

# HOME

Monthly Magazine  
OCTOBER 2021  
ISSUE 10

# MAGAZINE

THOUSANDS OF HOMES *to be delivered in*  
**SOCIAL & AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**RENTAL REFORM** LEGISLATION  
PASSES PARLIAMENT

GOLD COAST YOUTH FOYER  
*officially OPENS DOOR to YOUTH at  
risk of homelessness*

**NEW STUDY** REVEALS  
**STATE OF HOUSING in**  
**WESTERN QUEENSLAND**

**SMOKE ALARM DEADLINE LOOMS**

**NATIVE TITLE for KOA PEOPLE**

**\$12 MILLION** FOR **ABORIGINAL HOMELESSNESS**  
**SERVICES IN NSW**

**SA HUB** to be SET UP FOR  
**ABORIGINAL ROUGH SLEEPERS**



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Housing Queensland



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND  
HOME MAGAZINE *ISSUE 10*



## HOW TO CONTACT US

Home Magazine welcomes submissions from our members and partners on the great work that is being undertaken to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing outcomes in Queensland. If you would like to contribute story ideas for consideration or comment on items in Home Magazine, please contact

our Communications Team at  
[admin@housingqueensland.com.au](mailto:admin@housingqueensland.com.au)

Previous Home Magazine issues can be viewed online at  
[www.housingqueensland.com.au](http://www.housingqueensland.com.au)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Housing Queensland  
Ground Floor  
41 George Street  
Brisbane Queensland 4000  
T: 07 3012 6349



*October 2021*

### **2 WELCOME**

### **3 PEAK BODY UPDATE**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland

### **4 QUEENSLAND HOUSING NEWS**

Thousands of homes to be delivered in social and affordable housing  
Gold Coast Youth Foyer officially opens door to youth at risk of homelessness

### **5 Rental reform legislation passes Parliament**

New study reveals state of housing in Western Queensland  
Queensland women urged to get vaccinated to protect themselves

### **6 Smoke Alarm deadline looms**

Native Title for Koa People

### **7 DATA**

Facts & Figures: Renters experiences and COVID-19

### **8 NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS**

\$12 Million for Aboriginal homelessness services in NSW  
SA hub to be set up for Aboriginal rough sleepers  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to access Victoria's new Homebuyer Fund

### **9 CALENDAR/HISTORY**

Looking Back in History



**A** MILESTONE happened in September 2021 when our organisation proudly hosted its first board meeting at our premises at 41 George Street in Brisbane. At this meeting, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland board elected both of us, Mary Doctor as Chairperson and Angelina Akee as Deputy Chairperson of the organisation.

We would sincerely like to thank our fellow board members for the honour of being elected to lead this great organisation and would also like to thank them again, alongside our staff and the wider housing sector for their hard work and commitment in getting our organisation to this point of development.

As Chair and Deputy Chair, we are excited about the opportunities in the sector and look forward to helping Indigenous Community Housing Organisations succeed in their endeavours across the State.

With our organisation now incorporated, a newly elected board on deck and an AGM set for November 2021, we are in the strongest of positions to assist and advocate for our Sector. You will find a full wrap-up of this momentous meeting on the page opposite.

Heading in to the end of the year, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland is successfully transitioning to stand fully independent as a complete, stand-alone entity. This would not have been possible without the assistance and support of the Queensland Government and Umpi Korumba Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Corporation for Housing. We thank them dearly for their role in our organisations establishment, right up until this point in time. We are sure that they will watch our progress with keen interest into the future.

While we achieve these significant developments, our organisation will keep our readers up-to-date with our progress and future milestones ahead of us in HOME Magazine. In addition to this, we will continue to provide a look at how others in the housing sector are faring across the State and the country.

#### MARY DOCTOR AND ANGELINA AKEE

CO-CHAIRS

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

# Update #10

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Housing Queensland had its first Board Meeting on Wednesday, 29 and Thursday 30, September 2021. The following reveals the key decisions raised, discussed and approved at the meeting.

#### IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

- ATSIHQ Directors: Mary Doctor; Angelina Akee; Virginia Mayo; Glenis Grogan; and Charles Martin.
- ATSIHQ Employees: Neil Willmet, CEO and John Huggins, GM, Communications & Partnerships

#### APOLOGIES WERE:

- ATSIHQ Directors: Gary White; and Michelle Hooke.

#### DECISIONS

##### ATSIHQ CHAIRPERSON AND ATSIHQ DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON DETERMINATION

As per the ATSIHQ Constitution (Sub-clause 19.1), ATSIHQ Directors resolved to appoint Mary Doctor as the ATSIHQ Chairperson for three years until the end of the ATSIHQ Annual General Meeting in 2024. The Board congratulated Mary Doctor on her appointment.

As per the ATSIHQ Constitution (sub-clause 19.1), ATSIHQ Directors resolved to appoint Angelina Akee as the ATSIHQ Deputy Chairperson for three years until the end of the ATSIHQ Annual General Meeting in 2024. The Board congratulated Angelina Akee on her appointment.

##### DIRECTOR (2 YEAR OR 3 YEAR) TERM DETERMINATION

In addition to the ATSIHQ Chairperson and the ATSIHQ Deputy Chairperson, as per the ATSIHQ Constitution (Clause 28), ATSIHQ Directors resolved to appoint Gary White and Michelle Hooke to the ATSIHQ Board for three years until the end of the fourth ATSIHQ Annual General Meeting in 2024. The Board congratulated Gary White and Michelle Hooke on their appointments.

As per the ATSIHQ Constitution (Clause), ATSIHQ Directors resolved to appoint Glenis Grogan, Virginia Mayo and Charles Martin to the ATSIHQ Board for two years until the end of the third ATSIHQ Annual General Meeting in 2023. The Board congratulated Glenis Grogan, Virginia Mayo and Charles Martin on their appointments.

##### NOMINATIONS AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE SELECTION

As per the ATSIHQ Constitution (Sub-clause 44.1), ATSIHQ Directors resolved to establish and appoint Angelina Akee, Charles Martin and Gary White to the ATSIHQ Nominations and Remuneration Committee for the term of their current appointment as ATSIHQ Directors. The Board congratulated Angelina Akee, Charles Martin and Gary White on their appointments.

The full  
communiqué is  
available at  
**www.  
housingqueensland.  
com.au**

##### RECRUITMENT TO ATSIHQ FINANCE, AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE SELECTION ATSIHQ

Directors resolved to establish and appoint Glenis Grogan, Mary Doctor and Michelle Hooke to the ATSIHQ Finance, Audit & Risk Committee for the term of their current appointment as ATSIHQ Directors.

##### ESTABLISHMENT OF ATSIHQ BANK ACCOUNTS

The ATSIHQ Board resolved that the ATSIHQ Chairperson, ATSIHQ Deputy Chairperson and ATSIHQ CEO establish a bank account with the Commonwealth Bank for the purpose of banking funds, paying invoices and other business relating to ATSIHQ.

##### APPOINTMENT OF ATSIHQ COMPANY SECRETARY ATSIHQ

Directors resolved to delegate to the ATSIHQ CEO the task of identifying ATSIHQ Company Secretary options so that the ATSIHQ Board can determine the most suitable person for appointment.

##### ATSIHQ FUNDING FROM DCHDE

The Board acknowledged Umpi Korumba's significant contribution in securing and managing the funding to establish ATSIHQ.

The Board wanted to formalise their appreciation for the hard work from ATSIHQ staff this year and thanked Neil Willmet and John Huggins for their contributions and establishing ATSIHQ.

##### APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

Information was provided to the Board by the CEO on the process for appointing an external auditor. The Board noted this information and requested that the CEO obtain quotes on external auditors.

##### ACNC UPDATE ON ATSIHQ APPLICATION

Information was provided to the Board by the CEO on the ATSIHQ ACNC application. The Board noted that the CEO delay in submitting the ACNC application was due to staff changes at legal firm Gadens. The CEO is hopeful that the ACNC application will be processed by next Board meeting in November 2021.

##### FIRST ATSIHQ AGM

The first ATSIHQ AGM is to be conducted on Wednesday, 17 November 2021

##### ATSIHQ DOCUMENT DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The CEO provided the Board with and update of key ATSIHQ documents and resources that have been developed by our organisation.



