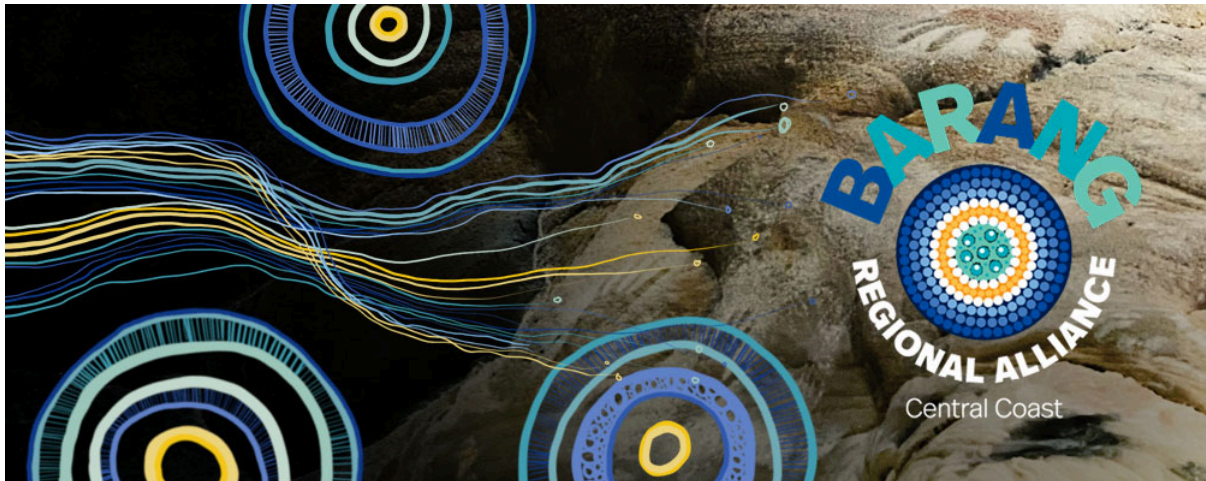


[View this email in your browser](#)



## “Waagir Bandimayi” Edition 14

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

We recently celebrated the launch of the ‘Honouring the Stories of the Darkinjung Community’ Film. This wonderful celebration of community brought together 200 people to the Metro Cinemas at Lake Haven.

This film captured and elevated the voices of our diverse community members and was the first step in highlighting the historical significance of our local Aboriginal community here on the Central Coast.

We just wanted to say a big thank you to our wonderful community members for always showing up and making Darkinjung country an amazing place to live, work and raise our families. This year was a big year for all and we hope everyone has a safe holiday, Merry Christmas and an Exciting New Year.

**Christmas Closure – Friday the 22nd of December 2023 – Monday the 8th of January 2024**





*Barang* means tomorrow. This is your information, and we are your regional alliance.

We invite you to share, participate and continue to be involved - please feel free to contact us to share your thoughts and to give us feedback about what you would like to see included.

I am *Barang*, You are *Barang*, We are *Barang* Regional Alliance Central Coast.





**ELEANOR DUNCAN**

Aboriginal Services

## **Celebrating 25 years of health, wellbeing and care.**

Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Services hosted our Annual Community Christmas Party on Friday the 8th of December 2023.

What an amazing way to kick off the festive season. It was so great to see so many mob come out and enjoy the day and celebrate Christmas with each other. Special thanks to our incredible staff for creating such a magical event. The home-cooked tucker and the dancing was a highlight.

Wishing all our community on Darkinjung Country a safe and healthy Christmas and New Year.

If you have a medical emergency during this time, please call 000 or attend your local hospital.

**Christmas Closure – Friday 22nd December 2023 – Monday 8th January 2024**





The Glen

RSVP for catering purposes using the link – [Tickets](#)

GET TICKETS HERE



Proudly Dancing on Darkinjung Land.

As we head towards the last weeks of term, we congratulate our students, along with staff, families and mob who have supported another year of learning, creativity and hard work. It was a year that carried both challenges and joy, highlights and heaviness. We remain dedicated to the self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on Country's never ceded, the Uluru Statement from the Heart and its demand for Voice, Treaty & Truth-telling. We would like to acknowledge and thank the hard work and committed leadership of our Barang partners and staff throughout this year and beyond.

On Friday 8 December we invite the community to gather with us on Darkinjung Country for our end-of-year performance yana galuring, which means "come this way" in Darkinjung language. A year of reflection, growth and gratitude will be voiced through the dance stories,

we wish you all a safe and nappy holiday period.

Photography by Lisa Haymes: ATI, Carriageworks 2023 © NAISDA

**Christmas Closure – Friday the 22nd December 2023 – Tuesday the 2nd January 2024.**



# BARA BARANG

## Culturally Informed Pathways to Employment and Training

### School-Based Traineeships

We currently mentor 23 Aboriginal students in School-Based Traineeships and have expanded in 2024 to offer Nursing, Allied Health, Pharmacy, Business Administration and Hospitality. Contact us if you are keen!

### Make Tomorrow in Manufacturing

We were successful in our bid to operate an ISEP (Indigenous Skills and Employment Program) project funded by the Australia Government. Commencing in 2024, we open places in Manufacturing and Related Industries for entry-level training, work experience and paid work for 15-30-year-old Aboriginal people including school students. Contact us to find out more!

