



Bundiyarra Gardantha

'a good place moving forward'

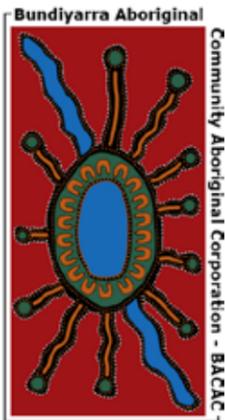
RioTinto

Yamaji youth indulge in cultural heritage – Indigenius



Rangeway Primary School didgeridoo students enjoyed the experience of having Didgeridoo Breath visit Geraldton last year.

"We respectfully acknowledge the Yamaji people on whose land we live and work and we pay our respects to their Ancestors and Yamaji Barna"



PO Box 4027
 Corner Eastward & Blencowe Rds
 GERALDTON WA 6530
 P: (08) 9920 7900
 F: (08) 9964 5283
 E: marketing@bundiyarra.org.au
 W: www.bundiyarra.com.au
 ABN: 14 269 236 490

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1 Barker Street
 Geraldton WA 6530
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 E: sales@guardianprint.com.au
 W: www.guardianprint.com.au



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“We want every child to have a chance to play an instrument”

— George Scicluna

Rangeway Primary School Music Teacher, George Scicluna is a dedicated man.

He is committed to his students and encourages them to embrace music by having a go at playing whatever musical instrument they wish to try.

To provide students the best opportunity to learn, George often opens the music room before school and during recess and lunch breaks.

For the past couple of years George has been working with some external teachers, Robert Tester and Rolan Deutekom, to offer a group of Aboriginal students

Didgeridoo lessons as a means of engaging with culture, working as a team and developing the musical skills of the school’s students.

The group of students, pictured above, have taken to the Didg like a duck to water and can now fluently play a list of songs.

They have received many accolades on their skill levels and the school community is very proud of this initiative and of course, the students themselves.

“The students are the only performing Didgeridoo group in Geraldton and possibly the Midwest, and the demand for them

to perform at local events is ever increasing,” said Rangeway Primary School Principal Jacqui Quartermaine.

Some of the group’s key events over the past 12 months include performing at the Bundiyarra 15th Birthday celebrations, Bundiyarra NAIDOC Family Day, the Reconciliation Concert hosted by the City of Greater Geraldton, the GNFL Grand Final, Rangeway NAIDOC Assembly, Midwest School NAIDOC celebrations and the Clontarf Football Academy Workshop.

George said it is an extremely

rewarding experience to see this young group of boys perform in front of hundreds of people.

In late June last year, George arranged for *Didgeridoo Breath* (pictured top right) from Perth to come to Geraldton, and developed a program and partnership titled ‘Indigenius’ which provided free Didgeridoo workshops to all Aboriginal people, local schools and the students of Rangeway Primary School.

This program was kindly sponsored by Rio Tinto, Rangeway Primary School, Bundiyarra, Hon. Darren West and MLA Ian Blayney.

More than 50 Aboriginal people engaged in the workshops with many expressing an interest to continue their learning.

“We are currently seeking more funding to continue weekly lessons at Rangeway Primary School and Bundiyarra,” said George.

“The funding will pay for coordination of the program and the music teachers involved.”

If you are looking to sponsor a local program that empowers, brings freedom and inspiration to youth in our community please contact Marchelle McMath at Bundiyarra on (08) 9920 7900.





Bundiyyarra Life Member Elvie Dann with Board Members Donna Ronan, Alan McDonald and Irra-Wangga Language Centre Coordinator Jayden Dann, work on the plans for the new cafe, commercial kitchen and public toilet block to be built at Bundiyyarra.

Future Planning Forum sets clear direction for Strategic Plan

For the past two years, Bundiyyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation (BACAC), has invested hundreds of voluntary hours to undertake a review of the Corporation.

The aim was to ensure the Corporation was delivering outcomes in line with the Mission Statement and List of Objectives developed by the Founding Families. The Founding Families include the Gregory family, Dann family, Dodd family, Whitby family, Nannup family and Mallard family.

As Government funding becomes less, the Bundiyyarra Board of Directors recognised it was imperative to assess the current business delivery and consider how they would develop the Corporation to become self sustainable for the future.

Some items of the review have included:

Undertook a 'Future Planning Forum' in May 2014. This was attended by BACAC Life, Honorary and Board Members and the Management Team. The Forum was the platform for

putting all barriers against growing the Corporation on the table, discuss solutions, investigate economic opportunities to create a self sustainable future and consider partnership opportunities to make much needed growth a reality.

The Corporation's Mission Statement, List of Objectives and site plans developed by the Founding Elders, were used as resources to guide decision making.

Get to know more about our Board Members; You can read their profiles on pages 7 and 8.

Mission Statement

Bundiyyarra is an umbrella group and resource agency of community-minded Yamajis making a strong contribution to our community by:

- Recognising our history and culture ties within community,
- Empowering our community,
- Being a regional community meeting place.
 1. To act as the "umbrella body" for Aboriginal organisations in the Geraldton and surrounding areas.
 2. To provide accounting, administration and other community services for its 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, housing and cultural programmes 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.

The following outcomes have been used to develop the Bundiyyarra Strategic Plan.

1. Board of Directors: Actively recruited a strong Board of Directors to include essential skills such as training and employment, management and being recognised for participating in community to promote Aboriginal Culture.
3. Ensured the Operations Manager was across all local strategies including the Mid West Regional Blueprint, Mid West Tourism Development Strategy, Indigenous Advancement Strategy Guidelines, Royalties for Regions and the City of Greater Geraldton 2012-2022 Strategic Community Plan. The planning process conducted by Bundiyyarra, has used these strategic documents to create the Bundiyyarra Strategic Plan - 'The Learning Journey; The necessary learning journey to create a sustainable future'.
4. Identification of 'The Rule Book', the guide which constitutes the Corporation, to be updated. Public Officer, Gordon Gray, will guide the process under the rules

of ORIC. This will take place at a Special Meeting in February 2015.

5. Engagement of an external Human Resource agency, Raykon, to update internal Policies and Procedures and Staff Employment Contracts. An employment package has been produced, similar to one used in any government agency. This will ensure the Corporation is well protected against ever-changing rules within Human Resources.
6. Held bi-monthly meetings with no cancellations due to not having a quorum. Meetings will commence monthly in January to ensure the Corporation can continue to make prompt decisions on progress and development.
7. Worked alongside the Accountant to thoroughly review budgets (22 individual budgets), and seek quotation on a number of internal services to save costs. Savings have allowed the Corporation to employ additional staff including a Public Relations Officer, Webiste/IT Officer, Receptionist, Cleaner and Gardener. As partnership opportunities become available, future employment opportunities

include Human Resources Officer, Events Officer and Stock Controller.

8. Annually ensured a minimum of three young community members are being provided mentoring and training to achieve study outcomes, on the job training and employment. Currently, only two staff members are employed through an Employment Agency Scheme.
9. Regular invitations to Life, Honorary and Board Members to attend staff meetings and lunches. These gatherings enabled regular consultation regarding potential economic and social development opportunities for Bundiyyarra and the wider community.
10. Attracted multiple dignitaries to the grounds for meetings, planning discussions and community events.

In December 2014, the Board of Directors endorsed the Bundiyyarra Strategic Plan 'The Learning Journey' 2015- 2019. In addition, a funding submission to the Mid West Development Commission through the Royalties for Regions scheme was completed.

