

# **Community Development NEWS**

**YEPERENYE TRAIL  
CELEBRATION**

**KAPORILYA GETS  
NEW KITCHEN**

**WETT SUPPORTS CON-  
NECTION TO COUNTRY**

**APUTULA PLANS FIRST  
COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

**YUENDUMU ENTERPRISE  
GOES THE EXTRA MILE**

**ALEKARENGE DRIVERS GET BACK ON TRACK**



**CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL**

Aboriginal people driving  
their own development  
in Central Australia

SUMMER 2021





# WORKING FOR COUNTRY: TRAIL SUPPORTS LOCAL WORKERS

More than 30 local workers were trained in sustainable trail construction, sought-after skills that could lead to more work on trails in the region's national parks.

Marika Davis from Amoonguna Community worked on the Yeperenye Trail from Emily to Jessie Gap.

They joined the traditional owners at a smoking ceremony at the trail head in July, as they welcomed community members and Central Land Council staff to celebrate the launch of the trail.

CLC chief executive Lesley Turner acknowledged all 34 trail workers and cultural supervisors by name and recognised the efforts of the working group to ensure training and ongoing employment opportunities for their community.

"I want to thank the owners of the Yeperenye Nature Park for their generosity, inclusivity and forward-thinking," he said.

"You have left a legacy that's making us all very proud. Of course you were not only thinking of us visitors.

You had your families and young people foremost in your minds and you spread the work around."

Four traditional owners were rostered to work on the construction of the trail with local company Tricky Tracks every day for 4 months, while others gave advice as cultural site supervisors.

Tricky Tracks provided one-on-one training to the workers and discussed the roster with them during fortnightly meetings at the men's shed in Amoonguna.

CLC and Tangentyere Employment Services staff helped workers get paperwork such as tax file numbers in order, transported them between Amoonguna and the trail site, and provided them with safe work wear.

The flexibility and support got the thumbs up from the workers.

**"WE RESPECT THESE PEOPLE HERE, IT'S THE FIRST TIME WE'VE DONE THIS, AND MORE TO COME LATER. IT'S BEEN REALLY GOOD... I JUST WANTED TO WORK ON MY OWN COUNTRY".**  
TRADITIONAL OWNER TRAVIS ALICE SAID.

"It's given us employment and is a healthy activity," Clem Alice added.

"We like the sound of the birds of a morning and seeing the animals and the country on the trail. We see some bush tucker on the way, like bush bananas after rain."

"It's good to be out on country, working together. We had fun, making jokes all the way. There were different groups each week so it gave other people a chance."

## YEPERENYE TRAIL SUCCESS STORY SHARED WITH SUSTAINABLE TRAIL EXPERTS

**Yeperenye traditional owners told tourism industry workers from across Australia how they planned and constructed the new walking and cycling trail between Anthwerrke (Emily Gap) and Atherrke (Jessie Gap).**

Grant Wallace, Mark Alice and Lynette Ellis explained to participants of the Tourism Recreation Conservation Sustainable Trail Conference in June how their working group used their NT Parks rent money to fund the hand-construction of the trail.

The traditional owners sat down with the conference participants at Anthwerrke to discuss the trail, which took five years to plan and construct with local sustainable trail building company, Tricky Tracks.

The guests walked part of the 7.2 kilometre trail, led by Ms Ellis. "Me and my brother presented and we had some elder traditional owners as well, and it was really good. We went together with the elders around the country there".



Traditional owners and trail workers gave a conference presentation at Emily Gap.

She said sharing knowledge and "teaching young people about the country and getting them involved in things like this for future projects" was one of the most rewarding aspects of the project.

**The Community Development News gives Aboriginal people a chance to find out about the many outcomes they are achieving as part of the CLC's community development program.**

**This newsletter keeps CLC constituents up to date on some of the social, cultural and economic projects Aboriginal groups are planning and funding with**

**their own money across Central Australia. If you would like more information on this work please contact the CLC on 8951 6367 or visit [www.clc.org.au](http://www.clc.org.au)**

Cover image: William Quall and Andrew Alice from Amoonguna worked on the Yeperenye Trail between Emily and Jessie Gap





Amoonguna students joined the celebration. (below) Roseanne Ellis and Matthew Alice welcome people to walk the trail.



Centralian Senior College students attended the opening.

(left) Elaine Ross and Marina Alice cut the cake (right) Matthew Alice and Clem Alice.



Community members enjoyed the first walk on the trail.



Yipirinya students loved the cake.



Proud traditional owners and families.



Trail workers (L-R) Ricky Lechleitner, Brandon Hayes, Andrew Alice, Willie Oliver, Derek Hayes, Henry Oliver, Paul Williams and Wade Conway.



