



# Pemulwuy

Newsletter of the NSW AECG Inc.

June 2018

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## NSW AECG Education Rally



Have your say

Want to have your say?

Let everyone know the great things happening in your Local or Regional AECG. To be published, send your photos and stories to: [info@aecg.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@aecg.nsw.edu.au)

The NSW AECG Inc. would like to Acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we work, and pay our respect to Elders past and present.

## President's Message



Welcome to another edition of the NSW AECG newsletter, Pemulwuy. As always, the NSW AECG has been busy conducting professional learning, running STEM camps, advocating for our mob, building resources and supporting language activities.

The NSW AECG has also been conducting workshops with members of the Junior AECG to include in our submission to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. It never ceases to amaze me, the vast amount of knowledge our young people which I sometimes think our education systems forget. Keep a lookout for our submission and the points our young people make. I think it is something we all can learn from.

In the meantime, enjoy reading this edition of the Pemulwuy. As always, it only presents a snapshot of the myriad of things that happen across our State from the tireless work of our members and supporters of Aboriginal Education.

Enjoy the read!!

## Pemulwuy

Pronounced: "Pem-ool-we"

The newsletter has been called *Pemulwuy* in honour of one of the first Aboriginal people known to have resisted the invasion of Australia.

*Pemulwuy* and his son, Tedbury, were both outlawed while leading resistance to the invasion for 20 years after 1788. They led a form of guerilla warfare right around the area of modern Sydney and were perhaps the first Aboriginal people to resist attacks on their culture and identity.

# WARRANT OFFICER LEN WATERS - AUSTRALIA REMEMBERS

Len Waters or going by his full name Leonard Victor Waters was a WW2 Aboriginal serviceman. He was the first Aboriginal Australian military aviator, and the only one to serve as a fighter pilot in the Royal Australian Air Force during World War II. He was born on Euraba Mission near Boomi in north western NSW on 24 June 1924 and passed away at Cunnamulla on 24 August 1993.

He flew 95 operational sorties with 78 Squadron from 1943 – 1945, operating from Noemfoor, Morotai and Tarakan in the area of Papua New Guinea. This squadron flew the famous Australian designed fighter plane, the Kittyhawk.

When Len Waters joined the RAAF on 24 August 1942 he was initially trained as a flight mechanic. Later he was accepted for pilot training and graduated as a Sergeant pilot from 5 Service Flying Training School at Uranquinty NSW. His training continued at 2 Operational Training Unit (2OTU), Mildura, Vic, from where he was posted to 78 Squadron on 14 November 1944. The early operations of this squadron fought Australia's Battle of Battle fighting off a determined Japanese thrust to take Port Moresby in their vastly superior plane the Mitsubishi Zero.

*"He was accepted as an equal because he worked so hard and he was admired so much by his fellow comrades."*

Source: <http://www.anzacentenary.gov.au/news/australia%E2%80%99s-first-aboriginal-fighter-pilot-len-waters>

His efforts are recognized with an information display at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.



Source: Wikipedia



Len Waters, second from left standing.  
Source: Australian War Memorial



75<sup>th</sup> Squadron Kittyhawk at Milne Bay.  
Source: Australian War Memorial



# NANGA MAI AWARDS 2018

Nanga Mai is an Eora (Sydney) word meaning 'to dream'. The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual NSW Public Schools Nanga Mai Awards celebrate and recognise innovation, excellence and achievements in Aboriginal education across NSW public schools and their communities.

The NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc congratulates this year's recipients on their achievements and wishes them every success in their future endeavours.

## **STUDENT AWARDS:**

### Encouragement Award

- Cody Antow: Cambridge Gardens School
- Ruby Baker-Hall: Byron Bay High School
- Caitlyn Mundatt: Campbelltown Performing Arts High School

### Outstanding Student Engagement Award

- Carley Bates: Chifley College - Shalvey Campus
- Tatiana Sau: Ermington West Public School
- Adam Bell: Briar Rd Public School

### Outstanding Achievement in Sport Award

- Emily Stirk: Rooty Hill High School
- Sarah Johnson: Campbelltown Performing Arts High School

### Outstanding Achievement in Performance/Creative/Visual Arts Awards

- Rhiana Leaupepe Perkins: Tweed River High School
- Rebecca Hatch: Campbelltown Performing Arts High School

### Outstanding Achievement in Public Speaking Award

- Liam Ross: Clairgate Public School
- Nicholas Howie: Blaxland High School

### Academic Excellence Award

- Dylan Barnes: Brisbane Water Secondary Campus – Woy Woy Senior Campus High School
- Sarah Blackwell: Blaxland High School

