

Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC

under Special Administration



Newsletter September 2026

Dear ATLA Members, Common Law Holders, and Community Members,

My name is Peter McQuoid, and on 17 April 2021 I was appointed Special Administrator for the Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC (ATLA).

Welcome to this September newsletter, which is part of my ongoing commitment to keep members and Common Law Holders informed about the work underway to prepare the Corporation to be handed back to your control. We have had a busy few months, this update covers the ongoing work of the Cultural, Heritage and Native Title Committee (CHANT), preparations for the upcoming Annual General Meeting, and welcoming ATLA's new Business Manager, Rachel Coulthard.

We have also completed our nomination and Cultural Advisory Group (CAG) consideration process, formally submitting ATLA's board nominations for the Ikara-Flinders Ranges and Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Parks Co-management Boards to the Department for Environment and Water.

I hope you find this update useful as we continue moving forward together.

Rangelea Court Proceedings – Latest Update

There have been further important developments in the court proceedings concerning Rangelea Holdings Pty Ltd and the administration of the Adnyamathanha Master Trust.

On **3 September 2026**, the matter was again before the Supreme Court of South Australia.

One of the issues considered by the Court was public and media access to the proceedings. Rangelea sought to have the hearing closed to

the public and media, with attendance limited to Common Law Holders and the parties to the proceedings. The Court dismissed an application that would have prevented a journalist from the Sydney Morning Herald from watching the hearing by video link. A journalist from The Advertiser was also present in Court.

Inspector's Reports

An important issue still to be determined is the release of the Inspector's **Third and Fourth Interim Reports** to Adnyamathanha Common Law Holders.

ATLA has told the Court that it wants both reports

released to Common Law Holders, with only limited sensitive personal information removed where necessary.

The Court is expected to hear further argument about releasing these reports at a hearing in October 2026.

Inspector's Reports

The Inspector's investigation into the administration of the Adnyamathanha Master Trust is also moving toward an important milestone.

Some sub-groups have indicated that they wish to provide further information to the Inspector. The Court has ordered that any additional material must be provided to the Inspector by **9 October 2026**.

Importantly, the Court has ordered the Inspector to complete the investigation and provide the **Final Report to the Court by 30 October 2026**.

The Court has also listed the matter for further directions on **10 November 2026**.

Compensation Monies

The compensation monies currently held under the control of the Supreme Court will remain there until the Inspector's investigation has been completed and the Court makes further orders.

At present, **85% of the compensation monies remain under the control of the Supreme Court of South Australia**.

Common Law Holders who have registered to watch court proceedings online do not need to register again. Further updates will be provided as the October hearing date and other developments are confirmed.

Annual General Meeting – 21 November 2026

ATLA's Annual General Meeting will be held on 21 November 2026 across three locations:

- Copley
- Port Augusta
- Adelaide

The three venues will operate simultaneously and will be connected by video, allowing members attending each location to see, hear and participate with members at the other venues.

It is anticipated that the meeting will be hosted from **Copley**, with each of the three locations

appropriately staffed to assist members throughout the day.

Representatives from the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) will be in attendance, together with the Special Administrator and Trent McKenzie, Business Manager.

Light catering will be provided at each venue.

Unfortunately, given ATLA's current financial position, **fuel and travel allowances will not be available for attendance at this AGM**. We appreciate that this may inconvenience some members and thank everyone for their understanding.

Further information regarding venue addresses, meeting times, registration and AGM papers will be provided closer to the meeting.

Introducing Our New Business Manager – Rachel Coulthard



ATLA is pleased to advise that **Rachel Coulthard has accepted the position of Business Manager**.

Rachel will bring her experience, skills and understanding of community to the role and will work closely with the Corporation, the CAG, CHANT and Adnyamathanha members as ATLA continues through the next stage of rebuilding and strengthening the organisation.

The Business Manager role is central to the day-to-day operation of ATLA and includes responsibility for administration, governance,

financial management, stakeholder engagement, implementation of CAG decisions and ensuring that the organisation continues to develop strong and accountable systems.

Rachel Coulthard brings over two decades of dedicated administrative, operational, and community engagement experience to her work across Indigenous affairs and regional Queensland. Currently serving as the Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) Administrative Support Officer at the North Queensland Land Council (NQLC), Rachel plays a vital role in supporting Traditional Owners, managing workshop budgets, coordinating travel, and navigating complex funding applications and acquittals to empower local PBCs.

Her extensive career reflects a lifelong commitment to supporting First Nations governance and advocacy. Rachel's prior experience includes key roles as Executive Assistant to the Commissioner for Aboriginal Engagement and project support within the Aboriginal Affairs & Reconciliation Division. Throughout her work across land councils, government bodies, and event management, she continues to combine administrative efficiency with grounded, community-focused values.

