

LAND RIGHTS NEWS

December 2010



INSIDE: Uluru 25th
handback anniversary,
NLC Elections, CLC Rangers
graduate, Gunbalanya
and much more....



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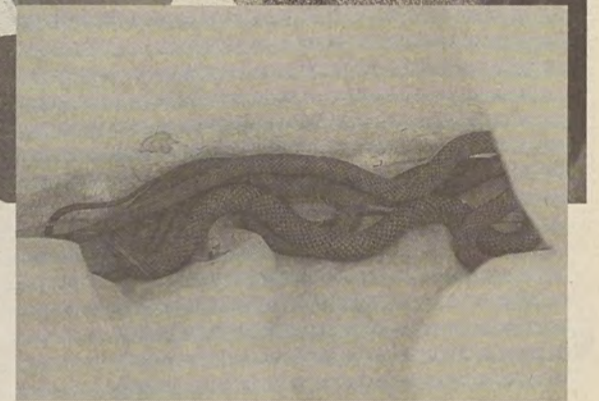
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The CLC a nest of snakes? No way. But it did have a bunch of whip snakes curled up in the garden. Nothing the Alice Springs snake catchers couldn't handle but they say Alice Springs is alive with snakes after the long wet conditions it has enjoyed this year. So look out.



Land Rights NEWS

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COVER PHOTO

Judy Trigger dancing for the crowd at the 25th anniversary of the handback

New council hits the ground running



The new Council at its first meeting held at Crab Claw Island in November

Wali Wunungmurra will serve a second term as NLC Chairman after a resounding vote at the 101st Full Council meeting at Crab Claw Island in late November

Mr Wunungmurra said he was delighted to secure another term as NLC Chairman and is excited by the make-up of the new Full Council.

“I thank the Full Council members for giving me their overwhelming support and look forward to seeing council continue its recent good work over the coming three years,” he said. “The new council has a great blend of continuing and new members and it pleases me to see more young leaders emerging from across the NLC’s seven regions.”

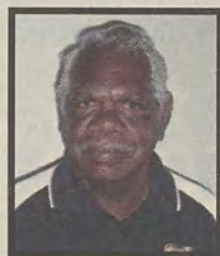
Mr Wunungmurra said he will work hard to ensure that cultural integrity remains at the forefront of thinking within the NLC.

NLC CEO Mr Kim Hill said the new Full Council had hit the ground running with members approving 117 development agreements at the Full Council meeting. This included 95 leases of Aboriginal land and 22 mineral lease exploration licences.

“Record numbers of section-19 lease agreements and exploration licences were processed and I am confident this new Full Council will continue to provide strong representation for Aboriginal peoples living in the NLC’s seven regions.”

Mr Hill asserted the hugely successful Full Council meeting dispelled media-fuelled speculation regarding a “breakaway” land council movement. “Supposed delays in processing development proposals were reported to be fuelling the “breakaway”, but this couldn’t be further from the truth,” he said. “Despite the conjecture the NLC is getting on with the real business of assisting traditional owners to meet their aspirations for income generating projects on their land.”

THE 2010-2013 EXECUTIVE



Chairman
Wali
Wunungmurra



Deputy
Chairman
Samuel
Bush-Blansi

Darwin/ Daly/ Wagait
Bill Risk

West Arnhem: Bunug/ Galaminda

East Arnhem: Dhuwarrwarr/ Marika

Katherine:
Helen Lee

Ngukurr:
Peter Lansen

Victoria River District
George King

Borrooloola/ Barkly
Jeffrey Dixon

CLC region

ULURU celebrates



25 years since the historic handback

An estimated 500 people celebrated the 25th anniversary of the handback of Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park at the Uluru sunrise viewing area - Talinguru Nyakuntjaku - on October 26.

The festive atmosphere of the day was a welcome change from the tension that preceded the handback in 1985.

The words of the Northern Territory Labor Government's Minister for Regional Development Malarndirri McCarthy praising traditional owners for sharing the park with people from around the world were in stark contrast to former chief minister Ian Tuxworth's national campaign against the handback in 1985.

"Congratulations to the Anangu on this great achievement and for sharing their culture and their spiritual sites of significance with the world," Ms McCarthy said.

"Through their joint management of the park with the Australian Government, the Anangu have also made a significant contribu-

tion to both the Australian economy and their local regional economy.

"The history of 25 years and the struggles for the Anangu people to be recognised in this land is a shameful history in the history of the Northern Territory Parliament and the then CLP government," Ms McCarthy said.

"It's shameful to think that such a beautiful time for the people of this region began with incredible protests by the CLP government of the day and fellow Australians who just did not want to understand that the Anangu and Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory were never about being separate to other people, we're always about being strong about our language and culture and wanting to share it with all people."

And they did again on

the 25th anniversary of the handback. Anangu traditional owners mixed with international tourists as speeches, inma (dancing), bands, spear throwing and races celebrated a high point in the land rights struggle.

The day had started with Uluru completely cloaked in a heavy fog, which later lifted to reveal the sacred site in all its glory.

With key federal politicians tied to Canberra by a hung parliament, Senator Don Farrell represented the government.

"The handback was testament to the vision and hard work of senior men and women from families like Uluru, Tjikadu, Okai, Fraser and Lester, many of them or their children celebrating today," Senator Farrell said.

"Sadly many of the original visionaries from 1985

have passed on but I salute them all for providing this incredible gift, not only to their children and children's children, but to all Australians."

Chairman of the board of management and Anangu traditional owner Harry Wilson said the anniversary marked a turning point in the park's history.

"The board has provided strong directions for the park through the plan of management focussing on employment, education for Anangu, new directions in tourism and importantly keeping our country and Tjukurpa strong," he said.

"The new direction in tourism will mean our Anangu people will benefit from new tourism opportunities and enable visitors to share and learn about our culture and our land.

"We will work together to bring about the dreams

and visions of our forefathers.

"This day's important for our children to remember the work that has been done but also signifies a bright future for them as we keep our culture and country strong together."

Another traditional owner and translator for the official events, Donald Fraser, paid tribute to traditional owner and one of the key campaigners to win the park back, Yami Lester. Mr Lester was unable to make the celebrations because he was in hospital.

Central Land Council deputy chair, Gina Smith congratulated the traditional owners for having come so far.

"There were dire warnings that the rock was for all Australians and it would be locked away, taken away by the Aboriginal people," she said. *continued next page*

ULURU 25th continued

"As Yami Lester so wittily said in 1985, may I quote him: 'I welcome the governor general this afternoon. He's able to come here, see the rock, by tomorrow the rock will be gone'.

"Well as you can see the rock is still here. The people got their land rights and the sky hasn't fallen.

"They (traditional owners) now spend a good proportion of what they receive in gate and rent fees for community development initiatives.

"Since 2005 they have been working with the Central Land Council to develop community based projects.

"Land council has developed community projects with the communities like power supplies, BMX tracks, stores, craft rooms, restoration of old buildings, a church, mechanics sheds and so on.

"Since they are among the poorest people in Australia giving up money for the good of everyone, helping your community is an amazing thing to do," Mrs Smith said.

There was a feeling of optimism for a bright future during the celebrations. Not least from the Territory Government.

"I want to make special mention of Harry (Wilson) and the young Anangu leaders who are coming forward and to say to you Harry and to others in Mutitjulu that the Northern Territory Government, especially under the leadership of Chief Minister Paul Henderson, will always be about working with Aboriginal people to find a good way forward," Ms McCarthy said.

"And I say it to the Federal Government to Senator Don Farrell to certainly take this message back to the parks minister Tony Burke that the Northern Territory Government will work very strongly with Parks Australia and all in the Federal Parliament, especially Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin and with the Mutitjulu people, Anangu people to make sure that these next 25 years are a hell of a lot better."



Top: ladies in front of the CLC's stall
 Above middle: local bands played against the striking backdrop of Uluru
 Far left: the spear throwing competition was popular with kids
 Top left: Sean Angeles and below left: CLC Deputy Chair Gina Smith speaking to the crowd
 Above: Rita Tjinga shows how it's done

Gunbalanya meatworks revived

The revival of a run-down cattle station and adjoining abattoir in a remote Northern Territory community is providing real jobs and affordable fresh meat to the Aboriginal peoples of Western Arnhem Land.

The community of Gunbalanya, near the northern edge of world heritage listed Kakadu National Park, celebrated the official opening of the revamped Gunbalanya Meat Supply Pty Ltd operation in early November.

The meatworks is processing beef from the Aboriginal-owned Gunbalanya Station, which boasts more than 250 square kilometres of rich black floodplain country, and eventually hopes to kill up to 90 head per week.

The meatworks revival comes on the back of an agreement struck between the Northern Land Council, the Indigenous Land Corporation and Gunbalanya meatworks.

Under the deal, ILC will work in partnership with the community over 15 years to improve infrastructure and grazing practices at Gunbalanya Station, taking the cattle herd from 1,000 to 7,000 head, and to provide a major upgrade of the meatworks.

It's hoped the enterprise will soon employ up to 30 people and young men from Gunbalanya have shown they are keen to work in both the pastoral and meat processing fields.

NLC's land management fa-

ilitator David Armstrong says the revival of Gunbalanya Station and the meatworks showed what could be achieved through good will negotiation and co-operation between families and organisations.