# THOUSANDS OF HOMES TO BE DELIVERED IN SOCIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

THE Palaszczuk Government is forging ahead with plans to deliver more than 7000 new social and affordable homes for Queenslanders over the next four years.

The Premier today announced the government had released Expressions of Interest for the Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative (QHIGI).

The Palaszczuk Government is investing \$2.9 billion, including \$1 billion to establish a Housing Investment Fund, to support better long-term housing outcomes for vulnerable Queenslanders.

Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment Cameron Dick urged the property and housing sectors to come forward with projects to increase social housing and affordable housing across Queensland.

Minister for Communities and Housing Leeanne Enoch said the release of the Housing Investment Fund EOI was just one component of the Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative, a coordinated capital investment program to increase the social housing portfolio by more than 7000 new homes over four years.

Reference: 'Thousands of homes to be delivered through Qld's record investment in social and affordable housing', Queensland Government, October 2021

# GOLD COAST YOUTH FOYER OFFICIALLY OPENS DOOR TO YOUTH AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS



UP to 40 young people at risk of homelessness on the Gold Coast now have a place to call home with the official opening of the Gold Coast Youth Foyer.

The \$12.3 million Foyer a key project delivered under the Palaszczuk Government's Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027 and offers accommodation and 24-hour on-site supervision for tenants aged between 16 and 25 years.

Communities and Housing Minister Leeanne Enoch said the first group of young tenants have moved in and more young people will

take up residence over the coming weeks.

*"The project consists of 40 self-contained apartments, communal spaces, training rooms and offices and will give young people a safe, secure and supportive environment in which to live."*

Minister for Youth Affairs and Member for Gaven Meaghan Scanlon said the youth foyer would provide critical support to young people to help transition towards independent living.

Reference: 'Gold Coast Youth Foyer officially opens door to youth at risk of homelessness', Queensland Government, October 2021

# RENTAL REFORM LEGISLATION PASSES PARLIAMENT

LEGISLATION to make renting fairer has passed Queensland's Parliament in October. Minister for Communities and Housing Leeanne Enoch said the new laws would end 'without grounds' evictions and make it easier for Queensland renters to keep a pet.

The new laws will also ensure all Queensland rental properties meet minimum quality standards and extend protections for renters who have experienced domestic and family violence.

*"At a time when Queenslanders are renting, and renting for longer, the Palaszczuk Government is encouraging market growth to help increase the*

*number of rental properties in Queensland, while protecting the rights of renters."*

Minister Enoch said some of the proposed renting reforms, such as the domestic and family violence measure, were tested during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*"This provision ensures people fleeing domestic and family violence are able to end a lease with seven days' notice or change locks in a rental property without the owner's consent to ensure their safety,"* Ms Enoch said.

Reference: 'Rental reform legislation passes Parliament', Queensland Government, October 2021

# NEW STUDY REVEALS STATE of HOUSING IN WESTERN QUEENSLAND

LEADERS representing the 22 councils of Western Queensland, covering 60% of the State, have released a first region-wide Housing Market Study today. The Study reveals the region's chronic shortage of housing - a major roadblock to community, employment and business growth that is only set to worsen.

United as the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils (WQAC), the group commissioned the Regional Australia Institute (RAI) to develop the WQAC Housing Solutions Study - To Build and Grow the Potential of Western Queensland to understand and quantify issues with housing throughout the region, and ultimately identify solutions that best meet the region's needs.

The study has identified the severity of the issue including a shortfall in housing across the region at 1,480 dwellings. On top of that, council-supplied housing needs to increase by 296 dwellings, and 248 council-owned dwellings need major refurbishment.

Reference: 'New study reveals state of housing in Western Queensland: Local leaders ready to step up to tackle the challenge', Western Queensland Alliance of Councils, October 2021

# QUEENSLAND WOMEN URGED TO GET VACCINATED TO PROTECT THEMSELVES

Women of all ages in Queensland, particularly those experiencing domestic and family violence, are being encouraged to get a COVID-19 vaccination to protect themselves and their families.

While speaking at the Micah Projects Women's Safety, Security + Stable Housing Forum in October, Minister for Communities and Housing Leeanne Enoch called on women to roll up their sleeves and get the jab.

