PUUTU KUNTI KURRAMA & PINIKURA PEOPLE

# PKKP AC NEWSLETTER

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2026


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We acknowledge our PKKP Community, especially our Elders, both past, present and emerging.

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**ON THE COVER**
*Sunset over Pinikura Country, near Neils Lodge – Photo Shane Stevens*

# CEO Report to Members

***Hello Members,***

I would just like to provide you with an update on important community matters.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for their support and best wishes, which really helped me through a difficult time. I am fully recovered and look forward to catching up with everyone at the AGM and getting back to Karratha.

As I haven't been able to catch up with many members over the last six months, I want to provide you with an update on some very important projects PKKPAC is working on and where my focus is to ensure successful completion.

**CEO Transition**

As this is my last year as CEO, I have been actively working with Jordan and the Board in preparation of him becoming CEO from 1 July 2027. We are very fortunate to have someone of Jordan's ability and expertise to step into the role and continue to support and drive the vision of PKKP people.

Jordan is currently Deputy CEO and has taken on the CEO operational responsibilities to allow me to focus on completing the major projects underway, prior to my illness.

**Nhamarribala Homestead**

The development of Nhamarribala Homestead has been slower than I and everyone would have liked, but finally it is back on the move.

The hardest part of any development is getting the required approvals. We are still working on heritage approvals as the homestead sits on a registered heritage site. We have homestead heritage design approval and are now working on actual building approval after engineering and building designs are received. It seems a never-ending process, but we are finally making good progress and building works will commence shortly.

16 rooms of accommodation will be in place by end of November, all asbestos has been removed from the property, solar power and batteries will be installed and a kitchen and laundry facility completed.

As soon as building consent is obtained, work on the homestead will commence in the first half of next year and we expect most of the construction work on the homestead will be completed by June 2027.

We are also building an initial 3 room accommodation and recreation area from scratch, as part of the development and construction training for our member employees. All the materials are on site now and this will shortly start.

Once the accommodation is completed and ready to use, we will be advertising positions for caretaker, grounds maintenance, cleaners etc, using government funding we have received and are waiting to use.

Maintenance of the lawns and trees has not been easy as we have had issues with the bores and water supply. This has now been fixed, and everything is looking green again and the trees are growing well.

Most importantly for members, I am committed to personally building the bough shed I promised at Nhamarribala, and to have it in place by June 30, 2027, so I don't walk out with my tail between my legs!

**Establishment of PKKP Construction Pty Ltd**

One of the important values, driving me as CEO, has been to ensure that PKKPAC as representative of the PKKP people, can become far more self-reliant in controlling and establishing what is important to our members. The establishment of the PKKPAC construction business is an example of this value.

We have established and registered our own building company from the ground up, so expertise belongs to us and our members have a great opportunity to develop careers within the building industry.

This was not an easy process, and we are still working on it, but our members can be proud that the development of Nhamarribala and PKKPAC office is being controlled and constructed by a PKKP member owned business.

**Purchase of Glen Florrie Pastoral Station**

The purchase of Glen Florrie has taken longer than expected but is on track. We expect to enter contracts in November 2026 with settlement due late February 2027.

All due diligence and inspections on the property have been completed, independent valuations of the property and livestock completed, and health of the livestock confirmed. Any outstanding matters around the property itself, including abandoned mines and fencing agreements have been properly identified and addressed and we will be ready to progress.

We are currently recruiting professional managers for the station and would like to have them in place in February 2027.

I have asked the leadership team to ensure that we identify a weekend in March 2027, so that members can visit both Glen Florrie and Nhamarribala, and to provide further opportunity for members to plant trees at Nhamarribala, if they haven't already done so.

**Modernisation of Rio Tinto Claim Wide Participation Agreement**

Now that we have finalised Stage one of the modernisation of the CWPA, Jordan and I, with our Native Title Lawyers, and under the direction of our member Co-Management panel are negotiating with Rio Tinto to modernise the agreement itself and make it more equal for PKKP people. We meet formally monthly and are making good progress on what is a very complicated legal document.

We have pencilled in a community meeting, in the new year to bring this to our members for discussion and feedback.

**Commemorative Book celebrating PKKP Native Title**

As a gift to our members, we have completed a hard cover commemorative book celebrating PKKP Native Title. I was desperately hoping this would be ready to gift at the AGM, but printing requirements mean it won't be available until the new year.

We have a community meeting planned for the first half of 2027 and will be thrilled to provide these to every member of PKKPAC.

**Corporate History of PKKP Aboriginal Corporation**

Having been a part of the Corporation since the beginning, I have committed to documenting the PKKPAC Corporate history up to the present day. The purpose to remember and preserve the corporate history including our Chairpersons, Board and Committee members and important events in the development of PKKPAC.

Given the significant contribution the PKKP people and PKKPAC have made in the last 15 years it is important to have this exercised. This is something that Gary Dean and I will work on over the next six months.

**Finalisation of PKKPAC Community Office Upgraded facilities**

We are about to commence on the final stage of completion of the PKKPAC Community Office upgrade at 7 Hedland Place Karratha. The result will be something our members can be truly proud of. Upstairs we are focused on more storage space and upgraded kitchen area.

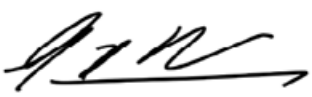
Downstairs we are focused on developing a safe community environment, with a place where Elders can come and meet and chat, far improved Board and meeting facilities for all of our committees, including a purpose built kitchen to cater for member functions, development of a covered outdoor area, attached to the rear of the Board room, redevelopment of the space between our office and that of RRK, including improved safety and finally, artwork depicting the PKKP landscape on the front and rear of the building, including new signage.