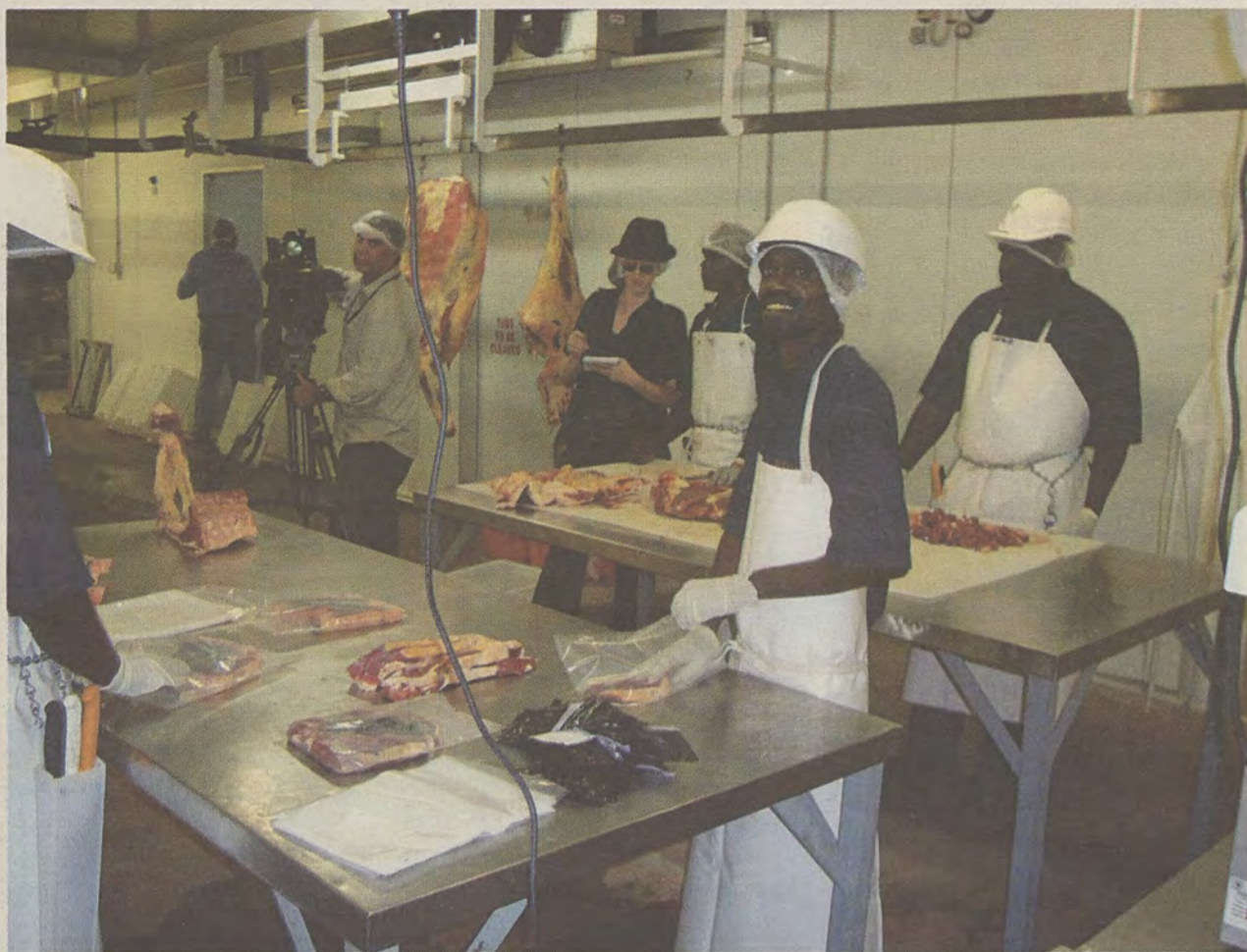
"Traditional owners came to the Northern Land Council and wanted to work a way forward because their business was basically broken," he said.

The Northern Land Council, through the Indigenous Pastoral Program, got out here and looked at the figures and looked at ways forward for the business."

Under the arrangement the ILC will spend \$3 million upgrading station infrastructure and extending the meatworks over 15 years.

Once fully re-fenced, the ILC will use Gunbalanya Station as a finishing point for its northern herd and allowing for increased kill numbers at the meatworks.

Adrian Gumudrul is one of the stockmen employed at Gunbalanya Station and, having spent



almost half a century in the saddle, he's the perfect mentor for young men and women wanting to follow in his footsteps.

"I feel really good about what's going on out here now," Mr Gumudrul said.

"The young people are getting jobs and looking up to all us who are out there working."

Gunbalanya Meats manager Dion Henderson said prime cuts from the meatworks were providing a cheaper food source for people across Western Arnhem Land and that demand was growing quickly

Above: At work in the meatworks
Below left: Stockman Adrian Gumudrul riding in a saddle that he made himself

Below: Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Jenny Macklin buys some prime cuts of Gunbalanya station beef.



The CLC votes: Rent money to be used to help communities

Members of the CLC decided that all rental income from national parks on Aboriginal land in Central Australia will be committed to community development projects at the Land Council's latest meeting near Utopia 260kilometres north east of Alice Springs.

The decision means that rent and income from leases on jointly managed parks in the CLC region will go to community development projects decided by each park's traditional owners rather than being paid to individuals.

Examples of possible community development projects traditional owners might put their money towards include improving outstations, paying for students' educational opportunities, providing training for adults, adding health measures in remote communities such as dialysis treatment, supporting sports clubs and recording language and cultural knowledge.

Traditional owners will make the final decisions on how to spend the money.

Over the past two years CLC staff have been talking with traditional owners of each of the 16 parks subject to joint management arrangements with the NT Parks and Wildlife Service.

They've been discussing future rent payments and many people have supported the option of using this money for community development. Danielle Campbell from the CLC's community devel-

opment unit addressed the council meeting and outlined some projects that other traditional owners are already spending their rent and royalty income on.

Such initiatives are already in place in the Tanami and south-west regions and at Wunara east of Tennant Creek where traditional owners decide what projects to fund.

The benefits of choosing to put income towards community development initiatives rather than distributing it to individuals include:

- traditional owners can choose good projects to fund that make life better;
- traditional owners can support outstations and Aboriginal language and culture; and,
- traditional owners putting rent into projects can bring greater Government funding.

Land Council staff will work with traditional owners for each park to develop five year plans. Those plans will include projects TO groups want to fund with their rent money and plans to make those projects happen.



Centrefarm calls for support of horticulture

Centrefarm is a non-profit company established by Aboriginal land owners to drive horticulture opportunities for traditional owners.

Centrefarm staff attended the meeting to outline Centrefarm's work to date and its future plans.

Community engagement officer Greg McAdam asked Council to work with Centrefarm to get youth involved in horticulture employment opportunities.

Centrefarm welcomes inquiries from traditional owners about possible horticulture projects in their regions.

Top ACTU delegation visits

A large delegation from the ACTU visited the Council meeting to talk about issues to do with employment.

Council members gave them

a warm welcome and spent a lot of time outlining their concerns about employment and their dissatisfaction with CDEP arrangements.

Top: The Council with NT Local Government Minister Malarndirri McCarthy who received a warm welcome from the Council. **Middle and above:** Council members spent three days talking over issues like employment, violence, community development and leasing.

THAMARRURR INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREA

Elders and traditional owners of the Marri-Jabin and Marri-Amu clan groups gathered at Perrderr outstation, near Wadeye, on 20 October to declare Marri-Jabin as the first stage of the Thamarrurr Indigenous Protected Area (IPA).

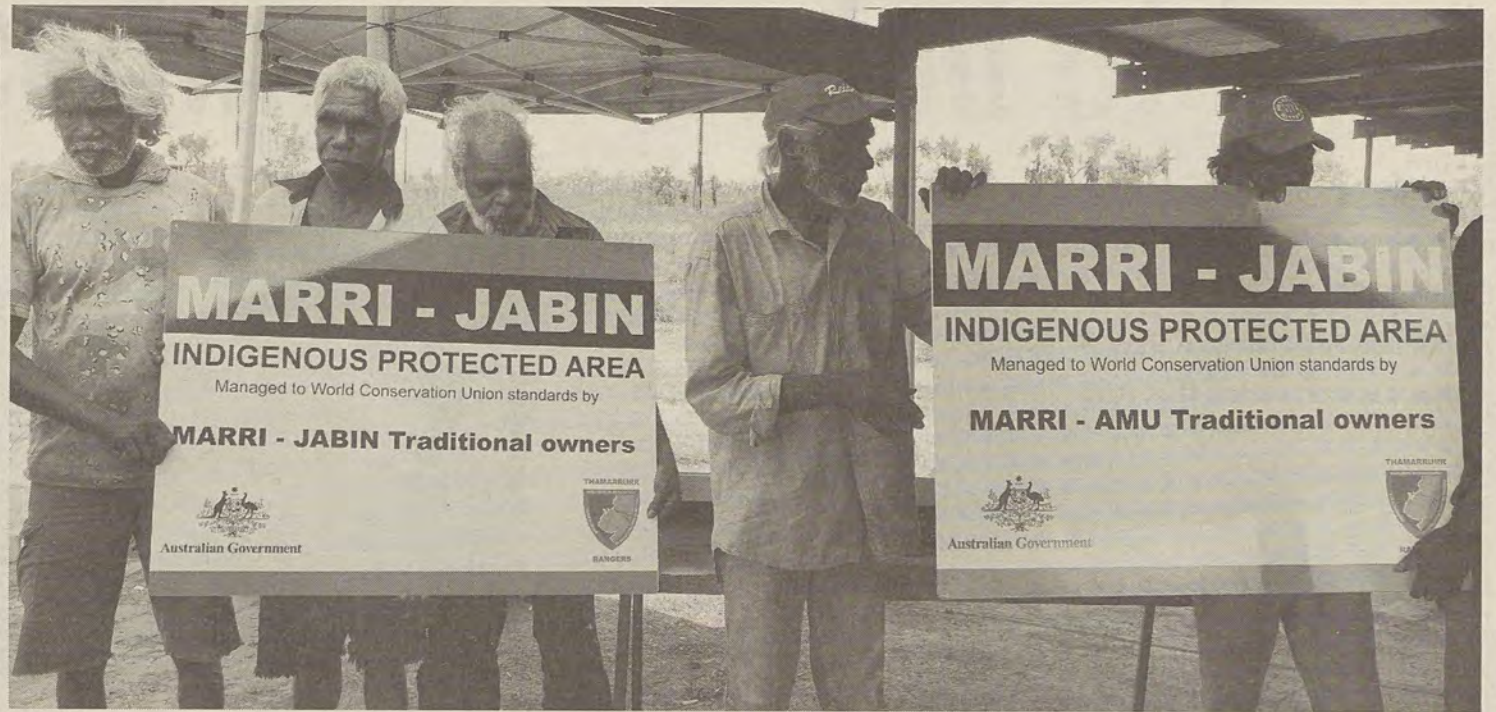
The announcement brings an end to two years of negotiations and was greeted with rapture from those present.

The creation of the IPA within the Daly River/Port Keats Aboriginal Land Trust provides greater funding for land management whilst ensuring local peoples access to country and the ability to maintain strong culture.

Local teacher Alanga Nganbe was delighted with the outcome and felt compelled to express her joy by wresting control of the microphone.

"I am so happy," she cried. "We've been waiting for this for a very long time and it means a lot to us."

Thamarrurr Rangers will con-



Above: Traditional owners at the IPA announcement at Perrderr

tinue to manage the 712 square kilometres that includes parts of the Moyle and Little Moyle rivers, wetlands and coastal areas.

Traditional owners will continue using the area to harvest traditional foods and for cultural activities.

