

LAND RIGHTS NEWS

Volume 6, Number 7, July 2004



INSIDE
clc celebrations
atsic changes
stolen generation
festivals
and lots more...

ONE MOB ONE VOICE ONE LAND

CONTENTS

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TOP: MINISTER VANSTONE HANDS BACK TITLE TO PAWU ABORIGINAL LAND TRUST TO TRADITIONAL OWNERS TEDDY LONG JUPURRURLA, BENNY NELSON JAKAMARRA, KENNY COREY JAKAMARRA, TOMMY HAINES JUPURRURLA, BANDY LONG JUPURRURLA (BLACK CAP) CLARK MARTIN JAMPIJINPA, MERVIN MARTIN JANGALA, RUEBEN MARTIN JAMPIJINPA, KENNY MARTIN JANGALA, SANDY JUPURRURLA, LINDEN MARTIN JANGALA (BACK)

Land Rights NEWS

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COVER PHOTO

THE LAST SURVIVING MOTHER OF THE CHILDREN TAKEN FROM KUMANJAI (PHILLIP) CREEK WINNIE NANGALA AND DAUGHTER MARJORIE WINPHIL



new central land council

THE CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL HAS A NEW CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE TEAM FOLLOWING AN ELECTION EARLIER THIS YEAR.

Mr William Brown Jampijinpa was elected by the council at a meeting in Tennant Creek on 14 April by 79 members representing 74 communities and outstations in Central Australia.

"I think it's a great year to be chairman. It's the CLC's 30th birthday celebrations this year and it's going to be great," Mr Brown said.

William Brown sees the eastern side of the CLC's region as a priority during his term.

"Much of the western half of the CLC's area is Aboriginal land and those people have at

least got title to land. I particularly want to help the people who are suffering, the people on the other side of the bitumen where it is mostly pastoral leases and who are struggling with native title," he said.

Mr Brown is a Warlpiri man from Willowra, 330 kilometres north west of Alice Springs, and has been a member of the CLC for nine years.

He replaces former Chairman Mr Kunmanara Breden to become the ninth chairman of the CLC since its first meeting in 1974. He played a leading role in the Coniston Commemoration Day in September last year and has been active in community politics for many years. He is also on the school board of

Yirara College in Alice Springs.

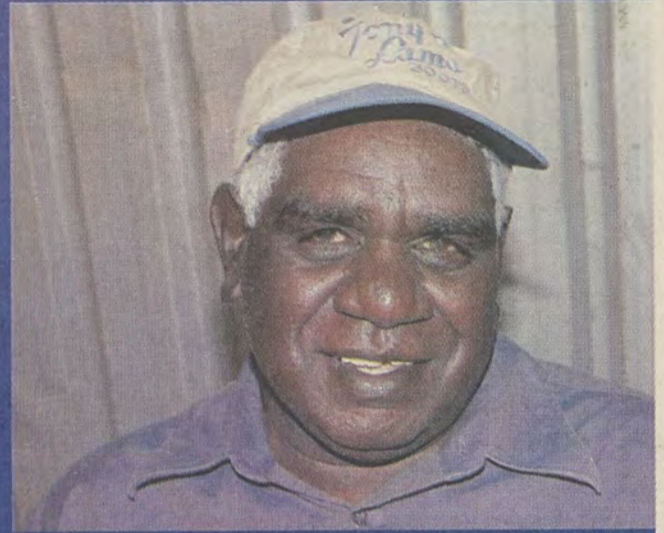
Mr Sid Anderson from Papunya retained his position as Deputy Chairman.

A new Executive of nine members representing the nine CLC regions was also elected.

They are as follows: Tanami: Dennis Williams; South West: Graeme Calma; North West: Maurice Ryan; Alice Springs: Matthew

Palmer; Eastern Sandover: David Riley; Tennant Creek: Brian Tennyson; West: Richard Minor; Central: Ron Hagan; East Plenty: Anthony Petrick.

The election was conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission and the preferential system was used. The Executive and Chairman and Council are elected for a three year term.



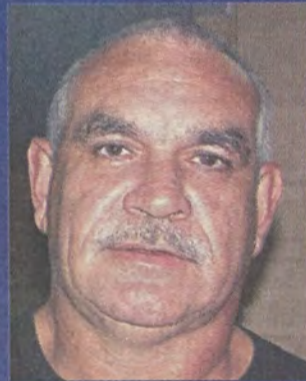
NEW CLC CHAIRMAN WILLIAM BROWN



CLC DEPUTY CHAIRMAN SID ANDERSON



CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER MATTHEW PALMER ALICE SPRINGS REGION 1



CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER GRAEME CALMA SOUTH WEST REGION 2



CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER MAURIE RYAN NORTH WEST REGION 3



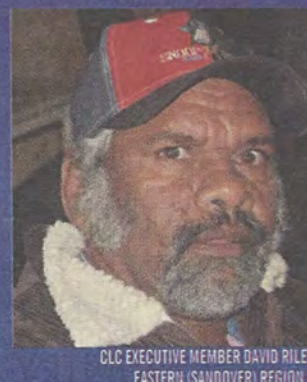
CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER DENNIS WILLIAM TANAMI REGION 4



CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER RICHARD MINOR WESTERN REGION 5



CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER BRIAN TENNYSON TENNANT CREEK REGION 6



CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER DAVID RILEY EASTERN (SANDOVER) REGION 7



CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER ANTHONY PETRICK EASTERN (PLENTY) REGION 8



CLC EXECUTIVE MEMBER RON HAGAN CENTRAL REGION 9



atsic gone but what's next?



ATSIC CENTRAL ZONE COMMISSIONER ALISON ANDERSON LEADS THE PROTEST ON THE STREETS OF ALICE SPRINGS

The first step in killing off the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission was taken last year in a carefully crafted deconstruction that split the organisation in two.

Program and administration staff who make up the vast majority of the organisation were hived off - very temporarily in hindsight - to a new body called ATSIIS.

This left the regional councils and the Board of Commissioners with a policy role, but no control over finances.

The Coalition Government delivered the death blow to ATSIIS when it tabled the ATSIIS Amendment Bill in the House of Representatives last month.

This Bill would see the Board of Commissioners completely demolished, but would allow for Regional Councils to operate until June 2005.

