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# 2019 YAWURU ANNUAL REPORT





# NGAJI GURRJIN WELCOME

We invite you to enjoy our Annual Report and take a look at the diversity of programs, projects and activities that have been undertaken in the last 12 months. Our growing community is busy and energetic, like Broome itself. Yawuru is integral to the history and culture of this town and NBY is integral to its future growth and development. Our mission remains the long-term wellbeing of Yawuru people through the respect and maintenance of Language, Country, Law and Culture, as well as improving the health, housing and education of our community, through prudent economic and social investment.

The opening of the Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre was a significant milestone this year. We have been working towards its completion as a place where the community is welcome and there is a strong sense of mabu liyan, as well as providing better working facilities, a venue and a hospitality enterprise.

NBY continues to move forward with its restructure and we have seen important organisational changes that will contribute to better positioning for sustainable growth. Significant effort has been invested into development of subsidiary entities in the form of joint ventures and partnerships, and we are looking forward to the benefits that will flow from an adaptive new structure. Change is complex, and we acknowledge the hard work undertaken by our boards, executive and staff in developing revitalised organisational systems and structures that will propel us towards a dynamic future.

**Galiya,**

**Thomas ‘Unda’ Edgar - Chair, Yawuru PBC**  
**Cara Peek - Chair, Nyamba Buru Yawuru**

## CEO REPORT

The past 12 months have seen significant change to the NBY organisational structure in our endeavours to better position the staff and management to deliver required investment and equity outcomes on behalf of the Yawuru community.

This has not come without its challenges with staff turnover and attracting replacement staff of the calibre required to drive productivity and achieving the necessary performance required to sustain the Yawuru business. This will be an ongoing challenge as we deal with a continuing limited economy and market environment in which to activate and capitalise on our assets.

It is critical that we improve our revenue streams, not only to secure our ongoing operational capacity but also our continuing support for our community and other programs. We also have an imperative to grow our capital value to build for our future prosperity and resilience.

The design and intent of the restructure is to improve our performance for a quicker turnaround of key projects that have been in the pipeline for the last 3 or so years and others to come in the future. I believe we are now well positioned and we anticipate the community will see positive outcomes in the next 1 - 2 years.



Photo Credit: Reconciliation Australia

We are elevating our performance to ensure growing confidence from external partners and investors in working with us to deliver the outcomes required. Community support for this endeavour is crucial in delivering that confidence. Change is always difficult and sometimes we do not see the fruits of the change until further down the track when there is time to step back and reflect on the necessity of reform.

Notwithstanding this we continue to see incremental growth and success; important projects like the Liyan-ngarn Nywirra Centre (LNN) and the Repatriation of our ancestors’ remains from Germany show it takes hard work and patience in giving back to our community, but it can be achieved when there is unity in purpose and collaboration.

I wish to express my appreciation to all of the NBY staff who continue to perform their duties in an industrious and committed manner for and on behalf of the Yawuru community. I also acknowledge our respective Boards and their continuing support for management.

**Galiya,**

**Peter Yu**



# WANGGAJARLI BURUGUN, WE ARE COMING HOME

**THE WANGGAJARLI BURUGUN (WE ARE COMING HOME) ANCESTRAL REPATRIATION PROJECT IS A MAJOR INVESTMENT BY YAWURU AND ITS PARTNERS TO ENSURE THE SAFE RETURN OF ANCESTRAL REMAINS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN OVERSEAS COLLECTIONS.**

The first stage of the project was completed in April with the return of fourteen ancestral remains from Saxony in Germany. Yawuru and Karajarri representatives travelled to Germany and ensured that our old people were returned with the most culturally respectful process possible. However, there remain ancestors and artefacts in other institutions which are yet to be returned and work is ongoing to ensure their repatriation.

Stage two of this multifaceted project aims to build a landmark memorial resting place for our ancestors who were victims of traumatic colonial encounters. NBY continues to work closely with the Yawuru, and the broader community, government agencies, partners and institutions across the world to ensure that a resting place is established to represent everyone, especially our ancestors, and create a site for reconciliation and healing. A travelling exhibition and documentary film are also part of the overall project aims.

Naomi Appleby is undertaking a range of simultaneous study projects that will enhance her role within the native title and cultural heritage areas.

She is completing a graduate Diploma in cultural and Natural Heritage Studies at Deakin University and is also working on an Encounters Fellowship at the National Museum of Australia. Additionally, she is undertaking another Fellowship with the ANU School of History and the 'Rediscovering the deep past' project. Each of these projects enhance Naomi's contribution to the Wanggajarli Burugun Repatriation project.

## **NBY acknowledges the generous support of:**

- The Yawuru PBC
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Wesfarmers
- WA Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
- The Shire of Broome
- The Kimberley Aboriginal Law And Culture Centre (KALACC)
- The Return, Reconcile and Renew digital archive project and the Australian National University
- The Western Australian Museum

**SCIENCE WILL WANT  
THIS STORY, CULTURE  
WILL EMBRACE ITS  
SPIRIT AND WE WILL  
SEEK ITS MEANING.**

Dianne Appleby



# CORPORATE AND EXECUTIVE SERVICES

## GOVERNANCE

**Yawuru is very proud to have been named joint winner of Category A, Indigenous Governance Awards by the Australian Indigenous Governance Institute, Reconciliation Australia and BHP in November 2018.**

There has been substantial work done to ensure the Yawuru Corporate Group has good governance, well-informed Directors, and effective policies and procedures. This work ensures that we deliver on our promise to the Yawuru people to create full and active participation in the wider community, maintain and enhance our culture and heritage, and look after Yawuru country.

We were recognised for marrying and giving expression to our mabu liyan principles with contemporary corporate best practice. This is a work in progress to try to be the best organisation we can. Recent staff changes will bring a greater focus in improving our support and efficiencies in servicing our respective Boards, their Directors and their performances.

Over 2019, the Yawuru Corporate Group has worked hard to develop a more appropriate structure for its growth and diversification, establishing a number of subsidiaries, instituting governance and developing a number of large scale projects. The boards have met regularly and have also come together for All Board Forums twice over the year. The Investment and Risk Committee met on a 3-monthly basis to track the progress of the complex enterprise development process.

During the year, Directors of the Yawuru PBC, MMY, NBY and several staff attended a three day six unit training program arranged through the Governance Institute of Australia. Having then passed a formal examination they received a Certificate in Governance Practice.



