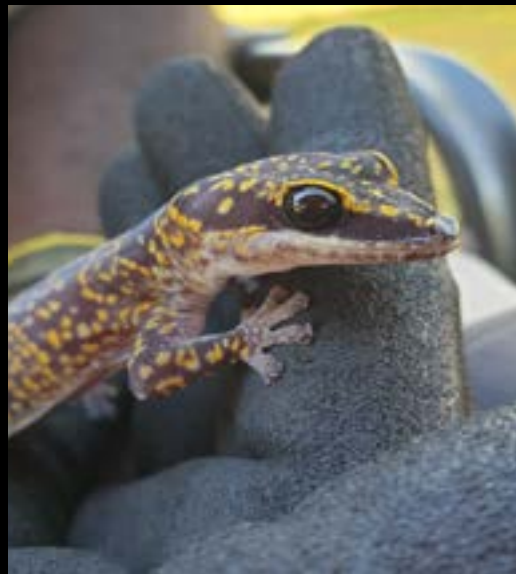


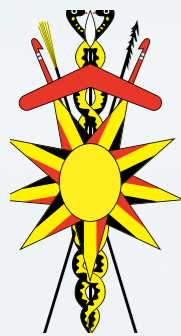


CLCAC

CARPENTARIA LAND COUNCIL
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Edition 42 | April - June 2022





CLCAC CARPENTARIA LAND COUNCIL ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

At CLCAC we take our responsibility to community safety in light of the COVID pandemic seriously and operate in compliance with Public Health Directions and all restrictions on businesses, activities and undertakings.

Our staff adhere to personal distancing and other requirements as much as is practically possible.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers are advised this publication may contain images of people who have passed on.

CLCAC is a not for profit Aboriginal Corporation incorporated under the CATSI Act 2006 (Cth) and primarily funded by State and Commonwealth departments and agencies.

We wish to acknowledge and thank the following organisations for their continued support:



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Directory

- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – Rachel Amini-Yanner
- Deputy CEO/Corporate Services Manager – Trish Steineck
- Principal Legal Officer (PLO) – Ryan Ellis
- Land & Environment Manager – Dr Donna Kwan
- Chairperson – Thomas Wilson (Lardil)
- Director – Marlene Logan (Gkuthaarn)
- Director – Delma Loogatha (Kaiadilt)
- Director – Donald Bob (Garawa)
- Director – Joseph Rainbow (Kurtijar)
- Director – Hayden Tyrell (Kukatj)
- Director – Murradoo Yanner Jnr (Gangalidda)
- Director – Henry Aplin (Waanyi)
- Director – Lawrence Burke (Yangkaal)
- Contact Person – Apryl Ford



CEO's Update

Half way through 2022

And here we are already halfway through 2022!

The middle of the year is always the busiest time for all of us at CLCAC- from our Rangers and other on the ground staff right through to our Corporate Services team in our Cairns office.

One of the biggest highlights of this edition was the launch of the exhibition in Paris honouring the work of world-renowned Kaiadilt Elder, the late Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda - Sally Gabori.

This year marks the 30-year anniversary of the landmark Mabo decision and we pay homage to the man who was so instrumental in the case that was to have such an impact on all of our lives.

In the Native Title space, in this quarter GKAC Aboriginal Freehold Title Deed presentation ceremony took place, with 155 hectares of land being handed back to the Gkuthaarn and Kukatj people. We congratulate them on their achievement.

Also in June was the annual AIATSIS summit, this year on Kabi Kabi country on the Sunshine Coast. CLCAC staff and Chairperson successfully delivered numerous presentations as

part of this event and it was wonderful to showcase the work we do and connect with others in our sector. The GGNTAC and WNTAC PBC Chairpersons also attended.

Our Rangers have all been very busy as usual. In addition to their day-to-day activities they have also been participating in numerous regionally cooperative activities including: a biodiversity training field trip to Hellsgate; surveys and marine debris collections for the Wellesley Islands and also as part of the Wetlands not Wastelands project; and public engagement at the Outback by the Sea festival in Karumba.

The Ngumari Waanyi Rangers unit is full steam ahead and it is wonderful to see the team coming together and beginning the rollout of the land management activities for the Waanyi Community and their Country.

We hope you enjoy the stories of the first half of this year!

From Bentinck Island to Paris

Honouring The Irrepressible Passion Of Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda (Sally Gabori)

How wonderful for our Wellesley Islands communities to see their Kaiadilt Elder and world-renowned artist Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda (Sally Gabori) honoured with a major exhibition hosted by Cartier at the distinguished Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain in Paris, France.

