Bundiyarra Gardantha
‘ a good place moving forward’

Historic Launch proud moment for Badimaya People

Badimaya Dictionary Launch at Kirkalocka Station a Winner - Pages 2 - 7

PLUS!
National Apology Day Signified
High Demand for Environmental Health Services
Reconciliation Week & NAIDOC Week Calendar of Events

Pictured: Badimaya Dictionary Graphic Artist Gloria Foggerty with Ollie Georges' proud Grandchildren
Photograph: Nyssa Colauhoun, Yamaji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

“We respectfully acknowledge the Yamaji people on whose land we live and work and we pay our respects to their Ancestors and Yamaji Barna”
the Badimaya Dictionary is a legacy left for future generations.

We remember by acknowledging the Badimaya elders, past and present, who put in so much hard work, and contributed to their language and culture which has resulted in this beautiful dictionary. The time, energy and effort that this community has put into these products is immense, and they should be proud of their wonderful resources and the legacy they have left for their grannies, and future generations of Badimaya people.

In addition to the Badimaya speakers and the wider Badimaya community, many researchers including linguists, anthropologists and historians were essential in the collection of data. These publications are particularly significant contribution of many researchers including linguists, anthropologists and historians were essential in the collection of Badimaya language. Equally important has been the significant contribution of many language workers over the past 20 years. These publications are particularly exciting because they have utilised cutting edge technology through the development of a language pen, which actually talks the language and pronounces out the words for the reader.

Recently, Bundiyarra farewelled Leonie Boddington our Senior Language Worker who has secured another job with CSIRO as an Aboriginal Liaison Officer and James Bednall, Linguist of the Bundiyarra Irra Wangga Language Centre who is off overseas for a while. Their contribution, dedication and commitment in working with Badimaya community to bring together these publications has been invaluable. We wish Leonie all the best in her new role at CSIRO and James well on his overseas travel. We hope that one day you return to the Irra Wangga Language Centre at Bundiyarra.

With their departure we welcome Rosie Storuss, our new Linguist who will commence at Bundiyarra in May. Special thanks must be made to Jenny Gregory-Knivetson, Irra Wangga’s Coordinator. Jenny is an asset in Coordinating the Centre. Her dedication and leadership is legendary – thanks Jen.

Today was made possible by our sponsors who have assisted in making this historical launch a reality. Mt Gibson Iron saw the incredible project being delivered and contributed highly to the cost and the printing of the publications. Also thanks to Bundiyarra staff, who always pull together to host great events. Others sponsors include Western Indigenous Media, Geraldton Streetwork Aboriginal Corporation, Yamaji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation, Tru Blu Hire and Opus Music.

Last but not least we thank our main funding body, Australian Government Indigenous Languages Support for supporting the great work being produced by the Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre.
Thanks to our amazing sponsors - your assistance has helped create history -

**Mount Gibson Iron**

Mt Gibson Iron take pride in Sponsoring Historic Launch

Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre sincerely thank Mt Gibson Iron for their generous sponsorship of the Badimaya Dictionary and Badimaya Gwagu. Sponsorship included paying for the printing costs of the two publications plus the Badimaya Alphabet Posters and a generous contribution to the Launch costs.

George Hewitt, General Manager Extension Hill said “Mount Gibson Iron are extremely proud to have been involved in this historic event and the preservation of the Badimaya language for generations to come. This event represents the culmination of years of hard work by a lot of people and it is an honour that Mount Gibson Iron were able to assist in the final stages of the Project. The Dictionary and Word List are highly valuable tools which are now widely available to educate not only the Badimaya People, but anyone interested in learning about the culture and traditional language of the area in which a lot of our employees now work.”

**Badimaya Dictionary and Gwagu Wordlist**

SOLD OUT in 1 hour

Badimaya community can be proud that the first shipment of their very own Language Dictionary and Wordlist sold out on the day of the Launch - Thursday, 10 April 2004. The second shipment has now arrived and we will be quickly dispatching the many orders waiting to be fulfilled. Orders have been made from all over the Country which is a tremendous outcome. Copies of the Badimaya Dictionary, Badimaya Gwagu and all our Resources and Storybooks can be ordered online: bundiyarra.com.au

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For everyone who calls themselves

Badimaya, it is time to learn the Language

When Mr. Ollie George stood in front a 150 plus crowd, he beamed with smiles and glowed with pride. Today, Thursday, 10 April 2014, marks an historic occasion.

Mr. Ollie George spoke proudly saying “Badimaya language has been preserved and written into a Dictionary and Wordlist for everyone to learn. I walk through the town and I hear people say they are Badimaya, but that is a bit shame because they can’t speak the language. I wish that people would come round and see me and learn how to speak Badimaya and learn more about it.”

Mr. George also thanked the work done by Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre and everyone involved over the past 20 years, but he made special commendation to Linguist James Bednall.

“I have worked with many Linguists over the years but James Bednall has been the best. He is a great young man and I thank him for his commitment to making my dream come true. I will miss you James, but make sure when you come back that you come and say hi!”

James will continue to consult for the Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre while on his overseas travels.

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Pictured left to right: One of Mr Ollie George’s grandsons was extremely proud of his Pop for his dedication to seeing the Badimaya Dictionary published, Mr Ollie George with Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre Coordinator Ms Jennifer Gregory-Kniveton during the official proceedings. Mr Frank Walsh congratulates everyone for their work, Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre Linguist Mr James Bednall shares a proud moment with Mr Ollie George and Mr Allan Walsh encourages community to learn and speak their Badimaya language.