1273  
YAWURU PBC  
MEMBERS

## YAWURU MEMBERSHIP

The foundation of membership to the Yawuru community is through the Prescribed Body Corporate and is drawn from extensive genealogies of Yawuru ancestors. Genealogies are regularly updated and Yawuru members are welcome to talk with our membership officer to discover more about their ancestry.

114  
NEW MEMBERS SINCE  
NOVEMBER 2018

## WE REMEMBER

*Yawuru's native title is founded on the legacy of our senior people who have contributed so much to our community over the years. Yawuru values their knowledge and generosity, and remembers those who worked for our native title and contributed their cultural knowledge to our community. In the last 12 months we have farewelled a number of significant Yawuru elders and we honour their achievements and their contributions to our cultural heritage.*





# YAWURU BOARD STRUCTURE

# SUBSIDIARIES BOARD STRUCTURE

## YAWURU NATIVE TITLE HOLDERS ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC

Directors: Thomas Edgar (Chair), Neil McKenzie (Deputy Chair), Francis Bellou, Dean Mathews, Debra Pigram, Johani Mamid, Philip Matsumoto, Wayne Edgar, Ben Dolby, Agnes Pigram, Nick Djiagween & Ronald Wade

100% STAKEHOLDERS

## MURRA MALA YAWURU PTY LTD

Directors: Maxine Charlie (Chair), Dianne Appleby, Leah Dolby & Darren Puertollano

100% STAKEHOLDERS

## NYAMBA BURU YAWURU LTD

Directors: Cara Peek (Chair), David Puertollano (Deputy Chair), Debra Pigram, Sherena Bin Hitam, Jill Rudeforth, Roseanne Healy & John Hoon

100% STAKEHOLDERS

## YAWURU HOLDINGS COMPANY PTY LTD

Directors: Roseanne Healy (Chair), Jill Rudeforth & Debra Pigram

## YAWURU HOLDINGS COMPANY PTY LTD

Directors: Roseanne Healy (Chair), Jill Rudeforth & Debra Pigram

100% STAKEHOLDERS

## YAWURU PROPERTIES PTY LTD

Directors:  
Sherena Bin Hitam (Chair),  
David Puertollano &  
Rueben Lee-Chi

50% STAKEHOLDERS

## INDENT

Directors:  
Jill Rudeforth (Chair),  
David Puertollano,  
Harold Tracey &  
Andre Veder

100% STAKEHOLDERS

## YAWURU AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL COMPANY PTY LTD

Directors:  
Jill Rudeforth (Chair) &  
Debra Pigram

100% STAKEHOLDERS

## NBY TECHNOLOGIES PTY LTD

Directors:  
Roseanne Healy &  
Cara Peek

100% STAKEHOLDERS

## NARLI WALAMI PTY LTD

In Development

NBY MEETING DATES	27 FEB 2019	17 MAY 2019	28 JUN 2019	09 AUG 2019	11 OCT 2019
PBC MEETING DATES	13 DEC 2018	16 MAR 2019	5 JUN 2019	2 JUL 2019	4 SEP 2019
ALL BOARDS FORUMS	7 FEB 2019	31 OCT 2019			





Yawuru staff at Naidoc walk

124

STAFF IN TOTAL

70%

INDIGENOUS STAFF



Connection to Country event at the Chinatown Festival

3451

FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

51 / 41%

FULL TIME STAFF

24 / 19%

PART TIME STAFF

49 / 40%

CASUAL STAFF

**NBY continues to contribute significantly to the local Broome economy by the number of staff we employ and the subsequent flow through of wages spent locally.**

## HUMAN RESOURCES

NBY's Human Resources area not only focuses on managing our staff, but also on organisational development. The previous 12 months have seen investment into recruitment, strategic development and organisation change that will ensure the Yawuru Corporate Group is better positioned to manage sustainable growth.

Within NBY, the overall employment numbers remain stable, with an increase in casual indigenous employees. There have been changes in key areas of NBY, but we continue to attract quality staff to higher level positions, ensuring that all NBY capabilities are covered in a professional manner. NBY remains one of the largest employers of Indigenous people in Broome. More generally, NBY has increased opportunities for Indigenous people to gain employment through associated activities; the construction of the Liyan-Ngan Nyirrwa Centre by Indent provided work for Indigenous subcontractors and Transition to Work participants to be employed and trained.

## COMMUNICATION

Yawuru maintains its high profile reputation within the local Kimberley community and further afield. NBY's high level of engagement with audiences through newsletters and social media and positive media coverage has promoted NBY's projects and activities, including major coverage of the Repatriation project.

This year we relaunched our Yawuru website and refreshed the look, feel and information available as well as upgrading content with a new mapping feature and other elements. The website can be viewed at [www.yawuru.org.au](http://www.yawuru.org.au)

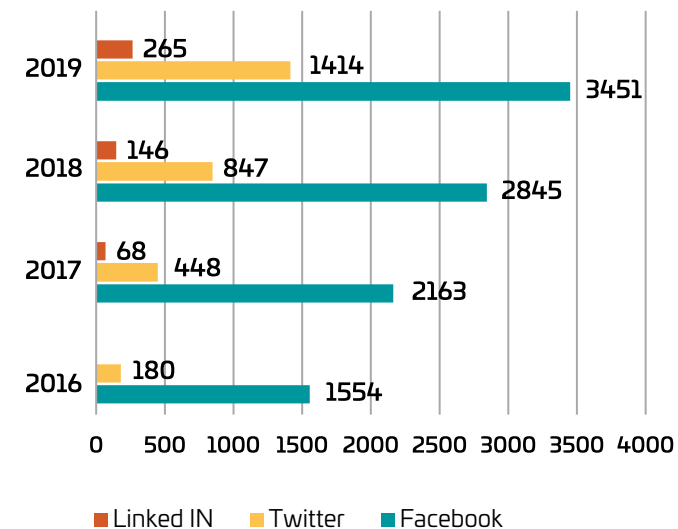
Yawuru's community engagement at events and activities includes community Christmas and Easter parties, Sundowners and participation in local festivals including the Chinatown Festival, Shinju Matsuri and Corrugated Lines. NBY has also been integral to the public art and interpretive teams for the Revitalisation of Chinatown and the Redevelopment of Town Beach, integrating Yawuru stories into the built environment.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

Number of articles in print or online:

JULY 2016 – JUNE 2017	43
JULY 2017 – JUNE 2018	78
JULY 2018 – JUNE 2019	111

## SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS





An aerial photograph showing a coastal area. In the foreground, there's a sandy beach and shallow turquoise water. Further inland, there's a small town or settlement with buildings and roads. Beyond that, there's a large area of green vegetation, possibly a park or reserve. In the background, the ocean stretches to the horizon under a clear blue sky.

