



Bundiyarra Gardantha

'a good place moving forward'



Nhanda Alphabet Poster launched

"The poster may only be a small thing, but it's a big thing for community," said Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre Coordinator, Jenny Kniveton-Gregory, when the Nhanda Alphabet Poster was launched at Kalbarri last month.

The poster was created by the language centre as a resource to preserve the disappearing Nhanda language, with the invaluable help of Nhanda woman, Colleen Drage and her father, Clayton Drage.

A very happy band of people, pictured above, helped launch the poster; at rear, Jacko Whitby, Godfrey Simpson, Jenny Clayton, front, Jenny Kniveton-Gregory, Rosie Sitorus, Leeann Merritt and Colleen Drage. Read the full story on page 16.

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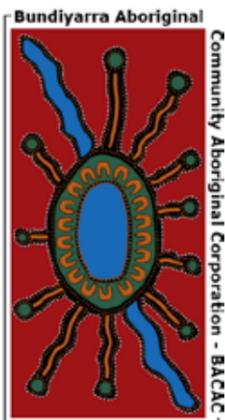
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A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Nhurra Barndi

Bundiyarra celebrated its 17th Birthday on 1 May, 2015. Congratulations to all Founding Members, Board and Directors and members, past and present.

It is a moment to be proud of. In April, Nanna Dora Dann celebrated the re-launch of her book *Waranygu Bayalgu – Digging for Food*, a proud moment for this amazing woman and for her family – well done Nanna Dora.

Bundiyarra hosted the inaugural Camp Gallipoli last month in conjunction with the City of Greater Geraldton, and while the numbers were lower than expected, it was a fabulous occasion which brought together people from all backgrounds.

Funding, funding, funding. Being a not-for-profit organisation with a broad List of Objectives, funding is becoming more difficult to secure. Why? Because it appears the goal posts for funding submissions seem to be always moving, and budgets for Aboriginal programs are constantly decreasing.

The Bundiyarra List of Objectives are:

1. To act as an 'umbrella body' for Aboriginal organisations in the Geraldton and surrounding communities
2. To provide accounting, administration and other community services for members
3. To support the social development of its members in all ways
4. To support the development of economic projects and industries
5. To support education, employment, job training and cultural programs for its members
6. To access and manage land on behalf of the members of the community
7. To maintain and encourage the traditional language and culture
8. To support other Aboriginal Corporations in projects for their mutual benefit
9. To receive and spend grant funding from the Commonwealth, State or Local Governments or from other sources in line with accountability requirements



While we aim to deliver successful outcomes across all areas of the Corporation, some of our more social objectives are decreasing as funding dries up. Less funding results in less staff and fewer opportunities to help our people. In the Government's eyes, Bundiyarra is located in a city, and therefore will not provide financial assistance to help us successfully act as a Resource Centre.

Bundiyarra covers a huge area, some 272,000 km² across the Mid West, Gascoyne and Murchison regions. We have a clean track record in terms of funding received by the Corporation over the past 17 years.

We thank all our current funding bodies which include the City of Greater Geraldton, Western Australian Government – Environmental Health Services and Indigenous Languages and Arts.

Recently we applied through the Royalties for Regions program, through the Mid West Development Commission, for funding for Bundiyarra to have its site plans updated, and to work with an accountant to produce some business plans for three commercial opportunities.

Unfortunately our submission was unsuccessful which means some of the topics we recently consulted with community about are unable to proceed. We will host further community consultation to help set the future direction of the Corporation so please keep your eyes open for any promotional material and ears open for announcements on both Radio Mama and ABC Midwest.

It will take more than a couple of knock backs to keep us down or hold us back to fulfil our long term dreams but we will continue to need the support of community to back us and rally to help gain more services for the future of all Aboriginal people.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Marchelle Retallack

Radio Theatre mural starts to take shape

One of the Bundiyarra Community Consultation – Come yarn with us sessions that kicked off in February this year, was the funding from the City of Greater Geraldton to paint a mural on the old Radio Theatre building at the west end of Marine Terrace.

Under the supervision and watchful eye of Bundiyarra Board Member, Bianca McNear, who took the lead on this project, work is well under way on the panels that will form the mural.

Three young girls from three different language regions are hard at work at Yanay Yanma Hall at Beachlands, painting the colourful murals.

Tammy Wykes is studying a diploma of art at Durack Institute of Technology and she is joined by proud Nyoongar woman, Rahai Gray and Malgana woman, Nykita McNear.



Tammy Wykes, Rahai Gray and Nykita McNear at work on the Radio Theatre mural at Yanay Yanma Hall at Beachlands.

The mural is much further advanced since this picture was taken last month.

When finished the panels will be installed at the entrance to the old Radio Theatre building next to Yamaji Art.

Bundiyarra IT Manager, Dwayne Smith, will create QR codes for the panels that will allow people to find out the stories behind the paintings.

Watch this space...

Bundiyarra Gardantha distribution continues to grow

Our newsletter, *Bundiyarra Gardantha*, is still proving to be popular with readers, and each edition there are requests to be added to the email distribution list.

We have readers across the nation, and as far away as Germany! And we don't know how many readers forward their copy on...

If you would like to be added to the list, either a printed copy or email, just send an email request to marketing@bundiyarra.org.au or call (08) 9920 7900 and we'll add your name.

Last month we received the following great testimonial:

"I have seen lots of newsletters from communities all over Australia but I think this has to be the best of all of them. It's always terrific and I always get stuck reading the whole thing!

Thanks."

Ian Ogden

Facilitator, AusIndustry – Entrepreneur Development Department of Industry and Science

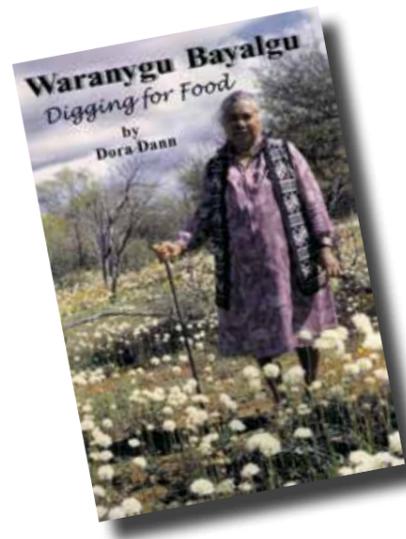
Thank you Ian, we really appreciate your feedback!