Seeking funds to update plans

The Corporation is seeking funds to engage architects, Eastman Poletti Sherwood, to update the Bundiyarra site plans and engage RSM Bird Cameron to develop business plans for each of the stages outlined in the Strategic Plan.

Marchelle Retallack, Bundiyarra CEO, said that these documents will enable the Corporation to present the Strategic Plan to stakeholders and partners across all levels of government.

“While we have already met with multiple stakeholders and potential partners, we want to have evidence that the business opportunities we are wanting to develop are real opportunities that will make a significant difference to the lives of Aboriginal people,” she said.

“Through ongoing consultation, we have identified many gaps that we know we can greatly assist in closing.”

To obtain a copy of the Bundiyarra Strategic Plan please contact Marchelle Retallack on 9920 7900; mobile 0488 305 222; or email manager@bundiyarra.org.au

Promotion for Marchelle

In December 2014, Marchelle Retallack was promoted to Chief Executive Officer.



Marchelle started with Bundiyarra in October 2012 as the inaugural Marketing Coordinator. In June 2013, she was promoted to Operations Manager and has worked alongside the Board of Directors and Members to facilitate a number of workshops and activities to develop the Bundiyarra Strategic Plan.

Bundiyarra Board Chair, Ross Oakley, said from

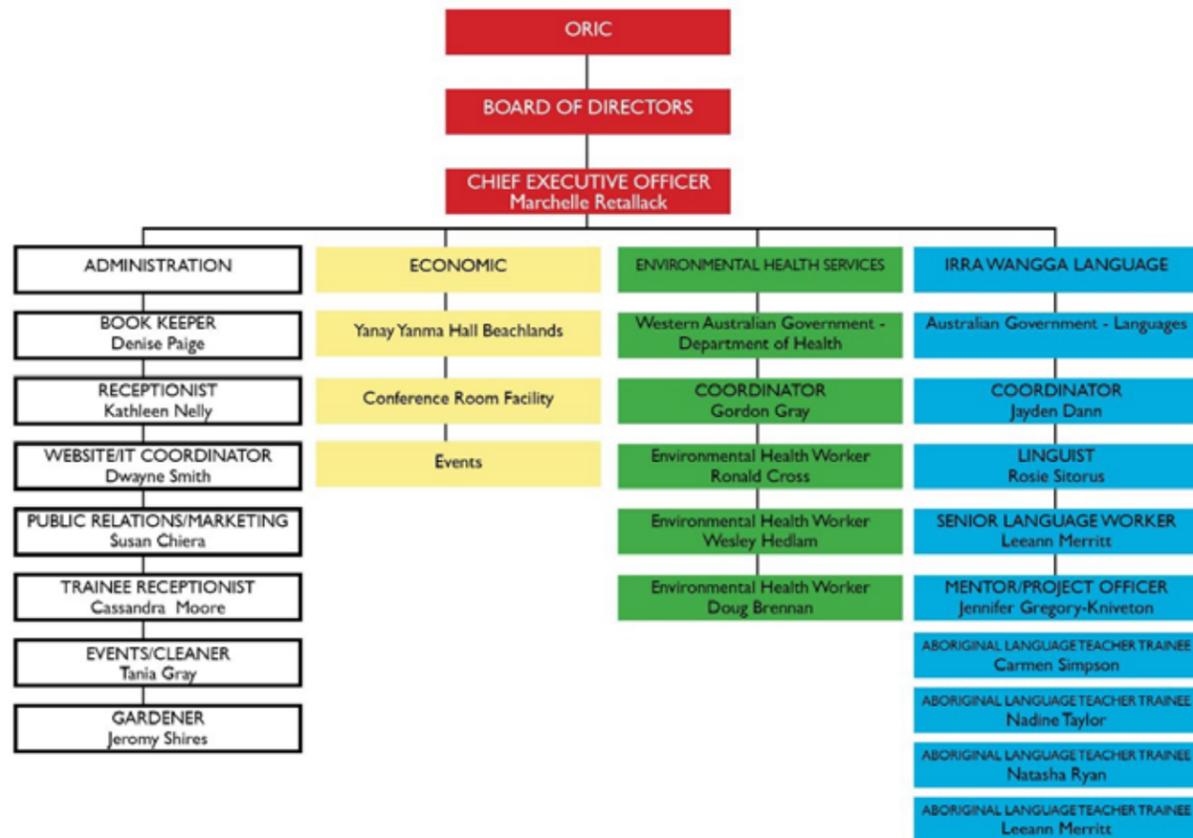
the beginning Marchelle quickly fitted into Bundiyarra, becoming the go to person for

getting things organised on time and within budget.

“Marchelle’s leadership is recognised and her elevation to CEO was a natural fit for Bundiyarra,” he said.

“Marchelle is there for Bundiyarra and the community and when describing her, the name ‘pocket rocket’ is a favourite.”

Bundiyarra Organisational Structure



Bundiyarra Board of Directors

Chair: Ross Oakley

Geraldton born and bred Ross Oakley has been Chair of Bundiyarra for the past five years. Ross brings a wealth of experience in



Aboriginal issues to Bundiyarra. His family moved to Perth when Ross was young and he has been in the workforce since he left school at 13. Moving to Kalgoorlie in 1990, Ross became involved in the Aboriginal community and was Chairperson for the CDEP Program. Returning to Geraldton in 2001 he put himself through university acquiring a Degree in Indigenous Sector Management. He then worked for eight years as a Child Protection Worker at the [then] Department of Child Protection. For some years now, due to his daughter’s ill health, Ross has been the full time carer for her and her three children. Ross is a tireless worker for the Aboriginal community. He has enjoyed being part of the change in attitude in how Bundiyarra now operates and relishes exploring new opportunities to create business for the corporation and the community.

Deputy Chair Alan McDonald

Alan J McDonald was appointed Deputy Chair of Bundiyarra at the last AGM. Alan was born in Geraldton, was schooled in Northampton



until the age of six and finished his school years in Geraldton in 1967. Alan enjoyed a career as a Jockey until 1986, mainly riding throughout WA. After living in Darwin for six years he returned to Geraldton and took up a position with Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (GRAMS). He holds a Bachelor of Applied Science Indigenous Community Health, through Curtin University of Technology and has a Certificate IV in Health through the Marr Mooditj Foundation. Alan is an Aboriginal Health Worker with the

Prison Health Re-entry Program. He sits on the board of Geraldton Aboriginal Men’s Association and is a Community Member of the Barndimalgu Court of Domestic Violence. Alan is an Accredited Aboriginal Mental Health First Aid Instructor.

Secretary/Treasurer Tiambra Calvin

Tiambra Calvin was born in Geraldton and spent some years residing in Kalgoorlie. She returned to live in Geraldton 10 years ago. Tiambra is the Aboriginal Student Support Officer at the Geraldton Universities Centre. Before taking up this position she was employed as a customer service officer with Centrelink – both in Kalgoorlie and Geraldton – for more than 14 years. Tiambra also worked in the Indigenous Call Centre in Kalgoorlie and holds a Certificate IV in Telecommunications. Tiambra sits on the board of Beachlands Primary School and is on the Geraldton Follow the Dream Steering Committee, a program based at Geraldton Senior College and John Willcock College which builds the aspirations of aboriginal students wanting to further their education. This support includes mentoring and tutoring within the school they are based. Tiambra and her partner have two children, aged 20 and 18 and she brings enthusiasm and a deep interest in education and training to the Board of BACAC.