### Highest Achieving Aboriginal Student in the 2017 Higher School Certificate Award

- Thomas Harrington: Parramatta High School

#### Student Leadership Awards

- Jamie Ribeiro: Northern Beaches Secondary College Mackellar Girls Campus
- Aaliyah Parnell: Alexandria Park Community School

### **STAFF AWARDS:**

#### Award for Outstanding Contribution to Educational Achievement by an Aboriginal Staff Member

- Gloria Harrison: Doonside Public School

#### Award for Outstanding Contribution to Educational Achievement by a non-Aboriginal Staff Member

- Mark Maclean: Lightning Ridge Central School

#### Award for Outstanding Leadership in Aboriginal Languages

- Jaycent Davis: Taree High School

#### Award for Outstanding Leadership in Aboriginal Education

- Kym Hawes: Queanbeyan Public School

### **SCHOOL/COMMUNITY AWARDS:**

#### Award for Outstanding Contribution to Educational Achievement by a Community Member

- Maxine Mackay: Bourke Local AECG

#### Award for Outstanding School and Community Partnership

- Albion Park High School

#### Award for Outstanding Commitment to increasing knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal histories, culture and experiences of Aboriginal peoples

- Chris Shaw: Hillvue Public School

#### Director's Meritorious Award – Love of Learning

- Richard Batty: St Andrews Public School
- Paul Hughes: Rosemeadow Public School

# GARDEN-BASED LEARNING AT SIR ERIC WOODWARD SCHOOL (SEWS)

Garden-based learning has arrived at SEWS! A range of numeracy outcomes will be achieved through incorporating garden-based learning (GBL) activities into our students' learning programs. These strategies are included within the SEWS 2018 – 2020 school plan.



Class 1 are mixing in some fresh soil before planting out some vegies

Many sensory experiences to engage with in a GBL learning environment positively influence wellbeing, and ultimately happiness. GBL provides a context for students to experience achievement, increase self-esteem, increase motivation and continue to engage in learning activities. This further provides opportunities to develop specific numeracy skills and knowledge. Our students may be involved in a range of activities such as counting seeds, measuring distances between plants, indicating the depth of a hole for planting, measuring height of plants, taking data on growth of plants over time, and estimating time. There are obvious commonalities and overlaps with targeted outcomes in the English, Science and Geography syllabuses as well. Therefore, the additional benefits of project-based learning pedagogy is likely down the track.

Bunnings Belrose have supported SEWS on our GBL journey by providing their expertise, time and resources to modify our GBL area. It will take some time to make these areas accessible and engaging for all our students, but we are definitely underway.

Some of our students have participated in planting activities already. The engagement and happiness of the students is testament that students will experience

achievement through a GBL framework. A big thank you to Bunnings Belrose for their continued support.

SEWS is also embarking on a related project to show our appreciation and respect to the original custodians of the land on which our school now stands. We are designing and planting a sensory garden area with a unique flavour. Specifically, we are curating a sensory garden comprised of the native plants that originally grew in this area that have been identified as edible plants by the Guringai People. We are fortunate to have the support of Clarence Bruinsma (Aboriginal Education and Engagement Advisor) to share local knowledge with us and ensure that we undertake this project with respect to the original custodians of this land.

We are thankful to have the guidance of local Guringai Elder Uncle Dennis Foley in naming this sensory garden. We have embraced his suggestion to name our sensory garden "Cab-ra-nanga" which translates to "resting the mind". We look forward to developing this area through continued consultation. We are at the start of another positive journey that is strongly linked with our GBL activities. This area now display the Aboriginal flag to demonstrate our commitment to continued appreciation and respect to Aboriginal People. Again, thank you to Bunnings Belrose for providing their expertise and resources to get this project underway.

We look forward to sharing more of our students' GBL achievements for years to come.

**Sian, Louise, Jon & Doug**



We made a start on the Cab-ra-nanga garden area

# KIDS MATTER at Tacoma Public School

Tacoma Public School celebrated our annual Bidhal Wadhayi Badhang (celebrate happy spirits).

The day also celebrated the opening of our new garden – Ngara Barayi (listen to earth)

Our garden is full of colour, complete with a yarning circle for outdoor learning, the rainbow walk (ganang yana) which is also a sensory path, plants from the rainforest, the desert succulents, the beach and lots of bushtucker.

There is a very special place, with a glittery purple seat, to sit and remember Sana, with frangipani's and lots of love. When you walk by there, quietly stop and spend some time thinking of her and remembering her wadhayi badhang (happy spirit).

All our signage incorporated Darkinyung language and was from the A-M-A-Z-I-N-G Ian Bonnar from Lost Art Signs.

