

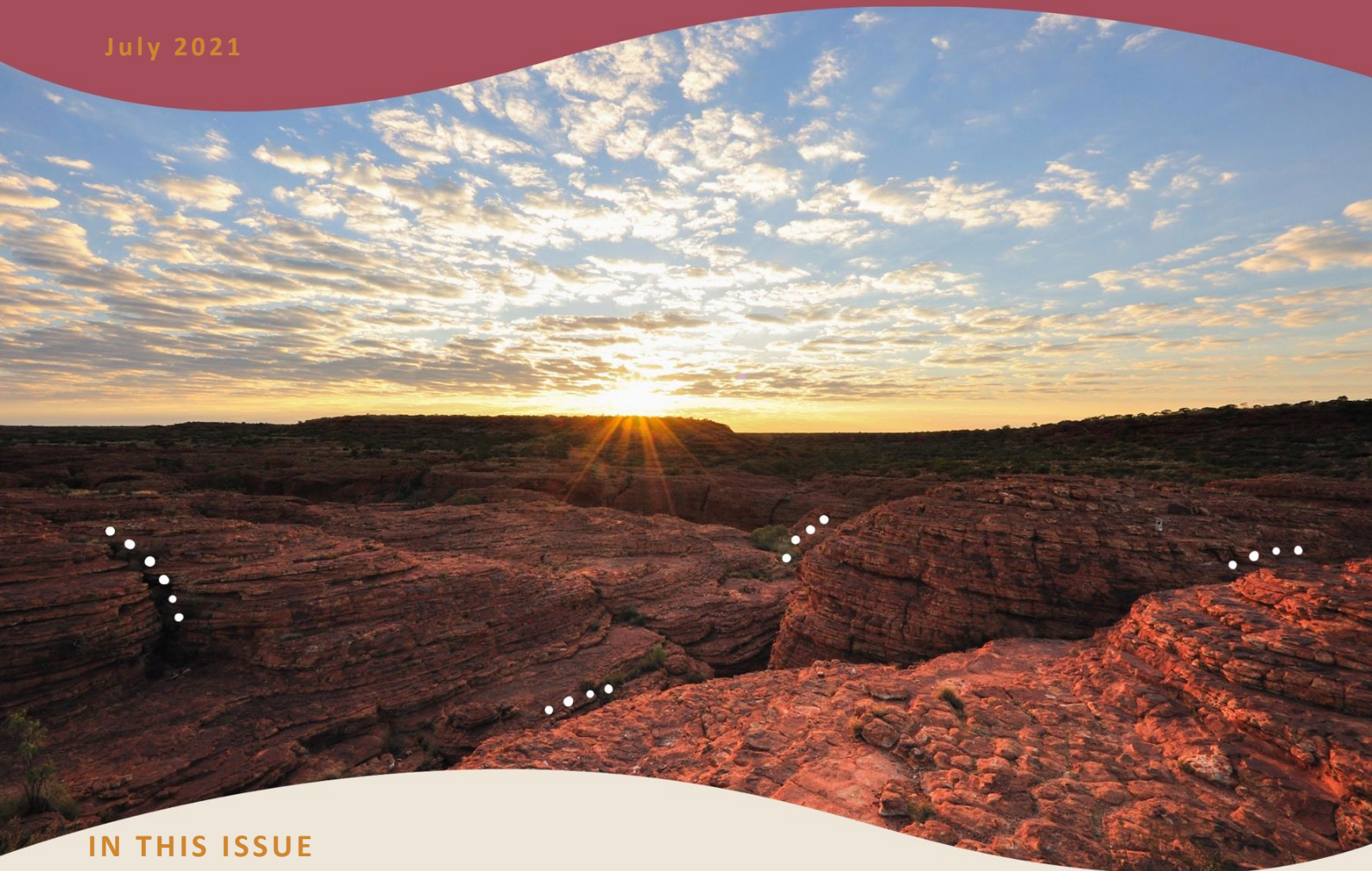


THIRILI

2021 Volume 2 Issue 7

July 2021

# NEWSLETTER



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You can contact us 24 hours a day, 7 days week.