Strong family ties: A sprinkling of her many grandchildren helped Mrs Dann launch her book. Rear from left, Tania Gray, Dallas Ronan, Ray Dann, David Ronan, Donna Ronan, Gavin Ronan and Ron Ronan. Front with Mrs Dann are two of her sons, Reuben and Ken.

Many family chapters on hand to help Dora Dann relaunch her book

The importance and closeness of family was never more evident than at the launch of the reprint of Yamaji Elder, Dora Dann's book, *Waranygu Bayalgu – Digging for Food*, on 23 April.



Held at Geraldton Regional Library, the room was packed with family, friends and supporters of Mrs Dann, a devout Christian who touchingly praised the Lord for her family.

“Mrs Dann has been credited with naming Bundiyarra – a good place.”

Mrs Dann, in her 90s, is a well known Elder in the region and is mother to 13 children and countless grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Master of Ceremonies for the event was her great-grandson Jayden Dann, and Welcome to Country was performed by son-in-law Robert Ronan. Another grandson, Leroy

Shiosaki provided entertainment playing the didgeridoo.

City of Greater Geraldton Mayor, Ian Carpenter, said a few words, followed by Yamaji Language Centre Chairperson, Robert Ronan and then family and friends spoke warmly to the attentive audience about Mrs Dann, followed by Yamaji Language Centre Manager Paul Ihanimo.

A wonderful video, created by one of her nieces, Rebecca, showed Mrs Dann travelling in a Winnebago on a trip back to country.

Mrs Dann is credited with naming Bundiyarra – a good place.

Waranygu Bayalgu – Digging for Food is published by the Yamaji Language Centre, and can be ordered by fax to (08) 9964 4690 or email: paul@yamaji.com.au. The cost of the book is \$35.

Prison Health – from the inside out

Conference looks at strategies to improve Aboriginal prisoner health

Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (GRAMS) hosted a Prison Health Conference last month, with a lineup of prominent speakers including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Mick Gooda.

The conference in Geraldton, *Prison Health – From the Inside Out*, was aimed at developing

strategies to improve the health of Aboriginal prisoners and former prisoners; to recommend alternatives to prison; and also lead change in the way state funds are allocated to prison health.

GRAMS Chairman, Sandy Davies, said the conference was aimed at formulating partnerships with government agencies, Aboriginal agencies and the Aboriginal community to improve Aboriginal health overall.

“...time to look at the big picture...”

He said it was time to look at the big picture to resolve Aboriginal health issues in and outside of prisons and that Aboriginal communities need to work together towards this.

“We aim to solve these problems by looking at alternatives to prison for minor offences, reducing the rate of ex-prisoners returning to prison, and paving the way for ex-offenders to better integrate back into society,” Mr Davies said.

He said Aboriginal prisoners were at greater risk of chronic illness, mental



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Mick Gooda, listens to former ATSIC CEO, Gary Clarke, as he makes a point at the Prison Health Conference last month.

illness and substance abuse and that incarceration was not necessarily the answer.

“We need to come up with concrete alternatives to prison. This will not only improve Aboriginal health but would save the government a lot of money,” said Mr Davies. “Prison should be treated as a last resort.”

Mr Gooda said urgent action was needed to reduce Aboriginal incarceration rates, which he said have reached crisis point and it's time for aboriginal communities to unite on the issue.

Speaking to ABC local Radio before the conference, Mr Gooda said that high Aboriginal incarceration rates and poor Aboriginal health were intrinsically entwined.

“If you think putting people in jail creates safe communities, we're kidding ourselves,” he said.

“Stopping people offending creates safe communities.

“So that's what we're looking at now, how can we create safe communities.”

Mr Gooda said it was vital Aboriginal communities were united on the issue.

“If you don't have a unified voice, the government will do whatever they

want because they've got permission to do it because people aren't coming together,” he said.

“So it's really important that communities sit down and start talking together.”

Mr Gooda said reducing Aboriginal incarceration rates would save the country about \$800 million a year in incarceration costs.

“Here's a way

governments can actually save a bit of money; by not locking people up who shouldn't be locked up,” he said.

“...practical changes... could reduce Indigenous incarceration rates...”

Mr Gooda said practical changes within the judicial and policing system could reduce Indigenous incarceration rates.

Mr Davies said feedback from the conference has been positive.

“Feedback's been really good,” he said, “we need to get all the information out now.”

Mr Davies said he was hoping to meet with the State Minister for Health, Kim Hames in the near future.

Other presenters included: Craig Cumming, Research Officer University of Western Australia, lead interviewer and coordinator on the Health in Prisons – Australia Project; and Matthew Cooke, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) 2014 Chairperson.

Gordy rewarded for footy dedication



Gordy Clinch with the medal each team member received for winning the National Indigenous KickStart Championship for the fifth consecutive year in Cairns this year.

Gordy Clinch is a happy man.

He's been involved in the football KickStart program for six years and has watched WA win the National Indigenous KickStart Championship five years in a row, this year at Cairns in Queensland.

And this year Gordy got the opportunity to travel with the team as assistant team manager as recognition from the WA Football Commission for his dedication to the program.

Gordy is footy team manager, co-forward line coach (with Shaye Hayden), and bus driver for Aboriginal boys playing in the Nicky Winmar Carnival and Stephen Michael Cup, a program that forms the basis of selection for the WA KickStart team.

“It’s a great program and I’d like to see more young Indigenous boys put their name down for the next one.”

The program was developed by the AFL to provide a supported, talented player pathway that complements the National U16 Championship exposing Aboriginal players, coaches, doctors, physiotherapists and trainers to an elite AFL program environment.

Each year, every state is represented by a team of 25 Aboriginal players, aged 15 and under who compete in the National KickStart Championship. The team is led by Aboriginal coaches, trainers and support staff.