**Summary**

There is a lot to be achieved with the community and PKKPAC team over the next six months, and I am pushing hard to strict timelines and requirements to ensure as much as possible can be achieved in my time left.

I look forward to catching up with everyone in November.

Kind Regards



**Grant Wilson**
Chief Executive Officer

# Hi Members,

## It’s Spring, and we are rolling into the last quarter of the year with lots on in the coming months.

But before we get to the end of the year, here is a look at the last few months with so much happening out in our community, especially now our Engagement, Health and Wellbeing and Housing are firing on all cylinders. The Ranger team continues to grow and thrive and we all love seeing more stories about what they have been up to, not to mention some pretty exciting trips on Country and work in the research space.





# GENERAL NEWS



# General News

## PKKPAC & Juukan Gorge Legacy Foundation sign Collaboration Agreement

Following authorisation by their respective Boards, PKKPAC and JGLF have signed a Collaboration Agreement, setting out how both organisations will work together to deliver projects and programs for the benefit of the PKKP community. PKKPAC and JGLF are confident that the agreement will support the close relationship between our organisations now and well into the future.

## Important Dates (Oct - Dec 2026)

| | |
|---|---|
| Board Meeting | Oct 8-9 |
| Land Committee Meetings | Nov 2-3 |
| Annual General Meeting | Nov 19 |
| PKKPAC Office Shutdown for Christmas | Dec 23 |

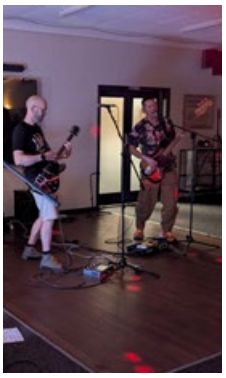


# New Starters at PKKP AC

## Simon Choo JULY 2026

***General Manager, Native Title***





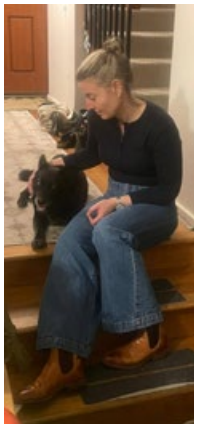


Simon is excited to be working on PKKP ngurra, having started his professional life as an anthropologist doing heritage and native title work in the Pilbara in the 1990s. He then worked as a native title lawyer with the Yamatji Land and Sea Council (before it became YMAC) when the PKKP claim was first lodged. Most recently, he headed up the native title team at the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, where he worked with Traditional Owners across the State to protect Country through new co-managed and vested conservation estate. He has worked with many of the PKKP families across other parts of the Pilbara and Yamatji Country and looks forward to continuing to do so in this role.

When not in the office or out on Country for work, Simon can be found hiking out in the bush with his wife, training muay thai with his son or jamming his bass guitar with his daughter or band Super Okay. He loves a good cookup and is literally a Dr of Food, having written an ethnography on intercultural engagements through Malaysian food. As side quests to life he has been known to swim to Rottnest or race Ironman triathlons and marathons/ ultramarathons (but does not run as far as David!!).

## Simone Ryan AUGUST 2026

***Manager Governance***



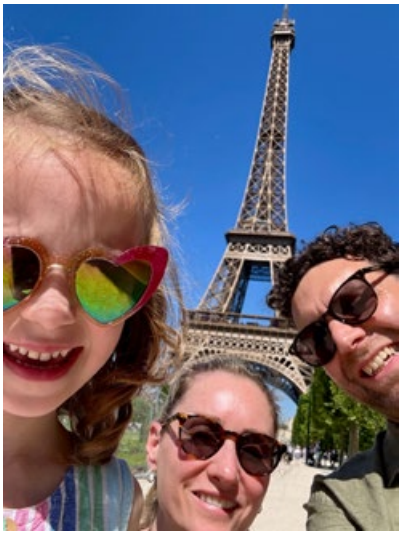



I have gotten to know many of you over the last year through my role as Governance Specialist and Company Secretary for PKKPE. Governance is my fourth career- I started my work life with aspirations of being a broadcast journalist and cycled through teaching and a decade in counselling, youth work, and mental health before landing in Governance. I love learning new things and listening to other people talk about their passion projects. I'm currently finishing my Post Grad studies in Governance and Risk.

I'm looking forward to getting to know all of you, spending more time in Karratha and learning more about PKKPAC over the coming months.

## Sigourney Harrison AUGUST 2026

***Project Accountant***



Sigourney recently returned to Perth with her family after spending 15 years in the UK working in finance roles across research institutes and government agencies. She has joined PKKP on a contract to support several key finance, payroll, process and system improvement initiatives and is looking forward to contributing her experience to these important projects.

Outside of work, Sigourney enjoys travelling, art and all kinds of crafty activities, and is a particularly keen knitter. Much of her spare time is also spent keeping up with her energetic 7-year-old daughter. While still settling back into life in Australia, Sigourney and her family are loving the warmer weather, visits to the beach and regular trips to Albany, where she grew up and where her parents still live.

