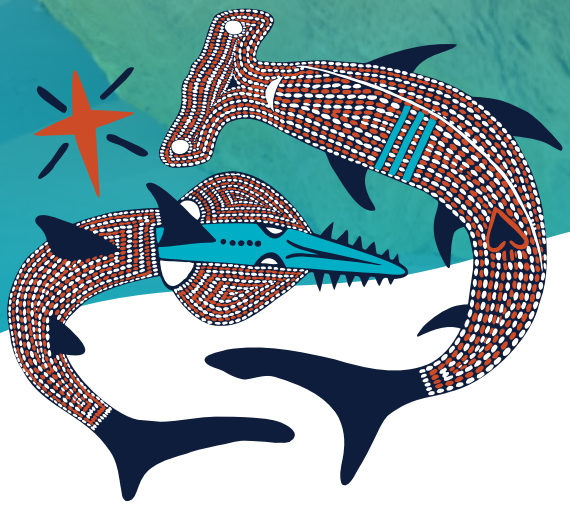
Anindilyakwa
Land Council

Stories from Groote

Edition 15

18 September 2025



Message from the Chair

I'm pleased to announce on behalf of the Board that Mr Michael Trainor has been appointed interim CEO. Michael joined the ALC in 2023 as Mining and Sustainability Manager and brings more than 40 years of professional experience, including holding senior executive roles within the resource industry, leading large-scale mining, environmental, and sustainability projects.

I'm pleased to welcome Michael to the role and I'm confident he will help to ensure continuity of our operations while we search for our permanent CEO.

Recruitment for our new leader is well underway. We have been promoting this opportunity through our media channels, strongly encouraging Traditional Owners to apply for the role. We will update you when our permanent CEO has been selected.

In this edition of 'Stories from Groote', we celebrate the opening of a new wharf and relaunch of GEMCO operations. We enjoy the community atmosphere of the Angurugu Festival and thank the locals who are keeping Groote Eylandt clean. Plus, we go along for the ride on a new BMX track designed by a world champion for Umbakumba.

We are always open to feedback you may have or stories you may like covered – you can reach us directly on corporate.media@alcnt.com.au

Cherelle Wurrawilya, Chair

Subscribe now

Barrarumanja open for business as GEMCO resumes operations

Invest in the present to build a self-sufficient future

This month, we welcomed the official opening of GEMCO's new wharf infrastructure and recommencement of full production operations – and the return of jobs, investment and economic growth for Groote Eylandt.

GEMCO's new wharf infrastructure, named Barrarumanja, meaning 'from Bara and Jaragba country', took place on South32's GEMCO mine site.

The official opening was attended by the Ministers of Mining and Energy, and Lands, Planning, and Environment, as well as representatives from South32 and GEMCO, and Traditional Owners represented by the Anindilyakwa Land Council.

GEMCO has been in operation since 1965 and is a globally significant manganese producer. Production and export operations were halted for over 12 months following the destruction of wharf infrastructure caused by Tropical Cyclone Megan in March 2024.

In 2023-24, GEMCO produced almost a billion dollars in mineral production value, underscoring the mine's significance to the Northern Territory.



The reopening of the GEMCO wharf marks a significant milestone for the Groote Eylandt community, ensuring economic prosperity for Anindilyakwa communities now and into the future.



Official opening of Barrarumanja wharf | Photos by GEMCO

Empowering community through local music

Protect, maintain and promote Anindilyakwa culture

“Dancing, good vibes and lots of smiling faces!” This was how ALC Music Coordinator Joewah Wilson described this year’s Angurugu Festival.

The concert – funded by South32 and organised by the ALC with participating groups, including the ALC Music Program and local volunteers – brought the community together for a celebration of music, dance, food and Groote culture.



Performances included Eylandt band, Saltlake Band, Garrangali Band from Baniyela, Lenny Amagula and backup band, Stanley Gawurra and backup band, and a special song from Stanley and Ramson Lalara.

The crew cooked up a massive feed, buses were provided by Groote Eylandt Aboriginal Trust to service the good crowd turn out, and Groote Archipelago Regional Council (GARC) helped with rubbish bins and rubbish pickup after the event.

“Good music, good food, can’t wait for the next one, big shout out to the Music program crew who got the whole event together!” said Joewah.