The WA KickStart Squad, including coaches, is selected from the carnival based on leadership qualities, school attendance, community involvement and playing and coaching ability.

Gordy said over the six years he has been involved he’s seen some deadly young Indigenous footballers come through the program.

“It’s a great program and I’d like to see more young Indigenous boys put their name down for the next one,” he said.

“I’d like to thank some people that got me involved in this program; Adrian Bartlett has been a great role model, also Merylyn Green for giving me support and to my mum and dad.”
WAFC Community Engagement

Manager Paul Mugambwa said this year was the first time that the WA Football Commission had taken an assistant team manager outside of its staff at the commission.

“Given the great commitment and passion you have demonstrated over the years with involvement in the Nicky Winmar Carnival and the Stephen Michael Cup, we wanted to reward you for the efforts and be part of this special trip,” he told Gordy.

Other coaches included: Head Coach, Shaye Hayden; Backline Coach, Andrew Beck; Centreline Coach, Jermaine Davis; Forward line Coaches, Gordon Clinch/Shaye Hayden; Team Manager, Chris Brown; and Trainers, East Perth Football Club.

Artist goes home but Wajarri words work on

Wednesday 1 April saw the wrap up of the successful Geraldton goes Wajarri public art project by Berlin-based artist Pia Lanzinger, who raised the profile of Wajarri words in the local community by smuggling them into public places.

Geraldton goes Wajarri was presented as a part of *spaced 2: future recall*, an ambitious program of socially engaged art, presented by Perth-based arts organisation International Art Space.

The idea of the project was to create new artworks based on engagement with local residents, histories and landscapes and Pia worked with the Geraldton community to ‘spread the words’.

The engaging art project was designed to raise awareness and revitalise the endangered Wajarri language. Wajarri is an Aboriginal language from the Murchison region of WA with fewer than 50 fluent speakers.

Embracing this project were more than 200 Jaminu (Champion Bay or Geraldton) people who adopted a Wajarri word that they proudly wore on the front of a t-shirt with the



Glenys Kelly, Edie Maher, Mayor Ian Carpenter, Leonie Boddington and Rosie Sitorus at the wrap up of Pia Lanzinger’s Wajarri Words project. Right; Pia Lanzinger and Darcy Hay lead the audience in the Geraldton goes Wajarri song.



English translation on the back.

The project hasn’t been confined to Jaminu — Wajarri words are being worn around the world including in the UK and Germany!

Wajarri Elder, Elvie Dann was the 180th person to adopt a word – jurdu, or in English, flower.

The celebration was hosted by Pollinators at their City Hive premises on Marine Terrace in Geraldton, with master of ceremonies and Wajarri Nyarlu Leonie Boddington, and congratulatory words from City of Greater Geraldton Mayor, Ian Carpenter, and Pollinators Board Member, Patricia Anderson.



A crowd of happy Wajarri Word Project supporters at the wrap up of the project at Pollinators.

Three films produced about the project were shown, and guests joined in singing with the live release of a specially composed Geraldton goes Wajarri song by songwriter/musician Darcy Hay, musician and Wajarri speaker, Vincent Jones, and ably assisted by Wajarri teacher, Edie Maher, Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre’s Language Worker, Godfrey Simpson and Linguist Rosie Sitorus.

“I am interested in creating a reservoir of knowledge and a living archive of this language that will stay alive and present in the lives and consciousness of Geraldton residents,” said Pia.

“This shall not only put a halt to the vanishing of a language but also serve as a reminder of the ongoing repression Australia’s Indigenous population continue to be exposed to.”

Pia Lanzinger’s *Geraldton goes Wajarri* art project will continue throughout 2015. For more information or to adopt a word visit www.geraldton-goes-wajarri.org. You can also download posters, stickers and postcards from the site.

Environmental health team struggle to keep up with demand – how you can help

Bundiyarra's Environmental Health Team works hard to help community keep homes and yards clean and tidy.

However, demand is outstripping supply at the moment with the team run off their feet trying to keep up. You can help by being at home when the team comes to your house. Many residents are claiming the team has not attended, however no one has been at home when they arrived.

Environmental Health has now introduced a 'calling card', a card they will leave at your door if you are not home, with the day and time they called to help you with your clean-up. The team asks that you plan ahead, give a reasonable amount of notice, and one of the team will arrange a convenient inspection time to discuss your requirements.

They also ask that you are available to help when they call.

If you need the service contact the Environmental Health Team by phoning (08) 9920 7900.

This service is greatly supported by the City of Greater Geraldton and the GMA Garnet Group.

Please be aware this year the City of Greater Geraldton will not be offering



Environmental Health workers, Doug Brennan and Ron Cross, with 'calling cards' that will be left if you are not home when they respond to your request.

its annual verge side collection in June, it has been postponed indefinitely. However, you can still take your rubbish to the Meru Landfill, the local tip, for no cost. Complete details on what can be

taken to Meru and what may be recycled can be found at the City's Regional Waste and Energy page — <http://www.cgg.wa.gov.au/live/my-environment/waste-and-recycling/recycling-in-geraldton.aspx>

The Bundiyarra Environmental Health Program provides a comprehensive environmental health service that includes:

- Rubbish removal programs
- Dog health
- Pest control
- Dust suppression
- Septic tank/leach drain inspection and maintenance
- Maintenance of facilities and equipment
- Community plumbing and other rudimentary repairs
- Provide support and education
- Advance and promote environmental health principles to community
- Yard clean-ups
- Mould assessment and possible treatments

Expressions of interest sought for museum Advisory Committee

The Western Australian Museum Geraldton is seeking Expressions of Interest from community members to be a part of the Museum's Community Advisory Committee.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people are encouraged to apply to be part of the Community Advisory Committee. There are many exciting opportunities on the horizon for the WA Museum and the region's Aboriginal communities hold important and valuable views and knowledge which can guide the Museum's future directions.

Nominations are being sought for two Community Representatives. The Advisory Committee meets four times per year.

