

# Bundiyarra Gardantha

*'a good place moving forward'*



Pic courtesy Peta Kingdon, City of Greater Geraldton

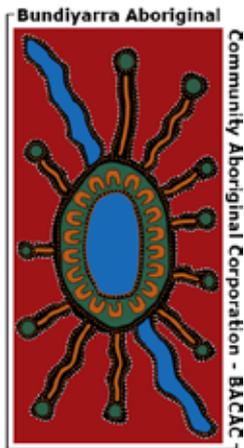
## Celebrate Camp Gallipoli at Bundiyarra

The Spirit of ANZAC knew no discrimination, intolerance or prejudice, and we will be celebrating that sentiment at Bundiyarra. Geraldton RSL Sub-Branch President, Ross Davies, holds the flame that will start official proceedings at Camp Gallipoli on Friday 24 April at Bundiyarra. He is joined by Bundiyarra Aboriginal Corporation Board Chairman, Ross Oakley, Maori representative, Maringi Querino and City of Greater Geraldton Mayor, Ian Carpenter. Everyone is invited to camp overnight at Bundiyarra like the Diggers did 100 years ago at ANZAC Cove, for this FREE event to commemorate the Centenary of ANZAC, and board a bus in the morning to the ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Birdwood House. The program is packed full of entertainment and discovery. Find the full details and program inside this newsletter.



Friday, 24 April, 2015 at Bundiyarra campground

*"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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# Camp out under the stars



## CAMP GALLIPOLI

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF ANZAC SPIRIT

**Camp Gallipoli, a special night of remembrance, entertainment and fun, will be held at Bundiyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation's (BACAC) grounds on the corner of Eastward and Blencowe Roads in Geraldton, on April 24, the eve of ANZAC Day this year.**

The free community event will mark the centenary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli, 100 years ago.

The Camp Gallipoli Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation, approached the City of Greater Geraldton to host the event and through ongoing discussions between the City and Bundiyarra it was decided Bundiyarra was the perfect location for it.

As Camp Gallipoli promotional literature says: 'There was no discrimination, intolerance or prejudice; our soldiers formed a unique bond which is known as the spirit of ANZAC. The ANZAC spirit has provided the foundations of who we are and what we stand for as a nation.'

The intent of Camp Gallipoli is to reinforce that sentiment and to

**FREE EVENT** Friday, 24 April  
*Book online now at www.campgallipoli.com.au*



educate young people about the service and sacrifice the ANZAC soldiers made for all Australians on April 25, 1915.

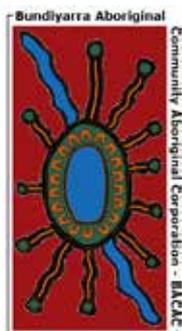
City of Greater Geraldton Mayor, Mr Ian Carpenter, said the City is pleased to be involved.

"The City is very proud to be working in conjunction with Bundiyarra to present Camp Gallipoli. We see it as a great event for the community and we look forward to seeing local kids and teenagers involved in the event," he said.

"We know that the event promises to be educational and an unforgettably moving tribute to ANZAC Day."

All people regardless of race, religion, gender or age; families, friends,

**See the full Camp Gallipoli program of entertainment and information on pages 7 to 10  
 If you don't want to stay the night just come along for the evening; camping is not compulsory!**



# The stars to honour the ANZACS

24 April | Gates Open 3pm | Opening Ceremony 5pm

[www.bundiyarra.org.au](http://www.bundiyarra.org.au)



workmates and community groups, have the opportunity to camp out under the stars just as the brave diggers, gathered at similar campsites, did on that night 100 years ago, in a special night of remembrance, mateship and the birth of the ANZAC spirit. Sadly 11,000 Australian and New

Zealand soldiers never made it home from the battles at ANZAC Cove on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey.

However, Camp Gallipoli at Bundiyarra is not billed as a sombre affair, quite the opposite in fact, with plenty of entertainment and food – all you need is your swag and some warm clothes.

The gates will open at 3pm with some activities arranged before the official opening at 5pm. Entertainment includes Didgeridoo performances and workshops, Haka by Geraldton Waitangi, Drumbeat by 711 City of Greater Geraldton Squadron - Australian Air Force Cadets, poetry reading, damper making lessons, toffee apple making, language story-telling, torch song lines tour, film documentaries, Poppies in the Sand sand mural and games.

Hearty pots of your choice of kangaroo, chicken or vegetable stew with rice, accompanied by damper, will keep the tummies warm and full, and tea, coffee, Milo and water will keep the hydration up.



Lights out will be at 11pm and then up again to board the first bus to Geraldton RSL at 5am, in time for the ANZAC Day dawn service, to pay respect and remember the diggers as the sun comes up, just as it did on that day at Gallipoli. Buses will return to Bundiyarra after the Gunfire Breakfast at Birdwood House.

It is essential that you book online on the Bundiyarra website [www.bundiyarra.org.au](http://www.bundiyarra.org.au) for catering and travel needs. There will be no parking at the Bundiyarra grounds but plenty of free parking will be available at the Geraldton Turf Club.

Please take note of the full list of requirements when making your online booking.