The land is home to vulnerable species of animals including the red goshawk, the water mouse and the

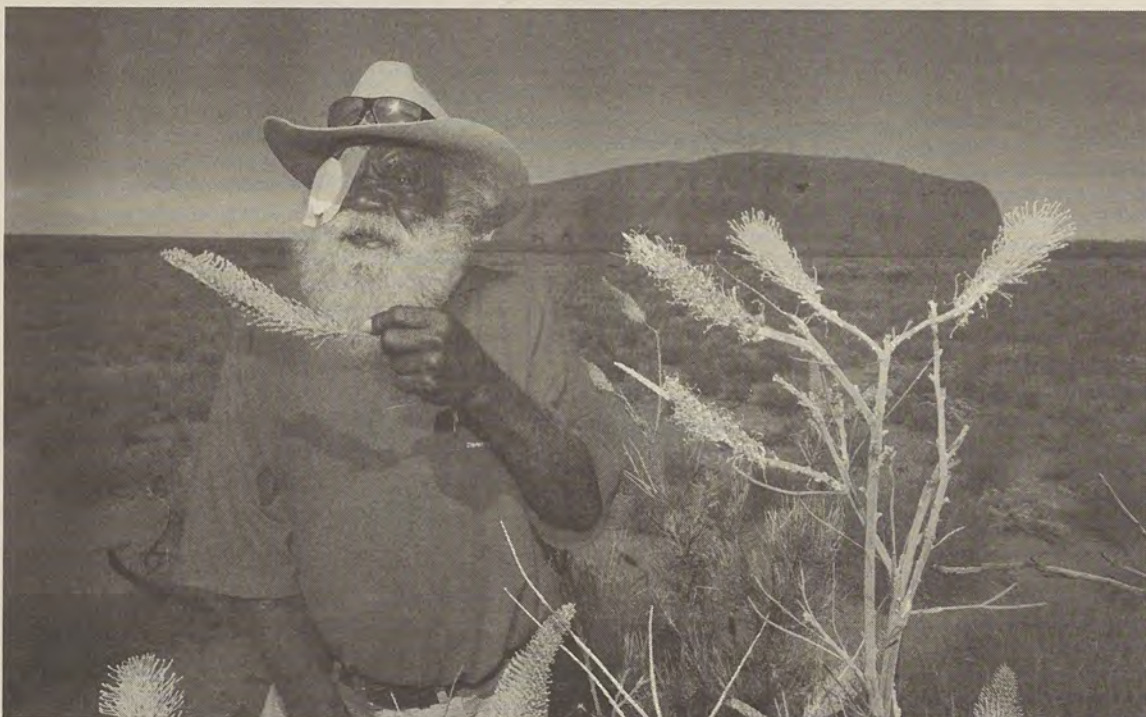
endangered northern quoll. Crocodile breeding sites are found on the land's floodplains while flatback and olive ridley turtles nest along the beaches.

Thamarrurr Development Corporation co-ordinates the local rangers and CEO John Berto said he was encouraged by the declaration. "This is a great example of what

can be achieved when families work together," he said.

The IPA establishes a management plan for Marri-Jabin which includes fire and visitor supervision strategies, protecting sacred sites and a means of elders educating young people about the country and its stories.

Uluru man receives 501st operation



Above: Reggie Uluru

A traditional owner of Uluru has undergone the 501st sight saving operation made possible through a program in Central Australia coordinated by The Fred Hollows Foundation.

Reggie Uluru was one of 38 people to receive eye surgery in Alice Springs during a weeklong intensive surgery session.

His procedure, along with 41 others, took the total number of operations performed under the program to 512.

Reggie received surgery to reverse a potentially blinding condition caused by the lid of his eye turning inwards and scratching the cornea.

With Aboriginal people six times more likely than non-Aboriginal Australians to

become blinded by eye disease, Reggie has witnessed firsthand the impact blindness can have on the lives of people around him.

"My father couldn't see and he passed away after that so I was worried it would happen to me," Reggie said.

"Now I'm happy that I can see again.

"I am happy to see the young kids and my grandchildren in the community growing up."

The Central Australian Eye Health Program began in 2007. Program partners include The Fred Hollows Foundation, the Federal Government, the Northern Territory Government, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation and The Eye Foundation.

Angus Thornton from The Fred Hollows Foundation

says that the program has been a great success considering the difficulties.

"The aim of the program initially was to clear a backlog of around 300 patients who desperately needed eye surgery from these remote communities," Thornton said.

"The more positive word got around communities that their 'eyes can be fixed,' the more people came forward.

"So we couldn't be happier that 500 people out there have been given a better chance at life as a result everyone working together on this program."

"Fred travelled all around Australia to give people in remote communities the eye services they need, so I think he'd be very proud of this achievement."

Singleton Native Title Claim consent determination

A native title determination over Singleton pastoral lease has recognised the Kaytetye people as the native title holders.

The consent determination covers the Singleton pastoral lease north of Alekerange and south of Tennant Creek.

A consent determination means that an agreement has been made by everyone involved and the Federal Court is then making it formal with a determination or decision.

The parties have agreed that non-exclusive native title exists on Singleton in favour of the applicants.

That provides for native title holders to access the property for traditional activities such as hunting and ceremony.

It also allows native title holders to be considered if a third party plans any development on the lease.

The original native title application was lodged with the Federal Court of Australia on the 23 June 2000.

The pastoralist at the time wanted to start a horticulture business on a portion of Singleton, thus changing the land use from pastoralism to horticulture.

On 10 March 2000, the Northern Territory Government issued a notice stating that it intended to compulsorily

acquire a 26 square kilometre portion of the pastoral lease so that it could confer either freehold or a lease (allowing horticulture) so the pastoralist could develop the horticulture business.

This compulsory acquisition included acquiring all native title rights, which triggered the Future Act provisions of *The Native Title Act 1993*.

The native title holders then instructed the CLC to lodge a native title determination application over the whole of Singleton PPL in order to access the right to negotiate provisions under the Act so that they could be a part of any future negotiations between the pastoralist and the NTG.

The compulsory acquisition didn't proceed and neither did the horticulture venture.

The application covers the whole of the Singleton pastoral lease, some 2,949 square kilometres.

The claimants are Ena Rex Mpetyane and Tommy Thompson Kngwarraye on behalf of the Akwerlpe-Waake, Ileyarne, Lyentyawel Ileparranem and Arrawatyen landholding groups (Singleton).

Kwementye Foster was one of the main named applicants and drivers of the claim until he died in April this year. Another named applicant, Kwementye Morrison, died in 2007.

"This is both a happy and

sad day for the claimants," CLC director David Ross said. "It's a happy day for the success of the claim, but a sad day for the claimants who didn't last to celebrate with us."

"Kwementye Foster in particular has been a driving force behind this claim and must be acknowledged for his work."

"Apart from the traditional access rights this determination confirms for the traditional owners of this country, the powers it gives them over the land are limited, but what this determination does do is recognise their ongoing link to it."

The consent determination hearing by the Federal Court at Alekerange was a determination by consent between the parties, the applicants and the respondents, the Northern Territory Government and NT Gas.



Top right: Justice Berna Collier at Alekerange.
 Top middle: (from left) George Anderson, Tommy Thompson and Justice Berna Collier
 Right: (from left) Sammy Ladd, Donald Thompson, Alex Peterson and Minister for Central Australia Karl Hampton.
 Above: Alec Peterson
 Left: Jonny Nelson

Indigenous Ecological Knowledge workshop

"If you don't have a country or an identity you're nothing. It's just, you haven't got anything there."

That's how Amanda Kantawara describes the importance of passing on Indigenous Ecological Knowledge (IEK) to younger generations - Amanda herself is only 23-years-old.

She has been learning important cultural knowledge relevant to her Western Arrernte-Luritja heritage from elders through an IEK program organised by the Central Land Council.

Several IEK programs were outlined at a workshop in Alice Springs on October 19. They are supported by the Natural Resource Management Board of the NT with Commonwealth funding.

Ms Kantawara said young people are lost without their cultural knowledge.

"It's important to everybody, every young person, because there's not much old people left and you know when old people are gone they're gone with all this knowledge and some people, some young kids, younger people like myself, they realise after the old person has passed away, they stop and realise 'Oh I should have learnt something'," she said.

"My brother, my cousin and myself went out with Richie, one of the Land Council workers, just to get the knowledge passed down to us by some old people at Papunya," Ms Kantawara said.

"They were telling us where our dreaming went, like how it travelled and how far it went and who's connected where and I got up and done a bit of dance with the old girls."

Martha Protty is a Pitjantjatjara woman who is one of those old people helping the young understand their place in the world.

She works with Nyangatjajara College at Docker River taking youths out on country for IEK visits.

Speaking through an interpreter, she explained her role.

"I teach all the young kids and show them how to get honey ants and native mice, you know tracking native mice, show them 'hey, have a look at this footprint', so teach them how to track. Even feral cats as well," she said.

"Before we used to teach the kids but conferences like this are good because like the CLC can help us to teach more younger kids as well but we usually do teach younger kids down south but it's just we're getting more help with the CLC. Then we show them songs and dance."

Ms Protty said the training helps keep the young people on track.

"I tell the young people, 'You've got to follow us because we're the old people now and we're the ones who are going to teach you', when they go off that path," she said.

Kerry Jimmy is a member of the Munguru Munguru Gurindji Rangers at Kalkaringi who play an important role in IEK programs in that region.

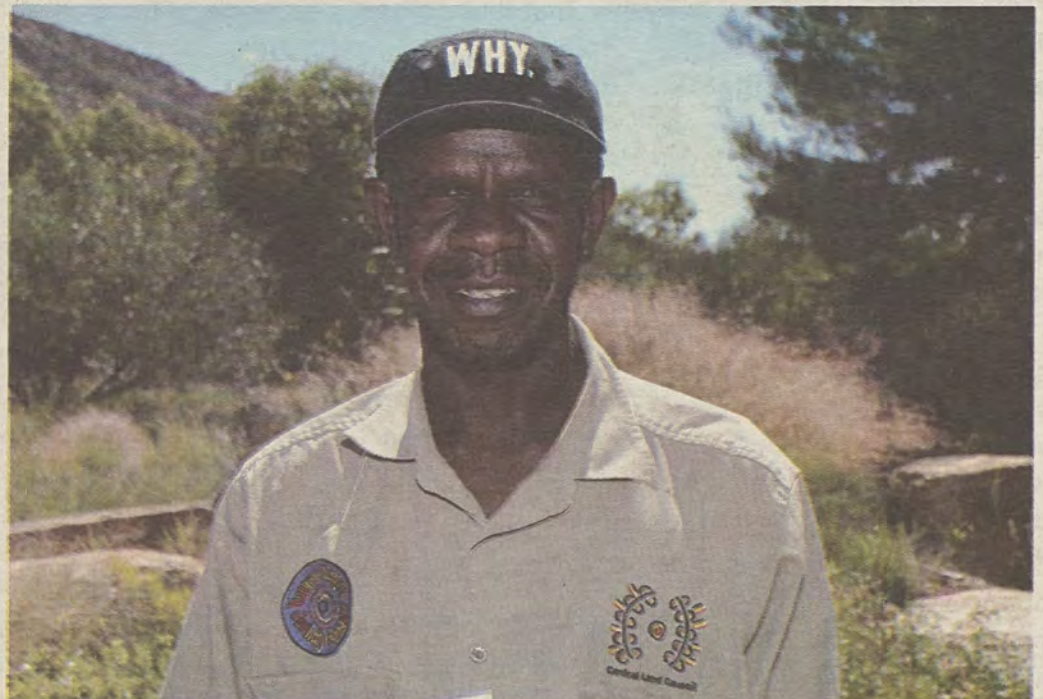
He says before the introduction of the IEK initiative it was difficult for the elders to pass on the important cultural information to the young ones.