The garden incorporates colours to fill our senses, and to reflect and enjoy our surroundings:

**PURPLE** is spiritual and encourages deep thinking.

**BLUE** soothes us gives us serenity and keeps us calm.

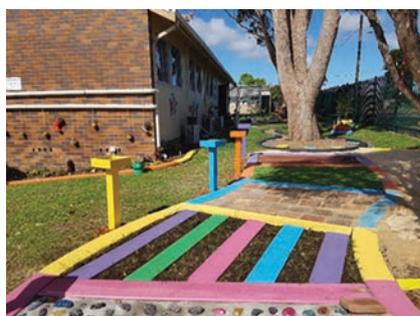
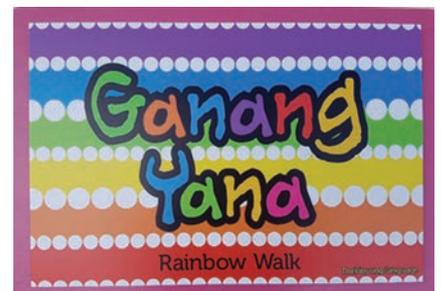
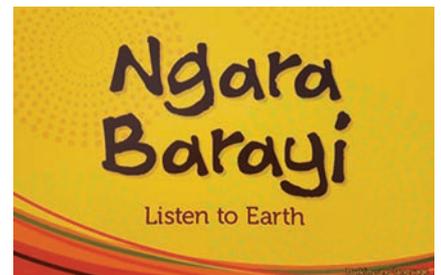
**GREEN** gives us balance, harmony & peace.

**PINK** gives us tranquillity, warmth and love.

**YELLOW** gives us emotional strength and is a strong colour that lifts our spirits and self-esteem.

Our garden is a **GREAT** place to be!

Remember to tread lightly on the earth... The earth has music for those that listen.



# HSC MINIMUM STANDARD OF LITERACY AND NUMERACY

## WHAT'S CHANGED?

From this year, Year 9 NAPLAN tests will no longer be used as an early way for students to demonstrate the HSC minimum standard.



This change has been made to ensure NAPLAN remains focussed on its diagnostic purpose and to reduce unnecessary stress on young people.

However, if your child achieved Band 8s or above in a 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN test they are recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that particular area and will not need to sit the corresponding online test.

Meeting the HSC minimum standard will mean that your child has the literacy (English) and numeracy (Maths) skills essential for success in learning and life after school.

## THE ONLINE TESTS

Most students will show they have met the HSC minimum standard by passing minimum standard online tests. Students will have two opportunities a year, from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12, to pass each online test.

There are three 45-minute online tests:

- a multiple choice **reading** test
- a multiple choice **numeracy** test
- a short **writing** test based on a choice between a visual or written prompt.

The online test dates (school days only) for 2018 are:

- Term 1: 19 February to 23 March 2018
- Term 2: 21 May to 22 June 2018
- Term 3: 13 August to 14 September 2018
- Term 4: 5 November to 7 December 2018.



## WHAT TO EXPECT?

To help your child understand what to expect in the online tests, they are encouraged to visit [educationstandards.nesa.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard](http://educationstandards.nesa.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard) to:

- try demonstration questions to get a feel for the test format
- view sample test questions and answers online.

Your child's school may also organise short practice tests.



## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students are encouraged to talk to their teachers to determine whether they are eligible for provisions. A Disability Provisions, Exemptions and Appeals policy, which contains further information, is available on the NESA website.

Some students with disabilities will be eligible for extra provisions for the minimum standard online tests, or an exemption from the HSC minimum standard requirement. Find out more: <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard>

## WHAT CAN A PARENT OR CARER DO?

Parents or carers can be aware of the new requirements and how they can help their child succeed.

If you think your child needs additional support you can:

- talk to and meet with your child's teacher(s), subject coordinator(s) and/or Aboriginal education staff to discuss strategies at school and home
- make sure that literacy and numeracy support are included in your child's Personalised Learning Plans (PLPs)
- contact an Aboriginal Education consultant in your child's school system for suggestions
- speak to your local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG)
- ask school representatives or volunteer organisations about availability of tutoring or extra-curricular school or community-based programs in literacy and numeracy.

Find your local AECG by searching at <https://www.aecg.nsw.edu.au/aecg-regions/>

## STAY UP TO DATE

**NSW Education Standards Authority**

 [educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard)

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# INDIGENOUS CRICKET TEAMS RETURNING TO THE UK AFTER 150 YEARS

Source: <http://www.indigenous.gov.au/news-and-media/stories/indigenous-cricket-teams-returning-uk-after-150-years>

The first Australian sporting team to tour internationally was a men's Aboriginal cricket team made up of 13 players.