We look forward to formally introducing Rachel to members and welcoming her into the role.

CHANT Update

The Cultural, Heritage and Native Title (CHANT) Committee works closely with the **ATLA CAG** to ensure our Adnyamathanha culture, language, and Yarta (Country) are respected, protected, and kept strong.

Across all our operations, the Committee remains focused on upholding cultural authority, protecting sacred sites, and ensuring our people are directly involved in looking after our lands and waters. Below is an update on recent activities, key decisions, and upcoming priorities for the CHANT Committee.

Recent CHANT Meetings & Key Decisions:

The Committee has met regularly to review ongoing matters, discuss cultural heritage requests, and ensure our rights and cultural responsibilities guide every outcome.

On-Country Heritage Surveys:

Survey teams continue working on Yarta to identify, map, and protect culturally significant sites and ancestral areas before any work or development takes place.

Heritage Agreements & Negotiations:

We are reviewing and strengthening heritage agreements with external parties to ensure strong protections, proper cultural protocols, and accountability to our people.

Cultural Monitors:

We are ensuring fair and clear processes for selecting Adnyamathanha Cultural Monitors to be out on Country, protecting our sites and speaking up during active works.

Working with Mining & Government Bodies:

CHANT continues to meet with resource companies and government bodies to make sure rules are followed, native title rights are respected and Yarta is protected.

Reviewing CHANT Terms of Reference:

Work is underway on updating our Terms of Reference to ensure the Committee operates effectively, transparently, and in alignment with ATLA's governance.

Protecting Culture and Strengthening the Way Heritage Work is Done:

A Stronger Standard Agreement for Future Exploration

CHANT has endorsed a new standard Native Title Mining Agreement (NTMA) template to be used as ATLA's starting point when negotiating future mineral exploration agreements.

MPS Law presented the updated agreement to CHANT at its August meeting. The new template draws together stronger provisions developed through ATLA's recent negotiations and is intended to give ATLA a more consistent starting position when dealing with exploration companies.

The updated template includes:

- updated financial payment provisions;
- stronger protections if a mining interest is transferred to another company;
- provisions allowing relevant exploration work to pause while certain disputes are resolved;
- clearer arrangements for mediation and expert dispute-resolution costs;
- improved cultural awareness arrangements; and
- cultural heritage procedures contained in a dedicated schedule.

Importantly, this does **not** mean that future exploration projects are automatically approved.

The template is a starting point for negotiations, and individual agreements will still need to go through the appropriate approval process with Adnyamathanha Native Title Holders.

Early discussions with Orano Mining

CHANT also met with representatives from Orano Mining, who introduced the company and outlined a proposed exploration project on Adnyamathanha Country.

CHANT members asked questions about the proposed project area, timing, community engagement and opportunities for Adnyamathanha people.

Members particularly raised the importance of meaningful community engagement and asked about possible employment, training and scholarship opportunities that could be considered as discussions progress.

The next step is for ATLA and Orano to begin discussions about a Native Title Mining Agreement. Any proposal would continue through the appropriate ATLA and Native Title Holder processes before decisions are made.

Recording and Protecting Important Cultural Sites

CHANT received an update from the Department for Environment and Water on work to better record and protect six important cultural sites:

Chambers Gorge, Sacred Canyon, Yourambulla Caves, Warraty Cave, Red Gorge and Arkaroo Rock.

The work includes proposed digital recording of rock art using technologies including LiDAR and photogrammetry. CHANT has supported this work on the condition that appropriate Adnyamathanha cultural monitors are involved. CHANT discussed the importance of choosing monitors who have the right cultural connection and knowledge for each particular site. Wherever possible, the Committee supported having both a male and female Adnyamathanha monitor involved.

The Department is aiming to progress the remaining recording work during 2026, subject to access, contractor availability and suitable monitors being available. This work is separate from the Flinders Ranges World Heritage nomination and will continue regardless of the outcome of that

nomination.

Reviewing How CHANT Works

CHANT has also commenced a detailed review of its **Terms of Reference**.

Members identified a number of areas where clearer rules could help the Committee operate more consistently and effectively. These include:

- how CHANT members are appointed;
- how cultural heritage survey participants and monitors are selected;
- ensuring appropriate representation of gender, moiety and cultural authority;
- representation of Elders, younger people and experienced survey participants;
- confidentiality;
- a clearer Code of Conduct;
- the role of the Chair;
- how disagreements are dealt with; and
- maintaining appropriate lists of linguists and other cultural specialists.

CHANT agreed that the review should be inclusive rather than exclusive, while also recognising the practical and financial limits on holding large meetings.