Angurugu Festival | Photos by: Britten Syd Andrews

Clean Up Groote Eylandt Day

Protect, maintain and promote Anindilyakwa culture

An army of 100 locals rolled up their sleeves on a mission to keep Groote Eylandt clean.

Clean Up Groote Eylandt Day is an annual family-friendly community event in collaboration with the ALC and GEMCO to raise awareness about the impacts of marine debris and ocean plastics.

This year, volunteers headed to 6 Mile Beach on the east coast of Groote Eylandt to clean up marine plastics and debris that are washed ashore during the dry season wind.

Most of these plastics originate from South East Asia and present a risk to our pristine coastal ecosystems and the animals that live there.

The Anindilyawka Land & Sea Rangers would like to thank Yantarrnga Traditional Owners for supporting this event.





Groote Eylandt Day | Photos by: Britten Syd Andrews

Two wheels no limits: World-champion designed track builds skills for local riders

Create pathways for youth to stand in both worlds

BMX athletes are in the making on Groote Eylandt which is now home to two world-champion designed BMX tracks after a new BMX track was unveiled for Umbakumba in August.

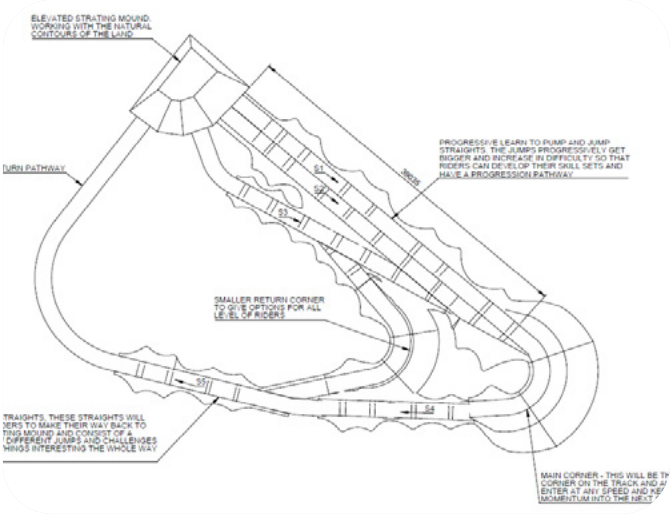
Bike Tracks Australia completed the four-circuit course in August for locals chasing an adrenaline rush and some airtime.

Bike Tracks Australia has designed some of the best BMX tracks in Australia. BMX pro Tristyn Kronk is behind Bike Tracks Australia and has won multiple world championships in the sport.

The newly completed BMX track at Umbakumba is 181 metres long with jumps ranging between 0.3 and 1.5 metres high. The new track plays on the natural contours of the land including an elevated starting mound and jumps that progressively get bigger and increase in difficulty so rides can develop their skill.

The track features a range of different jumps and challenges to keep riding interesting the whole way around the circuit before it ends with a flat return pathway to the top.

A three-day course is now planned with Bike Tracks Australia to teach local riders how to get the best out of the track.



ALC's Major Works Project Lead Scott Whelan said Bike Tracks Australia also built the Angurugu BMX track.

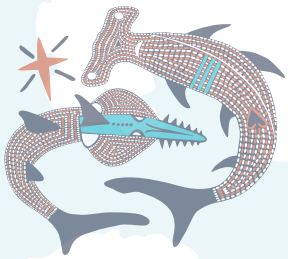
"We received the concept design late last year to transform the park area into a BMX track for the community to use," Mr Whelan said.

"The project took six weeks and is a great addition to our community. We're now working towards community engagement workshops which will be held in late September to early October in collaboration with Bush Fit," he said.



Umbakumba BMX bike track | Photos: Bike Tracks Australia

Our values



One People One Family
Ngarrurrakawuruma ngarnumamalya

Pride
Ngarriwerrikiyangmakwajinama

Honesty/Truth
Akuwerrikilyangmandukunadinama

Listen
Akeningmidini-yada

Respect
Akumaringkirradinama

Our Future
Ambakumurra-yada

The Strategic Plan 2023-33

Protect, maintain and promote Anindilyakwa culture

Invest in the present to build a self-sufficient future

Create pathways for youth to stand in both worlds

Anindilyakwa Land Council

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