Lynette Ellis and CLC CEO Les Turner welcomed people to the opening of the trail (below) Ltyentye Apurte students travelled to Emily Gap for the opening.



## Northern Territory Parks Rent Money Project Facts

In 2010 the traditional owners of 16 national parks and reserves across the CLC region leased their land to the NT government. They use all the rent they get for these jointly managed parks for

community benefit projects and the CLC is helping them to prioritise and plan these projects, mostly on their outstations. The working groups they set up have so far allocated more than \$13 million to 283 projects.

NT PARKS



# KAPORILYA HOUSE GETS A MAKEOVER

*The Ratara family is enjoying a warmer and more spacious home after renovations of their run-down property at the Kaporilya outstation, 15 kilometres west of Ntaria (Hermannsburg).*

The working group chose Alice Springs construction company Mob'n Co to install a new kitchen, electrics, and flooring at the house and connect the laundry to the power.

Loose blockwork between the kitchen and living room was demolished to open up the space, and all windows, doors and screens were replaced.

An investment of more than \$50,000 from the Tjoritja (West MacDonnell) National Park rent money paid for the upgrades.

The inhabitants, Finke Gorge National Park traditional owner Dora Ratara and her two children are grateful.

"The house was really old, from a long time ago. We put our park money to fixing the inside of the house. We tried to make it new," she said.

The family is warm and comfortable now, and no longer have to stay with relatives in Ntaria.

**"IT USED TO BE REALLY COLD INSIDE,  
BUT NOW IT'S LIKE NEW. IT'S REALLY  
NICE, AND WE ARE REALLY HAPPY,"**

**MS RATARA SAID.**

Now, she can live next door to her parents Voight and Trudy, whose shipping container house was previously constructed using funds from the community development program.

Kaporilya is home to an historic cemetery and its spring provided water for Ntaria prior to settlement by missionaries in the late 1800s.



Aleasa Malbunka (L) and David Silverton (R) worked with project partner Mob and Co.



Voight Ratara, Trudy Raggett, with daughter Dora and grandchildren who live at Kaporilya.



# ALPINTHARRA BUSH CAMP READY FOR FIRST CHRISTMAS GATHERING

*The Ebatarinjas will celebrate their first Christmas on their homelands, in memory of R. Ebatarinja, who made their dream come alive.*

Mr Ebatarinja and his wife Sonya Davis spent 21 years camping at the do-it-yourself Alpintharra bush camp of the Bulla/Ebatarinja families, 30 minutes drive from Ntaria (Hermannsburg).

Now their bush camp is a more comfortable place for visiting family members.

Their daughter Regina Ebatarinja remembered what it was like before the upgrades.

"It was just a grassy area we had to clear ourselves to sleep over. We built our own little shed with our own hands, but it was really hot in there to sleep.

"From there my dad got a water tank. Afterwards we had to stay here because of the tank. Mum and dad had to decide to get a big shed."



The family funded the project through their Watarrka National Park income last November.

The Watarrka (Lilla) group agreed to allocate nearly \$79,000 to construct a large steel shade structure with two enclosed sides and a concrete floor, which also houses the solar system and silent diesel generator as back-up.

Sadly, Mr Ebatarinja passed away just months before the project was completed by Hardy Fencing NT, an Aboriginal-owned company from Alice Springs.

"Dad passed away before the shed was built. He told me 'I'm going to hand it over to you' and I was so happy my parents gave this to me to finish."

The family stayed at the new shed for the first time in August for several days, bringing them one step closer to realising Mr Ebatarinja's dream of spending more time on country with his grandchildren.

**"WE CAME OUT HERE ON THE WEEKEND FOR A FEW DAYS TO SEE HOW IT WAS WITH POWER AT NIGHT, AND IT WAS AMAZING," REGINA SAID.**

She has big plans for the future, including some furniture and cold storage for food.

"I'm thinking about putting in trees, some fruit for us to eat. And getting fencing to keep horses out."

"I want to come stay here for a long time. It reminds me of my father. We might even have our first Christmas here this year!"

(above) Sonya Davis, Tanya Malbunka, Jacob Richardson, Bradley Jugadai, Benanthea Jugadai, Regina Ebatarinja, Hardy Fencing's Sydney Maloney and Lauren Michener from the CLC.  
(below) The new shed at Alpintharra bush camp has a padlocked cage that the family will use to secure appliances and property.





# MUTI SHADES ITS CEMETERY

*The Mutitjulu Community has built a shade structure at the community cemetery, just in time for the hot weather.*

They completed the steel shelter with a picnic table and seats and strengthened the fence to stop feral animals from trampling the graves of loved ones.