*"The safety and wellbeing of women is so important, particularly as we tackle the issue of domestic and family violence in our communities,"* Ms Enoch said.

*"Getting the COVID-19 vaccination is one of the ways women can protect themselves and ensure their health and the health of their families."*

The Micah Projects Women's Safety, Security + Stable Housing Forum brought together women, service providers and representatives from government and community organisations to hear ideas and solutions for progressing women's safety, security and stable housing in our community.

Ms Enoch told the forum that the Queensland Government has placed a strong emphasis on housing in its response to domestic and family violence.

Reference: 'Queensland women urged to get vaccinated to protect themselves', Queensland Government, October 2021

News

# SMOKE ALARM DEADLINE LOOMS

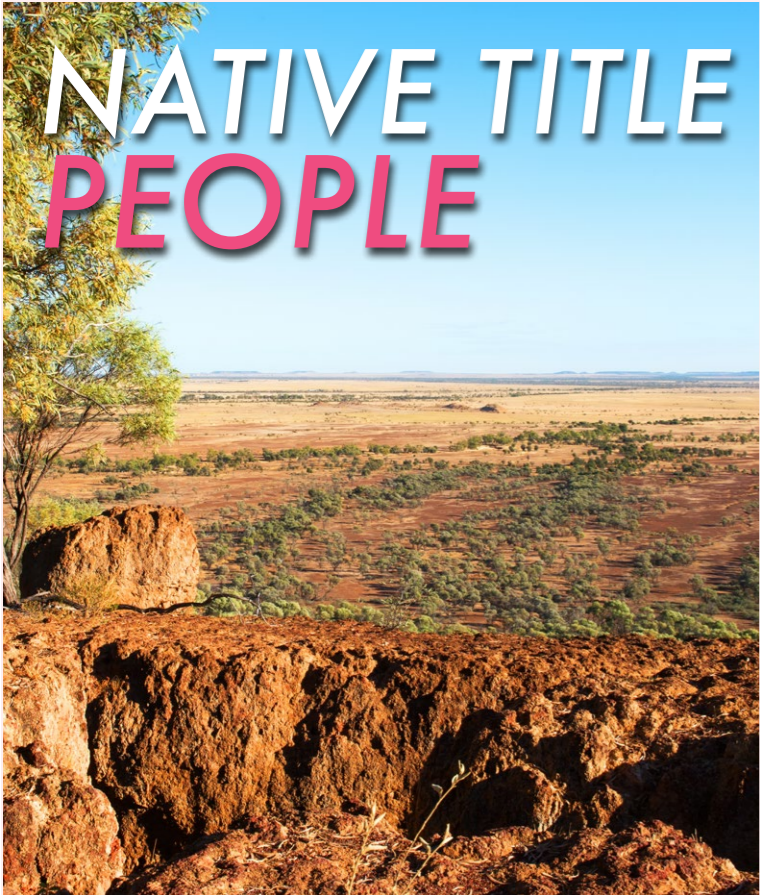


THE Fire and Emergency Services (Domestic Smoke Alarms) Amendment Act 2016 (Qld) commenced on 1 January 2017 and imposes additional obligations on property owners/managers with regards to the installation and maintenance of smoke alarms at domestic dwellings.

All ICHO's, property owners and managers are reminded that the deadline of

- 1 January 2022 looms for smoke alarms to:
- be photoelectric (AS 3786-2014); and
  - not also contain an ionisation sensor; and
  - be less than 10 years old; and
  - operate when tested; and

- be interconnected with every other smoke alarm in the dwelling so all activate together; and
  - be either hardwired or powered by a non-removable 10-year battery.
- Smoke alarms must be installed on each storey:
- in each bedroom; and
  - in hallways which connect bedrooms and the rest of the dwelling; or
  - if there is no hallway, between the bedrooms and other parts of the storey; and
  - if there are no bedrooms on a storey, at least one smoke alarm must be installed in the most likely path of travel to exit the dwelling.



## NATIVE TITLE PEOPLE for KOA

WESTERN Queensland's Koa people have had their identity strengthened following a Federal Court decision in Winton.