This exhibition was opened in late June, by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in an engagement that was amongst his first since he was sworn in as Prime Minister of Australia on 23 May 2022. His social media page declares that he was honoured to be there. *"Sally Gabori's paintings are energetic, and her irrepressible passion for her homeland shines through in every canvas."*

Also at the exhibition opening were Sally Gabori's daughter Amanda Gabori and great-granddaughters Tori Wilson and Narelle Gabori.

Surprisingly, this is also the first solo exhibition of Sally Gabori's work.

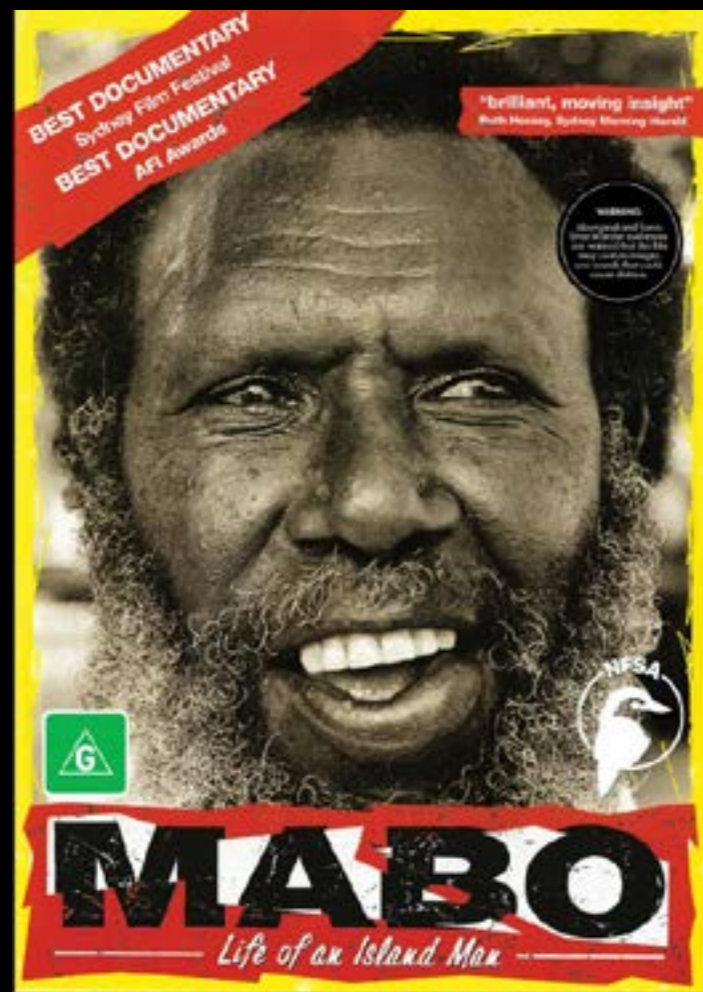
Sally started her career late in life, after she and other Elders were invited to Mirnidyan Gununa, the arts centre on Mornington Island.

Already an accomplished weaver, she took to painting and quickly developed her own brightly coloured, iconic style.

Her depictions of Country are abstract but retain representational elements which map traditional country and cultural identity in monumental paintings.

This style and the inimitable spirit of Sally live on through the works of her family and other artists, particularly at Mirnidyan Gununa.

The solo exhibition is heralded as an important exchange of culture between Australia and France with curator Juliette Lecorn at the Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain quoted as saying they believe Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda (Sally Gabori) is *"one of the greatest Australian Aboriginal artists"*.



Mabo - 30 Years On...

The Impact Of An Island Man

June 3 marked the 30-year anniversary of the famous and incredibly influential Mabo decision.

Terra nullius is a Latin expression meaning 'land belonging to no one' and was the premise on which the English empire colonised Australia.

Eddie Koiki Mabo along with four other Meriam people- Reverend David Passi, Sam Passi, James Rice and Celuia Mapo Sale- mounted the case which spanned a decade and went all the way to the High Court.

On 3 June 1992 the decision that 'native title' did exist was reached, effectively overturning the fiction that terra nullis had always been.

Tragically, Mabo died five months before and didn't live to see the incredible impact this had on Australia and this nation's history.

The following year the Parliament of Australia passed the Native

Title Act 1993 allowing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to make a native title claim over their lands.