Traditional owner and working group member Malya Teamay is happy about the upgrades.

6 **“THIS IS REALLY GREAT FOR OUR OLD PEOPLE. THERE IS SOMEWHERE FOR THEM TO SIT DOWN UNDER A SHELTER OUT OF THE SUN,” MR TEAMAY SAID.**

They added a storage shed for tools and cleaning products so that residents can maintain the cemetery.

Craig Forrester helped to put up the shelter and the shed.

After the Mutitjulu working group allocated more than \$44,000 of the community's Uluru rent money to the project, the CLC engaged a local contractor, Bob Dashwood, to carry it out with Anangu.

Mr Teamay is proud that people from Mutitjulu worked on the buildings.

“Wiru Palya! It's really good,” Mr Teamay said.

“It's good that Anangu worked on this with that fella,” he said.



Malya Teamay at the improved Mutitjulu cemetery shelter.



## Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park Rent Money (URM) Project Facts

Every year since 2005 the traditional owners of the national park have spent a big part of their share of the rent and gate money they get from the Commonwealth on projects in their communities in the Northern Territory and South Australia.

They meet three times a year to decide how to spend that income, and plan and monitor projects. Among the local and regional projects are upgrades and repairs of sports grounds and outstations, and support for renal dialysis, local and boarding school education. They have set up funeral funds and

strengthened local culture through inter-generational knowledge transfer activities.

The Mutitjulu community receives its own share of income from the park. It has funded the construction and operation of its swimming pool and upgrades of its recreation hall and other sporting facilities. The community has also funded men's ceremonies and cultural trips, an upgrade of the community's inma (ceremony) ground and the conversion of the adjacent abandoned training centre to a cultural centre.

So far, the traditional owners have allocated almost \$17 million to 123 projects.



The renovated building at Mutitjulu is now used as a cultural events space.



Inma ground in use during the anniversary celebration of the handback of Uluru-Kata Tjuta.



# SIGNIFICANT SITE HONoured WITH UPGRADES

*The Mutitjulu inma (ceremony) ground has seen a bit of history – from the handback of Uluru in 1985 to the proclamation of the Uluru Statement from the Heart in 2017.*

In recent years the red sand area between the pool and the derelict adult education centre with its million-dollar view of the rock had been looking a little old and unloved.

Time for a makeover, the Mutitjulu working group decided in 2018, and hired the Mutitjulu Community Aboriginal Corporation to make it happen.

The group allocated more than \$75,000 of its rent money from the surrounding national park to build a concrete band stage, two *wiltjas* (shade structures) for the dancers and spotlights for night performances.

The MCAC completed the job in 2020 and the locals approve.

**“IT’S A SPECIAL PLACE. WE TAKE THE YOUNG GIRLS AND BOYS THERE TO LEARN, THEY NEED TO LEARN TO SING AND DANCE, LEARN THEIR CULTURE.” MUTITJULU RESIDENT JUDY (YUKA) TRIGGER SAID.**

The corporation allocated \$20,000 of the funds to celebrate the anniversary of the rock’s handback last October with a cultural event at the site.

The abandoned building next to the dance ground has also been fixed up for community and cultural events.

The working group spent \$190,000 to restore the mudbrick walls, install a new bathroom, and upgrade the electrics. The MCAC undertook this work.



Judy (Yuka) Trigger.

The group also gave the corporation another \$20,000 per year to maintain the building for the next five years.

“When it’s a bit cool we’ll go inside and sit down and talk and learn, we can take culture in there,” Natalie Ray Malbunka explained.



Women dancing at the improved inma ground on the anniversary celebration of the handback of Uluru-Kata Tjuta.

ULURU RENT MONEY



# GMAAAC POSITIONS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA FILLED

8 **Balgo, Billiluna and Ringer Soak in Western Australia each have welcomed six new community committee members, who will help to make decisions about projects funded with Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation Project compensation income.**

The three-year positions were finally filled early this year, following several meeting cancellations due to COVID border closures in 2020.

Balgo and Billiluna residents appointed their committees by consensus, while Ringers Soak held an election.

All three communities have equal numbers of men and women.

New GMAAAC committee member from Billiluna, Vincent Manson, introduced himself.