The Federal Aboriginal Affairs Minister, Senator

Vanstone, doesn't need legislation in order to break-up ATSIIS.

It was only administrative changes which retrenched ATSIIS staff or relocated them to various mainstream government departments from July 1 this year (see right for details).

Through controlling the finances and the bureaucracy, the Coalition has already paralysed ATSIIS regardless of the ATSIIS Amendment Bill. The ATSIIS Board have mounted a challenge in the High Court which may get heard in September.

The Board say they have eminent legal advice that the removal of money from ATSIIS was unconstitutional.

The Senate stepped in on 16 June, and refused to pass the Government's Bill, arguing that more time was needed to consider the future options for Aboriginal services, representation and administration, pointing out that Indigenous people

should have a say in any future options.

The Senate has sent the Bill to a Senate Inquiry which will report back to the Parliament by 31 October 2004.

Nonetheless, the inevitable fate of the now skeletal ATSIIS is merely delayed by a Senate committee because both the Coalition and the ALP are agreed it's going to go.

The only question that remains is what will replace it?

The Coalition is essentially aiming to mainstream all Indigenous services and create a hand-picked advisory group at the national level.

The ALP and minor parties are possibly open to the creation of a new structure and processes - and this will be the key element of the Senate Inquiry.

Had the ATSIIS Amendment Bill been passed, 12 pieces of legislation including the Native Title Act and the Environmental Protection and

Biodiversity Conservation Act, would need to have been changed to remove ATSIIS and thus Indigenous representation in them.

Aboriginal people in Australia looked like not only losing ATSIIS but being written out of any consultation at all on matters of environment, health research and human rights.

There are also serious issues about the divestment of the millions of dollars of properties and investments currently held by ATSIIS, and ensuring that these assets remain with Aboriginal organisations.

The Senate inquiry gives the Commissioners a reprieve - the Bill cannot be passed so the board will remain in place for the time being - although travel may be a problem after some Commissioners - including Central Zone Commissioner Alison Anderson - found their tickets cancelled for their last planned trip to Canberra.

WHO GETS WHAT ATSIIS/ATSIIS PROGRAMS?

Community Development & Employment	E&WR
Business Development and Assistance	E&WR
Home Ownership	E&WR
Community Housing & Infrastructure	FACS
Indigenous Women	FACS
Art, Culture and Language	CITA
Broadcasting Services	CITA
Sport & Recreation	CITA
Maintenance & Protection of Indig. Heritage	CITA
Legal & Preventative	AGs
Family Violence Prevention Legal Services	AGs
Access to Effective Family Tracing & Reunion Services	H&A
Indigenous Rights	IMIA
International Issues	IMIA
Native Title & Land Rights	IMIA
Repatriation	IMIA
Indigenous Land Fund	IMIA
Community Participation Agreements	IMIA
TSI on the Mainland	IMIA
Planning & Partnership Development	IMIA
Public Information	IMIA
PORTFOLIO BODIES	
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies	CITA
Aboriginal Hostels Limited	FACS
Indigenous Business Australia	E&WR
Indigenous Land Corporation	IMIA
Torres Strait Regional Authority	IMIA
Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations	IMIA
Office of Evaluation and Audit	FINANCE

KEY

IMIA: Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs portfolio

FACS: Family and Community Services portfolio

AGs: Attorney General's portfolio

CITA: Communications, Information Technology and the Arts portfolio

E&WR: Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio

H&A: Health and Ageing portfolio

Finance: Finance and Administration portfolio

Most staff transferring to DIMIA will be in its new Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC).

daly river plan – too little time, too little input

The NLC has raised the concerns of traditional owners that their voices have been lost in the rush to put in place a Regional Land Use Plan for the Daly region before the end of this year.

NLC Chief Executive, Norman Fry, said Aboriginal residents made up more than half the population of the region, own 30 per cent of the land, and have native title interests over much of the remainder of the land, but had only been afforded two seats on the Daly River Community Reference Group (CRG) set up to advise the Northern Territory Government on the future of the Daly River region.

"Aboriginal people fear that the Government's current vision for agricultural development of the area leaves them little to gain, but a lot to lose," he said. "They want to participate properly in shaping the future of the area, and not be marginalised yet again.

"There is a strong sense the process is being rushed. People are asking that the process be extended because they believe that there is no way a sound decision can be made in six months."

Consultations on the future development of the Daly region began only in December last year,

with a separate Water Allocation Plan (WAP) also being decided in a separate but related process.

A draft Regional Land Use Plan is due to be presented for consideration by the Territory Government in September this year – giving the CRG just three more months to complete its work and deliver the draft plan.

However, a recent CSIRO report into the region's Aboriginal cultural values (undertaken on behalf of the NLC) recommended that the Government include the development of a Land Use Agreement with Aboriginal stakeholders before further development begins in the area.

"It's an important recommendation to consider," Mr Fry said. "There are at least 10 distinct Aboriginal groups with a traditional interest in the region. Each has a strong attachment to the area, and a genuine concern for its health and well being."

"No one wants to see a repeat of the Murray-Darling Basin situation. So, let's take the time to get the whole thing right for all concerned."

imparja's future good for another 12 months



GROG ADVERTISING AND ATSIIC FUNDING HAVE KEPT IMPARJA TV ON THE MINISTER'S DESK FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS

The future of Australia's only Aboriginal-owned television station Imparja is now secure thanks to ongoing funding from the now defunct Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Commission for the next 12 months.

Due to the abolition of ATSIIC and the ongoing controversy surrounding Imparja's review of its alcohol advertising policy, Imparja's future looked uncertain. However Imparja Chief Executive Officer Alistair Feehan says the television station is operating better than ever.

The Alice Springs based television station came under fire late last year with the announcement of changes to their alcohol advertising policy, which saw the Minister for

Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, Senator Vanstone and ATSIIC question its ongoing funding.

Since its inception in 1988 Imparja has declined any alcohol advertising as part of the station's social policy towards promoting Indigenous culture and values. However in a bold move by the television station and stakeholders last year, Imparja started accepting alcohol advertising as another source of revenue.

"The issues died off a bit in terms of it being a hot issue. No one has really noticed that there's been grog advertised on Imparja for a very simple reason that they see it anyway and people tend to watch programs not stations.