The effect this had on securing positive native title outcomes all over Australia, including the Lower Gulf, is immeasurable.

We will forevermore give thanks to Eddie Koiki Mabo and the many others who fought so hard and made so many personal sacrifices to make this happen.

CLCAC was pleased to offer our community and members the opportunity to view the award-winning documentary, "Mabo - Life of an Island Man" in commemoration of this important anniversary.

Many thanks to NFAA (National Film and Sound Archive of Australia) for restoring this important part of our proud history and making it available for us to share.

Native Title Update

GKAC Aboriginal Freehold Title Deed Presentation Ceremony

Following a small but very significant ceremony in Normanton on 15 June 2022, the Gkuthaarn and Kukatj people, through their PBC, have taken ownership of significant areas of Aboriginal freehold land in and around Normanton.

At the ceremony, Gkuthaarn and Kukatj Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (GKAC) Directors received from the State of Queensland title an additional 155 hectares of land in Normanton and surrounds, across 48 individual title deeds.

The presentation of title deeds by the State's representatives was to Directors Lawrence George, Paul Richardson, Clayton Snow, Desmond Callope, Leanne Edwards and Linton George.

This is the second bundle of lots transferred under the Gkuthaarn and Kukatj People's ILUA with the State of Queensland, concluded in association with the September 2020 determination of native title.

There are still further Aboriginal freehold and ordinary freehold lands to be transferred in the future.

Gkuthaarn and Kukatj people fought hard during consent determination negotiations to secure legal ownership of as many lots of land in the determination area as possible.

Holding the title deeds to land opens up opportunities for future projects involving housing tourism and other economic development.

Following the land transfer ceremony, GKAC Director and Contact Person Leanne Edwards told ABC News that for local Gkuthaarn and Kukatj families, who mainly live in rental accommodation, home ownership opportunities would be "a very big thing" and could potentially draw back families who had moved to larger centres.

**AIATSI
SUMMIT** | 30 MAY
03 JUNE
2022
KABI KABI COUNTRY



Native Title Update

AIATSI Summit 2022 - Navigating the Spaces in Between

In the first week of June, a substantial cohort from the extended CLCAC team met on Kabi Kabi country for the annual AIATSI Summit.

The summit creates a space for the greater Indigenous sector to come together, offering an opportunity to discuss relevant issues, reflect on where we have come from and set a course for the road ahead.

This year's theme was "Navigating the spaces in between" which set out to "foreground the brilliance and value of Indigenous ways of knowing, seeing and being in the world".

Groups, corporations and PBCs shared their experiences and provided guidance and support to those at earlier stages of the journey to achieving goals for their Country.

CLCAC Native Title Contact Officer, Apryl Ford enjoyed the Fire Management on Country sessions, presented by Rangers from our Gangalidda and Garawa team and the Quandamooka Ranger Group (Stradbroke Island). "It was humbling to see how both groups contribute so much to Country and have been able to pass on knowledge of traditional fire burning to the younger generation."

CLCAC also delivered a number presentations throughout the event:

- *Building strong sustainable regions: PBCs and NTRB/SPs working together to develop and drive Indigenous led strategies for economic growth across a regional landscape*
- *Jigija indigenous Fire Training, combining traditional knowledge of fire ecology with contemporary fire management strategies*
- *Regional Land and Sea Management and setting a regional strategy*

The summit provided an opportunity to see how we're tracking in the sector, with the unity of the nine clan groups and a respectful relationship with CLCAC being apparent.

The respect and care for Country is reflected through achieving and maintaining the highest standards throughout all of our operations.

For full details and to view recordings of the keynote addresses, visit: <https://aiatsis.gov.au/whats-new/events/2022-aiatsis-summit#toc-themes>





It's The Little Things That Matter

A Regional Approach To Biodiversity Surveys

In April, the Wellesley Islands Rangers joined the Gangalidda and Garawa Rangers to complete the yearly biodiversity survey at Hells Gate.

The Gangalidda and Garawa Rangers have been surveying Hells Gate since 2014 when initial survey plots were established to assess the biodiversity benefits of implementing traditional fire management in a landscape that had a recent history of uncontrollable hot wildfires.

Bringing the two teams together is part of the CLCAC regional approach which provided a great opportunity for the teams to learn together and from each other, sharing knowledge and experience.