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Geraldton Streetwork Aboriginal Corporation
Badimaya country and Badimaya people

Badimaya is a Western Australian language, traditionally spoken across a large region spanning Lake Moore, Ninghan Station and Paynes Find in the south, to Mt Magnet, Wynyangoo Station and Kirkalocka Station in the north. Traditionally Badimaya country is bordered by Western Desert (Tjuparn, Wangkatja) to the east, Noongar to the south-west and Wajarri to the north-west. Badimaya is a critically endangered language, with just a handful of speakers. Aside from the few Badimaya speakers remaining, there are others in the community who retain a passive understanding of the Badimaya language and the ability to use the language to a limited extent. Many Badimaya people, including children, also continue to know and use certain Badimaya words in everyday conversation, particular vocabulary such as kin terms, common animals, bush foods, and other relevant topics. Today, Badimaya people are found scattered across the Murchison and Midwest region, based in regional towns and communities including Mt Magnet, Geraldton, Yalgoo, Mullewa, Meekatharra, Wubin, Dalwallinu and Perth.

**Congratulations to everyone involved**

Hi Jenny

Thank you so much for inviting me to the Badimaya Dictionary launch. Unfortunately the logistics of managing my tiny farm and looking after the animals means I wasn’t successful in getting help for the three or four days it would have taken me to travel there and back, so I’m really, really sad that I can’t be with you all today.

Most of all I would have liked to have met up with Ollie again. We spent so much time together, and his unflagging focus on his language and the need to preserve it was an illustration of staunchness and determination not so often encountered - all the more so I’m really, really sad that I can’t be taken me to travel there and back, three or four days it would have successful in getting help for the animals means I wasn’t managing my tiny farm and looking after his older brother’s death in particular, that the publication may not have happened in Ollie’s lifetime.

I’m overjoyed that it has, and that he can see the tangible results of his efforts. Thanks to all at Irra Wangga for making this possible. Warrn regards Doreen Mackman

Just to say a BIG congratulations to you and all, and thankyou for such a memorable Badimaya Dictionary Book Launch.

The day, with the high level of organisation, was a great credit to you all.

It is so very amazing to have this Dictionary, books and all which will ensure the preservation of Badimaya language. Thankyou to everyone! Karen Morrissey Tourism Promotions and Development Officer Mount Magnet Visitor Centre

I just wanted to say thanks again for a great day yesterday – it was so good to see everyone so positive about the dictionary and resources and it was lovely to catch up with a few people I hadn’t seen for a while since I was working around Mount Magnet. The communications team at YMAC have put a ‘Congratulations Badimaya and Bundiyarra- Irra Wangga’ advert in the Mulga Mail in their usual spot to help promote the occasion and they’ll do a blog post too and maybe some other things to help get the word out about the importance of what’s been achieved by the language centre.

Nyssa Colquhoun Anthropologist Yamaji Martja Aboriginal Corporation

Many MANY thanks to yourself and the organisation for a FANTASTIC effort and day at yesterday’s launch festivities - AWESOME

I just wanted to sincerely thank Bundiyarra and the Language Centre for the two books I was given – very much appreciated.

Have a great weekend and a rest – you all deserve one.

Brendin Flanagan Murchison Project Manager Mid West Development Commission

Please accept my apologies for not being able to attend the book launch. This is a great achievement and all involved are to be congratulated. Please pass on my congratulations for what they have accomplished.

Sincerely,

Jon Wilson Manager, Business Lending and Support Indigenous Business Australia

Thank you for the advice of forthcoming Launch of BADIMAYA Dictionary at Mount Magnet along with an apparent open invite to such. Would normally have jumped at the chance to go but unfortunately have prior appointments which prevent me from going. None the less all the best for the events.

Cr. Bob Hall City of Greater Geraldton
The Moore River Native Settlement was the name of the now defunct Aboriginal settlement and internment camp located 135 kilometres (84 mi) north of Perth and 11 kilometres (6.8 mi) west of Mogumber in Western Australia, near the headwaters of the Moore River.

The settlement was opened by the Government of Western Australia in 1918. It was originally intended to be a small, self-supporting farming settlement for 200 Aborigines, with schooling and health facilities available for the children and employment opportunities for the adults. The settlement was supposed to accommodate Aborigines mainly drawn from the Murchison, Midlands and south-west regions of Western Australia.

The ambition to turn the settlement into a farming community failed because the land was unsuitable for cultivation. During the 1920s its purpose shifted: Residents were usually brought there against their will as the camp attempted to fulfill the broader functions of orphanage, creche, relief depot and home for old persons, unmarried mothers, and the unwell. It also housed many "half-caste" (mixed-race) children. Many of the Aboriginal and mixed-race children were sent to Moore River, usually against their will, as part of the Stolen Generations.

By 1933 the Aboriginal population at the institution had risen to over 500, leading to greater deterioration in the conditions experienced by the inmates. Between 1918 and 1952, 346 deaths were recorded at Moore River Native Settlement, 42% of which were children age 1–5. Socially, Moore River Native Settlement practiced strict segregation of the sexes and separated children from their parents under the dormitory system.

In 1951 the government handed control of the settlement to the Mogumber Methodist Mission, which renamed it Mogumber Native Mission. A greater emphasis was placed by the new owners on Christian guidance and on the vocational training of youths than had existed when it was a government institution. The facility remained running until 1974, when it was taken over by the Aboriginal Land Trust.