Director Richard Nelly

Richard Nelly is Geraldton born and bred but has seen pretty much all of WA while working across many industries. Currently studying a degree in Natural Resource Management and Cultural Resource Management, through Deakin University in Geelong, Richard brings a wealth of knowledge and life experience to help raise Bundiyarra’s



profile and assist in building projects and programs. Richard spent eight years with Rio Tinto and contracting companies in the Pilbara as an all round operator; as well as working at Swan Districts Health Campus, Aboriginal Legal Service and the East Metropolitan Housing Association. He set up the Swan Community Patrol in Midland in the late 1990s. He was employed as housing officer at Murchison Aboriginal Corporation. Richard spent time as a board member of Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Services (GRAMS) during the 1970s, ‘80s and ‘90s. He is excited for the future of Bundiyarra.

Director Bianca McNear

Although she was born and grew up in Geraldton, Bianca McNear has a strong sense of connection to Malgana country at Shark Bay where her family is from. Bianca is a well-known artist and has studied for a Bachelor of Visual Art at Enid Cowan University through Durack Institute of Technology and the Geraldton Universities Centre. In the past she has curated exhibitions with a curating mentorship, and has been involved in many community art projects notably facilitating Dolls and Yarning, a collaborative, community arts project creating Aboriginal dolls, by Aboriginal people, to inspire Aboriginal children. Bianca has worked as an Aboriginal Education Officer in schools where she brought art and culture together to teach children about their own identity. More recently she has worked with ABC Open telling why Malgana country is so important to her. Currently she is focusing on getting her art business – producing tourist products – off the ground. Bianca has a long association with Bundiyarra through her late mother Helen McNear who was BACAC Coordinator for many years and was made an Honorary Life Member.



Director biographies continued next page.

Director Joan Gray

Joan Gray is a Yamaji Elder born and bred in Geraldton, her parents were part of the stolen generation. Joan spent 20 years as a public servant while raising her four children. She was one of the first people to help administer the WA AB Study program in WA, a program that helps with costs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians who are studying or undertaking an Australian Apprenticeship. Joan is a founding member of the St John Hospital (Geraldton) Advisory Board. Joan has had an interest in community issues all her life, and brings her considerable local knowledge and passion to the board of Bundiyarra where she has been a board member for five years.



electrical apprenticeship and moved on to truck driver and furniture removalist for the next 17 years. Over his 28 years of employment, Daniel has honed many skills within the building industry, including bricklaying, plastering, carpentry, concreting and machine operations. Swapping the steering wheel for a mouse and keyboard he worked as a case manager and mentor at Wila Gutharra Community Aboriginal Corporation in Geraldton. Daniel completed a year as Manager of Employment Services at Bundiyarra and is now employed at the Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre in Geraldton, starting as a Senior Project Officer and working his way up to the position he now holds as Regional Network Coordinator. Daniel is a board member of Joblink Mid West and also sits on the Aboriginal Education, Employment and Training Committee at Durack Institute of Technology.

Director Donna Ronan

Donna Ronan is a Geraldton-born and bred Amangu-Wajarri woman who has had a long involvement with and membership of Bundiyarra. She was part of the now disbanded Yanay Yanma Women's Group that operated in Geraldton for more than 20 years. Donna worked at the Aboriginal Boomerang Hostel in Geraldton for 22 years and is now employed at Geraldton Senior High School. She is on the board of the Mulga Mail, Western Australia's longest running (and only) Indigenous newspaper - that has existed without government funding since 2004.



Ex-Officio Jennifer Gregory-Kniveton

Jennifer Gregory-Kniveton is another Geraldton born and bred, passionate Bundiyarra supporter. She has spent the past 12 years dedicated to the Corporation. Her passion for Bundiyarra comes from continuing her mother Kathleen



Gregory's dream as an original member of the Bundiyarra Board for many years, for the betterment of Aboriginal people. Jennifer is an experienced presenter, particularly with cultural awareness training, delivering Connecting Cultures, a package she wrote for the benefit of Bundiyarra and community. She holds a Bachelor of Social Science specialising in Aboriginal Community Development and Community Management, and has a Certificate IV in Train the Trainer. Jennifer has been the Coordinator of the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre for the past four years. The language centre is committed to restoring, preserving and educating language and Aboriginal culture.

Ex-Officio Maxine Gregory-Veitch

Maxine Gregory-Veitch is a Geraldton-born, award-winning artist of some 35 years standing, whose work hangs in collections around the world. The multimedia artist's work carries the name 'Wadidjil' meaning 'barramundi swimming' and she has ties to the Kija people of Turkey Creek in the Kimberley. She is well known for her sand mural work and has produced a substantial body of artwork through mentoring students, both in the community and in schools. Maxine has spent her life dedicated to the Geraldton community through education and mentoring, she has a Certificate in Basic Childcare and has worked as a child care teacher at Rangeway Kindergarten and the Meekaway Kindergarten in Beachlands, Geraldton. She has worked at the Netball Academy and has been part of the Bundiyarra Aboriginal Healing Program and is a member of the Geraldton Streetwork Aboriginal Corporation (Streeties) Women's Group. Maxine is a Life Member of both Bundiyarra and the Geraldton Sporting Aboriginal Corporation. She is highly involved in NAIDOC and reconciliation. She aspires to be a role model for the community's young future leaders.



Director Ronald Cross

A WAFL East Fremantle football player during the late 1970s and early 80s, Ronald Cross is a Geraldton born and bred father, grandfather and great-grandfather. In his youth he played both junior and league football for Geraldton team, Towns Football Club. Ron spent three years in the Australian Army from 1972-75. He is a qualified motor mechanic and is studying towards a Bachelor of Aboriginal Community Development and Management through Curtin University of Technology. Ron has been involved with Bundiyarra over the years and works as part of the Corporation's Environmental Health Team. He has been a board member for the past two years.



Director Daniel Crowe

Serving his first term on the BACAC Board, Daniel Crowe is a Geraldton born and bred member. He started his working life with an



Environmental Health



New Environmental Health team member, Doug Brennan, left, completes the team along with Coordinator, Gordon Gray, Wesley Hedlam and Ron Cross.

Environmental Health Team welcomes Doug

The Bundiyarra Environmental Health team recently filled a position for a team member that had been vacant for some time and welcomes Doug Brennan to the role.

Doug was previously employed as a Ranger with the City Of Greater Geraldton for about eight years. During those eight years, many people got to know Doug in his role as a ranger and through sporting activities. He also qualified to undertake environmental health activities while employed with the City of Greater Geraldton.

Doug also worked for the WA Health Department at Geraldton Regional Hospital as a Patient Support Officer for three years. It was through his role with the City and with the WA Department of Health, that Doug got to meet and know many people from of all walks of life throughout the region. "Doug has fitted in very well with all the crew out here at Bundiyarra and will be a good asset to the Bundiyarra Environmental Health Team in the future," said Gordon Gray, Bundiyarra Environmental Health Team Coordinator.

Demand remains high for health team services

Calls for assistance from the Bundiyarra Environmental Health Services continue to increase, and while the team would like to offer a same day service, it is not possible to deliver with only four full time employees to cover such a vast area. Priority is given to requests that unattended to could have a negative impact on peoples' health; for example breeding cockroaches, mosquitos or mice.

Aged pensioners are also priority clients, as are those without a driver's licence, vehicle or trailer, people struggling for money and those with no family or other support, or have been referred by another agency or department.

Basic services include:

- 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).

