

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation we are **pleased to announce the election of Cynthia Brown as the new Chair of Bawinanga and James Woods as the new Deputy Chair.**

The Board would also like to thank **Jacqueline Phillips** for her hard work and dedicated service in the Chair role in 2023-2024.

Congratulations Cynthia and James - keep up the good work!



To get in touch, send us an email to [info@bawinanga.com](mailto:info@bawinanga.com), call 89796555 or message our Facebook page

## BAWINANGA HOMELANDS ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



### BHAC NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 – January 2025

#### THE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

We at Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation are excited to start the year 2025 with renewed energy, reaffirming our commitment to supporting and strengthening the Homelands. This is the time to reflect on what we have done well and what we could do better. Propelled by the resilience, culture, and leadership of Bininj people, we look forward to more good work for the benefit of the community.

This year, we remain focused on delivering essential services that keep our Homelands strong—housing, infrastructure, employment, and community programs that support families and culture. We will do our best to make sure every voice will be heard, ensuring that your priorities guide our work.

Collaboration remains key. We are committed to working with Traditional Owners, community members, and partner organisations to create solutions that reflect the needs and aspirations of the people on Homelands. Your input is vital, and we encourage open discussions so that we could together build a stronger future for generations to come. The spirit of unity empowers the people and upholds the rich traditions that make our community unique.

Let's make this year one of progress, harmony, excellent work and shared success.



## WE'VE GOT NEW STAFF!!!

### LET'S GIVE THEM A WARM WELCOME TO MANINGRIDA!



**Andreas Ruthjersen is our new HR Manager** who has relocated to Maningrida together with his lovely partner Kylie. Andreas is originally from Norway (a true Viking!) but has been living in Australia for many years. He brings with himself a wealth of experience from working across many industries around the world. He believes in fairness and equality, is passionate

about people and achieving the best outcomes for them, protecting their interests and their businesses. He is also fascinated by stories behind Aboriginal Art and hopes to learn more as he spends time in Maningrida community. Andreas is looking forward to working with the Homelands and hopes to make a positive contribution to the community. In his free time, he enjoys fishing, travelling, cooking, reading and most important of all – having fun with his grandchildren.

**Meet Kathy Kirby, our new Office Manager,** the friendly face of the BHAC office, a multi-tasker who is always helpful and cheerful, even though she is extremely busy as a rule. Kathy relocated from Darwin and has been previously working in various admin, secretarial and HR roles across Australia. She loves fishing, camping and bushwalking and is happy when an opportunity presents itself to make a visit to the Homelands – a perfect addition to the Maningrida community!



Congratulations to **Sabrina Cifra, a brilliant and dedicated Master Chef at the Wild Food Café**, for completing her **Certificate II in Retail Services!** While balancing full-time employment and a busy home life, Sabrina completed her training within six months. Well done, Sabrina - you are a true star and a role model, and we are so very proud of you. And we couldn't help noticing the tremendous improvement in Wild Foods' food quality since you took over the kitchen!



**Wild Foods Café** is open from 12pm to 9pm on weekdays from 9am to 3pm on Saturdays and now offers an exciting range of fresh produce, sugar-free drinks, freshly brewed coffee and the best milkshakes in town in a variety of flavours. **Come and talk to Hine and Scott** about things you would like to see on the menu or in stock: they are always open to suggestions. And the catering is excellent!



**Important:** if you'd like to learn new skills such as food service, customer service, stock and money handling, **you should pop over to BHAC and see our new HR Andreas about the opportunities at Wild Foods.** They'll bundle you up with someone really experienced right away!