



# **WUJAL KABAN NEWSLETTER NOV- DEC 2024**

**WUJAL WUJAL ABORIGINAL SHIRE  
COUNCIL**

**CONTACT US**

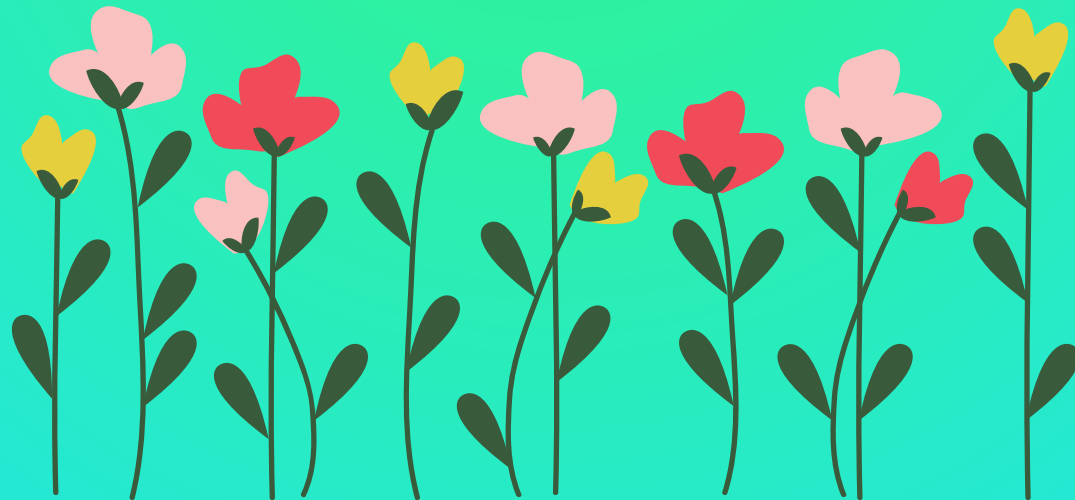
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**IKC OPENING HOURS: 9-30AM -  
4:00PM**

**Our sincere condolences to the Nandy & Gibson families. May your loved one rest in peace & eternity and the peace of God be with you all.**



# Christmas message to the Wujal Wujal Community from the CEO

As we approach Christmas, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible progress we've made this year. It has been a challenging year, especially after the devastating Tropical Cyclone Jasper flooding disaster in December 2023. Many homes and buildings were damaged, and the community was without power, water, sewerage, and communication, with 270 residents evacuated for six months.

During this time, Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council worked alongside many agencies, including the State and Federal Government, our own Wujal 51st Battalion soldiers, Housing, QBuild, CEO, Jabalbina, My Pathway, CDCC, Queensland Police Service, Cape York Partnership, Nandy Constructions, Ivanoff Constructions, Briody Plumbing, Emperor Electrical, Erscow, NCP Civil, Mount Louis Station, Middle Shop, Ayton Shop, Disaster Recovery Australia, ADF, Humani Hut, Justice Group, other Ranger Groups, Water contractors and consultants and every other stakeholder who helped with the Wujal Wujal response and recovery efforts and many others, to support community and help with the recovery.

By June 2024, most of our community members were able to return home. This was a huge milestone, and I'm proud of how we came together to rebuild. Every single one of you has shown remarkable courage and strength. It's a testament to the resilience and determination of community, and I'm honoured to be a part of it.

Our wonderful Council team and community service providers have worked tirelessly to restore essential services and rebuild our community facilities and services. We have seen our schools, Kindy and Indigenous Knowledge Centre come back to life, and our community events and social services are thriving again.

Ops Manager Perry and our Council Operations team and contractors recovered and repaired community's water treatment plant restore safe drinking water and other essential services, as well as providing building services, animal and environmental health management and other operational services, and recovery of Council plant and equipment destroyed by the flood. New Council team members Colin Friday, Shannon Shuan and Munna Hastie joined our Operations team.

Our community facilities and social events are once again thriving facilitated through Community Services Manager Kesa. Our schools reopened; our Kindy was once again bustling with little people activity with Ms Coraleen. Our Indigenous Knowledge Centre (IKC) is working well with IKC Officer Shinane opening the doors to community members and kids to enjoy. Sports and Events Officer Dallas and Radio Officer Carmel worked together and brought us all together through the sports and community events hosted in our community hall. Aged Care Coordinator Gina and her wonderful team at the Aged Care Centre provided amazing supports to our Elders, in Cooktown when our Elders were evacuated and in the surrounding area since our Elders returned home. A/Arts Coordinator Juni and Kesa brought our artists together for a seven-week art workshop to create some beautiful art in community. The RACQ team joined us in September 2024 to provide a community project with Council and community, renovating the public toilet block, the RTC building, the community gardens and the nursery.

