



**ESTABLISHED 1975
AS A
HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE**

Newsletter



Edition 4: September 2026

NAIDOC Week 2026 Celebration

Ngoonbi Community Services proudly celebrated a successful NAIDOC Week from 6 to 9 July 2026, bringing together Elders, families, young people and community members to honour this year's theme, "50 Years of NAIDOC: Celebrating and Recognising the Strength, Vision and Legacy of Our Elders and Communities."

Throughout the week a range of activities and programs were hosted by Ngoonbi to showcase culture, talent, and community pride. Highlights of the week included a NAIDOC March to Nyuwarri (Centenary) Park to participate in NAIDOC's Family Fun Day. Additional activities included a Talent Quest, an Elders luncheon where opportunities were provided to acknowledge and thank our Elders for their wisdom, guidance, and dedication to preserving and passing on cultural knowledge, history, and traditions to future generations. The Family Fun Day was well attended where families came together to celebrate, and enjoy a variety of activities together. Fifteen young people participated in an EDOR competition, hosted in Cairns. The Kuranda team won all their games. Well done to our athletic crew.

NAIDOC Week 2026 was a meaningful celebration of culture and community, reflecting the strength and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples while honouring the legacy built over the past 50 years and more.

Enjoy these PHOTOS capturing Kuranda's NAIDOC event held, 9 July 2025.



**Welcome to Ngoonbi's
Edition 4
(July to September)
Newsletter**



**Contact Reception
07 4093 7177**



For further information

NAIDOC 2026





KEEPING
CULTURE
STRONG



Proud Culture
**STRONG
COMMUNITY**





Mayi Wunba



Strong in Culture



Welcome to Country



Happy Faces – celebrating culture, connection and community









Community Gathering



Weaving



Training & Employment News

Staff Updates

Welcoming Our New Recruits

Ngoonbi is pleased to welcome five new recruits who have recently commenced employment with the organisation. Our new employees will be supported through ongoing guidance, training and opportunities to develop their skills, set positive goals and work towards a successful future.

Taking the time to yarn about individual goals and aspirations is an important part of supporting each person's journey. Through encouragement, learning and practical workplace experience, Ngoonbi aims to help our new recruits build confidence, strengthen their skills and work towards becoming positive role models within their community and for the younger generation.

Staff Recognition

Since commencing employment with Ngoonbi, Tearawa Hobbler has demonstrated a strong commitment to learning and professional development. Tearawa has completed several short training courses relevant to his role and continues to show enthusiasm for building his skills and knowledge. His dedication, willingness to learn and positive approach to his work are greatly appreciated.

We would also like to recognise Demetrius and JP for consistently going above and beyond to support Ngoonbi's new starters. As supervisors, they keep the "young guns" motivated, engaged and actively involved in the workplace, while providing guidance and meaningful opportunities to learn on the job.

Supporting one another and encouraging continuous learning and development are important in building a strong, positive and supportive workplace culture at Ngoonbi. By investing in our youth, we are helping employees grow in confidence, develop valuable skills and work towards their future goals.



Left to right:
Tearawa , Heather , Zami





The **RU OK?** event held at Centenary Park 8th September, 2026, was a success. This event enabled a safe gathering space for community members who came together to enjoy great food, Cloud 9's band, music, childrens' activities, cultural weaving, soccer, tug-o-war and service stalls. Over 150 people attended along with local support services who are readily available if you need help.

Check in on each other. **A conversation could change a life.**



Ngoonbi's Community Programs team attended the combined R U OK? and Child Protection event held at Mareeba State School 10th September 2026.

Service providers from across the Tablelands region came together to promote their services, connect with community members and provide a range of fun and engaging activities.

Ngoonbi facilitated activities including sport and recreation, arts and crafts, while also sharing information about the services and support available through Ngoonbi.

A big thank you to Mareeba Community Centre for the invitation and for bringing local services and community together for this important event.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Ngoonbi Connecting with Community at the Tablelands Disability Expo

A big thank you to Ally, Kacey, Grace, and all Ngoonbi staff and clients who contributed to making Ngoonbi's stall at the Tablelands Disability Expo in Atherton, 30 September 2026 a success.

Ngoonbi's Aged Care team proudly showcased the wide range of services and supports available to help older people remain independent, connected and actively involved in their community.

The Expo provided a wonderful opportunity to meet and yarn with community members, local service providers and other stakeholders, while strengthening connections and sharing information about the services available through Ngoonbi.

A highlight of the day was our colourful "What Makes You Happy Today?" activity. Community members were invited to share the people, places, activities and everyday things that bring happiness to their lives. The board quickly filled with wonderful contributions, creating plenty of conversation, smiles and connections throughout the day.

It was also encouraging to hear positive feedback about the extensive range of services Ngoonbi provides across Kuranda and the Tablelands, along with recognition of the quality of our service delivery. "Everyone presented to our stall via word of mouth and were very interested and impressed with the Community Programs and other services Ngoonbi provides," as stated by Grace.

The Expo provided a valuable opportunity to build relationships with other service providers, strengthen communication and connect with potential new clients.

Overall, it was a rewarding day of connecting, sharing and promoting the support available to our communities.



AOD Camp - Connecting to Country, Culture and Wellbeing

In September 2026, Ngoonbi's Alcohol and Other Drug team organised an on-Country camp. The group travelled to the Western Yalanji Country in Laura, providing the participants with an opportunity to step away from their everyday environment and focus on healing, restoration, wellbeing and connections.

The camp was designed for community members requiring more intensive support and provided a safe and supportive environment where participants could reconnect with culture, spend meaningful time on Country and take part in open and supportive conversations.