We already mentor young people into manufacturing, like Mia who is an Apprentice at the Vanhomes factory in Berkley Vale. Our staff member Alan O'Brien is the Mentor for Mia, her family and the employer to help things run smoothly.

**Christmas Closure – Friday 22nd December 2023 – Monday 8th January 2024**





# Mingaletta

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Corporation

Mingaletta would like to thank our Mingaletta Member's for their attendance at the November 2nd, 2023, AGM. We would also like to congratulate and thank our returning Board Members, and officially welcome new Board Members, Rhyanna Gorst and Michelle Garrett to the Mingaletta Board for 2023 -2024.

As the year draws to a close, Mingaletta looks forward to inviting our community to be a part of our Tent Embassy Event November 25, 2025. MC Brooke Scobie will be interviewing Aunty Dianne O'Brien on activism and the Aboriginal civil rights movement. 'The Embassy' art installation, has been presented nationwide and around the world since 2013 and provides a critical platform to challenge preconceived ideas and stereotypes about Aboriginal people, art, and culture.

Our young Mingaletta Didge and Dance group will be heralding in the festive spirit, along with Santa's visit, to our Mingaletta Members Christmas party. This invitation-only event takes place December 11th, with a free member's BBQ and live music to follow.

**Christmas Closure - Friday 22nd December 2023 – Monday the 8th January 2024.**

**Our first official rostered program activity starts back Monday, January 15, 2024.**

If you'd like to see frequent updates please see the [Mingaletta Facebook page](#) or call 4342 7515.







## Strengthening and Empowering our Community for all generations.

Darkinjung board would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued hard work and co-operation in what has been another action-packed year for us all. We also would to wish all members and our community a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year break.

Our much-anticipated annual members' Christmas party will take place on Saturday 16th December at the Central Coast Regional Sporting & Recreation Centre in Tuggerah.

A movie under the stars is planned, please bring a blanket and a chair, we hope to see you all there!

To ensure all staff are able to recharge while sharing the festive season with their loved ones, we will be closing the office from 4:30pm on Wednesday 20 December, re-opening 8:30am on 10 January, 2024.


We are looking forward to seeing you all in what we anticipate will be a fruitful and prosperous 2024.



## The University of Newcastle – Wollotuka Institute Celebrating 40 Years of Wollotuka


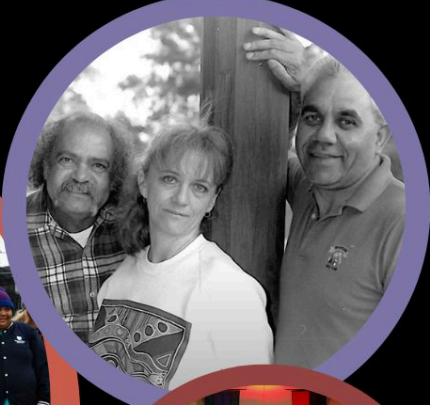

Our 40th Anniversary event brought together Elders, community, alumni, students, staff, allies, and guests as part of our extended Wollotuka Family. This was a wonderful celebration and recognition of 40 years of Indigenous Excellence in Higher Education at the University of Newcastle.

Torres Strait Islander students and advancing indigenous research. It is a testament to the collective efforts that have shaped our Institute and what has been achieved through the wisdom of our Elders, the support of our community, the dedication of our staff, and the determination of our students.



# Celebrating 40 Years of Wollotuka

Share your story...





## Empowerment Through Connection

Yamurrah hosted a beautiful event, the 'Be About It Gala' on the 14th of October which celebrated, uplifted and empowered women. This event brought together 120 women from Darkinjung Country and other regions to embrace their inner goddess.

All the proceeds from Be About It Gala went to pro bono counselling, legal services, program and community development initiatives.

A big congratulations to Aunty Nola, Belinda, Dr Elly and Amarli who were our Award Winners of the night.

Head over to our website to find out more about these amazing women - [Be About It Gala Winners](#)

If you'd like to read more about Yamurrah, click the link to their Newsletter – [Yamurrah Newsletter](#)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE HERE





## Empowerment Through Connection

The Central Coast Community Legal Centre welcome Lindsay Stanford as the newly appointed Chair of our Management Committee. Lindsay is a Gamillaraay woman and the Founder and Principal of Blakworks with over 25 years experience in Aboriginal employment, so we are excited to have her to support the Centre's strategic direction.

Alana Cox is the new solicitor in the Yadhaba team with Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Centre, Sarah Etherington is still with our Centre and working temporarily on other legal projects but she will continue to support the work for Yadhaba clients.

We said goodbye to Jai McGaw our First Nations cadet as he moves on to his new secondment with Arts Law and we wish him well with his legal career. Our Executive Officer role remains open and we welcome any interest in the position, email us [contact@centralcoastclc.org.au](mailto:contact@centralcoastclc.org.au).

We will be closed for the holiday season from 22 December 2023 and will re-open on 8

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**Christmas Closure - Friday 22nd December 2023 – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**



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