Expressions of interest, including a statement outlining your suitability and a current CV (if available) should be mailed to: Leigh O'Brien, Regional Manager, Western Australian Museum Geraldton, PO Box 2229, Geraldton WA 6530, or emailed to leigh.o'brien@museum.wa.gov.au by 4pm Friday 19 June, 2015.

For more information on the purpose of the Community Advisory Committee and the role of its members, contact Leigh O'Brien on 9921 5080.



it's time to change it up!

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

What's on for the week

THURSDAY 28th May 9am to 4pm Gunnado Dance Fest

Bringing together students from Mid West Regional schools to perform at Gunnado Farm, Walkaway. The festival will encourage reconciliation and for everyone to come together to build strong partnerships with schools, Agencies and the Community. See more info on page 13.

THURSDAY 28th May 9am to 12 noon Mullewa Reconciliation Event:

Sean Choolburra and the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre. Both schools and the Mullewa community are invited to this event that will be held at the Mullewa Town Hall.

THURSDAY 28th May 4 to 5pm Walking in Both Worlds, Tania Major

at the WA Centre for Rural Health, 167 Fitzgerald St, Geraldton. A Kokobera woman from Far North Queensland, Tania believes with good education and mentoring Aboriginal people's cultures can provide a strong cornerstone for Australia as a nation. Tania will talk about her own experiences.

FRIDAY 29th May 7pm Reconciliation Concert: With Sean Choolburra

See back page of this newsletter for full details.

THURSDAY 28th May, FRIDAY 29th May 9am to 10.30am

Special Storytime Session at the Geraldton Regional Library, 37 Marine Terrace, Geraldton. Join Library staff and Leeann Merritt from Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre, to hear stories read in the local language of Wajarri. Songs and craft included in the session. Phone the library on 9956 6659 for more information. No bookings are required.

WEDNESDAY 3rd June 10-11.30am Oral History Morning

Geraldton Regional Library, 37 Marine Terrace, Geraldton. A Vietnam Veteran, a talented local artist, the daughter of a prominent local author ... There are many facets to the lives of Graham Taylor, Charmaine Green and Joan Gray. Hear them tell their own stories in a live interview. Morning tea will be provided.

Durack lecturers visit their Bundiyarra pupil

As we reported in the March edition of Bundiyarra Gardantha, Bundiyarra's part-time IT Manager, Dwayne Smith, was named 2014 Vocational Student of the Year across Durack Institute of Technology's four campuses.

For their Personal Development Day, (where they visit local businesses relevant to their teaching subjects), Dwayne's Durack lecturers decided they would visit him at work to see what he has been doing at Bundiyarra.

They were extremely impressed, not only with Dwayne's work, but also



Linguist, Rosie Sitorus, right, shows Durack lecturers, Mike Vaughan and Robyn Jenkin some of the literature produced at the language centre, while IT Manager Dwayne Smith looks on.

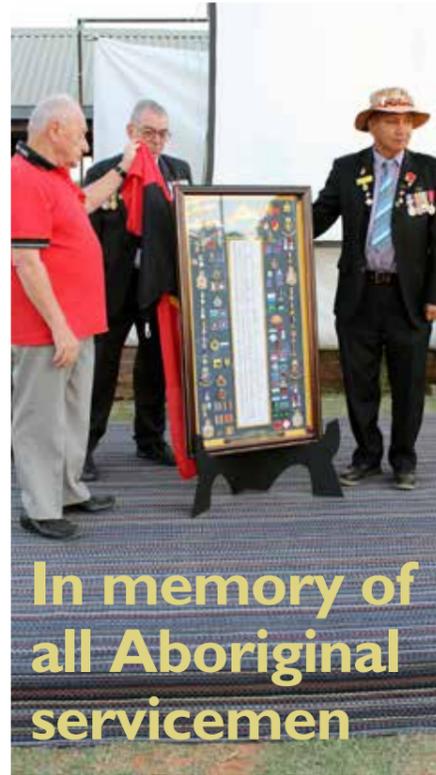
with the work of the Corporation in general.

Over morning tea, with fresh damper (of course!) lecturers, Mike Vaughan and Robyn Jenkin learnt how Dwayne has set up a new website for the organisation and incorporated

an online bookstore; how he has been working on signage for Durack's new Aboriginal Learning Centre and interpretive panels; how he has been running tutorials in IT for the staff, as well as all the other projects he has on the go. They were also given an insight into the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre and the educational resource tools used by the centre.

They spoke with Bundiyarra CEO Marchelle Retallack about further training partnership opportunities between Bundiyarra and Durack, and met with Gordon Gray and the Environmental Health team.

Camp Gallipoli brings everyone together for a solid event



In memory of all Aboriginal servicemen

The fire was lit with the ANZAC flame, the drums were beaten, the flags were up and the show got on the road at Camp Gallipoli on 24 April at Bundiwarra.

There was plenty to entertain the crowd of all ages and backgrounds and plenty of tucker to feed them. ABC Radio Mid West and Wheatbelt did an outside broadcast from 10am to noon interviewing a variety of people including Vietnam veteran, Graham Taylor; well-known poet, community member and City of Greater Geraldton employee, Nola Gregory; Bundiwarra chef Tania Gray; and young Rangeway Primary School student Daymon Eades, who wore his great-grandfather's medals and read an extract from his diary. ABC Producer Geoff Cannon said it was the best outside broadcast they'd done at Bundiwarra – must be a “good place”.

More than 250 people enjoyed the experience from 3pm, with a few camping overnight by the fire, and catching the bus to the dawn service the next morning.



Caitlin, Sheri and Finola Moulds enjoy their first taste of marlu – or kangaroo – stew. Sheri said the event was fantastic and she and her three children thoroughly enjoyed the experience – and the feed!

Northampton Nhanda Elder, Iris Mallard, had 10 members of her family serve in the armed forces since WWI. Chris Lewis from ABC Open interviewed Iris, recorded her story and uploaded it to the ABC Open website. It has been extremely popular with more than 1,930 views, 53 shares and 70 likes. It's a great yarn, you can see it by visiting <https://open.abc.net.au/explore/92577>



Geraldton RSL President, Ross Davies, lights the fire with the ANZAC flame to officially launch Camp Gallipoli.