## *The spirit of ANZAC at Camp Gallipoli and beyond*

- There will be an official unveiling of a framed, commemorative register of all Aboriginal servicemen and women, beautifully created by curator David Burns.
- Geraldton's Knit Wits have knitted 800 beautiful poppies that have been sent to Albany for the Centenary Celebrations.
- Iris Mallard will recount the story of two government officials who went to the Lae War Cemetery in Papua New Guinea where Iris's relatives were buried, and brought back soil to put on the dirt in Geraldton to put their spirits at rest.
- Bundiyarra's Tania Gray will cook up a storm with her kangaroo, chicken and vegetable stews with rice while Mavis Dann will make her famous damper.
- Geraldton RSL President, Ross Davies, attended a service in Canberra to receive a Camp Gallipoli torch that represents the Spirit of ANZAC through the Eternal Flame. There are only three torches in WA, one at ANZAC House in Perth, another at Rockingham and the third at Geraldton.
- The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority in Kings Park has propagated a hybrid grevillea boasting lush red flowers specially developed at the request of the Returned & Services League of Australia (RSL), for the 2015 ANZAC Centenary as a tribute to all Australia's fallen. Named the RSL Spirit of ANZAC Grevillea, it is now available at Bunnings stores with a beautiful label telling the story of the ANZACS at Gallipoli. Sale proceeds will go to a special RSL-managed ANZAC Centenary fund.

## Bundiyarra Community Consultation

Throughout February and March Bundiyarra, with support from the City of Greater Geraldton, held community consultation sessions every Wednesday for community to tell us what they want from the plans and projects Bundiyarra aims to achieve throughout 2015. Community has embraced these sessions with great attendance and enthusiasm and Bundiyarra sincerely thanks everyone for their time and input. The results from these consultations will be shared with the City and the Mid West Development Commission. Read about the last workshops on this and following pages.

# Future planning of Bundiyarra is a big buzz

The buzz and hum in the room was electric, the yarning loud and engaged, at the fourth successful Come yarn with us community consultation on 25 February, workshopping Bundiyarra's Strategic Plan and future physical development of the organisation.

More than 30 community members of all ages – some regulars and a sprinkling of new faces – were busily scribbling their ideas and aspirations for the future of Bundiyarra on butcher's paper.

Everyone in the room was interested in the future development of their 'good place', and the art liner pens were working overtime as pages were flipped and filled again with ideas.

The strategic plan includes the building of a public toilet block, a commercial kitchen and café all on Bundiyarra's land.

The idea behind this is to employ suitably qualified young Aboriginal people who have been engaged in some culinary pre-training leading to a TAFE study pathway, and who then bring back their skills to Bundiyarra through employment.



Elders Barry Dodd and Joan Gray, with Sylvia Jacobs look at the proposed plan for where Bundiyarra's future cafe and toilet block could be located.

Ideas for the kitchen included training Aboriginal people for commercial catering and offering general cooking classes, bush tucker days and inviting community for a tasting to raise funds to put back into Bundiyarra.

Other ideas were meals on wheels for Elders and people with disabilities, a breakfast program for youth and school kids, and an Aboriginal patisserie with onsite baker, cake and damper maker.

Café design ideas covered long tables for families and booths for that bit of privacy along with a Wi-Fi hotspot and

outdoor decking area with outdoor artwork – even a spin off art gallery and a heritage trail or path around the grounds.

Some felt the café should be centrally accessed on the grounds and maybe even have a drive through coffee and snacks service.

The toilet block got a lot of detailed attention with a rough plan drawn in the shape of a boomerang to illustrate how community envisaged it could look. Dispensers for everything from soap to nappies were listed, as well as parents' room fully equipped with change table, microwave, play area, an adult and toddler toilet, disabled toilet and much more!

There was also discussion of the use of language in the signage at the facilities. Health and safety signs should be in both Wajarri and English.

There was no doubting community have a great interest in how their 'good place' can move forward.



– *Come yarn with us*

# Expanding Aboriginal educational resources

Yet more new faces were in attendance at the fifth Community consultation – Come yarn with us session on 4 March, that looked at Bundiyyarra’s educational resources.

A small but interested gathering that crossed all ages got a bit of an education themselves!

Jennifer Kniveton-Gregory gave a short demonstration of the soon-to-be-released Wajarri App.

“We need to look at technology to get into schools,” she said explaining the importance and usability of the app.



Jenny Kniveton-Gregory demonstrates the soon-to-be launched Wajarri App, a very useful learning tool.

The interactive language map drew some interest with suggestions of including sites from each language group and the plants and animals relative to the areas, along with bush medicine, more pictures of local elders; and more pictures of country relating to each area.

At one table Senior Language Worker, Leeann Merritt, demonstrated how

she uses one of the educational resource books, *Balayi Mundungu* (watch out for the monster) – Body Parts, with a mundungu puppet to engage the attention.

“I taught kids body parts with a monster book and puppet as the kids are more engaged – kids love monsters,” she said.



TOP: Leeann Merritt shows Jan Williams the educational resource book, *Balayi Mundungu*, complete with monster. ABOVE: Rosie Sitorus, standing left, talks about the interactive map.

Other suggestions were more books, having profiles of Elders in schools and having Elders and kids go on bush excursions and camping as many Aboriginal children don’t know they are learning in a different way in mainstream schools.

It was also suggested children make a music video in language. Videos have been made in other communities like

although these are contemporary videos recorded in English.

Another item of interest that Bundiyyarra is keen to expand was the timeline and aerial photographs of the original Aboriginal Reserve on Eastward Rd with overlays of the camps of Elders.

One young man from Mullewa who attended with his parents was overheard to say he had no knowledge of the reserve or the camps.

“This is the challenge,” said Jennifer, “teaching the next generations about themselves, who they are, where they came from.”



