

Western Local Land Services

Aboriginal Community Advisory Group

Acknowledging country

Western Local Land Services recognise the importance and value of traditional knowledge in the management of natural resources and productive agricultural land throughout the Western region.

We acknowledge all Aboriginal people residing within the Western region, which includes the Aboriginal language groups and language dialects of the Ngemba, Wilyakali, Nawalgu Ngiyampaa, Gurnu, Barundji, Garanggaba, Baranbinya, Yuwalari, Murrawari, Wanywalgu, Wadigali, Wangkumara, Malyankapa, Bandjigali, Euahlayi (Yuwaalaraay), Gamilarraay, Baarkindji (Paakantyi), Kureinji (Kemendok), Mutthi Mutthi, Nari Nari, Wadi Wadi, Tadi Tadi, Maurara, Kunja, Danggali, Budgidi, Wailwan, Wongaibon, Wandjiwalgil, and Kooma people.

Western Local Land Services takes this opportunity to pay respect to past, present and future Elders of those nations.

Why we have an Aboriginal Community Advisory Group

Protection and enhancement of Aboriginal culture, heritage and spiritual beliefs is an issue of great importance to the traditional owners of these lands and waters and is of benefit to the whole community.

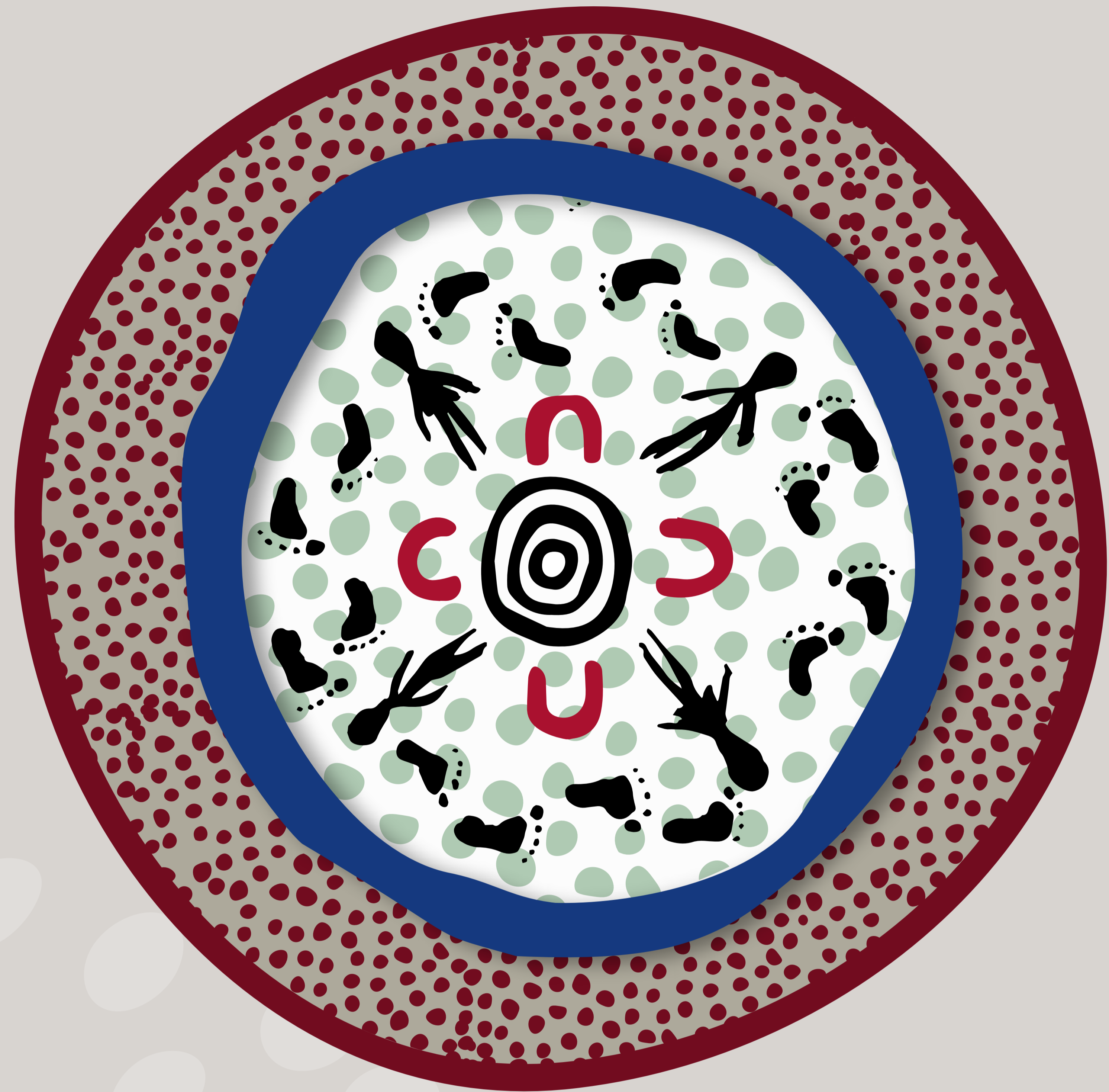
Continuing connection to country and the ability to 'walk on their own country' is of great importance for Aboriginal people and is expressed through social, physical and spiritual lore. For the sake of future generations it is important for young Aboriginal people to gain traditional knowledge from their Elders.

Western Local Land Services encourages the Aboriginal community to share their insights and knowledge. Similarly, Western Local Land Services encourages the broader community to understand and respect the knowledge of traditional culture and ways of life.

What the Aboriginal Community Advisory Group does

The Aboriginal Community Advisory Group (ACAG) works closely with Western Local Land Services staff and board members to provide Aboriginal community perspective, traditional knowledge and cultural advice that informs our projects and programs. The goals of the group are to:

- provide input into the development of local strategic plans
- seek input from Aboriginal communities during project planning and development phases
- seek input from Aboriginal communities on the range of services to be provided
- provide a forum for focused and sustained discussion with Aboriginal communities
- provide a connection between the Western Local Land Services Board and Aboriginal communities on the issues that need to be addressed by Western Local Land Services
- seek input about the issues important to Aboriginal communities in relation to Local Land Services
- advise the Western Local Land Services Board on strategic and operational issues of relevance to the implementation of the Local Land Services Reconciliation Action Plan
- provide a forum to foster and nurture partnerships between Western Local Land Services and the wider communities.



About the artwork and artist

This artwork symbolises people coming together to share knowledge and care for country. The imagery represents earth, water and plants as well as man and woman motifs meeting on country to share knowledge and ideas.

Artist and proud Barkandji woman Cheryl Blore is a valued Menindee community member and an active participant of the ACAG.

This image was first developed by Cheryl at an ACAG meeting in September 2019, with some input from other ACAG members. A motion for the artwork to be used as a logo or symbol to represent the group was carried unanimously by the ACAG in 2019.