If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter, please contact John Balmforth at [john.b@thirili.com.au](mailto:john.b@thirili.com.au)

National Indigenous Postvention Service **Call 1800 805 801**

## From the desk of our CEO



Dear Friends

Thirrili Ltd is very pleased to announce that we are now an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO). As an ACCO, Thirrili will remain controlled and led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The transition will allow us to continue to deliver services that build strength and empowerment in our families and communities. Our ACCO status will ensure we continue to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives in all of our work, including delivering holistic, comprehensive and culturally responsive supports to individuals, families and communities impacted by grief, loss and trauma due to suicide and other fatal traumatic incidents. See more about our inaugural members on the following page.

Our organisation has a strong team of qualified and experienced Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as well non-Indigenous staff. Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff make up 83% of our team. All of our team members have qualifications in relevant disciplines including Social Work; Mental Health; Counselling; Leadership; Management; etc. – and all Board Directors are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. We are extremely proud of our team – and give our thanks to those who are working directly with families to support them during times of grief and loss.

Our team, and our service delivery partners, ensure that we are able to provide quality, culturally safe and responsive services to our families and communities. I would like to

thank our Service Delivery Partners (Wellways in NSW and Derbarl Yerrigan, Wungening and Jacaranda in WA), for the collaboration across our organisations that ensures we can provide a range of holistic supports and services to our clients. Team members in our partner organisations are also all Indigenous and hold qualifications relevant to the role of National Indigenous Postvention Advocate.

**How do we work?** Once we are notified of a loss, we assess who is best placed to assist the family. We can travel to provide support if invited by the family. Our aim is not to replace the good work being done by local Aboriginal Community Controlled organisations and health services. Rather, we aim to complement the work done by the to ensure the best outcomes for families and communities.

We meet with individuals and families to discuss their needs and we can provide practical and social support; link Clients with other social, health and community services; and advocate on behalf of families to assess them to access the supports they need in their time of grief. Our impartiality and independence enables us to be strong advocates for families, ensuring that services are working to provide coordinated, holistic and culturally responsive care. Our 24/7 number is *always* answered by one of our Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Advocates.

If you, or a friend or family member, would like support, please don't hesitate to contact us on 1800 805 801. Alternatively, if you are working with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander family that may need support, please don't hesitate to reach out for more information, or to notify us of an incident (or to make a referral – once you have consent from the Client).

Until next time,

Jacqueline





# Our Inaugural Member Organisations

## *Thirrili welcomes our first five organisations as Members of Thirrili*

Thirrili Ltd is excited and pleased to welcome our first five organisations as Members of Thirrili. Our inaugural members are:

- **Redfern Aboriginal Medical Service** (Sydney): The Redfern AMS was the **first community-controlled health service in Australia** and was founded in 1971. Initially, the Redfern AMS was a volunteer service, staffed by non-Indigenous doctors, nurses and students. Today, the Redfern AMS provides a broad range of services to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community including Child & maternal health; internal medicine; Men's Health; Geriatrics; chronic disease; mental health; Drug & Alcohol services; Optometry ... and the list goes on.

They have a strong team of Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff. They also have a very strong social and emotional wellbeing program and can provide a range of assistance, such as funeral arrangements; legal aid; Centrelink; homelessness; court support; counselling; domestic violence support and more. Would you like to know more? Visit their website: <https://amsredfern.org.au/>

- **Wungening Aboriginal Corporation** (Perth). Wungening commenced in the late 1980's following a meeting of around 40 Aboriginal people to discuss concerns that mainstream services were not responding effectively to the needs of Aboriginal people in the area of alcohol and substance abuse. This saw the establishment of the Noongar Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (NASAS) – it was the first and only Aboriginal owned alcohol and drug service in Perth.

