

WIRRAWANDI: NEWSLETTER

JULY
2025



WIRRAWANDI
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



Welcome Message from **Steve Graham.**

I hope this message finds you and your families well.

As Operations Manager, it is a privilege to work alongside you to support and strengthen Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation. Over the past year, we have continued to walk a challenging but powerful path—guided by culture, driven by responsibility, and grounded in community.

We acknowledge the Corporation has faced, and continues to face, a number of challenges—whether it be in navigating complex governance obligations, responding to increasing demands from industry, or ensuring our systems and resources are strong enough to support our vision. These challenges are real, and we are addressing them head-on.

Despite this, we have made meaningful progress that we can all be proud of:

Caring for Country Initiatives:
Our work to protect and manage land and sea Country is gaining momentum. From cultural heritage protection to the development of on-Country ranger and other programs, we are embedding Traditional Owner knowledge and leadership into everything we do.

Monitoring and Survey Activities:
Wirrawandi Members are actively participating

in monitoring and survey work—both onshore and offshore—ensuring that your sacred sites, environmental values, and cultural stories are respected and protected. Your involvement gives authority and integrity to these processes.

Stakeholder Engagement and Agreements:
We've been negotiating with several stakeholders across the Yaburara and Mardudhunera Determination Area, aiming to secure agreements that benefit your people—economically, culturally, and socially. These partnerships must reflect your values and support our long-term goals.

Looking Ahead:
Our future growth and prosperity rely on you—our Traditional Owners. Your support, knowledge, and participation are essential. When we show up, speak up, and stand together, we shape outcomes that honour our past and protect our future.

Thank you for your continued trust and strength. Wirrawandi is growing, and with your guidance, it will continue to rise—strong, resilient, and proudly led by culture.

In unity and respect,

Steve Graham

Operations Manager
Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation

Meet Our New Team Members



Dave Olney
Ranger Coordinator

Hello everyone,

My name is David Olney, and it's an absolute privilege to join the Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation as the Ranger Coordinator. As I take on this role, I feel deeply honoured to be part of this journey alongside the incredible people who make up this community.

Over the years, I've been fortunate to work in various roles, from managing the Cape Keraudren Coastal Reserve as a Park Ranger to spending time as a lecturer in agriculture Colleges. These experiences have taught me so much about the connections between people, country, and the environment. But it was my time working with the

Gnarla, Nyamal, and Martu Traditional Owners throughout the Pilbara that truly deepened my understanding of what country means—not just as a physical space but as a living heritage, rich with stories, culture, and identity.

I am excited to bring my experience to the Marduthuni Ranger program and help support its growth. Together, we can celebrate the beauty of this land, the surrounding oceans and islands, and the remarkable biodiversity they hold. Most importantly, I'm looking forward to working with all of you to preserve and honour the cultural heritage that is so integral to this region.

I'm here to listen, learn, and contribute. Let's build something meaningful together that not only benefits the community today but ensures our shared legacy for generations to come. Thank you for welcoming me, my family, and my journey into this special place.

Warm regards,

David Olney



Vanessa Motlop
Administration & Membership Manager

Born and raised in the Pilbara, my family have been part of the Pilbara Community for more than sixty-five years. I have Management and leadership, qualifications, experience and skillsets to offer. Joining Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation as the Administration and Membership Manager since March 2025, I look forward to learning, building and developing in my role to align and support with WAC's strategic and operational plans.

Strengthening Skills and Connections at the Onslow Ranger Training Camp.

Earlier this April, representatives from Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation (WAC) took part in the Pilbara Ranger Network's Onslow Ranger Training Camp — a week of professional development, cultural exchange, and on-country learning. Held from 7–10 April in Onslow, the camp brought together Ranger groups from across the Pilbara.

WAC was proudly represented by Ranger Coordinator David Olney, Director Melissa Boona, and potential Ranger Kendall Mowerin.

Over the four-day program, participants engaged in leadership and team-building workshops, media training, and a hands-on fauna project planning session focused on the Northern Quoll. They also explored regenerative leadership through cattle-handling exercises, learned grant writing with Lotterywest, and took part in a meaningful on-country trip guided by Thananyji Traditional Owners.

Melissa Boona described the training as “well-organised, professional and practical,” and shared her admiration for the pride and presentation shown by other Ranger groups. However, she noted that holding leadership activities under direct sun in high temperatures was challenging, especially for older participants.

Kendall Mowerin expressed his excitement about the experience, saying he learned a great deal and looks forward to developing further as a Ranger. “I really enjoyed coming together with other Rangers and spending time learning on Country,” he said.

The camp also offered valuable networking opportunities, including initial discussions with Chevron around future environmental training support — a promising avenue for WAC's continued growth.

