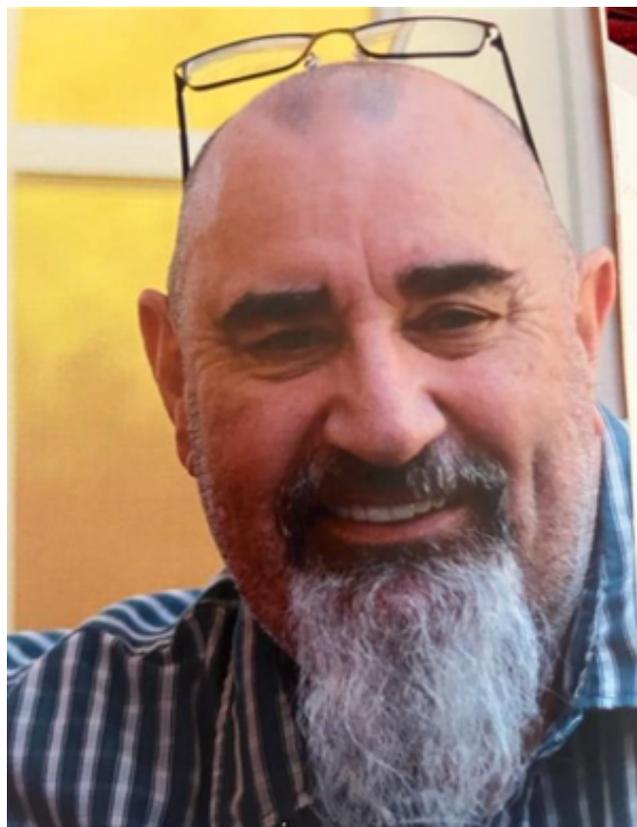
Message from Njernda Chair Belinda Day:

We would like to thank Tracey Dillon who finishes on 18 August and welcome Mick Coombes who will take up the interim CEO for the next six months.

Mick will begin his appointment to Njernda on September 5.

Mick has extensive experience in consultation with Aboriginal community organisations and individuals, extensive experience in Indigenous recruitment including establishment and monitoring of recruitment strategies and policies. He also has experience in the organisation and management of development programs and a background in Aboriginal economic development. Mick is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

A national recruitment campaign will be undertaken to appoint a permanent CEO to the role.



Interim Njernda CEO Mick Coombes

GETTING TO KNOW OUR INTERIM CEO

Mick Coombes is a proud Kamilaroi man from Northern NSW and until recently was the Associate Director, Policy and Coordination within the Aboriginal Economic Development Group of Victorian Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR).

Mick has also studied at both the University of New England graduating in 1996 and La Trobe University, graduating in 2016.

In 1999, Mick was awarded a Churchill Scholarship from the Winston Churchill Trust, where he conducted a comparative study of the provision of services to Indigenous communities - USA, Canada.

Mick commenced his working career as a Fitter/Welder before transitioning into the NSW Public Sector where he worked across a number of Departments, including Corrective Services, Local Government, Sport and Recreation and Education. Mick has also worked within corporate & private sector to develop & implement Indigenous employment and enterprise development initiatives for companies including Qantas, Spotless and Broadlex Services Australia.

Mick commenced at La Trobe University in 2010, where he developed and implemented the University's Indigenous Employment Strategy and other key initiatives before relocating to Ayers Rock Resort with Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia where he held the positions of General Manager Indigenous Engagement and General Manager of the National Indigenous Training Academy.

On his return to Victoria in mid-2018, Mick was engaged as the Director of Indigenous Engagement and Strategy within the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous) at Monash University before taking up the role of Manager, Aboriginal Economic Development and Engagement within the AED team before his recent Associate Director role. Mick is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

SENATOR MCCARTHY VISITS ECHUCA



Assistant Minister for Health and Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians, Senator McCarthy was given an insight into the rich history of Njernda by Uncle Des Morgan, during her recent visit to our organisation.

Positive discussion and question time followed, to address the supports required and the needs & struggles Njernda face in providing improved health programs, client supports, as well as the desire for infrastructure growth to meet the growing needs of Njernda clients and wider Community.

A huge thank you also to Aunty Neva Takele who performed a Smoking Ceremony and Welcome.



TAKING CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY

CELEBRATING OUR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Where would we be without our amazing crew of Aboriginal Health Workers and Aboriginal Health Practitioners?

Monday 7 August was AHW/AHP Day of Recognition, so it was a great chance to say thanks and well done to our team here at Njernda. **(Pictured L-R Rebecca Tracey, Denise Berwick, Bradley McGrath and Garry (Jackie) Giles. (Absent – Vivian Giles, Kim Ward, Megan Atkinson, Sarah Phillips).**



Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners are the world's only Indigenous health professionals underpinned by national training and regulation. They are a critical health workforce for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community across Australia. They also go above and beyond here at Njernda every day, in support of the health of our Mobs. August 7 was chosen because it marked the day the National Association for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners (NAATSIHWP) was founded. NAATSIHWP is the peak body for the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners workforce. So thank you to all of our deadly staff who do so much to keep our Mob happy and healthy!

Vaccinations still available!

Our Medical Centre team is still taking bookings for vaccinations for

COVID-19 and Flu

If you are yet to get your COVID booster or want some extra protection from flu, call us on 5480 6252 to make your appointment.

Self-collecting works!

A new testing option has led to a big increase in the numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in Victoria being screened for cervical cancer.

The State Government says FIVE TIMES more First Nations women have been screened since an initiative to support self-collection of samples has been introduced.