Wellesley Islands Ranger Coordinator, Tommy Wilson and his team found it a new challenge being on other Country as the habitat was different to that found on the Wellesley Islands but they enjoyed the first opportunity both Ranger groups had working together as a team.

CLCAC Land and Environment Project Officers, Natalie Waller and Jessica Koleck, and NRM Support Officer, Kevin Anderson, accompanied the teams to deliver training and support which provided important initial training for new ranger recruits and refresher training for the more experienced Rangers.

The teams surveyed five sites across escarpment and woodland habitats.

The Rangers learnt how to set up standard biodiversity trapping sites which included pitfall, Elliott and funnel traps.

Camera traps were also deployed at each site and at several other locations close to the escarpments as a passive method to detect cryptic species which may not have been physically detected during the on-ground surveys.

Traps were regularly checked to ensure captured animals were quickly removed from the traps, identified and released.

The cameras were left in situ for a month and then retrieved in May for later analysis.

The Rangers also completed timed active searches and spotlighting on each of the sites.

Many reptile species were captured, the majority were small species that required the Rangers to use magnifying lenses and identification keys to differentiate species.

The Rangers worked hard to identify animals correctly, some species were only differentiated by small anatomical differences (e.g., scale patterns), gaining valuable skills in identification and using the species keys of several different field guides.

Collecting systematic biodiversity data and ensuring species are identified correctly is an important part of biodiversity surveys as this ensures that data can be accurately compared over time.

This data can then inform whether land management practices, such as fire and feral animal management, are serving their intended purpose.

It is the small species that count in the vast landscapes of the Gulf, as these can be used as an indicator for the health of country.





Caring for the Gulf

The Cleanup Effort that Spans A Region

TACKLING MARINE DEBRIS ACROSS THE GULF

Marine debris is becoming one of the most overwhelming and daunting environmental crises facing our oceans, killing marine life and polluting our waters and beaches.

About 80% of all marine debris is plastic and it's having big impacts on our wildlife, killing over 1,000,000 seabirds and 100,000 marine animals every year.

Plastics stick around in the environment for a long time, but they don't stay as whole bottles or bags. They break down into tiny pieces called microplastics, becoming a very big and difficult problem to solve. These tiny pieces of plastic float around on the surface of the oceans, alongside algae and plankton, which is the main food source for a lot of small ocean animals including fish baby sea turtles. This is why over 90% of shorebirds and 100% of baby turtles today have plastic in their stomachs.

Even more concerning, one in three fish from the ocean contain plastic... and we're eating those fish. Over time, microplastics sink to the bottom of the ocean floor; the contamination here is staggering with 10,000 times more plastic on the seafloor than floating on the surface.

The CLCAC and Wellesley Islands Rangers are working on several

different initiatives to help reduce and remove some of this plastic pollution from our region in the lower Gulf. Locally driven grassroots solutions are desperately needed to help get this issue under control.

MORNINGTON ISLAND RECYCLING PROGRAM

You may have noticed how the amounts of rubbish on the streets of Burketown and Normanton have reduced over the last few years as Containers for Change came into the region. Unfortunately, this program wasn't an option on Mornington Island, where the island community is left with everything that is brought to the island, including single use items such as plastic drink bottles and aluminium cans.

After learning the extent that microplastics are impacting our oceans, our turtles and our seafood, the Wellesley Islands Rangers became passionate about trying to reduce the levels of rubbish around the local community. They have partnered with the Mornington Shire Council, Carpentaria Freight, and Containers for Change (Normanton) to develop a local recycling program.

Rangers have distributed specially constructed bins at select sites within the community to serve as collection points for plastic bottles and drink cans. Once the bins are filled, they collect, package and ship the crushed bottles and cans in huge bags on the barge to Karumba.

From here, the recycling is picked up and freighted to Normanton for sorting and processing. It's quite the process! Funds generated (10 cents per container) are entirely reinvested in the community, supporting events, BBQs and other initiatives. Thousands of cans and bottles have already been processed, saving them from piling up at the local dump on Mornington or littering the ground.

The team continues to host community education and engagement initiatives to spread the word of the recycling program in the hope that it can continue to grow and expand.

BIOSECURITY, MARINE DEBRIS AND GHOST NET PROGRAMS

The federal government is investing in local organisations and on-ground programs that help support marine debris and ghost net removals from oceans and beaches.

Through this funding, Biosecurity (Department of Agriculture) is rolling out a wide-spread program with multiple new fee-for-service opportunities.