Ranger Survey Now Open

If you want to have your say and help shape the future strategic direction of our ranger program, please visit our website to complete our online survey. Wirrawandi is inviting community feedback on the proposed programs, structure, and training opportunities and your input is greatly appreciated.

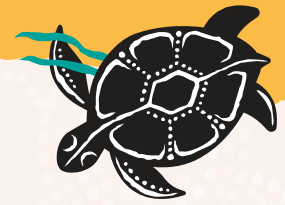


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**HAVE YOUR SAY
ON THE NEW WIRRAWANDI
RANGER PROGRAM!**



Community Survey
Now Open



Building Stronger Leadership Through Governance Training



Wirrawandi's Directors recently travelled to Perth to attend a Governance Training session, thanks to the generous support of our partners at BCI Minerals.

With this added knowledge, our Directors are better equipped to deliver stronger outcomes and lasting benefits for our members.



The training focused on strengthening leadership, governance skills, and decision-making — helping to build a stronger foundation for the work we do.

A big thank you to BCI Minerals for supporting our journey towards better governance and community impact.

Partnership Updates

Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation (WAC) has continued to work hard behind the scenes, delivering outcomes that protect Country, strengthen partnerships, and support the long-term benefit of our community.

Caring for Country and Partnership Building

WAC has been actively engaging with key stakeholders to progress Caring for Country initiatives, ensuring cultural values are respected and embedded into all activities across the Yaburara and Mardudunera Determination Area. These initiatives reflect the Corporation's commitment to protecting land and sea Country while building meaningful and respectful partnerships with industry and government.

Pilbara Ranger Network



WAC recently attended the Annual Ranger Camp run by the Pilbara Ranger Network in Onslow which brought together over 70 Rangers from nine different ranger groups in the Pilbara. The training camp delivered accredited qualifications and hands on workshops to promote and support caring for country initiatives. This was an extremely positive experience and WAC extends gratitude and thanks to the Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation for hosting the event.

Board and Trust Advisory Committee Collaboration

The WAC Board and Trust Advisory Committee have been working together closely to explore strategies that will strengthen the Corporation's financial future. These efforts are focused on creating sustainable outcomes and economic opportunities that benefit our Members now and for generations to come.



Meeting with BCI Executives

Recently, WAC met with BCI Minerals Executives to explore ways to further strengthen the strategic partnership between both parties. It was a positive and productive meeting, and ongoing discussions will continue to be managed through the joint Implementation Committee to ensure commitments are followed through in a culturally respectful and mutually beneficial manner.



Seasonal Camping at 40 Mile Beach

In partnership with the City of Karratha, WAC has successfully completed seasonal camping preparation works at 40 Mile Beach. These efforts support Traditional Owner access and presence on Country, while also promoting cultural connection and seasonal sustainability.



A Look Ahead to NAIDOC Week

Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation is proud to be taking part in NAIDOC Week celebrations this year!

We'll have a stall at the Green Centre in the Karratha Village. Come down, say hello, and learn more about what Wirrawandi is working on in country and culture. We're also planning a

member's BBQ to bring our community together and celebrate the week.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook page for event details and updates as NAIDOC Week gets closer. We look forward to seeing you there!



BCI MINERALS

WE ARE HIRING

If you've got a mate you think will be great, take the referral onus, to get a nice bonus!
Terms and conditions apply - 16/5/2025

- Advisor Health & Safety (Operations), Mardie
- Advisor Health & Safety (Projects), Mardie
- Superintendent Production, Mardie
- Superintendent Maintenance, Mardie
- Supervisor Marine, Mardie
- Lead Health & Safety, Mardie
- Maintenance Fitter, Mardie
- Document Controller (part-time), Perth
- Package Manager Marine, Perth

OUR VALUES
Our values form the backbone of our culture and define how we aspire to do business.

- BE PART OF SOMETHING
- WIN AS ONE TEAM
- BE YOURSELF
- FIND A WAY
- WE DO WHAT WE SAY

I'm here about the job...
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MARDIE SALT AND POTASH PROJECT

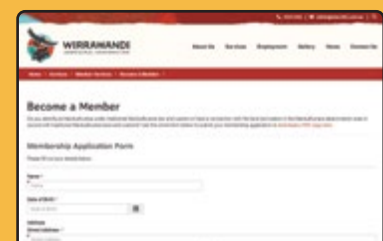
KARRATHA
ONSLow
PERTH

WANT TO KNOW MORE?
Contact Lana Clayden, People & Culture Advisor
lana.coombs@bciminerals.com.au

Become a Member Today

We're making it easier for community members to join Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation. Membership application forms are now available on our website, so you can apply anytime, from anywhere.

If you need a hand with your application, feel free to come into the office. Our team is happy to help you through the process.



SCAN
Membership
Application
Form



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