Wilcannia with the Wilcannia Mob that was on high rotation on Tripe J radio <http://downriver.com.au/music-and-video/>; and Mullewa: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ANfin-nWmE>

## Expanding the timeline:

A timeline has been created but needs expansion and could include the story of each town reserve and policies that were in place at the time; a clear Aboriginal history of disposition, loss of land, culture, tribal grounds – the true story; and a history of Aboriginal Corporations.

# Taking 'The Learning Journey' to community

A late program change due to unforeseen circumstances, saw the Community consultation – Come yarn with us Bundiyyarra website session on March 11, switched to The Learning Journey Program Development.

'The Learning Journey; The journey to create a sustainable future' has been guided through Bundiyyarra's 'List of Objectives', and aligns with existing regional development strategic planning. The model is simple and could be very effective, both economically and for working towards closing the gap for Aboriginal people in the workplace.

## Pre-training

The aim of the journey is to provide Aboriginal students with real opportunities to find successful employment through a well guided training and mentoring process that starts with pre-training in different areas of one particular career path, and incorporates generalised work place training. This will include training in policies and procedures, how to conduct yourself in the work place, basic computer skills and reverse cultural awareness training, guiding Aboriginal people to be better prepared to work in a majority non-Aboriginal environment.

## Training

The idea is to equip and mentor these students to pursue further training through either Durack Institute of Technology, Geraldton Universities Centre, or assist them into a trade

through the Apprenticeship and Traineeship Company Mid West.

## Employment

Students who complete higher studies will be the first considered in one of the various economic development opportunities being developed by Bundiyyarra.

This process presents multiple partnership opportunities to achieve training and employment outcomes. It will also provide the Corporation the opportunity to create economic opportunities to create a self-sustainable future and not be reliant on government funding.

With this in mind, community was asked: "What are the challenges for young adults today about enrolling in TAFE studies?"

Some of the challenges identified included fees being too high, to lack of transport or a driver's licence. Accommodation was listed along with overcoming peer pressure and not knowing how to go about getting the relevant information out to young adults, and not understanding the process of enrolment.

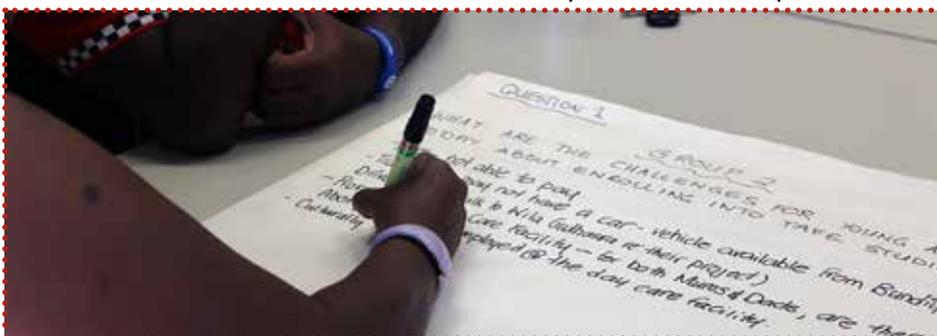
A lack of mentoring was also raised, which could auger well for the model Bundiyyarra wants to implement that



would go some way to mitigating that. The 'shame' factor – many feel shame because they feel they are not accepted or they are more comfortable studying in an Aboriginal group, not singled out; and a lack of courses tailored to meet Aboriginal needs.

## The group was asked what they thought some of the solutions could be:

- Set up an information centre at Bundiyyarra for young adult enquiries
- Car pooling/licence assistance
- Billeting/family support
- A presence in local newspapers including the Mulga Mail
- Have community liaison officers direct young people to Bundiyyarra
- 'Elders in Residence'
- Ensure good support at enrolment office – have mentors/tutors on hand at enrolment time
- Employ more Aboriginal lecturers
- Investigate assistance for study subsidies
- Prepare high school students to be able to slot into a TAFE course
- Consider a TAFE targeted to Aboriginal people
- Leadership studies for youth considering TAFE studies
- Specific scholarships for Aboriginal students



100  
YEARS OF  
ANZAC

THE SPIRIT  
LIVES  
2014 - 2018

BE A PART OF THE ONCE IN A LIFETIME  
**FREE** FAMILY EVENT



1915 2015  
  
**CAMP  
GALLIPOLI**  
COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS  
OF ANZAC SPIRIT

**Friday, 24 April, 2015**  
**Gates Open 3pm | Opening Ceremony 5pm**  
**Bundiyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation**

Camp Gallipoli is a once in a lifetime opportunity for all Australians and New Zealanders to come together on the 100th anniversary of Gallipoli to sleep out under the same stars as the original ANZACs did 100 years ago. We invite you to join in a special night of remembrance, entertainment, mateship and the birth of the ANZAC spirit. Space will be set aside for camping. Bring your own swag and be like one of the diggers. The 100th anniversary of Gallipoli is your chance to share a moment in history with family and friends.

