

MILIBUD

- Jadagen/Ngababuru
(wet season)
- Program progress
 - MIBALA
 - KUTJUNGKA
- National Justice
Reinvestment Seminar
- COVID in the Kimberley



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the land of Australia and pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging. We particularly acknowledge the Kija and Jaru people, the traditional owners of the Country upon which the Shire of Halls Creek is located.

JADAGEN / NGABABURU

WHAT THE WET SEASON AND RAINS MEAN FOR OUR COUNTRY

Palm Springs: Shire of Halls Creek

Photo credit: Stephen Langman

Wet season, (Jadagen in Kija, and Ngababuru in Jaru), is an anticipated time of year in the Shire of Halls Creek, for locals and tourists alike.

During the dry conditions of August through to November, the environment is dominated by clear blue skies, hot days with easterly winds and some cool nights. The weather is considered stable and therefore is a good time to plan outdoor events and activities. At this time of year natural water resources and bush foods are scarce.



**BARNDEN (August and September; KIJIA) and
WERRGALEN (October and November; KIJIA).**

BARRANGGA (August to November; JARU)

The wet season arrives, seemingly like clock-work. The 'build-up' begins with afternoon clouds massing and electrical storms during the evenings. The climate begins to feel hot and humid, and the rain is unpredictable. Heavy, short-lived downpours are common, however, as the area of the Shire of Halls Creek is so vast, it can be difficult to know where it will fall.

BUSH TUCKER: Kija/Jaru

**Goondarril/Yawu
Fish**

**Beranggarji/Runggu
White Currant**

**Jarrambayiny/Jarrambayi
Sand Goanna**

**Banariny/Biyura
Bush Potato**



JADAGEN (December to mid March; KIJA

NGABABURU (approx. December to March; JARU)



MARY POOL

As wet season progresses, big tropical low systems develop, creating a monsoonal atmosphere, and incredible amounts of rain can drop over Country. Flood plains and low road points can become inundated with water and road travel is to be approached with caution. Even our main highways can be closed, sometimes for days at a time.

While this can make transport around the Shire difficult, it leads to a period of growth and greenery. A wide range of plants sprout and grow, and animals thrive.

The waterholes fill up, and there is plenty of water for our plants, animals and people.

Popular waterholes include Mary Pool (pictured above), Palm Springs and Saw Pit Gorge; Great places to cool off in fresh rain water, explore the land or take a picnic. Over - night camping is permitted, which can be a perfect way to see the land and the sky during wet season. If it's cloudy your likely to see a lightening show, and if it's clear the stars are amazing!

During this time of year you might see our Mibala team and community members out and about, on Country. With bush tucker and water in abundance, it creates a rich environment for sharing and learning. A great time for culture and on Country immersion.



MIBALA PROGRAM: REKINDLING CONNECTION TO CULTURE AND COUNTRY



- Arron Little, Alternative Education Coordinator, on Country identifying a Boomerang Tree

In the first 3 months of 2022, the Mibala team, as part of our Alternative Education Project, has facilitated over 25 bush trips, engaging more than 30 young people who live in and around Halls Creek. This year, the Mibala team aim to build on the existing skill sets, and the connections to country these young people already have, and to nurture and strengthen these attributes. With both hands on activity and learning around language, culture and Country, the Program is one Olabud Doogethu is proud to offer. We are all a part of establishing our future generation of Leaders.

“ I have a real sense of pride knowing I am part of a good team who is passionate about our Culture. I would like to see the next generation take part in sharing knowledge and passing down what we have learnt from our Elders. ”

- Aaron Little

Olabud Doogethu is committed to continuing work in this space as the visible and tactile outcomes are extremely promising. Young people in Halls Creek often exist in complex social and familial settings so we seek to provide a place for sharing and learning in a culturally safe and trauma informed environment.

The Mibala team see the sense of achievement felt by participants, and the flow on effect it has.

These young people are now accessing services and engaging with other Agencies they may not have known about, or been confident enough to approach prior to taking part in Milibud. We facilitate, not only Learning on Country, but assist in navigating day to day life in this part of the world. The result is more positive behaviours both at school and in the community.

ROCK HOLE



MIBALJA: Learning on Country; Alternative Education program; Dean Mosquito, Executive Director Culture and Transformation pictured far left, and Jesse Bradshaw, Case Intervention Officer far right.

KUTJUNGKA PROGRAM: FINDING THE RIGHT WAY FORWARD FOR OUR DESERT COMMUNITIES



The Katjungka Program pilot is currently funded by the Federal Government, who identified their need to change the way they work with Aboriginal Communities. This funding enabled Olabud Doogethu to employ local people as Community Navigators. They work with communities in the Kutjungka region to ascertain what services are being delivered, and if they are meeting community wants and needs.