My sincere thanks goes to Operations Accountant Renelle in our Finance team, who has worked tirelessly with me all this year to keep Council moving forward financially, right through the disaster response and recovery period. Renelle was joined by Anisia about six months ago and they are financial power team.

Community have had to navigate the challenges of rebuilding lives, as well as to move through the grief of Sorry Business in community this year. I want to express my deepest condolences to the families of our community members who have passed.

Looking ahead, we've been preparing for the Wet Season and will continue to work together to stay safe and prepared for any challenges ahead.

As we celebrate Christmas, I want to thank each of you for your resilience and strength. We've achieved so much this year, and I'm excited about what's to come in 2025. Together, we will keep moving forward, rebuilding, and creating a brighter future for all.

God Bless and wishing you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

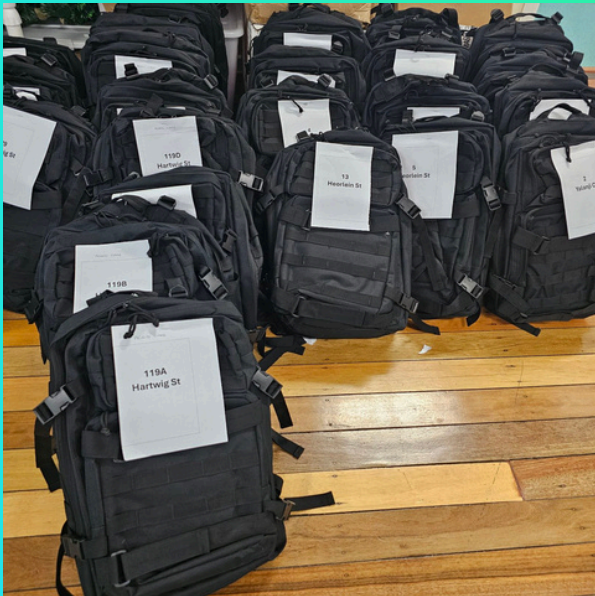
# LAST COUNCIL MEETING

Today is our last council meeting for the year.



# DISASTER RECOVERY

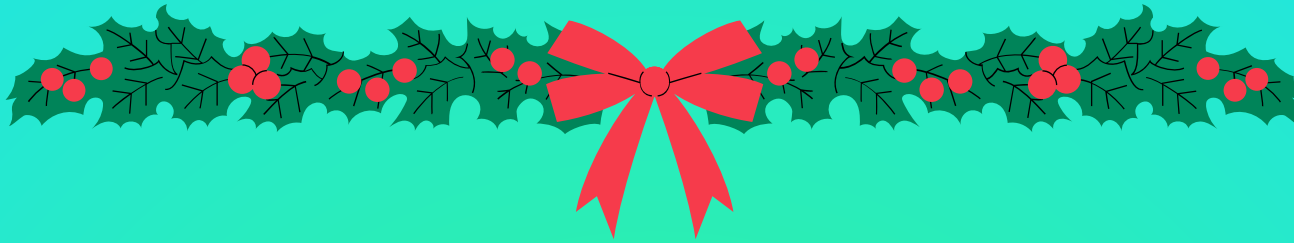
These bags the council have had in the office to hand out to every house for the wet season as they are emergency kit.