An incentive put forward by Imparja is that 30% of all revenue from alcohol advertising will go towards educating communities and youth of remote Australia on the dangers of alcohol and substance misuse.

At this stage the revenue will be set aside for the production of a series of hard-hitting anti-alcohol and substance abuse commercials targeted for the young Indigenous audiences.

"It's always a balance for us on how you keep a commercial dollar flowing whilst also trying to protect language and supporting culture. If you can't attract advertising at the end of day, you don't get the revenue and ratings and surveys are crucial to the station," said Alistair.

ranger scare: ERA 'asleep at the wheel'



The miner could face prosecution over the incident, which saw contaminated water from a holding tank

accidentally mixed into the potable (drinking) water system.

A report into the incident by the

NLC Chief Executive Norman Fry has strongly criticised ERA executives for being "asleep at the wheel" following a contamination scare at its Ranger uranium mine in March.

Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) has been referred to the Department of Justice for further investigation and possible action.

"We have been reassured many times by ERA that the Ranger operations pose no risk to Kakadu," Mr Fry said. "But if you can't guarantee the safety of

your own workers, how can you guarantee the safety of the environment and the safety of traditional owners who live in close proximity to the mine?"

"As recently as January this year ERA was patting itself on the back about achieving certification under the internationally-recognised ISO 14001 environmental

management standard.

"But from where I stand, key staff appear to be asleep at the wheel. It is obvious appropriate controls are not in place and there has been no improvement in risk management."

ERA Chief Executive Harry Kenyon-Slaney has since expressed deep regret for the incident.

Mining resumed at Ranger on 6 April after approval from NT and Commonwealth authorities.

Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation – which represents the Mirrar traditional owners of the site – said it welcomed the decision by NT authorities to investigate the incident for possible prosecution.

"This decision by the NT Government is testimony to the fact that ... the mining company and government regulators need to lift their game at Ranger," Gundjehmi said in a statement.

health workers talk housing and jobs



YUENDUMU HEALTH WORKER CONNIE NUNGARRAYI WALIT

The issue of housing for Aboriginal teachers and health workers has been a long-standing complaint by locally employed Aboriginal people who don't get housing, while nurses and others recruited from outside the community are entitled to a house.

Housing for Aboriginal health workers again emerged as a serious issue at a conference for Aboriginal health workers in Alice Springs in May.

Jenny Hampton, Director of the NT Department of Health and Community Services (DHCS) Central Australian Aboriginal Health Worker Service said remote health workers in other states experience the same problems and it should be addressed at a national level.

"I think what needs to be considered is that health workers don't live alone out there. They have extended families and overcrowding, so how are they expected to get up and do on-call all hours of the night, or get up early and go to work?"

"If the department did provide housing I

think the health workers would feel more valued and more professional.

Apart from the housing issue, health workers appear to be a dedicated bunch whose local knowledge is invaluable to a remote clinic's function. But as they become increasingly professional the demands on health workers become more complex.

Principal Aboriginal health worker for the Department of Health, Peter Pangquee, has been in the health worker business for 25 years.

"Being a health worker isn't a job, it's a way of life. There's always somebody knocking on your door, whether you're on call or not. People don't see it as after hours, they see it as 'if you're sick you see a health worker' and that's it."

Despite the drawbacks there were plenty of Aboriginal Health Workers ready to talk about the joys of the job.

Yuendumu health worker Connie Nungarrayi Walit has been in the business since 1976 and still

feels satisfaction that she was chosen by her community for the job.

"I have been selected by my tribal elders and I'm a senior health worker now. It started up when the outstations were starting up so my tribal elders wanted me to be health worker for them in my own country. I'm glad I'm out there living in the bush community with my people," Nungarrayi said.

Unfortunately, like teachers, health work has become less attractive to men in the Territory.

"About 30 per cent are male but those numbers are going down a bit," Mr Pangquee says. "Men see it as women's business. They enrol but drop out because there are not many male tutors and teachers," he said.

In the Northern Territory 340 health workers are registered to practice.

The Health Department employs some 150 of those and another 100 are employed across the Territory in independent health services.

australia's super mum maryanne malbunka

MOTHER OF THE YEAR

Looking after eight children and holding down a full time job sounds tough. But super mum Maryanne Malbunka wouldn't have it any other way, describing her household as "happy and noisy".

As the 2004 winner of the Barnardos Australia's Mother of the Year Award, Maryanne reaped a big mob of prizes as reward for mothering skills: a brand new car, a cruise on the Murray River, a new mobile phone, and a TV and DVD player.

Maryanne has worked as a Senior Aboriginal Health Worker at Hermannsburg Community Clinic for more than 10 years and was nominated by colleague Helen Haughton who describes her as 'one of the most



MOTHER OF THE YEAR: MARYANNE MALBUNKA

dedicated mothers I have met'.

"I didn't really know they had nominated me for being mother of the year. One of my colleagues nominated me," Maryanne said.

"I've got two kids of my own, a boy and girl, and six that I have adopted. They are all living with me and my partner is really helpful in looking after all our kids and so is his mother. We really enjoy looking after those kids."

Maryanne Malbunka has been a health worker for nine years

and still gets a kick out of it.

"I enjoy it everyday in the clinic working with my colleagues. We have fun although we have some terrible times sometimes. The big problem is sniffing, marijuana and alcohol. People respect me for being a health worker.

"I can't believe out of all the mothers in Australia I was chosen as the Barnardos Mother of the Year," said Maryanne. "It is a great honour and I am really excited to be a part of it."

rel-aka gets \$150,000 to help stop violence

"It used to be non stop violence. All day, every day. Now it's a big turnaround," says Alison Hunt, spokesperson for the Western Aranda Rel-aka Aboriginal Corporation of Hermannsburg which has just received \$150,000 from the Australian Government to continue its work on the prevention of domestic violence and substance abuse.

Rel-aka has been operating as a community initiative for just over two and a half years and the committee of 10 men and 10 women work voluntarily mediating, counselling and working with the clinic and police to make

Hermannsburg a better place to live.

"We support parents to give up drinking and think about future generations," says Alison Hunt, "We are keeping families together and keeping people out of jail. It's all voluntary work by the committee. The police will come to us with concerns about a person and we will direct them to the right family groups.

