



**2025
EDITION**

WAAGAN GALGA

NEWSLETTER

**STRENGTH THROUGH CULTURE |
CONNECTION | COMMUNITY**





Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge the Earth as our Mother, Guuni Thakun, who gives us everything we need. We acknowledge Baiame as our Father, who has given us life, Lore and belonging, and who lives in the sky. We acknowledge that everything in between Guuni Thakun and Baiame are our brothers and sisters we are a part of them, and they are a part of us.



Message from the Directors

Yaama / Anigunya everyone,

As 2025 comes to a close, we reflect on another year of growth, connection and cultural strength across Wonnarua Country.

From the Young Mob Leadership Program, Kayu Ngituwa mentoring program, Afternoon Programs, community events, Baby Welcomes ceremonies and our annual Corroboree, we continue to see our community stand proud and walk together.

We give heartfelt thanks to our Elders, staff, schools, community and partners who continue walking alongside us strengthening culture, identity and belonging for our young people.

Jade Perry, Waylon Boney & Aunty Leonie Craft

Directors - Waagan Galga Aboriginal Corporation

Annual Waagan Galga Corroboree - Wonnarua Country Singleton



Our Annual Corroboree brought together 500+ mob on Wonnarua Country a powerful time to celebrate, reconnect and pass down culture through song, dance and story.

Each year, this event strengthens cultural identity, pride and connection for youth, community and visitors from across Australia, showing that culture is strong, alive and practiced today.

Photography: Paul Szumilas & Clear Light Photography



Baby Welcome Ceremony



This year, 52 babies were registered and welcomed through our traditional Baby Welcome Ceremonies.

Guided by Elders and families, each ceremony acknowledged belonging and connection to Country. Many families shared that the experience made them feel culturally supported, proud and connected from the very beginning of their child's journey

Photography : Writing with lights studio & Clear light Photography



Registrations are open for the Baby Welcome Cermeony Now QR Code or Link to online forms

<https://forms.office.com/r/NH1x0ZvLpb?origin=lpLink>



Young Mob Leadership Program



In partnership with World Vision and Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Waagan Galga delivered a 12-month leadership program in schools across the Hunter Valley.

Over 200 Aboriginal students across 6 schools took part in Young Mob this year from years 7-10..

This journey helps young people connect to who they are, where they come from and the strength of culture. The program has built confidence, leadership, cultural knowledge and identity empowering the next generation to walk proud in both worlds.

Kayu Ngintuwa – “Strong You” Mentoring Program

Launched in 2025, our Kayu Ngintuwa participants have been on an incredible journey of learning, growth and cultural connection.

Kayu Ngintuwa means “Strong You” in Wonnarua language and this program has truly embodied that spirit.

This 12-month mentoring program has provided 10 young people aged 15-18 with meaningful opportunities to strengthen their identity, leadership and connection to culture through experiences both on Country and within the broader community.

From camps and excursions to cultural gatherings and community events, participants learnt directly from knowledge holders, explored Country and celebrated culture building confidence, pride and a strong sense of belonging along the way.



Afternoon Program - Muswellbrook

Muswellbrook sessions brought together young people and families weekly to share dance, weaving, Language and games.

These hands-on cultural experiences continue to build strong cultural identity, connection and belonging.

We will be back term 1 Week 3, Thursdays Any enquiries admin@waagangalga.com

All Welcome



Deadly Cultural Connections Singleton Afternoon Program

Our weekly after-school program provides a safe space for young people to connect through dance, language and cultural activities On Country.

These sessions offer a positive environment for learning, mentoring and belonging — strengthening connections between youth, community and culture.





Performances & Cultural Sharing

Aboriginal Languages Trust Corroboree & Dinner

Waagan Galga was honoured to perform alongside Nations from across Australia celebrating the strength of our languages and the stories they carry.



NSWICC Trade Show & Gala Dinner

Representing community at the NSWICC event opened doors for networking, partnership building and cultural enterprise development sharing song, story and dance with pride.



NAIDOC Celebrations

We proudly performed at the Singleton Arts Exhibition, NAIDOC Community Day and Footy Gala events.

These gatherings celebrated strength, survival and cultural pride, increasing cultural visibility and community engagement across the region.



School & Service NAIDOC Packages

We delivered performances and workshops in schools and workplaces, strengthening understanding, respect and awareness between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people





Cultural Immersions Packages

Being On Country is healing. It is where learning happens through story, silence and the land itself.

Through Cultural Immersion Days, participants deepened their cultural knowledge, environmental awareness and connection to Country.

School Holiday Programs On & Off Country

Our On and Off Country School Holiday Programs bring kids, youth and families together for cultural activities, excursions and fun learning experiences.

These programs offer a safe place to be while keeping young people connected to culture, community and Country.



“Bringing community together, keeping culture and traditions alive.”

Waagan Galga Services

Waagan Galga continues to deliver cultural programs that strengthen identity, connection and community across Wonnarua Country and the Hunter region. Our services support schools, organisations, families and young people through culturally grounded learning and experiences.

Cultural Programs for Schools

- Young Mob Cultural Leadership Program (Years 7-10)
- In-school cultural workshops/ Tailored cultural programs
- Dance, language and storytelling sessions
- On Country learning experiences

After-School & Community Programs

- Afternoon Programs in Singleton & Muswellbrook. A safe place for young people to connect, practice culture and sense of belonging.

Cultural Events, Performances On & Off Country Experiences

- Baby Welcome Ceremonies
- Annual Corroboree
- Smoking ceremonies
- Welcome to Country (with the appropriate cultural representatives)
- Traditional dance performances
- NAIDOC events, school and corporate Packages
- Cultural immersion days on country visits to significant cultural sites
- School holiday programs and excursions

Bookings Now Open for 2026

- Young Mob Expressions of Interest are now open for High Schools (Free 10 Week Cultural Program) for more information please contact jade.perry@waagangalga.com
- Baby Welcome ceremonies online Forms are open for registration for 2026.
- On country cultural Immersions
- Tailored Cultural Packages (Corporate, Business's and Schools)
- NAIDOC Packages (Corporate, Business's and Schools)

Enquiries: www.waagangalga.com



Thank You from Waagan Galga Team

We want to thank everyone who has walked beside us this year.

To our Elders, community, schools and volunteers your guidance, support and commitment make everything we do possible.

Together, we are keeping culture alive, strong and connected for generations to come.

Our Partners & Sponsors

A big thank you to our partners for their continued support:

BHP

World Vision



Aboriginal
Affairs



GLENCORE



We are so grateful for Your sponsorship and Support helps us deliver cultural programs, youth leadership initiatives and community events that strengthen connection to Country and culture.

Together, we're building healthier, stronger and more connected communities and keeping culture alive.



Happy Holidays

Waagan Galga will be taking a break over the holiday season. We'll be closed from 18th December 2025 and will reopen on 12th January 2026.

Waagan Galga would like to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing support this year

we look forward to seeing you all in 2026



Waagan Galga Aboriginal Corporation

www.waagangalga.com

admin@waagangalga.com

Wonnarua Country | Singleton & Muswellbrook | Upper & Lower Hunter
NSW

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