**“I’VE WORKED FOR THE COMMUNITY FOR ABOUT FOUR YEARS TO KEEP THE COMMUNITY CLEAN. IT’S MY FIRST TIME ON GMAAAC. I WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW IT WORKS.”**

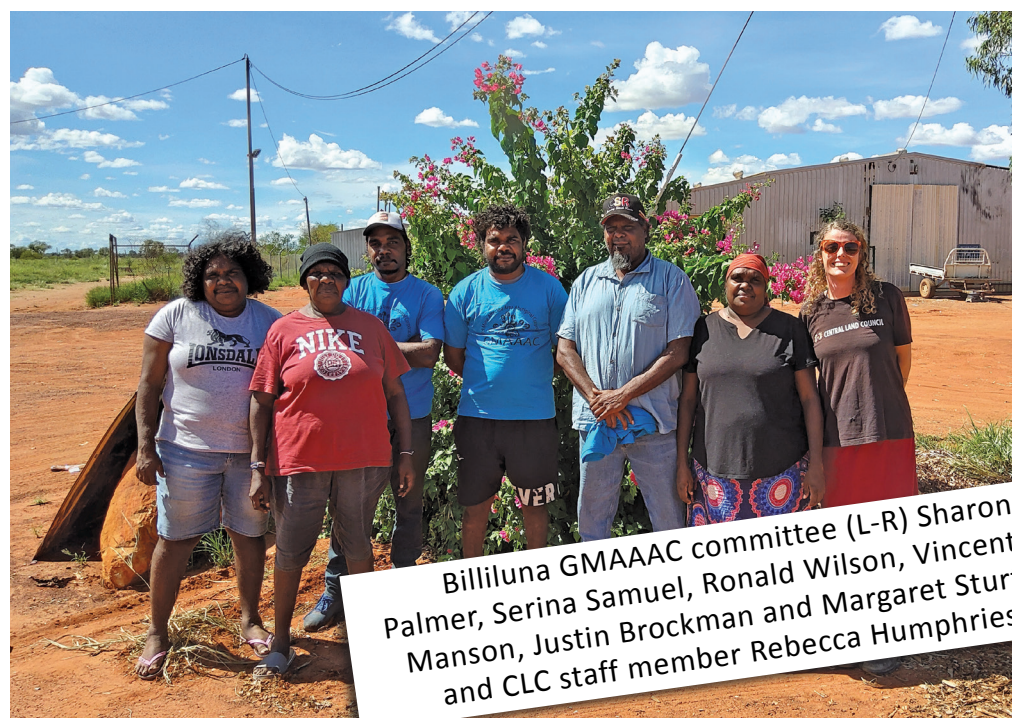
**VINCENT SAID.**

Kylie McDonald, a committee member from Ringer Soak, has had plenty of experience serving her community.

“I came here in 1993 and have been on board for community council and the community shop. I’ve got knowledge on how community works, helping others and making good decisions for our future kids. I’m interested in future generations coming up with new ideas to help community.”

Committee member Ronald Wilson has lived in Billiluna his whole life.

“I’m here because I want to learn to be a leader, to make good decisions, and to learn from leaders.”



Billiluna GMAAAC committee (L-R) Sharon Palmer, Serina Samuel, Ronald Wilson, Vincent Manson, Justin Brockman and Margaret Sturt and CLC staff member Rebecca Humphries.



The GMAAAC committee elections underway in Billiluna in March.



Bede Lee, Margaret Milner, Gail Hector and Carol Green were elected to Balgo’s GMAAAC committee in February.



The Ringer Soak GMAAAC committee elected in April (L-R) (L-R) Lillian Sampi, Dwayne Jack, Allan Lewis, Kylie McDonald, Sarah-Lee Long.

## GMAAAC Project Facts

The Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation benefits nine communities affected by Newmont’s Granites gold

mine in the Tanami Desert

- Yuendumu, Lajamanu, Willowra, Nyirripi, Yuelamu, Tanami Downs, Balgo, Ringer Soak and Billiluna.

Every year, community committees plan and allocate GMAAAC funds to projects that aim to improve housing, health, education, essential services, employment and training.

Communities elect committee members every three years and the committees choose the directors of the corporation. The CLC’s community development unit helps the community committees to plan the projects and select partner

organisations to implement them.

Since 2008, the GMAAAC has allocated more than \$64 million to 1052 projects. The projects create jobs for Yapa, contracts for local businesses and support community priorities such as arts, culture and infrastructure.

The work of the CLC’s community development unit in the Tanami is supported by the GMAAAC, WETT and Newmont Tanami Operations.





# DEMONS' GET DEADLY NEW FOOTY AND SOFTBALL UPGRADES

*Nyirрпи footy and softball fans are enjoying five brand-new grandstands at their well-loved sports grounds, thanks to Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation Project funding.*

The committee had the idea in 2019 after it asked the community what projects would help Nyirрпи.

The GMAAAC committee decided to upgrade sports facilities to breathe new life into the men's football and women's softball programs and attract more visitors to games.

Tangentyere Constructions completed construction in 2021, using the \$216,000 allocated by the committee.

To improve the experience further, new PA systems were installed on two ovals for \$78,000 by Alice Springs construction company TriSparc.