"We also are concerned about child welfare. If little kids are suffering we have a say in where that kid goes. Kids belong to

all the family - grandfather and grandmother on both sides and with Aboriginal people uncles and aunts are second mother and fathers and cousins are brother and sister. They need to understand this and the committee are saying the family has to agree.

"We are also concerned about discipline. We need to empower families. These days you can't give a kid a hiding and the kids know that so they keep sniffing or drinking or whatever. We've talked about that," Ms Hunt said.

anangu tour take out the prize



REGGIE ULURU AT WORK WITH ANANGU TOURS

Anangu Tours, an Aboriginal-owned company based at Uluru, was the only Australian winner in the International "Legacy Tourism Awards" this year.

This prestigious award is sponsored by Conservational International and National Geographic Traveller Magazine.

Senior Anangu guide Richard Kulitja and manager Laurie Berryman received the award from Queen Noor of Jordan at a gala ceremony at the National Geographic Society in Washington DC in the United States.

Criteria included excellence of product and its ability to provide economic benefit for local peoples, respect for cultural diversity, and conservation of nature.

Other finalists in the Heritage Tourism Category were Moki Treks in Utah and Camp va Kanzi in Kenya, both highly respected tourism experiences.

"I am very proud to be here representing my people," Richard Kulitja told the gathering in Pitjantjatjara. "Anangu Tours

staff have worked very hard for this and now the international recognition adds to the pride we feel."

"Our company creates jobs for Anangu, and something for our kids to aim for. And it also gives visitors to Uluru the chance to learn about our country and our culture. We get a lot of letters and emails from them saying how much they love our tours."

Laurie Berryman said the win was a major achievement for an Indigenous owned and operated company in a tough industry.

This commercial success has all been achieved without reliance on Government funds.

"Anangu have put their heart and soul into this business", he said. "They have really wanted it to succeed both culturally and commercially, and there has been a lot to learn along the way.

This win, on top of our entry into the Australian Tourism Hall of Fame earlier this year, caps off a great nine years of Anangu and the tourism industry working together," he said.

BELOW: GLORIA HONEYMOON (RIGHT) WITH A TOUR GROUP AT ULURU



yapakurlangu landcare rangers on the go in the tanami

Warlpiri Rangers are a growing force in the Tanami combining traditional Indigenous knowledge and skills with Western skills and equipment to deal with Land Management issues on their country.

The Central Land Council has supported the communities in the Tanami in the set up of two ranger programs, one based at Yuendumu and the other at Lajamanu. There are also new Warlpiri ranger groups starting up at Nyirripi and Willowra.

The program got a funding boost last month with the

Minister for Indigenous Affairs Amanda Vanstone releasing \$250,000 for the Warlpiri ranger projects to the CLC from the Aboriginal Benefits Account.

This funding means the Aboriginal ranger projects at Lajamanu and Yuendumu can now be adequately supported and equipped.

The funding will go towards vehicles, an equipment library, additional weeds equipment, satellite phone, cyber-trackers, a fire-fighting trailer and offices for the two

groups.

This equipment will enable the rangers to commence environmental projects dealing with weeds, feral pests, wildfire, threatened species and the protection of cultural sites. It will also help them gain important environmental contracts with mining companies and the Parks and Wildlife Commission.

Fifteen young people will receive formal training while working on land care projects around their communities.



ABOVE: TRADITIONAL LANDOWNERS, RANGERS AND FRIENDS AT TALBOT WELL

BELOW: WULAIGN RANGER, JEFFERSON LEWIS





twin falls, kakadu

driving boats, driving tourism futures

Local Aboriginal people are leading the way with the new venture, guiding tourists through the spectacular gorge via a boat shuttle service, while visitors are also able to trek to the top of the falls courtesy of a hiking trail.

On a visit to the Twin Falls area in June with senior Traditional Owners and members of the Kakadu Board of Management, Federal Minister for the Environment, Dr David Kemp, was delighted to see the new arrangements in place. The Minister offered his approval and compliments to all involved.

The final decision for the boat shuttle and walkway was one that took into consideration many options and a diverse range of views – including the cultural perspective of the traditional owners and their concerns about visitor safety.

The decision is regarded as a strong example of how joint management in Parks can work to everyone's benefit.

The new arrangements have ensured the preservation of the World Heritage values for which Kakadu is famous, while allowing these values to be accessed and enjoyed

by more people in a new, exciting and culturally informed manner.

"I feel good about this now, the way the boat is running," Traditional Owner Jeffrey Lee said. "We are getting a lot of people on the boats—the other day they had about 300 visitors. Tourists are saying it is a good idea."

The new introductions have provided various employment and tourism opportunities for Aboriginal people in the Twin Falls region.

"That mob on the boats are loving it out there. All the family are out there having a go. Young kids, older people. It is good to see young people working out there—starting them off now, it is good for everybody," Mr Lee said.

Kakadu Board of Management Chairman, Jonathan Nadji, is delighted that the new initiatives are operational and have been well received.

"I am glad that the boat shuttle is up and running. Hopefully this will be run by the younger generation one day and will help future traditional owners. I strongly encourage visitors to come and visit our

Kakadu National Park has recently opened new, exciting and safe arrangements for access to Twin Falls.

country," Mr Nadji said.

Despite initial negative reaction to the changes, the Kakadu Board of Management stood by their decision to introduce them. They hope the success of the new changes has now silenced their critics.

Twin Falls was closed to swimming earlier this year due to crocodile risks and cultural concerns. The concern for public safety was always at the top of the Boards agenda.

The new arrangements have allowed Traditional Owners to ensure that visitor access is safe and does not threaten sacred sites or the environment.

The developments have been described as a great step forward for Traditional Owners in managing tourism on their country and directing the future of tourism in Kakadu, as well as displaying how, with cooperative arrangements, joint management partners can creatively and responsibly direct the future of tourism in Kakadu for the benefit of tourists, the tourism industry and Aboriginal people.



NATIVE TITLE HOLDERS: CASEY HOLMES, MICHAEL JONES, BILLY MARTIN, ALBIE BAILEY, FRANKIE HOLMES AND BILLY PUMPER

native title victory

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL DIRECTOR DAVID ROSS CONGRATULATED ALYAWARR, KAYTETYE, WARUMUNGU AND WAKAY NATIVE TITLE HOLDERS ON HAVING THEIR NATIVE TITLE RIGHTS RECOGNISED IN A DECISION HANDED DOWN BY THE FEDERAL COURTS JUSTICE MANSFIELD.