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A proposal was sent to local attend events. and a PA would assist in being able to January, the Cultural Events Committee Since meeting for the first time in early attend events or purchase provide a Program or Service. which means that they are funded by government or other means to Human Resources is one of the presented. Currently taking up all the offers Human Resources is one of the biggest factors. Most are not-for-profit organisations which means that they are funded by government or other means to provide a Program or Service. The budget to operate the Program or Service does not allow to pay staff to attend events or purchase equipment to setup at local events. Since meeting for the first time in early January, the Cultural Events Committee agreed that a Marque, some banners and a PA would assist in being able to attend events. A proposal was sent to local government, politicians, mining corporations and members of the Midwest Aboriginal Organisations Alliance to contribute funds to the capital equipment required. We are pleased to report that $6000 was raised in 48 hours by the following partners: $1000: Sinosteel Midwest $1000: MP Melissa Price, Liberal Party $500: MP Ian Blayney, Member for Durack $500: MP Darren West, Member for National Party $1000: City of Greater Geraldton $250: Bundiyarra (BACAC) $250: Radio Mama $250: Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (GRAMS) $250: Geraldton Streetworkers (STREETIES) $1000: Combined Universities Centre Rural Health(CUCRH) The Cultural Events Committee would like to thank all partners for their quick response and acceptance of being able to assist all members of MAOA. Mara Arts, trading as Yamaji Arts, has designed the top of the marquee which will also include partners logos. MAOA Chairperson, Mr Gordon Gray said the the Alliance has now been operating for six years by goodwill. “Members have been attending monthly meetings for the past six years. “We have determined six priority areas including Health, Youth, Seniors, Education & Training. “Reality is, we don’t necessarily need more local organisations, we need to further determine the issues within our six priorities and support local agencies to make sustainable progress for the future. “ • We have recently applied for funding to support a MAOA Executive Officer and Assistant. These roles will be instrumental in seeing MAOA deliver the results that are discussed around a table but limited to not-for-profit funding. “Discussion with potential partners leads us to believe that the model that has been developed and will continue to be developed will be a leading model Australia wide. “The Midwest and Gascoyne regions are delivering some major outcomes and this is raising awareness in other regions. “The 8 metre x 4 metre marquee, promotional fly flags and PA will provide our members the opportunity to promote and brag about the amazing Services and Programs offered within this expansive region.” Mr Gray said.

**Midwest NAIDOC Awards 2014**

Inspirational Indigenous people are making their mark in all areas of society including music, art, culture, community, education, environment, sport, employment and politics.

If you know someone in your community who deserves to be recognised for their contribution, then complete this nomination form for the Midwest NAIDOC Awards 2014 in one of the following categories.

**AWARD CATEGORIES**

- Scholar of the Year
- Male Community Service of the Year
- Female Community Service of the Year
- Apprenticeship Award
- Musician of the Year
- Artist of the Year
- Hall of Fame
- Male Elder of the Year
- Female Elder of the Year
- Reconciliation Award
- Community Service Volunteer
- Youth of the Year
- Non-Indigenous Male Person of the Year
- Non-Indigenous Female Person of the Year
- Sportsperson of the Year

Entries for Midwest NAIDOC Awards close on Monday, 23 June, 2014 at 5pm. Nomination forms can be collected from Bundiyarra or log onto our website: www.bundiyarra.com.au

**Bundiyarra Members stand proud of strong Corporation**

The story begins in 1992 when after 10 years of hard slogging, a group of Elders won their fight to win land rights for the reserve located on the corner of Eastward and Blencowe Roads in Utakarra. The Elders weren’t afraid of the hard work they had in front of them, as they saw the opportunity for a sporting, recreational and administrative centre for the local Aboriginal people once the land is developed. This would allow them to preserve their heritage, promote their culture and provide their children and families with a launching pad for the future. The site for the Bundiyarra complex was chosen because of its historical significance. Founding families, the Ronans, the Camerons the Dodds, the Geggys, the Nannups and the Whitbys can trace their ancestry in the area for many generations. Acknowledgement to Sandy Davies should also be made for his encouragement to Aboriginal people to use their voice. According to Rob Ronan, during the late 1950’s his people used the land as a camping area because they were not allowed to go into town. In 1994 the five hectare block, which was officially vested in the Aboriginal Lands Trust was granted to Bundiyarra on a 99-year ‘peppercorn lease’. On Friday, 28 June 2002, the care, control and management of Bundiyarra Reserve 22660 was transferred from the Aboriginal Lands Trust to Bundiyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation as part of the Western Australian Government’s Land Transfer Program. To commemorate the occasion, the Hon. Alan Carpenter, MLA, Minister for Indigenous Affairs, presented the framed documents to the Corporation at an official ceremony held at the Bundiyarra Centre. Since the official opening on Wednesday, 1 May 1998, Bundiyarra has focused on the List of Objectives created by the Founding Elders. Bundiyarra has offered a multitude of programs and services, assisted with the delivery of twenty language resources, delivered training in language and assisting organisations with how to engage Aboriginal people, offered conference room facilities, assisted remote communities to live in an environmentally friendly and safe place and acted as an umbrella body for a number of Aboriginal organisations.
Dora Dann - Eldest Yamaji joins fellow Members on road - trip

Dora Dann can be proud of naming Bundiyarra. The word ‘Bundiyarra’ is taken from the Wajarri language and means ‘This is a good place to go’. Dora was born on Byro Station on 6 June, 1923. She married Jo Dann by tribal Elders on Byro Station in 1938 and again in the Geraldton Registry Office in 1950. Dora is a highly respected Yamaji women, born to Minnie Jones on Byro Station in 1923 and vividly remembers station life for Aborigines.