Throughout the camp, participants were encouraged to strengthen their cultural connections and focus on social and emotional wellbeing through yarning, healthy routines and positive decision-making. The experience also provided an opportunity to build stronger and more trusting relationships with Ngoonbi's Alcohol and Other Drug staff.

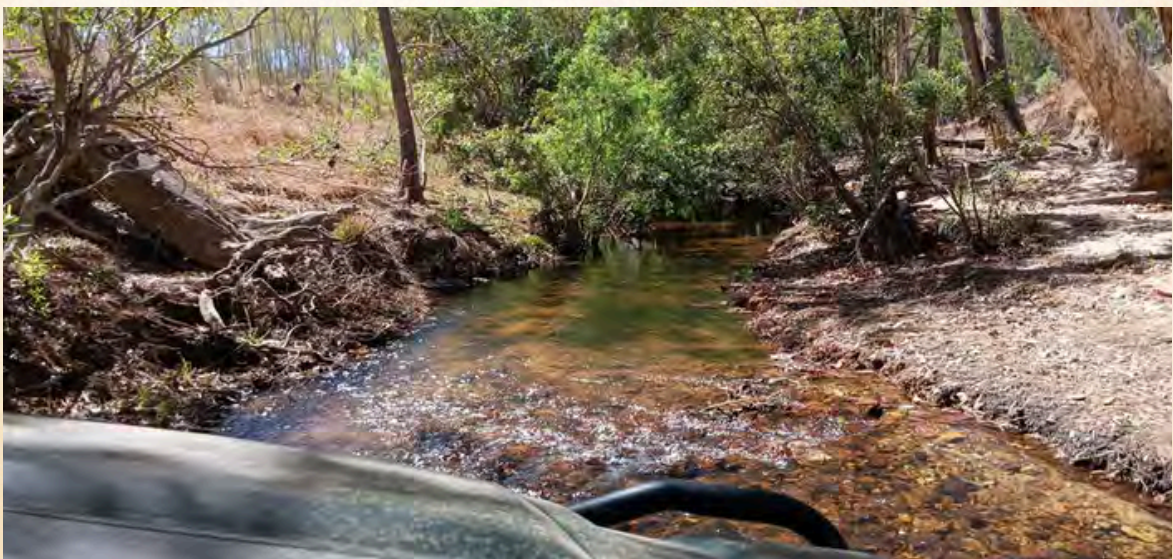
Being on Country played an important role in supporting participants to reconnect with cultural knowledge, identity and a sense of belonging. Away from the pressures and distractions of everyday life, participants had space to reflect on alcohol and cannabis use, harm minimisation, family wellbeing and their goals for the future.

Campers enjoyed yarning around the campfire, cultural burning, visiting several rock art sites and hiking through Country, with the rewarding experience of reaching a remote waterfall. A four-wheel-drive buggy adventure also took the group to special places, where they experienced the rich culture and natural beauty of Country.

The camp demonstrated the value of culturally grounded support that brings together Country, culture, connection and wellbeing. Through yarning, reflection and shared experiences, participants were supported to consider positive choices and pathways towards healthier futures.

A big thank you to Jarramali tours and everyone who came along and shared their knowledge, stories and culture.





On Country and connection to culture, strengthens wellbeing, belonging and healing



Bibi Yungan - Great Start to Great Learning Playgroup



Letter and
number
recognition



Early
Reading
Skills



Sensory
play



H is for Horse
h h h

Playgroup is held **Tuesday's
weekly** (excluding school
holidays).

Time: 10am to 12pm

Location: Centenary Park
or Kuranda Neighbourhood
Centre

Lunch Provided

Transport available upon
request.

**Contact the Bibi Yungan
team on 40937 177**

September 2026

School Holiday Program

**Monday
21.09.26**

**Fishing Port Douglas,
swim at Ellis Beach**

**Tuesday
22.09.26**

**John Moriarty
Football, Cairns
Esplanade**

**Wednesday
23.09.26**

Hot Shots Golf

**Thursday
24.09.26**

Lake Eacham Family Day Out

**Monday
28.09.26**

**Rise Venture Youth
Empowerment**

**Tuesday
29.09.26**

**Odyssey Laser Tag,
Atherton**

**Wednesday
30.09.26**

**Mossman Gorge
Day Out**

**Thursday
01.10.26**

**Touch Football Competition,
Bartley Oval, Kuranda**



Women's Group Day Out - Innot Hot Springs

Benefits of soaking in Hot Springs:

- 1. Relaxes muscles**
- 2. Relieves minor aches, stiffness and fatigue**
- 3. The heat improves the circulation of blood vessels and helps the body feel more relaxed.**
- 4. Improves relaxation and sleep quality**



A day out at Innot Hot Springs, was well received by our awesome women connecting with traditional owners on their country.



Ngoonbi Website News

Ngoonbi's long-anticipated website should be live by the next quarter.



Ngoonbi's Tenant News & Information

Key Benefits of Stable Housing



- **Health and Safety:** A home protects you from Queensland's extreme heat, heavy seasonal tropical storms, and cyclones.
- **Access to Opportunities:** Stable housing makes it much easier to keep a steady job, get to local workplaces, and enroll children in schools.
- **Financial Security:** Owning or renting a reliable place helps manage household costs and avoids the stress of housing insecurity in a competitive property market.
- **Community Connection:** A permanent address allows you to build local social ties and fully participate in your community.

www.hpw.qld.gov.au

36 Coondoo Street, Update



Construction is set to commence soon. Engineering and landscaping plans have been approved, and the final designs include selected internal and external colours, floor coverings and practical storage spaces.