"The old people, they work with the rangers as well, they work with us, community members and all that and then on Mondays we have meetings and decide which land we have to go to and on Tuesday we just make a trip," he said.

"Some old people, they haven't got vehicles to go out and now with the IEK project and all that we get extra vehicles and with the ranger vehicles and all that now.

"Definitely it would be hard (to pass on the knowledge without the help of the IEK program), with IEK it's much easier now like for writing down knowledge and all that before it gets lost."

Ms Kantawara said there's so much to learn and with it comes responsibility, and so it cannot be learnt in a short space of time.



Top: Kerry Jimmy from the Munguru Munguru Gurindji Rangers at the IEK workshop in Alice Springs
Middle: Martha Protty, a Pitjantjatjara woman who works with Nyangatjajara College teaching young people about culture, with interpreter Lorraine King
Below: Amanda Kantawara

"For me I was one of the lucky ones because I've got to travel with my grandmother but she just didn't hand it over to me, I had to earn it and I had to do a lot of chores for her and then she trusted me and started slowly talking to me and passing it down slowly that way and I'm still doing my chores. Earning it in that kind of way," she said.

Apart from the importance of limiting the loss of cultural knowledge as old people pass away, the IEK programs have demonstrated improvements in the self esteem and wellbeing of those who've taken part in them.

"Like their inner spirit is more open now," Mr Jimmy said of the young people he's seen take part.

"They can talk about the land and speak all the lingo."

There's a similar feeling of satisfaction for the old people too.

"When I teach the young ones I get really, really happy," Ms Protty said.

Ms Kantawara said it helps bring her an inner peace.

"Sometimes when I'm alone I just sit and practise on my own," she said.



TV ads aim to raise awareness



A NEW television advertising campaign will highlight the need for visitors to obtain permits to enter Aboriginal land in the Northern Territory.

The Northern Land Council engaged local media personality Phil O'Brien to feature in the advertisement following concerns raised by traditional owners that people working in communities were travelling onto Aboriginal land without appropriate permission.

The problem has become more acute with large influxes of workers entering communities through programs such as SIHIP.

The advertisements include the slogan "It's all about respect" to urge people visiting communities for work or recreation to gain permits from the appropriate land council before venturing onto Aboriginal land.

The permit system is important to traditional owners as it recognises Aboriginal land as private land, prevents the desecration of sacred sites and allows for the monitoring of visitors.

NLC Chairman Wali Wunungmurra said he hoped the commercials would prove effective in

raising awareness of the permit system.

"This is something traditional owners have been talking about for a while as they are concerned about the number of people going onto their land without permits," he said.

Phillip Goodman is a community leader from Gurdorrka community, previously known as 15 Mile Camp, where the advertisement was filmed.

Mr Goodman featured in the commercial and said the issues highlighted were a problem for traditional owners when he was an NLC councillor in the early 1990s.

"The permit system not being enforced was a problem back then so it was great to see these ads being done," he said.

"Hopefully it will get us somewhere and raise awareness for people who use our land and come out and work."

The Central Land Council and Anindilyakwa Land Council have supported the advertising campaign which will air in late 2010 and into 2011 and be accompanied by newspaper and radio advertisements.



SIHIP bags top prize at NLC employment awards

The federal government's oft-maligned Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Project (SIHIP) took out the Northern Land Council's top award at its biennial Employer Awards.

Despite receiving media attention for budget blowouts and delays in delivering contracts the project received the endorsement of NLC CEO Kim Hill by winning the Chairman's Award and Top Employer category.

"SIHIP isn't just about building new houses and improving existing ones," he said.

"The project is providing accredited training and real jobs, enabling Aboriginal peoples to gain meaningful employment and a solid base for

economic development."

The \$672 million program began with the aim of building and improving almost 3,500 homes across the 73 prescribed communities affected by the Northern Territory Emergency Response Act.

An initial goal of 20 percent Indigenous employment across the project has been exceeded.

Through partnerships with private enterprise and the federal and Territory governments 160 people, more than 30 percent of the workforce, are Indigenous.

Mr Hill believes this

figure will only grow and congratulated the SIHIP partners Territory Alliance, Labour Hire Company, Tiwi Enterprise, and the Commonwealth and NT governments on the award.

"The skills base being created will play a key role in maintaining new housing infrastructure and I expect to see a range of Aboriginal business enterprises emerge from SIHIP in years to come," he said.

Above: members of the SIHIP team at the awards and below: SIHIP construction zone



CLC backs Ingkintja campaign to stop the violence

The Central Land Council meeting at Utopia in November passed a resolution supporting a campaign by the Ingkintja Congress Male Health program to reduce violence around Central Australia.

Ingkintja is run by the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress in Alice Springs but includes men from all language groups in the region, some from the Top End and professionals in mental health.

Led by John Liddle, the group aims to connect with Aboriginal men and their families, offering them support and assistance to overcome violence and build strong, healthy communities.

It has already held a successful march in Alice Springs demonstrating the commitment of men in Central Australia to get-

ting on top of violence. Another was held on November 25 with everyone - men, women and children - Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, invited to take part.

The group only has funding through until the end of the year though and asked the Land Council for support in its efforts to attract longer-term financial support.

If communities or organisation would like to invite Mr Liddle and his team to make a presentation to them, they could contact Ingkintja through Steven Lake on (08) 8958 4567 or on email: steven.lake@caac.org.au

THE CLC RESOLUTION

The CLC is committed to a future free from family violence. The CLC supports the Ingkintja Male Health Stop the Violence campaign and will lobby to ensure this program gets continued funding.



Ingkintja leader John Liddle talks to the meeting about the campaign to end violence "Stop the violence, end the silence," was the slogan that was chanted during a march from Anzac Oval to the council lawns in November as part of International White Ribbon Day. The event was organised by Ingkintja Male Health



No More Campaign: Charlie King:

The Strong Families Awards night was held last month, with more than 150 guests attending, including nominations from communities as far away as Santa Teresa and Angururu.

Some of Darwin's leading personalities were on hand to present the nominees with their certificates of achievements.

The eventual winner was Johnny Mamarika from the Angurugu community on Groote Eyelandt.

Special guests included Indigenous singer songwriter Shelly Morris who entertained all with some beautiful songs, AFL legend David Parkin told stories of his times with some of the games superstars

and of his many premier-ships.

He had everyone on the edge of their seats, they were not only football stories, they were also about life's journey.

Bishop Hurley spoke with pride about the work of the Strong men and the achievements of those nominated for the Strong Family Awards. There was even an International feel to the event with representation from New Zealand by the Maori peoples, who spoke of their journey and of their delight to be in the Territory.

In the lead up to the awards night our strong men and guests from the safehouse program underwent a training workshop called "Footprints into the Future".

This commenced the day before with a visit to the Riding for the Disabled facility in Palmerston which was followed up with a visit to local AFL side the Palmerston Magpies.

The purpose of these visits was to highlight the work volunteers do in the community.

The Awards day commenced with a massive breakfast followed by our Footprints workshop. Guest speakers included Superintendent Tony Fuller from NT Police, Steve Cardona from the Department of Justice and



The Strong Families Awards night was held last month,

Darren Rogers from the Safehouse program.

During the afternoon session, the men sat together and came up with a wide range of ideas to lead us into the future.

This completed the training segment and it was time for the awards where the wonderful achievements of our Indigenous workers were celebrated.

Princess parrots draw the crowds

Magical, terrific and fantastic, just some of the words used by bird watchers to describe their experience visiting Aboriginal land with traditional owners to see the rare Princess Parrot.

Trial tours were organised in November by the Central Land Council for traditional owners after an influx of bird watchers entered the Haasts Bluff Aboriginal Land Trust without permits earlier this year when the parrot was discovered in the area.

The illegal entries threatened to damage sacred sites, fragile flora and fauna and to spread weeds. At the time of the tours, deep wheel marks could still be seen in the area where people had driven four wheel drives across country in search of the birds.

Despite the illegal access and in response to the demand from birders, traditional owners decided to offer guided tours for groups of between five and 12 people over a period of two weeks.

Traditional owner Douglas Multa, who led the tours, said it hurt him when people didn't ask permission to visit his country.

"When somebody does things like that it's hurting my feelings and ruins the countryside," he said.

"Happy to (take people) when they want to come along with

me. Take them in there and bring them out again.

"We've got cultural sites there, dreaming and all that, it's really important for me."

Nigel and Anne Harland from Castlemaine in Victoria were in the first tour group to go in search of the Princess Parrots.

"It was so exciting, especially to see it so quickly," Mrs Harland said. "To get out of the vehicle and to have a few flying around is just a big thrill.

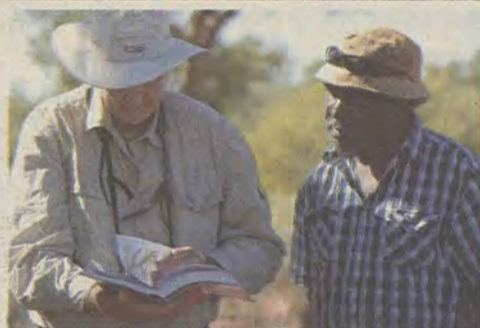
"I think too what's very special with this is to be here in this beautiful timeless land with the traditional owners. I mean that's a very powerful experience for me."

Mr Harland said it was one of the best days of his life.

"I've been watching birds in Australia for 35 years and I'd given up any hope of seeing a Princess Parrot so to come here and see them where you said they'd be so quickly, it was just a magical experience.

Another of the group, Dougald Frederick, from Albury-Wodonga on the New South Wales-Victorian border described the experience as fantastic.

"Today I guess, we had no real expectations how today was going to pan out and I guess coming here and just letting it all happen was all part of the experience really and to be with the traditional owners, who have shown



Top: the moment they've all been waiting for... the princess parrot appears. Above left: Traditional owner Douglas Multa with a visitor and above right: on tour with the traditional owners on the haasts Bluff Land Trust

us around today just added another dimension to the whole trip and I really enjoyed having a chat to the local people and getting their views on the world," Mr Frederick said.

"It's been fantastic. I've been fortunate the last year or so to visit some really good birding spots, some fantastic birding spots and I have to say this morning's been right up

there, no doubt about it."

Mr Multa said he's hopeful the trial tours will become something more regular that younger members of his family can get involved in.

"It's a good idea I think," he said. "If we keep on doing it, maybe next year, (it'll be) a bit bigger than what we did this morning."

Kaltukatjara rangers use cool season to burn off

The Kaltukatjara Rangers used this year's winter to create fire breaks around the community and sacred sites and prescribed burning to regenerate and protect the flora and fauna of the Kaltukatjara spinifex landscape.

Using the cultural knowledge of senior men and new technical knowledge from a recent training course the rangers have been able to significantly reduce the impact of summer wildfires in the region.

The training covered aspects of fire behaviour, safety, weather monitoring, measuring fuel loads and fire control techniques as well as a long and difficult assessment,

but all the rangers passed without trouble.