Zenaida Gallagher started playing softball when she was 19 years old.

"We are so happy to have new grandstands and PA systems on both softball and footy oval. The PA will mean everyone can hear over the wind," Ms Gallagher said.

GMAAAC committee member and Nyirрпи Demons football player Kieren Michaels shared her enthusiasm.

"We are grateful for the community to come and watch footy in the shade and to get a higher view of the footy. It makes the oval a more exciting place to watch training and this will encourage the next generation," he said.

Ms Gallagher is a new member of the committee that makes all the decisions.

**"THIS IS MY FIRST TIME BEING A GMAAAC MEMBER. I REALLY ENJOY WHAT I AM DOING AND I MAKE MY FAMILY PROUD WHEN I GOT INTO THIS," ZENAIDA SAID.**

"It's really good because I help ladies for getting new stuff, like uniforms, and equipment, like bats, balls and bases.

"It's good when you start from a young one. Then you can know how things work."

Zenaida Gallagher and Kieren Michaels are looking forward to sports weekends in Nyirрпи.





# NEW YUENDUMU ENTERPRISE TAKES EVERYONE THE EXTRA MILE

***Robert Jampijinpa Robertson's vision for a Yuendumu-owned and operated transport and vehicle recovery service is one step closer to reality.***

Xtra Mile, the social enterprise he started, began running chartered bus services in June.

The milestone followed two years of planning with the CLC's community development team and volunteers of Community First Development, a community development and research organisation.

**"MEMBERS WERE COMING AND ASKING IF WE CAN TAKE THEM TO LAJAMANU, PAPUNYA AND ALL THOSE PLACES, AND THAT'S WHEN I STARTED TO THINK, YOU KNOW, WE NEED TO START A BUS SERVICE OR SOMETHING FOR OUR PEOPLE TO GET TO PLACES THEY WANT TO GO,"**

**MR ROBERTSON SAID.**

Yuendumu residents have long endured expensive and infrequent transport services, and people traveling to Alice Springs were often stranded for days, missing work and school.

Mr Robertson successfully pitched the social and employment benefits of his bright idea to the community committee of the Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation in May 2019.

Later that year, the committee allocated almost \$98,000 to set up a social enterprise and buy two Toyota coaster buses, and almost \$27,000 for two remote transport services consultants.



In 2020 it contributed just over \$164,000 towards the company's first year of operations, enabling it to run a charter bus service and establish trust with its customers.

Xtra Mile aims to offer a regular and reliable bus service to the whole community, with return trips between Yuendumu and Alice Springs for around \$160.

Mr Robertson named the company in memory of the travel his family used to undertake by foot.

"In the logo is a little boy being carried by his father," he said.

"My father used to carry me on his shoulder when I used to get tired, so he had extra load on. He would carry a spear and me on top of all the stuff he was carrying. Extra mile."



Mr Robertson and volunteers sourced an additional \$250,000 from the Aboriginals Benefit Account, allowing Xtra Mile to employ a social enterprise worker for two years.

Xtra Mile set up shop in an office rented from the Yuendumu Women's Centre.

The centre also provided secure parking for the buses, and the Wanta Aboriginal Corporation are helping with human resources, governance and financial systems.

Xtra Mile aims to generate enough income to cover a third of its operating costs in its first year.

It is also training and employing locals.

Four Yapa drivers completed commercial passenger vehicle training in Yuendumu, passed their theory exam, medical assessment and got a police certificate.

Two more drivers will undertake the driver knowledge test and a medical assessment in Alice Springs before attending the second Drive Safe NT training in Yuendumu in September.

The company hopes four more drivers will upgrade to a light rigid vehicle license class.

Mr Robertson is proud of what he and the community have achieved so far.

"I think the whole thing is great training and jobs for our mob in the desert and to strengthen your own business and help people understand what things are possible," he said.

Robert Roberston is the general manager of Xtra Mile Transport Service in Yuendumu.





Peter Corbett, Dereck Walker and Marie Dickinson are happy with Back on Track training.

# ALEKARENGE DRIVERS GET BACK ON TRACK

*Alekarenge residents and their neighbours who have lost their driver's licenses are one step closer to getting them back, thanks to the community's lease money working group.*

The group is bringing the Back on Track training course to Alekarenge to change attitudes and behaviours around alcohol, drugs and drink driving.

Working group member and teacher Derek Walker knows how tricky it can be to get your license back once you've lost it.

"It's hard nowadays because you need a license to get a job," Mr Walker said.

Not having a license made it harder to find work, and made visiting family and attending funerals difficult.

He completed the training with nine other residents at Alekarenge in April.