REGISTER ONLINE AT [www.bundiyarra.org.au](http://www.bundiyarra.org.au)  
Parking available at the Geraldton Turf Club  
Drug and Alcohol free event



Bundiyarra  
Aboriginal  
Community  
Aboriginal  
Corporation





**Friday, 24 April, 2015**  
 Gates Open 3pm | Opening Ceremony 5pm  
**MAIN STAGE ENTERTAINMENT**

This program could be subject to change without notice

- 3.00pm**      **Camp Grounds Open**  
 Come on in, set up your swag and enjoy being part of this once in a lifetime event
- 5.00pm**      **Official Opening**  
 Geraldton RSL Sub-branch President Mr Ross Davies, accompanied by the 11th Battalion Living History and the 711 City of Greater Geraldton Squadron - Australian Air Force Cadets, and TS Morrow, will arrive with the ANZAC flame to officially light the Bundiyarra fire and commence the official ceremony
- 5.15pm**      **Welcome to Country**  
 Amungu people, Mr Rob and Mr David Ronan
- 5.20pm**      **Welcome to Bundiyarra**  
 Bundiyarra CEO Ms Marchelle Retallack. What is Camp Gallipoli?
- 5.25pm**      **Partnership and Sponsors Acknowledgement**  
 Bundiyarra Chairman, Mr Ross Oakley
- 5.35pm**      **Mayor's Honour**  
 City of Greater Geraldton Mayor, Mr Ian Carpenter
- 5.40pm**      **Geraldton RSL President Mr Ross Davies**  
 The true meaning of ANZAC
- 5.45pm**      **Servicemen Unveiling**  
 Designer and curator Mr David Burns and Bundiyarra CEO Ms Marchelle Retallack
- 5.50pm**      **Australian and New Zealand National Anthems**
- 6.00pm**      **Didgeridoo performance**  
 Rangeway Primary School Indigenous, with Rangeway Primary School Music Teacher Mr George Scicluna
- 6.10pm**      **Maori Haka**  
 Geraldton Waitangi Association
- 6.20pm**      **Poetry**  
 Written and read by Ms Nola Gregory and Clontarf Football Academy students reading Mr Gerry Meagher's poetry
- 6.40pm**      **'Lest We Forget'**  
 Take time to honour those you know that have served for this country, in an official candlelight ceremony
- 6.44pm**      **Mr Graham Taylor**  
 'My story', Local Vietnam Veteran
- 7.15pm**      **'When 11 Mallards served for country'**  
 Family history
- 8.00pm**      **Open Mic Fun**  
 Sing us a song, tell us a joke, show us a dance... put yourself on the line and fire your talent at us
- 9.00pm**      **'Lest We Forget'**  
 Lighting of honorary candles, a minute's silence
- 9.15pm**      **Camp Gallipoli**  
 Kick back, relax and further your understanding of our amazing ANZACs
- 11.00pm**    **Lights Out**  
 Security will remain on watch until dawn, respect others and sleep well - 5am start

*Overnight camping is not compulsory; if you'd like to be part of the fun and entertainment just come along for the evening!*



**Friday, 24 April, 2015**

**Gates Open 3pm | Opening Ceremony 5pm**

**GROUNDS ENTERTAINMENT (please see site map on following page)**

- 3.00pm - 5.00pm**      **Poppies in the Sand**  
Sand mural with Maxine Gregory and family
- 3.00pm - 5.00pm**      **Air Brush Tattoos and Face Painting**
- 3.00pm - 5.00pm**      **Toffee Apple Making**  
With Bundiyarra Board of Directors
- 3.00pm - 5.00pm**      **Games including Tugg-A-War, Sack Racing, Flag Racing, Skipping**  
Hosted by the Bundiyarra Board of Directors and City of Greater Geraldton staff
- All entertainment stops for Official Opening and Ceremony**
- 6.30pm - 7.30pm**      **Didgeridoo Workshop**  
At the Fire Pit with Rangeway Primary School Music Teacher Mr George Scicluna
- 6.30pm - 7.30pm**      **Games including Tugg-A-War, Sack Racing, Flag Racing, Skipping**  
hosted by the Bundiyarra Board of Directors and City of Greater Geraldton staff
- 6.30pm - 7.30pm**      **Damper Making**  
At Gazebo 2 with Ms Mavis Dann
- 6.30pm - 8.00pm**      **Dinner Served**  
By Bundiyarra inhouse chef Ms Tania Gray
- 7.00pm**                **The Story of the Emu in the Stars**  
At the spring with Mr Godfrey Simpson
- 7.00pm**                **Language Story Telling**  
With the Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre
- 8.00pm**                **Torch Song Lines Tour**  
With Mr Gordon Gray and Mr Rob Ronan
- 8.00pm**                **The Story of the Emu in the Stars**  
At the spring with Mr Godfrey Simpson
- 8.00pm**                **Language story telling**  
With the Bundiyarra - Irra Wangga Language Centre
- 8.00pm - 9.00pm**      **Games including Tugg-A-War, Sack Racing, Flag Racing, Skipping**  
Hosted by the Bundiyarra Board of Directors and City of Greater Geraldton staff
- 9.15pm**                **Camp Gallipoli Film**

**Saturday, 25 April, 2015**

**First bus departure 5am | Second bus departure 5.20am**

- 5.00am**                **The first bus will depart from the entrance of Bundiyarra and journey to Birdwood House, RSL Geraldton for the dawn service.**
- 5.20am**                **The second bus will depart from the entrance of Bundiyarra and journey to Birdwood House, RSL Geraldton for the dawn service.**
- 7.30am**                **The first bus will depart Birdwood House, returning to Bundiyarra.**
- 8.00am**                **The second bus will depart Birdwood House, returning to Bundiyarra.**  
This bus return will allow participants to stay and enjoy the Gunfire Breakfast at Birdwood House
- 10.00am**              **Bundiyarra Grounds Close**



