



Message

FROM THE MAYOR



Our community has been in the media spotlight recently for all the right reasons. We have enjoyed reading and watching stories about the progress Aurukun has made in securing a positive future for the people who live here. Positive partnerships such as the one between Aurukun Shire Council and Education Queensland to run a flexi school program at our Indigenous Knowledge Centre are good news as they are reconnecting our youth with learning and their culture.

It is often the women in our community who are at the forefront of striving for a better future for Aurukun and Council took great pleasure in presenting Because of Her We Can Awards to 15 of our leading ladies. Congratulations and thank you for your dedication.

The awards were another part of our 40th anniversary celebrations which continue with the Deadly Employee Awards and a celebration on the waterfront next month. The Busby Marou concert was a highlight and an incredible opportunity for our remote community to enjoy an ARIA-winning band. Thank you to Skytrans for flying them to Aurukun.

Yours in local government
Mayor Dereck Walpo



(Left to Right) Baressa Fraser, Jenny Kawangka, Janine Chevathun, Ada Woolla, Lois Toikalkin and Vera Koomeeta

Because of Her We Can

A Community Police Officer, Deputy Principal and councillors were among the 16 nominations for Because of Her We Can awards. Each of these women were nominated for their leadership and strength in our community.

Congratulations to Gertrude Yunkaporta, Kerrie Anjimulkan Tamwoy, Janine Chevathun, Baressa Frazer, Barbara Bandicootcha, Kailung Hudson, Mavis Ngallametta, Lois Toikalkin, Ada Woolla OAM, Doris Poonkamelya OAM, Vera Koomeeta OAM, Jenny Kawangka, Mary Anne Kerindun, Harriet Pootchemunka, Janice Yunkaporta, and Maureen Karyuka.

Pictured at the Aurukun Shire Council ceremony are Baressa Fraser, Jenny Kawangka, Janine Chevathun, Ada Woolla, Lois Toikalkin and Vera Koomeeta.

Busby Marou



Anniversary Concert

Busby Marou put on a great performance for the Aurukun Shire Council 40th anniversary concert.

The friendly duo, Thomas Busby and Jeremy Marou, met with members of the community at an afternoon tea in the Council Chambers and toured the Wilk and Kugu Art Centre where they met artist Garry Namponan.



Why I Love Aurukun

Brilliantly coloured sunsets on the Aurukun waterfront were the most popular photographs submitted to the Why I Love Aurukun Photo Competition which attracted 250 entries from residents and people who regularly visited Aurukun.

Thanks our generous sponsors. Skytrans donated a return flight to Cairns for the best photo by an Aurukun resident and cash prizes were donated by Kang Kang Café, Black Star Radio, CBC Staff Selection and Aurukun Shire Council.

Best Photo by an Aurukun Resident:

Winner: Elena Cartwright

Runner-up: Renee Gavin

Highly Commended: Yvonne Smart, Gordon Fawcett, Tina Van Bekkum

Best Photo in Competition:

Winner: Yvonne Smart

Runner-up: Renee Gavin

Highly Commended: Adam Trezise, Baressa Frazer, Sha-lane Gibson

Aurukun Character:

Winner: not awarded

Runner-up: Gordon Fawcett

Highly Commended: Noel Waterman, Steven Pelham

Favourite Activity:

Winner: Scotty White

Runner-up: Renee Gavin,

Highly Commended: Rachel Jensen, Damir Lovrinovic, Smithy Kepple

Best Scene:

Winner: Elena Cartwright

Runner-up: Yvonne Smart

Highly Commended: Rhonda Woolla, Kelly Ross, Keri Tamwoy

Aurukun at Work:

Winner: Renee Gavin

Runner-up: Kay Ennis

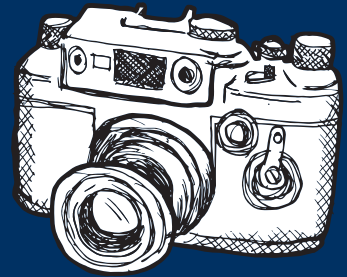
Highly Commended: Noel Waterman

Photo by Youth:

Winner: Azaria Woolla

Runner-up: Leah Williams

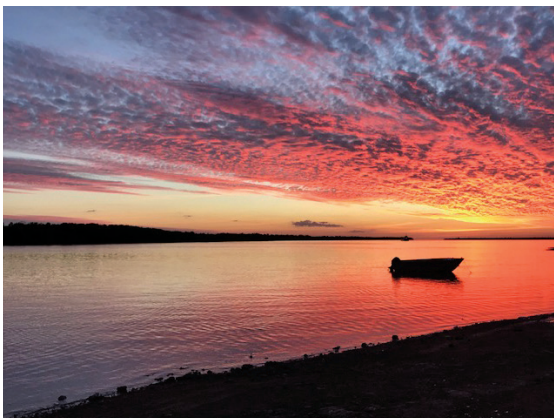
Highly Commended: Johoiakim Kawangka, Leah Williams