Through the 1990's, NASAS continued to expand, receiving their first government grant. Since 2001, Wungening has continued to grow and now delivers services across the Alcohol & Other Drug sector; Child Protection; Family support; Family & Domestic Violence; and Justice sectors. For more information visit their website at <https://www.wungening.com.au/>

- **Derbarl Yerrigan Aboriginal Health Service** (Perth). The name Derbarl Yerrigan is the Whadjuk Noongar name for the Swan River. They are an Aboriginal community-controlled health organisation, originally established as the Perth Aboriginal Medical Service in 1974. They changed their name in 1998 and now deliver holistic and integrated primary health care services to Aboriginal people living in the Perth metropolitan region.

They have a confidential counselling service that supports people with trauma, anxiety, depression and other social, cultural and emotional wellbeing supports. They have Clinics in East Perth, Midland, Maddington and Mirrabooka. They are also providing COVID-19 vaccination services and supports. If you would like to know more, view their website at <https://www.dyhs.org.au/>

- **The Lowitja Institute** (national Peak): The Lowitja Institute was established in 2010 and operates on key principles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership, a broader understanding of health that incorporates wellbeing, and the need for the work to have a clear and positive impact. It has 12 member organisations and was named in honour of their Patron, Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE DSG. The history of the Institute includes the pioneering work of three Cooperative Research Centres (CRC): the CRC for Aboriginal and Tropical Health; the CRC for Aboriginal Health; and the CRC for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health.

More information on the history of achievements can be found in the *Changing the Narrative in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research: Four Cooperative Research Centres and the Lowitja Institute: The story so far* (you can read this at [https://www.lowitja.org.au/content/Document/PDF/Changing-the-narrative\\_0.pdf](https://www.lowitja.org.au/content/Document/PDF/Changing-the-narrative_0.pdf)). To learn more about the legacy from Dr O'Donoghue and the current areas of focus for the Institute you can visit <https://www.lowitja.org.au/>

- **Indigenous Allied Health Australia** (national Peak): Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) is a national, member-based Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health organisation. In 2008, the Koori Occupational Therapy Scheme developed a proposal for funding to establish an Indigenous allied health network. In June 2009, nine Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health professionals attended the first general meeting of IAHA, where the first Board members were elected. IAHA has continued to develop and are now a strong and influential national peak body supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health graduates, students and associate members.

IAHA supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health students and graduates, value adding to existing professional development, educational and cultural support structures. Membership includes (but is not limited to!) the health, mental, disability, aged care, education, justice, community services, academia and policy fields. Like to know more? Visit <https://iaha.com.au/>.

Our current Board of Directors already includes the CEO's of three of the new members, and we will see opportunities for additional Members to be nominated for, and elected to, the Board at our Annual General Meeting later this year. Membership of Thirrili is open to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (including Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services – ACCHS) and we look forward to continued growth in our Membership moving forward.

If your organisation would like to become a Member of Thirrili Ltd, please send an email to [adelle.m@thirrili.com.au](mailto:adelle.m@thirrili.com.au) and she will send you additional information and a membership form.



# Calling Our Cultural Healers: Join our Register Now

Here at Thirrili, we work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families and communities to support their cultural, social and emotional wellbeing following a loss to suicide or other fatal traumatic incidents. As part of our work, many of our clients request support and access to cultural and traditional healing. As a national service, that means we need to know who is available in what locations to support our people.

If you, or your organisation or business, provides cultural and/or traditional healing (you might even be a Narrative Therapist) – either to be delivered individually, or to a community, and you would like to be on our Register Of Healers, please send the following information to [admin@thirrili.com.au](mailto:admin@thirrili.com.au):

- 1 Name (individual and organisation)
- 2 Region where you work or provide supports
- 3 Do you offer group healing or individual or both?
- 4 ABN number (if no ABN, please advise)
- 5 Your hourly rates (exclusive of GST)
- 6 Types of Services you provide





# New Partnership Engagements

## *Memorandums of Understandings in Progress*

Our on-going focus on stakeholder engagements continued during the month of July with several engagements undertaken in support of collaborating to deliver high quality, culturally informed and responsive programs to Indigenous communities affected by suicide and other social and emotional wellbeing trauma across Australia.

