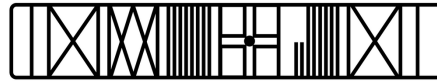


Mulka Electorate Newsletter

Yingiya Guyula MLA



JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2025



Good morning bukmak, we are now in Rarranhdharr season. It is getting hotter now with more moisture in the air. This is a good time for miyapuṇu, nyoka, maypal, ganguri and ļalu.



Early in July, I was honoured to receive the NAIDOC Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is about the many people who have helped me along the way. It is about my strong traditional upbringing on country. As a child I knew who I was and I was proud to be Yolḷu. My father was a strong leader, a diplomat and a skilled mediator. He and my elders taught me to work hard for Magaya Rom - harmony. Many other people, my mother, Bapa Sheppy, elders at MAF, supported me to grow into the person I am now, and I want this generation of children to have the

support I have had. I want them to have knowledge from two systems, be proud of who they are, and supported to find their gifts and talents. This is what we must all work to achieve.

In July, I was very pleased that the Federal Minister, Malandhirri McCarthy, came and spent time in Ramingining with the local Law and Justice group. We need more of these groups across our communities to be resourced so we can employ our elders in the roles they hold under Yolḷu authority, as peacekeepers and mediators and leaders of law and justice.

Also at this time, Yalu were celebrating the launch of the Children and Family Nest in Galiwin'ku, a place where Yolḷu knowledge will support the growth of care for children and families within the community. Congratulations to the Yalu team.



Ramingining Law and Justice Group meeting



Yalu - Children and Family Nest Launch



Garrthalala Bush Uni

In August, I went to the Garrthalala Bush Uni. This is a collaboration between our Laynhapuy homelands and Macquarie University, and it is a very important achievement. Our young people are learning and staying connected to country and ceremony. This is two-ways working together for our young people.

Next Parliament Sitting: 14 - 23 October, 25 - 27 November



There are many reasons why some families have to spend time or live in Darwin. In July I was very pleased to visit the Yolŋu Ratjpa bilingual classroom at Malak School. This is a classroom set up by Shepherdson College for Yolŋu children visiting Darwin. I'd like to see this program expand for all Yolŋu children in Darwin so that we can increase learning and attendance.

At Garma this year I met with many important people including Oliver Yerbury who kindly sent me a letter written in Yolŋu Matha. Oliver represented East Arnhem Land at the Regional Athletics in Darwin in August.



Congratulations to all the young people who travel to represent our region! Great work also to Briseis Brittain from Ramingining who represented Australia at the World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi last month

In July I was very pleased to attend a Citizenship ceremony in Nhulunbuy for a large number of people becoming Australian Citizens. We welcome them to Yolŋu country and hope for strong, respectful partnerships.

Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD)

The NT Government have announced that they will introduce a Bill on VAD in early 2026. The NT News recently asked all the Members of parliament on their position. This is the statement that I provided: "I've always been clear that VAD is outside of Yolŋu Rom. Sadly, we have enough people choosing death from depression and despair and there is already fear and mistrust of the government and the health system and we don't need to create more reasons for people to be scared.

The NT is very diverse and there are many Aboriginal and Balanda communities to consider and I am not saying that what is right for one community is right for everyone. The Government need to show that they can create laws that are flexible for everyone's needs.

We have dry communities that opt out of alcohol consumption and in the same way our elders and communities should be able to make decisions about the sacred time at the end of life. We should be able to say this is not for the people of our community because we have our own ceremonies and laws that already determines the pathway for our loved ones.

It's not good enough just to say that the legislation already allows people to opt out - I want to make sure that whole regions or communities can opt out if they want to. I want to ensure that our culture and law is not impacted. The availability of VAD will increase fear, suspicion and blame about people's deaths which will increase problems and conflict in our communities. We cannot allow more problems to flow for our communities.

The NT is unlike any other jurisdiction. Any government that introduces this legislation must provide protection and capacity for our right to self-determination."

I am very happy to hear from community members on this issue. Please email my office if you would like to tell me your thoughts and ideas.



Congratulations to the East Arnhem Business Awards Winners: That Hair Room, Nighthawk, Melaleuca Therapies, OBJ fishing charters, Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation.



Citizenship ceremony in Nhulunbuy

The first year of the CLP Government in the parliament has been a difficult time. Many bills have been rushed through on urgency that are driven by a crime agenda that is about putting people in jail and does not address underlying issues. It is exhausting to watch another government make mistakes, and this time it is much more costly. But we will continue to hold them to account and call for better, fairer ways to solve the problems our communities face. Not with more guns, OC Spray and jails but partnerships and programs on country. No government has truly invested in this solution but it is the only way to create a harmonious, safe and healthy Northern Territory.

I am hearing concern from many people about the lack of information about the future of Gove and I share these concerns. I have raised my concerns with Rio Tinto and the Department of the Chief Minister. I understand that private consultations about future tenure options are taking place with the Gumatj Corporation and the Rirritjingu Corporation, but I think this needs to include all the clans of the Gove Peninsula. All clans and stakeholders should be included in the development of options for the region.



Photo by Matt McLean - name the event and artist. Be the first to tell our Office and win!

Homelands Movement - 50 Year Celebration

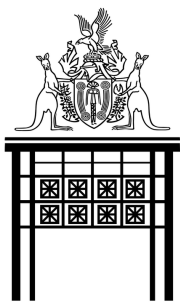


I talk a lot about the importance of our homelands. In the 1970's there was a strong movement from elders to head back to our homelands and create strong safe communities there. Over many decades Government policies neglected the homelands and pushed people back into the hub towns. The celebration of the Homelands movement is a celebration of Yolŋu power and partnership. This is something we would like to see again.