Contact the Environmental Health team on 9920 7900.

Meekatharra clean up

Bundiyarra's Environmental Health team headed to Meekatharra to conduct an Environmental Health clean up in the town from 27 to 31 October last year.

A coordinated approach had been in the planning stages for some time between Bundiyarra Environmental Health Services, Department of Aboriginal Housing, mainstream Department of Housing and Yulella Aboriginal Corporation, and supported by the City of Greater Geraldton. Bundiyarra made it clear from the beginning that the process had to be coordinated and controlled in



Meekatharra by the Department of Housing and Yulella to ensure coordination and sustainability within the town.

From the beginning, there were some rules laid down for everyone to abide by including:

- The tenant must give a hand unless they are old pensioners or have a disability or may be receiving medical treatment.
- Cheeky dogs to be taken away.
- Start and finish times of 9am and 4pm.
- For liability purposes, no house to be done without the tenant being on the premises.
- No alcohol or drugs.
- No drunk or drug affected persons to be working or present near machinery or vehicles.

Initially a list of 11 houses were identified with an additional two identified following our arrival.

However, it should be noted that many more houses needed to be done, but for some reason they were not listed.

For example, it is known that MRAC have houses in Meekatharra, but none of their houses were done.

There was also a number of houses beyond repair that really should be demolished. I understand most of these were privately owned.



In addition, there had been a large funeral for a highly important Traditional man held in Wiluna the previous weekend and many people were still out of town as part of the mourning process.

At the beginning it was indicated that we would have approximately five workers engaged by Mission Australia, plus 3-4 workers including the Environmental Health Officer from Yulella, plus several Department of Housing staff and Bundiyarra staff, which should have been around 15 helpers, plus tenants.

However, in the end there was about five people who put in the total time and in some cases, tenants gave a hand.

In terms of the amount of rubbish etc, in most cases in Meekatharra, we have experienced worse cases in Carnarvon and Geraldton. Generally, not much work had been required to undertake an effective clean up of yards.

Report by Gordon Gray

Environmental Health Coordinator



However, this could also reflect some of the work that the Environmental Health worker has been undertaking. Basically, the clean up was completed in the best part of two days.

A certain amount of requirement related to backyard clean ups, car body removals and Cockroach gel (almost every house).



About eight loads of rubbish were taken to the rubbish tip.

No car bodies were removed and eight houses were treated with Cockroach gel.

Unfortunately, we were unable to remove any of the cars due to not having access to a car trailer or similar. I guess it's a difficult situation with old cars in Meekatharra as most of the vehicles in back yards have been bought by people who want to keep them for parts, as that is why they buy them, because you cannot fix late model cars.

It is understood that a person or company charges \$350 to remove a vehicle, then takes it to an out of town location, strips it and sells the parts.

This could be a good project for workers at Yulella or even members at Buttah Windee.

We were asked to remove approximately 12 cars but we could see many more in and around yards.

In general and from an operational point of view, much more could have been undertaken. With just five people we were able to undertake all the work within two days.

While many people were keen to see some action relating to the clean up, there is total disconnect between agencies and service providers.

Everyone appears to just be doing their own thing and not caring about coordination or cooperation.

However, members of the Department of Housing were keen to make things work and with the arrival of a new manager, undertook a lead role in arranging the clean up and they did a good job despite the lack of support around the place.

On the first day, both myself and Gary Heir from Aboriginal Housing visited and spoke with a senior lady staff member at the Shire, and she actually made calls to see if she was able to obtain a car trailer for our use, unfortunately without success.

From my observation, it would appear that with the demise of CDEP previously and continually run by Yulella for over 25 years, and the JSA contract going to Mission Australia, the lack of cooperation and coordination is clearly shown between both parties.

Mission Australia do have the lead role in this regard but appears to be

failing in regard to setting a good example purely and simply by not having experienced people in regard to (1) remoteness, (2) coordination and (3) understanding of Aboriginal people and issues.

I understand the Regional Human Services Group of responsible agencies meet in Meekatharra several

“This should also be supported by the Commonwealth Government, under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy.”

times a year to try to address the issues of concern. However, this does not appear to be working.

My genuine feeling is that the State and Local Governments should work together initially, and engage a suitably qualified Community Development Officer at the local level to connect all agencies and businesses for better service delivery and cooperation.

This should also be supported by the Commonwealth Government, under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy.



Sunset in Meekatharra, after a job well done.

Brighter Christmas for Pia community

The Bundiyarra Environmental Health Team took one of their regular field trips to Pia Wadjari Community on 15th and 16th December last year.

As well as undertaking their regular community checks, they delivered food parcels from Foodbank Geraldton to make residents' Christmas a little brighter.



Team member Wesley Hedlam delivers Foodbank Christmas parcels to Pia.

The visit was to check the health of the community in general and included inspecting the water tank treatment plant, power supply and the rubbish tip.

Individual houses were checked for leaking taps, the condition of septic tanks and the presence of cockroaches.

Local dogs were sprayed for parasites and fleas.

The team will return to Pia in April to remove derelict vehicles to the car tip where they will be crushed and removed by a scrap metal agent.

Get some Indiginspiration

IndigInspirations, is a locally produced documentary that tells the personal journey of eight young Aboriginal people between the ages of 16-24 years who live and work in Geraldton and the Mid West.

The concept, conceived and facilitated by Lorraine Lambert, School Business Community Partnership Broker with Geraldton Regional Community Education Centre, is a positive tale for all young Aboriginal people who want to get ahead in life.

The film documents the challenges the young people faced with their journey through training and into employment.

They talk candidly about issues many youth experience, about some of the people who have been there for them, and some of the sacrifices they have had to make along the way to find employment and go forward in their lives.

“...wonderful role models for all young people...”

Alex Jones, Daniel Barnard, Derrick Cameron, Jayden Dann, Kelsey Bartlett, Latoya Rose Speight, Les Dann and Terina Tito recount their journey and exude motivation and encouragement for their peers.

They are apprentices in fields ranging from hairdressing, cabinet making, and building to one female mechanical fitter on a mine site, and one in a trainee management role.

Lorraine said she is very proud of the young people and thanked them for taking part in the documentary and stepping up and telling their story.

“I really appreciate their time and commend their honesty and inspiration,” she said.

“They are wonderful role models for all young people, and their message is: ‘follow your dreams’, ‘surround yourself with positive people’, and



The cover of the DVD featuring the eight young apprentices. Pic courtesy Dragonfly Media.

‘push yourself to get out there and have a go.’”

Project Partners, Daniel Crowe of the Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre, Leon Norris from Joblink Midwest and Eben Nickerson from Skillhire Geraldton, joined Lorraine on the steering group and provided funding for the project. Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Regional Development Australia Mid West and Gascoyne also provided funding.

The partners commended the supporting employers: Skillhire – Geraldton Building Services and Cabinets, ATC – MTG Builders, MMG

Golden Grove, Bundiyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation, Hot Locs Body and Soul and Karara Mining.

“We appreciate their time and advice and allowing their employees to participate in the project,” they said.

MMG Golden Grove sponsored the launch of IndigInspirations in Geraldton on December 4 with an outdoor screening on Geraldton’s beautiful foreshore.

For more information or to order a copy of the 30 minute DVD produced by Geraldton company, Dragonfly Media, contact Joblink Midwest on 9964 1022.

