



Left to right: Carolyn Cook, Norman Sammy, Luke Frank Jr, Shaun Peterson and Annabelle Landy reading the Newman Futures strategy at the launch.

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Coming up...

Thank you to everyone who has joined the Newman Futures Network Pathways to take forward the Newman Futures strategy. We have reserved three extra slots for community and youth members to join each pathway. If you would like to get involved email belinda@creatingcommunities.com.au

Newman Becomes Future Ready

The Newman community has come together with industry to launch a landmark strategy to prepare for the changing nature of work.

The Newman Futures strategy focuses on building a diverse and sustainable local economy equipped to promote innovation and harness emerging technologies. Supported by BHP and the Shire of East Pilbara, the Newman Futures strategy was co-designed with members of the community over an eight month process.

On Friday, November 22 the strategy was launched. Niyarparli and Martu traditional owners and custodians were instrumental in the development of the plan. In his foreword to the strategy, Bradley Hall, Chairman of Karlka Niyarparli Corporation welcomed everyone to Niyarparli Country and said "we will do this thing together".

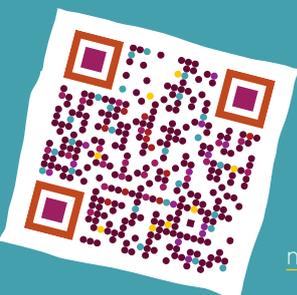
Melvin Farmer, Chair of Western Desert Lands Aboriginal Corporation said "We will use this strategy to make strong partnerships with the Newman community and the opportunities that Newman provides".

Guests from all sectors of the community were briefed on the project and got an outline of how it aims to build a diverse and sustainable local economy that is inclusive to all, as the nature of work – locally and globally – undergoes a major transformation. **...Turn to page 2 to continue reading this article.**

Youth Voices

Scan the QR code to view the film...

newmanfutures.com.au



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BHP Maintenance Manager, Newman East, Cleo Alexander said "Technology is playing a big part in how we live and work, and we want to make sure we bring the community along this exciting journey with us to shape Newman's economic and social future together".

Shire of East Pilbara president Lynne Craigie said Newman Futures was all about securing the long-term outlook for the community.

"As a Shire, we believe Newman is ideally placed to become a true central service hub for the East Pilbara and mining equipment technology and services," she said.

"Newman Futures aims to address the barriers to achieving



our town's potential – be it a lack of suitable housing, inadequate health services, gaps in our cultural understanding or failures to give our future workers the skills they need to engage fully in the workforce."

Check out an overview of the Newman Futures Strategy below, and photos from the launch event to the right.

VISION STATEMENT: A diverse and sustainable economy that is inclusive to all

FOUR PATHWAYS UNDERPINNING THIS FRESH WAY OF THINKING HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED:

CULTURE AND COUNTRY

Kujunkarrinjanka is the coming together of cultures in a new way. It recognises the inherent value of all and the need to provide services and opportunities in culturally appropriate ways. Aboriginal people's long connection to land and their rich culture are a vital asset.

LIVEABILITY AND WELLBEING

Equitable and affordable access to housing, health, transport, services, support and infrastructure are vital in building a happy, healthy and functioning community.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Industry and community leaders work closely with local schools and skills providers to ensure pathways exist to equip people across the community for jobs of the future.

ECONOMY AND WORK

A focus on the uptake of innovation and technology in small, large and indigenous-run businesses. Collaboration with industry, government and innovators to take advantage of emerging opportunities in work and supply chain practices.

KEY OBJECTIVES:

- There is cultural recognition and responsiveness by all business, agencies and civil society in Newman and remote communities
- Martu and Niyaparli health and wellbeing indicators are improved
- Strong Niyaparli/Martu involvement in Newman and remote communities' decision-making

KEY OBJECTIVES:

- There is access to quality public spaces and accommodation in Newman and in remote communities
- Improved provision of health and support services
- An attractive and safe public realm in Newman

KEY OBJECTIVES:

- Students are work-ready for the existing and emerging economy
- The existing workforce is work-ready for the emerging economy
- Students are connected to their communities and to the Aboriginal heritage of Newman

KEY OBJECTIVES:

- There is a clear roadmap to grow local and remote economies
- Develop Newman as an East Pilbara service hub
- The local economy is Industry 4.0 ready



Picture: James Curry @ Country Captures



Police officers pay their respects in the annual memorial of the 2001 Australia Day plane crash.

Bloody Slow Cup 2019

Newman's community spirit has ensured the tragic deaths of four police officers in a plane crash 18 years ago will not be forgotten.

The Bloody Slow Cup was the highlight of a weekend of events in Newman in October, organised each year to commemorate the crash on Australia Day 2001 as a Cessna prepared to land at Newman Airport on returning from a call-out to Kwiwirrkurra community, 800km away.

The weekend began with a remembrance ceremony at the crash site followed by a series of sporting events, including cricket, netball, touch football and soccer. The feature event is the rugby match between locals of Australia and New Zealand origin, dubbed the Bloody Slow Cup in a

light-hearted nod to the Bledisloe Cup rugby matches between the two countries.