To commemorate that 1868 tour of the UK, Cricket Australia is sending two cricket squads, women's and men's, to the UK for the first 2 weeks of June. Both will play under the banner of the '2018 Aboriginal XI.'

Ashleigh Gardner and Dan Christian will lead the respective sides against several of the same counties as the original 1868 tour. The schedule includes matches against Surrey, Sussex, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).

'Being able to represent my culture is really special and all the girls are really excited to do that too,' Ashleigh said.

'They all understand this is a big moment in their careers and for me to be able to captain a team that is inexperienced in terms of international tours but one that is ready for that competition is a big moment in my career as well.'

Venues used for fixtures against Surrey, Sussex and Derbyshire will be the same as those used in 1868 including a double-header at The Oval.

In 2018, the 13 male players travelling will proudly represent one of the pioneer players, by displaying their name on the back of their

uniform. The female squad will wear their own names on their back, being pioneers as the first female Indigenous team to tour the UK.

The team uniforms incorporate the commemorative artwork titled 'Walkabout Wickets' which tells the story of both the 1866 Boxing Day match and the 1868 tour. It was designed by Aunty Fiona Clarke who is the great-great-granddaughter of Grongarrong (Mosquito), one of the stars of the 1868 team.

In addition to the matches, players will engage in activities pre-tour and in the UK to further connect with the significance of the 1868 events as they take over the reigns as story tellers to future generations of Indigenous cricketers.

Congratulations to all the cricketers selected to take part in the tour!



From left: Women's team captain Ashleigh Gardner, uniform designer Aunty Fiona Clarke and fast bowler Scott Boland

## Squads

### 2018 Aboriginal XI – Men - Coach – Jeffrey Cook (KAMILAROI)

Name	Mob	State	1868 Player Representing
Dan Christian (C)	WIRADJURI	VIC	UNAARRIMIN (JOHNNY MULLAGH)
Nick Boland	GULIGAN	VIC	GRONGARRONG (MOSQUITO)
Scott Boland	GULIGAN	VIC	YELLANACH (JOHNNY CUZENS)
Brendan Doggett	WORIMI	QLD	MURRUMGUNARRIMAN (TWO PENNY)
Sam Doggett	WORIMI	NSW	PRIPUMUARRAMAN (CHARLEY DUMAS)
Damon Egan	GUNDITJMARA	VIC	JUMGUMJENANUKE (DICK-A-DICK)
Tyran Liddiard	BIRIPI	NSW	BULLCHANACH (BULLOCKY)
Jonte Pattison	WIRADJURI	NSW	BRIMBUNYAH (REDCAP)
Nathan Price	KAMILAROI	NSW	ARRAHMUNYARRIMUN (PETER)
D'Arcy Short	MITAKOODI	WA	BONNIBARNGEET (TIGER)
Brendan Smith	DHUNGUTTI	NSW	LYTEJERBILLIJUN (JIM CROW)
Rex Strickland	WONNARUA	WA	BALLRINJARRIMIN (SUNDOWN)
Dane Ugle	NYOONGAR / BALLARDONG	WA	BRIPUMYARRIMIN (KING COLE)

### 2018 Aboriginal XI - Women – Coach, Shelley Nitschke

Name	Mob	State
Ashleigh Gardner (C)	MURWARI	SA
Jemma Astley	WANARUA	NSW
Dharmini Chauhan	WIRADJURI	NSW
Christina Coulson		QLD
Hannah Darlington	KAMILAROI	NSW
Sara Darney	WIRADJURI	NSW
Zoe Fleming	KAMILAROI	NSW
Haylee Hoffmeister	PALAWA	WA
Emma Manix-Geeves	PALAWA	TAS
Sally Moylan	WIRADJURI	ACT
Natalie Plane	KAMILAROI	VIC
Roxanne Van Veen	GUNDUNGURRA	NSW
Naomi Woods	KAMILAROI	NSW

#### Find out more

The tour is supported by the Commonwealth Bank who are the Principal Partner of Cricket Australia's **A Sport for All** program.

Congratulations to Damon and Natalie who also have been part of the Noogal Toengorr Tani Cricket Program run by Cricket Victoria and funded by the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (Noogal means 'belong' and Toengorr Tani means 'success win').

# NSW AECG AGM 2018





# ABORIGINAL EDUCATION MATTERS

## NSW AECG Education Rally

*'What matters? Aboriginal Education! When does it matter? All the time!'*

Photos from our Education Rally outside of the NSW Department of Education head office where we rallied for access and equity for Aboriginal people and students in education.







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