"The decision recognises native title holders and their strong rights and interest in the area which will allow them to play a strong part in the future joint management of the park," said Mr Ross.

The Central Land Council lodged a native title application on behalf of native title holders with the National Native Title Tribunal in 1995 over land south-east of Tennant Creek, including the proposed Davenport Murchison National Park and the historic township of Hatches Creek.

The area covered by the application is approximately 1,143 square kilometres and

includes land within the Kurundi pastoral lease which was surrendered in 1993 for the proposed Davenport Range National Park.

Also included in the claim is the township of Hatches Creek which is surrounded by the Anurrete land trust. Hatches Creek was gazetted in 1953, but was a "town" in name only, and at the time of the native title application was vacant Crown land. Under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act (Northern Territory) 1976*, areas inside town boundaries are excluded from claim so the area was never included in the Anurrete Land Trust.

Mr Justice Mansfield

of the Federal Court of Australia heard strong evidence from Aboriginal witnesses



LUCY DOBBS APWEL

about their law and connection to the area over two weeks of hearings on country in September 2000.

"It is really sad that a number of these key witnesses have passed away since the hearing ended while waiting for today's decision," said Mr Ross.

WIN \$250

AND SEE YOURSELF IN PRINT IN LAND RIGHTS NEWS

As part of the NT Education Department writing competition (see p23 and back cover), the Central Land Council is offering two prizes of \$250 each to the two best Land Rights News stories by Central Australian community members. The stories must be written in language accompanied by an English translation. Entries must include name and address of author.

Entries close 5pm, 30 September 2004



Please address entries to: The Media Unit, Central Land Council, Box 3321, Alice Springs NT 0870 Enquiries: 89516217/89516216 FAX: 89534344

from bush mechanics to diesel fitters

“They reckon I was the first female fitter out there in the workshop. Even the ladies freaked out, the lady truck drivers. They said what are you doing here? Are you another truck driver? I said nah... I’m a fitter. They were like freaking out. They were like: you got guts girl.”

The fitter is Celestine Rowe from Papunya who, with fellow work experience student Jimmy Tsvaris from Tennant Creek, spent two weeks at the Granites mine in the Tanami in Central Australia recently.

The pair emerged with glowing reports from the mine management and the Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT) for their enthusiasm, knowledge and skills gained and both now have apprenticeships at the Granites.

The two young students started at CAT last year where they

have been studying automotive servicing.

“I wanted to learn more about mechanics because I used to help my old man out with his car. He is a motor mechanic and that inspired me so I used to help him build nice cars, fast cars,” Jimmy said.

“It’s always good to help people out like family on our homelands fixing their cars and tell them how much parts will cost so they don’t get ripped off,” said Jimmy.

Celestine said her time at the mine was a lot of hard work and fun with everyone



CELESTINE ROWE FROM PAPUNYA AND JIMMY TSVARIS FROM TENNANT CREEK PUT ANOTHER ONE BACK ON THE ROAD

making her feel really welcome. “I went underground with the fitter and helped him with the trucks. It was wicked. Scary at first I thought I couldn’t breathe underneath there but I got used to it,” said Celestine.

Celestine has had to overcome gender barriers to overcome her passion for mechanics.

“I was working on a station and they were

fixing cars and I wanted to help them but the lady turned around and said no you’re supposed to be cooking and cleaning. I thought no way. When the ladies weren’t there we used to have races to change tyres,” said Celestine.

CLC Mining and Employment Coordinator Harold Howard says this new initiative is important to encourage young

Indigenous people to have a go and try out other job opportunities.

“The youngsters gave the work experience 100% and it has shown in their enthusiasm and the respect they received from the mines. Through their eagerness they have both gained apprenticeships. Hopefully this will encourage other young

Indigenous people to try working at the mines,” Harold said.

The workexperience initiative is a collaboration of the Central Land Council, Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT), Henry Walker Eltin and Newmont Australia who have joined forces to improve job and training prospects for Indigenous people in remote regions of Central Australia.

hospitality engineering graduates



INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT NUMBERS IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY (NT) ARE SET TO RECEIVE A BOOST WITH THE RECENT GRADUATION OF 17 STUDENTS FROM AN ACCREDITED WELDING AND ENGINEERING TRAINING PROGRAM.

The intensive 15-week program was held at the Charles Darwin University (CDU) in Darwin, and many of the graduates have already attracted interest from prospective employers according to Territory Construction Association (TCA) General Manager, Jon Baker.

“Local industry and proponents of major construction projects have shown interest in this new program, and it is anticipated that many of the

participants who successfully completed the program will be offered jobs,” Mr Baker said.

Through the support of the NT Department of Education, Employment and Training (DEET) and the Commonwealth Department of Workplace Relations (DEWR), \$138,000 was provided to fund the program that commenced in February.

Northern Land Council (NLC) Chief Executive, Norman Fry, said the program expands on an existing collaborative arrangement between the NLC and TCA.

“This program

expands on the NLC/TCA strategic approach that has so far placed multiple Indigenous trainees and graduates in various employment opportunities across the Top End,” Mr Fry said.

“This initiative has so far placed six graduates with Group Training NT as apprentices to work at the LNG Plant at Wickham Point with Bechtel, while two other graduates have been placed within the local industry.

Graduates received a statement of attainment recognising their specific areas of achievement, while nine of the graduates gained welder

qualification to the structural steel welding standard AS2980, confirming their ability to weld on large steel structures.

Earlier this year, 16 graduates completed the Pre-employment Hospitality Course held at the CDU Campus, Palmerston, after an intensive 8-week program.

The trainees were skilled in a variety of disciplines including; Certificate One-Kitchen Operations; Certificate Two-Hospitality Operations, and; Senior First Aid.

To date, five of the 16 graduates have been placed with global catering company; “Gateway” in Darwin.



daluk-care for country

Women attending this year's Daluk (Women's) Land Management Conference called for more support for women rangers so they can care for their land and teach young people about caring for country.