"I took my Back on Track certificate and now I can fill out my form and get my learner's permit. I can get my license back and drive the school bus," he said.



The one-day course is compulsory for those who want their license back.

Before the working group invested \$4,000 to deliver the course in the community, residents had to travel to Alice Springs or Tennant Creek at their own expense.

**"IT'S GOOD DOING THE TRAINING IN COMMUNITIES. IN TOWN PEOPLE GET SIDE-TRACKED AND THE COST IS TOO MUCH FOR THEM, SO AS WORKING GROUP MEMBERS WE DECIDED 'LET'S PUT THIS MUCH IN FOR EVERYBODY TO COME AND DO IT' [THE TRAINING]." MR WALKER SAID.**

He said the group wanted to share the benefits around.

"We've got people doing it from nearby communities too. Our working group put that money towards it for whoever wanted to come and do that training."

## Community Lease Money Project Facts

The project started in 2012, after two new income streams started to flow. The first was the Commonwealth's one off compensation payment for the compulsory leases it took out over 31 communities during the five years of the Intervention. This payment is now spent. The second is lease money governments and other organisations and service providers now pay every year for the blocks they lease in communities

— the other lease money. Most communities have working groups to plan and monitor projects - a total of 383 so far. Since 2012, they have invested almost \$20 million in their projects - almost \$14 million of the five year lease money and more than \$5.6 million of the other lease money.

COMMUNITY LEASE MONEY





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*The Warlpiri Education and Training Trust advisory committee has trained and employed 11 Yapa as community researchers to collect feedback on its language and culture in schools program.*

*(L-R) Malkirdi Rose, Belinda Wayne and Glenda Wayne presented feedback to Yuendumu.*

The researchers asked 18 residents and school staff in Yuendumu and Nyirрпи how the program that aims to strengthen teaching and learning in Warlpiri and English is going.

They are also looking at how the program could be improved.

Researchers from Latrobe University, directors of the Kurra Aboriginal Corporation and members of the advisory committee developed the research framework. Its Warlpiri name is *yitakimaninjaku nyarrpakurraku yaninjaku* (slowly tracking where you are going).

The trial showed that having Yapa conducting and translating the research was the best way to get information and feedback from participants.

“It is important to have Yapa researchers to talk to our own Yapa. We can talk to them in Warlpiri, whatever they say in Walpiri, we write it in both languages,” community researcher Glenda Wayne said.

Yapa researchers identified who to interview, what questions to ask, and learned how to record and transcribe what their interview partners said.

The interviews were later translated into English.

A lot of training and preparation went into the research project.

**“THEY EXPLAINED TO ME WHAT A RESEARCHER IS AND FOR RESEARCH WE FOUND A WARLPIRI NAME - WARRININJAKU (TO GO LOOK FOR) MANU PALKA (AND TO FIND) MANINJAKU (TO GET IT, GATHER IT AND BRING IT BACK), MS WAYNE SAID.**

“Some new people came to our training too, to become researchers, so we did a practice run with them and did the interviews with each other: the new researchers and the experienced researchers.”

Belinda Wayne also completed the training.

“I felt good and confident to talk in public, to translate from English to Warlpiri,” she said.

“We had people who wanted to give feedback. They brought new things about not wanting to lose culture – like borrowing words from other languages.”

The researchers presented the research at the August meeting of the WETT advisory committee.

Committee members used this information to make decisions that aim to make the WETT language and culture in schools program stronger.

WETT committee members said the tracking and learning plan painted a clear picture of where the program is going.

The committee has started to consider if they will continue this approach to tracking and learning in to the future.



*Yapa researchers Verona Jurrrah and Ricardo Gallagher practiced interviewing techniques.*

### Warlpiri Education and Training Trust Facts

The Warlpiri Education and Training Trust has supported education and training in Nyirрпи, Lajamanu, Willowra and Yuendumu since 2005.

The trust receives more than \$3 million every year from Newmont’s Granites gold mine for its children and families, language and culture in schools, youth development, learning community centres and secondary school support programs.

The Kurra Aboriginal Corporation meets twice a year to decide how to spend this income and its WETT advisory committee meets three times a year to plan and monitor the five major WETT programs. The trust delivers the programs in partnership with community schools, the Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation, Batchelor Institute for Indigenous Tertiary Education and World Vision. It has invested almost \$48 million so far.



# YAPA SCHOOL KIDS LEARN DREAMING STORIES ON COUNTRY

*Families from Yuendumu and Nyirrpí spent a whole week learning traditional knowledge and culture, thanks to funding from the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust.*

The annual country visit in June took school kids out bush with elders and family members. They honed their Warlpiri language skills as they visited important sites and learned their dreaming stories.