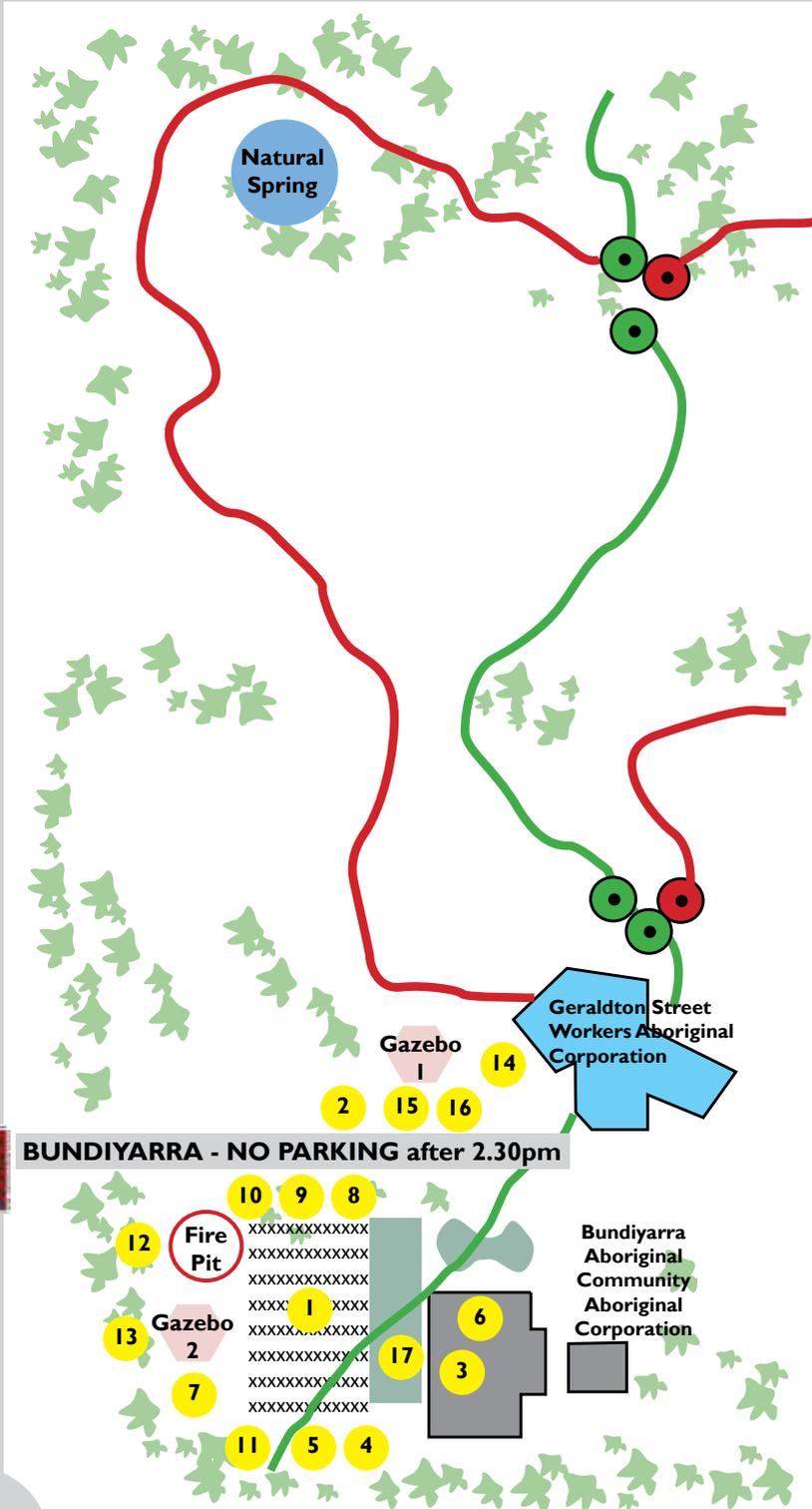


**Friday, 24 April, 2015**  
**SITE MAP**

BLENCOWE ROAD

Geraldton  
Turf Club  
FREE  
OVERNIGHT  
PARKING  
  
No Parking at  
Bundiyyarra

EASTWARD ROAD



- LEGEND
- 1 Camping Area
  - 2 Toilets
  - 3 First Aid
  - 4 Over 60's Respite Shelter
  - 5 Media, Sponsors Tent
  - 6 Dinner, Tea & Coffee
  - 7 Water Station
  - 8 Lest we Forget & Merchandise Tent
  - 9 Toffee Apple Making
  - 10 Air Brush Tattoos & Face Painting Tent
  - 11 Poppies in the Sand
  - 12 Didgeridoo Workshop
  - 13 Damper Making
  - 14 Games
  - 15 Meeting Place for Song Lines Tours
  - 16 Meeting Place for Emu in the Stars tours
  - 17 Main Stage
  - Song Lines
  - Song Lines

**BUNDIYARRA - NO PARKING after 2.30pm**

PASS STREET

# Former premier has ties to Bundiyyarra

Former WA Premier, Dr Geoff Gallop, officially opened the new electoral office of Labor Party Member for the Agricultural Region, Darren West, on Friday 6 March.

Aboriginal Elder and Bundiyyarra Member, Robert Ronan, conducted a Welcome to Country as about 70 people squeezed into the swish new office on Marine Terrace in Geraldton. Dr Gallop was very supportive of, and worked closely with the Bundiyyarra board in the early days.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Roger Cook, MLA for Kwinana who was also at the opening said: "Geoff Gallop opened my eyes to indigenous issues."