The three day fire training course was organised in conjunction with Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and delivered by Charles Darwin University and included a day session on planning burning activities for natural and cultural resource management.

Using maps and their regional fire management strategy, the Docker rangers developed a detailed plan to undertake a prescribed burn at the sensitive local site of Mulga Green factoring in the weather conditions, safety requirements, equipment and strategy to undertake an effective and controlled burn.



The rangers are funded by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities Working on Country initiative

Above: Rangers at fire training (from left) Dennis Hunt, Raymond James, Selwyn Burke, Peter Bennett, Conrad Abbott and Brett Stockman. Above right: Docker Rangers (from left) Conrad Abbott, Selwyn Burke and Peter Bennett on a burn site.



Papunya Rangers' hard work pays off

Papunya rangers have seen their hard work come to fruition with the presentation of certificates recognising their completion of a variety of training courses.

Rangers Terrance Abbott, Garred Anderson, Dennis Minor, Box Dixon, Sylvester Jugadai and Willy Raggett have completed training in chainsaw handling, four wheel driving, mixing poisons and weed spraying, mechanics, quad bike riding and fire burning.

Their certificates were handed over during a presentation in front of proud family members in Papunya in early December.

One of the rangers, Terrance Abbott, summed up how the group was feeling when he said, "We're really proud".

Mr Abbott said the group had received a lot of support from elders in the community.

"They've given us a lot of support," he said. "Seeing all the little animals. We only know the English name for it. We're going to learn in our own language

name for it, for the animals and birds, trees as well, plants.

"It's good for the community and for the country as well. If there were no rangers there'd be feral animals or plants growing everywhere, running around everywhere."

Another of the rangers Garred Anderson said the creation of the pilot ranger program had brought positive results for the community.

"I feel proud. The elders in the community are really proud of us and we want to make them more proud of us next year by keeping going and show everyone what we've got around the country, keep going and doing stuff.

Elder Willy Tjungurrayi said he was pleased to see the countryside being taken care of.

"They work really good," he said. "Number one. Keep going yeah.

"It's very good, they working all the young fellas, they looking after country. Number one.

"They working good. I like to see all the young fellas work-



Above: the Papunya Rangers receive their certificates supported by the senior women of the community

ing good. Look after country. Keep it clean."

Tilau Nangala is one of several old ladies in Papunya who have supported the rangers.

"We're proud of them," she said through Garred Anderson's interpretation. "We gave them the knowledge and skills for the animals and they've taken it on very well and we're happy for them."

She also said they'd like to see more women joining the rangers' group.

"I want to see more girls out there being rangers and a lot more women coming into the ranger program. It's a good thing that the men have started the ranger program off but there's more room for the ladies.

The pilot Papunya ranger program is funded by ILC Real Jobs and the NT Government's Territory Eco-link initiative and is only a trial program at this stage, but with the intention of it becoming a permanent group if long-term funding can be obtained.

Graduations fill rangers with pride



Above: Jermaine Kenny receives his Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment

A number of rangers from the Central Land Council's ranger groups based in remote regions of Central Australia have graduated from a variety of courses late in the year.

Among them was Jermaine Kenny from the Tjuwanpa ranger group near Hermannsburg.

He graduated in Certificate IV Workplace Training and Assessment and Certificate II Conservation and Land Management.

Mr Kenny said the study was a big challenge but he doesn't plan to stop just yet.

"It's pretty good," he said. "Next step is probably to get Cert IV in Land Management.

"Been pretty hard too. Helps if you're really good at reading and writing, there's a lot of hard words to read. Probably get some practice on that. Get some literacy training."

Mr Kenny said although it was difficult at first, he managed to overcome the challenges.

"It was pretty hard but I just got used to it," he said. "Especially when you're getting up and talking in front of everybody at the first stage. It was pretty hard at first but once you get used to it, no worries."

Kim Brown from the Anmatyerr rangers also

graduated in Certificate Four Workplace Training and Assessment along with CLC employment unit staff Becky Mack and Don Mallard.

Tjuwanpa ranger Colin Joseph and Jermaine Squire of the Anmatyerr rangers will complete the course early next year.

Other Tjuwanpa rangers to complete Certificate II Conservation and Land Management through Charles Darwin University were Wayne Armstrong, Steven Booth, Peter Braybon, Emron Campbell, Granville Inkamala, Colin Joseph, Casey Kenny, Malcolm Kenny, Christian Malbunka, Aaron Meneri, Christopher Ungwanaka and Damien Williams.

Anmatyerr rangers who graduated in Certificate II Conservation and Land Management through Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education were Jermaine Squire, Fabian Haines, Nathaniel Dixon, Kim Brown and Nigel Cook.

The ranger groups are funded by the Australian Government's Working on Country program and the Indigenous Land Corporation's Real Jobs program with additional funding for training being provided by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

A bug's life: biocontrol with bite

A dedicated pair of sisters is making an impact in the fight against invasive weed species using insects in an innovative form biological control.

Working from their home in Wooliana, near Daly River, Rita Purack and Frances Maljat breed moths and weevils to control mimosa and salvinia infestations on Malak Malak land.

Joye Maddison co-ordinates the program through the Wangamaty Land Care and attributes its success to the fact it is an all-female operation.

"This work is far too fussy for men," she said. "It's been tried in other areas and has failed. I believe we've been successful here because Frances and Rita have been willing to do all the little jobs each day necessary for a breeding program."

The work forms part of an



integrative approach to local weed management, along with the contribution of the Malak Malak Rangers, and has made significant improvements the mimosa and salvinia populations. The released insects can only eat the targeted weed species.

Rita said at first her and Frances became sad when they saw the insects dying. "We were really worried about those bugs," she said. "But that's how it works."

Top left: Rita Purack, Frances Maljat and Joye Maddison. Top right and bottom: : the dramatic evidence of the program's success after the moths have eaten the weeds.



The Force was with them

It's one of the most remote parts of the Australian coastline and recently the crew from the Seven Network's 'The Force' program had the opportunity to travel to Maningrida to see first-hand the work being carried out by the Djelk Aboriginal sea rangers.

by Jamie Rule, producer Ch 7's The Force

For the Northern Territory Water Police, the importance of the Djelk sea rangers and the work they do across Arnhem land can't be undersold.

These eagle-eyed guardians of the region's waterways are at the forefront of identifying and reporting illegal fishing across a massive area.

The Northern Territory Water Police Darwin office is a long way away but the officers have every confidence in the rangers who often record movements of recreational and commercial fishing vessels, reporting anything

unusual or suspect.

They've even been influential in sending a clear message to Indonesian fisherman, recording a large number of boats that have been spotted in the area illegally over the past decade.

The crew from The Force were there with cameras rolling as the rangers helped police check the catch on a local crabbing vessel and seize a number of items including shark fin.

It can be sold on the black market where it's used in Asian dishes but in Australia it's a big no no.

It was a perfect

example of why remote regions like Maningrida need a presence like the rangers.

It's their land and waterways and they protect it to make sure that fish stocks can remain healthy for generations to come.

The access the crew from The Force received was exceptional and goes to show just how professional the Djelk rangers operation is.

Top: Djelk rangers plan their day's patrol with crew from Ch 7's The Force. Bottom: Djelk rangers on patrol



Out and about: Lajamanu Country visit

Country visits are an important way for senior people to teach young people the stories of the country and the songs, dances and ceremony that go with them and are greatly valued by communities lucky enough to get them.

In September this year, in a combined effort between the Lajamanu School and the Wulain Rangers with support from the CLC and the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust (WETT), 40 people set out from Lajamanu for a week in the bush.

Below is a story written by some of the participating school students.

Bush Trip 2010 to Mirridi

By Yogie Tasman, Howard Sampson and Terry Sampson.

On Tuesday 14th of September we packed up to go to Mirridi for our Country Visit.

We drove to Emu Waterhole and Jerry Jangala told us a story about the Emu Waterhole and how 2 emus went there in the Dreamtime.

We camped south of a cave then we put out our swag and we did some dancing about Fire and Water Dreaming.

Then the next morning we went to the cave and Teddy Jupurula and Jerry Jangala told us a story about people who were living there long time ago.

Then the next morning we went hunting

then Silas followed a goanna then he saw a goanna going into the hole. Then we went there and Edmond, Silas and Steven dig a big hole then Edmond get his tail and swung it back and threw him down. He tasted great.

We went back for lunch and the next morning we went to the lake and when we went back we saw an Emu with 8 babies.

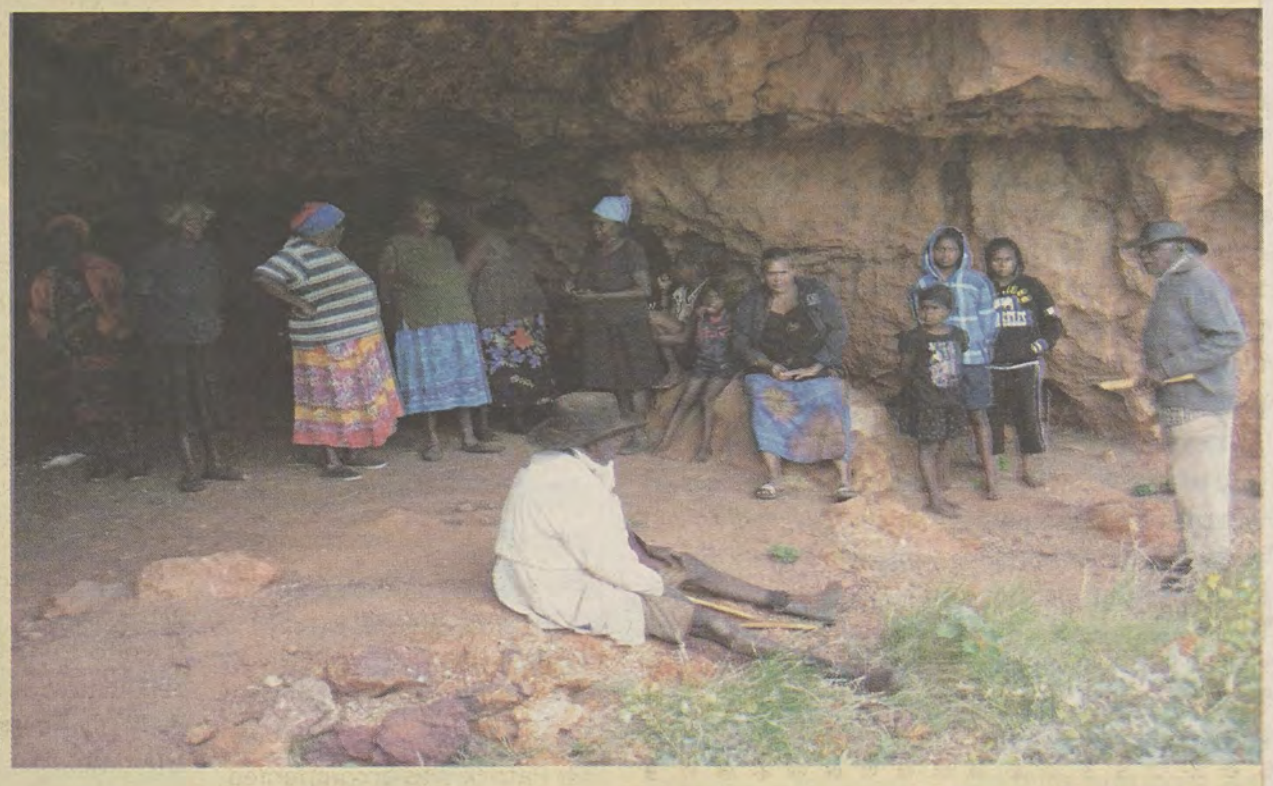
When we come back, the elders and Jane had a meeting about coming back or staying at Mirridi because big rain was coming.

