

JUNE 2025

GUNIDA GUNYAH
ABORIGINAL
CORPORATION

COMMUNITY HUB

MY GUNYAH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY IMPACT

73 FAMILIES SUPPORTED WITH FOOD HAMPERS
1,793 PEOPLE ASSISTED WITH SUPPORT

HUB:
167-169
CONADILLY
STREET,
GUNNEDAH

02 6742 7038

WWW.GGACHUB.COM.AU

JUNE RECAP

Halfway Through the Year – So Much Happening!

June has been a huge month at Gunida Gunyah Aboriginal Corporation, with over 1,700 people supported and 73 food hampers delivered across the community. From powerful conferences and community workshops to new staff joining our team, the Hub has been buzzing!

We welcomed O'Shea and Tara to the team, shared space with the First Peoples Disability Network, and hit the road for key events like the 2025 Armidale Youth Conference and ACHIA Refuge Summit. We've been deepening partnerships, delivering services, and showing up strong for our mob.

We also celebrated connection and culture through NAIDOC Week preparations, and we're gearing up for next month's Curry Cook-Off and Tamworth Homeless Connect Day.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook to keep up with everything happening at the Hub!

NEED A HAND? WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

Don't forget - if you or someone you know needs support, come visit us at the Gunida Gunyah Community Hub in the heart of Gunnedah's CBD.

Our friendly team is always up for a yarn and ready to help. While you're here, you can:

- Enjoy a free cuppa or heat up a meal from our freezer
- Access clothing, hygiene packs, period products, and food hampers
- Use our automated health station for a free check-up
- Jump on the public computer to write a resume, apply for jobs, or complete an online course
- Use the bathroom facilities and access the Share the Dignity vending machine

We also deliver a range of programs and support services for individuals and families - come in, have a yarn, and see how we can help.

Everyone is welcome.



FPDN WORKSHOP

On Wednesday 4th June we were proud to welcome some deadly women from the First Peoples Disability Network to the Hub for a powerful yarn with staff, services, and community members.

They shared important insights about the Disability Sector Strengthening Partnership (DSSP) – helping build stronger, culturally safe support for mob living with disability.

And let us tell you... they put on the BEST feed ever!

Thank you to everyone who came along and made the day one to remember!



NAIDOC WEEK CURRY COOK-OFF!

Do you cook the deadliest curry in town? Prove it at our Curry Cook-Off hosted by the Marrabaa Family Safety Project and Gunida Gunyah Community Hub!

- Friday 11 July
- Starts at 12.00 noon
- Gunida Gunyah Community Hub

Bring your best curry dish and let the community be the judge! Prizes up for grabs, plus free lunch for everyone!

Want to enter the cook-off?
Email: admin@gunidagunyah.com.au Or drop by the office to grab a registration form!

Let's come together to celebrate family strength, culture and community.

We say NO to violence — We are Gamilaraay Strong!



NEW EMPLOYEE - WELCOME O'SHEA

Hey! I'm O'Shea (nope, not Irish — yes, named after Ice Cube the rapper, thanks Mum and Dad).

I've just joined the awesome team at Gunida Gunyah in a casual role as an Admin Assistant. Before this, I was sweating it out as an Air Con and Fridgey apprentice — so being indoors with paperwork is a nice change of pace!

I've got strong cultural ties to the Gamilaraay people, and I'm proud to be a descendant of Peggy and Jimmy Lambert, the last full-blooded Aboriginal people of the Dabee tribe (Wiradjuri mob). Carrying on my family's legacy and culture means a lot to me, and I'm keen to grow in this role and see where the ride takes me.

Speaking of rides — I love cars. I own a BRZ that I'm slowly (but surely) modding up. Driving is my happy place — whether it's just a chill cruise or giving it a little juice on a back road. Outside of work, you'll find me hanging out with my girlfriend, catching up with my mates, or probably talking about cars... again.



FREE TRANSPORT TO THE TAMWORTH HOMELESS CONNECT DAY - THURSDAY 31ST JULY 2025

Now Taking Expressions of Interest – Tamworth Homeless Connect Day. We're heading to Homeless Connect in Tamworth and are now taking names for those interested in coming along.

If you'd like to attend, put your name down now – spots are limited, and we may need to create a waitlist. This is a free service. Final details and confirmations will be sorted closer to the date.



NEW EMPLOYEE - WELCOME TARA

Welcome Tara - one of our new SHLV Caseworkers!

"After a 10-year career in marketing I've decided to chase something more aligned with my personal goals and values, supporting community."

"I have a deep understanding of how domestic and family violence impacts people's lives, and how hard it can be to rebuild. I truly believe everyone deserves the opportunity to feel empowered on their journey. Whether someone is in crisis or starting to rebuild, I'm committed to compassionate, no judgement support as they reclaim their sense of safety, confidence and independence."



TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ARMIDALE

Gunida Gunyah staff, Shannon, Brett, and Kath met with Jusinta from Armajun and Tracy from All About COS 123 at Armidale last week. Our teams have been working collaboratively to support clients to enter the AHO Finding Your Way Transitional Housing Program. We are committed to empowering individuals experiencing homelessness by providing meaningful support that fosters self-determination, builds resilience, and strengthens our community connections.



OUR BIG COMMUNITY SUVERY WINNER

Picture above is Jodie Kay (GGAC) and Cath Turner the winner of the \$200 gift card!



SISU HEALTH MACHINE

Looking after your health doesn't have to be hard – come down to The Hub at 167–169 Conadilly Street, Gunnedah NSW for a FREE Health Check during Health Week. It's quick, easy, and could make a big difference.

Everyone is welcome.

While you're here, we've got you covered with:

- Free cuppa & bikkies
- Friendly yarns – no pressure, just good convo
- Food hampers & clothing
- Info on our programs and services
- Help with referrals to other supports
-

Whether you're coming for a check-up, a feed, or just a yarn – you're always welcome.

167–169 Conadilly Street, Gunnedah NSW
(02) 6742 7038



GUNYAH STAFF AT THE 2025 ARMIDALE CONFERENCE

Our very own Tracy and Cherrie proudly represented Gunida Gunyah at the 2025 Armidale Conference: Young People Doing It Tough from June 17–19!

This powerful event brought together leaders, advocates, and frontline workers from across NSW to explore ways we can better support our young people—especially those navigating homelessness, trauma, out-of-home care, detention, and complex life challenges.

Tracy and Cherrie attended inspiring sessions on:

- Rights-based and strengths-based service delivery
- Culturally safe programming
- Supporting young people in detention and care
- Creative tools like arts and storytelling in youth work
- Trauma-informed practice and community-led solutions

They also had the opportunity to connect with deadly speakers like Sharlene McKenzie OAM, Dr Lukas Carey, and Lisa Waters—all passionate leaders making a real difference for young people across the country.

We're so proud of our team for continuing to learn, grow, and bring new knowledge back to strengthen the programs we deliver here at GGAC. Big thanks to the Women's Shelter Armidale for hosting such a meaningful and empowering event



A WORD OR TWO FROM OUR LILLY PILLY PLACE REFUGE MANAGER LISA SMITH:

Just wanted to share a quick recap of the amazing experience Cherrie and I had earlier this week at the 2025 ACHIA Aboriginal Controlled Women and Children Refuge Summit in Port Macquarie (Mon 23 & Tues 24 June).

This was such a deadly space to connect with other workers in our sector and hear about all the incredible things happening in the Core and Cluster refuge space. The future looks bright and strong!

We were surrounded by powerful, compassionate, and knowledgeable Aboriginal women—many who shared their stories, work, and wisdom. It was inspiring and uplifting.

A real highlight for me was meeting Ashlee Donohue, a lived experience advocate and the former CEO of Mudgin-Gal Aboriginal Women's Centre. She shared powerful readings from her book 'Because I Love Him', which hit home for many of us in the room. Cherrie and I were lucky enough to have our books signed—and we even had one personally addressed to the Women of Lilly Pilly Place to keep on our bookshelf.

We've now got a strong network of support and connection with other Core and Cluster refuges across the state, and there's talk of setting up a Communities of Practice forum, which would be an incredible space for ongoing learning and collaboration.

Massive thanks to ACHIA NSW and Gunida Gunyah Aboriginal Corporation for making it possible for us to attend. We're coming back full of ideas, hope, and strength to continue walking alongside our women and children.

NAIDOC WEEK MARCH 2025 – GUNNEDAH

GUNIDA GUNYAH ABORIGINAL CORPORATION WAS PROUD TO WALK ALONGSIDE OUR COMMUNITY IN TODAY'S GUNNEDAH NAIDOC WEEK MARCH. WE REPRESENTED NOT ONLY OUR ORGANISATION, BUT OUR FAMILIES, OUR CULTURE, AND THE STRONG CONNECTIONS THAT HOLD US TOGETHER.

IT WAS AN HONOUR TO BE PART OF SUCH A POWERFUL AND UNITED EVENT. A BIG SHOUTOUT TO OUR COMMUNITY MASCOTS PIPPY AND LIPPY WHO LED THE WAY AND BROUGHT SMILES TO SO MANY FACES – ESPECIALLY THE KIDS (AND THE LOLLIPOPS HELPED TOO!).

THANK YOU TO THE NAIDOC WEEK COMMITTEE FOR ORGANISING A DEADLY DAY. IT WAS AMAZING TO SEE SUCH A SOLID TURN OUT – MOB STRONG AND PROUD.