## Narelle Adams SEPTEMBER 2026

***Senior Executive Assistant***







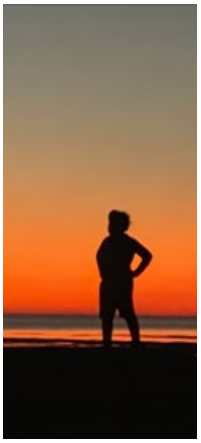

Narelle has spent the last 20 or so years in Perth with Fortescue and BHP as an Executive Assistant in the First Nations, Community, Environment and Government portfolio's and is passionate about executive support, operational efficiency and planning for Executive teams.

Born and raised in Adelaide, Narelle is mad about AFL and has been a die-hard Port Adelaide supporter since childhood which makes for a fun household with her partner Domenico a die-hard Dockers supporter! Narelle is a competitive Snooker and Billiards player, a sport she shares with her partner who is also an accomplished player. Narelle is also the Secretary and Director of the Billiards and Snooker Assoc of WA. Weekends are spent between AFL games (during the season) lots of Snooker, Gardening, and country drives exploring new places. Narelle is fur mum to her very spoilt British Shorthair cat called Minnie.

## Chloe Todd SEPTEMBER 2026

***Junior Communications and Contant Officer***





We are so pleased to welcome Chloe Todd to the team as the new Junior Communications and Content Officer. Chloe is someone who enjoys learning new things, meeting people, and embracing opportunities that allow her to grow both personally and professionally. Family and community are important to Chloe, and she values building meaningful connections with those around her.

In her spare time, Chloe loves spending time with family, heading out fishing and visiting the family's lease in Marble Bar, where they enjoy looking for gold. She also has a passion for photography and loves capturing special moments. For Chloe, taking photos is a way of preserving memories that she can look back on and cherish for years to come.




# COMMUNITY



# Community Services and Engagement

Our Community Services and Engagement team is all about staying connected with our members and making sure they have access to the support, services and opportunities available to them.

Through community engagement and our Outreach program, the team gets out into members' homes, towns and communities to provide information, assistance and practical support. This can include helping members connect with services, access their Trust Funds, understand available programs and find the right support for their individual needs.

Our Outreach visits are a great opportunity for members to have a yarn with the team, ask questions and get assistance with anything they may need. We love getting out into the community and hearing directly from our members, and our visits continue to be warmly welcomed.

A big thank you to all our members for welcoming us into your homes and communities. We really appreciate the time you take to have a yarn with us, share your stories and let us know how we can better support you.

## Engagement data (Jul 26 - Sept 26)

**293**
office visits

**43**
home visits

**1152**
phone calls + text message + emails

## From Dream to Driveway

Congratulations to Doris on purchasing her new car! After working towards her goal, she's now enjoying the freedom and confidence that comes with owning her own vehicle.

We are proud to be part of her journey and wish her many happy and safe kilometres ahead!



## Outreach

Our teams have been busy getting out and about across the different locations where our members live.

We've been able to visit many communities and members, and we're proud to share some of the highlights from our Outreach visits through the photos below.

We've also included some of our Outreach numbers, showing how often we've been out and the places we've visited.

A big thank you to all our members for welcoming us into your homes and communities. We appreciate the yarns, conversations and connections, and we look forward to seeing more of you on our next visit!



*Outreach in Onslow: Chadwick, Anthony, Teresa Hughes, Jess and Kayser*



*Outreach in Onslow: Kayser, Marjorie Hughes and Jess*




*Outreach in Onslow: Panashe, Belinda Hubert and Claudia*



*Outreach in Onslow: Jess, Rhonda Hughes and Kayser*




*Outreach in Mullewa: Kayser, Zaharnna Papertalk, and Jess*




*Outreach in Mullewa: Kayser, Patriah Papertalk, and Jess*

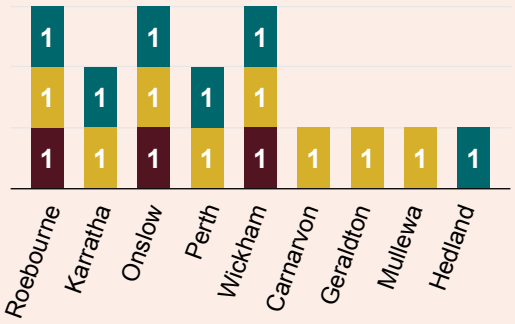


*Outreach in Roebourne: Claudia, Brenda Smirke and Kayser*



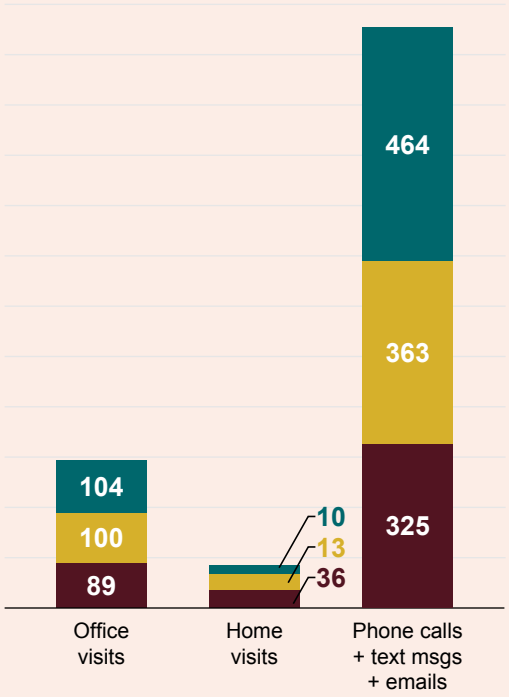
*Outreach in Perth: Kayser and Courtney Hayes*