These engagements will deliver Improved client outcomes and actively encourage effective referral pathways which will in turn facilitate the joint delivery of seamless services to clients to improve client outcomes. As well, sharing of best practice and working collaboratively to resolve service gaps where possible and exploring options to support and improve capacity through mechanisms such as the sharing of expertise, resources and training and other identified opportunities will be developed as part of these MoU's.



Education

### **NSW Government - Education Department- Child Wellbeing and Mental Health Services**

An initial pilot program to connect with schools who have experienced a recent student death by suicide is being planned in conjunction with the Psychology and Wellbeing Services Division to provide support and an opportunity to reflect on the strengths of the response with the view to strengthening supports for schools in serious incident responses. As well, to understand the stories of postvention responses and a school's journey in recovery have facilitated planning for schools across NSW, post a defined pilot.

The engagement protocols are to connect with services and support agencies, collecting resources and supporting schools in their coordinated postvention responses and to discuss our services and look at ways we will work together to support schools and communities to supporting Indigenous communities and families



### **Aboriginal Medical Service Redfern**

A collaboration to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people impacted by suicide to have access to the supports offered by Thirrili and Aboriginal Medical Service Limited (AMS Redfern) is in planning phase which will deliver cross-referral pathways, warm client referrals and working in collaboration across core programs such as:

- Tribal Warriors
- Youth Programs
- School Programs

to support the social and emotional wellbeing teams to engage in professional development; shared resources; practice discussions and planning and using a shared support team to respond to families and communities affected by suicide.



### **Australian Unity – Healing Minds**

The development of client referrals between the partner organisations in collaborating to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people impacted by suicide to have access to the supports offered by Thirrili and Healing Minds, with a view to strengthening supports available and amplifying the benefits from funding for these activities. Working in conjunction with Healing Minds to share resources across both organisations to improve capabilities to both support and deliver optimal, culturally responsive, and safe service delivery programs.

Part of the engagement will see a sharing of appropriate resources and materials to provide workbooks, joint programs where identified to deliver on-going improvements, learning practical skills to deal with life's stresses and worries.





## Grand Pacific Health

Working in collaboration to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people impacted by suicide to have access to the supports offered by Thirrili and Grand Pacific Health. Using a shared support team to respond to families and communities to co-design best practice service delivery models in identified regions serviced by Grand Pacific Health. As well, to explore options to support and improve capacity through mechanisms such as the sharing of expertise, resources, and training.

In conjunction with Grand Pacific Health, a sharing of best practice models and working collaboratively to resolve service gaps where identified using best practice design, including a fundamental principle of co-design with individuals, families and communities affected by suicide.



Source:

Commoditize United Aboriginal Corporation  
[coomaditchie.org.au](http://coomaditchie.org.au)



# Meet more of our staff

## **Lexa Weetra**



I am a proud Ngarrindjeri and Narrunga Woman living and working on Kurna Yerta. I am a mother of three wonderful children and family is always my priority.

I am an Aboriginal Health Practitioner and worked in the health Sector for the last 10 years, both in the metro area and also remotely. I am passionate about empowering my people to become a stronger healthier community and putting mental wellness at the forefront.

When I was contacted by Thirilli to apply, it struck a chord with me that there is a Culturally specific and tailored service dedicated to Aboriginal People for Aboriginal People, relating to suicide that affects all of our communities and families. I am excited for this opportunity with Thirilli, I hope to gain much experience from it and to be impactful to both the service and community.

## **Eddie Newchurch**



Eddie is from the Narungga Clan with ties to a lot of other mobs across SA and interstate. Eddie is Chairperson of his community Point Pearce Aboriginal Lands Trust. He has four daughters, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren, and a lot of nephews and nieces. He barracks for Port Power, and enjoys eating food as it all taste good and going on country.

Eddie joined Thirilli because there is something missing in communities which is communication, which involves everything that Thirilli identifies with, as it is just so important to support one another Eddie works with our SA COVID-19 Virtual Support Network, which is a network of services that provide prevention and support services to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the State of South Australia who could be impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. A significant focus has been the coordination of services to respond to community need and supporting the collection of accurate data for the SA Department of Health. The COVID-19 workers contribute to the Network strategically by linking with community leaders to understand their needs and participating in and contributing to Network planning sessions, support of Network meetings and enabling the cross referral of clients between Network partners.