Dr Gallop recalled the previous Labor successes of the construction of the Southern Transport Corridor, moving the railway marshalling yards to Narngulu opening up the way for the



marina and foreshore development and the port expansion; all things we now take for granted as if they've always been there!



Dr Gallop was Premier of Western Australia from 2001 to 2006 and is now the Director of the Graduate School of Government at the University of Sydney and has just left Australia with his wife – and family dog – to live and work overseas for a year.

PICTURE TOP: Former WA Prime Minister, Dr Geoff Gallop, holding the

*Bundiyyarra Newsletter, with Member for the Agricultural Region, Darren West, Bundiyyarra CEO, Marchelle Retallack and Bundiyyarra member and Elder, Robert Ronan at the new office opening. ABOVE: Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Roger Cook with Bundiyyarra Board Chairman, Ross Oakley, Marchelle Retallack, Dr Geoff Gallop and Darren West.*

## Indiginspiration on Vimeo

In the January edition of Bundiyyarra Gardantha, we ran a story about 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 idea for the documentary was conceived and commissioned by Lorraine Lambert, former School Business Community Partnership Broker with Geraldton Regional Community Education Centre (GRCEC), and produced by Geraldton digital and photographic company, Dragonfly Media. The film documents the challenges the young people faced with their journey through training and into employment.

You can now watch each individual young person's story on the Vimeo Channel by visiting: <https://vimeo.com/channels/indiginspirations>



Indiginspiration now on Vimeo. Pic Dragonfly Media.



Federal Member for Durack, Melissa Price, with Bundiwarra Board Chairman, Ross Oakley, Board Member, Richard Nelly and Prime Minister Tony Abbott at the afternoon tea.

## Community Afternoon Tea with Prime Minister Tony Abbott

**Chairman of the Bundiwarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation, Ross Oakley and Board Director, Richard Nelly, met Prime Minister Tony Abbott at a Community Afternoon Tea event at the QEII Seniors and Community Centre on Sunday 8 March.**

Brought to Geraldton by Member for Durack, Melissa Price, the PM spent a couple of hours talking with community groups and being photographed madly.

Richard asked the PM what his thoughts were on *The Forrest Review, Creating Parity*, a report put together by Fortescue Metals Group's Andrew Forrest who is a strong advocate for ending the disparity between Aboriginal people and other Australians.

Mr Abbott responded: "We want to put that into place, perhaps not quite as rigorously as Andrew has suggested but I think it ought to be looked at. But as precisely who is on it, and where people are on it, is subject to a lot of discussion and consultation. But I think in principle it should be addressed.

"He's a really good guy. He has his quirks like all of us but he's achieved so much," he said.

Richard is keen to set up an Indigenous ranger program and brought up the subject with the PM.

"Talk to Melissa [Price] about this," he said, "there are all sorts of programs that are potential sources of funding; talk to Melissa and we'll see what we can do."

Unfortunately Mr Abbott went on radio later in the week saying Aboriginal people living in remote communities did so as a 'lifestyle choice'.

He said: "What we can't do, is endlessly subsidise choices, if those lifestyle choices are not conducive to the kind of full participation in Australian society that everyone should have."

This was in response to WA Premier Colin Barnett's 2014 statement suggesting the state could no longer support about 150 Aboriginal communities, flagging the possibility of their removal by the end of 2015.

This sparked a big backlash from First Nation peoples with rallies held around the state and in Canberra.

Geraldton held its own 'Yarning Up' at the Yarning Circle on the foreshore at 10am on Thursday, 19 March.

Turn to page 15 to read about the Geraldton gathering.



### PROTECT YOUR CREATIVE EXPRESSION

*A workshop on copyright and other intellectual property issues for Aboriginal artists will be held at the Western Australian Museum – Geraldton on 29 April from 9.30am to 1pm.*

One-on-one consultations can be made by appointment with Copyright Lawyer, Stephanie Faulkner.

This is in conjunction with the exhibition on show at the WA Museum-Geraldton *Warakurna; All the stories got into our minds and eyes* from the National Museum of Australia. Read more about the exhibition on the back page of this newsletter.

This is a must attend opportunity for all Aboriginal artists and the workshop is FREE. Register at [www.ipaustralia.gov.au/events](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/events), or contact Chris Hayward on 0404 822 625.



### DID YOU KNOW...

***The Child and Parent Centre – Rangeway is a casual but stimulating environment for parents, grandparents and carers to spend time with their children while getting to know other families in their community.***

The centre runs programs throughout the year for parents and nearly all the programs hosted by the Child and Parent Centre - Rangeway include a free crèche service, run by fully qualified Educators that do a fantastic job engaging with the children through developmentally appropriate activities.

The centre is run in partnership with Geraldton Regional Community Education Centre. For more information contact 9921 4855.

# Music makes Byron and Christine Shine

**Little did Byron Pickett and Christine Walsh know where 'rocking up to make up the numbers' would take them, when they rolled up one day for a Community Arts Network WA (CAN WA) music project in the Wheatbelt town of Quairading.**

Byron is a Ballardong Noongar born in Quairading and Christine is a Budimia Yamatji from Mt Magnet and they heard about the music session being held in Quairading so went along for a look.

Three years on and Byron was a finalist in the WA Music Song of the Year competition for his song *Beautiful Memories* from the CAN WA funded Healing Songs album: *Shine – Songs from the Heart and the Land* that was the result of their 'making up the numbers!' Byron didn't win but that hasn't dampened his enthusiasm.