Clementson St area for potential development

**INDENT WINS  
MASTER BUILDERS  
ASSOCIATION  
AWARD:  
BEST PUBLIC USE  
BUILDING (\$5M-\$10M)  
AT THE 2019 KIMBERLEY  
AND PILBARA BUILDING  
EXCELLENCE AWARDS.**

# PROSPERITY

**THE EQUITY AND INVESTMENT TEAM (PREVIOUSLY THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNIT) DEVELOPS OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC RETURNS THROUGH INVESTMENT, PROJECT DEVELOPMENT, PARTNERSHIPS AND JOINT VENTURES. DEVELOPMENT IS UNDERPINNED BY YAWURU VALUES AND EMPOWERMENT OF YAWURU PEOPLE.**

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In 2019, the team continued to investigate and develop a range of projects and opportunities in line with our Strategic Plan to be less reliant on state, federal and NGO grant funding by generating our own income and become more self-sustaining. Collaboratively with various stakeholders and businesses, NBY is investigating joint venture arrangements in the areas of construction, tourism, agriculture, horticulture and aquaculture.

A number of these projects are subject to commercial-in-confidence negotiations, but outcomes are anticipated in the short to medium term, which will be reported to the community as and when we can. Project engagement of the State Government, indicating the esteem with which NBY is held in WA, provides an important basis for further engagement of the State in promoting the development and sustainability of both NBY and the wider Broome economy. Progress illustrates that governments can work with traditional owner organisations such as NBY to support sustainable economic growth delivering increased outcomes for Indigenous people.

**Some projects that have been completed or are currently in development include:**

- **Broome Homemaker Centre** offers an opportunity to lease an area of land that will fulfil the needs of existing large format retailers as well bringing new businesses to town, enhancing future prosperity in Broome. Negotiations with prospective tenants continues and there is a concurrent re-zoning application underway for the site. Site development will be undertaken with support from and in partnership with the State Government and the Shire of Broome.
  - **Broome Health & Wellbeing Campus** is a project developing in partnership with the WA Government. It will establish a range of co-located health care facilities on Yawuru land in Clementson Street. A range of local and state health care stakeholders are in discussions, and construction will provide further opportunities for Indent Pty Ltd.
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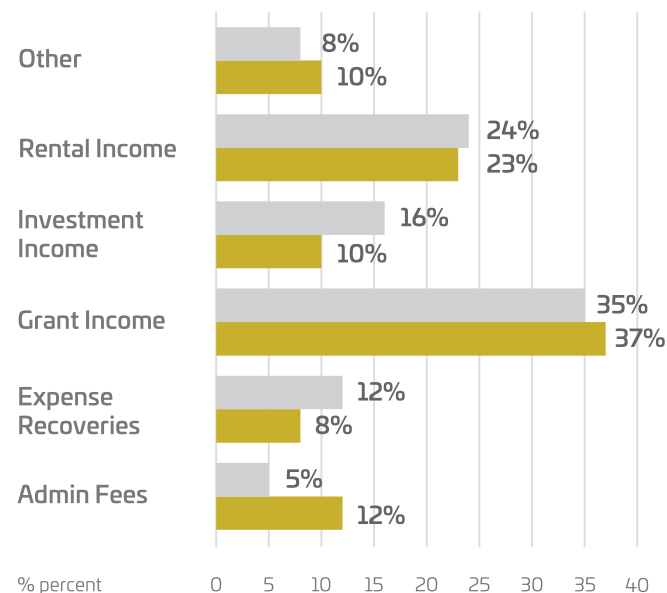


# MONEY STORY

**YAWURU CORPORATE GROUP REMAINS IN A HEALTHY FINANCIAL POSITION WITH CASH AND INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2019 BEING WELL IN EXCESS OF \$19M AND NET ASSETS OF \$95M. WITH PROPERTY SALES AND OTHER NON- GRANT INCOME FORECAST DURING THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR IN EXCESS OF \$12.4M, FUNDS EARMARKED FOR FURTHER INVESTMENT IS ANTICIPATED TO GROW.**