Held at the Nimirrili Camp grounds, 25 kilometres east of Ramingining, on the banks of the picturesque Blythe River, a region known for its large saltwater crocodile population, this now annual event continues to grow in prominence each year.

Heavy unseasonable rains and treacherous river crossings did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of more than 140 women from as far away as Uluru-Kata Juta National Park to attend this year's conference.

For three days women community

rangers took the opportunity to acknowledge their achievements, and most importantly, share their ideas and experiences regarding environmental issues and caring for country practices.

The conference has grown to become an important educational and networking tool for women on country. Each year more women are encouraged to become involved in land management projects.

The important work that rangers do in maintaining Australia's biodiversity on large

areas of Aboriginal land was acknowledged by those present, and there were strong calls for real wages for people doing this important work.

Several guest speakers were invited to provide information sessions on issues ranging from Sea Ranger projects, quarantine issues, weed management, wild harvesting enterprises, park management, junior rangers, tourism and managing community (camp) dogs.

The Northern Territory Chief Minister,

Clare Martin, and newly appointed Minister for Environment and Heritage, Marion Scrymgour, were invited guests.

The Chief Minister paid tribute to the women's energy and commitment.

"It's wonderful to be here and to be able to share with you a day's work in caring for country," Mrs Martin said.

"In the communities women are often the driving force, those with the real commitment to see our communities grow, and certainly from a Chief Minister's point of view, I pay tribute to your energy and commitment from right around the Territory. Because I believe, and I'm very biased, that to a large extent women are our future."

The topics focused on grass roots issues facing them as Indigenous women working on and caring for country.

An outdoor cinema was set up for evening viewing of films made about women's ranger work in their own communities. Dancing and singing were other activities also shared by

women.

A day trip to the Djelk Ranger and Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation projects in the community of Maningrida and the outstation of Djinkarr was also arranged.

Here delegates visited projects such as native orchard management, fish and turtle breeding projects, crocodile and turtle egg incubation, a plant nursery, and the

local women's art centre.

With thanks to the Traditional Owners of Nimirrili, the Djelk Rangers and Traditional Owners of Djibalbal Outstation, along with the continued support of the Natural Heritage Trust, North Australian Quarantine Service, conferences such as these will continue to be an annual highlight on the women's land management calendar.



ABOVE: NATASHA HADJI & JENNIFER WELLINGS WERE AT THE CONFERENCE

A GROUP OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN LADIES TRAVELLED NORTH TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WOMEN RANGER PROGRAMS IN THE TOP END OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY. BELOW: EDITH GRAHAM, LETITIA NELSON, ANTHEA GRAHAM AND DIANNE WILLIAMS PRESENT A PAINTING ABOUT THEIR COUNTRY.



native title conference: building better relationships

Its been 12 years since the High Court handed down its judgement on a legal case that has become widely known as the "Mabo decision."

This landmark decision has had the benefit of affording Australia's Indigenous people the opportunity to repatriate themselves with their traditional lands through the native title claims process.

Each year for the past four years, Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRB) have been coming together to discuss common issues and concerns. Held in June, the venue for this year's Fourth Native Title Conference entitled; *Building Relationships*, was Adelaide.

With a welcome to country ceremony performed by local Kaurna

Elders and the Paitya Dance Group, it was then down to business for delegates.

In a departure from previous conferences, the first day was dedicated solely to representatives of NTRB.

Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Executive Officer, Parry Agius, encouraged delegates to utilise the forum as an opportunity to share knowledge and build relationships.

The three-day conference also provided delegates with an opportunity to attend and participate in a wide variety of workshops and seminars presented by speakers of national and international standing.

Professor, Doctor Erica-Irene Daes, a lifetime promoter of human rights was one international speaker invited to attend the conference.

Dr Daes is currently working as the UN's Special Rapporteur on the Indigenous Peoples Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources.

Joining Dr Daes at the conference was Professor John Burrows, a member of the Chippewa Nation and current academic at the Anishnabe University of Victoria in Canada. Professor Burrows was invited to deliver this year's Mabo lecture entitled; *Practical Re-Colonisation; Indigenous Rights and Equality*.

More than a decade on, the native title process has allowed Indigenous people to reach



PROFESSOR JOHN BURROWS & BONITA MABO

agreement with external interests on land and water use matters.

Through this process people are finding ways to make things work.

Junga Yimi

May - Aug 2004 Warlpiri Magazine \$2.50

Yurntumu-wardingki Patu Pajikirli-kirli



Charles Jakamarra Kennedy fixes his bike.

Kurdu-kurdurli Yurntumu-ria ngulaju ngampurpa nyayimirlili. March-rlaju pajikirli-watiji ngurrju manu manupalu warru konjara. Ngulajana helpi-manu Deadly Treadlies wardingki paturu.

Deadly Treadlies ngulaju Alice Springs wardingki patu. Nyampurna ngulaju kalu kutu kalu warra jarri Reconnect manu Waltja wardingki patu wana. Manu pajikirli-palu warru ngurrju manu Pupunyirli manu Santa Teresa-ria kurdu-kurdu kulurlu. Deadly Treadlies-riili kangurna patu pajikirli wati Yurntumu kurra manurlu jara milki yirrarna kurdu-kurduku nyarrparlu yungurlu ngurrju mani. Ngulaju pajikirli-wati-jirli manu Alice Springs Police jangka.

Yungurlu Junga nyayirni pina jarri pajikirliki ngurrju maninjaku

[murma jinta kari-kirra]

In this Issue:

- Fighting Diabetes
- Footy News
- Jaru Pijirjirdi Dreaming
- Warlukurlangu Artists
- Council & CDEP Reports
- Bush Mechanics
- Lajamanu & Willowra News
- And much, much more...

new warlpiri magazine hits the streets

Warlpiri language magazine Junga Yimi (or True Stories) has just released its latest edition. All the stories in the colourful magazine are written in the Central Australian language of Warlpiri and accompanied by an English translation.

Produced at the Yuendumu Community at the school's Bilingual Resource Development Unit, the mag covers local news from the Yuendumu Council, Central Land Council and Community Education Centre to the Warlukurlangu Artists Association, Warlpiri Media Association and Yuendumu Women's Centre.

The mag's new edition also carries a special on avoiding Diabetes as well as a back cover feature on the purchase of an old bush mechanic's Holden by the National Museum in Canberra.

