

NATIONAL ROYAL FAMILY

Prince Charles winds up Australia visit

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Prince Charles has met with the families of fallen soldiers in Darwin on the final leg of his jam-packed trip to Australia.



The Prince of Wales laid a wreath at the city's Cenotaph on Tuesday to commemorate fallen Australian servicemen and women, before taking time to greet the well-wishers who had turned out to see him.



Prince Charles visits the Larrakeyah Defence Precinct in Darwin on Tuesday.

Photo: AAP

The prince then visited Larrakeyah Defence base, taking a short tour of Darwin harbour on a regional patrol craft.

He will later be shown around Royal Darwin Hospital, before attending the Northern Territory Governor's reception and will fly out later tonight from Darwin's RAAF base.

The prince on Monday visited the Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Arts Centre in the Northern Territory, where he met with Yolngu clan leaders and the Member for Nhulunbuy who asked him to intervene on their behalf and acknowledge their people's sovereignty.

He was asked to take a strong position on the issue and was handed a letter stick to deliver to the Prime Minister of Australia.

"We have many difficulties with the Australian governments because they do not recognise our sovereignty," Member for Nhulunby Yingiya Mark Guyula said on Monday.

"We need to correct this situation, for the sake of our children and their children, for our cultural survival, - for our ancestors."

The prince was also given a spiritual blessing by world-renowned didgeridoo master Djalal Gurriwiwi during Monday's visit, taking part in a Yidaki healing ceremony where a didgeridoo was blown close to his chest.

Gurriwiwi performed the 30-second blessing, after which Charles smiled and said: "I feel better already!"

Prince Charles' 16th visit to Australia saw him open the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast, while also spending time in Brisbane, Bundaberg, Cairns and Vanuatu.

The prince arrived in Darwin on Monday night for a reception hosted by the Royal Flying Doctor Service where he was treated to tasty morsels rustled up by MasterChef contestants.

PA



ROYAL FAMILY PRINCE CHARLES DARWIN

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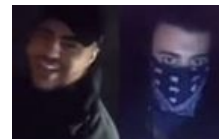
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