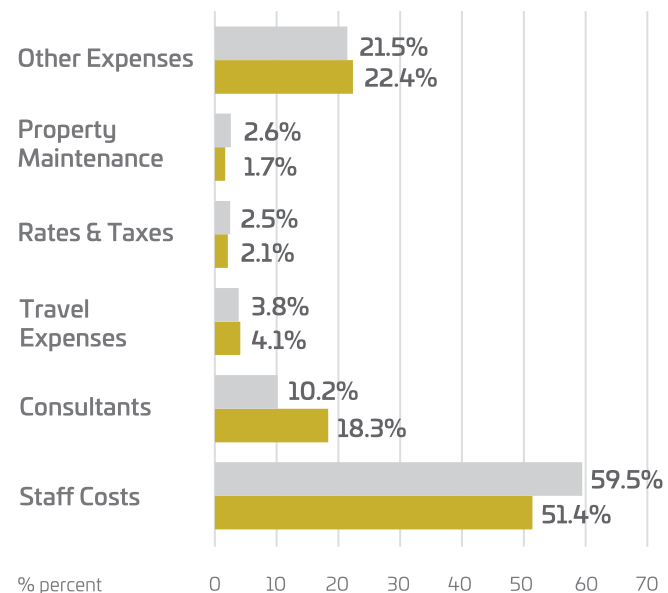
## OPERATING INCOME

■ 2018 ■ 2019



## OPERATING EXPENSES

■ 2018 ■ 2019



## OPERATING RESULTS

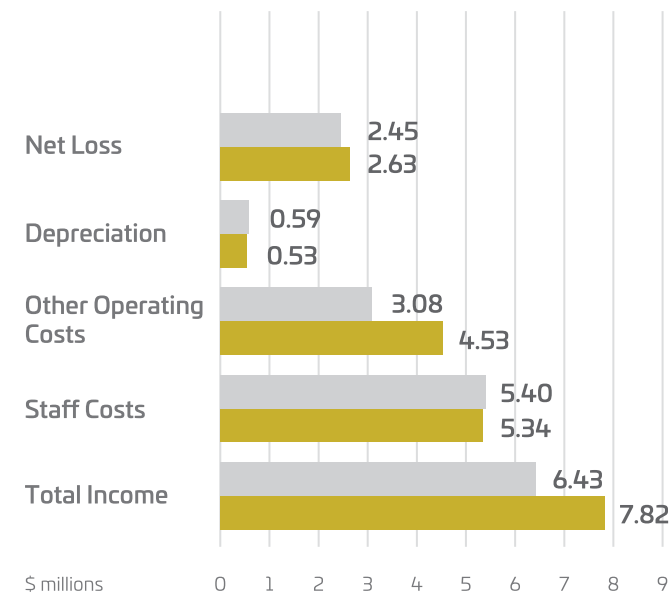
The revenue for the financial year totaled \$7.822M which is an increase over budget. Major sources of income continue to be grants, rents and expense recoveries, with additional earnings coming from investments, admin fees, land use and economic development. The YCG continues to grow with major efforts being put in place to complete commercial projects identified by the Equity and Investment team, with the focus on Yawuru and its people, property and agriculture. The majority of costs relate to grants, future products and the administration of the Indigenous Reference Group's fund, which is managed on a fee for services basis.

## YAWURU CORPORATE GROUP

In 2018-2019 the YCG had a net operating loss of \$2.629M which means that our expenses were greater than our income by that amount for the year. This amount is higher than 2017 – 2018 when the loss was \$2.446M but there were no property sales and investment income was somewhat lower in 2018-19. There was continued focus by management in getting the YCG ready for expansion and growth in commercial areas during the period. This is expected to start bearing fruit in 2020/21 as commercial projects are nearing completion and key ongoing negotiations are being finalised.

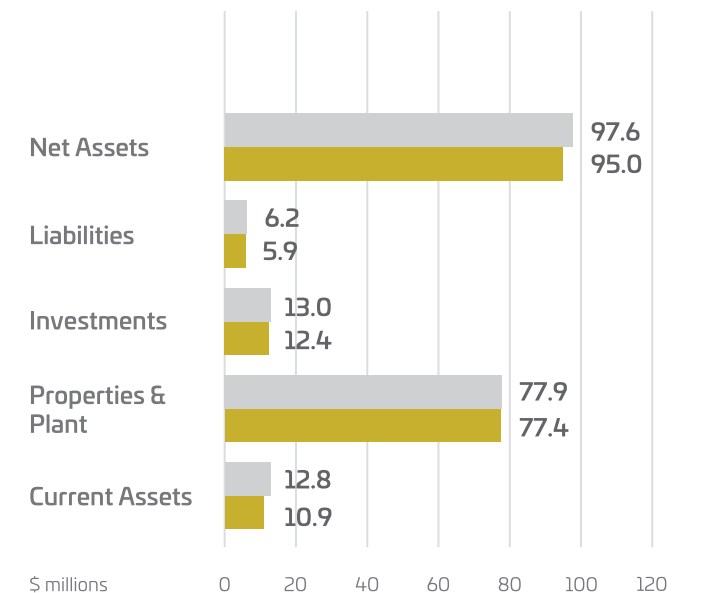
## PROFIT & LOSS

■ 2018 ■ 2019



## ASSETS & LIABILITIES

■ 2018 ■ 2019



## INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The investment strategy put in place by the Board remains unchanged. Investments with Perpetual Trustees and our investments put in place by the Board are still performing well for the Yawuru Corporate Group in 2019.

