



NEW COUNCIL STAFF



Valdera Morgan is the new Administration Assistant in the Warburton CDP office. Valdera is also a talented artist.



Pablo DeVicente has a background in Horticulture and Forestry. Pablo comes from the Canary Islands where he worked as a youth trainer, a firefighter and a ranger for the Canary Islands National Parks. Pablo is the new **Municipal Services Officer** in Jameson Community.



DIRECTORS MESSAGE: My name is **Derek Harris**, but people call me **Junior**. I'm the Chair of Warburton Community and a Director of Ngaanyatjarra Council Aboriginal Corporation. I've been happily married to my wife since 1988, we are christian people and live a christian life in Warburton Community.

There are always changes coming that affect us. Changes from the Government, from the mainstream - from outside the Ngaanyatjarra Lands. Ngaanyatjarra people need to be stronger and smarter. We need to get educated so we can deal with the issues as they happen.

Being educated helps you to deal with the Government, with Council and the issues and problems that we face. Kids need to stay in school - its hard but they need to keep trying. And adults need to educate themselves as well. We should take every opportunity to learn and to better ourselves.



STAFF PROFILE: Chris Axe

Hi my name is Chris Axe and I have worked for Ngaanyatjarra Services for almost seven years. I was born and raised in WA however not the WA that you are familiar with. The initials for Washington State in the USA are WA and this is where I grew up close to Seattle Washington.

In 1992 I moved from the USA and worked in Germany for over ten years as a civilian worker for the US military. I immigrated to Australia in 2003 and have lived in Darwin, Kununurra and Alice Springs. My family consists of my wife and two four legged "children".

When I started at Ngaanyatjarra Services I worked as a bookkeeper. In 2012 I started my **CPA** or **Certified Practising Accountant** studies. Ngaanyatjarra Services supported me during my studies which I am very grateful for. At the end of last year I completed the CPA program and am now a CPA. In 2014 I moved from bookkeeping to an accountant role. Currently I am the accountant for Tjukayirla Roadhouse, Irrunytju, Cosmo Newberry and Tjukurla. I also contribute to the accounting responsibilities for Ngaanyatjarra Services. In addition I oversee the property maintenance and investments. Ngaanyatjarra Services has given me a great opportunity to further my career and grow within the organization.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN YOUR NEWSLETTER???

Hi everyone. I hope you are enjoying your newsletter. We are still looking for stories from communities. This is your newsletter and we'd really love to hear from you.

We're calling out for community input and are looking for the next newsletter to be full of your good news stories from the Ngaanyatjarra Lands. What's happening at school, in the art centre, who won the footy?

If you have a story to tell or upcoming event you'd like to publicise, please send it to julian.green@ngcouncil.org.au. Photos welcome!



KIWIRRKURRA ROADHOUSE RE-OPENS: In late 2014, The Community Elders approved a program to upgrade the store at Kiwirrkurra... and the shop managers took on the task of doing so. We sought volunteers, and the response was outstanding. We had 47 volunteers over the project duration, some came twice, some for a few days, and some for weeks on end. All put in an amazing effort, and along with a few specialist tradies, we got the project finished.

In 2007 the old store burnt down. It then operated out of the community hall until community planning called for a new hall to be built, and the current hall turned into a fully functioning shop. We prepared plans and budgets, got quotes and set up a program. The major components of the build included a large veranda for summer shade and winter warmth, check out counters, an office for management functions, walk in fridges and freezers, and external signage. To do this we extended the shop by nearly 8 meters.

We did this with amazing volunteers, lots of hard work and long hours, the mob at times, and some tradies. The volunteers put in over 5000 hours of work, and came from all walks of life. We had seven Rotarians for 7 days, five TAC employees from Geelong for a week, an electrician, tourists just stopping for fuel, and then stopping for longer, a V8 Supercar driver, a caravan club, and numerous friends and relatives of the store managers. We also needed some specialist tradies, principally the fridges who were on site for over two weeks, but it was amazing what our volunteers did, especially high up in the work cage, or covered in desert dust, all whilst the shop remained open.

Kiwirrkurra is 670km west of Alice Springs. It is a beautiful place, but there is no Bunnings round the corner. We did use a lot of materials from the community yard (and Mitre 11 - the tip) but also went out with the mob to get bush poles for the veranda, and the art work for the sign was designed and executed by the community women. All our volunteers spent time with the mob, getting bush tucker, cooking kangaroo tail, or just having a cup of tea.

On behalf of the community, we thank everyone who supported the project. Tim and Karen manage the shop, and have managed this project with the support of the community and its management

Kiwirrkurra Roadhouse is open on Mondays, Tuesdays Wednesdays and Fridays 9am - 11:30 am and 2pm -4pm. Thursdays and Saturdays from 9am -11:30 am only. Kiwirrkurra Community is on Central Desert Time.



NCAMS: Ngaanyatjarra Construction and Management Services (NCAMS) is a division of Ngaanyatjarra Services dealing with construction and building management on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands.

Since 2012 NCAMS has been engaged by the dept of Housing as part of The National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing. This project aims to address the standards of housing in remote areas and has led to the refurbishment of 298 houses, employing a total of 104 people from Ngaanyatjarra Communities in a range of jobs including painting and demolition.

Between 2015 and 2016, NCAMS refurbished 123 houses in 7 communities, including 25 houses in Jameson Community, 17 houses in Warakurna, 18 Houses in Blackstone, 24 houses in Cosmo Newberry and 19 houses in Tjukurla. In 2016, 7 houses in Patjarr have been refurbished with another 13 due to be finished in Tjirrkali this month.