In consultation with Communities, Olabud Doogethu has established the below criteria as a foundation for establishing the Kutjungka Program;

Local Aboriginal people decide who, when and how services are delivered in their communities - LOCAL DECISIONS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

Each Community is provided with necessary and appropriate resources in order to address priorities and work towards a better future - OUR FUTURE IN OUR HANDS

Government and government agencies listen to community voice, and consult with communities before actioning or implementing services or support projects - NO ABOUT US WITHOUT US

Government and government agencies work in a culturally safe and culturally informed way - CULTURAL AWARENESS IS KEY

In the months since the Kutjungka Program pilot began, Community Navigators have conducted Community Surveys to accurately identify what is important to individuals and families living in the communities, where the gaps are and what can be done to make things better.

WHAT THE DATA IS TELLING US: A SNAPSHOT

BALGO: 306 participants

No Early Learning
(0-3 yrs) Programs

Adults want to be
supported to upskill

Only 32 children with
up to date health checks

A pool & playground
would be life changing

COMMUNITY
NAVIGATORS WILL BE
CONDUCTING SURVEYS
IN MULAN SOON

BILILUNA: 62 participants

Four different languages
are spoken in Community

A centre for
recreation
and
activities
would be
life
changing

50% of all
adults want
further
education and
to engage
more in
traditional
culture and
language

KUNDAT DIARU: 63 participants

Respect to be
valued by all

Adults want to instil a love
of learning in kids, and help
them get through school

Assistance for pathways to
TAFE would be life changing

Community members are
fluent in Jaru
but would like to get better in English

Please visit olabuddoogethu.org.au/our-stories to see the full
Feature Article on the recent work by our Kutjungka Community Navigators

Olabud Doogethu on the National stage:

Justice Reinvestment Seminar

March 2022

On 11 March 2022 Aboriginal-led coalition organisation Change the Record hosted an online Seminar to discuss Justice Reinvestment in Australia, and give Communities, service providers, government agencies and other stakeholders the opportunity to speak with and learn from experts in this space.

Change the Record is Australia's first Aboriginal-led national coalition of First Nations people, made up of legal, health and violence prevention specialists. The Seminar brought together speakers from Aboriginal Corporations around the Nation. It was attended in live time by 200 people, and the recording has since been viewed by many hundreds more.

The Speakers (pictured below) took the opportunity to share their stories of challenges and successes, and to share their vision for the future of Justice Reinvestment in Australia.

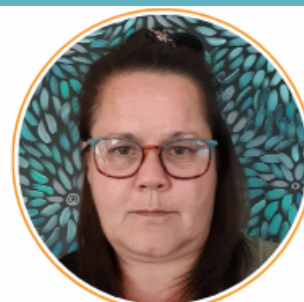


MEET OUR MODERATOR & SPEAKERS



Moderator
Cheryl Axleby

Narungga woman
Co-Chair of Change the
Record



Speaker
Julie Williams

Gamilaroi woman
Mt Druitt Community
Engagement Officer, Just
Reinvest NSW



Speaker
Deb Moyle

Ngarrindjeri and Millewa-
Mallee woman
Tiraapendi Wodli Program
Manager



Speaker
Dean Mosquito

Kija and Juru man
Olabud Doogethu's Executive
Officer for Culture and
Transformation

**Justice
Reinvestment
Seminar**
RSVPs essential
Friday 11 March
12:30pm - 1:30pm

SMART JUSTICE IN THE HEART OF THE KIMBERLEY



Dean Mosquito, Executive Officer Culture and Transformation

Olabud Doogethu's Executive Officer, Culture and Transformation, Dean Mosquito took part in the Seminar as a Panelist, and a representative of Justice Reinvestment in Western Australia.

As a Kija and Jaru man from Warmun Community, and long-time resident of the Shire of Halls Creek, Dean was well placed to lead the discussion around the work of Olabud Doogethu, and how Justice Reinvestment can benefit communities here in the Shire, and lead to positive change for indigenous communities and populations around Australia.

Dean explained to listeners, a key part of his role is to ensure all of Olabud's support services help children to develop a strong sense of self.

“ We see the difference when we have the resources to lead our own change, help our own mob. Especially with the kids.