# KINDY KIDS ENJOYING THEIR DAY AT THE WATER PARK



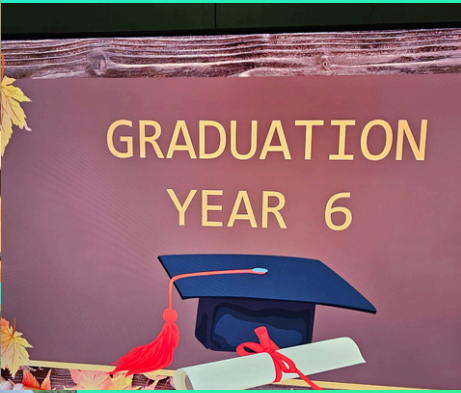


# COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

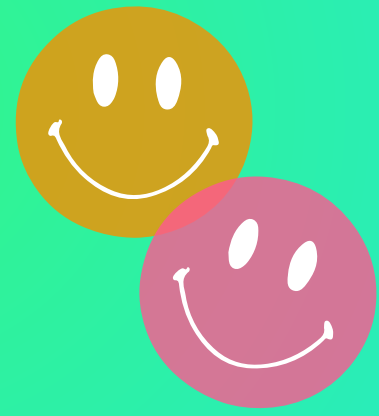


# BLOOMFIELD RIVER STATE SCHOOL

## YEAR 6 GRADUATION



CONGRATULATIONS





# KINDY BREAK-UP PARTY

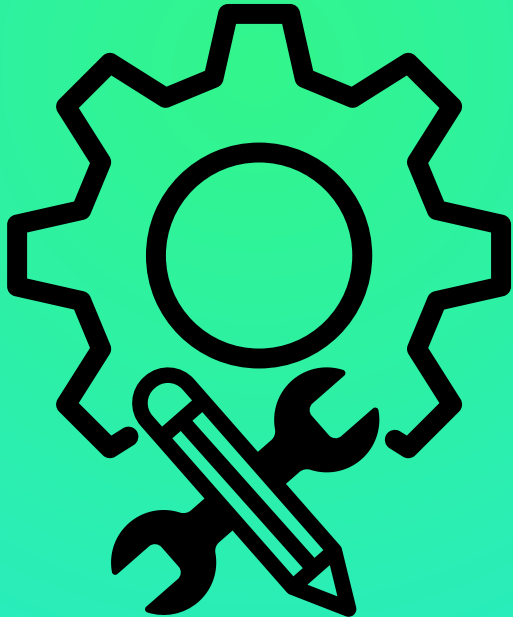


# ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA)

Thank you ADRA Naomi and Darren for the 200 boxes of Christmas food, hampers and cleaning products. Thank you again ADRA, we wish you a wonderful, blessed Christmas and New Year.



# Professional development training for Council Managers and Coordinators provided by Total Management & Training.

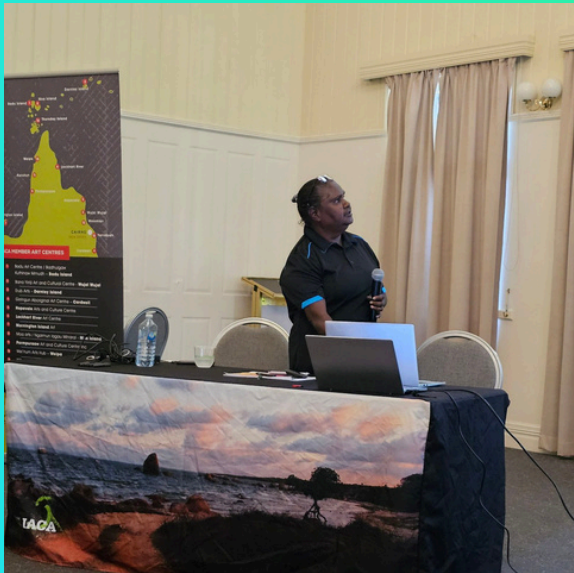


# Community Services Dept Christmas breakfast





**IACA Arts Centre conference in Cairns recently where Junibel was nominated as Management Committee member for IACA. Congratulations Junibel!**



# EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILL



# AGED CARE BINGO, MELBOURNE CUP AND VISITATION TO THE SCHOOL



# INTERAGENCY MEETING

**Last meeting for the year. We thank all stakeholders, service providers for their continuing support for Wujal Wujal Community. Special thank you to Mayor Alister Gibson for chairing this meeting and CEO Kiley Hanslow. Also thank you to Lisa Scott Community Connector for connecting all services to Wujal Wujal and being a minute's taker for our meetings. See you in 2025.**



# WUJAL WUJAL LIBRARY



**Some of the children playing on the IPad, Legos, reading a book and drawing their names.**

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Years From the IKC.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

# JUSTICE GROUP

There is a big career program happening today. Run by CUC Community Universities Program. Looking at careers through VR. (virtual reality). The boys playing in our music room and music program run by Jessa. The ladies and the Elders are doing an art and literacy program run by the indigenous literacy foundation, where they wrote a book in language and yes, they did the artwork for it. The book will be finished publication in a few months. We have lots of amazing stuff coming up in the New Year. BAJA BAJA is also there to help any young men and women to get all their gov accounts up, TFN, Bank accounts, Learners. Anything to set them up for success. We have computers for anyone to do a course. We are looking for school leavers to join our Sign production program, that is now fully up and running. We have signs in order and are happy to take on more. Computer sign design and construction. We will also be running many art classes as Susan the coordinator is an art teacher with many years' experiences in the art sector all over the communities in Cape York. We support mums and bubs and we also do cooking classes.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT "TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN WUJAL"