When I was fifteen I started work as a housemaid in the Byro homestead. I did washing and ironing. We used good old coal irons to do the ironing and I scrubbed floors and generally cleaned around the house.

“We did not receive wages. Instead we were given bread and meat. After working for a year I asked if I could be paid wages. The Boss said, ‘Why do you want money?’ I said I would like to buy things from the hawker; things like clothes and lollies. So, from then on I was paid fifteen shillings a week.’ When Dora’s eldest child, Ken, reached school age they moved into Mullawa for Dora was determined that her children would have proper schooling she missed out on. Due to ill health, Dora was forced to place four of her children in Mogumber Methodist Mission, where they received their basic education.

In the early 1950s the Dann family moved to Geraldton where they were allocated a house in Beachlands. Here they lived for about forty years. Dora had thirteen children. She and Joe worked very hard to feed and clothe this large family. All her thirteen children did have a good education and went onto worthwhile occupations in the fields of health, nursing, social support and in the Ministry of Justice. Dora is an admired, senior Yamaji. She has worked with Aboriginal Community Police Liaison Group. She has been involved with the Bundiyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation and with the Yamaji News newspaper. She has been a life time supporter of Bundiyarra. Her determination to make a go of the opportunity, has provided something for younger generations to utilise for many years to come.

Recently, Bundiyarra was invited by the Film and Television Institute to attend the Indigenous Community Stories Launch. Held at the Roofop Movies in Northbridge, the Launch included a special preview screening of ‘Bundiyarra - a good place to go’. Produced through the Indigenous Community Stories initiative, the story includes Bundiyarra’s Founding Elders and how they fought to win their land, in what became one of the first land transfers in Western Australian history. Dora was joined on the Perth road trip by two of her daughters, Elvie Dann and Coralie Dann, her Granddaughter Donna Ronan and her Great Grandson Jayden Dann.

Recording stories is invaluable

I now understand why there is a gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. This gap is only going to close, by history being recorded correctly. People providing funding opportunities to record and preserve stories, are to be highly commended, and I believe, if this funding wasn’t made available, Aboriginal language would be extinct within the next ten years. In the past, millions of dollars have been contributed to delivering Aboriginal programs and services. I question whether the desired outcomes could be achieved when the gap was so wide. Further consultation and partnerships with Aboriginal Australians, will assist with closing this gap further.

I have the pleasure of working with multiple, successful, Aboriginal Australians, who have fought for the betterment of Aboriginal people. I have listened to some amazing stories that shape Australian history truthfully, and have come to understand the utmost importance of being willing to work with, and alongside Aboriginal people to assist in building a better future for all Australians. We all need to recognise and accept our first people, yes it may stir emotion and raise questions for some. Embrace the knowledge, embrace our true history and lets walk together as one. I am honoured to be the chosen representative for Bundiyarra’s Life, Honorary and Board Members, of which many are here tonight including our own 90 years young Dora Dann. Dora has been involved with Bundiyarra since the late 1950’s and has been instrumental in the Corporations development. Dora, our sister girl, named Bundiyarra, meaning a good place to go, and right she is. We sincerely thank WA’s Film & Television Institute, and all funding bodies for making the filming of Indigenous Community Stories possible.

As already mentioned, without partners like Rio Tinto, Screenwest, Leighton and Ngarda Civil and Mining, our true Australian history would be lost. We thank you for understanding the importance of recording Aboriginal stories. Thanks to ABC Open - Chris Lewis, Reconciliation WA, Quest Apartments, the Water Corporation, Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Services and Geraldton Streetworkers Aboriginal Corporation for assisting us in making this trip to Perth a reality, on such a significant day, the 6th Anniversary of Kevin Rudd’s National Apology.

By Marchelle McMath

The story ‘ Bundiyarra - a good place to go’, will be launched locally during NAIDOC Week Celebrations.
The importance of recording stories

Over the past twelve months Bundiyarra has called on ABC Open - Chris Lewis to record local stories to share with the world.

Piecing together the story of Bundiyarra, commenced in February 2013.

Chris has joined us on the journey, interviewing many of our Life and Honary Members along with Board Members, staff and community members involved with Bundiyarra. These stories have been produced into several short films, all can be watched on the ABC Open website. The importance of recording stories is invaluable.

Jennifer Knivetons says, “Storytelling is so important because it’s already part of our culture. We are people of oral history and that’s how a lot of our history is passed on.”

“it’s very important for Aboriginal people to pass on their stories to others because if the stories don’t get passed on, it can create a chasm in our history, ” Jennifer says.

It’s fair to say Bundiyarra’s story of fighting for land and their culture is just the beginning. The many stories yet to be told by many Aboriginal people are still to be recorded, sharing a light on the past so that we may see a glimpse of the future.

Perhaps there is a light in all of us, if only we’re willing to share it with others?

If you would like to share your story, phone Chris Lewis at ABC Open on (08) 9923 4111

Bundiyarra short films now available

A Good Place
https://open.abc.net.au/openregions/wa-mid-west-35nl70a/posts/a-good-place-37kk6tq

Celebrating 15 Years - A Good Place to Go

Acknowledging the Past for a Better Future
https://open.abc.net.au/people/christopher-39sf2xw/posts/acknowledging-the-past-for-a-better-future-83q6jg/in/tags/bundiyarra

Filming the Filmers
http://vimeo.com/69727935

Sharing Stories on the Silver Screen
https://open.abc.net.au/posts/sharing-stories-on-the-silver-screen-21nr6sl

Road to Reconciliation
https://open.abc.net.au/posts/road-to-reconciliation-04c13c
This year’s NAIDOC theme honours all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of country.