Koa Traditional Owner Pamela Hegarty said the native title determination of nearly 865,000 hectares of land and waters near Winton would help provide justice for her ancestors.

"Holistically, this will strengthen Koa people to move forward not only on country but for the very essence of their Koa identity," Ms Hegarty said.

"It will diminish myths about Koa people and rectify misconstrued thoughts and opinions once and for all about Koa traditional land ownership of country in its entirety."

Resources Minister Scott Stewart congratulated the Koa people on their historic determination.

"Today's is a momentous day for the Koa people as the Federal Court recognises what they have always known about their connection to their land," Mr Stewart said.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Minister Craig Crawford said the determination recognises the rights and interests over 864,988 hectares of land and water between Corfield, Winton and Kynuna.

Reference: 'Native title ruling strengthens Koa people's identity, Queensland Government, October 2021

# Renters experiences and COVID-19

Although the true effects of COVID-19 pandemic are still emerging, analyses based upon a report called 'Rental Insights: A COVID-19 Collection' by The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute Limited said that there was widespread impact on the experiences of Australian renters in the private rental market.



THE REPORT INDICATED THAT PEOPLE'S EMPLOYMENT, ABILITY TO PAY RENT, LIVING ENVIRONMENT AND RISK OF EVICTION WERE AFFECTED.

(BAKER ET AL., 2020A)



SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PANDEMIC IN 2020:

- JUST OVER 63% OF RENTERS EXPERIENCED CHANGES TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING REDUCED HOURS AND/OR INCOME, REDUCED INCOME AND TEMPORARY LAY-OFF.
- AROUND ONE-THIRD EXPERIENCED WORSE LIVING CIRCUMSTANCES INCLUDING DIFFICULTY PAYING RENT AND/OR BILLS.
- ABOUT 25% OF RENTERS SKIPPED MEALS TO SAVE MONEY.
- SINCE THE START OF THE PANDEMIC, OVER 5% REPORTED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED AN EVICTION NOTICE (BAKER ET AL. 2020B).
- AROUND 17% REPORTED THAT THEIR RENT BECAME UNAFFORDABLE (BAKER ET AL. 2020A).

SEVERAL CHANGES IN THE AUSTRALIAN HOUSING MARKET CAN BE LINKED TO THE ONSET OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN EARLY 2020.

THE PRIVATE RENTAL MARKET WAS ESPECIALLY AFFECTED DURING 2020 WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN DISSIMILAR TRENDS BETWEEN PERTH AND THE EASTERN CAPITAL CITIES, REGIONAL AREAS AND INNER CITIES, AND UNITS AND HOUSES (PAWSON ET AL. 2021).

# News

## \$12 MILLION FOR ABORIGINAL HOMELESSNESS SERVICES IN NSW

**A**BORIGINAL people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness will receive better support under a \$12 million NSW Government plan to boost the capacity of Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations (ACCOs).

Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services Alister Henskens said the Aboriginal Homelessness Sector Growth project will lead to more ACCOs delivering quality services and support to vulnerable people.

*"We will consult with Aboriginal communities and partner organisations in these areas to identify local priorities and co-design service delivery models that meet local needs."*

Priority groups for the initiative include Aboriginal people experiencing street sleeping, Aboriginal women and children that have experienced domestic and family violence, and young Aboriginal people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

The project follows the success of the Aboriginal-led Together Home project on the Central Coast which is helping 17 people off the streets and into secure housing with wrap-around support to address their individual needs.

Reference: 'Enhancing Aboriginal homelessness services', New South Wales Government, October 2021



## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HUB TO BE SET UP FOR ABORIGINAL ROUGH SLEEPERS

**T**he South Australian Government will set up a temporary hub with showers, toilets, tents and offices in the southern park lands to accommodate and provide support to about 50 people from remote Aboriginal communities who are sleeping rough.

The hub is described by the Department for Human Services as a "state-first" response to supporting Aboriginal people who travel from remote communities to Adelaide for various reasons, including to seek medical services, attend court or visit family.

Called "Puti on Kurna Yerta", or Bush in the City, the hub will be patrolled 24/7 by security officers and staffed by representatives from SA Police, SA Health, the Department for Human Services, Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, SA Housing Authority, Attorney-General's Department and Adelaide City Council, as well as several non-government organisations.