The preferred approach is to establish a smaller working group to work through the issues, consult with Elders and other appropriate cultural authorities, and then bring recommendations back to CHANT for consideration.

Making Sure Heritage Surveys Have the Right People Involved:

One of the strongest themes coming out of the recent CHANT meetings has been ensuring that decisions about heritage surveys remain with Adnyamathanha people with the appropriate cultural authority, knowledge and connection to Country.

CHANT has been reviewing both its survey participant processes and its arrangements with companies operating on Adnyamathanha Country.

At the August meeting, the Committee discussed the distinction between routine site monitoring

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and a formal cultural heritage survey. CHANT's position was that where a new heritage survey is required, the work should come back to CHANT so the appropriate Adnyamathanha participants can be selected on the basis of cultural authority, knowledge and connection to the area.

Upcoming Heritage Work:

Planning is in progress for upcoming site assessments and surveys across key regions of our Yarta to stay ahead of incoming requests.

Community Participation:

Looking after Country and heritage belongs to all of us. CHANT is focused on creating more opportunities for our people to participate and stay connected to On-Country work.

Over the coming months, CHANT will focus on finalising our updated Terms of Reference, advancing key agreement negotiations, and keeping our cultural heritage safe for future generations.

Community Good News

ATLA would also like to use our newsletter to recognise the achievements of Adnyamathanha people.

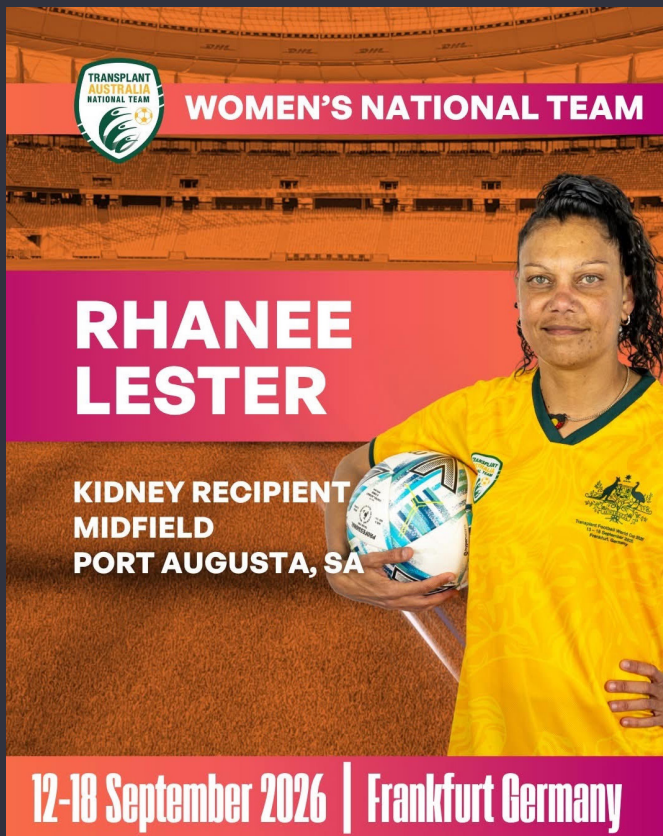
Members are encouraged to let ATLA know about achievements, milestones, sporting success, education, cultural activities and other positive stories that we can celebrate and share with the community.

Looking Ahead

There continues to be a significant amount of work occurring across ATLA.

The coming months will include Rachel Coulthard starting as Business Manager, continued work by CHANT and CAG, preparation for the AGM and further work to strengthen ATLA's governance, finances and administration.

We thank Adnyamathanha members for their continued participation, patience and contribution as this work continues.



TRANSPLANT AUSTRALIA NATIONAL TEAM

WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM

RHANE LESTER

**KIDNEY RECIPIENT
MIDFIELD
PORT AUGUSTA, SA**

12-18 September 2026 | Frankfurt Germany

Celebrating Our People – Rhanee Lester

ATLA is very proud to recognise Rhanee Lester for an outstanding achievement that extends well beyond Adnyamathanha Country.

Rhanee has been selected to participate in the Transplant Football World Cup, an extraordinary personal achievement and a wonderful story for the Adnyamathanha community.

As the only First Nations woman selected for the inaugural Australian Transplant Women's Football Team competing in Frankfurt, Germany, Rhanee carries the strength of her community, culture, and donors onto the world stage. Deeply rooted in her hometown of Port Augusta, she uses her platform to celebrate organ donation, promote women's sporting excellence, and show young Aboriginal girls that their stories and dreams matter.

Her achievement reflects determination, resilience, and a willingness to take on opportunities that many people would never have imagined possible.

ATLA congratulates Rhanee and wishes her every success.