From our warriors in the Frontier Wars to our warriors who have served with honour and pride in Australia’s military conflicts and engagements across the globe.

We proudly highlight and recognise the role they have played in shaping our identity and pause to reflect on their sacrifice. We celebrate and honour their priceless contribution to our nation.
The Journey to Recognition stopped in Geraldton in November to build community support for constitutional recognition of indigenous Australians. About 30 people came together at Bundiyarra to meet campaigners and participate in an open discussion at Bundiyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation.

Recognise campaigner Dale Agius said the journey was about getting out into the heart of the nation and meeting as many Australians as possible. “We want to spread the message of this movement,” he said. “The Journey left Melbourne on a cold morning in May and now we’ve come as far as Geraldton. “Every Australian can share in this important moment in history.”

RECOGNISE is the people’s movement to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in our Constitution. We need to fix the historical exclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from Australia’s Constitution. And we need to remove discrimination – like the section of our Constitution that says people can be banned from voting based on race.

Tens of thousands of Australians from all walks of life have already declared their support to recognise the first Australians in our founding document. We want to see fairness and respect at the heart of our Constitution, and to remove discrimination from it. Our goal is a more united nation. This is a chance for Australia to acknowledge the first chapter of our national story, and to forge our future together – after so many chapters apart. RECOGNISE acknowledges the Traditional Owners across the nation. We honour them as the custodians of the lands and waters and Australia’s ancient cultural knowledge.

RECOGNISE is a part of Reconciliation Australia, and are governed by the Board of Reconciliation Australia.

To stay in touch with the journey log onto www.recognise.org.au/thejourney

Journey to Reconciliation

ARCHIE ROACH

and Yamaji Music Collective
Nganhu Yara Wangga Jigu
(translation: we all go and talk)

ARCHIE ROACH

BOOKINGS
Queens Park Theatre Box Office - 08 9956 6662
www.queensparktheatre.com.au
City of Greater Geraldton Civic Centre - 08 9956 6600

TICKETS:
Adult - $30
Friend/Pensioner/Senior - $25
Community Group 20+ - $20
Child/Secondary Student - $15
Family (2 + 2) - $20 per ticket
School Group 20+ - $10 per ticket
What is Aboriginal Cultural Awareness?

Aboriginal Cultural Awareness means having knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal people’s histories, values, belief systems, experience and lifestyles. It is not about becoming an expert on Aboriginal culture; however it is about being aware of the cultural differences that exist, appreciating and having an understanding of those differences, and accepting them.

Could your business or organisation benefit from understanding Aboriginal culture better? Could you work better with Aboriginal people.


For further information, including a copy of the Course Outline, please contact Jennifer Gregory - Kniveton on (08) 9920 7900 or email: projects@bundiyarra.org.au

Language is the Road Map of a culture. It tells you where its people come from and where they are going” - Leeann Merritt

Working with Aboriginal Languages at Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre gives me a sense of belonging in a team of significant people in the community.

Language is important, Culture is important and the Valuable people who bring their knowledge into our Language Program are very important.

Aboriginal Languages hold a place of high importance in the history of Australia, also in the preservation of Aboriginal Culture. Leeann is currently teaching Wajarri Classes at Meekawaya Kindy at Beachlands Primary School and she is happy to see schools are playing their part in keeping the languages alive and giving the children the opportunity to learn ‘their own’ language.

PROFILE

From: My mother is from Mullawwa and my father is from Carnarvon, so I grew up between the 2 towns.

Language: My mothers language is Wajarri and my fathers language is Nhanda.

Role: Our main role as a team at Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language is to preserve, maintain and revitalise seven languages in the Midwest and Gascoyne regions. These languages include Yingkarta, Malgana, Nhanda, Wajarri, Badimaya, Wirdi and Thaagurda. Other roles include transcribing, Teaching in schools, fieldtrips to gather information and assist in educational workshops.

Training: Currently, I am undertaking a 3 year course, ‘Aboriginal Languages Teacher’s Training’ to become a qualified Language Teacher.

Dream: My dream is to see Aboriginal Languages being taught in every school in Australia and to learn whatever I can.

About the Wajarri Language

Wajarri is the language spoken by the people who originally lived along the upper reaches of the Murchison River, from around Yallalong Station in the west, to near Meekatharra in the east, from north of Mt Augustus, to south of Talarang Peak. The language is sometimes incorrectly and confusingly referred to as Yamaji. This is a word from the Wajarri language which traditionally meant an Aboriginal man of a certain status. Today its meaning has been extended to included Aboriginal men, women and children from the several language groups in the wider Midwest of Western Australia. Hence Yamaji has become a regional name for the people, but it is not a language name.
Guest Speaker Program Thriving

Why have a Guest Speaker Program?
• To promote to our children and wider community that Aboriginal culture and identity is a positive part of the world or community they live in.
• To encourage and support local Aboriginal people in our community to showcase and share their rich culture, identity and skills to the wider community.
• To promote reconciliation and respect for Aboriginal people and their culture.
• To provide schools/community agencies with a structured cultural program that meets their needs.

What is the criteria of the Program?
• Must be Aboriginal
• Willing to work with Aboriginal and Non Aboriginal people (eg in schools and local community)
• Be confident, reliable and punctual and able to work in big or small groups
• Respect your culture and language
• Have skills in Art, Language,

Culture, poetry, music, acting, role model history, bush skills, other special interests
• Be willing to work as part of a team

How can you join the Program?
A school or agency rings us and asks for someone with specific skills
We contact you and refer you to the school or agency
Bundiyarra will do the initial induction and introduction with you to the school or agency and support you as required until you are confident.
The program is a fee for service and we charge the school and pay you an hourly rate while you are working in the program.