We came home and everyone got a roo tail to take to their family.



Top right: showing kids how to smoke babies. Teachers l-r Elizabeth Ross, Grace White, Elaine Johnson, Judy Walker, Rose Tasman

Right: Caves south of Mirridi with Lajamanu people
Below: Emu waterhole



Telegraph Station under joint management

Around 20 people, including interested community members and traditional owners, attended a community consultation session at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station on November 18 ahead of it coming under joint management.

The Telegraph Station Historical Reserve attracts about 200,000 local and international visitors a year and is classified as a conservation area under the planning scheme and is also included on the Northern Territory's Heritage Register.

Under joint management, both Parks and Wildlife and the reserve's Arrernte traditional owners through their native title representative body, Lhere Artepe, will share its management.

Parks and Wildlife and the Central Land Council had already conducted many consultation sessions with interest groups such as tourism bodies and sporting and community clubs.

A draft plan is expected to be released in early 2011 with a period of public comment to follow.

Unlike most other parks coming under joint management in the Territory, title for the Telegraph Station reserve won't be handed back to Traditional Owners.

ALICE SPRINGS, BEAUTIFUL PLACE by Iona Matthews

- Alice Springs such a beautiful place,
- lots of laughter and plenty of space.
- Beautiful scenic colours that inspire,
- This place will never expire.
- Multi-colour of human races,
- We all have in common red dirt faces.
- Smell of rain in summertime,
- Gardens flourish with lemon thyme.
- Flooding of the Todd River flows,
- The surface of water day and night glows.
- MacDonnell Ranges stand strong and tall,
- Either summer, winter or Autumn fall.
- Weekends are a choice! too watch sport,
- Or stay at home and watch the fort.
- Life here in Alice is a slow pace,
- It's better than the big cities rat race.
- We live among the acacia trees,
- I'd rather be here then travel the seven seas.
- For we love the desert sun,
- Alice Springs is such fun.
- Land of the milk and honey,
- We make ends meet with our money.
- We are a small town of many towns,
- And yes! we have our share of clowns.
- Alice Springs is such a beautiful place,
- My footprints embedded will forever be traced.

From Lajamanu to the Cape of Good Hope



Above: Steve Patrick at the Cape of Good Hope the most southern part of the African continent

A senior Warlpiri man from Lajamanu has met with leaders from other Indigenous countries in South Africa.

Steven Patrick made the long journey to meet with global experts in cultural mentoring and cultural revival in March to share ideas and learn new methods.

"The trip was about sharing culture to understand how we are all fighting to bring back bush education (or learning from country)," he said.

Mr Patrick met with Jon Young (an American expert in cultural mentoring), Paul Raphael (an American Indian elder), San Bushman from the !Kwa ttu (the ! is for one of the five click sounds in their language) Cultural Centre and Craig Foster (a documentary maker).

The group shared many stories and learned of some of the similar projects in America and Africa that are happening in the Warlpiri lands north-west of Alice Springs.

Mr Patrick was accompanied

on the trip by Miles Holmes and the pair also participated in a small part of Mr Foster's documentary about nature connection and filmed several pieces for Mr Young's organisation so as to share Steve's Ngurra-kurlu vision with American audiences.

He was particularly interested in sharing ideas with Mr

"Kardiya and Yapa can become close family and countries can as well".

Raphael, who has considerable experience using "time on country and tracking" to promote the wellbeing of young people in his community.

Mr Patrick had decided to continue on the trip despite receiving some bad news from home before flying out from Sydney.

"Even though a hard thing was going on at home, still I have to come out and do myself justice, at a personal level, fulfil my potential," he said at the time.

Mr Patrick was surprised by the similarities between the teachings of the people he met and those of the Warlpiri culture.

"It is good to see Paul and Jon have a new way to bring back old ways of teaching," he said.

"They are more relying on the bushman here (in Africa) but why not focus on Yapa (Warlpiri) as well. It is good to look at other cultures, at other ngurra-kurlus as well."

Camping the night in a San cave that only about 30 non San have visited was a special moment for Mr Patrick, who was invited to talk about the inherent role of country to Warlpiri people.

"It was a special moment as four cultures were represented in the cave at that moment," he said.

Speaking of his visit to Africa, Mr Patrick said the whole experience "showed that Kardiya and Yapa can become close family and countries can as well".

Indigenous Land Corporation buys Ayers Rock Resort



The ILC has purchased the Ayers Rock Resort at Yulara for \$300 million.

The ILC has exchanged contracts to acquire the entire Resort, including all hotels and accommodation, associated infrastructure, the airport and workers village, in an arrangement with Wana Ungkuntja (WU), which runs Anangu Tours.

ILC Chairperson Shirley McPherson said the purchase of the Resort from the GPT Group was a positive opportunity for Australian tourism and Indigenous economic development.

"The Resort represents a unique and probably the biggest opportunity to advance the training and employment of Indigenous people in the Australian tourism and hospitality industries.

"There is a great opportunity to increase the current limited Indigenous employment at the Resort, which has a workforce of 670 people.

"By 2015, 200 Indig-

enous people will be employed at the Resort and this will climb to 340, more than 50% of total employees, by the end of 2018," she said.

The ILC says it will establish a National Indigenous Tourism Training Academy at Yulara, with 200 people in training each year from 2013.

One of the first priorities will be to re-establish training facilities and accommodation and, in this regard, there will be a close working relationship with the Sydney-based National Centre of Indigenous Excellence (NCIE), with the object of establishing a campus of the NCIE at the Resort.

The acquisition will apparently lead to the return of 104,000ha of culturally significant freehold land to traditional owners, and the arrangement with WU will see Anangu playing a continuing role in resort operation and management.

Wana Ungkuntja Chairperson Mrs Margaret Smith said the ILC acquisition of the Resort would not only

provide training opportunities and employment for Indigenous people - it would also pave the way for a more complete cultural experience for International and Australian visitors.

"Anangu have been watching the Resort for 30 years. When the Resort was built we thought that there would be lots of training and jobs for us," Mrs Smith said.

"We want our young ones to have good jobs on their own country.

"We want visitors to meet Anangu and learn about Tjukupa - traditional Anangu law and culture," she said.

All external borrowings to support the acquisition are forecast to be paid off after seven years of operation and all internal funding by the end of year 10.

As part of the acquisition, the ILC will take over GPT's Voyagers platform which administers the Resort's tourist booking and management functions.

CDU trains future Indigenous women leaders

The Lookrukin Indigenous Women's Leadership Development Program draws to a close next week as 19 participants complete their final academic unit in their Diploma of Management at Charles Darwin University.

Lookrukin is the Kungarakana word meaning "adult female".

This unique leadership program was designed to inspire and support Indigenous women to reach their full potential in their career and gain contemporary leadership skills and qualifications.

CDU Indigenous Academic Support officer Natalie Ellis said the leadership program has enabled her to build confidence, people management skills and knowledge of policy development.

"I was really interested in the policy side of things and gaining the skills to have effective input into developing policy for Indigenous education in the future," she said.

Ms Ellis, who supports students at CDU Katherine campus, said she knew the challenges faced by remote and regional students first-hand.

"I was a stay-at-home mum while my four children grew up, before commencing university with CDU in 2003," she said.

"It was only after completing my Certificate II and III in Business with CDU that I discovered how vital education was and the opportunities that education opened up."

Ms Ellis said she was passionate about her role to promote the programs at CDU and the importance of education to schools and communities throughout the Territory,



Above: CDU Indigenous Academic Support officer Natalie Ellis

particularly in the Katherine region.

"I now hope to bring my new skills to developing programs and advocating for regional and remote students," she said.

Ms Ellis said the way the course was delivered by CDU really appealed to her:

"It was a great way for our mob to learn because it was delivered to us as a group in workshops.

"The highlight was meeting and working with other Indigenous women from various sectors throughout the Territory to share ideas and discuss ways policy can tackle Indigenous issues in the future."

Ms Ellis will finish the Lookrukin Indigenous Women's Leadership Development Program on November 17.

She said she hoped to start a Bachelor of Commerce with CDU next year.

The Lookrukin Indigenous Women's Leadership Development Program was delivered by CDU and managed by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment.

Larry's lasting legacy

By Nigel O'Connor

With the soft light of late afternoon throwing brilliant colours and shadows across the spectacular rocky hills and outcrops surrounding Timber Creek, Larry Johns sits enjoying the cooler air contentedly reflecting on a life of hard work and achievement.

In September, dignitaries gathered in Katherine to honour a man who can be considered a piece of living history.

It could have been very different for Larry. Born into an Aboriginal settlement at Timber Creek in 1945, Larry narrowly avoided sharing the fate of hundreds of other Indigenous Northern Territory children taken from their families and relocated to church-run institutions.

Being of European and Aboriginal heritage (his mother belonged to the Ngarinyman people) the police officer at Timber Creek had notified the government of Larry's presence.

"When I was six, my mother was afraid I would be taken away," he said. "One day Charlie Schultz came into town driving his bullocks. I was playing near the police station and Schultz asked the policeman: 'Why's that little half-caste boy here? Aren't the Aboriginal welfare going to come for him?'"

It was nearly the end of the wet season and the roads would soon be passable again.

"The policeman said: 'Don't worry. Mr Ludgrove will be coming for him in a few weeks after the wet.' They were going to send me to Croker Island Mission.

"Schultz asked if he could take me to his cattle station and the policeman said he was happy to be rid of me."

Schultz and his wife HESSIE managed Humbert River Station and took in other children at risk of becoming part of Australia's Stolen Generation but this did not mean Larry could stay with his family.

"My mother came with us to Humbert in the beginning but she was soon made to leave," he said. "Back then white people thought having a child's Aboriginal parents around would interfere with what they were doing.



Larry Johns at Timber Creek

"I wasn't allowed to play with the other Aboriginal children at the station. I learnt no culture and no language other than the white man way."

Life on Humbert River Station was one of staunch discipline and hard work but Larry received an education and was taught the skills and knowledge of the cattle industry that would see him through a lifetime of employment on stations and later in land management.

