



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: Harvey Murray

My Name is Harvey Murray and I have been a Director of Ngaanyatjarra Council for 22 years and Chairperson of Cosmo Newberry for 26 years. I was a long term Regional Councillor of ATSIC and a member of the Western Australia Aboriginal Advisor Council. I've seen a lot of changes in my time, different employment programs and different government priorities but Ngaanyatjarra Council is still the peoples council. Thats how it started, and thats how it stays. Ngaanyatjarra Council works in the spirit of cooperation to the benefit of the Ngaanyatjarra people.

In Cosmo Newberry, most of the positions are held by Indigenous people, this whole community is run and managed by Indigenous people. We recently won a landmark Native Title claim for the Yilka people and the Cosmo Newberry reserve, a battle we have been fighting for 20 years. We never gave up. I look forward to the day when the Judge, comes to see us on our country and officialy hands us our lands back!

Join Now

Are you 18 or older?

Would you like to vote at the Council elections?

Only members get to vote!!

Fill in a membership form at your Community Office today.

NGANYATJARRA
COUNCIL (Aboriginal Corporation) ICN: 101



STAFF PROFILE: FANIE SCHOEMAN

My name is Fanie Schoeman. I am employed as the Finance Manager for Ngaanyatjarra Council based in the Alice Springs office.

I was born in Uitenhage, a small town on the southeast coast of South Africa but made the move to Australia in 2007 when I was recruited by Deloitte as auditor. Coming to Alice Springs from a seaside town was quite the change but I quickly found myself settling in to the cosy laid-back lifestyle which is "The Alice". I soon realised that Australia is a really big country compared to South Africa and that places like Ayers Rock was not just "down the road" and Alice Springs is as far away from any big city as you can get, but 10 years on we still enjoy the convenience and friendly community of Alice Springs. Being a young family, we find Alice Springs perfect for raising kids and getting involved in community activities.

I joined Ngaanyatjarra Council in 2011 after completing the Chartered Accountants program while working at Deloitte. In my position as Finance Manager for Ngaanyatjarra Council I get to work with staff both in Alice and Perth and also the various government departments. My responsibilities include assisting departmental managers with complying with the financial reporting requirements of the various funded programs, preparing quarterly financial reports for board meetings and managing the day to day accounting functions of Ngaanyatjarra Council and Ng Camel Co.

I like to travel to the Ngaanyatjarra Lands when the opportunity arises as I like to see how things happen on the ground and I think it puts your work into context and gives you better perspective.

I am appreciative of the opportunities Ngaanyatjarra Council has given me to further my career in one of the biggest not for profit organisations in Australia and hope I can contribute to the success of Ngaanyatjarra Council in the years to come.



NGAANYATJARRA SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Six communities have joined to form the Ngaanyatjarra Lands Sports Association and agreed to a Code of Conduct, Rules and Fixtures for a season spanning July to October for 2016.

Warburton, Wanarn, Warakurna, Wingellina, Papulankutja and Mantamaru communities have established lists of players registered to those community teams for the season in Senior AFL and Senior Softball.

All communities will have played each other once by Saturday 30 July and a General Meeting of Captains, Coaches and Officials of the Ngaanyatjarra Lands Sports Association will be held in Mantamaru on Wednesday 03 August to review the first half of the season, plan for the Grand Final in Warburton on Saturday 17 September, discuss the Presentation of Medals on Saturday 24 September and guidelines for the selection of players to form combined Lands teams in softball and AFL to travel for the Challenge Cup in Kalgoorlie on Saturday 08 October.

Google "Ng Lands Sports" and you will find Facebook pages with results and highlights from the weekly softball and AFL fixtures. Remarkably, over 6,500 views were recorded for the first three weeks of Facebook posts.

Interviewing players across the community teams, there is a common belief that this competition based on "Respect" for each other has brought a change to the way sport has been played in the past. Players are saying, "We enjoy this new way of playing, with no fighting and arguing, We all shake hands after the game and look after the young players and try not to take advantage of other players in an unfair way".





Talking to supporters, there are some wonderful reports, “We enjoyed last Saturday’s games and look forward to next week. We read the results on the community noticeboards on Thursdays and see if our families are in the best players or scoring goals. We like to see the Premiership Table and see if our community is improving”.