Bundiwarra CEO, Marchelle Retallack, said the atmosphere was amazing and it was nice to see a mix of young and older people.

“Feedback has been very positive,” she said.

“Everyone was engaged with each other's cultures and it was the first time the Aboriginal, non-Aboriginal and New Zealand communities worked together to put on the ceremony,



Some of the many that enjoyed Camp Gallipoli at Bundiwarra. There was plenty of entertainment and things to be involved in including damper making demonstrations, Songlines tours, an open mic session and yarning around the camp fire later in the evening.



The procession enters Bundiwarra's grounds. Pic Katarina Smelikova



Bundiwarra CEO, Marchelle Retallack welcomes everyone.

“The agenda for the ceremony was a mix of all nationalities representing our ANZAC soldiers and the multicultural mix was appreciated.

“I'd like to thank Ross Davies and the Geraldton Sub Branch of the RSL for their input and for lighting the fire with the ANZAC flame to get proceedings under way, and also the 11th Battalion Living History and the 711 City of Greater Geraldton Squadron Air Force Cadets.

“This event was held in conjunction with the City of Greater Geraldton and I'd like to thank them, and those who volunteered from the City, for their help on the day,” said Ms Retallack.

“I would also like to thank our many sponsors for contributing to the success of this event.”

The Torch Song Lines Tour was a big hit with the kids, heading off into the bush with only torches to light their way, and listening to Emu stories told by Godfrey Simpson, Gordon Gray and Joan Gray.

Jenny Clayton's damper making demonstrations were popular and the Rangeway Primary School didgeridoo players, Indi-genius, entertained on stage.

That's just some of the activities that were available!

Turn to the next page for more pics.



ABC Radio's Geoff Cannon gets ready to interview chef, Tania Gray whose kangaroo stew was a big hit.

A big thank you for Camp Gallipoli

I just wanted to say thank you so much for a wonderful night at Camp Gallipoli. My Mum and my daughter and I went along for the first time to Bundiwarra and had a wonderful time.

The hospitality and welcome was appreciated and we enjoyed all the events and activities that were offered – especially Tania's kangaroo curry and stew and the Song lines walk..the didgeridoo playing and the wonderful singing by the Waitangi association – all of it was wonderful really.

It was also great to catch up with old family friends that we had not seen for a while and share old memories and stories. Thankyou and congratulations on a wonderful event.

*Thank you.
 Lara Dalton*

Camp Gallipoli in pictures



Ten-year-old Damon Eades reads from his great-grandfather's war diary with Glenn Barndon at ABC Radio's outside broadcast at Bundiyarra. Damon is wearing his great-grandfather's medals.



Above: A captive audience listens to the story of the Emu in the Sky as part of the Songlines Tour. Below: Vietnam War veteran, Graham Taylor also spoke on ABC Radio at the outside broadcast.



Indi-Genius – the Rangeway Primary School boys didgeridoo group – entertained the audience.



Mrs Joan Gray tells an emu story, watched by City Mayor, Ian Carpenter and Labor Member for the Agricultural Region, Darren West.



Godfrey Simpson tells the story of the Emu in the Sky.



Gordon Gray talks about the Songlines.



Kids of all ages had a great time, and gave Camp Gallipoli the thumbs up; there was face painting, book giveaways, and plenty of stories to be told.



Pics Katarina Smelikova



The billy in the campfire. Pic Katarina Smelikova



Poppy sand mural by Maxine Gregory.

The Spirit of ANZAC

By Nola Gregory

*Around the campfire
They solemnly sit
Pondering so quietly
Stories of true grit
The ANZAC flame
Burns bright in their eyes
As they camp out
Under dark night skies*

*Listen very carefully
To their stories of old
As they sit by the campfire
Pride and Honour unfold
The tears you may see
Come from deep inside
Unfurling like ribbons
As they talk through the night*

*They will tell stories
From their memories they come
About serving side by side
Under a hot foreign sun
The mateship and friends
Formed through the war
Forever they are bonded
Like never before*

*So listen intently
To what they will say
The Spirit of ANZAC
Will be honoured today
It's born on the shoulders
Of those who fought and died
And those who returned
Will carry on with the Pride*

Nola Gregory © 18/03/2015

Tania keeps the pots bubbling at Bundy

Cooking up a storm for Camp Gallipoli fell to Bundiyarra Domestic Goddess, Tania Gray.

With a small band of helpers, Tania catered for 500 people, maintaining her good cheer and throaty laugh – until she found out she had to talk live on air as part of ABC Mid West and Wheatbelt's outside broadcast in the lead up to Camp Gallipoli. However, she got through it!

It was a long day for these ladies, behind the cooking pots from 8.30am until 8.30pm when the last of the meals were served, and the clean up began.

Bubbly, Geraldton born and bred Tania, keeps the morale high and biscuit jar topped up at Bundiyarra, and turns her hand to catering for special events and occasions. She hires the huge cooking pots from Geraldton Party Hire so often that they kindly donated the pots to Bundiyarra.

"Geraldton Party Hire said we were the only ones that ever hired the pots so they said they would donate them to us," she said, "this was



ABC Radio producer, Geoff Cannon, interviews Tania Gray live on the show as part of the outside broadcast.

fantastic and we really appreciate it."

Tania started her working life at age 15 with a local fabric and clothing shop, Bennetts Elite, (still going today, now known simply as Bennetts) where she sewed, by hand, the red velvet drop curtains for Geraldton's Queens Park Theatre that are still in use today.

At weekends she volunteered at the Boomerang Hostel.

Tania has worked on a talc mine at Meekatharra, a nickel smelter in

Kalgoorlie and was a supervisor in Carnarvon for the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP). Following this she was foster parent for four young girls for 14 years.

Always active in the community she has a passion for, Tania has been regularly involved in sewing children's costumes for, and accompanying the children to the NAIDOC parade each year.

Tania previously volunteered for 17 hours a week at Bundiyarra before becoming a paid employee.

Keep those pots bubbling Tania.