## Number of Outreach visits




JUL AUG SEP

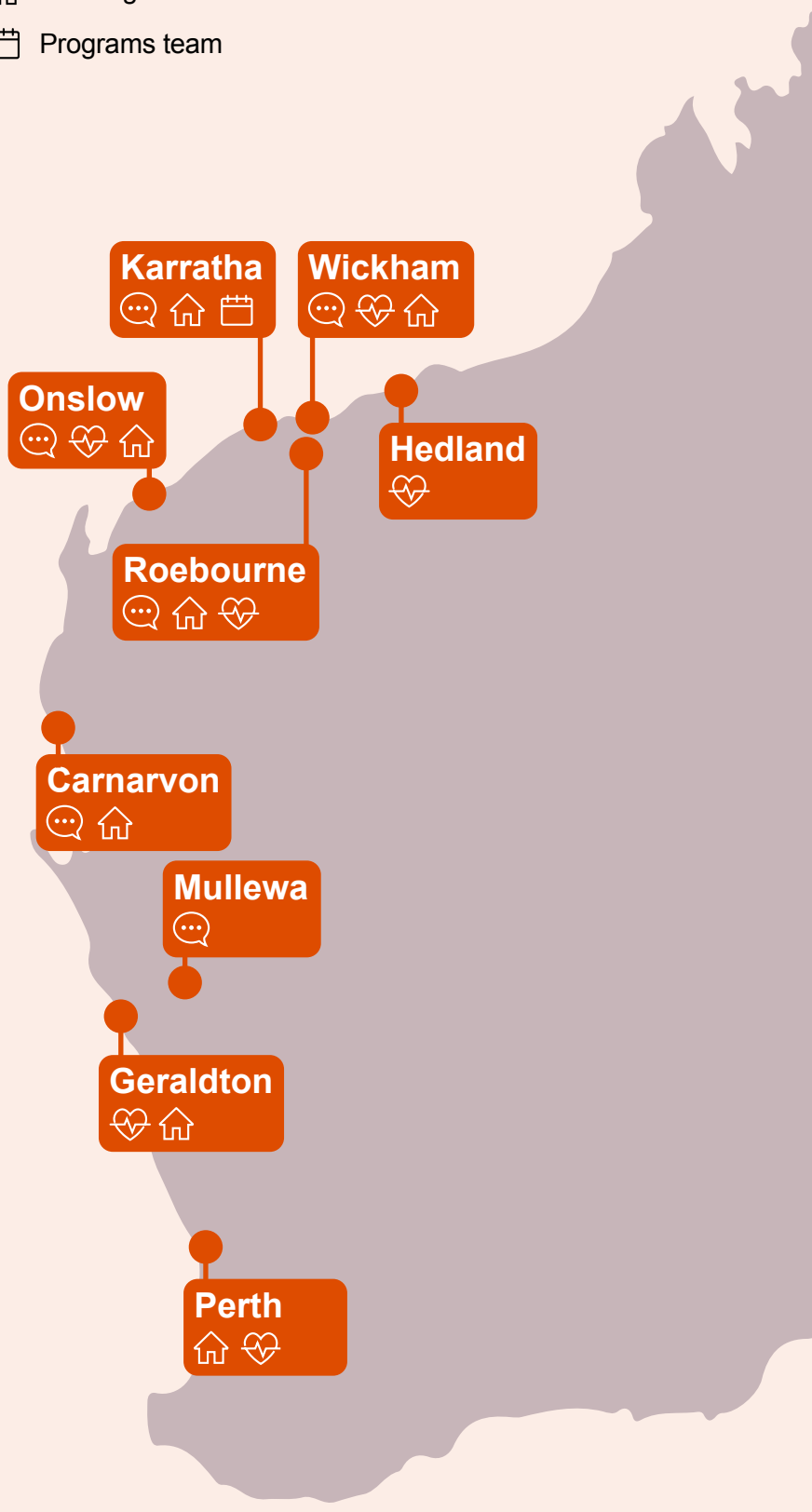
## Engagement data




JUL AUG SEP

## Team visits

- Engagement team
- Health team
- Housing team
- Programs team






*Outreach in Carnarvon: Jess, Delores Drage, her new Jeep and Claudia*




*Outreach in Carnarvon: Rebecca Chubby, her daughter Scarlett and Jess*




*Outreach in Carnarvon: Jess, Helen Chubby and Claudia*



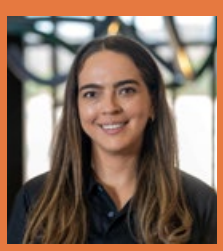

*Outreach in Onslow: Panashe, Teresa Hughes and Claudia*

## Community Engagement Unit

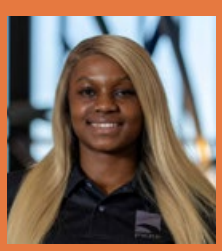
***Get in touch with the team for more help and information.***



**Julie Almeras**
*Manager Community Engagement Services*
julie.almeras@pkkp.org.au



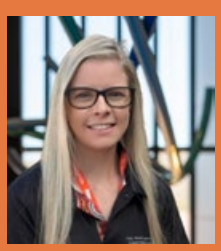
**Claudia Acevedo**
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claudia.acevedo@pkkp.org.au



**Panashe Murape**
*Community Engagement Officer*
panashe.murape@pkkp.org.au



**Gaye Eacott**
*Community Engagement Officer*
gaye.eacott@pkkp.org.au



**Rachel Passmore**
*Community Engagement Officer*
rachel.passmore@pkkp.org.au

# NEW GROCERY PROGRAM CARD TRIAL called the Corporate Prepaid Card (CPC)




A digital card sent by SMS and a physical card mailed to your residential address.