"It was amazing," said Byron, "within 20 minutes we had a group song recorded with basic instruments, five of us; it spun us out!"

The songs were mixed later in the studio and a CD and DVD is now available.

The CAN WA producers encouraged

them to record their stories in song and all songs are original.

"It's a way to put our memories and thoughts into words," said Byron.

"The producers told us to 'paint that picture in words, so the listener understands the song, make it clear,' they said.

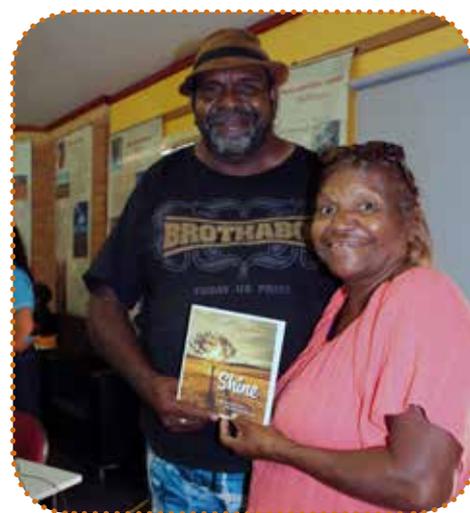
"And it makes it more powerful told in our way, sung by ourselves," Byron said.

The Shine Healing Songs are about identity, and singing is a part of Aboriginal culture so this is one way to professionally preserve stories and language.

Byron said being involved in the project has increased the couple's confidence and sense of self.

"Since making this CD Christine has gained the confidence to MC a number of events and I entered the Walk Up talent quest at the Tamworth Country Music Festival, and then I performed songs off the album at Boyup Brook Country Music Festival," he said.

Both Byron and Christine joined the Healing Songs singers playing in front



of a home crowd at the Moorditj Day Out in Tammin on 29 March.

However, they have no aspirations of being singer/songwriters, so where to from here?

"There are unlimited options," Byron said, "we could perform at more shows around the country, get our stories out there and show other communities what's possible if you have a go."

One thing is for sure they don't regret 'rocking up to make up the numbers'.

*Shine is part of CAN WA's Voices of the Wheatbelt project, which is funded by the Australian Government's Department of Social Services. CAN WA receives funding from Indigenous Culture Support, Australia Council for the Arts, the Department for Culture and the Arts and Lotterywest.*

## The real reason they Shine!

Byron Pickett and Christine Walsh will celebrate 43 years together this Christmas. What's their secret?

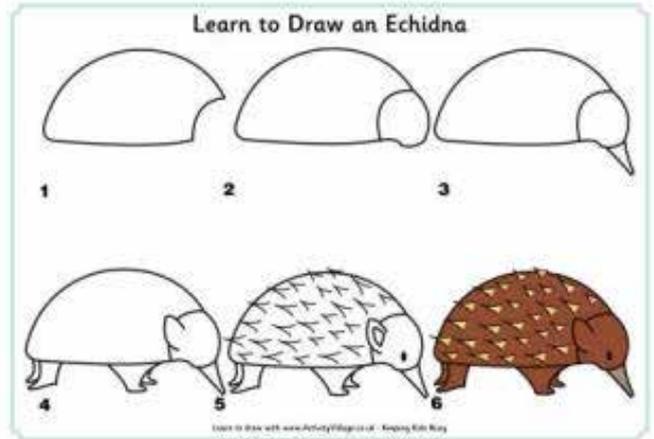
"Respect for different cultures," says Byron, "Christine is a Budimia Yamatji and I am Ballardong Noongar, so we have experienced different cultures and languages being together since 1972."

"The love we share together and with our kids, grandkids and the wider family," says Christine, "and respect for each other," they chorus. Something definitely worth singing about!



## How to make a gunduwa

1. Fold a paper plate in half and staple plate together on the open ends.
2. Draw a face on the end of the paper plate
3. Cut out long triangle shapes and glue onto paper plate to make the spikes.
4. Cut a long nose out and glue onto face.



### Nhaa yardajimanha burlga gula? (Whats hiding in the grass?)

Can you find the 6 animals hiding in the grass?  
Draw a line from the animal to their name and trace over their name.

gunduwa



marlu



balharda



guwiyarl



minjin



yalibirri



# Local Aboriginal people yarn up over community closures



**Geraldton Aboriginal people joined thousands of others around the nation on Thursday 19 March, when they came together in a call to action to stop WA Premier Colin Barnett's declared forced closure of WA Aboriginal communities.**

Prime Minister Tony Abbott supported the WA Premier when he commented on a regional radio station shortly after his brief visit to Geraldton, that people in remote communities were there as a 'lifestyle choice', whipping up much media coverage and an ongoing backlash from the wider community.

More than 1000 people protested outside Parliament House in Perth and about 300 people in Geraldton gathered for a 'Yarning Up' at the

Yarning Circle on Geraldton Foreshore where addresses were made to the group by Gordon Gray, Jennifer Kniveton-Gregory, Charmaine Green, Sandy Davies and Vanessa Brockman.

Ms Kniveton-Gregory said: "Tony Abbott calls it a 'lifestyle choice' but for many of us we know it is at the core of our Aboriginal identity and our sense of belonging."