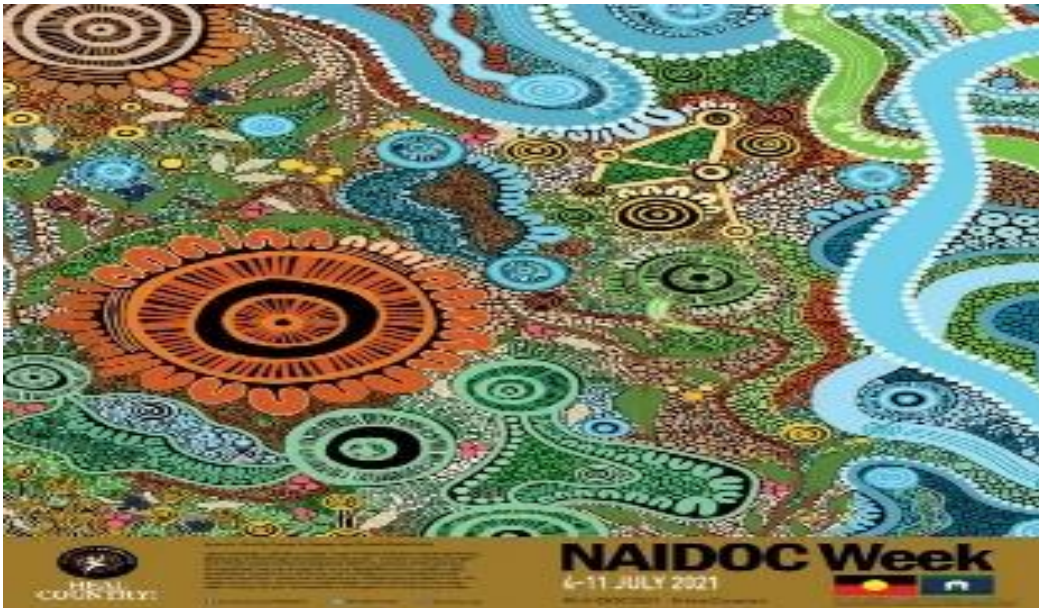
Eddie Newchurch was awarded NAIDOC 2020 Elder of the Year in South Australia. The Award was presented to Eddie by NAIDOC SA Chairperson, Joyleen Thomas, at the Adelaide Town Hall on 9 November 2020. Lord Mayor of Adelaide Sandy Verschoor said that NAIDOC awards are an important way of honouring the significant contributions made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

*"The resilience and richness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures are of great importance to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people alike. It is important that Lore, knowledge and stories continue to be told."*



# Celebrating NAIDOC

## *Our Continual Commitment to Community Engagement*



### CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK

Despite the postponement of a number of events due to Coronavirus and as part of our continual commitment to communicate our services to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families affected by a loss to suicide and other fatal traumatic incidents, our involvement with NAIDOC week saw limited activities across all jurisdictions. Our Advocate team attended various NAIDOC celebrations this month to both support and promote our services as Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to be a concern for our communities around Australia.

The events we attended were held in a COVID Safe way. Over the month of the festival there was great interest from attendees about our services enquiring about the service and how they could engage with our Advocates.

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life. The week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

NAIDOC originally stood for 'National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee'. This committee was once responsible for organising national activities during NAIDOC Week and its acronym has since become the name of the week itself. Find out more about the origins and [history of NAIDOC Week](#).

Each year, there is a different focus city for the [National NAIDOC Awards Ceremony](#). The focus city, National NAIDOC Poster Competition and the NAIDOC Awards recipients are selected by the [National NAIDOC Committee](#). Local community celebrations during NAIDOC Week are encouraged and often organised by communities, government agencies, local councils, schools and workplaces.