What sorts of activities are Aboriginal Guest Speakers already doing through this program?
• Wajarri Language Classes with 4 year olds at Meekawaya Aboriginal Pre Primary in Beachlands.
• Wajarri Language support to Aboriginal students at Geraldton Secondary College
• Cultural support for John Willcock High School students
• Language Classes on Saturday mornings at Bundiyarra
• Working with the Geraldton Museum during school holiday programs

Pictured above: Consultant Lois Spehn-Jackson, Carmen Simpson, Leeanne Merritt, Edie Mahr, Nadine Taylor and Rebecca Cotterill

Wajarri Language Corner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wajarri</th>
<th>English</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>warri</td>
<td>abdomen</td>
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<tr>
<td>marbu</td>
<td>Achilles tendon</td>
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<tr>
<td>winyanyimanha</td>
<td>ageing</td>
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<tr>
<td>birri</td>
<td>ankle</td>
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<td>galya</td>
<td>armpit</td>
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<tr>
<td>barrang-barrang</td>
<td>backbone</td>
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<tr>
<td>binji</td>
<td>belly button</td>
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<tr>
<td>maga</td>
<td>head</td>
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<tr>
<td>guru</td>
<td>eye</td>
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<tr>
<td>nyaru</td>
<td>female</td>
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<tr>
<td>birri</td>
<td>fingernail</td>
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<tr>
<td>jina</td>
<td>foot</td>
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<tr>
<td>yunda</td>
<td>hair</td>
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<tr>
<td>janda</td>
<td>leg, calf</td>
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<td>janja</td>
<td>skin</td>
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<td>yurla</td>
<td>male</td>
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<tr>
<td>aba</td>
<td>nanna</td>
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<tr>
<td>warri</td>
<td>stomach</td>
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<td>wirli</td>
<td>tooth</td>
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<tr>
<td>nyaru</td>
<td>woman</td>
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<td>binji</td>
<td>navel</td>
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<tr>
<td>mulya</td>
<td>nose</td>
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<tr>
<td>jinjamanda</td>
<td>baby</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Wajarri song

Nyinda Barndi
(use the same tune as 'bananas in pajamas)

Nyinda Barndi, nyinda barndi?
Guwa ngatha barndi
Ngatha barndi, ngatha barndi
Guwa ngatha barndi
Nyinda, ngatha, nhurra,
Guwa guwa ngatha barndi

Are you good, are you good
Yes, I’m good
I'm good, I'm good
Yes, I'm good
You, me, everyone
Yes, yes, everyone good

Body Parts in Wajarri

Wajarri Wordslist
All the words below relate to people. The remaining letters form the name of a local Aboriginal Agency. Which one is it?

E W A R R I  E Y E
N G B A R R A N G B A R R A N G E R A
O L D F E M A L E D T W T O O F U O N
B N O D N E T S E L L I H C A R E R Y
K L M A R R B U G W M N J A N D A Y U
C I E A I H A I R A A J I N A A O B N
A A N G A R L R R L A G E I N G A D
B N A B S A L D M R E Y Y R I K A B A
I R F G T G B I U I I U N E L L A L
N E L I O L A M L J U M R E S E Y D I
J G A J M R S H Y A L A L C O V A W
I N C N A I K T A N R N A N N A L S O
E I G I C W I O R J A H E A D R V I M
C F E B H E N O S A Y A R M P I T - A
B E L L Y B U T T O N W A U L R A Y N

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Midwest Aboriginal Languages embrace technology

The Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre is continuing to embrace new technology with the recent edition of ‘Speaker Pen’. Since February 2013, Bundiyarra has launched their website and in August 2013, appointed an inaugural Website and IT Officer Dwayne Smith.

In November, the ‘Online Book Store’ was made live and now sees up to 100 visitors per day. Sales of Midwest and Gascoyne Language Resources and Storybooks has increased over 400 percent.

In early April, the Language Centre travelled to Karrakatta Station for the launch of the Badimaya Dictionary, Badimaya Gwaga and Badimaya Alphabet Poster. Badimaya community was thrilled with the results of all publications with special mention being made to the addition of a ‘Speaker Pen’. Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre Linguist, Mr James Bednall, travelled to America in early 2013 to the National Linguist Conference where he discovered a unique concept to help with the learning of language - the ‘Speaker Pen’. Mr James Bednall said “the technology is delivered by the Language Resources being printed on a very fine sound paper and the audio files being uploaded to the ‘Speaker Pen’ When a user holds the ‘Speaker Pen’ over the words on either the Badimaya Gwaga or Badimaya Alphabet Poster, you will hear the words being pronounced in language. “This technology will assist in teaching language and you can hear the way the words sound”, he said. There are multiple Language Resources and Storybooks available through the Irra Wangga Language Centre, visit www.bundiyarra.com.au

High Demand for Bundiyarra Environmental Health Services

Each month, the demand for the services provided by the Environmental Health Program increases. In fact, the Program receives up to 100 calls per month from residents needing assistance with a range of services. The service provides a comprehensive program to the Kardaloo and Pia remote communities and assist where possible and in like fashion, other Aboriginal communities in the region such as Buttah Windee, Yulga Jinna, Mt Magnet, Burringurah and Mungala.

It is acknowledged that interagency partnerships have been developed with the Department of Families, Department of Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs via Municipal service providers such as Yulella and MEEDAC to assist in service delivery.

A Memorandum of Understanding is also in place with the City of Greater Geraldton.