Many hands make light work: preparing the food for Camp Gallipoli.

Gunna Do Dance Fest promotes youth health and confidence

In a bid to promote health, education, employment, arts, sports and reconciliation, Geraldton Streetwork Aboriginal Corporation (Streeties), is holding the Gunna Do Dance Fest at Gunnadoo Farm at Walkaway on 28 May.

This is part of Reconciliation Week, and the free entry school event is aimed at taking the kids on a journey of development in dance, music, choreography, teamwork, confidence, self esteem, cooperation, social skills and communication.

Streeties Operations Manager, Mrs Merylyn Green, said the Gunna Do Dance Fest is a drug and alcohol free event.

"It will involve young Indigenous and non-Indigenous

students and will promote health, education, employment, arts, sports and reconciliation," she said.

"We hope this event will help to support schools with attendance, student motivation, confidence, employment careers and awareness of health issues.

"The festival will encourage reconciliation and will help everyone come together to build strong partnerships with schools, businesses and communities," said Mrs Green.

Radio MAMA will be on site and there will be dance performances, face painting, damper making, activities for youth and food and drink on sale.

For more information contact Merylyn Green at Streeties on 9921 2890.



Robert Tester, centre, and Rolan Deutekom, right, had this group of young boys playing the didgeridoo after only 40 minutes of teaching.

Indi-Genius workshops prove to be a breath of fresh air

What do you get when two local businesses allow an employee to take an afternoon off each week to join a dedicated music teacher, a primary school principal and a handful of kids?

“An amazing event of cooperation, collaboration, leadership and mentoring,” said Rangeway Primary School Principal, Jacqui Quartermaine, as we watched a group of Year 3 students play the didgeridoo after only 40 minutes of tuition at the school. Last year, Sinosteel Midwest provided funding for didgeridoo workshops at Rangeway Primary School which proved extremely successful. On the back of this success, they have

come onboard with funding again this year, and under the supervision of music teacher, George Scicluna and tutelage of didge players Robert Tester and Rolan Deutekom – both released by their employers for an afternoon a week – workshops will be held every Tuesday afternoon.

Ms Quartermaine said the school is expanding the trialled program and it has been inspirational.

“Every boy from Year 1 to Year 6 will now have the opportunity for lessons,” she said.

“The program has been expanded to include participating schools Bluff Point, Allendale and Yalgoo Primary Schools, Geraldton Endeavour

Centre, and John Willcock College.”

Ms Quartermaine said the impact on the children has been palpable.

“The workshops have all been Elder approved, and to see the extreme pride community sees in the group’s achievement and the kids coming together, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal has been amazing,” she said.

The Indi-Genius group played at Camp Gallipoli at Bundiyarra last month and will play at the Reconciliation Concert at QPT this month and as part of NAIDOC Week in July.

Last year they played at the NAIDOC Week concert and at the local football finals.

Free didgeridoo workshops at Bundiyarra

Free didgeridoo workshops are being held at Bundiyarra each Monday at 5.30pm.

Boys of all ages are welcome to come along for the workshops with Robert Tester and Rolan Deutekom, who teach the classes at Rangeway

Primary School each week.

The workshops got off to a slow start, but last week saw more than 15 boys of all ages attend and have a great time.

The workshops run for six weeks, and didgeridoos are provided for the session.

There is no need to book — just turn up to Bundiyarra on the corner of Eastward and Blencowe Roads at Utakarra.

Many thanks must go to Robert, Rolan and George, for giving up their time to teach the boys each Monday after they finish work.

Remote communities join national protest in Geraldton

About 500 people marched in Geraldton on Friday, 1 May, in protest of WA Premier Colin Barnett’s announcement to ‘close’ some remote Aboriginal communities, joining thousands of other protesters around the country and even overseas in the second wave of rallies.

In a peaceful, but passionate rally that galvanised remote communities from as far away as Yulga Jinna (130km north of Meekatharra), Buttah Windee, Jigalong, Burringurrah, Pia Wajarri, Karalundi, Yandeyarra and Barrell Well, marchers chanted: “Always was, always will be, Aboriginal land” as they marched along Marine Terrace and Foreshore Drive.

Proclaiming: “Shame on the Barnett Government; we will not back down,” Charmaine Green led the procession from the Yarning Circle on the foreshore.

CEO of Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation, Simon Hawkins, joined speakers from some of these communities and said the corporation had been fighting this since the announcement five months ago.

“There has been no consultation and people are frustrated the State



Top: Mavis Dann makes her point. Above: About 500 people marched in Geraldton against the Premier’s plan to close some Aboriginal communities. Bottom left: Charmaine Green leads the charge. Bottom right: Simon Hawkins, CEO of Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation with Anthony Dann.

Government has not talked to Aboriginal people,” he said.

Gail Mallard from Barrell Well called on communities to form a political party. Her son, Charles Mallard, who has just begun study at Curtin University in Perth, supported her and said they need to send a message to the government.

“The government is killing culture, they are setting Australia back 200 years. We need to let them know they can’t bully us anymore,” he said.

Belinda Riley from Yulga Jinna spoke about their community and how it is a dry community that her Elders started from scratch.

“It is a place where our young people stay out of trouble, they stay away from alcohol and drugs and all the other pressures; our school has won awards for attendance,” she said.

“The Elders built Yulga Jinna so their people could keep connection to country.”

Nhaaguja man, Derek Councillor, said it is a racist policy “kicking us off our own lands.”

Wajarri Yamaji man, Anthony Dann, said the State and Federal Governments haven’t learnt a thing about Aboriginal Affairs.

“They haven’t even consulted with us on the Aboriginal Heritage Act. It’s about time the government opened its eyes; we are people, we have a right to live,” he said.

Premier Barnett said the State Government could no longer continue to service remote Aboriginal communities as the Federal Government has withdrawn its funding, and between 100 and 150 of the 274 communities would be forced to shut down over the next two years, however he was unable to say how many would actually be forced to close.



Proud day for Nhanda people as alphabet poster is launched

On 22 April, on a beautiful sunny day in Kalbarri, the Nhanda Alphabet Poster was launched on the town's foreshore with people from across the state – and the world – coming together to enjoy the event.