### Other Relevant Information

Some of the NAIDOC events and other information is noted below:

- Until 20/11/20: [Online Free Exhibition] Zhou Xiaoping: Spiritual Bonding between Land and People. Zhou Xiaoping has spent the last 30 years travelling to and from remote Arnhem Land communities, getting to know Aboriginal culture first hand and learning from and collaborating with Aboriginal artists such as Jimmy Pike and Johnny Bulunbulun. To view the exhibition-<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/aciac/exhibitions2/>
- The Iconic Black Markets at The Rocks Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th of November from 10:00am – 5:00pm, on Tallowolladah Lawn Free entry: The Rocks, Circular Quay, Sydney. For more information, go to: <https://www.naidoc.org.au/getinvolved/naidoc-week-events/blakmarkets-rocks>





- Healing is a large-scale digital art installation created by Aboriginal artist Mandi Barton, a Yorta Yorta woman who lives in Melbourne's west. Mandi was commissioned by Melton City Council to address health and wellbeing messages related to the COVID-19 crisis and explore the impact on Indigenous connections, narratives and identities. Event Venue CS Gallery, 193 - 201 Caroline Springs, NT
- Check your State and Territory website All States and territories have public health measures in place to stop the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the community. If you are holding a large-scale event, you may need to work with the authorities in your state or territory and submit a COVID Safe Event plan.
- **Facebook Australia welcomed as Official Sponsor of National NAIDOC Week 2021**  
02/07/2021 | Partners  
The National NAIDOC Committee is pleased to announce Facebook Australia as an Official Sponsor of National NAIDOC Week 2021.
- **Woolworths's partnership helps celebrate NAIDOC Week across the nation**  
24/06/2021 | Poster  
The National NAIDOC Committee has again partnered with the Woolworths Group to nationally distribute the 2021 NAIDOC Week poster.
- **Postponement of the National NAIDOC Awards 2021**  
25/06/2021 | Awards  
After the cancellation of the National NAIDOC Awards 2021 in Mparntwe (Alice Springs), the National NAIDOC Committee and our key partners had been working towards a gala Awards Ceremony at the Sydney Opera House on Saturday 3 July. However, following the recent announcements by the NSW Premier and increasing health risk, we have had to take the unfortunate decision to postpone this ceremony. NAIDOC Week will still be held from 4-11 July.
- **NAIDOC Week Teaching Resources**  
10/06/2021 | Resources  
The annual NAIDOC Week Teaching resources are now available from SBS Learn. The NAIDOC Week teaching resource is full of activities and links to assist teachers and their students to reflect on this year's theme, 'Heal Country!'. These resources were authored by Shelley Ware and developed by SBS Learn with support from NAIDOC Committee member Associate Professor Lynette Riley. The 2021 teaching resources cover subject areas of English, HASS, The Arts and Science for students in Foundation to Year 10.
- **Maggie-Jean Douglas wins 2021 National NAIDOC Poster Competition**  
05/05/2021 | Poster  
Gubbi Gubbi artist Maggie-Jean Douglas has won the 2021 National NAIDOC Poster competition from a record 260 entries. Maggie-Jean describes herself as 'a proud murri'. Her mob is Gubbi Gubbi from the Sunshine Coast region of Queensland though she grew up on Goreng Goreng Country and has been living on Ngunnawal Country for the past three years. Maggie-Jean has always 'had an appreciation for anything that involved creating' and her earliest memories of being inspired by art came from her Auntie's artworks.
- **2020 NAIDOC Poster Winner honoured**  
30/04/2021 | Poster  
2020 NAIDOC Week poster competition winner Tyrown Waigana was recently presented with a framed version of his poster design by Minister for Indigenous Australians, the Hon Ken Wyatt MP in small ceremony in Perth. The framed version of the poster is traditionally presented to the winner of the NAIDOC Week poster competition during the National NAIDOC Awards. This presentation did not go ahead in 2020 due to the event's cancellation.

Note that permission is not required to fly either the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander flag. However, if you want to reproduce either flag (for example, on a flyer or poster), you will need to seek permission. More information about the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags](#) including contact details to gain permissions is available on the NAIDOC site.



# Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## Information material from the Clearing House

### About the Clearinghouse

The Indigenous Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Clearinghouse was established to enhance and improve access to the Indigenous mental health and suicide prevention evidence base. The Clearinghouse contributes to a series of actions supported by the Australian Government to improve mental health and suicide through the Fifth National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan.