At this time of year, many families are involved in ceremonies. Families, please use this time to bring family together and remember the strength of our kinship ties, mend problems and heal wounds and teach our young people Yolŋu Rom. I have been at many funerals for family and sadly we have begun planning the funeral for my younger brother. My condolences to all those who have lost love ones, including the friends and family of Justin Gould, a well loved and respected resident of Nhulunbuy who passed away in July.

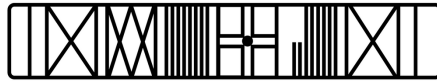


Memorial for Rev M Marika



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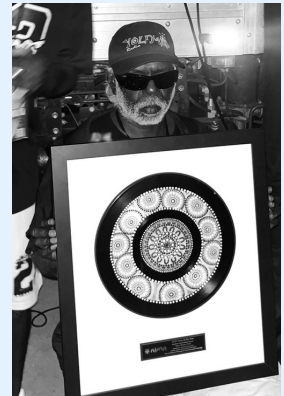
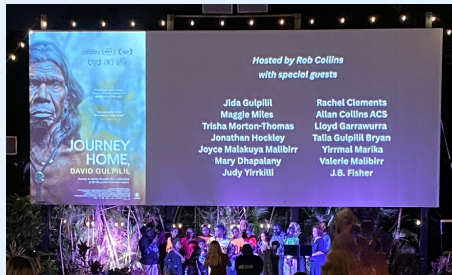
JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2025

Celebrating Art and Culture

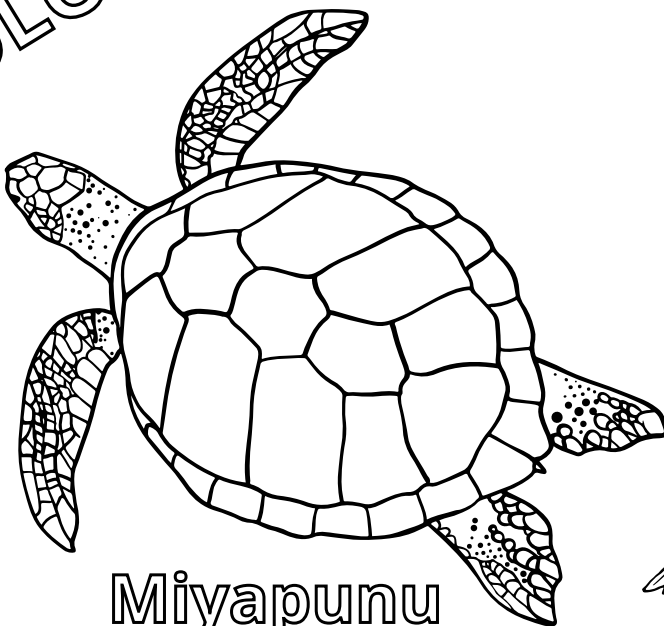
Congratulations to Gaypalani Wanambi, Winner of the 2025 Telstra Art Award and Sonia Gurrpulan Guyula - Winner of Telstra Emerging Artist Award. Congratulations to the Andrew Gurruwiwi Band who won best new Talent and Song of the Year at the

National Indigenous Music Awards. Congratulations to the award winning documentary makers of *Journey Home*. The story of bringing my Mari, David Gulpilil, back to his wänja came to Garma and the Darwin International Film Festival. Congratulations to Rosealee Pearson, the Director of Song Spirals, which featured at the Sydney Opera House and at the Darwin Festival.

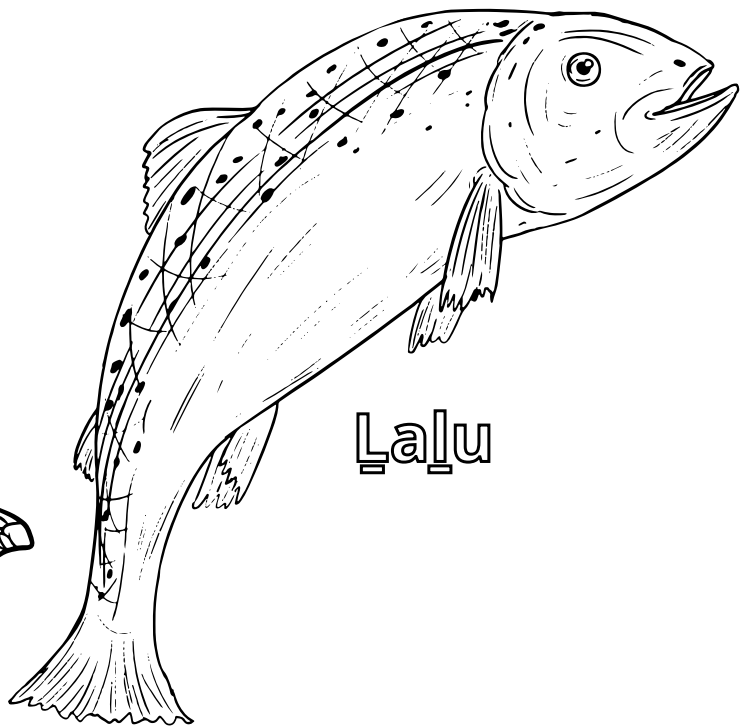
And congratulations to all the local artists in the recent East Arnhem Regional Arts exhibition in Nhulunbuy and to the opening of the new Gapuwiyak Art Centre in our neighbouring electorate of Arnhem.



COLOUR IT IN!



Miyapununu



Lalu

As always, if you have something you would like to discuss please contact my office to make an appointment.

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