2025 NAIDOC WEEK YOUTH TALENT QUEST

"THE NEXT GENERATION: STRENGTH, VISION & LEGACY"

HOSTED BY GUNIDA GUNYAH
IN PROUD PARTNERSHIP WITH RED CHIEF LOCAL
ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL AND WINANGA-LI

COME SUPPORT OUR DEADLY YOUNG PEOPLE AS THEY
SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT, PRIDE, AND CULTURE!

TO BE HELD AT @ THE RED CHIEF LANDS COUNCIL,
GUNNEDAH - 26A CHANDOS STREET

THURSDAY THE 17TH OF JULY STARTING AT 1.00 PM.

FREE COMMUNITY BBQ & ACTIVITIES

BBQ SERVED AT 2PM | TEA & COFFEE | FACE PAINTING &
GIVEAWAYS FOR KIDS

PRIZES & AWARDS



GUNIDA GUNYAH
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



PRIZES & AWARDS



PRIZES IN EVERY CATEGORY

SPECIAL AWARDS FOR CULTURAL PRIDE, CREATIVE SPIRIT & BEST OVERALL

PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES FOR ALL



TALENT QUEST CATEGORIES



INDIVIDUAL ENTRY:

MUSIC (SOLO) – SINGING, RAPPING, INSTRUMENTAL

DANCE (SOLO) – CULTURAL, HIP-HOP, FREESTYLE

SPOKEN WORD / POETRY – STORYTELLING, SLAM POETRY, SPEECHES

CULTURAL PERFORMANCE (SOLO) – LANGUAGE, SONGLINES, TRADITIONAL DANCE

VISUAL ART – SUBMIT ARTWORK BEFORE THE EVENT



GROUP ENTRY

MUSIC (GROUP) – BANDS, DUOS, GROUP INSTRUMENTALS

DANCE (GROUP) – CULTURAL, HIP-HOP, FREESTYLE

DRAMA / SKITS – GROUP PERFORMANCES WITH A STORY OR MESSAGE

CULTURAL PERFORMANCE (GROUP) – DANCE, SONGLINES, STORYTELLING



GUNIDA GUNYAH
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Steph (GGAC): 6742 7038
PJ (Red Chief): 6742 3602
Tara (Winanga-Li): 0439 986 823

NAIDOC WEEK: CURRY COOK OFF

JULY 11TH 2025

@ THE HUB (167-169 CONADILLY ST)

GUNIDA GUNYAH
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



**12.00
START**

Strong Families. Strong Community. Gamilaraay Strong.
This NAIDOC Week, we're coming together to share more than just food — we're sharing culture, connection, and a stand for safe, respectful families.

Join us for the Curry Cook-Off, a deadly community cook-up where mob come together in celebration, healing, and strength.



How to Join:

- Register your curry dish before the day
- Drop it off by 10.00 AM on Friday the 11th of July in a slow cooker or oven proof dish for reheating
- Include an ingredient list (for allergy safety)
- Receive your Curry ID Card for display

What's Happening:

- 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM: Community tasting & voting with scorecards
- 2:00 PM: Curry Cook-Up Champions crowned!
- Free community lunch – come and have a feed!
- All participants who enter the cook off will get a free Marrabaa Family Safety Project promotional bag with a bucket hut!

Violence has no place in our homes or communities.

We are Gamilaraay Strong – we choose respect, safety, and love.

Let's gather, yarn, and build each other up through culture, food and unity.

Proudly hosted by the Marrabaa Family Safety Project in partnership with the local community.

02 6742 7038

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CARE AND CONNECT DAY

JULY 25 2025



@ THE HUB: 167-169 CONADILLY ST

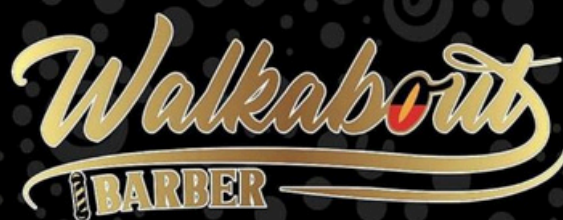
9.00
START

HOSTED BY THE PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND
SUPPORT (PSS) TEAM AT GGAC



FREE HAIRCUTS AND BEAUTY SERVICES

NO APPOINTMENTS NEEDED – JUST SHOW UP!



FREE BBQ LUNCH 11.30 AM SERVICE PROVIDER STALLS



COMMUNITY WORKSHOP 1.00 PM

TRAUMA & THE RECOVERY OF THAT TRAUMA " WORKSHOP WITH BRIAN DOWD WHO HAS BEEN A LEADER IN THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELLBEING SPACE FOR OVER 25 YEARS, AND CURRENTLY HOLDS A POST GRADUATE DEGREE IN TRAUMA & RECOVERY PRACTICES AS WELL AS A CERTIFICATE 3 IN BARBERING SERVICES.



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