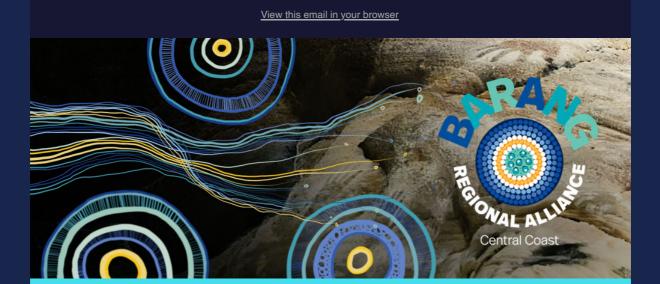
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"Waagir Bandimayi" Edition 11

Welcome to the eleventh edition of Waagir Bandimayi (Darkinjung words meaning Coast Messenger). Barang have continued to work with our seven local Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to keep our community informed to share information, give updates and keep all our community involved.

We are back into the swing of things here at Barang preparing for the big year ahead and an upcoming referendum. Barang Regional Alliance whole-heartedly supports a constitutionally enshrined voice and we will be campaigning to gain a 'Yes' Vote.

Voice will mean the Government will have better quality information about First Nations communities and issues, delivered directly by a body of First Nations representatives. Detailed and nuanced information from communities themselves will result in better quality laws and policies. This will mean improved outcomes – across all metrics, including health, housing, criminal justice and education.

The Voice is the first stage of reforms proposed by the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which is followed by a process of Treaty and Truth-telling. The Uluru Statement was developed through extensive community consultation and is a gift from First Nations Australians to the broader Australian community towards a better future.

On Darkinjung Country, we are our own distinct region and our community's needs, and issues are unique. A constitutionally enshrined Voice could allow for local and regional communities such as the Central Coast Aboriginal Community to be recognised and included within policymaking. Outcomes of this could include improved access to safe and adequate homes, improved service delivery within health and education and improved employment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We must talk about 'Voice' now so that one day our children or even grandchildren can be empowered and sovereign over their own destinies. "They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country".

If you'd like more information please see <u>ulurustatement.org</u> or <u>fromtheheart.com.au</u>

(Information sourced from https://ulurustatement.org/)

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Celebrating 25 years of health, wellbeing and care.

Yerin Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Health Services hopes everyone has had a fantastic start to 2023! We are pleased to have commenced the year with the Board meeting to cement our plans for the final year of our current Strategic Plan.

Yerin Eleanor Duncan would like to thank all community members who attended our annual Community Christmas Party and celebrated with us. We enjoyed celebrating with you.





The Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Health Centre has moved! The medical centre is now located at suite 3-5, 56-64 Pacific Highway, Wyong, opposite Wyong Train Station and next door to Legends Bakery. Parking is available in the Wyong Train Station commuter carpark.

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Yerin Eleanor Duncan will continue to deliver our recurring groups throughout the year including Men's Group, Women's Group, Ganama Cooking and Better Fit. Please check our social media platforms and newsletters for dates throughout the year.





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We look forward to celebrating various events throughout the year with the community; with the first event being hosted at 35 McPherson Road during March for National Closing the Gap Day. Keep an eye out for our social media for more details in coming weeks.











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Culturally based Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation

Farewell Aunty Jan McKinnon

It is with deep sadness that we farewelled Aunty Jan McKinnon earlier this month.

Aunty Jan was one of the very special women who dreamt of opening The Glen for Women and through their hard work and determination this dream came to life almost a year ago.

Aunty Jan touched the lives of so many and leaves an inspirational legacy behind that words cannot describe.



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The Glen groups invites you to this special event to be held at The Glen for Women on Saturday February 11th celebrating the anniversary of the 1965 and 2011 Freedom Ride.

Join us to watch the screening and have a Q & A with the participants of this historical event. A BBQ dinner will be provided. All community are welcome to attend. Please RSVP via email to nat@theglencentre.org.au or 0467 520 555.

RSVP TO EVENT HERE













In January, 35 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people were welcomed to Darkinjung Country with a smoking ceremony by Uncle Gavi to begin and continue their 2023 NAISDA training journey.

This year, our new and returning students come from cities, towns and remote regions

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woman Tayan Quayle who was born in Albury on Wiradjuri Country and has lived on the Gold Coast and the Land of the Kombumerri People for the past six years is a new Developing Artist.

"So far the experience of being at NAISDA has been unreal, I feel like I'm dreaming! I have been really enjoying getting to know the other Developing and Practising Artists and getting a feel for the classes I'll be taking this year. I'm especially looking forward to our mid-year performance and the opportunity to go on cultural residency and learn from the cultural tutors." said Tayah.

We look forward to an exciting 2023 with performance and production experiences in professional theatres; industry placements and new and renewed collaborations with national arts companies and international artists; graduation in June; and the cohort visit to Nyinyikay Nort Earth Arnhem Land in August for Cultural Residency.















BARA BARANG

Culturally Informed Pathways to Employment and Training

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education, career planning, training and employment programs.

We are not like a mainstream employment service provider. Instead, we underpin our support services with connection to culture.

On our website www.barabarang.org.au, you can read up on our programs that include:

- Dream Builders ... to establish a cultural connection as you embark on your career journey
- The Driving Program ... assistance to gain your Ls, your Ps, on-road driving experience or to regain your licence if it was suspended or cancelled
- Employment and Training ... secure support from an Aboriginal Mentor to get through a traineeship, apprenticeship, short course or paid work

For current Year 10 students, we want you to start thinking about a School-Based Traineeship that you complete during Year 11 and 12. Get paid to work one day a week and attend school four days a week. Speak with us or get your school Careers Advisor to partner with us. We are glad to be assisting over 15 Aboriginal young people in this opportunity during 2023 and we will open places for more in 2024.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE HERE









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Strengthening and Empowering our Community for all generations.

Lake Munmorah proposal one step closer

DLALC is today a step closer to its goal of building an economic base for future generations, following the finalisation of its Lake Munmorah project.

As part of a broader commitment to boost housing supply in Darkinjung country, the State Government has given the green light to DLALC's proposal which will see between 385 and 755 homes and a new park delivered, and a further 21 hectares of bushland protected.

Chairperson BJ Duncan referred to it as a "historical moment" that marked the first time that the Darkinjung State Environmental Planning Policy was a platform to initiate an Aboriginal State Environmental Planning Policy which has activated residential land across NSW.

Darkinjung has worked over the years to activate land to help our people and the broader community, and the DLALC was proud to be one significant step closer to this goal, he says.

Development applications are required to be lodged before construction can begin.



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