Winner Aurukun at Work: Renee Gavin



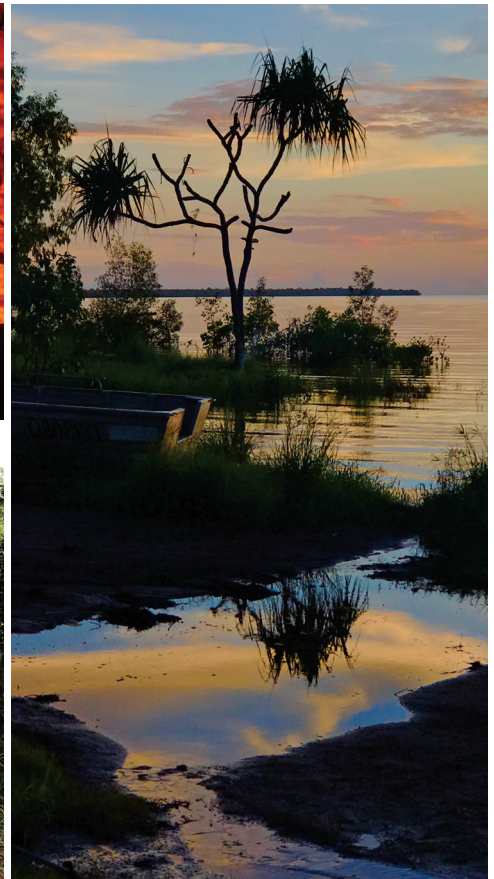
Winner Child-Youth: Azaria Woolla



Winner Best Photo in Competition: Yvonne Smart



Winner Favourite Activity: Scotty White



Winner Best Scene & Best Photo by an Aurukun Resident: Elena Cartwright

Have Your Say...

Plans to improve the Aurukun waterfront were welcomed by members of the community who attended the Council's first Have Your Say Information Day. Held at the Wo'uw Ko'alam Community Centre, the event was well attended with many local people opening up about their ideas for the future of the township and sharing why they enjoyed their work for Council.

The Aurukun Master Plan continues to be developed by Council and the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) in conjunction with consultants with feedback from the information day to be incorporated into planning.



RIVER TO RAMP



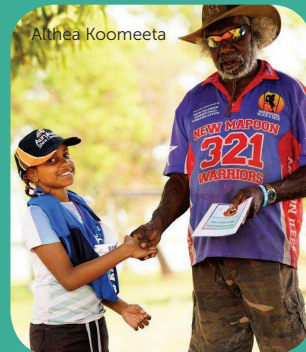
The Waterman family dominated the Aurukun River to Ramp run with **Gabe** winning Open Male, **Michaela** winning Open Female and **Noel** winning Seniors Male. **Rhonda Joliffe** won.

Seniors Female and Child Bike Winner was **Althea Koomeeta**. They were among 68 runners who competed in the heat and Deputy Mayor Edgar Kerindun presented the awards.

Gabe Waterman



Althea Koomeeta



George Warusam



Heston Korkaktain



Patrick Bell



DEADLY AWARD WINNERS



Congratulations to Aurukun Shire Council Deadly Award winner George Warusam who was nominated by four different people for his outstanding work at the Chivaree Centre. Heston Korkaktain came second and Patrick Bell came third in the third quarter awards.



Events Calendar

There are a variety of exciting events for 2018, so get them in your diaries now!

- Oct 25** 40 Years Celebration Waterfront Evening
- Nov 11** Remembrance Day
- Dec 8** Aurukun Christmas Celebration
- Dec 13** Deadly Employee of the Year Awards and Deadly Volunteer of the Year Awards

Visit <http://aurukun.qld.gov.au/for-visitors/events/community-events> for a full list of dates.



Artists Awarded

Arts Minister Leeanne Enoch and Governor Paul de Jersey were among the visitors to the Wik and Kugu Arts Centre display at the opening of the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF). Artists Gary, Lex, Bevan and Leigh Namponan and Vernon Marbendar talked to guests about their carvings.

Congratulations to **Vernon** for winning the CIAF Emerging Artist Award for his Rainbow Birds and Parrots sculpture. Congratulations also to Aurukun artist **Mavis Ngallametta** for winning the Fibre Optics People's Choice Award for her painting Swamp on the Way to Obon.



2018 Aurukun Shire Council Meetings



Oct 23 | Nov 20 | Dec 11

Welcome to the latest edition of 'Wik Kath' – your community newsletter highlighting all the positive news and achievements happening in Aurukun!

'Wik Kath' means 'the story' in English.

If you would like to suggest stories for the next edition of Wik Kath, please email liz@lizinglismedia.com

Aak Muunchanak Splash Park was officially opened by Aurukun Ministerial Champion Di Farmer. Meaning a place of refreshment, the DATSIP project attracted a crowd of 200 with many local school children thoroughly enjoying the exhilarating and cooling experience.



Jayden Marrott was selected by the NRL Referee Development Program for the opportunity to run with referees around Australia after completing the Level One Referees course at Western Cape College and refereeing the Cape Cluster matches. He ran as a Touch Judge in the Affiliated States Championships in Brisbane.



Seven Aurukun community members have participated in the Glencore accredited training program, 17 Aurukun locals completed inductions to perform work in the Coconut resource area and six Aurukun men participated in a program of drilling work.

Carpenter Ross Wolmby is a fantastic role model for young local people after stepping up to do maintenance work around the community without supervision. Ross is doing an outstanding job by keeping up with his workload, working in a timely manner

and completing excellent paperwork. This keen young man with an outstanding attitude is only the second local to complete his apprenticeship with Aurukun Shire Council.



Aurukun Day was great fun with a bucking bull, slippery slide, face painting and BBQ for the community to enjoy. The winning entries to the Why I Love Aurukun Photo Competition were displayed, Aurukun State School had a stall, Rio Tinto kept the kids entertained with t-shirt painting and 51st Battalion had a display.



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