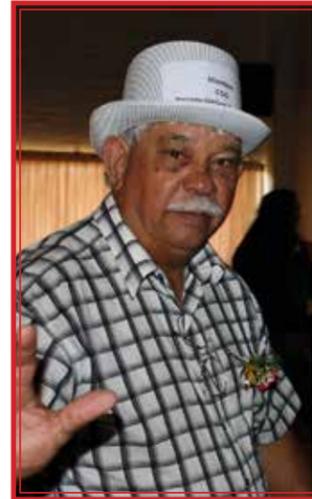
Christmas party – a lunch laced with humour



Mavis Dann, Founding Member Dora Dann and Life Member Elvie Dann enjoy the Christmas lunch.



Above: Bundiyarra’s Domestic Goddess, Tania Gray was awarded a gold apron and gold gloves to make her cleaning sparkle even more!



Far left: Gordon Gray was awarded seven hats, one for each of the seven organisations he is involved with... **Left:** Dora Dann with her policeman’s hat and Jayden Dann in the Giggle Box.



Bundiyarra held a very enjoyable and humorous Christmas party at the Wintersun Hotel in Geraldton, with guests including Founding and Life Members and representatives from allied agencies including Radio MAMA and Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (GRAMS). Staff were given awards that either represented their personalities, quirks or particular sayings.

The Giggle Box proved a winner with Bundiyarra Founding Member Dora Dann, wearing her policeman’s hat; reluctant to take it off or leave the Giggle Box.

New Bundiyarra marketing team member

In December 2014, Sue Chiera was appointed as the new part time Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator. Marchelle and Sue have a long working history including working for the West Australian Regional Newspaper Group in Karratha and Geraldton and again in the Marketing Department for the City of Greater Geraldton. Marchelle Retallack said “Sue is a brilliant writer and for many years she has expressed her desire in wanting to write people stories and learn about Aboriginal Culture.



New team member Sue Chiera, left, with media mogul-in-training, Kathleen Nelly and Bundiyarra CEO Marchelle Retallack.

She is a great mentor and we look forward to her training Kathleen Nelly in Public Relations. Bundiyarra has endless opportunities for issuing good news stories. We hear and read plenty of negative stories and it is a shame this isn’t balanced out with all the good news stories that are happening. We look forward to being able to provide these good news stories to the media on a regular basis and being able to continue our internal publication Bundiyarra Gardantha – welcome to the team Sue.”

ABC Open speaks in Mother Tongues

ABC Open has been taking Yamaji languages to a worldwide online audience through its Mother Tongue project.

And over the past six months, the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre has been working in partnership with ABC Open Mid West and Wheatbelt to produce videos for the First Languages Australia/ABC Open project, Mother Tongue.

The Mother Tongue project aims to share Australia's first languages with an international, online audience through the creation of short videos in, or about, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

With the guidance of ABC Open Mid West's Producer, Chris Lewis, three videos have been created using Yamaji languages. Two Wajarri language videos, featuring Rosalie Jones and Senior Language Worker Leeann Merritt, were launched in August last year. The videos have featured on



Linguist Rosie Sitorus with Bianca McNeair and her daughter Asha McNeair, and Consultant Linguist Barbara Jones, in Malgana country for the recording of the Mother Tongue online video.

the ABC Open website, as well as the national ABC homepage, and have been shown numerous times on ABC TV.

The third video, using Malgana language, from the Shark Bay area, narrated by Bundiyarra Board Member Bianca McNeair, was launched this month.

Anyone interested in participating in

the project, or who is interested in more information about the project, can contact Language Centre linguist Rosie Sitorus on 9920 7900, or Chris Lewis at ABC Mid West and Wheatbelt on 9923 4111.

View the Mother Tongue videos online by going to <http://open.abc.net.au> and searching for 'Mother Tongue'.

Shark Bay students learn about local language



From left, Ben Bellottie and Debbie Bellottie, with Asha and Bianca McNeair, Jodi Poland and Language Centre Linguist, Rosie Sitorus.

As part of the filming for ABC Open's Malgana Mother Tongue video, Language Centre staff travelled to Shark Bay, visiting Shark Bay School and meeting local community members at Yadgalah Aboriginal Corporation.

The Shark Bay School visit included all students from pre-primary to high school, and was designed to raise awareness of the presence of Aboriginal languages in the students' community, as well as the cultural and linguistic history of the Shark Bay area.

Bianca McNeair introduced the Malgana language words to the students, focusing on teaching basic language words for common things such as salt water, fresh water, kangaroo, emu, and Shark Bay.

Community members enjoyed a morning tea and discussion of the development of Malgana language resources.

On the back of the production of the Malgana Mother Tongue video, the Language Centre is keen to collaborate with community members to produce a book of the story told in the video.



CHRISTOPHER LEWIS

ABC Open Producer
abcopen.midwest.wa@abc.net.au
<https://open.abc.net.au>



Doing the Hokey Pokey

Leeann Merritt and Nadine Taylor report on their attendance at the Resource Network for Linguistic Diversity Conference.

Dancing and singing the Hokey Pokey in Wajarri really whet the appetite for a sausage sizzle lunch at Bundiyarra in December, at the second in the series of Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre's 'Irra Wanggamanha' (Talking Language) lecture-workshops.

The bi-monthly series provides community members with the opportunity to learn about language centre work and discuss topical issues in language documentation and revitalisation.

Leeann Merritt and Nadine Taylor entertained and educated representatives from the Catholic Education Centre, Centacare, WA Museum – Geraldton, Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (GRAMS), WA Centre for Rural Health (WACRH), Geraldton Senior College and Geraldton Universities Centre (GUC) on their attendance at the Resource Network for Linguistic Diversity (RNLD) professional development workshop in Melbourne in November.



Talking language at the workshop are Robert Shaw from the Catholic Education Centre and Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre Coordinator, Jayden Dann.

Above: Leeann Merritt (left), and Nadine Taylor talk about their Melbourne RNLD presentation at the second Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre's 'Irra Wanggamanha' (Talking Language) lecture-workshop in December.

teaches at Waggrakine Primary School, ran through the presentations they delivered at the RNLD workshop – peppered with amusing anecdotes of their attendance – and the local workshop attendees happily 'shook it all about' doing the Hokey Pokey, led by Leeann, as a light-hearted component of her presentation.

The next 'Irra Wanggamanha' will be held on Thursday 26th February at 11am in the Bundiyarra Conference Room.

These popular sessions are well attended, fun and informative. Call the language centre on 9920 7900 for more details.

*The Resource Network for Linguistic Diversity is an international non-profit organisation which was founded in 2004 to advance the sustainability of the world's Indigenous languages. RNLD (Inc.) RNLD is funded by the Australian Government's Maintenance of Indigenous Languages and Records grant scheme.

Germany comes to Geraldton to help preserve Wajarri words



Geraldton printmaker, Helen Clarke with husband Ric McCracken sporting Wajarri words; marlu – red kangaroo, and jily-jily – prickly. Surely that's not describing you, Ric?

Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre Linguist, Rosie Sitorus with a lady sporting everlastings, or in Wajarri – ugudungu.

A rush on buying T-Shirts: The campaign continues to be successful with many locals adopting a Wajarri word.

Berlin-based artist and Wajarri words program coordinator, Pia Lanzinger helps Rosalie Jones into her yurnangu – terrific – T-shirt.

Kellie Rodden helps her young daughter use the language reader pen.

She came all the way from Germany to Geraldton to focus on the disappearing Wajarri language and launched a simple, but effective campaign that is taking the community by storm.