There are also

stories from other Warlpiri communities, Lajamanu and Willowra.

Stories were written and translated by Corina Nakamarra Granites, Janet Maxine Nungarrayi Spencer, Madeline Napangardi Dixon and Ingrid Napangardi Williams, all literacy workers at the Yuendumu Community Education Centre.

Others were written by community members. The publication was laid out by Bethune Jampijinpa Carmichael.

Junga Yimi magazine has been produced at Yuendumu since 1974.

If you would like to subscribe to Junga Yimi, the price is \$25 (inc GST) for four editions. Send cheques or postal orders to the Bilingual Resource Development Unit c/o Yuendumu School, via Alice Springs, NT 0872; Ph 08-8956 4045; Email ynd.print@latis.net.au.

Thousands of photos collected over the last three decades by the Central Land Council will finally be made available to the CLC's constituents in October this year.

This year marks 30 years since the first meeting of the Central Land Council and to celebrate, the CLC is launching a photographic exhibition and digital archive.

"People have been asking us for many years to see the photos and now technology has reached a state where we can return these photos in a way which is easy for everybody," CLC Chairman William Brown said.

"We have chosen some of the highlights from the CLC's huge photo collection for the exhibition and all photos will go in the digital archive. A digital archive means that the photos will be on computers and people will be able to search for their family and get print outs. We are going to have at least one computer for each region and they will put it in the best place in a community."

The collection which contains more than 4000 photographic images is of national significance and its preservation has become a priority for the CLC.

The exhibition and digital archive, with ceremony and a free BBQ and concert, will be launched in Alice Springs on Anzac Oval on October 8 this year before it tours communities in the following year.

"We think it will be a really good day. Our Council is very excited about it and Visions Australia, which is Australian Government mob in Canberra, think the exhibition is such a

CLC gearing up to celebrate 30 years



CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MR BROWN PRESENTS THE ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS MINISTER AMANDA VANSTONE WITH A GIFT ON HER VISIT TO THE CLC ALICE SPRINGS OFFICE IN APRIL

good idea that they have given us a bit of funding which will help make it a big success," Mr Brown said.

People with photo, sound and film collections from Central Australia are

encouraged to make them available on the digital archive.

"Many communities in Central Australia have their own store of photos and you are all welcome to bring

your photos in and we'll digitise them and return the originals to you," Mr Brown said. "People especially love to see historical stuff from the old days and their relatives who they might never have seen before."

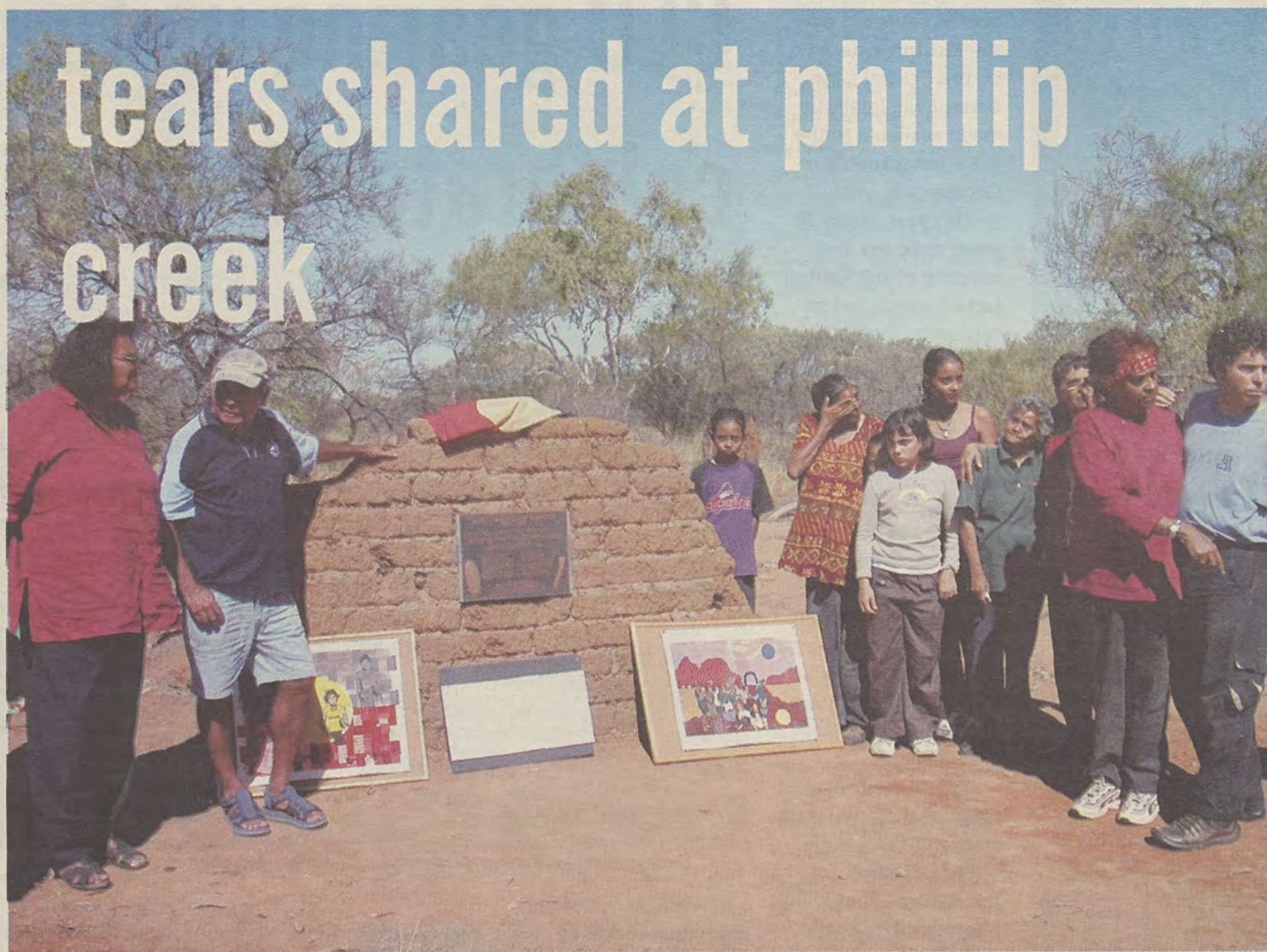


An Australian Government Initiative

VISIONS
of Australia

The Central Land Council's
30th Anniversary
6pm October 8
ANZAC OVAL
ALICE SPRINGS

Photographic Exhibition: The Land Is
Alive
Ceremony
Concert
Free entry
No Grog
Everybody welcome



Stolen Generation members and family with the plaque which bears their names

Barb Shaw, director Anyinginyi Congress which organised the event said it was one of the most important events the organisation had ever been involved in. "The previous journey of tears has been replaced with vision and demand," she said. "We, at Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation, would like to say it has been our honour to have been associated with this project."