Talk to our team today on 5480 6252 about how self-collection works, and support the push to eliminate cervical cancer!

OUR GOAL:
CHILDREN HAVE
A STRONG SENSE
OF IDENTITY AND
ARE CULTURALLY
SUPPORTED.

BERRIMBA NEWS - AN EARLY YEARS UPDATE

BABIES ROOM

In the babies' room we have been super busy exploring art.

The children can't get enough of creating different masterpieces to share with family and friends and though out the room. We started by paint canvases to celebrate NAIDOC Week then we added some cut outs of long-necked turtles to represent our elders along with some other cut out of native flora and Indigenous patterns. Each child's art will be displayed at Berrimba. We also have used the wood cookies to paint creating and connection of natural and non natural resources. We have been using them in our play as food in the home corner and as stepping stones for our safari area. Throughout these experiences educators have laid the fundamental groundwork for the children to understand their local Culture, and about nature and being sustainable .



TODDLERS ROOM

July has been a busy time for the toddlers.

We have been continuing our delay learning about our native Australian animals and learning our stories, this months focus story was tiddalick the frog. July is also the month for NAIDOC, our children have been very busy making headbands and having photos with their elders, and learning the importance of having our elders to teach them their traditions.



ABORIGINAL CHILDREN'S DAY

LITTLE VOICES...

LOUD FUTURES!



We celebrated Aboriginal Children's Day on August 4.

Children's Day is a time Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities and all Australians, to celebrate the strengths and culture of our children.

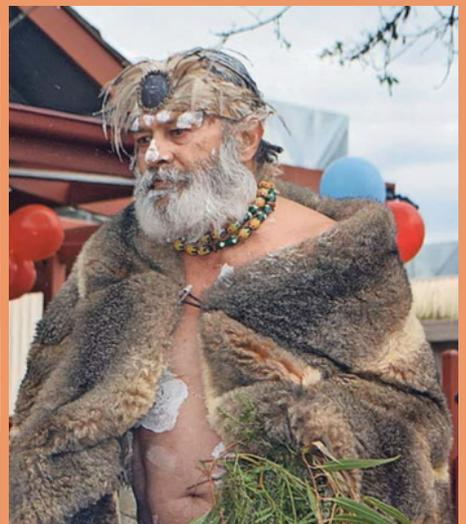
The day has been marked every year since 1988 and the theme for 2023 was: "Little voices, loud futures".

It's all about raising awareness of the bright futures and amazing potential of our children and the opportunity for their voices to pave a new path for our nation.

We are walking towards a future where our children are proud and empowered by their culture to speak their truth and be listened to by all Australians.



Photographs courtesy of the Riverine Herald



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

VACSAL JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

2023

WANT TO BE PART OF THE JUNIOR CARNIVAL IN MELBOURNE THIS YEAR?



26th & 27th September
RESERVOIR (Melbourne)

OPEN TO KIDS AGED 6-17



WARMA

DON'T MISS OUT!
Let us know, so we can get our teams together!




For more info and to register:
P: Laura 0437 856 375
E: laurah@njernda.com.au



ENROL TO HAVE YOUR SAY

With the Referendum on the Indigenous voice to Parliament coming up at the end of the year, it's more important than ever that you are enrolled to vote, to have your say.



The easiest and fastest way to update your details is to scan the code (above) on your phone to get to the enrolment page on the Australian Electoral Commission website. You can then enrol to vote or update your enrolment details online. If you would rather, you can print out an enrolment form here: <https://www.aec.gov.au/enrol/form.htm> Completed forms can be returned to the AEC by post, uploaded to the AEC website or submitted in person at an AEC office (details are on the form). Please remember to allow enough time for the post to ensure the forms are received by the AEC before the rolls close. And if you have questions, call the AEC on 13 23 26 or email vicsupportcell@aec.gov.au.

Njernda

SEEKING INDIGENOUS ART

ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 31ST

We are looking for original Designs, Logos and Artwork
The designs and art will be utilized for our upcoming Winyanboga Program, and also across future Women's programs that we are planning for the Indigenous Women in the Community

There will be a prize for the Artwork

SEND ENTRIES TO:
LouiseS@Njernda.com.au

ABORIGINAL HONOUR ROLL NOMINATIONS OPEN



Nominations are now open for the Victorian Aboriginal Honour Roll, which formally recognises Aboriginal people who have made a significant contribution to the community and the state.

Since it was established in 2010, the Honour Roll has recognised 139 Aboriginal people for their work in a wide range of fields including health, education, justice, sport, the arts, community leadership and military service. The 2023 inductees will have their personal stories added to the Honour Roll, which is on permanent display in the Victorian Parliament.

Nominations for the Honour Roll will close at midnight on Sunday, 20 August. For more information, visit

www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/VAHR.

WORK WITH US

A career at Njernda can take you anywhere! And we love to support our Mob to step up into real jobs that make a huge difference.

Check our website and follow our social media channels to keep up with what's available.

We encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, but unless stated, our jobs are available to all qualified applicants. If you're interested in any of our listed jobs, or want to know more about what it's like to work at Njernda, have a yarn with Auntie Trish or the HR Team. Get all the details of all our jobs and apply on our website, njernda.com.au



Talk to us!

As well as recruiting to available positions, our Njernda HR team is always looking to build our pool of talent. If you're looking for a flexible

Part-Time or Casual Role

or you have

qualifications

you think we can use at Njernda we would love to hear from you.

*Have a yarn with us:
E: jobs@njernda.com.au
P: (03) 5480 6252*

CONTACT US:

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