The Clearinghouse is managed by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) through funding from the Department of Health.

The AIHW works closely with Indigenous stakeholders and experts through the Indigenous Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Clearinghouse Steering Committee to develop content for the Clearinghouse. The Steering Committee is chaired by Professor Pat Dudgeon and has representation from researchers, service providers, advocates and government.

Information on the Clearinghouse will be regularly updated. Additional publications, data and research and evaluation material will be added as they become available. The publications prepared by external authors represent the views of those authors. You can access the website via this link [About the Clearinghouse - AIHW Indigenous MHSPC](#)

### Objectives

The objectives of the Clearinghouse are to:

- Improve the evidence base of what works and does not work relating to Indigenous mental health and suicide prevention, including identifying gaps in the evidence
- Improve access to key information by pulling together the emerging research, evaluation, program and policy initiatives and the evidence from these initiatives
- Encourage collaboration between researchers and reduce the chance of duplication in research activity.

### Main functions

The main functions of the Clearinghouse are to:

- Identify and increase the accessibility of relevant research and evaluation efforts from government
- Prepare value-added resources that outline key issues relating to Indigenous mental health and suicide prevention and what government is doing to address these issues
- Advise on gaps in the available evidence, particularly research and evaluations
- Advise on priorities for future research and evaluation to fill identified gaps
- Bring together key experts to discuss these issues at public forums.

### Resources available

The main resources available on the Clearinghouse website include:

- **Publications:** These papers summarise the key evidence on specific topics related to Indigenous mental health and suicide prevention. Publications have been reviewed by the Steering Committee. To access Clearinghouse publications, see [Publications](#)
- **The Research and evaluation register:** The Register is a collection of recent research and evaluation projects related to Indigenous mental health and suicide prevention. To access the register, see [Research and evaluation register](#)
- **Key statistics and data:** Recent and trend data related to Indigenous mental health and suicide prevention, including data visualisations and downloadable excel files. To view Clearinghouse data, see [Access data](#) or any of the [Topics](#) pages.

To receive email notifications about Clearinghouse updates, click on the Subscribe link below.



Australian Government  
Australian Institute of  
Health and Welfare

**INDIGENOUS**  
Mental Health & Suicide Prevention  
**Clearinghouse**





## QLD Mental Health Week 9<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### Learn how you can get involved

This year's theme is - *Take time — for mental health.*

Queensland Mental Health Week (QMHW) is an annual awareness week that aims to shine a spotlight on individual and community mental health and wellbeing. The initiative is linked to National Mental Health Week and World Mental Health Day, which is held in October every year.

QMHW encourages all of us to think about our mental health and wellbeing, regardless of whether we may have a lived experience of mental illness or not. The week also gives us the opportunity to understand the importance of mental health in our everyday lives and encourages help seeking behaviours when needed.

[Queensland Mental Health Week | 9-17 October 2021 \(qldmentalhealthweek.org.au\)](https://qldmentalhealthweek.org.au)

## R U OK? - Website Launched

Last week R U OK? has launched “**I ask my mob, in my way, are you OK?**”, to support ‘Stronger Together’ a targeted suicide prevention campaign for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The suite of resources for “**I ask my mob, in my way, are you OK?**” includes culturally appropriate content led by community voices with guidance from the R U OK? Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group and in collaboration with the Brisbane Indigenous Media Association.

See Media Release at <https://nacchocommunique.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Media-Release-RUOK-ask-your-mob-your-way-22.7.21.pdf>

These free resources are available on the R U OK? Website: <https://www.ruok.org.au/strongertogether>



# Up-Coming Cultural significant dates for your Calendar

- **4August 2021** **National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day** - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about the crucial impact that community, culture and family play in the life of every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child.
- **9August 2021** **International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples** - On this day, people from around the world are encouraged to spread the United Nation's message on the protection and promotion of the rights of Indigenous peoples.
- **1September 2021** **Indigenous Literacy Day** - Indigenous Literacy Day is a national celebration of culture, stories, language and literacy. This day raises awareness of the disadvantages experienced in remote communities and advocates for more access to literacy resources.
- **13September 2021** **Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People** - The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People