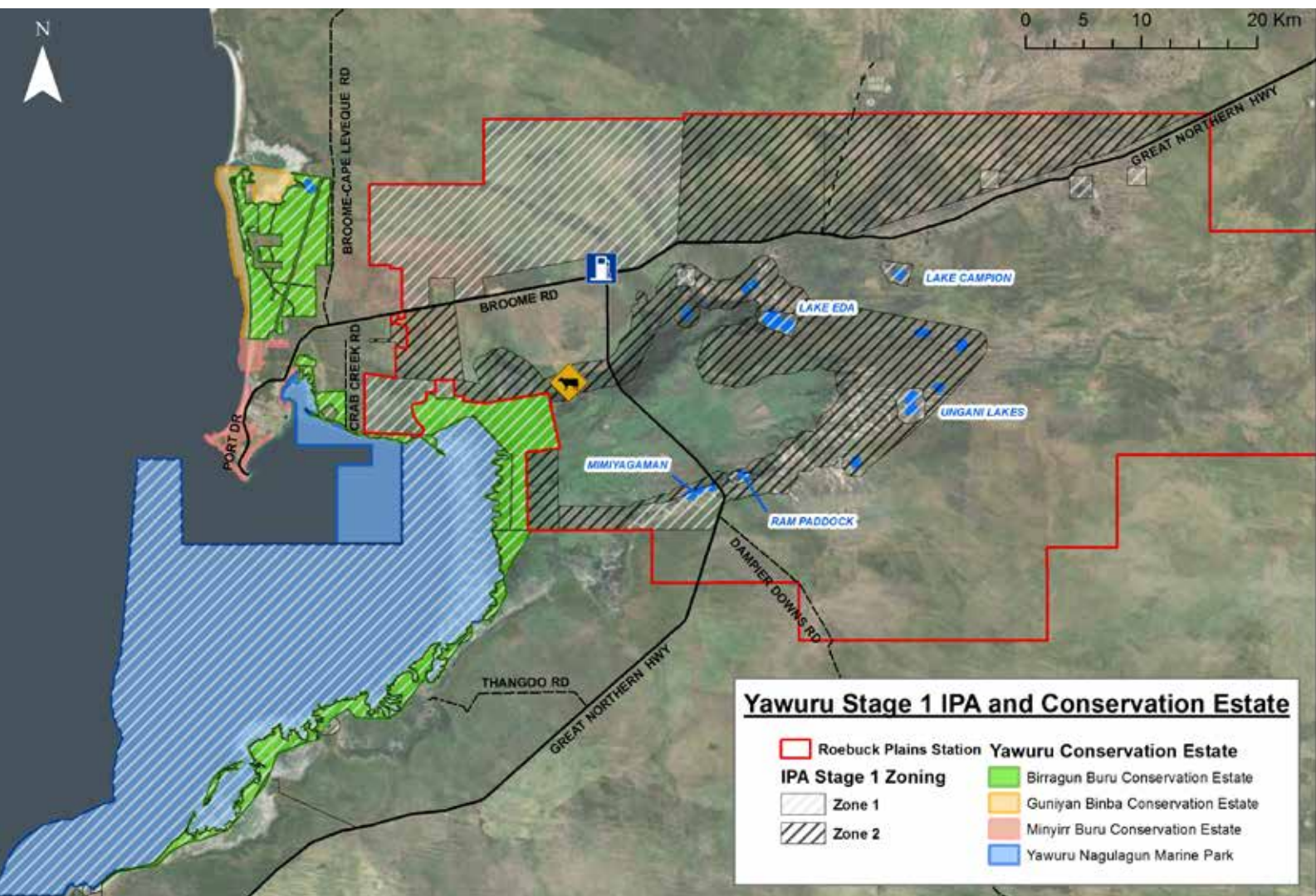
## FINANCIAL POSITION

The Directors believe that the YCG is in a strong stable and liquid financial position but that it needs to focus on income generating opportunities to grow resources that can be used to truly benefit the Yawuru Community.



# COUNTRY

THE MAIN GOAL OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES UNIT IS TO LOOK AFTER YAWURU LAND AND SEA COUNTRY. PROJECTS INCLUDE RESEARCH, MAPPING, MONITORING, FENCING, BUSH REGENERATION, EDUCATION, TOURISM PROJECTS, POLICY CHANGE AND CAPACITY BUILDING OF YAWURU PEOPLE. THE COMBINATION OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND WESTERN SCIENCE UNDERPINS OUR WORK TO CREATE MABU BURU, WHICH IS HEALTHY YAWURU COUNTRY.



THE YAWURU ESTATE SHOWING THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT AREAS



## 5 MANAGEMENT AREAS

### WORK ON COUNTRY

It's been an active year for the Environmental Services team working on the Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) and within the Yawuru Conservation Estate. While day-to-day activities across the extensive area and complex tenure of Yawuru country keeps everyone busy, there is still strong emphasis on ensuring that all tasks contribute to the higher-level vision of mabu buru (healthy country).

The underlying philosophy of mabu buru drives programs and projects to adhere to Yawuru values and ensures environmental sustainability, cultural integrity and community support. Strong partnerships with the Shire of Broome and the Department of Conservation, Biodiversity and Attractions (DBCA) define the values of country and are embedded in the management plans that guide the goals and work undertaken by our teams.

### MANAGEMENT AREAS

#### Yawuru Indigenous Protected Area (IPA)

Managers: Yawuru PBC  
Status: Yawuru IPA in place

#### Birragun Conservation Park

Managers: Yawuru PBC, DBCA  
Status: Management Plan in place

#### Nagulagun Roebuck Bay Marine Park

Managers: Yawuru PBC, DBCA  
Status: Management Plan in place

#### Mingirr Buru Conservation Park

Managers: Yawuru PBC, Shire of Broome  
Status: Management Plan in place

#### Guniyan Binba Conservation Park

Managers: Yawuru PBC, Shire of Broome, DBCA  
Status: Awaiting Ministerial Approval





#### **MONITORING SUSTAINABLE GRAZING:**

Some of the Yawuru IPA sits over Roebuck Plains Station. A key project of the IPA is ecologically sustainable cattle grazing. The long-term monitoring program ensures a balance between the economic, cultural and environmental impacts. It will examine the impacts from grazed and ungrazed plots across 24 sites where small cattle exclusion fences are installed, providing important data to assist management decisions about the grazing program on the IPA and the station.

#### **CUSTOMARY MARINE SPECIES MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH:**

Yawuru is developing a 'Customary Marine Resource Use Framework' under the Nagulagun Joint Management Plan. At a meeting with the Minister for Fisheries advocated for the Framework and the introduction of a Customary Fishing sector under State law and regulation. There is in principle agreement for a Customary Netting Accord from the Department of Fisheries, and Customary Hunting and Fishing Guidelines will follow after workshops with community and stakeholders.



#### **WETLAND MONITORING:**

Regular monitoring of groundwater levels is done at a number of wetland sites on the IPA and Station. This year, with funding from the State NRM, eight kilometres of fencing was installed at Lake Champion to assist controlled management of cattle over 400 ha of the IPA and help limit negative impacts at sensitive wetland sites; a key management goal for the IPA. Consistent long-term monitoring at wetland sites contributes to knowledge of country over time and assists decision making for land management.

#### **INDIGENOUS SALTWATER ADVISORY GROUP:**

ISWAG represents all Kimberley saltwater Traditional Owner groups. Led by Dean Mathews and Daniel Oades, it is a model for Indigenous-led engagement and has developed partnerships with State and National Marine Science Institutions, implemented research protocols and developed research priorities on a regional scale. ISWAG is respected across all sectors for its strategic approach to marine research and management. Workshops and teleconferences, funded by Parks Australia, DBCA, CSIRO, Pew and Australian Institute of Marine Science facilitate discussions and planning for regional research projects for turtle and dugong.



#### **THE FENCED WILDLIFE SANCTUARY:**

Members of the Environmental Services team and the Yawuru Cultural Reference Group recently travelled to Canberra to explore opportunities for a fenced wildlife sanctuary on Yawuru country. Sanctuaries create a refuge for threatened animals and protection from non-native predators such as feral cats. This would be a landmark Kimberley project and the first Indigenous-led sanctuary in Australia. Potential benefits include cultural programs, protection of threatened or at risk species, ecotourism, employment, training, career pathways and opportunities to engage with and educate the public about Yawuru culture and values.

#### **OTHER PROJECTS:**

Long term projects with partners and research institutions include: Collaboration with the ANU on the Yawuru GIS program for vegetation mapping and GIS work. The third year of monitoring of endangered species such as the Bilby and the Spectacled Hare Wallaby. Participation in the Dampier Peninsula Fire Working Group, supported by Rangelands NRM to use cool-season burning practices to reduce the severity of wildfires. The Interpretive Masterplan is awaiting final maps. Goanna monitoring and cane toad mitigation began this year with the University of Sydney and will evolve into a taste aversion program to teach goannas to avoid consuming cane toads.