The affect on the communities has been positive. Community ovals that previously lay vacant are now regularly filled with players training for the weekend games and this has made it easier for Youth Development Officers to engage and communicate with everyone. Community ovals softball fields are being upgraded and cleaned as they are now being used throughout the week. Players and supporters are returning to their communities after game day and this means children are attending school for the full week. Weekly sport has given something for everyone to discuss and senior people are happy to see young players engaging in healthy recreation. Sports development is beginning with coaches and new ideas for training are being introduced as the Sports Coordinator has held special training sessions at Irrunytju, Papulankutja and Mantamaru. People in communities are starting to assist with the organization of Game Day and each week more volunteers appear. The social barbecues, organized by the host communities, have been a great feature to add enjoyment for families to Game Day. Perhaps the most important aspect of developing sport in The Lands has been the vision of people to accept change and be willing to take ownership of their sport. The commitment of players, officials and supporters to travel long distances to games every week has been wonderful.





WORKING ON COUNTRY: *BLACKSTONE LAND MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATE*

By Anawari Mitchell.

Over the last few months the Blackstone Working on Country team has been really busy. We have been doing a lot of field trips with the other Ranger teams and sharing our work. It has been good to work together. Here are a few stories from our work. Yuwa palya.

Trip to Minyma Nyarnpi 11th May – 13th May.

The Warburton Rangers invited us to go to this place. We went with a men's group and women's group and also Lalla's family came along. We camped and the next day we went to Minyma Nyarnpi bore and we went to the Seven Sister's place. The mens went out hunting and found a rockhole and it had a lovely clear water. After that we went back and half way we stopped, we got some kampurrapa (bush tomato) and then we went back to the camp and stayed one more night. On the way back we went to Marlarungkal rockhole and took the road to Yapuparra, Lake Baker. We were looking for Princess Parrots around the tjurta trees. Purnu yurltutjarra, the trees have hollows, and the parrots can make a nest.

Ninu (Bilby) trip to Marrura, 31st May – 2nd June.

All the Working on Country Rangers and some Tjirrkarli ladies ready to go to Marrura. All the Warburton, Warakurna and Blackstone ranger teams, we all went to Marrura. This is a ninu story place. First of all we went to Tjukayirla road house, we camped. Next day we went to Marrura and the Warburton team showed us the rockhole also the dreaming of the ninu tjurkurpa. We saw the spot where the ninu tjukurrpa was sitting but it is not there anymore. It was a yapu (rock) but someone has taken it away. We got sad for this. The Warburton team showed us a lot of rockholes along the Great Central Road that we hadn't seen before. The old people were travelling through this country in the early days. They were walking on foot and later they travelled along the road with the yurltu (vehicle) travelling between the Mission and Laverton.

IPA / Working on Country Ranger Meeting 8th-9th May 2016.

Twice a year, all the Ngaanyatjarra Land Management teams get together for a meeting to talk about our work and to make plans. We heard from all the teams about the work they are doing. The Blackstone team gave a presentation about finding tjakura (Great Desert Skink) when we were looking for goanna. Winston Mitchell also showed us the film about the Ngaanyatjarra Camel Company mustering work so that we could see it before it goes on NITV.



Kiwirrkura Ninu (Bilby) Festival, 20th-24th June 2016.

All the Ngaanyatjarra Working on Country Rangers went to Kiwirrkura for the Ninu Festival. There were lots of Ranger workers from all around and a lot of government people there listening to our meeting and hearing about the work we do with ninu. We as Ngaanyatjarra rangers talked about ninu and gave presentations to the other ranger workers to see the work we do. On the Ngaanyatjarra side we have got a lot of ninu around Tjirrkarli, around the Rirra (lateritic plains) country. We were invited to go out to see the ninu burrows and tracks around Kiwirrkura. They had a lot of burrows there and fresh tracks. We saw a drone demonstration and a lot of new technologies. We heard from the ladies in Kiwirrkura who were the fast pussy cat hunters. They are hunting the pussy cat to look after the ninu so the pussy cat won't eat them all. Winston Mitchell also talked about the camel mustering work we are doing around Blackstone.

Our Rangers were talking really strong for our country and tjukurrpa. We are proud for our country and what we do and we were sharing and talking to each other about our work.
Participants at the Ninu Festival, Kiwirrkura.



Looking for Ninu pirti (bilby burrows) around Jameson, 20th July 2016.

Narelle Holland showing us the ninu pirti near Jameson.