"Station life was full of jobs and work," he remembered. "Milking cows, yarding them, separating calves and kids so the cows and goats could be milked, digging vegetable gardens, looking after ducks and geese, collecting eggs from the chickens, and getting wood for the fire – that was one job I hated. We worked all day."

Aged 13, Larry was sent out for months at a time, checking the boundaries of the bullock paddocks. He worked without pay until he was 16, when he began receiving five pounds a week.

"Branding would go on for months," he said.

"The country was more open back then and there was a lot of poddy dodging (cattle rustling) going on. Mustering was a big job. Today's ringer is a helicopter and you can do in three hours what used to take a week."

Whilst learning the "white man way" Larry was under the silent watchful gaze of other Aboriginal stockmen. When Larry was 17, Schultz travelled to Tasmania for a holiday.

"Them old fella stockmen came to me and said it was time for me to go through ceremony," he said.

"Those men were great stockmen and farm workers. We went bush for four weeks and did ceremony. Before this I knew little of my people but after I could speak Ngarinyman. Now I speak three Aboriginal languages."

Soon after Larry left Humbert River and worked across stations and in a variety of jobs from Kunurra to Darwin. He met his wife and had three children.

In 1973, whilst living in Katherine, Larry began working for the Northern Territory Government.

He was a public servant for 37 years until retiring earlier this year. Twenty-one of these were spent as district weed officer for the Victoria River District.

Bringing his knowledge of the pastoral industry and Aboriginal associations with land, Larry excelled in the job. He is credited with eradicating weeds at stations across the region. Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage, Karl Hampton, attended his retirement function and described Larry

as a role model for people living in regional and remote parts of the Northern Territory.

"Larry has made a significant contribution towards a healthier environment," Hampton said. "He has been instrumental in developing effective weed management outcomes with all landholders in the Victoria River District – a legacy that benefits the whole community."

For Larry, retirement from the public service merely represents the end to another chapter in a long and eventful life.

Continuing to engage in land management programs, he will also focus on teaching young people about the importance of education and discipline.

"I want to help educate the kids about the importance of learning skills for work," he said. "My message to young people is this: Don't sit around and wait for them white folk to sing out and get work done – we've got work to do and we're the ones with links to the country," he said. "Young fellas thinking of leaving school at 14 should wait. You can learn culture later."

Along with his role as an educator Larry will engage with Aboriginal ranger groups in the Timber Creek region on weed management and assist with tourism ventures in Gregory National Park.

TIMBER CREEK COMPANY PROVIDING REAL JOBS



A Timber Creek company is providing a model for successful businesses in Aboriginal communities and proving hard work pays off.

Tired of working on CDEP projects, Daniel Jones founded Bradshaw and Timber Creek Construction and Resources with the support of the Northern Land Council in 2008.

With the Australian Defence Forces conducting regular training exercises at nearby Bradshaw Station, an

opportunity existed for a local contractor to provide services under the negotiated Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

The company's first contract required the opening of a previously unpassable 100 kilometre road within the station.

Since then Daniel and his colleagues have expanded their operation to include verge slashing, erosion works, landscaping, and road and fence maintenance.

The company, with a turnover to date of

\$1 million, now boasts 10 fulltime employees, and \$200,000 in assets including trucks, tractors, pumps and quad bikes.

Daniel is proud to

"I love it. We get to go out bush, spend a lot of time on country and make money. I want to stay in this job forever." Daniel Jones

provide a positive example to young people in his community.

"Other young fellas look at you and say 'I want to be like him, do what he's doing'," he said.

"This is great. We want to help young

people and have four aged between 18 and 22 working for us already."

These young workers will have an opportunity to learn about

traditional culture as the company has been contracted to fence and signpost sacred sites within Bradshaw.

The ADF's operations at Bradshaw include aerial bombing and live fire exercises and Jones said there

are some jobs he and the workers cannot do.

"They wanted us to go out and pick up some dummy bombs but we were too nervous they'd be real

ones," he laughed.

Daniel said the work

provided an excellent opportunity to earn a living and remain living within his community.

Camps can be as long as 11 days and a full time cook is employed.

"I love it," he said. "We get to go out bush, spend a lot of time on country and make money. I want to stay in this job forever."

In July, Daniel's hard work received acknowledgement when he was awarded a NAIDOC special recognition award in Darwin.

Above: Roy Hector, Daniel Jones, Steve Jones of Timber Creek Construction and Resources

Yolgnu innovator receives national award

A Yolgnu language innovator is set to receive a national award from a leading body for improving outcomes in higher education for Indigenous people.

Senior lecturer in the Yolgnu Studies program at Charles Darwin University,

Waymamba Gaykamanu, will be one of only five Indigenous innovators to be presented with the 2010 Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council (IHEAC) Award for Elders and Leaders in Higher Education.

Waymamba has been intimately involved in the development of the Yol-

gnu syllabus, text books and extensive audio-visual learning materials since her appointment to the then the Northern Territory University in 1993.

Before her tenure at CDU she spent many years teaching on Milingimbi Island, close to the western margins of Yolgnu country.

Each year the IHEAC

presents awards to Indigenous elders and leaders who have made a significant contribution to Indigenous higher education in Australia.

Waymamba will receive a 2010 Elders Award in recognition of her lifelong contribution to the sector and for the advancement of the Yolgnu

culture and agenda.

She received the award at a dinner in Sydney in November.

The IHEAC provides policy advice to the Australian Government on higher education, research and research training issues in relation to Indigenous higher education students and staff.

Referendum for constitutional change coming up

The Australian Government is hoping an expert panel will be able to build enough consensus so that a referendum recognising the "first peoples of our nation" in the Australian constitution would succeed.

Changing the Australian constitution requires a referendum where it must get the support of a majority vote nationally, as well as a majority of votes in a majority of states.

Prime Minister Julia Gillard announced the move in November saying that the referendum will

occur before, or with, the next election.

"I'm certain that if this referendum is not successful there will not be another like it. So, to build the support necessary the Government will move to establish an expert panel by the end of the year, to progress the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the constitution," she said.

The Prime Minister said that including Aboriginal people in the constitution would be "another step, the next step in that journey" after the national apology to the Stolen Generations.

"I'm pleased that we are start-

ing the active work on this process of constitutional recognition with bipartisan and wide-spread support in the Australian Parliament."

Professor Marcia Langton has called for Indigenous peoples to be recognised in the body of the constitution rather than just part of the preamble.

"It has to go to more than the preamble.

"What I have in mind is a substantive section in the Constitution that accords indigenous people recognition, not some recognition lite which involves interpretation by some future High Court or government," she told *The Australian*.

The expert panel is expected to report back in December 2011.

Attorney General Robert McClelland said referendums have often failed.

"There have been forty-four in Australia – only eight have been successful. But one of those which was successful was the 1967 referendum to recognise Indigenous Australians, that had some ninety per cent of Australians supporting it. So with the historic opportunity, with bipartisan support, with goodwill, with consultation and appropriate advice, we are confident that this presents an historic opportunity for Australians," he said.

CLC and MacDonnell Shire sign MOU



Above: MacDonnell Shire President Sid Anderson and CLC Chairman Lindsay Bookie sign a Memorandum of Understanding which makes it clear what jobs are the CLC's and which jobs are the Shire's and how the two organisations will communicate with each other to get the best possible outcomes for Aboriginal people in the region

Jurrah: Mark of the Year

Yuendumu's Liam Jurrah has been awarded the AFL's mark-of-the-year for his round 21 leap against Port Adelaide.

The award marked a successful return to Melbourne's senior team for Jurrah after recovering from shoulder surgery during the pre-season.

Another Indigenous player won the goal-of-the-year competition.

Hawthorn's Lance Franklin became the fifth Indigenous player to win that award for his round 13 goal against Essendon.

The Northern Territory's and Tiwi Islander Cyril Rioli won goal-of-the-year in 2009.

Kalinda named NT Young Australian of the Year

Charles Darwin University Indigenous graduate, Kalinda Griffiths has been named the 2011 Northern Territory Young Australian of the Year.

The 29-year-old Indigenous health researcher was recognised for her critical work into improving Indigenous health and cancer survival rates.

An Indigenous woman born in Darwin of Yawuru heritage, Kalinda graduated from CDU in 2009 with a Bachelor of Biomedical Science.

Her interest in Indigenous health was sparked when she witnessed the preventable illness and disease suffered by her immediate and extended family.

Beginning her career in Indigenous health research with a CR-CAH laboratory traineeship, Kalinda gained valuable experience as a research technician, predominantly on the Diabetes and Related conditions in the Urban Indigenous Darwin (DRUID) study, the largest and most comprehensive dataset on diabetes-related conditions in urban Indigenous populations.

Her research now focuses on improving the evidence base for Indigenous health and social policy,



Kalinda Griffiths

which will ultimately help reduce the health disadvantage faced by Indigenous people.

Until now there have been no statistics on cancer in Indigenous people and Kalinda's research is analysing large sets of data to determine the difference in rates of cancer survival between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Kalinda has also become a strong voice for Indigenous women, particularly in the area of health and was selected to attend the Oxfam Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Strait Talk Summit 2009.

BIG RIVERS HAWKS JOIN NTFL

A group of young Aboriginal footballers from the Katherine region are showcasing their skills in the Northern Territory's premier junior AFL competition.

The Big Rivers Hawks played their first match in the NTFL under-18 division in October and the team scored its maiden win in just its second outing.

Assistant coach Matthew Hamdorf said bringing together players from more than 20 communities across the weekend was a logistical challenge.

"On the weekend coach Mal Fox was up at 4.30am picking up players to come into Katherine and jump on the bus and head to Darwin," he said.

"We get up there and play our footy and we get the boys a feed and then turn around and come home so it's a long day for a lot of people but

we're starting to see some improvement in their footy."

While the team's keen to inflict as many defeats as possible on established NTFL teams, players must boast more than just raw footballing talent to earn the right to pull on the brown and gold jumper.

"You've got to be either going to school or involved in a work-based program," Hamdorf said.

"If you're not attending school or you're not in a work-based program you won't have the privilege of playing football on the weekend."

With ongoing support from AFL club Hawthorn, it's hoped the Big Rivers Hawks could soon inspire football administrators to re-introduce a senior Katherine team into the NTFL over coming seasons.

"That's the ultimate aim," Hamdorf said.

"We'll just see how this goes for



Above: The Big River Hawks

a couple of seasons, but we'll be developing players. In the end it would need the support of AFL-

NT but a senior team playing in the NTFL would be a great thing for the region."

The Eagles soar at Marrara

Numbulwar: 7.1.43
Trucking Yards: 3.7.25

03/10/2010. TIO Stadium, Darwin.

A clinical second half display of attacking football at Darwin's Marrara Stadium saw Numbulwar Eagles defeat Central Australia's Trucking Yards to secure the Defence Jobs Army Community Division Premiership in October.

The player's shouts of joy following the final siren provided choral accompaniment to a procession of somersaults and back-flips as the celebrations indicated the significance of the victory to a team whose home ground has been unplayable since being hit by a cyclone in April.

