

## Girrawaa Creative Work Centre

Acknowledgement of Country – We would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people, whose lands we work on in the Girrawaa Creative Arts Centre. We would like to acknowledge the elders both past, present, and emerging.

Anthony Tait, Operations Manager, Bathurst Correctional Centre

Girrawaa is an Aboriginal creative arts centre, located at the Bathurst Correctional Centre.

It's designed to provide Aboriginal inmates with the opportunity to link with their culture and to produce Aboriginal artefacts and personal artworks.

What we've introduced is an art show that's held quarterly. Members of the public are able come here and buy artwork directly from the inmates. And off the back of that, we've had some opportunity with some commercial partners where we've been asked, or commissioned to produce some artwork for them.

The benefit to inmates is twofold. Firstly, this space here allows them the opportunity to be clear minded, to think about the future, and to think about the important things in their life. The second area is that they are able to learn new skills. So, for many people coming to Girrawaa, they have not painted before. Those opportunities that are presented allow inmates to learn new skills that are transferable to the community, transferable to an employer.

Inmates like to be up here in a peaceful environment. There are birds, there are trees, there's lovely green grass. It's a nice place to be.

We have a lot to be proud of, collectively our work changes lives in a positive way.

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