Wetland monitoring



8 KMS  
FENCING ERECTED AT LAKE  
CAMPION BY THE MEN  
COUNTRY MANAGERS

8000  
WEEDS REMOVED FROM  
MINYIRR PARK BY THE  
WOMEN COUNTRY MANAGERS

Sharee Dolby and Mussariah Banks

MONITORING & EVALUATING OUR WORK

Last year, Environmental Services developed the IPA Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Plan and established the IPA Technical Advisory Group (TAG). This plan, with input from the TAG, will enable evidence-based reporting by the Country Managers on a number of targets across the IPA. The TAG members include Yawuru people and western scientists who work together to develop monitoring programs that will provide valuable data which will help inform management.

The two priority projects for the TAG are the sustainable grazing and wetland monitoring. Monitoring methodologies for these projects have been developed this year and will produce data over the year to come. This data will deliver vital information about how the Country Managers’ work is making a difference to the health of Yawuru country and how management programs are tracking.

COUNTRY MANAGERS

Our five male Country Managers work on the Yawuru Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) include Roebuck Plains and the Yawuru Conservation Estate. They are engaged in a wide range of activities that contribute to high quality land management.

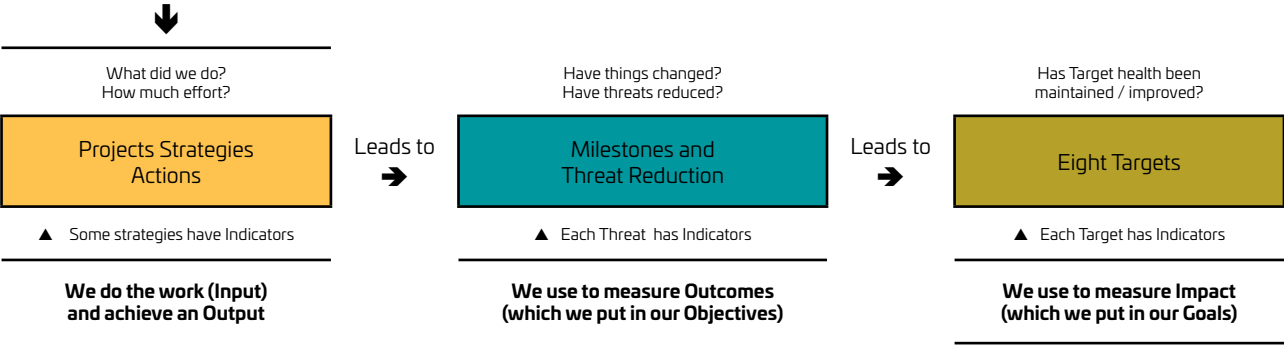
They actively participate in threatened and invasive species research, monitor and control populations of feral animals, and conduct fire mitigation through controlled cool-season burns. All Country Managers are working on completing TAFE certificates in Conservation and Land Management and are between levels two and four.

Many of these land management activities are done in collaboration with various internal and external partners including the DBCA Yawuru Rangers, Roebuck Plains Station, the Shire of Broome, the University of Western Australia, Environs Kimberley and North Regional TAFE. The team’s strong skill set and experience enables them to undertake a number of fee-for-service contracts bringing added revenue to the organisation.

The women’s team has grown, now with five country managers, to support the protection of the Monsoon Vine Thickets in Minyirr Park; a grant-funded project in partnership with Environs Kimberley, the Shire of Broome, DBCA and TAFE. The project focuses on protecting and restoring this Threatened Ecological Community through invasive weed removal and habitat restoration, including the collection and germination of native seed and tree planting. The project also involves documenting and maintaining Yawuru cultural values associated with this unique habitat and a short documentary titled “Taking care of Mayingan Manja Balu, monsoon vine thickets” was produced. It won first place in the 2019 Mud and Saltwater film festival in the science documentary category.

In August, a wildfire severely damaged the Monsoonal Vine Thickets, which reinforces the importance of the team’s work. The Women’s Country Manger Forum in Fitzroy Valley in September offered a valuable opportunity for some team members to engage with other Ranger groups and increase awareness of work done across the region.

HOW IS THE MERI SET UP?





# NATIVE TITLE AND HERITAGE

THE NATIVE TITLE TEAM ENSURES YAWURU’S NATIVE TITLE IS MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE YAWURU DETERMINATION AND YAWURU CULTURAL PROTOCOLS AND THAT YAWURU’S NATIVE TITLE RIGHTS AND CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES ARE UPHELD IN ANY DEVELOPMENT OR LAND USE.

Whilst it has been a reasonably quiet year in relation to exploration activities there are a number of important matters ongoing and good progress has been made on a number of large projects. In-principal agreements have been either finalised or close to being finalised for the Eco Beach ILUA and the Regional Resource Recovery Park Waste Facility and it is expected that community consultation and ILUA processes will commence shortly. Unfortunately the State moved to compulsorily acquire the gravel reserve at Port Smith and Yawuru has lodged a claim for compensation with the State under the Land Administration Act (1997) for that future act. Yawuru has expressed its disappointment at the State’s approach and is in the process of trying to address this issue and other issues related to the initial Yawuru Global ILUA through further negotiation with the State.

Another important development is the handing down of the Timber Creek decision by the High Court which has confirmed the legal principals around native title compensation. Yawuru is looking at the implications of the decision for Yawuru and the State has indicated it wishes to negotiate rather than litigate with native title groups in WA in relation to settling native title compensation liability.

In relation to exploration activities on Yawuru country, the Native Title team were able to successfully object to the grant of an exploration mining tenement over the Lake Eda/Deep Creek area to Hanson Construction and the company has agreed not to pursue the grant of the tenement. There were also successful negotiations with Sheffield Resources who are looking at potentially exploring in Yawuru country and have agreed to follow Yawuru heritage protection requirements and ensure full community consultation.

The State government lifted the moratorium on hydraulic fracturing although retained a ban on the Dampier Peninsula which includes areas in the north of Yawuru country. The moratorium was lifted over Buru Energy’s Yulleroo tenement but the State has now made it clear that any hydraulic fracturing on Yawuru country can only happen with Yawuru consent. The State government is still confirming the details of its policy and Yawuru has not been approached by Buru in relation to any future activities. Yawuru’s position remains that it is opposed to fracking on Yawuru country until such time as it can be proven safe.