Berlin-based artist, Pia Lanzinger, wound up in Geraldton through a program commissioned by Perth-based arts organisation *Spaced* that brought international and national artists together with WA regional communities to create new artworks, in partnership with local organisations and residents. In an innovative and fun way that engaged many community members and raised their awareness of the beauty of the Wajarri language, Pia launched the Geraldton goes Wajarri

project – the 'adopt a word' campaign.

She printed T-shirts with Wajarri words on the front and their English translations on the back, and invited the public to 'adopt' a Wajarri word and proudly wear their T-shirt.

Through a series of community events the campaign is catching on and the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre held a Language Open Day in conjunction with the WA Museum-Geraldton, on December 3 last year to celebrate the work that had been done so far and the T-shirts, at \$15 each, were rapidly snapped up!

Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre Linguist, Rosie Sitorus, said the event was a great success and a good way to coordinate language.

Although one of the world's oldest living languages, Wajarri has not been valued in local schools; it is hoped that along with the Wajarri app being developed by Bundiyarra, the Geraldton goes Wajarri project could go some way in attempting to keep the language alive.

Pia used the Wajarri Dictionary – published in 2012 in a partnership between the Yamaji Language Centre and the Bundiyarra Irra Wangga Language Centre – as her primary resource along with input from local Wajarri speakers to ensure the correct usage of word pronunciation and phrases.

Pia's project is supported by the Central Greenough Artist in Residence Program, through the City of Greater Geraldton and the National Trust.

Geraldton goes Wajarri is also made possible through a partnership with the Western Australian Museum-Geraldton, and through the generous support from the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre and City Hive/Pollinators.

"The language centre wants to assist the community to keep engaging with their language," she said.

"We encourage people to approach the centre for help with any language activities they may want to hold in the community."

Many people enjoyed the lunch time event at the museum and were treated to a sausage sizzle and a bit of notoriety – or 15 minutes of fame – being filmed and photographed by a phalanx of cameras!

Shortly after the museum event, Pia reported Elizabeth Mackay from Child Australia became the 100th person to adopt a Wajarri word – 'jura' meaning 'child'. Pia said she's looking forward to the 200th adopted word this year!

Words on T-shirts

Every person who adopts a word gets a T-shirt that carries their chosen word and its translation.

The T-shirts are available in five different colours that represent particular groups of words:

Red for words that express the environment.

Black for people and their feelings.

Blue for objects and categories.

Purple for all animals.

Yellow for time and movement.

It is hoped these T-shirts and their wearers will help the Wajarri language be recognised in Geraldton and further afield.



Wajarri Language Corner – with Leeann Merritt

Increase your knowledge of Wajarri with these exercises created by Senior Language Worker, Leeann Merritt.

Word Search

Find all the Wajarri words in the grid

m	a	g	a	v	g	b	d	h	m
u	a	n	d	r	x	s	t	k	a
l	w	i	r	l	g	a	h	j	n
y	m	a	m	b	u	f	a	c	g
a	j	w	a	r	r	i	l	i	g
q	i	r	r	a	l	m	a	o	a
u	n	r	a	n	g	o	n	p	l
t	a	w	b	g	a	q	y	d	y
p	i	v	u	r	u	o	l	k	a
w	i	r	l	g	a	x	y	z	y

Manggalya	jina
Irra	warri
Mulya	mambu
Gurlga	thalany
Guru	wirlga
Mara	maga

Fill in the missing letters

 i__a

 m__y__

 _ur__a

 g_r__

 w__lg__

 m_ng_a_y__

 m__b__

 _ar__

 j__a

 w_rr__

 th__a_y

 m_g__

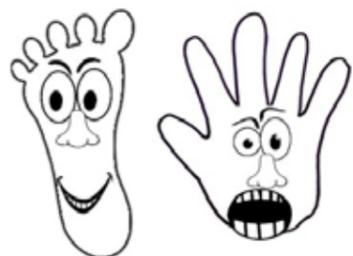
Nyinda julgara

(same tune as "if your happy & you know it")

Nyinda julgara mara binyayi (clap hands)
 Nyinda julgara mara binyayi (clap hands)
 Nyinda jul...gara
 Nyinda jul...gara
 Nyinda julgara mara binyayi (clap hands)

Nyinda julgara jina ganun-ganun (stamp feet)
 Nyinda julgara jina ganun-ganun (stamp feet)
 Nyinda jul...gara
 Nyinda jul...gara
 Nyinda julgara jina ganun-ganun (stamp feet)

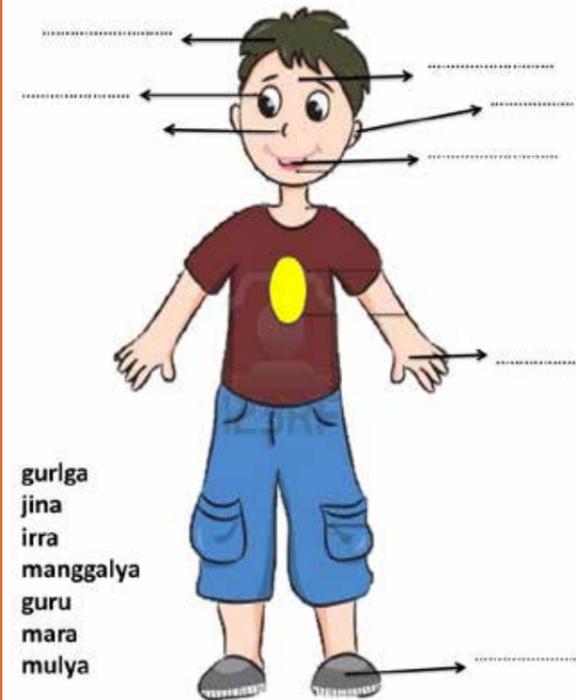
ACTIVITY - Mara & jina puppets



- What you need**
- Coloured pencil
 - Scissors
 - Sticky tape
 - Pop sticks

- Instructions**
- Colour & cut out pictures
 - Use sticky tape to attach popstick
 - Use your puppet to sing the song

Can you label the body parts



- gurlga
- jina
- irra
- manggalya
- guru
- mara
- mulya

Sounds like?

University student Mitchell Browne enjoys some language work experience



UWA linguistics work experience student, Mitchell Browne, centre, with the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre team, Jennifer Kniveton-Gregory, Leeann Merritt, Rosie Sitorus and Jayden Dann.

Linguistics is a field that many would struggle to describe, and linguists are not exactly thick on the ground.

However, the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre is fertile ground for linguists and earlier this month welcomed another university student from the University of WA, Mitchell Browne, 20, for two weeks' work experience in understanding the region's languages.

Working alongside the language centre's Linguist, Rosie Sitorus – who was a university work experience student at Bundiyarra herself – Mitchell enjoyed hands-on experience and learnt some skills he can take into the field of understanding and preserving languages.

Language Centre Coordinator, Jayden Dann, said Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga was pleased to help another university student gain experience in the field of linguistics - which in its simplest form is trying to find and understand patterns in language for recording and preservation.

"Irra Wangga is pleased to facilitate yet another student from university to gain important training, learning, mentoring and knowledge to give the best insight into

what language work /linguistics entails," he said.

"Irra Wangga is essentially upskilling Mitchell to go into a field that is highly important to Aboriginal people which is the documentation and revitalisation of Aboriginal languages."

Mitchell, who is studying an Arts degree majoring in Linguistics and Management, said he segued into linguistics from another language – computer code.

"I've always been interested in different ways of communicating, especially at the subconscious level, and as part of my degree I am required to study another elective which led me to linguistics," he said.