In addition to this NCAMS have completed the construction of 24 new houses in Warburton and Warakurna as well as the renovation of Warburton College. NCAMS recently won the tender for the painting of all the Ngaanyatjarra Schools; work on this will start in May this year.





Bob Hewitt, Warwick Simms, Clive Frazer, Bradley Wongawol,
Nelson Lane and Norma McLean.

WORKING ON COUNTRY: Tommy Simms Mine

Land and Culture Rangers are well known for their work, particularly in relation to their work looking after traditional cultural sites and places across the Lands. Another important aspect of Land and Culture Ranger work is to document more recent cultural sites, such as sites relating to Mission times and the mining activity that has taken place on the Lands. These more recent sites form part of the Lands story, and as such, documenting them is important in demonstrating people's continuing use of the land. It also provides people with an opportunity to tell stories and share memories. Documenting these sites and stories assists with the protection and preservation of these sites into the future.



Bob Hewitt with Bradley Wongawol.

The Warburton Ranger teams have recently been recording one such site, an old copper mine, known as Tommy Simms Mine, just outside Warburton. This was undertaken with the assistance of Traditional Owners, as well as former mine manager and geologist, Bob Hewitt. The Traditional Owners and Bob provided invaluable information to the Ranger teams, allowing them to identify various features of the mine site, as well as locating additional mining sites. The trip also provided a great opportunity for Traditional Owners who were directly involved with the mine to catch up with Bob, who they hadn't seen for many years.

It should be remembered, that like any cultural site on the Lands, permission is to be sought from the appropriate Traditional Owners to access these sites. If people require access to these sites, please contact Land and Culture for assistance.



Walter Murray cleans up in Jameson

NCRHP: Jameson Community Clean Up

The Ngaanyatjarra Council Regional Housing Program (NCRHP) conducted a very successful Community Clean-Up and Education Program in Jameson over a three day period this month.

The focus of the Support and Tenancy Education Program (STEP) campaign is to ensure that tenants have a good understanding of their rights and responsibilities as tenants.

The Program supplied the following tools for all Jameson households: -

“Keeping My Home” and “Visitors” posters to encourage visitors to respect other people’s property and to clean up after themselves.

Rake and garbage bags for a tidy up.

T-Shirts and cleaning products for inside the house as a reward for their efforts.

The Tenancy Support Officers visited each home and were very pleased with the effort the Jameson Tenants have made to keep their Community clean and tidy. A big thank you to the Teachers and Students of the Jameson School for their participation. The children did a great job of cleaning up public areas and collected bags of rubbish. The children proudly wore their DON'T BE A LITTERBUG T-Shirts as part of our Community Clean-Up initiative. We celebrated the final day with a sausage sizzle and prizes.





CDP NEWS: The Warburton CDP participants have been busy at work in their respective activities. The men have been making a huge effort with the community clean up. Yards are getting cut, swept and trimmed daily and with a new load of equipment having just arrived we are now able to start working in the CDP Shed, our first task will be learning skills to build pallet furniture.

Our ladies, have been busy too, with lots of painting and sewing happening. They are starting to make trips out bush where they will collect wood to make artefacts. Next week our ladies will start work painting a mural on the front of the Health Clinic, this will be a huge job and involve working with the Community and Maintenance team. Thanks to Ngaanyatjarra Health for this wonderful opportunity. One of ladies Valdera Morgan will be taking on extra responsibilities in her new role as Administration Assistant, working out of our CDP office. We look forward to having her on board, she is also a talented artist.

Similarly, in Jameson, CDP participants have been busy changing the shed space around to suit their needs and learning how to use different handheld machinery. A crew of participants have also been whipper-snipping and cleaning up rubbish.

Warakurna ladies are having meetings in the Shire building at 10am on Wednesday's for morning tea and wonka wonka, to discuss what they would like to do for their CDP activities. The ideas so far are all fantastic with excitement around the idea of getting out bush, teaching children and sharing stories and culture.

The fellas have been working hard with community maintenance, fixing machines as well as working with the Municipality officers. Adrian Ward has been putting in an especially committed effort working both on the community night watch and with community maintenance during the days.



Dickson Foley sands a pallet and Prudence Scott tries out a new sewing machine

WHAT DOES SMOKING COST YOU?

Smoking tobacco is a major cause of :

- Heart disease
- Stroke
- Cancer
- Lung Disease
- and a variety of other health conditions

Passive Smoking (breathing in another person's tobacco smoke) also contributes to poor health, **particularly for children.**

Then there's the cost to your wallet. A pouch of Tobacco now costs almost \$80 and a packet of smokes is over \$30 - you could be spending more than **\$5000** per year on something that *will kill you.*

CAN YOU REALLY AFFORD TO SMOKE?

MEETING CALENDAR 2016

FEBRUARY

25th Council Directors

MARCH

16th Council Members

17th Council Directors

APRIL

20th Council Members

21st Council / NHS

MAY

18th Council Members

19th Council Directors

JUNE

15th Council Members

16th Council / NHS

JULY

20th Council Members

21st Council Directors

AUGUST

17th Council Members

18th Council / NHS

SEPTEMBER

21st Council Members

22nd Council Directors

OCTOBER

26th ***Council AGM***

27th Council / NHS

NOVEMBER

16th Council Members

17th Council Directors