The Nhanda Alphabet poster was created by the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre in Geraldton as a resource to preserve the disappearing Nhanda language, the last full speakers having sadly been lost years ago.

The Nhanda language was once spoken along a coastal strip 20-100km wide, extending from the country of the mighty Murchison River, the food bowl of many Nhanda people, all the way to the region around present-day Geraldton.

Nhanda Elder, Jacko Whitby, performed the Welcome to Country, and said it was an honour to be on land the Nhanda people have lived and hunted on for thousands of years.

"It is an honour to be here on this special day to be part of the launch of the first steps in recording and saving the Nhanda language," he said. "It is a language which was spoken so strong by our old people and still is used in content by some Nhanda people today."

Nhanda woman and Kalbarri local,

Jacko Whitby



Happy faces at the launch of the Nhanda Alphabet Poster at Kalbarri.

Jenny Clayton, made an emotional speech and said it was a proud moment for all Nhanda people to come together to celebrate the launch of the poster and other resources.

"I am very privileged and honoured to be here, I've got shivers up my spine, I never thought it would happen, it's been five years in the making," she said. "Most of our elders, the speakers of our language, have long since passed away, taking with them knowledge of the Nhanda language."

"Our last known speaker of the language was Elder Aunty Lucy Ryder, who along with her daughter Violet's help, made recordings and a word list of the Nhanda language."

"Our language has been a dying language for a long time, and without your language, you have no identity. It

ABC Open's Chris Lewis and Colleen Drage



Rosie Sitorus, second left, with all the way from London: Rebecca Crouch and Georgina and Laura Kloss.

gives our Nhanda people a proper sense of belonging. It is who we are," said Jenny.

Language centre Coordinator, Jenny Kniveton-Gregory, said the poster may only be a small thing, but it's a big thing for community.

"The focus over the next two years is to get a Nhanda dictionary compiled," she said. "And then we will visit schools to talk language."

Nhanda woman, Colleen Drage, and her father, Clayton Drage, have been instrumental in assisting the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre to work on the Nhanda language, with Colleen officially launching the alphabet poster.

"Language is an important part of our lives, and it has been wonderful working with the language centre; I can't name too many who can speak

Jenny Clayton

the language," she said.

Colleen acknowledged Linguist, Rosie Sitorus, for the big part she has played in recording the language, and thanked other language centre staff, Leeann Merritt, Godfrey Simpson and Jenny Kniveton-Gregory.

"I'm speechless, I didn't think today would come off," she said.

Rosie Sitorus said this is the first Nhanda language resource in a long time.

"It is wonderful to have community support for the work. Language work can be slow and difficult, even with full speakers, so to have community members embracing the work the language centre is doing is both encouraging and incredibly important in making sure that future resources are also delivered," she said.

"This poster is the third in a series of alphabet posters produced by the language centre, following on from Wajarri and Badimaya."

"As a resource they are very versatile, because their use can be as an educational tool, or as a decorative addition to any home or workplace, or a way of introducing young children to their language – and it's through those children that the language will survive into the future," said Rosie.

Contact Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre on 9920 7900 for more information.



Australian Government
Indigenous Languages Support

The Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Resource Program is proudly funded by the Australian Government.

Bill Carr and Glen Parker from Dongara



Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre Linguist, Rosie Sitorus, helps trainees, from left, Belinda Riley, Leeann Merritt and Nadine Taylor with Lois Spehn-Jackson, centre, and trainees Natasha Ryan and Carmen Simpson.

Language grammar training gets intense for trainees

Aboriginal Language Teacher Trainees take part in a grammar intensive two-day training course coordinated by the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre before they head off for each block release training session in Perth.

The grammar classes are held about three times a year and are run by Education Consultant Lois Spehn-Jackson, a former teacher and former coordinator of the Aboriginal Language Teacher Trainee program, who has worked all over the world.

Belinda Riley from Yulga Jinna remote community school attended the course held in February, as she will be restarting Wajarri teaching at the school this year.

Belinda completed her training about 10 years ago, but has not been teaching language in that time, although she has worked at the school.

Participants increase their language abilities and understanding of the linguistic terms and significance that underpin their classroom teaching and resources. They also develop their resources in consultation with Lois.

It's coming! The launch of the Wajarri App



After months of hard work, the Wajarri Language App is ready to launch!

With a database of more than 2000 words, it's a great reference tool and a great teaching tool.

Based on the Wajarri Dictionary — that was 25 years in the compilation — the Wajarri Language App can be downloaded to your smart device or computer.

It offers access to the language more universal than ever with English translation and correct pronunciation of Wajarri words.

12 June 2015
11am-1pm
at Bundiyarra



Wajarri workshops get the thumbs up

Geraldton Regional Library runs great school holiday programs, so the Bunderarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre had a chat with library staff about becoming involved.

Senior Language Worker, Leeann Merritt said: "We talked with the library about how we can integrate language into the community activities already running."

"The library runs great school holiday programs so we thought we'd slot in with that."

The idea is to expose kids to Wajarri language.

The library was very receptive and agreed to run some Wajarri Language Workshops in the April school holidays.

The kids learnt how to say basic greetings like 'hello' and 'how are you' and sang the 'nyinda barndi' (how are you/you good?) song and the hokey pokey in Wajarri, and by all accounts really enjoyed the workshop.

The mother of two of the participants said her kids loved the classes so much she had to come back after they'd left to tell Rosie.

"They raved about the class all the way back to the car so I had to come back and tell you how great it was!" she said.

One participant was a home schooled child who had done classes with the language centre before.

"I think all the kids enjoyed it actually – they got right into the lesson and were able to use the language they'd learned in the correct context by the end of the class," said Leeann.

Keep an eye out for more Wajarri classes coming soon!



Nyinda barndi?

Senior Language Worker, Leeann Merritt with Indi, her friend, and brother Zephan and Linguist Rosie Sitorus give the Wajarri Workshops at Geraldton Regional Library the thumbs up. Below: Taking part in the workshops with Clare Muller.