Land survey at Entrance Point

## PROJECTS

### CULTURAL MONITORING :

**TOWN BEACH REDEVELOPMENT**  
FOR SHIRE OF BROOME

**FLORA AND FAUNA SURVEY**  
FOR WATER CORPORATION

### LAND SURVEYS:

**ENTRANCE POINT CARPARK EXPANSION** FOR THE  
KIMBERLEY PORT AUTHORITY

**KIMBERLEY MARINE SUPPORT BASE**



Cultural Reference Group at Town Beach Re-development





**FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS  
FOR JULY/ OCTOBER:**

**19**  
**INTERNAL NBY  
PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

**25**  
**COMMUNITY AND  
NOT-FOR-PROFIT EVENTS**

**16**  
**GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

# LIYAN-NGAN NYIRRWA CULTURAL WELLBEING CENTRE

**THE FACILITY WAS THE FIRST PROJECT FOR INDENT PTY LTD AND WAS COMPLETED ON TIME, UNDER BUDGET, AND PROVIDED EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES FOR MORE THAN 25 INDIGENOUS TRADESPEOPLE AND CONTRACTORS.**

A significant event for NBY this year was the opening of the Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre. After years of planning and about 12 months of construction, NBY took possession of the Centre in February 2019.

The Centre has increased available work space for the language team, Mangara archive and the HIPPY team. It has also added welcoming grounds and open spaces with public art by Yawuru artists; Martha Lee, Arnold Pudding Smith, Bart Pigram, Terrezita Corpus, Michael Torres, Savannah Cox, Suzie Gilbert, Lorraine Hunter, Maxine Charlie and Damien Lawford.

The expansive centre has beautiful art and grounds, a state of the art venue, café and catering facilities. The venue is a welcoming and versatile facility that has become popular for commercial hire as well as hosting community events.

The Mabu Mayi Café has a unique Broome menu and style and is supporting local Indigenous people into work through participation in events and hospitality training. The café caters for events as well as opening daily and creating a positive and relaxed meeting place for the Broome community, visitors and NBY staff.







Yawuru entry into the Shinju Float Parade

72  
REQUESTS FOR USE OF  
YAWURU LANGUAGE  
RECEIVED AND RESOLVED  
IN 12 MONTHS

# COMMUNITY

THE LOCAL YAWURU COMMUNITY ARE ENGAGED IN OUR TOWN AND CULTURE WHICH ENHANCES THE OVERALL LIFE OF BROOME AND THE REGION. NBY OFFERS A NUMBER OF PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES TO EMPOWER THEMSELVES AND CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR COMMUNITY.

## MABU YAWURU NGAN-GA

The language team have settled into their new office and continue supporting local schools and teachers with their language programs, as well as managing a volume of language requests.

Increasing the wider community’s familiarity with Yawuru language is an important ongoing role of the language centre, and the team has been working with work and training participants and the Women Country Managers to increase language use. During Naidoc Week Mrs Doris Edgar was honoured for revitalising Yawuru language with the establishment of a memorial garden at Cable Beach Primary School.

In August the language team hosted the Language Party event for the Corrugated Lines Festival of Words and presented at the Puliima conference in Darwin, Australia’s largest international Language conference. They also ran free language lessons during Shinju Matsuri Festival of the Pearl in September and launched a language lessons program for local families.

In October they hosted a forum for Kimberley language teachers with ‘Living Languages’.



Unveiling the plaque at Mrs Edgar’s Memorial Garden



Welcome to Country at Kullarri Naidoc by Natalie Dean





# 44

## YOUNG PEOPLE PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT

Warrmajalar Murrugulayi 'Rise up to work' participants

### EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

NBY has two successful work and training programs which assist young people to find sustainable employment or to continue training that helps them to reach their goals.

NBY has delivered the federal government's Transition to Work Program since 2016 which assists young people to re-engage in work or training. In NBY's successful TTW program, many participants exceeded set targets and national benchmarks, and NBY is recognised as providing both an 'efficient' and 'effective' quality service. Participants have gained employment in a range of industries including civil construction, agriculture, aquaculture, hospitality and administration.

Since late 2018, Shell has sponsored NBY's Warrmajalar Murrugulayi 'Rise up to work' program which offers support and assistance to young people through a 10 week pre-employment program. The addition of this program has led to a 25% increase employment outcomes through NBY's services for young people, and participants have taken up

opportunities with Roebuck Plains Station and joined NBY's Jarndu (women) Country Managers team. The two teams work together to support the overall aim of improved wellbeing and outcomes for the community, with an emphasis on cultural support that enhances liyan for participants.

In September, the team hosted a Sundowner with the Broome Chamber of Commerce and Industry which showcased successful participants, and resulted in employment opportunities hospitality staff who worked that evening.

# 49

## YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED IN TRAINING



Youth Week Colour Challenge

# 6

## YAWURU YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

### YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

The Yawuru Youth Engagement Officer works with local agencies on important issues affecting young people. Advocacy is undertaken at a national level through boards and working groups with Headspace, Community Housing Ltd, the Children and Young People Priority Working Group and the Kimberley Suicide Prevention Trial Working Group, to raise the awareness of issues impacting young people and the regional context.

Local collaboration with the PCYC, Broome Girls Academy, Follow the Dream, Alive and Kicking Goals and the Kimberley Population Health Unit assists young people in their endeavors and supports effective program delivery. The Yawuru Youth Engagement Officer supports and encourages young people in the community to participate in events such as Youth Week, cultural activities and other training programs.

### WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THESE APPLICANTS:

**Lydon Mckenna**  
Education support for secondary school in Perth

**Ann-jannette Phillips**  
Support for equipment for dance program establishment

**Tamalia Pedro**  
Support materials for Nursing study

**Tiaan Cox**  
The BSHS Big History Course Japan excursion

**Terrance Lockyer Cox**  
Education support for Diploma in business studies

**Aiden Mckenna**  
State Rugby Championship attendance





**24**  
**HIPPY FAMILIES**  
**IN 2019**

**80**  
**ELDERS HOME**  
**SUPPORT VISITS**



**84%**  
**AVERAGE**  
**OCCUPANCY RATE**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

NBY delivers the internationally renowned HIPPY early childhood development program, supporting families with children aged 4 and 5 years and building on family strengths to give children the necessary skills and confidence to begin school.