Mitchell said he hopes to work as a linguist or continue research into languages, especially preserving them.

"I'd like to thank the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre for allowing me to undertake this unique work experience," he said.

Bundiyarra certainly lives up to its name – 'a good place' – with Rosie, and Linguist before her, James Bednall, doing work experience there before being permanently employed!

Nhanda trip documents information



Language Centre Coordinator Jayden Dann with Colleen Drage, Linguist Rosie Sitorus, Elder Clayton Drage and Maurice Newgie, visit Nhanda country last year.

Throughout 2014 the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre worked with Nhanda community members to produce new materials in Nhanda language, and document information about Nhanda country – located north of Kalbarri to

Shark Bay – to be incorporated into language resources. In November, Language Centre staff visited Nhanda country to speak with elder, Clayton Drage, about Nhanda country. The group travelled around Galena, Riverside and Ajana, near Kalbarri, documenting Mr

Drage’s extensive knowledge of the country and his lifelong connection to it.

Images of Nhanda country, animals and people from the trip will be incorporated into the Nhanda alphabet poster, to be launched this year.



Rosie’s other life and Bundiyarra on Australia Day

Not only a linguist but also a lyricist – Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre’s Rosie Sitorus took to the stage on Australia Day to belt out a few tunes in her other persona as MC, comedian and songstress.

Rosie was also a nominee in the Premier’s Australia Day Active Citizenship Award for age 25 plus.

See the Bundiyarra Australia Day celebration pictures on pages 26 and 27!



Language teaching in focus:

Carnarvon Community College

Ellen Fletcher has been tirelessly teaching Wajarri language at the Carnarvon Community College Marmion Street Campus for more than 16 years.

However, where classes were once run for most of the school, teaching Wajarri is now limited to Year 2 classes only, due to the reduction in staff and the loss of elders who once assisted Ellen in running the classes. Over the past 16 years, Ellen, with assistance from other teachers, education specialists and elders, has developed a large database of Wajarri language materials and activities for students of all ages. Materials tend to

focus on the country and inhabitants of the country around Carnarvon, particularly the ocean.

Ellen is currently assisted by other classroom teachers, as well as teacher’s aide Rhiannon Lawer, and encourages her students to respond to questions and directions using Wajarri words.

According to Ellen, one of the primary difficulties faced by language teachers in her position or similar, is the pressure of assisting with behaviour management of students in the broader school population.

“Where so much time is needed for Aboriginal staff to assist with

Above: Carnarvon Wajarri teachers Rhiannon Lawer and Ellen Fletcher with some of the props they use to teach Wajarri words.

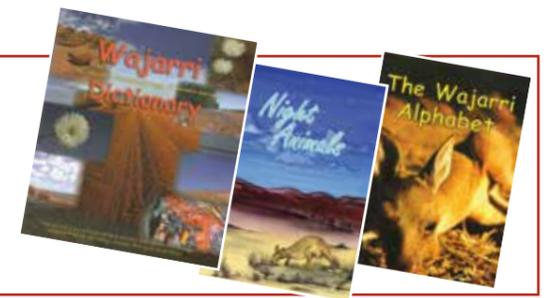
behaviour management, the availability of that time and those staff for developing and expanding programs such as language teaching is greatly affected,” she said.

Despite these challenges, Ellen enjoys teaching the students and working with language, though she isn’t sure how long she can keep going – after losing her last elder-helper five years ago, the task of passing the language on to students has grown.

Maybe some of her past students will return the favour and help Ellen teach the younger pupils some Wajarri words to keep the language alive?

Visit the Bundiyarra online store at www.bundiyarra.org.au

Order your copy of the Wajarri Dictionary, and check out the Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre’s booklist, great educational resources and a great gift idea too!



The wonder of Wajarri...

Wajarri words are finding their way into the everyday lexicon in more ways than one.

The latest way is the release of the Wajarri Language app, scheduled for late March this year, coinciding with the three-year anniversary of the launch of the Wajarri Dictionary – that was 25 years in the making!

Building on the extensive database used to create the hard-copy dictionary, and after receiving digitisation funding in mid-2014, the language centre has been working to develop the Wajarri Language app for smart devices and computers.

Linguist Rosie Sitorus said the first release of the app will contain dictionary entries accompanied by sound, and will offer access to the language more universal than ever.

“The app is a great way to encourage language use amongst young people, and will provide schools and teachers with an easily accessible and intuitive interface when working with the language in class,” she said.

on your smart device

“The app’s database has about 2000 words.”

Former language worker and Wajarri speaker Godfrey Simpson recorded the entirety of the app’s database of approximately 2000 words.

Coordinator Jayden Dann stressed the importance of including the recordings in the app.

“Having the written words easily accessible is very important, but without hearing them spoken everyday, it’s difficult to know how to say them properly,” he said. “The recordings make sure that the tradition of Wajarri being an oral language is preserved.”

Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga staff consulted with a number of local schools late last year with students showing great enthusiasm on the app’s demonstration.

Consultation continued with the broader community on 16th January this year.



The Wajarri Language App was positively received during local school consultations and demonstrations at John Willcock College late last year.



Bundiyarra’s Website and IT Manager, Dwayne Smith, helps demonstrate the Wajarri App to Warlugurla Walgamanyulu: ‘Young women working together’ at Geraldton Senior High School, with Bundiyarra’s Language Coordinator, Jennifer Kniveton-Gregory, bottom left.



Above and below: Community members responded enthusiastically to the Wajarri App demonstration at Bundiyarra earlier this month.

Community consultation provides positive feedback on Wajarri app

Overall more than 50 people including from schools and the community, have evaluated the Wajarri App with another community consultation session on Friday, 16th January in the Bundiyarra Conference room.

Bundiyarra Website and IT Manager, Dwayne Smith, and Linguist, Rosie Sitorus, gave the attentive audience a comprehensive presentation on the Wajarri App and invited feedback, which was pretty much all positive.

“The feedback was great,” said Rosie, “overall people seem pretty happy with it and see a good future of development.”

“They said they feel it is a great reference tool and could see it being used as a teaching tool for language in the home, at school and in the community.”

“They found the app very informative and easy to use; it could be used by everyone, from young children to older adults; and they liked the app’s appearance,” she said.

Rosie said some discussion was had on the size of the font and the clarity of the audio, all things that could be worked on.

She said she also had a couple of conversations about including a written syllable breakdown.

A couple of people also commented that having a basic ‘info page’ at the opening of the app would be good.

“This was all great feedback and confirms we are on the right track, and with a little tweaking it could become even more easy to use,” said Rosie.

The Wajarri App is due to be released in March this year.



Rosie and Dwayne present and demonstrate the Wajarri App to an attentive audience of community members.

Who said there's no such thing as a free lunch? Bundiyarra is willing to dispel the myth... for a while. Bundiyarra is the regional Aboriginal community meeting place, it's a 'good place'. We have many plans and projects we would like to achieve throughout 2015 and we want you to come yarn with us and walk alongside us to make them a reality.

*Starting **Wednesday, 4 February 2015** – Every Wednesday from 11.30am to 2.30pm for **10 weeks** in the Bundiyarra Conference Room – **FREE lunch every week!***

Wednesday
February **4**

Bundiyarra Language Murals and City of Greater Geraldton City Vibrancy project



Calling all artists and community members.