They camped at three different sites deep in the Tanami Desert and used them as bases for visits to important sacred sites.

At Jila Well, they visited Yumurrpa, a sacred site and excellent spot for digging up *yarla* (bush potato).

They continued to Mala Bore outstation, where they heard the *Karlangu* (digging stick) dreaming story, a women's story that runs from Mina Mina to Coniston.

At Puyurru, Tommy Watson told a water dreaming story of the *Kirrkaranji* (hawk) who collected water from the water hole and took it north.

Students camped at Nyinyirripalangu visited the nearby waterholes that had filled up since the last rain and had attracted thousands of finches.

From there they visited Pirli-nyanu (Goanna dreaming site) where CLC ranger Alice Henwood and Angeline Hargreaves performed the song and dance for that site.

The students camped at the Newhaven Conservation Reserve heard the *wanayarra* (rainbow serpent) dreaming story at Lake Bennet from Ms Henwood.

After visiting the *Yarripiri* story line sites and learning about the *Jardi-warnpa* ceremony, PAW Media treated the students and families to an outdoor movie night.

At the end of the week, all students had practiced their *yawulyu* (women's ceremonial dance) and *Purlapa* (public ceremony).

"This country visit was really great," Yamurna Oldfield, the Yuendumu school's assistant principal and WETT advisory committee member, said.

**"THERE WERE LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR KIDS TO SEE THEIR COUNTRY, THEIR OWN PLACE. THEY ARE REALLY HAPPY WHEN COUNTRY VISIT IS HAPPENING. IT IS REALLY GOOD TO KNOW WHERE THEY CAME FROM, BECAUSE THEIR PARENTS CAN'T ALWAYS TAKE THEM." SAID YAMURNA OLDFIELD.**

Alice Nampijinpa Henwood told the dreaming story of Pirlinyanu to Nyirrpí School students.





# GOVERNMENT CHUCK-IN FILLS APUTULA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUCKET



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Aputula residents first met with the CLC's community development team in March.

**Aputula (Finke) is the latest community to get to invest in community development, thanks to a trial that has seen the Australian Government match dollar-for-dollar what communities themselves invest in their projects.**

Aputula will receive \$50,000 every year for three years for community projects as part of the matched funds trial.

The trial is a result of more than a decade of lobbying by the Central Land Council.

Many communities in the southwest and the east of the CLC region do not receive much income from land use agreements that they can invest in community projects they drive, for example because there is limited mining exploration on their land.

The CLC executive has made rules allowing all these communities to join the matched funds trial. Aputula is one of these communities.

In May its new community development working group prioritised projects to support young people and help community members to get out on country.

New Aputula working group member Jennifer Doolan is excited about the opportunities ahead.

"We are happy now we are getting involved with community development," she said.

Aputula resident Rosemary Matasia is glad that young people are getting involved in the working group.

**"IT'S GOOD FOR THE YOUNG ONES TO LEARN AND GO FORWARD, THEY CAN GET CONFIDENCE IN THE MEETINGS," ROSEMARY SAID.**

The working group chose three areas on which to develop community projects: youth, education and training, and culture.

In September 2021, the working group decided to dedicate \$41,000 of their matched funds to each of these areas.

Project ideas include sporting and cooking equipment for the recreation hall, and purchasing trailers for community bush trips, rubbish and firewood runs, and events in other communities.

Catholic Care was chosen to facilitate certificate courses in a range of vocations in Aputula to increase the job prospects of residents.

The CLC will support the working group to deliver these projects in 2022.



Jennifer Doolan from the Aputula community development working group presented project ideas in front of the community store.

## Project facts: Matched Funds

The Central Land Council and the National Indigenous Australians Agency started this three-year trial in 2020 to provide funds for groups that use new income from land use agreements for community-driven projects by matching their investments dollar-for-dollar. All communities with new lease income and traditional owner groups with new income from land use agreements

between \$50,000 and \$150,000 are eligible. A significant amount of the matched funds will go to groups whose incomes from land use agreements would otherwise be too small for the projects they want. Six traditional owner groups and 24 communities have so far agreed to participate in the trial. The \$2 million available in the first year has been fully allocated and this year they are deciding how to spend \$3 million.