NBY has three trained HIPPY Tutors who support parents to take an active role in their children’s education, development and overall wellbeing. The tutors and families have regular meetings and “Picnic in the Park” catch ups which provide an opportunity for parents to discuss the program in a fun and interactive environment.

During 2019 the HIPPY Program underwent a 2 month Program Quality Assessment which resulted in positive feedback, ensuring the program continues into 2020 with a target of 25 family enrolments.

**7 FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 5**  
**GRADUATED IN OCTOBER**

**COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

Looking after our elders and more vulnerable members is an important function of our community programs and contributes strongly to the community’s wellbeing as defined through NBY’s Mabu Liyan Framework. Over the last 12 months, the Community Support Officer and others have assisted many community members with household maintenance, gardening and cyclone cleanups as part of a regular roster, as well as responding to individual call outs for assistance.

Requests from community members for the funeral fund are managed with compassion and fairness. Emergency support that may require assistance with funds, advocacy or simply transport is also provided.

Maintenance of culture and connection to country is also a vital part of maintaining wellbeing and good liyan. The Community Support Officer assists with activities related to participating in law and ceremony, trips on country and other cultural activities.

**203 FAMILIES SUPPORTED THROUGH THE**  
**ELDERS & DISABILITY FUND**

**HOUSING**

Yawuru housing programs support tenants to move towards self-determination and to transition along the housing continuum towards a goal of home ownership. The Yawuru Housing Reference Group has increased its numbers and held 3 meetings this period to discuss issues that affect tenants within the Yawuru programs and how to increase housing stability and mabu liyan for families.

In August, Engineers Without Borders visited Broome for a week long consultation with a group of young people for a proposed Youth Accommodation Hub. The group engaged with a range of stakeholders and a lot of great ideas were developed that will enhance housing opportunities for young people in Broome undertaking training programs. The week culminated in a presentation by the young people to the Yawuru boards.

**OUR HOUSING PROGRAMS:**

**JIRRIL MINGARAN**  
Empowers tenants to achieve positive outcomes and enhance liyan

**RENTAL RELIEF**  
Provides a platform for financial independence and a progression to home ownership

**YAWURU HOME OWNERSHIP**  
Ongoing partnerships with yawuru yhop families

**HOUSING ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT**  
Support for all yawuru people in relation to any aspect of housing



# CULTURE

YAWURU CULTURE IS BECOMING MORE PRESENT IN THE DAILY LIFE OF BROOME,  
WITH GREATER FAMILIARITY OF YAWURU LANGUAGE, AND RECOGNISING YAWURU'S  
CULTURAL HERITAGE WHICH ENHANCES BROOME'S UNIQUE IDENTITY.



*Bugarrigarra Nyurdany: Because of the Dreaming* exhibition

63  
SMOKING  
CEREMONIES

110  
WELCOMES TO  
COUNTRY

## CULTURAL REFERENCE GROUP

The Yawuru Cultural Reference Group is an important advisory group of senior Yawuru people who discuss environmental and cultural projects with staff and external proponents wishing to engage with Yawuru. The group has made valuable contributions to a range of projects such as the proposed fenced wildlife sanctuary, the Chinatown revitalisation and Town Beach redevelopment.

## CULTURAL SERVICES

This year saw increasing numbers of people participating in cultural activities such as smoking ceremonies and Welcomes to Country as well as public acknowledgement of Yawuru at events. Corporate and government requests for additional immersion events have also been growing this year with entities such as Shell Prelude and the WA Police Force ensuring all staff undertake cultural training.

## MANGARA AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

Mangara has a museum quality archive space and new collections office in the Language Centre area of the Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre which expands its capacity, and the team is working on a range of projects. NBY has been engaged by the WA Museum to work with the Yawuru community to contribute content and stories to be featured at the New Museum in Perth.

NBY's Jetty to Jetty Heritage Trail was activated for Shinju Matsuri at Streeters Jetty and NBY's exhibition, *Lustre: Pearling and Australia* is touring regional Western Australia ahead of its anticipated return to Broome in 2021.

*Bugarrigarra Nyurdany: Because of the Dreaming* exhibition was mounted at the Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre in June. This project has a collection of over 50 nurlu objects, artworks and panels exploring themes of Yawuru life through the cycles of seasonal change. Elements of the exhibition remain on display in the foyer and display panels are rotated according to seasonal changes.





# ANNUAL OVERVIEW

## NOVEMBER 2018

2018 Annual General Meeting

## DECEMBER 2018

Yawuru Christmas Party at Town Beach

## JANUARY 2019

Construction work on Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre completed

## FEBRUARY 2019

NBY takes possession of Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre

All Boards Forum

## APRIL 2019

Delegation of Yawuru and Karajarri travel to Europe to repatriate the remains of 14 ancestors from German state institutions in Saxony.

Yawuru Easter Party at the Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre

## MAY 2019

Peter Yu delivers Tasmania Reconciliation Week Speech

## JUNE 2019

Official Launch of Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre

Bugrrigarra Nyurdany exhibition on show at Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre for NAIDOC Week

Kullarri NAIDOC Week events

Peter Yu delivers Lowitja Institute Conference Keynote Address

## JULY 2019

Indent wins Master-Builders Bankwest Excellence Award for Best public Use Building \$5,000 000 - \$10,000000

Peter Yu delivers Keynote Address at Developing Northern Australia Conference

## AUGUST 2019

Language Party hosted for Corrugated Lines Festival of Words

Yawuru hosts Engineers Without Borders to develop the Youth Housing Strategy

Puliima Language conference

## SEPTEMBER 2019

Sundowner at NBY to promote successful work and training programs

Shinju Matsuri, including the Float Parade, language classes and Jetty to Jetty event

Environmental Services team visits Mulligans Flat Wildlife Sanctuary in ACT

## OCTOBER 2019

Work and Training graduation event

Community consultation on Wildlife Sanctuary

All Boards Forum

ISWAG National Forum

Ceremony activity

‘Living Languages’ Kimberley Language Forum



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**MABU BURU  
MABU NGARRUNGUNIL  
MABU LIYAN**