Referrals continue to be conducted in the Geraldton City area. Where possible the assistance of the occupants is requested. Education and promotion of Environmental Health is provided to the occupant/s at the time of the referral.

Referral works completed include:
- Pest control
- Rubbish removal
- Yard clean-ups
- Mould assessment and treatments
- Septic inspections
- Advance and promote Environmental Health principals to community

Education and promotion of Environmental Health is also in place with the City of Greater Geraldton.
High Demand for Bundiyarra Environmental Health Services Continued

Basic Service delivered to households
• Disposal of yard rubbish
• Mowing of lawns
• Whipper snipping
• Weed spraying
• Spraying of insects (ants etc)
• Repair of water leaks where applicable
• Reaming of household taps
• Possible unblocking of septic pipes
• Hiab Crane made available where heavy lifting is required
• Furniture removed (where people are in urgent need)

Instances where we won’t deliver services
• Where alcohol or drugs are being consumed
• Where people have no inclination to help themselves
• Where there are large numbers of members but no-one doing anything to help
• Where people have previously abused the service for any reason
• Angry dogs

Community empowerment
• Where applicable, arrangements can be made for trailer or minor tools left with members to maintain their own residential and community environment.
• Members are encouraged to participate in service delivery where possible
• Members must be available when work is being undertaken in their home.
• Workers must have clear access to the work area. This does not include leaving the key for a worker to get access to the house and/or yard.

Equipment and tools available for use
• Trailors
• Rakes
• Shovels
• Spades
• Whipper Snipper
• Lawn Mowers

The loan and use of tools and equipment is a privilege and not a right.

They must be taken care of and put away in a safe place when not in use. A time line should be agreed to by Bundiyarra and the Tenant for the use of the equipment. Unless agreed to by Bundiyarra Environmental Health Services, the equipment must not be taken away for use by other tenants even if the work is not complete.

Bundiyarra should be contacted immediately on 9920 7900 when work is finished or tools go missing.

We ask tenants and homeowners to please respect this Service. As previously stated, we receive up to 100 phone calls per month from people requiring help and it is our duty to ensure that we assist priority calls first.

If you require one of the Output or Referral Services on offer you can contact the Environmental Health team by phoning 9920 7900.

Bogle Way residents contribute to future planning

Bundiyarra Environmental Health Services have recently facilitated two Community Gatherings at Bogle Way in Spalding.

Prior the gatherings, Environmental Health Services Coordinator Gordon Gray, coordinated a series of meetings with the City of Greater Geraldton, Department of Housing and Mission Australia to discuss the current issues, why they may be occurring, how they could potentially be rectified and how each of the Agencies can work together to assist better outcomes.

Each of the Agencies have attended the gatherings.

Residents were invited to come along, share their frustrations of what they find difficult about living in the area and what improvements they would like to see occur.

Some of the topics provided to date include;
• Residents want more education about drugs and alcohol and what it does to people.
• Better dog control
• Be involved in more community cookups
• More visitation from Foodbank
• More tables and chairs in the parks
• More traffic control and the installation of speed humps
• Overcrowding in homes
• Lack of footpaths
• More Police patrols in the area

Each Agency has a record of the information and will continue to work together to rectify some of the outlined issues.

In addition, residents were asked what type of equipment they required to be able to conduct clean ups of their own houses. The main items included mops and mop buckets, hoses, rakes, kitchen bins, cleaning products and shovels. These items will be purchased through a City of Greater Geraldton Community Grant and made available to families who engage in the Environmental Health Program from early June.
Mungullah and Carnarvon Town Clean Up

This exercise was undertaken during the week, 14th – 17th April 2014. The clean up and visit was undertaken in conjunction with Greg McConkey training program in Carnarvon. Greg had committed to the training of a group of 14 trainees from Carnarvon undergoing Certificate II in IEH training with Empower Education.

13 of these trainees were from Gascoyne Asset Maintenance (GAMS), the RJCP provider for this region and one (Jeffrey Ryder) is employed as an AEHW with the Gascoyne Population Health Unit in Carnarvon. The program is also strongly supported by the City of Greater Geraldton with funds provided for the clean up.

The clean up and visit was undertaken in partnership and coordination with Bundiyarra Aboriginal Corporation Environmental Health Team, lead by Gordon Gray and including Colin Jones, Ron Cross and Wes Hedlam. In attendance also was Graham Hulett from Dept of Housing Canarvon, Gary Heir Dept of Housing Geraldton, Mungullah Community and Women’s Health coordinator at Mungullah, Leisha Norling, Jeffery Ryder of Population Health, Carnarvon.

In all around approximately 20 environmental health workers and trainees took part in the exercise. In addition a number of Community members gave a hand where possible, and children also took part where and when they could get either a cool drink from Mr McConkey or a football or Basketball from Mr Gray. There was around 42 houses at Mungullah and 14 in town done in the 3 days. Approximately 30 tandem trailer loads were recorded as taken from Mungullah and 12 trailer loads from Mungullah.

It is clear that Mungullah is becoming more conscious about their rubbish, considering the huge amount of rubbish that was taken from the community last year. In terms of volume of rubbish, the Carnarvon tip has a new weighbridge and it has a built in digital weight gauage. While each individual trailer load was not recorded each trip, it was noted that the heaviest load was around 500ks and the lightest was approximately 300ks. If we average that out amongst the total loads at say 400ks, it would indicate we delivered around 16 ton of household rubbish to the Carnarvon tip.

We can now understand why they asked us to move to another area. The main purposes of the clean ups are; To greatly reduce health related illnesses to residents of the Aboriginal community as well as visitors.

