

### ILLAWARRA ABORIGINAL



ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

**CORPORATION** 

## NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025



As we head into the festive season, we wanted to wrap up the year by sharing what's been happening across our teams and in community. It's been a busy few months, and we're grateful for all the hard work, support and good energy that's helped us get to the end of 2025.

In this Christmas edition, you'll find updates, highlights, upcoming events and a few end-of-year messages. A big thank you to our staff, families, Elders and community for walking with us through another year.

Wishing you all a safe, happy and restful Christmas season.

#### 🌲 IAC Christmas Office Hours 🌲

Our offices will be closed over the Christmas break. Nevertheless, if you need assistance during this time, please leave a voice message or send an email Our admin team will be monitoring messages and will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please see the following information for each service.

#### A Head office A

Our Port Kembla office will be closed on the following dates:

Wednesday 24th December 2025 Thursday 25th December 2025 Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026

#### Corporate

Closed from Wednesday 24th December 2025 re opening on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026

#### 🌲 Childcare Centres 🌲

Closed from Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Re opening 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026



















#### 🌲 Housing & Homelessness 🌲

Closed Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Thursday 1st January 2025

#### 🛕 Aged Care 🎄

Closed Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025

#### 🌲 Myimbarr & Marana 🌲

Closed Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Thursday 1st January 2025

#### 🌲 Barringgirra 🌲

Closed Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 205 Re opening 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

#### New team members

We are excited to welcome several new faces to our Housing Homelessness team. Each brings valuable skills, lived experience, and a genuine commitment to supporting our community. Their passion and fresh perspectives will strengthen the work we do every day, and we look forward to the positive impact they'll make as part of our organisation.

Robert- For all your housing needs Brent- Housings asset officer for maintanace and services and Kirra- Homlessness support with





#### **Batemans Bay Office Opening**

18<sup>th</sup> December the Thursday Aboriginal Corporation Illawarra officially opened the new office in Batemans Bay. Thank you to the and services who organisations attended and showed their support for this important new space.

The Batemans Bay office will be utilised by our Housing, Warrigal and Aged Care teams, strengthening our ability to support community locally. It was a great day, and we appreciate everyone who helped make it such a positive occasion.

























#### **Indigenous Business Expo**

The 2025 Indigenous Business Expo brought together 62 First Nations businesses in one place to showcase their services and products, while connecting, sharing and strengthening networks.

Thank you to Gemma (Sacred Country Consulting) and Carly (WCC) for organising such a successful event. IAC was proud to attend the expo at Novotel and connect with so many strong First Nations businesses.

We can't wait to see everyone again next year!

#### **Elders Social group**

Our Wednesday Elders Social Group is wrapping up another fantastic year! It's been a huge year filled with visits from special guests, outings to different places, plenty of laughs, and lots of time spent connecting with one another.

We finished the year on a high with our very own little Christmas party to celebrate all the great memories made in 2025.

If you know an Elder aged 65 or over who would like to join our Wednesday Elders Group next year, please contact Mavis for more information. We'd love to welcome some new faces!





























#### **IAC Cultural Programs**

As we come to the end of the year, we want to thank everyone who has taken part in IAC's cultural programs. From workshops and community days to cultural education, outreach, and connection activities.

Your participation, support, and willingness to share culture have made 2025 a truly meaningful year for our community.

We've loved seeing Elders, families, young people, and visitors come together to learn, yarn, create, and celebrate culture in safe and supportive spaces. As these programs wrap up for the year, we acknowledge the hard work of our staff, cultural facilitators, and community partners who make it all possible.

#### Looking Ahead to 2026

We're excited to share that IAC will have a full calendar of cultural programs planned for 2026, including:

- More hands-on cultural workshops and community days
- Our Elders program
- Community events that celebrate identity, connection, and belonging
- New partnerships to support cultural wellbeing and safe spaces for all ages.































The Elders 2025 Christmas lunch was held last week.

We had visitors from LaPerouse down to Wreck Bay.

We hope they had a lovely time catching up with mob that they don't get to see often.























































































#### Spot the difference



How did the bauble know that she was addicted to Christmas? She'd been hooked on Christmas trees all her life.

A gingerbread man went to the doctor's complaining of a sore knee.

"A sore knee?" the doctor said. "Have you tried icing it?"

#### **Answers**





# MERRY CHISTAS