The Kiwis broke Aussie hearts again with a last gasp win in the big event.

Newman police officer in charge Sen. Sgt Jon Munday said it was another successful weekend and was well supported by local people and businesses.

"Sport is a great way to bring people together," he said. "This is an important event for the police family, and one of the biggest weekends of the year for Newman."

The Bloody Slow Cup is an annual fundraising event for WA Police Legacy, but there are plans to start directing some of the money raised into the local community.

Aboriginal Youth Voice Their Future



The views of the young indigenous people of Newman have been given a higher profile thanks to a short film produced by Martu artist and filmmaker Curtis Taylor and filmmaker Nathan Mewett.

Youth Voices was screened publicly for the first time at the Newman Futures launch, highlighting the key role that Aboriginal youth will play in fulfilling the town's potential.

The theme of Kujungkarrinjangka, or coming together, runs through the film as it offers a positive look at the hopes and aspirations of a range of young people who describe their lives centred on work at the Martumili Art Centre and Martu Farm, playing sport or gathering at Newman Youth Centre to play games or watch movies.

To view the film visit newmanfutures.com.au or scan on the QR code on the cover.

Kids Speaking Out

The importance of oral language skills for children in learning the basics of reading and writing is well understood and remains a key foundation for future of work skills.

Unfortunately, a high proportion of children in the Pilbara are starting pre-primary lacking these crucial oral skills, putting them at a distinct disadvantage when they take on formal schooling.

However, a combination of good fortune and the dogged persistence of one school leader has started to turn the situation around at South Newman Primary School.

Cath Keating, an experienced adult speech pathologist, moved to Newman last year with her husband, who works for BHP, and enrolled her children at South Newman.

When school principal Katie Wallace heard about Cath, she was determined to recruit her to work with at-risk students.

Cath needed time to help her family settle into the community and initially resisted Katie's job offers.

"It took a while, but I kept at it, and eventually broke her down," Katie joked.

Cath joined South Newman earlier this year, working part-time with pre-primary and kindy kids, and has made an instant impact, according to Katie.

The young students have all been screened, with about a quarter of them found to have complex speech sound issues. The families of those with development problems have been consulted on individualised therapy plans.

Children initially received one-on-one therapy and most transitioned to weekly group sessions. Key to the success

of the program has been enlisting the support of families so therapy can continue at home, as well as giving teachers the skills to help students in their regular classes.

Having a speech pathologist in school is unusual in Western Australia, but Katie is a passionate advocate for the benefits of such a program.

"The results have been phenomenal in children's improved reading skills," she said. "Cath has been a great gift to our school. Early intervention is vitally important."

The Education Department regional office helped kickstart the program with funding of \$14,000, but money will need to be found within the school's own budget to keep it going.

Left to right: South Newman Primary School Principal Katie Wallace and Speech Pathologist Cath Keating



NEWMAN FUTURES

Stay involved with the project!

Visit the website to keep up to date with the latest activities, sign up to our newsletter, and see upcoming events.

NewmanFutures.com.au



"Thanks Barb"

For most of the 24 years she has lived in Newman, Barb O'Driscoll has been closely involved in the Newman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, playing her part in advancing and promoting the town.

And that passion for her community is not likely to wane, even though she has stepped down as chamber president after many years in the chair to take up a new work opportunity in Jigalong.

"I'm not giving up my aspirations for Newman to go ahead," she said.

"Newman is home to me, but change is good, and it is time for the chamber to take a new direction."

Barb is keen to see the group take a more proactive role in the community, and has hopes the innovation partnership agreement signed with BHP will invigorate the chamber and local businesses. She also sees activation of the town square for small business as a promising step.

Beyond that, she remains optimistic about the tourism potential of Newman, and is hopeful of a return to a formal TAFE presence in the town, which would greatly boost training opportunities for young people.

"There is so much potential in this town. It just needs someone to take advantage of it," she said.

Barb is now working for the Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service in Jigalong.

Newman Schools Leading Future Tech

Newman school children have been given a taste of the future, with a week immersed in new technologies and innovation.

Leading digital technology education provider Firetech last month ran a series of future tech workshops and classes for 1000 students of all ages from Newman and South Newman primary schools and Newman Senior High School.

The lessons focused on getting the children comfortable with aspects of new technology and developing their skills in the disciplines of science, technology, engineering, arts and maths (STEM+).

Children in years 1 to 4 focused on robotics, coding, augmented reality and stop motion animation.

Students in Years 5 and older had sessions on video game design, photography and robotics and electronics.

Firetech's mission is to teach people of all ages how to design, create and innovate.

Newman Senior High School principal Carolyn Cook said her students were excited to get involved in the training.

"Having access to hands-on, innovative and state of the art training is a huge bonus for our students," Carolyn said.

"It means they can be sure they're getting future ready and developing the 21st century skills for future workplaces. And it is fun! Looking at experiences with an openness to learning and being flexible is absolutely essential for all our students."

While in Newman, Firetech educators also worked with the Homework and Follow the Dream clubs as after-school extensions. The Firetech training is a Newman Futures initiative supported by BHP.

Students having fun with tech at the Firetech workshops.