Federal Member for Durack, Melissa Price, acknowledged in Parliament that 19 March was a national day of action against closure of Aboriginal communities and said she wanted to assure the people at the rallies in Geraldton and Canberra—and throughout her electorate of Durack—that she firmly believed there is no intention of the WA State Government starting to close Aboriginal communities.

"I have received that assurance personally from Premier Barnett," she said. "No-one wants to see Aboriginal people forced to leave the land they love—been there; done that. We know that did not work."

However, Ms Kniveton-Gregory said it's not about closing the communities, but that the Premier is prepared to withdraw funding for

services to Aboriginal communities that all Australians take for granted, such as power, water, housing and rubbish removal.

"The Federal Government is ripping away funding for key services," she said, "this is all under the guise of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy – nothing more than a bureaucrats' wish list.

"We need to work together, stand together and give them the biggest fight of their political lives; this is our land and the future for our children.

"It's ironic that this year the WA Government is reviewing all Crown Land, including 99 year leases, many of which are held by Aboriginal people," said Ms Kniveton-Gregory.

"It's a travesty of justice that both the state and federal governments are in cahoots to once again herd us like animals into the longyards; reminiscent of the 50s when we lived in reserves on the edge of town."

This issue continues to grow legs in the political, safety and social arenas with an emergency meeting called by Elders in Port Augusta and WA Police Commissioner Karl O'Callahan backing Colin Barnett's stand on withdrawing funding from some remote communities



## Dwayne's the top student

Big congratulations go to Bundiyarra's IT expert, Dwayne Smith, who was named 2014 Vocational Student of the Year across Durack's five campuses, at Durack Institute of Technology's graduation night last month.

He also received an outstanding achievement award for Certificate IV and Above in Information Technology, sponsored by Guardian Print, who prints this newsletter, however there was no collusion involved!

Dwayne began working part time for Bundiyarra in 2013 and in that time has overhauled the website, set up the online store and conducted computer program training sessions for Bundiyarra staff.

The Mid West Chamber of Commerce and Industry sponsored the Vocational Student of the Year Award and Trevor Lake, representing the Chamber, presented Dwayne with his certificate.

He was joined at the graduation ceremony by his proud family and Bundiyarra CEO, Marchelle Retallack. Well done Dwayne!



Bundiyarra's Dwayne Smith, proudly holding his 2014 Vocational Student of the Year certificate, with outgoing Durack Director, Bert Beevers, retiring after 10 years at the helm, and proud family, son Josh, 14, Ava, 12 months, and wife Samantha.

## Western Australian Museum – Geraldton showcases Western Desert Aboriginal art

Australia is rich in Aboriginal history and much is told through Aboriginal painting. Geraldton is privileged to be exposed to much of this art.

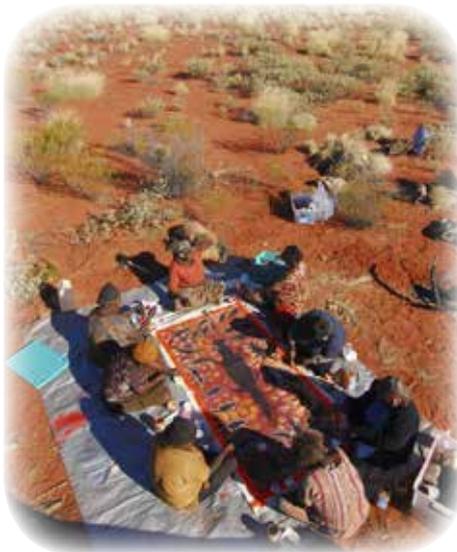
The latest exposure is an exhibition of unique works from an Aboriginal art movement emerging from the Western Desert that opened this month at the Western Australian Museum – Geraldton, and runs until Sunday 24 May.

With a moving title that conjures up the historical and everyday experiences of the Western Desert people: *Warakurna: All the Stories Got into our Minds and Eyes* the exhibition features paintings and sculptures produced at Warakurna, a community at the foot of the Rawlinson Ranges in Western Australia, 300km west of Uluru (Ayers Rock).

Western Desert people were among the last groups of Aboriginal people in Australia to have contact with Europeans. Warakurna was also in the middle of the flight path of test missiles launched from Woomera in the South Australian desert in the 1960s.

WA Museum – Geraldton Regional Manager, Leigh O'Brien, said the artworks provide first-hand accounts of significant events which impacted on the community.

"The exhibition is a fantastic way of helping all Australians understand the complex history of Warakurna," Ms O'Brien said.



Warakurna Aboriginal women collaborating on a painting. Pic Tim Acker. Courtesy Warakurna Artists

The paintings are more figurative in style than traditional Western Desert art and document Warakurna's history: the coming of explorers, prospectors, missionaries, building roads, missile testing, and people's return to their homeland.

"The paintings and sculptures tell historical and contemporary stories, recreating scenes of everyday life," Ms O'Brien said.

Warakurna follows on from the Wirnda Barna artists' of the Upper Murchison exhibition at ACDC last month. Called *Burda Burda* – telling a story in Badimaya language; and one of the exhibitors, Frank Walsh Snr, took out the Aboriginal Mid West Prize in the 2015 Mid West Art Award

with his Wandarrie Country Rock Art, the unanimous choice of the judges in that category.

Warakurna is a travelling exhibition launched at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra in December 2012 and will travel to the WA Museum's Albany, Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Perth sites.

Entry to Warakurna is free of charge from 9.30am to 4pm. For more information go to <http://museum.wa.gov.au/museums/geraldton/warakurna-all-stories-got-our-minds-and-eyes>

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.