Numbulwar boasted a handful of NTFL players and many from the successful Arnhem Crows side which has won five premierships in the past nine seasons.

Eagle's coach Paul Amarant hailed his side's "dominant performance" against a Trucking Yards side featuring former Brisbane Lions premiership player Darryl White.

Both sides went into the match unbeaten and at half time the contest was perfectly poised for a dramatic finish with scores locked at 3.1 (19).

In an open game in which the ball travelled from one side's attacking fifty to the other's, Trucking Yards failed to take any of its second half chances – scoring six behinds but no goals. Numbulwar's greater composure delivered four goals straight. Campbell Wurramarrba inspired the Eagles with a display of skill and determination, which was recognised with the best on ground award following the match.

Amarant said the victory was fully deserved. "These blokes are very passionate about their football," he said. "They travelled 800 kilometres to play in Dar-

win. The town hasn't seen any football this season because of the damage to their ground so it's a big win."

This page: The Numbulwar Eagles show off their skills and their success at Marrara in October



Paddy Woodman

by Paul Memmott
University of Queensland
9th September 2010

Paddy Woodman was an esteemed Elder of the Alyawarr language group of the upper Sandover River basin.

Paddy Woodman was the leader of the Areyen estate, located in the south-easterly part of Elkedra Station (N.T.) on Newlands Creek, upper George and upper Frew Creeks, where the principal Dreaming is the Black-Headed Python, Rayerrp. This estate lies in the northern territorial area of the Alyawarr. He was also the senior Law authority in the Tjaw estate of the central Elkedra River (also Alyawarr), as well as further Wakaya estates connected to the Rayerrp travel line in the Purrukwarra and Arruwarra estates of the Wakaya Desert.

Paddy's father was Angal (apwerl skin), and his grandfather (father's father) was Ilparkarakar (akemarr skin) the old boss of Areyen at the time of the Overland Telegraph Line construction. Paddy's mother was Ninalker or Rosy, from Aherreng (ngwarrey skin). One of Angal's brothers, Rayerrp grew Paddy up.

Paddy Woodman was born at Elkedra (Areyen country), before the contemporary station was established there. (New Elkedra was established by Riley and Kennedy in c.1915.) When Hatches Creek was established, he walked there and worked in a mine for a period. He also went walkabout to Alangk, Ammaroo, Annitowa (Anhetew) and Argadargada (Akert-akert). He then worked on new Elkedra, not as a stockman, but as a carpenter, building houses, a large garage, store, and yards. Bill Riley was the first boss; then Kennedy arrived.

Paddy Woodman was initiated at marrengarr at the 'low down' near kenalkereng (i.e. downstream on Yatinyila Creek). Paddy then went to Soudan walking through the Wakaya Desert (the Wakaya-Alyawarre land claim area), travelling with the families of William Philimac and Tommy Beasley; also accompanied by Mick Butcher, his half-brother.

They were leaving the harsh pastoral frontier conditions (revolver time) expecting to find better and safer employment on the Queensland frontier which

they equated with the upper Georgina basin even though part of it was in the N.T.. His parents came at a later time.

When Paddy arrived at Soudan he was growing his first whiskers and probably in his late teens. The author estimates this to be in c1921. From the above historical information, the author estimates Paddy's date of birth to have been c1905.

Paddy Woodman was engaged in stockwork at Soudan. For two years he worked in the stock camp under manager Ted Lemon. He recalls law business occurring non-stop for one month at the 'gid-gea' camp near Soudan Station. This was attended by Aboriginal people from Creswell Downs, Alexandria, Gallipoli, Avon Downs, Alroy Downs, as well as locals - a mixture of Alyawarr, Wakaya, Indjiladji and Wambaya. Wakaya Elder Avon Willy (rainmaker) was there, a boss and a key person in the business. Paddy was schooled in rain-making. The ceremonies also involved Antbed and Rayerrpe (black-headed python).

Paddy Woodman married his wife Ivy at Soudan, with whom he was to have ten children. Paddy worked at Soudan for three years, followed by three years at Alexandria, two years at Austral Downs carting wood on a horse-drawn wagon - the manager was Larry Shaw, and then ten or eleven years (but may have only been three years) at Lake Nash in Joe Patch's time.

Here he obtained the surname Woodman since his job was to collect and chop wood for the Station homestead [but he'd also picked up the name 'Austral Paddy' which is the one he liked to call himself]. From Lake Nash, Paddy Woodman went to Barkly (aka Barclay) Downs for one or two years, then back to Austral Downs, Avon Downs and then to Rocklands, and returned to Lake Nash in Charly Payne's time. He then worked at Avon Downs and took Avon bullocks to Dajarra.

Whilst working on these various pastoral stations of the Barkly Tableland between the 1920s and 1960s, Paddy participated in much ceremonial activity with the Tableland tribal groups. He

G WILLIAMS: ENTERTAINER, GREAT GRANDFATHER, LEADER

The Central Land Council has expressed its condolences to the family of Kwementye Williams for the loss of a father, grandfather and great grandfather who was a renowned Central Australian figure.

The Land Councils chairman Lindsay Bookie said Kwementye Williams was a man whose influence not only stretched far and wide across Central Australia but also right around the country.

□He was a leader on many Aboriginal organisations in Central Australia, including being a delegate on the Land Council and the Ntaria Council and ensured his children got an education,□ Mr Bookie said.

"He was also a great musician and was a popular figure around the country music world.□

Kwementye Williams was a pioneer tourism operator in Central Australia, taking tourists into Palm Valley using a World War Two four wheel drive fitted with seats on the tray and providing them with a concert in the evening.

He held executive positions with local councils in Hermannsburg and Ali Curung and with Aboriginal organisations such as the Ngur-ratjuta Corporation.

He was instrumental in getting a new store funded and built in Ntaria and getting the name of Warrabri changed to Ali Curung.

Kwementye Williams brought pleasure to many people across the country through his music and had been honoured by the Country Music Association of Australia.

His legacy can be found in his family, through his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren who already have or are making their mark in music, as tour guides or rangers.

□Our thoughts are with his family at this time and we pay tribute to the work he's done for Aboriginal people,□ Mr Bookie said.

"He will be remembered as one of the region's most significant leaders.□

also travelled into Camooweal for rodeos and Christmas holidays and was taught about the sacred sites and Dreamtime geography of the Georgina Basin, meeting some of the last Indjiladji Elders who were alive in the 1920s and 1930s.

During this period, Paddy worked with some of the best known rain-makers of the region. As well as Avon Willy (aka Willy Clegg) from Lorne Creek and Alexandria (mentioned above), he worked with Dijeru Jack, the Indjiladji Rain Dreaming Elder from the Buckley River and Lake Mary (Rocklands); and with Leichhardt Toby, the Kalkadoon Rainmaker from the Leichhardt River who worked at Calton Hills.

Unfortunately Paddy Woodman incurred a knee injury and was 'pensioned off' on Lake Nash. His brother's son Raymond Mick then took him back to Epenarra where he resided in the 1980s, as well as spending some time at Tennant Creek and later at Canteen Creek, the Awuratila (or Owairtilla) Outstation. In the 1990s he shifted

back to Alpururulam and remained there for his last years, in close proximity to Lake Nash.

Paddy's knowledge of Aboriginal Law, sites, Dreamings, songs and ceremonies extends throughout the entire central east of the Northern Territory and into Queensland on the Georgina River. His Law knowledge was therefore exceptionally extensive and systematic.

He held hundreds, possibly thousands of site names with their stories and Dreamings in his head. Paddy was often sought out for his Law knowledge by Aboriginal and white people alike. He willingly assisted other Aboriginal groups in both the Northern Territory and Queensland with their land claims, native title claims and cultural heritage projects. Paddy could travel throughout the region without possessions or money as people respected him everywhere and would tend to his modest needs.

Paddy died on 18th August 2010. His age was conservatively 103, but possibly as old as 108 (most reasonable estimate in my view is 105).

MARATHON MEN TAKE NEW YORK



Above: Robert de Castella, Charlie Maher Jnr and his father, CLC property officer Charlie Maher Snr at the CLC recently

Four Aboriginal men from remote regions of Australia, including the Northern Territory, have successfully completed the New York marathon in the United States.

The runners aged between 18 and 27, hail from Maningrida, Kununurra and Alice Springs.

They were trained and mentored by former marathon world record holder Rob de Castella and marathon coach John Bell as part of The Marathon Project.

Charlie Maher, 27 from Alice Springs, was the quickest of the competitors to complete the course in front of an estimated one million spectators.

He completed the course in three hours 32 minutes and 41 seconds.

"It was a great opportunity for the four of us to go overseas and experi-

ence New York and it was just amazing and we all soaked it in and the atmosphere was great," he said.

"There were over 40,000 people running and we were split into different waves of 10,000. It was overwhelming how many people were there. Over two million fans watching along the way cheering and bands playing. It was a great experience for us."

Others to compete included Juan Darwin, 21, from Maningrida (4:50:34), Joseph Davies, 18, from Kununurra (3:54:12) and Caleb Hart, 18, from Alice Springs (5:01:28).

Their entry into the New York Marathon was the culmination of The Marathon Project which is an initiative of de Castella's SmartStart for Kids! organisation, a not-for-profit body.

De Castella said he was initially invited to get involved for a documentary

that proposed following a team of young Aboriginal runners as they trained for the New York Marathon.

De Castella said he hopes the program will lead to an Indigenous runner representing Australia at the 2016 Olympics.

He's confident the four involved in this campaign will inspire others to follow.

"Look it's only the first year and this is a long-term project but to have Charlie and Caleb and also Joseph and Juan all to make it to the starting line and then make it to the finish line after that was a great achievement for them," de Castella said.

"I think it just underpins the benefit and the potential of the project to try and promote and encourage distance running, not only to maybe produce one day some Indigenous champions, but also just to encourage a more active lifestyle throughout all

Indigenous communities both in the cities and in the remote areas of Australia and through that try to address some of the disease and the health problems that such a big concern."

The Federal Minister for Indigenous Health, Warren Snowdon, said the Australian Government is providing \$500,000 over two years to SmartStart to help support The Marathon Project and develop healthy lifestyle training under the Australian Government's COAG Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health National Partnership commitments.

He said the runners had made an epic journey, from some of the remotest parts of Australia to the streets of New York and their achievement underlined the importance of promoting good health in our Indigenous population.

Maier said the project

is already having an effect.

"I think we're going to open a lot of peoples' lives up now," he said.

"We've already made an impact here in Alice Springs already so we want to promote living a healthy lifestyle and keep feeling healthy and there's a lot of opportunities now for Indigenous kids and non-Indigenous kids to do something special like we did.

"So you've just got to get out there and try something and you never know what can happen.

"It doesn't have to be running, it can be work-wise. It's just about having a good crack and getting results afterwards."

Young Indigenous men and women interested in taking part in The Marathon Project can apply through marathon@smartstart.com.au or at www.themarathonproject.com.au