We heard stories about how some people went out hunting from Jameson Community members and they told us about how they seen the ninu pirti (ninu burrow). We heard this story and on the 20th July we went along to Jameson to look at those burrows. We found the burrows but the ninu weren't there anymore. We heard that they were fresh tracks going in and out before the last rain. We need to go back and try and find the new burrow. We found an old ninu pirti with a lot of pussy cat tracks, they were using that pirti. After the rain it was walking around but the ninu was gone. Sometimes they go to a different place. They shift around.

LISTEN TO THE RADIO!!

Listen out for the new Ngaanyatjarra Lands News segment

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays on Radio NGM
tune your dial to

107.7



NCRHP: UPDATE

SUPPORT AND TENANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

The overall mission of the SUPPORT AND TENANT EDUCATION PROGRAM (STEP) is to resolve issues placing tenancies at risk and increase the capacity of tenants to successfully manage and sustain their tenancies.

The STEP Tenancy Support Team has been very busy over the last few years with the long awaited and much needed upgraded and new houses. As each house was handed back to the tenants the team conducted a New Living Skills Program. This consisted of a discussion on tenants' rights and responsibilities and an explanation on how the fixtures in the house work, etc. RCD's, Smoke Alarms, Aircons, Hotplates and Ovens.

The program also supplied a once only Starter Cleaning Kit to each household to encourage tenants to incorporate cleaning into their daily routine.

We are about to start a new program in collaboration with the Tenancy Management Team. This will be the Community Education, Tenant Rights and Responsibilities Program. This is a one day program in which each household in the community will be visited by a member of the housing team to discuss tenancy rights and responsibilities and any issues tenants may wish to discuss.

Topics to be covered during this visit include:

Tenant Rights and Responsibilities

Discussion on the rent system and rent arrears

How to report maintenance and repair

Explain the difference between fair wear and tear and malicious damage

Disruptive behaviours in the home

Visitor behaviours

Answer any questions tenants may have about their tenancy

At the end of the day we will be providing a sausage sizzle for the tenants that have participated in the discussions and award prizes to deserving households.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND CLEAN-UP PROGRAM

This program has evolved over several years, incorporating the many changes that have occurred during this time. This program is run over three days and discussions are held with tenants at their property in partnership with Housing Management as part of the Community Clean-Up and Education Program, to make sure the tenants have a clear understanding of their responsibility to keep their house and yard clean and tidy as part of their tenancy obligation.

On the first day each household receives a plastic rake and garbage bags for a clean-up of the yard. Participating Tenants receive basic cleaning chemicals for the inside of their home. We also discuss the health reasons for keeping the house clean. Properties are monitored over the three days and when necessary were offered gentle encouragement and extra plastic bag as required. On the third day we provide a sausage sizzle for the tenants that have participated in the clean-up and award prizes to deserving households.



Schools are also encouraged to take part in the clean-up. On the third day the children are provided with a promotional T-shirt, gloves and plastic bags and work with their Teachers and Tenancy Support staff, they are asked pick up rubbish from public areas as they make their way to the BBQ area for the sausage sizzle. The children are also provided with a small prize as a reward for the bags of rubbish they have collected. The children are usually very enthusiastic about participating and we thank the children and teachers very much for their support.

TENANCY CASE MANAGEMENT – TENANTS NEEDING EXTRA ASSISTANCE.

This program generally will be provided when issues arise in relation to poor property standards, disruptive behaviour, rent arrears and damage to property are evident.

The STEP Tenancy Support Team looks forward to assisting tenants with their tenancy into the future.

FINANCIAL CAPABILITY AND WELLBEING:

Its tax time again, but don't worry, Ngaanyatjarra Council's Financial Capability and Wellbeing Program is here to help! Sue Waldron and Michelle Holthouse are traveling between communities providing help with Tax Returns. Keep an eye out for notices that let you know when the Money Lady is coming to your community.

Be Prepared. Make sure you have the relevant documents ready to go. YUou will need your income statements and your MyGov login deatils if you have them.

And Don't Panic, there's no rush. You don't have to get your tax done right away! You have until the end of October!



MANTAMARU: Making Paper

Narelle Holland started making paper in Blackstone with Helen Gordon. Now in Jameson Community, Narelle is passing on her knowledge to a new generation of young women. This is Spinifex Paper, made from locally collected grass which, when processed correctly, is pressed and dried making beautiful sheets of paper. Narelle uses a press that has been cleverly made utilising a hydraulic car jack. The paper is nice and thick with a great natural texture and Narelle and the ladies at Jameson are hoping that they will be able to put some of this paper in shops soon.

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

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 our 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@ngacouncil.org.au Photos welcome!