The Wellesley Islands Rangers were one of four teams in the country selected to work closely with Biosecurity to help design, trial and implement these new fee-for-service marine debris activities, which they have been doing for the past 6 months. These activities include recording descriptive data on ghost nets, ghost net removal from beaches, general beach clean-ups, and marine debris monitoring transects, where data about rubbish from select sections of local beaches is recorded.

The data collected includes categories of rubbish and how much of each type, ghost net size/colour/shape, and unique information like barcodes (for tracing) which can all be used to help track down where the majority of rubbish washing up on particular beaches is coming

from. Once the source is identified, it's then easier to address and stop or at least reduce the amount of marine debris from these areas.

The Wellesley Islands Ranger team will help rollout this biosecurity program to the CLCAC Ranger teams, with representatives travelling to visit the mainland in September to deliver the field training required to be able to undertake these new fee-for-service activities.

Having all Ranger teams in our region collecting data and conducting these standardised activities will greatly increase our knowledge about the patterns and types of marine debris and ghost nets occurring in the lower Gulf, and hopefully aid in reducing the amount of rubbish at the source. Additionally, beach clean-ups and targeted removal of ghost nets reduce the impact to our local environment and wildlife.





Wetlands not Wastelands

Caring for Coastal Wetlands

Taking care of the Gulf's vast coastal wetlands is very important work.

The Normanton and Gangalidda and Garawa Rangers have been back out on the rivers in May and June collecting tidal wetlands and pollution monitoring data across the Leichhardt, Albert and Norman River systems.

Earthwatch Scientist, Jock Mackenzie, provided refresher training and on ground support to the Rangers during the surveys. Jock and the Rangers collected discarded materials within saltmarsh, mangrove and beach habitats in conjunction with the surveys. Collected items will be weighed, sorted and recyclable plastics shredded or baled for removal from the Gulf. Each piece of plastic removed from the region is a success in reducing long-term impacts these plastics may have on the health of these ecosystems.

This project is a multi-partner initiative funded by Coca-Cola Australia Foundation's inaugural Environmental Flagship Partner Grant in 2019. The Rangers work with project partners, Earthwatch Institute Australia and Plastic Collective to monitor and protect the coastal wetlands for future generations.



Outback by the Sea

Showcasing the Work of Our Rangers

Recently a keen cohort of CLCAC and Wellesley Islands Rangers met in Karumba to be part of the two-day Outback by the Sea festival at the Les Wilson Barramundi Discovery Centre.

Representing each of the four units including Gangalidda and Garawa, Normanton, Ngumari Waanyi and Wellesley Islands- the Rangers enjoyed chatting with attendees and talking up their activities for land and sea country management. With photos, posters and a stack of CLCAC publications in hand, they were greeted with a warm and positive reception from festival goers who were mostly tourists full of questions.

Biosecurity was a hot topic and Normanton Ranger Coordinator, Hayden Tyrell also explained aerial shooting among other activities. He said, "People think we do the same as National Park Rangers and were shocked to learn how much more we do. Many were also amazed at the area we cover"

For our Rangers, this is just what they do every day but these kinds of events give them an opportunity to both share their knowledge and also receive positive feedback in acknowledgement of the important work they do on Country.





Kicking Goals on Country

Welcome to Our Newest Team Members

Recruitment for the unit is now complete with the addition of three new rangers. Duncan King, Shaquelle Connolly, and Selward Jacob have now joined Ranger Coordinator, Glendon Connolly, to complete the formation of the team. The new Rangers started in May 2022 and have already completed various training units. They hit the ground running and have been involved in many activities, from filming, to festivals, to working on Country.

Phil Warring from PhlipVids joined the Ngumari Waanyi rangers on country to continue filming for CLCAC's promotional production, *"Start Again the Right Way"*. Phil and the Rangers managed to undertake interviews and have a quick look around Waanyi Country, including areas along the Gregory River, Boodjamulla National Park, Adels Grove and the World Heritage-listed Riversleigh fossil site, which has a fantastic diversity of habitats and landscapes.

The team has now been out and about working on Country along the Gregory River and the Bidunggu community, conducting weed management for mostly rubbervine and bellyache bush.