**MATCHED  
FUNDS**



# CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (CD) PROGRAM REPORT 2019/20

Independent monitoring of the Central Land Council's CD Program by LaTrobe University's Institute for Human Security and Social Change

ABORIGINAL MONEY GOVERNED BY ABORIGINAL PEOPLE FOR COLLECTIVE BENEFIT



**80+**  
ABORIGINAL  
GOVERNANCE  
GROUPS



**270**  
COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENTS



**\$16.6  
MILLION**  
APPROVED FOR  
PROJECTS







**153**  
NEW COMMUNITY  
BENEFIT PROJECTS  
FUNDED



Liam Janpijimpa Alberts films "One Pound Jimmy" produced through funding support from GMAAC

## SUCCESS FACTORS

-  Strong Aboriginal leaders
-  Collective and informed decision making
-  Respectful two-way relationships between Aboriginal participants and CD staff.
-  Enabling role of experienced CD officers

## PROGRAM RESULTS



CLC was contracted by the NT Government to oversee Warlpiri community consultations to inform a Local Decision Making strategy for the four Warlpiri schools



The Ltyente Apurte football oval lights and basketball court upgrade was completed, improving access to sport for the Santa Teresa community



470 Aboriginal people employed across the program, totalling 32,107 hours collectively.



3,448 hours of non-accredited and 1,037 hours of accredited training delivered.



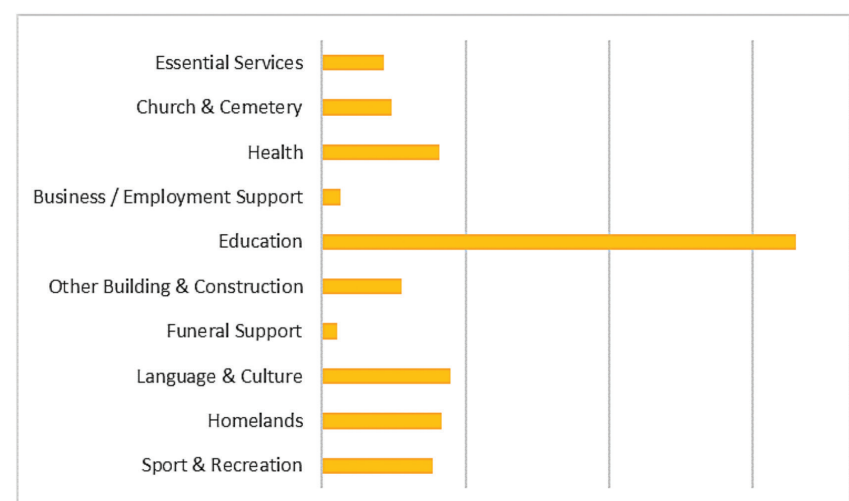
78 secondary boarding school students supported.



\$6.6M of approved projects were designed to achieve Aboriginal educational outcomes.

This artwork is from a 2013 painting by Barbara Napanangka Martin, Nancy Napurrurla Oldfield and Maisie Napaljarri Kitson. It depicts the journey of how WETT started and how it grew over the years.

### PROJECT TYPES:

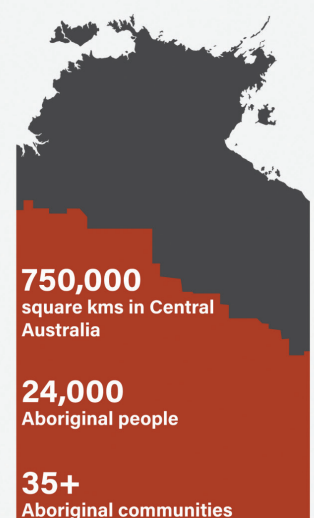


### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GOALS BACKGROUND PROGRAM INFORMATION

- Maintain Aboriginal identity and culture
- Strengthen capacity to participate in mainstream Australia

#### OBJECTIVES

- Aboriginal engagement, ownership and control
- Outcomes valued by Aboriginal people
- Building CD approach evidence base
- Sharing lessons learned





# MEET THE DECISION MAKERS

*All of the great community development projects that happen across the CLC region are due to the hard work of traditional owners and community members who plan and develop projects that will benefit their communities. These are just some of the groups that are making all planning decisions, big and small.*



Ngapa community development working group (L-R) Dick Foster, Damien Foster, Graham Cooper, Elaine Foster, Geoffrey Lauder and Earl Foster.



Utju community development working group (L-R) Sarah Gallagher, Sandra George, Linda Gallagher, Gordon Tiger and Dennis Nipper.



Ryder Family NT Parks rent money community development meeting at Alyarpere.



Pmara Jutunta Community Lease Money community meeting.



Wirntiku community development working group (L-R) Lucas Grant, Josephine Grant, Floyd James, Peter Foster and Sebastian Walker.



Kurra WETT directors and WETT advisory committee members in Lajamanu.



Nturiya community development working group.



Yeperenye trail project progress site visit, Ricky Lechleitner, Andrew Alice, Lynette Ellis, Anthony McMillian, Clem Alice and Theo Alice.



**CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL**

If you want to know more about the CLC's community development work please call 8951 6367