**Please contact the Corporate Prepaid Card support team on 1300 184 667 for any card related enquiries**

The first Grocery Program payment to this card will be made on 30 October 2026 (for the month of November).








The Grocery Card can be used at approved merchants, including:

- Supermarkets • Butchers • Fruit and vegetable markets
- Fuel stations • Transperth
- Food delivery services such as Uber Eats and DoorDash
- Fast food outlets • Cafes • Restaurants

Please contact the Executive Team if you have any questions at pkkp@fordhamgroup.com.au or call us on 08 9185 5000

# Community Housing

Our Housing team is really starting to kick some goals for members. From the smallest housing maintenance issues to buying a new home and everything in between.

Not to mention workshops and seasonal hints and tips, they have all the answers, just ask them!

## Engagement data (Jul 26 - Sept 26)

**2**
settlements

**38**
renovation applications

Contractor lists
**All complete**

## New Home for Caroline!

After successfully selling her share of her previous home to her son, Caroline has achieved an exciting milestone by purchasing a home of her own with the support of the PKKP Home Ownership Grant.

We are thrilled to see Caroline settling into her new home and making it her own. Her journey is a wonderful example of how the right support can help create opportunities for independence and long-term stability.

Home ownership is about so much more than having a place to live. It provides a safe and secure foundation for the future, offering a sense of belonging, pride, and confidence.

We are incredibly proud to celebrate this achievement with Caroline and look forward to seeing her continue to thrive in her new home and community.





## Home Ownership

The Housing Team is now available at the Members Hub every Tuesday, with a dedicated Housing Workshop held on the first Tuesday of each month.

For many members, understanding the steps involved in purchasing a home can feel overwhelming at first. Through our Housing Workshop and ongoing support from the Housing Team, we assist members to better understand the home-buying process and build the confidence needed to take the next step towards home ownership.

If you are interested in purchasing a home and would like guidance on where to start, please contact Jess, Community Housing Officer, on 0417 994 476.

Your journey to home ownership starts with a conversation.




## Shed Works Underway in Geraldton

Installation is now underway on a new shed at Anthony Meyer's home in Geraldton. This project forms part of our ongoing work supporting members with improvements to their properties and coordinating approved works with contractors.

It's great to see the shed taking shape, and we look forward to sharing the finished result once installation is complete.



PKKP

# GET YOUR HOME READY FOR WARMER WEATHER



**A few simple checks now can help keep your home comfortable as the seasons change.**

## KEEP COOL

Check your air conditioner is working and clean its filters according to the manufacturer's instructions.

## CHECK FOR LEAKS

Look out for dripping taps, leaking pipes or signs of water damage.

## REPORT CONCERNS EARLY

Let the PKKP Housing Team know about maintenance concerns early so they can help you understand the next steps.

## NOTICE SOMETHING THAT NEEDS ATTENTION?

Contact the PKKP Housing Team.

**Nat Fern**
Community Property Coordination Officer
**t: (08) 9185 5000**
**m: 0418 500 247**

## “A Backyard Transformation”

One very excited member has asked us to share her new lawn in this quarter’s newsletter!

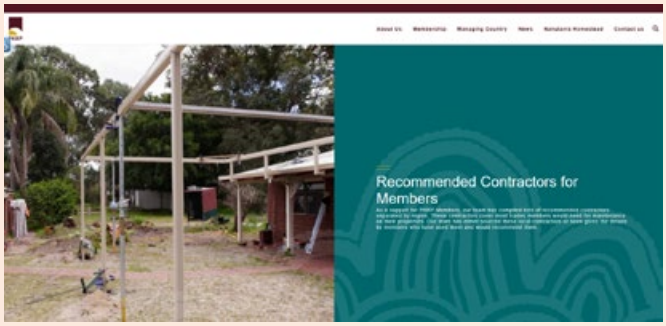
The before and-after photos show a wonderful transformation from a patchy lawn to a fresh, green backyard. She is thrilled with the result, and it’s lovely to share her excitement with the wider PKKP community.

If you are considering repairs or improvements to your home, please contact Nat, Community Property Coordination Officer on 0418 500 247, to discuss your needs and find out what support may be available.



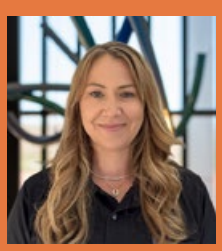

## Our Recommended Maintenance Contractors List

Don’t forget our Recommended Maintenance Contractors list is now live on the website and **can be found here [https://pkkp.org.au/recommended-contractors-for-members/]** with lots of local tradies and contractors to help you out.




## Community Housing Unit

***Get in touch with the team for more help and information.***



**Jessica Walford**
*Community Housing Officer*
jessica.walford@pkkp.org.au



**Natika Orchard**
*Property Coordination Officer*
natika.orchard@pkkp.org.au

# Community Health

The Health team has been actively hosting a series of community BBQs throughout the year, each focusing on important health awareness campaigns, with three successful events delivered this quarter alone and it has been amazing seeing so many PKKP members and their families at these events.

Alongside these initiatives, the team has continued to make progress with the Steady Jina Program, for reducing the risk of falls and supporting the ongoing wellbeing of members.