People who visit the hub will have access to a range of services, including drug and alcohol, medical, mental health and legal support, which will be offered between 7am to 11pm from the privacy of mobile offices.

Reference: 'Park lands hub to be set up for Aboriginal rough sleepers', InDaily, October 2021



## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders TO ACCESS VICTORIA'S NEW HOMEBUYER FUND

**V**ICTORIA is launching a \$500 million fund to get homebuyers into the market, in exchange for a share in the property.

The fund is an expansion of the \$50 million HomesVic Shared Equity Initiative, which the government said helped more than 330 households into the market.

Under the plan, would-be homeowners need to have a 5 per cent deposit, with the government able to kick in up to 25 per cent of the value of the home.

They do not need to be first homebuyers, but cannot currently own a property.

*"They'll be able to buy homes with the help of the Victorian government, which will be an equity partner in the purchase,"* Mr Pallas said.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victorians will be able to apply for the fund with only a 3.5 per cent deposit.

Reference: 'Victoria's new \$500m Homebuyer Fund will see the government own part of up to 3,000 homes', ABC News, October 2021

COMING UP IN

# November 2021



### 11 NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day (11 November) marks the anniversary of the armistice which ended the First World War (1914-18). Each year Australians observe one minute silence at 11 am on 11 November, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

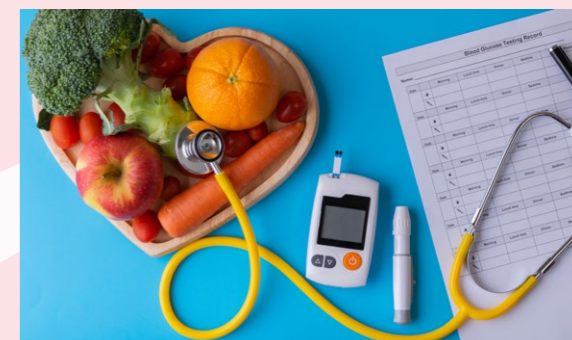


### 8-14 NOVEMBER NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK

National Recycling Week aims to improve the positive environmental outcomes of recycling by increasing community awareness, increasing collection rates and reducing contamination.

### NOVEMBER MOVEMBER

Movember is an annual, month-long celebration of the moustache, highlighting men's health issues, specifically prostate cancer and depression in men.



### 14 NOVEMBER WORLD DIABETES DAY

The World Diabetes Day campaign is an event used to increase understanding of diabetes, and to raise funds for research.

### 25 NOVEMBER WHITE RIBBON DAY

The White Ribbon Campaign aims to raise awareness among Australian men and boys about the roles they can play to prevent violence against women.



### 10 YEARS AGO (OCTOBER 2011)

**IN RESPONSE TO THE NT INTERVENTION**, leaders in East Arnhem Land found the Yolngu Nations Assembly (Yolŋu Makarr Dhuni) in Galiwinku to resource practical work toward a treaty for Arnhem Land.