Bundiyarra has recently had an office shuffle. Bundiyarra-Irra Wangga Language Centre is now located at the front of the building. We want community to drop in and have a yarn about language, record a few short stories and engage in language. Help us design a mural to paint on the front of the building to show language throughout the Midwest, Murchison and Gascoyne regions.

In addition, Bundiyarra has been commissioned to paint a language mural in the City of Greater Geraldton. What design would you like to see on display in our City centre? Come and help us design a mural, put your name down to help paint the mural.

Wednesday
February **18**

Educational Resources

Bundiyarra's marketing department has been busy creating Aboriginal Educational Resources. Have you seen the interactive Language Map? Have you seen the Historic Timeline? What resources do you think need to be developed to help close the gap? Come along and share your views, add some information to the Historical Timeline, give us your feedback and ideas for the Interactive Language Map.



Wednesday
March **11**

New Facilities and Bundiyarra Strategic Plan



Bundiyarra has decided we are going to build a commercial kitchen, public toilet block and internet café. Our members have given us some guidance as to the designs they would like to see built, but there is still a lot of work to be done. We need to design the artwork for the buildings and make sure we are considering what the facilities should include. Come and look at the initial plans and get creative in helping us design these buildings. They are here for your future, to provide you with more opportunities on your community grounds – make sure you have your say.

Wednesday
March **25**

'The Learning Journey' Program Development



Bundiyarra has been meeting with our local employment agencies, Durack Institute of Technology and Geraldton Universities Centre to develop a program to help to continue to close the gap in training and employment opportunities. Does a career in Hospitality or Marketing interest you? If you had a mentor with proven results to assist you through the process of gaining additional training with real employment opportunities would you take the time to be involved? Come and help us write the training programs to suit you. Find out more about the employment opportunities we are developing. Help us make your dreams a reality by coming and having your say.

Wednesday
February **11**

Community Events

Each year Bundiyarra hosts several events and demand is increasing for us to take part in more local events including Australia Day, Waitangi Day, ANZAC Day and Reconciliation Week. What events do you think we should take part in, what should we do at these events, what kinds of activities should we have on offer, what food should we provide? Would you like to be involved in an events committee? Come and have a yarn and help us brainstorm this year's events and activities.



Wednesday
February **25**

Nannas' Group/Retail Store Development

Did you know that each year, Bundiyarra welcomes an array of important visitors to the grounds? These visitors include members from local, state and federal government, local business and agencies. The Bundiyarra logo has a significant meaning to the area and we would like to work with our community to create a retail line featuring the logo. We could use the logo design to print fabric and make into sarongs, scarves, bedding, jewellery and more. Would you like to be part of a weekly group to assist with screen printing, sewing, dying, beading? Share your ideas with us of what we could make and get involved – great for a weekly catch up and enjoy time with other women.

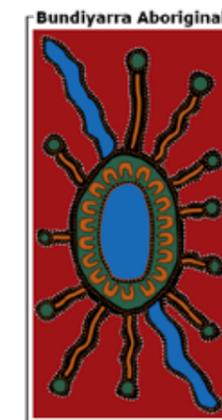


Wednesday
March **18**

Song Lines/Dream Trails and Signage



Did you know there are some very significant song lines and dream trails at Bundiyarra? Did you know these trails have been mapped for the City of Greater Geraldton? Bundiyarra is going to be further developing with the addition of a café, public toilet block and commercial kitchen over the next three years. Should we be building over these song lines/dream trails? How should they be represented throughout the City of Greater Geraldton? Come and have a look at the work that has been done and have your say about how we should develop them – or not develop them at all.



A good place – your chance to make it even better!



The making of a sand mural



The artists proudly display their completed mural; Jayden Dann, Pauline Gregory, Rob Veitch and Maxine Gregory-Veitch.

Left: The mural is marked out ready to go.
Below left: Jayden makes a start.
Below: Jayden and Rob make good progress.
Bottom: Pauline joins Jayden and Rob, watched by some intrigued onlookers.
Bottom left: A close up of the mural.



This year was Bundiyarra's inaugural contribution to Australia Day.

Taking part has been a bit of a contentious issue in the past, but this year the Bundiyarra Board and elders embraced the invitation from the City of Greater Geraldton to be a part of the nation's national day.

It is believed Geraldton is the only location in Australia to hold an all day celebration, that starts around 8am and finishes about 10pm.

Bundiyarra hosted a Yarning Circle on the beach for everyone to drop in and have a yarn.

Our Day of Celebration

is the title of the sand mural designed by Maxine Gregory-Veitch.

It symbolises the river running through with a yarning circle and meeting place in the centre with people sitting around it. The pieces fanning out represent fire and more people on the outer flanks.



While it's not a mural, local Geraldton artist Erika Monique uses sand for another purpose, a magnificent sand sculpture.

There was a free sausage sizzle with kangaroo sausages, Mavis Dann made delicious damper to be accompanied with some bush chutney, and plenty of free water for what was a scorcher of a day until the seabreeze made itself known around 11.30am, much to the relief of the cooks!

The uptake of the sausage sizzle was a bit slow from non-Aboriginal people – who don't know what they missed! What, Kangaroo sausages?? Maybe next time...

Maxine Gregory-Veitch designed a stunning sand mural that was created by Jayden Dann, Pauline Gregory and Rob Veitch, an outstanding effort under the blazing sun.

Kangaroo on the menu



The sausage sizzle with kangaroo sausages was a winner with local families.



Damper and delicious Bush Chutney hit the spot.



A happy customer gives the thumbs up for the snags cooked by Marchelle.



Aboriginal Elder Rob Ronan is interviewed by Celeste Larkin from Radio MAMA.



Enjoying Geraldton's beautiful beach on Australia Day.



Bundiyarra took part in Australia Day celebrations for the first time.



Bhagwan Marine put on a show for Australia Day.

Looking for a conference venue with a difference?

Bundiyarra has just the place for you.



Since the early 1900s, Bundiyarra has been a 'meeting place'.

Set amongst a natural bush setting, Bundiyarra exudes culture from the minute you arrive.

The Bundiyarra Conference Room offers a flexible set up in relaxing bush surrounds.

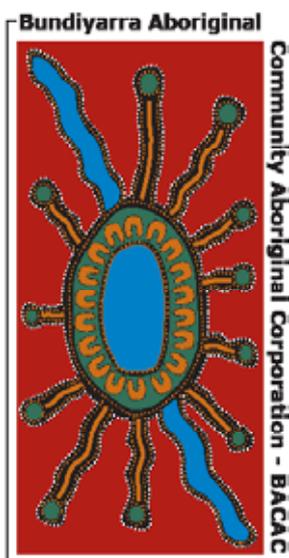
Choose from four room set-up options or design your own.

Traditional bush tucker is included in the hiring price: Traditional Lemon Myrtle Bush Tea served hot on arrival, damper with butter and Golden Syrup, drinks include coffee, hot chocolate, Bushells tea and green tea.

Materials and equipment include: whiteboard, television and DVD player, data projector and screen, lecturn and podium and reception room.

All for as little as \$320 for a full day; and \$175 for a half day.

Plenty of **FREE** parking



To make a booking, inspect our Conference Room facilities or make an enquiry please phone **Kathleen Nelly on 9920 7900** or email your enquiry to reception@bundiyarra.org.au

The people at Bundiyarra are amazing, experts in their field and love to enjoy a good yarn with anyone that wants to share culture. By hiring our conference facility, you will be helping us to build many more significant facilities for our future.

Please respect Bundiyarra does not permit the consumption of drugs or alcohol on the grounds or inside the buildings.