<https://www.datsip.qld.gov.au/annual-dates-cultural-significance/cultural-significant-dates>





# NATIONAL INDIGENOUS POSTVENTION SERVICE AFTER SUICIDE SUPPORT ROLES AVAILABLE

Thirrili Ltd (Thirrili) delivers the National Indigenous Postvention Service across Australia and has taken a national leadership role in the provision of suicide postvention support and assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families and communities. Thirrili employs a dedicated team of professionals to provide support across all states and territories in Australia.

We provide flexible working arrangements and extensive salary packaging opportunities for all employees. We support our Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander staff with Cultural and Ceremonial Leave, as well as annual leave and personal leave.

## Are you in the East Kimberley- Would you like to join our Team?

We have opportunities available in the Kimberly and we are flexible within each of the Regions in which we operate.

We are also keen to discuss flexible opportunities for job-share arrangements with other Indigenous organisations - or secondment opportunities that will provide the opportunity for staff to build their skills and experience in the postvention space.

### National Indigenous Postvention Advocates (\$60-80,000pa, plus super)

The National Indigenous Postvention Advocates (NIPAs) will act as a local response contact point for critical incident needs, and as required, leads local critical responses to suicide events, trauma or circumstances that could trigger suicide or other traumatic events by the provision of practical support to individuals, families and communities, and support colleagues attending incidents with them.

Providing bereavement support to families and communities; and engaging with services to support our Clients, you will need to engage with Aboriginal community led and controlled organisations; Government agencies; and other services and supports available in local and regional areas.

### The key requirements are that you are an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person

You hold relevant experience and/or qualifications in strengthening the health and social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

That you are able to demonstrate and provide statements addressing the Selection Criteria outlined in the Position Description.

### Sound interesting?

Contact **Angela Threlfall**, via email [angela.t@thirrili.com.au](mailto:angela.t@thirrili.com.au) to obtain a copy of the Position Description and selection criteria information.

Applications must include: CV, Referees, Statement of Claims addressing the Selection Criteria.

**APPLICATIONS OPEN – JOIN OUR TEAM!**



# Suicides reported to us

The following tables shows a total of 56 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alleged/completed suicides have been reported to Thirrili from 1 January to 26 July 2021, by jurisdiction, age and gender.

Jurisdiction	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Other	Total
Completed suicide	13	8	14	6	16	0	12	0	0	69

Age	Under 18	18-24	25-34	35+	Not known at this stage	Total
Completed suicides	9	17	24	11	8	69

Gender	Male	Female	Not known at this stage	Total
Completed suicides	48	18	3	69

Gender unknown is generally because the notification did not become a referral and full information was not provided to Thirrili

## Annual Report

You can read our annual report at: [http://thirrili.com.au/sites/default/files/2020-12/19-20AnnualReport\\_Final\\_HR.pdf](http://thirrili.com.au/sites/default/files/2020-12/19-20AnnualReport_Final_HR.pdf)

## Strategic Plan

A copy of our strategic plan is available at: <http://thirrili.com.au/sites/default/files/2020-09/STRATEGIC%20PLAN%20-%20FINAL%2011092020.pdf>

National Indigenous Postvention Service can be contacted 24 hours a day on 1800 805 801 - Your call will be answered by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Advocate

*We support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families to deal with grief and trauma experienced as a result of:*

- *the suicide of an immediate family member; and/or*
- *the death of an immediate family member because of a fatal traumatic event other than suicide*





## Who to contact - Other Services?

Thirrili recognises that each number reported here represents an individual and wishes to acknowledge the devastating effects suicide and self-harm can have on people, their families, friends, and communities.

Our service is available 24/7 and you can call us at any time because you or someone you know has suicidal thoughts and you can also contact any of the services listed below for help:

- Lifeline 13 11 14
- Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467 (cost of a local call)
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
- MensLine Australia 1300 78 99 78
- Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636.

The crisis support services above can be reached 24 hours a day