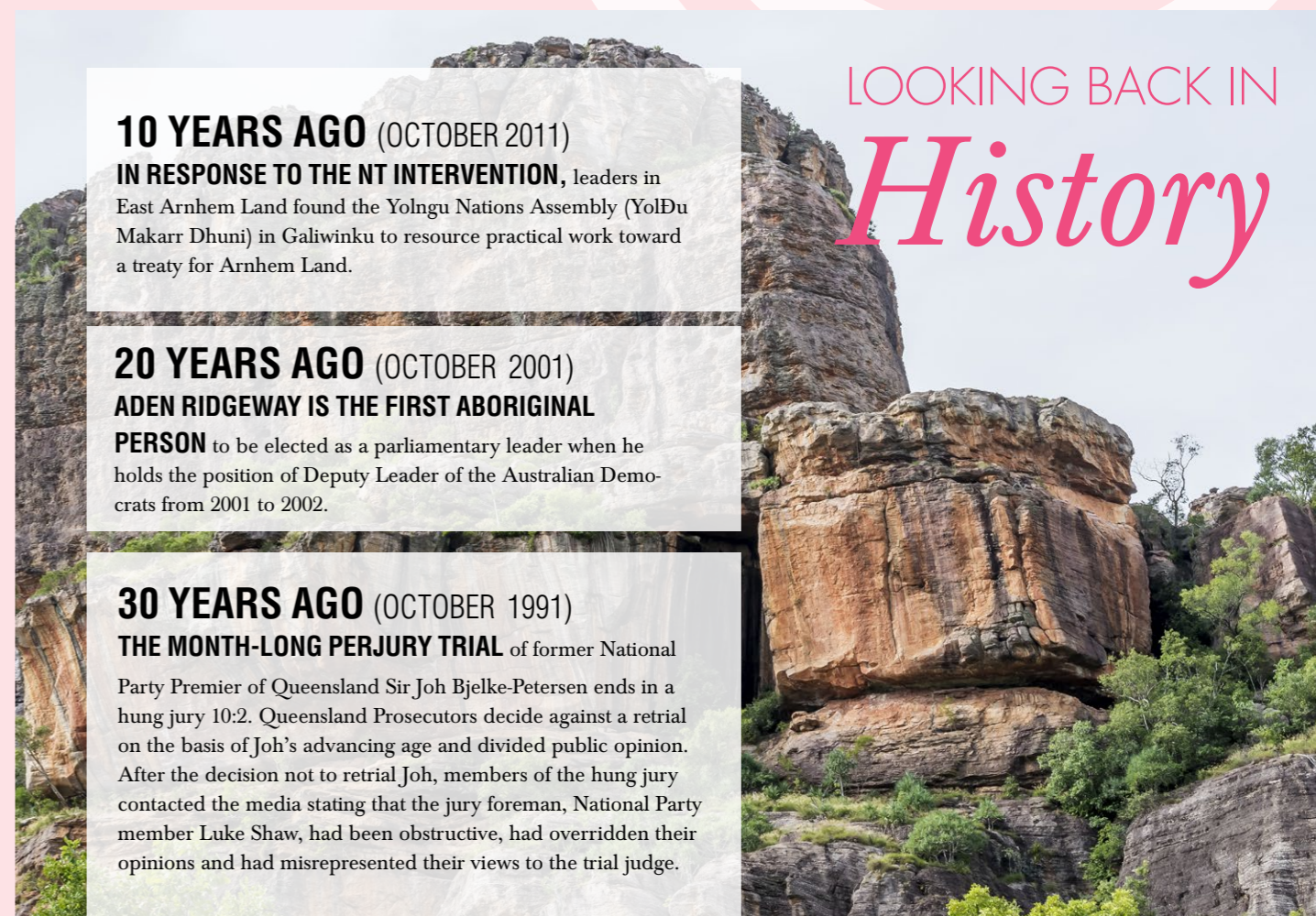
### 20 YEARS AGO (OCTOBER 2001)

**ADEN RIDGEWAY IS THE FIRST ABORIGINAL PERSON** to be elected as a parliamentary leader when he holds the position of Deputy Leader of the Australian Democrats from 2001 to 2002.

### 30 YEARS AGO (OCTOBER 1991)

**THE MONTH-LONG PERJURY TRIAL** of former National Party Premier of Queensland Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen ends in a hung jury 10:2. Queensland Prosecutors decide against a retrial on the basis of Joh's advancing age and divided public opinion. After the decision not to retrial Joh, members of the hung jury contacted the media stating that the jury foreman, National Party member Luke Shaw, had been obstructive, had overridden their opinions and had misrepresented their views to the trial judge.

## LOOKING BACK IN History





Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Housing Queensland

## A NEW PEAK HOUSING BODY IS HERE

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland was established in early 2021. We are a new not-for-profit organisation that is the professional peak representative body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing providers in Queensland. We are an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation and our purpose is to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing outcomes in Queensland.

### WANT TO BE A MEMBER?

Run an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing  
organisation in Queensland?

Or are you an Indigenous Council in Queensland?

### THEN YOU BELONG WITH US!

To become a Member of Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland  
and to enjoy our benefits, please email us at  
[membership@housingqueensland.com.au](mailto:membership@housingqueensland.com.au)