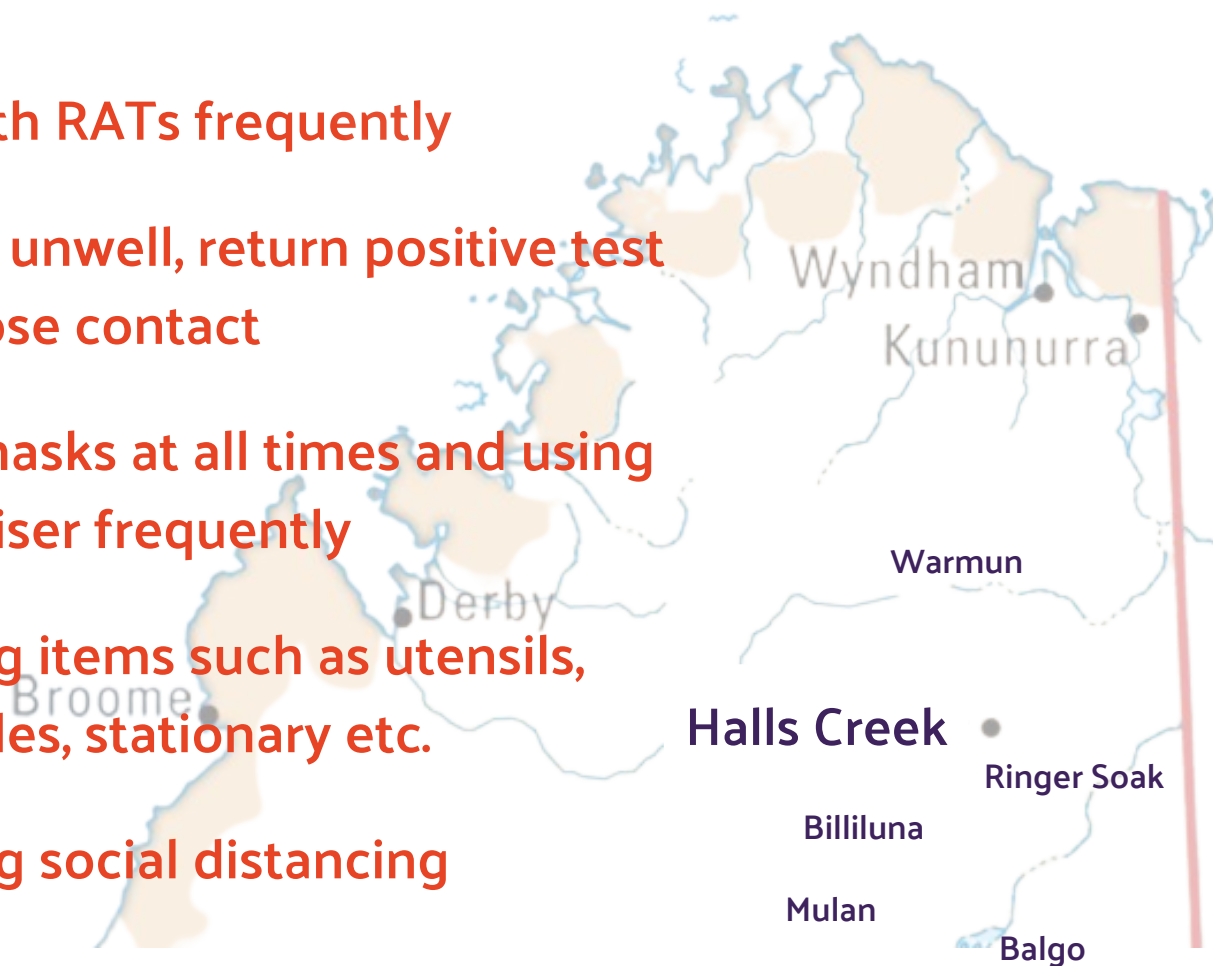
It's about giving us our power back, because we know whats best for our mob. ”

- Dean Mosquito

OPERATING IN A COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT: the Olabud Doogethu Response

With COVID-19 cases now in our Communities, we are working hard to keep safe and continue to provide services. All staff are committed to:

- ✓ Testing with RATs frequently
- ✓ Isolating if unwell, return positive test or are a close contact
- ✓ Wearing masks at all times and using hand sanitiser frequently
- ✓ Not sharing items such as utensils, water bottles, stationary etc.
- ✓ Maintaining social distancing



We are still operating all Programs, and will continue with uninterrupted service provision where possible. Programs currently operating are:

Youth Engagement Night Officers • Case Intervention and Alternative Education
Men's Tirbal Centre; meetings and support • Community Navigators (Kutjungka)

FOR SERVICE INFORMATION OR MEDIA RELATIONS

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