## Diabetes Awareness Day - 22nd July

The Health team hosted another BBQ outside the Karratha office for raising awareness about the prevalence of Diabetes. We had Karratha Eyecare team come down and conduct eye checks along with nurse practitioners from Mawarnkarra Aboriginal Health Service and WACHS perform risk assessments and health checks.





*Courtney Hayes, Claudia Acevedo, Angie Cox, Sandra Hayes, Logan Simpson and Breanna Kelly at the Diabetes Health Awareness Day outside the Karratha office*

## Cancer Awareness Day -11th August

PKKP recently hosted a Cancer Awareness Day BBQ in Karratha, bringing the community together to learn more about cancer prevention, screening, and overall wellbeing.

Community members connected with Cancer Council WA, Mawarnkarra Health Service for cancer screening clinic and information, and Pharmacy 777's Immunisation Clinic, making it a great opportunity to access health advice and support.




*Toni Akuila, Hayley Mead, Camille Talbot and Kate Henry*

## Perth Falls Prevention Workshop - 1st September

PKKP expanded Falls prevention initiative to Perth by delivering Steady Jina workshop on 1st of September in collaboration with facilitator from Injury Matters and Physiotherapist from Onyx Movement.

The session provided practical tips on making home safer, building strength and confidence to reduce the risk of falls, and learning safe techniques for falling and getting back up.

To support ongoing safety at home, PKKP also provided take-home packs containing essential items to help prevent falls and promote independent living.



*Nat Fern, Scott Ewen, Prince Kuthial, Kathryn Hayles, Christine Jackson, Lesley and Susanne Hay Hughes*



*Scott Ewen, Lesley and Christine Jackson*

## R U OK? Day - 9th September

To bring awareness to R U OK? Day we collaborated with local wellbeing services HOPE, Headspace, Karratha Central Healthcare and Anglicare, and hosted a community BBQ. It was a great opportunity to connect with everyone and raise awareness of the mental health and wellbeing supports available locally.







*Claudia Acevedo and Angie Cox*



*Timothy Ashburton and Ingrid Zuijdgeest*




*Kayser Garshasbi, Cherry-Rose Hubert and Julie Almeras*

## Pink Pilbara Breakfast - 18th September

The Health team proudly sponsored and attended the Pink Pilbara Breakfast, hosted by Hedland Well Women's Centre. The event raises vital funds to support cancer prevention, early detection, and services for people across the Pilbara.

This year marked a significant milestone, with the initiative raising more than $1 million over the past eight years. PKKP was grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the event that makes such meaningful contribution to the health and wellbeing of people across the region.





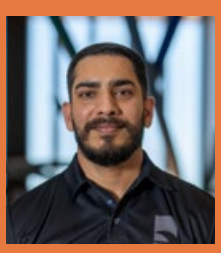

*Hayley Mead and Kayser Garshasbi at the Pink Pilbara Breakfast in Hedland*

## Community Health Unit

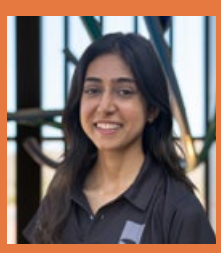
***Get in touch with the team for more help and information.***



**Hayley Mead**
*Manager of Health and Programs*
hayley.mead@pkkp.org.au



**Prince Kuthial**
*Community Health and Wellbeing Officer (Male)*
prince.kuthial@pkkp.org.au



**Kayser Garshasbi**
*Community Health and Wellbeing Officer (Female)*
kayser.garshasbi@pkkp.org.au

# Community Programs

In the community programs teams we are changing the way we communicate a little with members.

With regular emails outlining all the plans and live updates on the website you can always find more information on the amazing programs like Introduction to Business Skills.

Check out the pictures from our biggest NAIDOC Community event yet and contact the team to find out whats on at the Members Hub soon.

## Employment Bulletin

Every month, around the 15th, the Employment Bulletin is sent via email to all PKKP members. The Bulletin is a great place to find out what's happening at the Members' Hub, available employment opportunities at PKKP or elsewhere and what programs are running during the month in various core locations.

## Community Bulletin

Throughout the month of September, the team has been working to create the first PKKP Community Bulletin, launching at the beginning of every month. Sent via email, the Bulletin provides important community updates, highlights PKKP programs & events and those being run by external providers in core locations.

From these two bulletins, the team made the decision to create two calendars accessible on the PKKP Website under the 'Our Community' tab. One of the calendars will provide information on PKKP-involved events, workshops and outreach. The Members' Hub calendar will solely focus on what is happening at the Members' Hub for that month.

## NAIDOC 2026

PKKP's largest NAIDOC event was hosted on Thursday, 9 July from 10am until 2pm. This year's event aligned with the national NAIDOC Week theme, 50 Years of Deadly.

With over 350 estimated attendees, the day was a wonderful celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, resilience and identity. We had 30 stakeholders attend as stallholders, provided free food to the community and were joined by JoKeria Band for a few hours of live music. PKKP was donated over 16 raffle prizes to provide to community as well.

