



# October 2021

# BALGO

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# HAIRDRESSING ENTERPRISE WORKSHOP

*Bianca Long, 'Jaru Girl' and Jonelle Rafols, Empoweraid Volunteer*



Bianca Long, 'Jaru Girl', travelled from her home in Wyndham to facilitate a hairdressing workshop in Balgo with support from Jonelle Rafols from Empoweraid.

This enterprise workshop was part of EPWA's approach to facilitating First Nations women entrepreneurs from the Kimberley region to travel to Balgo to share their business journey, and their knowledge skills with women.

Bianca operates the Thorley Store in Wyndham, is a professional hairdresser and last year her fashion label 'Jaru Girl' was showcased at the Country to Couture at Darwin Art Fair in August 2021.

Bianca shared stories behind her Jaru Girl designs during the week and the women were able to see the catalogue of her collection.

Bianca's family is from the Sturt Creek area and she was excited and proud to be able to return 'home' to share her skills and knowledge with the women.





Many younger women who live in Balgo had expressed a strong interest in hairdressing . This intensive week-long workshop was an opportunity to have a 'taster' of what training as a hairdresser would be like and share business ideas.

The workshop was an opportunity to learn about Bianca's business journey as a remote entrepreneur and hear about the success and challenges she has experienced.

The women were able to participate in a hands on practical workshop and learn from Bianca and Jonelle. The women were inspired about their own creative potential in business.



The women attended training at the Kutjunga Trade Training Centre and were also joined by two young high-school students. Across the week over 12 women attended training sessions.





The women who participated learned many new skills in hairdressing including;

- Scissor techniques and how to hold scissors correctly and comb
- Horizontal line
- Practice sectioning patterns for hair primary and secondary sections
- How to observe how to hair naturally falls
- Equipment and cutting technique.
- Combing
- Washing hair; shampooing and conditioning
- Introduction to hair dyes
- Braiding



## COMMUNITY HAIRCUTS



Sandra expressed she had always wanted to learn how to cut hair and believed she would be able to offer haircuts to community members if she continued to practice, learn new skills and receive ongoing mentoring from Bianca.

Sandra was able to cut her sister Rosalyn's hair with mentoring from Bianca and Jonelle.

Monica came along with her Mum Kirsty who also had a strong interest in learning to be a hairdresser. Kirsty was able to learn about hair dyes from Jonelle whilst Bianca cut Monica's hair.

Jonelle was able to teach Kirsty an introduction of to how to mix and use hair dyes.





## PIRIWA OP SHOP UPDATE



Piriwa Op Shop operates out of the green shed at the Trade Training Centre. The Piriwa management team, led by local enterprise facilitator Kathryn Njamme, consists of Vanessa Hector, Vanessa Nelson and Alison Gill.

During EPWA's visit, Vanessa and Vanessa were able to increase their skills in using the 'Square' card as a point of sales for the Piriwa Op Shop and volunteers sorted new donations.

Piriwa Op Shop was visited by the Telethon Kids Research Team and community members. Sadie was helped to find this beautiful dress amongst the new donations.

Alison Gill designed the Piriwa logo. The Piriwa logo was printed on camping mugs and gifted to the senior women who named the Op shop; Piriwa. These mugs are now also for sale at the Op Shop.

Renovations continue on the two shipping containers near the Community Hub. EPWA will support the Piriwa Op Shop to move to its new permanent home in 2022 after the refurbishments are complete and the funds required are raised.

Check out Piriwa Op shop on Facebook! All profits go towards bush trips and other items Piriwa needs to operate.





This workshop was funded by Lotterywest Innovative Service Models grant. Bianca would love to return to Balgo in 2022 to share more of her creativity and skills with the women.

Thank you to Luurnpa Catholic School for the use of the classroom at the Trade Training Centre for the hairdressing workshop. It was wonderful for the women to be able learn in a cool place during the hot build up season!

Thanks also to Warlyarti Art Centre for the loan of the troopy bus for the week!

Thank you also to Jonelle Rafols who volunteered with Empowerid for the workshop.



Clare Wood  
Director EPWA



Jonelle Rafols  
Empoweraid



Bianca Long  
Jaru Girl