Newly appointed Parish Priest at St John's at Rangeway, Father Larry, from the Philippines, popped into the language centre to meet the staff. He's pictured here with Aboriginal Teaching Aides, Sheri Townsend, left and Zoe Whitby, right, and language centre staff, Jenny Kniveton-Gregory, Godfrey Simpson and Rosie Sitorus.

Wajarri Language Corner – with Leeann Merritt

Fill in missing letters, unjumble the missing letters to spell a word.

M	_	R	L	U				
G	U	_	D	U	W	A		
G	U	W	_	Y	A	R	L	
B	A	L	H	_	R	D	A	
_	I	N	J	I	N			
Y	A	_	I	B	I	R	R	I

The mystery word is _____

Match the Wajarri words to the English words

Mindi	long
Burduly-burduly	spotty
Milya	spikey/pointy
Jinda-jinda	lumpy/bumpy
Widara	soft

Animal Quiz – what am I?

Nganajungu mindi, mulya widara? _____

Ngatha milya indu, nyurndi widara? _____

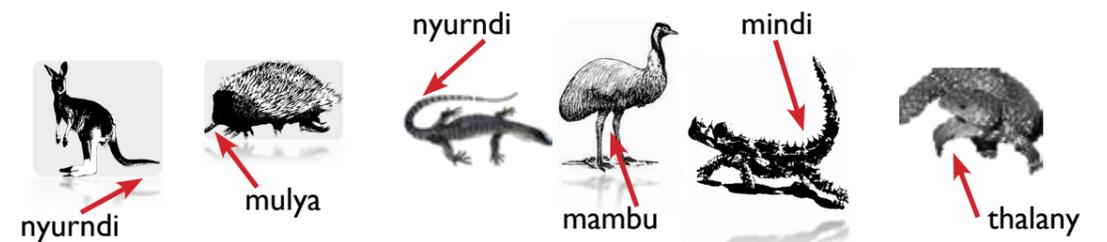
Ngatha milya ngarlbu, mambu widara? _____

Nganajungu burduly-burduly, thalany widara? _____

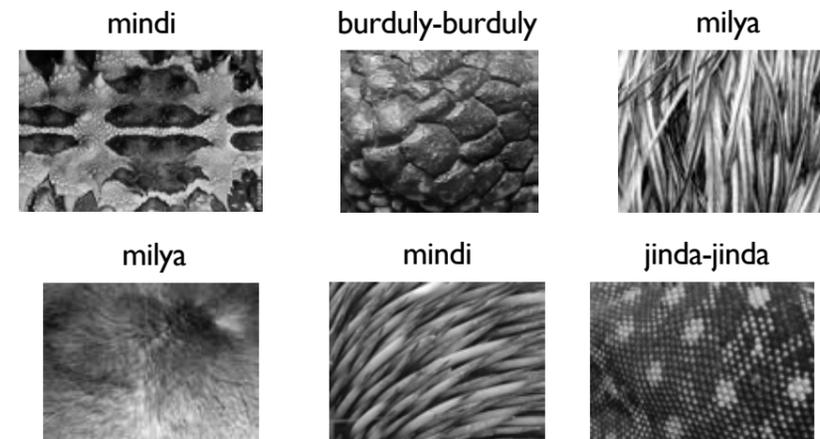
Nganajungu mindi, ngathana jinjamarda? _____

Nganajungu jinda-jinda, nyurndi widara? _____

Marlu minjin balharda guwiyarl yalibirri gunduwa



Animal skin textures

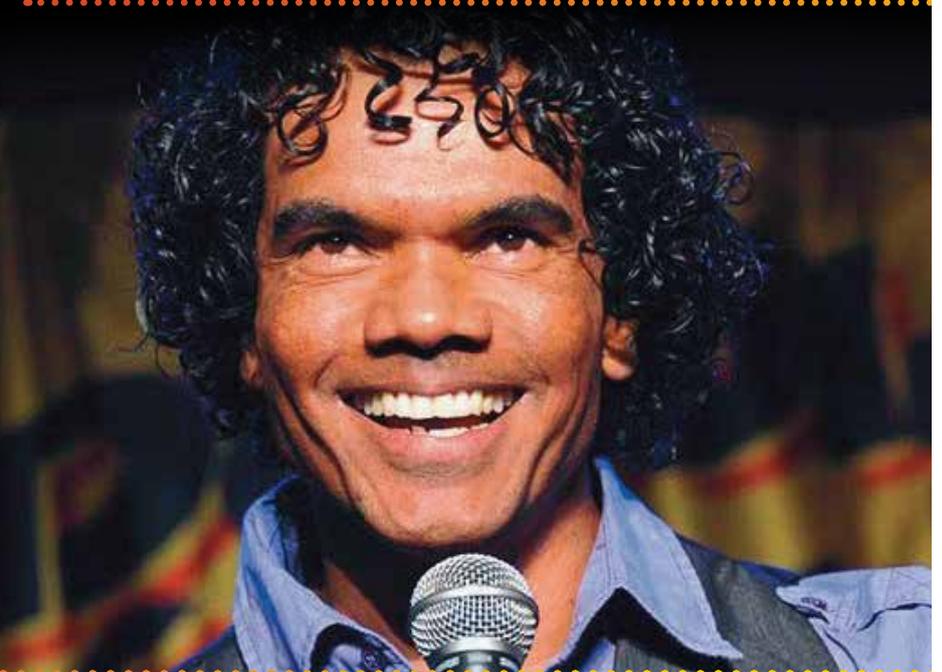


National RECONCILIATION WEEK 2015 27 May – 3 June

SEAN CHOOJBURRA

& the Yamaji Music
Collective

Markets from 5:00pm
Queens Park Theatre
with some of the Mid
West's finest Aboriginal
arts, crafts and cuisine



Friday 29 May 2015, 7pm ~ Queens Park Theatre

Also featuring a line-up of local Yamaji talent
including Craig Picket Band, Aleah Toomalatai,
Indi-Genius, Irra Wangga Language Centre,
Red Ochre Band and the Songwriters Syndicate

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