Not to mention that we were blessed with the presence of retired AFL player, Nic Naitanui, who spent most of the four hours autographing AFL balls, shirts and maybe one or two foreheads here and there. He said, "[it] was great to see such a big turnout and [was] glad everyone enjoyed the event". Thank you to everyone who helped create such a wonderful event and we loved seeing all the PKKP members there!
















hanks to our event sponsors



## Introduction to Business Skills Program

On Thursday, 20 August the five-week Intro to Business Skills Workshops began at the Members' Hub. Three members joined online or in-person to explore the building-blocks necessary to develop their own businesses. Sessions ran for 1.5 hours from 12:30pm until 2pm. The course structure consisted of:

- Week 1: Personal Financial Literacy – this was a stand-alone session which focused on managing debt, saving, investing and financial security.
- Week 2: Business Start-Up Essentials – attendees were prompted to assess their business idea, create a Business Plan and look at business support services in their locations.
- Week 3: Launching Your Business – the session focused on what registrations are required when setting-up a business, what documents you may need and the responsibilities of a business owner.
- Week 4: Marketing Strategies and Financial Record-Keeping – this workshop focused on who the businesses' target audience would be, the uniqueness of the business and what online software's are available for managing finances.
- Week 5: Your Business Financials – members considered the businesses' cash flow, creating profit and loss margins and budgeting tips.

Overall, feedback from the sessions was positive and the business ideas were wonderful. Thank you to Pilbara Kimberley University Centre for facilitating the sessions and we hope to hold another training program next year!

## Jobs & Skills Centre at the Members' Hub

Since Thursday, 27 August, two team members from Karratha's Jobs & Skills Centre (J&SC) have been attending the Hub from 10am until 12pm on a fortnightly basis. The J&SC team provide training and employment support tailored to individual needs.

They can support in developing resumes, cover letters, applying for roles and preparing for interviews. They've already helped two members update their resumes, which have been sent off to potential employers.

Upcoming days include:

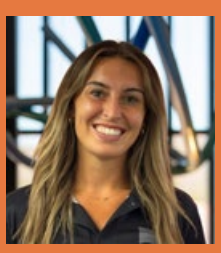
- 8 October
- 22 October
- 5 November
- 19 November
- 3 December

## Community Programs Unit

***Get in touch with the team for more help and information.***



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# COUNTRY & CULTURE



# Country & Culture

Have a look at what the Language and Rangers teams are getting up to out on country plus some great shots of the Return to Country trips and a Cultural Mapping trip.

## Language Update

The Language Team has had a busy few months, with lots of trips and lots of work happening behind the scenes (including some exciting updates we'll share soon!).

Two particular highlights were the Kurrama and Pinikura Return to Country trips in August and September respectively. We really enjoyed the opportunity to spend some more time with members, explore around Country, learn more about plants, and of course, talk about language. Thanks to the Ranger Team for running the trips and inviting us along!







# Ranger Update

The PKKP Rangers team have been out and about enjoying the fieldwork season participating in ranger camps, meeting with other stakeholders, hosting at Nanutarra and our Return to Country trips for both Kurrama and Pinikura.

In between we have been building on our knowledge and skills at TAFE, with only 2 blocks left for 2026, and our camera challenge on-Country targeting either natives or nuisances.

Throughout July we were part of the UWA student Hydrogeology camp with Rio Tinto, based at Cheela Plains. As the name suggests both hydrology and geology (water & rocks) students were there to do fieldwork, measure water samples using different equipment methods and explaining the process of groundwater in the Pilbara. The Rangers took away some valuable learnings from the trip that helped them be part of the conversations the following week, as we hosted our pastoral neighbours and industry representatives to talk about the Ashburton Catchment. The forum gave people a chance to discuss what's happening on the ground, what a future for the catchment looks like and how we can all support a joint cause on what our groundwater is doing and how to work together. It was valuable to meet and greet some of our pastoral neighbours over the 2 days.

Over August the Pilbara Ranger Network (PRN) held the annual Ranger Camp. 9 groups were able to join this year, with over 70 Pilbara rangers camped at Millstream for the week. Some highlights were Juluwarlu Art performances, creating different bush medicine, learning from DBCA on weeds pulling out passionfruit vines, feral cat management, and "taking care of" invasive species like the redclaw. Speaking of delicious...the team came a close 2nd place in the Rangers Campoven Cookup on the last night, making both Summah's chop & sausage stew and chicken curry recipes.










PILBARA RANGER NETWORK



## Kurrama Return to Country

Kurrama Return to Country was a short but sweet couple of days at Cheela Plains station stay, where the team had the help of the language team while they visited some of the stations tourist sites.

Days having lunch under the gum tree's, setting out some camera's in the gorge with the help of the McKay sisters, yarning around the campfire of the night and some cookups of food and bush medicine during the trip thanks to Sandra Hayes and Angie Cox.

The trip was about planning site visits and activities to be able to invite the Kurrama Community along for all in the near future. Watch out for 2027 dates.









## Pinikura Return to Country

Pinikura Return to Country – 21st to 25th September saw members travel from Perth, Newman, Carnarvon, Busselton, Port Hedland and Onslow to take part in the trip. Over 3 days we spent time on Country visiting old ruins of camps and historical sites, pools, finding bush tucker.

The group got some great ideas on planning the community RTC this way and enjoyed the simple days of making a fire and cooking a feed, taking photos, adding plants to the Rangers herbarium, having Brea and Oakley from the Language team capturing yarns and Rangers learning from their elders.

We look forward to 2027 trips, keep an eye out.