The illnesses can be much of the following and the most common in Aboriginal communities; Gastroenteritis, diarrhoea, pneumonia, skin infections colds and flu, scabies, lice and hookworm. The build up of particularly household rubbish also causes the breeding of cockroaches, spiders, fleas, mice and other insects that carry viruses ect.

Another major purpose of the clean-ups is not only to help residents reduce health related issues, but a major fact of the cause it created from overcrowding in homes, people not having a vehicle or a trailer, or anyone having a drivers licence.

As with other regions throughout West Aust, many people and families are moving into major towns such as Carnarvon, Meekatharra and Geraldton due to the lack of services and program, as well as dysfunction within the remote communities. Families who have a house in such towns are obligated to take in their families that move there, which of course leads to overcrowding and disfunction in individual households, in addition to pressure on power, water and sewerage systems.

One of the major factors in favour of the tenants is it allows them to comply with orders issued by the home owners and that is to dispose of rubbish and keep yards clear of grass ect. This is a vital service to tenants who cannot undertake the requirements themselves.

Some tenants expressed extreme gratitude that we had undertaken the work and even offered to pay for the service.

In reference to the traineehips, Bundiyarra Aboriginal Corporation for the past 3 years has provided support and advice to Service Agencies to help develop a regional Environmental Health Program in the Gascoyne Region. This would include, Mungullah and the town of Carnarvon, Gascoyne Junction(Woodgimia), and Burringtonah. There has been a reasonable amount of interest in the past and now it would appear a further step has been taken with GAMS being the local RJCP provider in conjunction with EP Services. GAMS and it would be beneficial for this program to become an ongoing commitment to service the region. However, additional capital resources are required before this can take place and it would require the full support of the service providers and the Aboriginal Community to agree to such a proposal.

While it is acknowledged that there is no EH Program in the Gascoyne Region, the benefit to the trainees are great and as soon as they complete their training and receive their certificates they can be engaged immediately to undertake all aspects of EH work in an Aboriginal community or town.

In all, it was a very successful proposal and one that clearly shows the actual need is great.

Gordon Gray
EH Coordinator

Council of Carnarvon. Many of the trainees mentioned above are already administered by GAMS and it would be beneficial for this program to become an ongoing commitment to service the region. However, additional capital resources are required before this can take place and it would require the full support of the service providers and the Aboriginal Community to agree to such a proposal. While it is acknowledged that there is no EH Program in the Gascoyne Region, the benefit to the trainees are great and as soon as they complete their training and receive their certificates they can be engaged immediately to undertake all aspects of EH work in an Aboriginal community or town. In all, it was a very successful program and one that clearly shows the actual need is great.

Gordon Gray
EH Coordinator
Pictured: Mr Graham Taylor wears his medals in honor of his term Serving for Country

TAYLOR
Graham Peter

Pictured left: Ms Gloria Fogerty wears her father’s Mr Arthur Thomas Fogerty, medals with pride

FOGERTY
Arthur Thomas

Pictured: Mr Alan Headland wears his father's Mr Hubert Charles Headland, medals with great pride

HEADLAND
Hubert Charles

Anzac Day at Birdwood House

The RSL Geraldton in conjunction with The City of Greater Geraldton conducted its annual ANZAC Day commemorative Service at Birdwood House, Forrest Street on Friday 25th April 2014. Mr Alan Hedland, Graham Taylor and Gloria Foggerty joined the March and ceremony in honor of their fathers and personal time Serving for Country. On Tuesday, 8 July 2014, Bundiyarra in partnership with Yamaji Marlpa and Department of Aboriginal Affairs will host a VIP Luncheon for local Aboriginal families who have spent time Serving for Country. The Bundiyarra Conference room will be converted into a Memorial Hall for the week of NAIDOC 2014.
Help us revitalise Yanaji Yanma Hall!
The money from every booking will be used to continually improve the Hall facilities including new tables, chairs and painting.

This area includes a large meeting space with separate kitchen and toilet facilities.

Perfect area for:
- Committee Meetings
- Wakes
- Gatherings
- Music Rehearsals
- Programs

Half Day $75 plus $50 bond
3 hour booking including time required for cleaning

Full Day $150 plus $50 bond
The bond is returned once the Hall has been checked for cleaning and the key has been returned. Please allow up to 48 hours for bond return.

Main Hall

Casual Booking Area

Central Location

This area includes its own front entry reception/waiting area, two separate lockable offices, kitchen and toilet facilities.

Fraser Street connects to Francis Street, one of the main entry roads into Geraldton from the Beachlands area.

Bundiyarra is willing to discuss any opportunities for this space.
Minimum 6 months lease.

Agencies requiring some offices with the additional of a meeting/function area will be delighted to see the set up of this multi-purpose Hall.

$330.00 per week

The Yanaji Yanma Hall in Beachlands has been part of the Aboriginal Community since the early 1960’s. The building was left in the will of Mrs Daley who stated that the purpose of the building was for the benefit of Aboriginal Community.

Once known as Gurinja Winja Dooa, the first Aboriginal Council for Geraldton, it then became Boomerang Council for Geraldton before its current title of Yanaji Yanma. The Hall has been an incubator to many Aboriginal organisations including the beginning of Meekaway Pre-Primary, GRAMS, CDP (Wila Gutharra) and Bundiyarra along with several community programs and hosting an array of events such as balls, wakes and birthdays.

The money raised from every ‘Casual’ booking will be used to improve the Hall facilities including new tables, chairs and painting.

For further information or an inspection please phone Marchelle McMath on (08) 9920 7900