Name: Selward Jacob
 Position Title: Ngumari Waanyi Ranger
 CLCAC start date: 3/5/2022
 What do you enjoy most about your role?
 Working on Country
 Hobby: Fishing
 Favourite food: Bush Food
 Favourite music: Slim Dusty
 Favourite sport: Football



Name: Shaquelle Connolly
 Position Title: Ngumari Waanyi Ranger
 CLCAC start date: 3/5/2022
 What do you enjoy most about your role?
 Being able to do so many different things
 Hobby: My Xbox one/balloon animal making
 Favourite food: Fried rice
 Favourite song: Ho Hey by the Lumineers
 Favourite sport: Netball



Name: Dean Wildermuth
 Position Title: Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger
 CLCAC start date: 20/6/22
 What do you enjoy most about your role?
 Being on country and learning more about the country and working in the ranger crew
 Hobby: Love fishing and spending time with family and having a few beers after a hard day's work
 Favourite food: All bush tucker
 Favourite music: Country Music
 Favourite sport: Rugby League



Name: Trevor Henry
 Position Title: Normanton Ranger
 CLCAC start date: 17/5/2022
 What do you enjoy most about your role?
 Being out on country, camping, turtle surveys, mangrove watch and all activities
 Hobby: Pig hunting, fish, camping, watching NRL on TV
 Favourite food: Barra, fresh meat, sea turtle, fresh water long neck
 Favourite song: Country Music
 Favourite sport: Rugby League

Staff Updates

Welcome to the CLCAC Team!

- Selward Jacob , Ngumari Waanyi Ranger
- Shaquelle Connolly Ngumari Waanyi Ranger
- Duncan King ,Ngumari Waanyi Ranger
- Dean Wildermuth, Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger
- Trevor Henry, Normanton Ranger
- Xavier George, Normanton Ranger
- Shristie Verma, Finance Officer, Corporate Services



Name: Duncan King
 Position Title: Ngumari Waanyi Ranger
 CLCAC start date: 3/5/22
 What do you enjoy most about your role?
 I enjoy going out on the boat doing surveys
 Hobby: Fishing
 Favourite food: Rump steak
 Favourite music: George Strait
 Favourite sport: Football



Name: Xavier George
 Position Title: Normanton Ranger
 CLCAC start date: 16/5/2022
 What do you enjoy most about your role?
 Mainly camping, turtle surveys, mangrove watch, weed spraying and all activities
 Hobby: Fishing, pig hunting and a bit of bronco riding
 Favourite food: Bush Tucker
 Favourite music: Country and Reggae
 Favourite sport: PBR



Quarterly Training Snapshot





What's on?

3-10 July	NAIDOC week
9 July	Aboriginal Flag first flow in 1971
15 July	Cairns Show Day
9 August	International Day of Indigenous Peoples
11-14 August	Mt Isa Rodeo
26 August	Doomadgee Public Holiday
27 August	Doomadgee Day
4 September	Father's Day
27 September	World Tourism Day

Want to stay up to date with all the news from CLCAC and our Ranger teams? Find us on socials!

Instagram:
<https://www.instagram.com/carpentarialandcouncil/>

Facebook:
 CLCAC - <https://www.facebook.com/CLCAC>
 Gangalidda and Garawa Rangers - <https://www.facebook.com/ggrangers>
 Normanton Rangers - <https://www.facebook.com/Normantonrangers>
 Wellesley Islands Rangers - <https://www.facebook.com/Wellesley-Islands-Rangers-169423313641451>

CLCAC Member's Contact Details Update and Electronic Nomination Form

It is important that CLCAC can contact our Members and Traditional Owners of the Southern Gulf of Carpentaria region to keep you informed of what is happening in and around your community, and notify you of important meetings.

If you have changed your postal address or contact numbers or would like to nominate an email address for receipt of notices please complete the attached form and post to:

CLCAC's Contact Person, Apryl Ford, PO Box 71, Burketown Qld 4830 or request a form by email: aford@clcac.com.au.



CLCAC CARPENTARIA LAND COUNCIL
 ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

United we stand.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Personal Details	
Name:	_____
Address: (residential)	_____
Address: (postal)	_____
Home Tel:	_____
Mobile:	_____
Email:	_____

I prefer to receive notices via (please tick selection)

- Post
- Email

Signed:



CLCAC

Cairns Office

A Suite 2, Level 1, 104 Mulgrave Road, Cairns QLD 4870

P (07) 4041 3833

E info@clcac.com.au

W www.clcac.com.au

Burketown Office

A 24 Musgrave Street, Burketown QLD 4830

P (07) 4748 6000

Freecall: 1800 445 115

Normanton Office

A 11 Wurrup Street, Normanton QLD 4890

P (07) 4747 8601

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