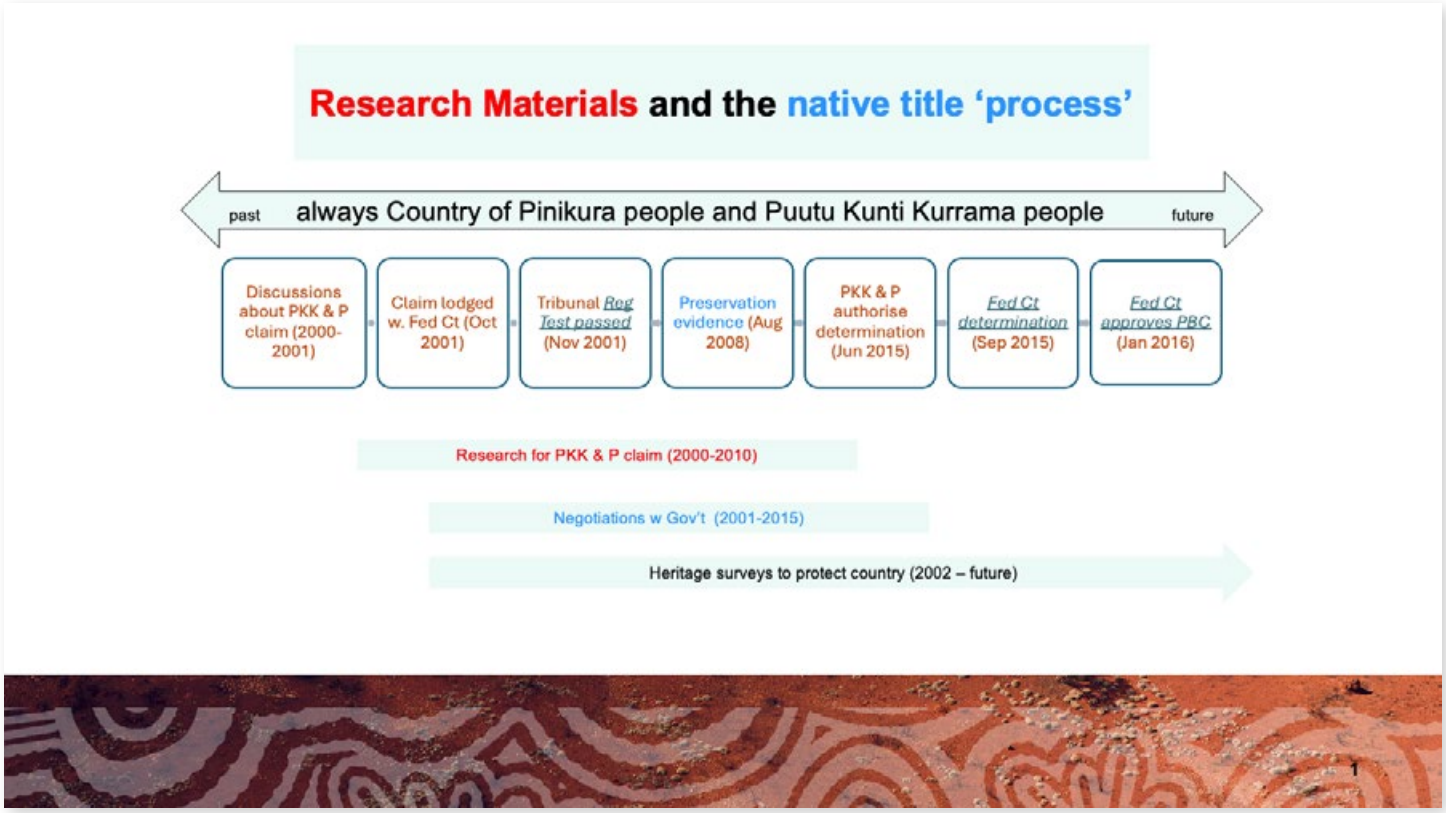
## Management of Research Materials Workshop

It has now been 25 years since the PKKP native claim was lodged and 11 years since the PKKP native title determination was made. In order to have your native title recognised, a Connection Report was prepared to document why and how Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura people hold native title.

These research materials are very important and PKKP AC wants to look after and manage these materials in the right way and under the guidance of Community. An initial workshop was held in February 2025 and second workshop was held in Karratha from 14 to 16 September 2026 to bring together Pinikura and Puutu Kunti Kurrama representatives to guide PKKP AC on how it should use this information in a culturally responsible way and how to manage and protect these materials.

The workshop was facilitated by Olivia Norris (Consultant Anthropologist) and John Southalan (Barrister and Adjunct Professor) with support from the Research, Language, Heritage, Native Title and Communities teams. We heard that this information was valuable and sensitive, but also a product of its time that needs to be used carefully and protected.

The workshop gave important guidance on how this could be managed, accessed and protected in the future which will inform the development of a management framework for this material.





## Cultural Mapping Trip

From 21-26 August, the Cultural Research team organised a Puutu Kunti Kurrama field trip to Mount Wall and surrounds. We were accompanied by Sandra Hayes, Angie Cox, Burchell Hayes and Terry Hayes, as well as the Language team and the Communications team. Highlights included members returning to sites not visited since 2011 (before Native Title); steak lunch on a campfire; and getting Angie, Burchell and Terry to some remote and steep spots by helicopter.

Cultural mapping is a process where we record or ‘map’ all the cultural values of a place members have told us is important to them. This includes looking at archaeology, anthropology, ecology and environment– as well as gathering stories, language and personal connections to that place. This process allows us to better protect and care for the heritage of that place.

We are now looking forward to the Pinikura cultural mapping trip planned for November.





If you've got a story,
share it with the PKKPAC
team next time you see them,
or send it through by email.
We'd love to hear all about it.

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PKKP