The last words were left to Lorna Cubillo.

"I ask each of you to reach out to the one next to you and say "peace be with you", " she said.



Director of Anyinginyi Congress Barb Shaw

"As the truck left Phillip Creek everyone was crying and screaming. I remember mothers beating their heads with sticks and rocks. They were bleeding. They threw dirt over themselves. We were all crying on the truck. I remember that day. Mothers chased the truck from Phillip Creek screaming and crying. They disappeared in the dust of the truck." Part of Lorna Cubillo's evidence to the Federal Court

A tranquil waterhole and a fragment of mud brick wall are all that remain of the Phillip Creek mission. But traumatic memories have indelibly stamped themselves on the survivors of that day in July, nearly 60 years ago, when 16 children were taken away in a truck. From that time, many of those children's lives were transformed into misery, loneliness and despair.

Eleven of those 16 returned to Phillip Creek with 200 friends and family to lay a plaque on the wall in June this year.

Kumunjayi Lane was around the age of five in 1946 when she was taken to Retta Dixon Home in Darwin. While she has lived in Tennant Creek for the

last 18 years, surrounded by family and friends and close to her ancestral land, Mrs Lane still bears a deep sense of loss.

"It will always be here. It will always be here for me. It will never ever go away for me," she said.

Another of the 11 survivors, Jim Anderson, was also surrounded by his children and grandchildren at the ceremony. "I bought all my grandkids and kids to get together and meet all our family because they never knew who their family was and it will bring something into their lives," he said.

The return to Phillip Creek may be at the end of a journey of healing but Mr Anderson gave the

impression that perhaps the best that could be achieved was an acceptance of his fate.

"Nothing you can do about it. Everything has been messed up and that's that. Nothing will ever change it - a sorry from the Government, money, all the excuses in the world. Something is missing and nothing will ever fulfil it," he said.

Nonetheless, the laying of a memorial plaque obviously meant much to Jim Anderson and the other Phillip Creek children. Tears were shed and shared between the stolen children and their relatives, tributes were made, gifts exchanged and Warumungu and Warlpiri women singers



Above: Lorna Cubillo closes the ceremony surrounded by family

and dancers entertained everybody with special performances.

"This area is special to me.

And Six Mile. And I will never forget Banka Banka. It's always on my mind," Jim Anderson said.

Lorna's story...

"Lorna Cubillo was eight years of age. In 1947 she was at Phillip Creek.

Phillip Creek lies in the heart of the Northern Territory, not far from Tennant Creek and between Alice Springs and Darwin.

She attended a rudimentary school.

Phillip Creek was what was called a ration depot where Aboriginal people would congregate.

The Warrumungu people had been forced there after their ancestral lands were taken over by pastoral activity in the 1920s. They were forced there after "the Coniston massacre" - the last massacre in the Northern Territory when Aboriginals were hunted and killed. The fear of this massacre lasted for generations.

Early one morning in July 1947, sixteen part-Aboriginal children were put on the back of a truck - an open truck at Phillip Creek. Lorna Cubillo was one of those children.

At eight years of age, she was probably the oldest child on the truck. The children were told they were going on a picnic. With the crying and wailing of adult Aboriginal people around the truck and in the area they soon realised that this was not the case.

An aunt of Lorna Cubillo was one of the people near the truck. A female missionary was having a tug of war with Lorna Cubillo's aunt. The missionary was trying to take her baby - still being breastfed.

Eventually Lorna Cubillo's aunt, distressed and crying, pointed to Lorna on the truck - "Napangka you care for this baby" and handed the baby to Lorna Cubillo on the truck. - an eight- year old responsible for a two- year old baby.

As the truck drove away from Phillip Creek mothers cut themselves with stones and hit themselves over the head with sticks. Others chased the truck screaming and yelling.

Lorna Cubillo's last memory of Phillip Creek is of those people running after the truck disappearing in a cloud of dust.

The children on the truck were all crying, not knowing where they were being taken.

Lorna Cubillo, who had been told of Europeans killing Aboriginals, thought she too would be killed.

For three days and two nights she cared for the baby on the back of the truck as it was driven to Darwin. She was given a blanket. The baby had diarrhoea. She kept folding the blanket into squares until it was so soiled she threw it from the truck. She fed the baby by dribbling water into the baby's mouth. The water was taken from a 44 gallon drum on the back of the truck.

The Commonwealth Government that organised all this says it owes Lorna Cubillo no apology.

An address given by Jack Rush QC in the Sharwood Room, Trinity College, 12 April 2000



From top clockwise: Bunny Nappurula, Audrey Anderson and family member, Kumantjay Lane, Lorna Cubillo and Marjorie Winphil; May Phillips, eileen Nelson, Eva kelly, kathleen Fitz , winnie martin; Teresa patterson, phyllis kidd, ena rex, fanny walker, connie lovegrove , mona kidd; barabra cummings , Anyinginyi chairman john duggie and elliot mcadam; Jim anderson; edith graham, dorothy williams doris kelly, Flora holt, chloe holt, may foster



more territory communities get into the spirit of Sorry Day



ABOVE: SCHOOL KIDS ADD THEIR NAMES TO THE WALL OF HANDS IN JABIRU

On 26 May, cities, towns and communities across the Territory honoured the sixth National Sorry Day.

In Darwin, members of the stolen generation were accompanied by more than 200 school children as they walked across Alawa Bridge in support of reconciliation.

An emotional crowd later gathered at the Rapid Creek Water Gardens where Mary Lee welcomed them on behalf of the Larrakia traditional owners.

School children listened as members of the stolen generation talked about their experiences of being removed from their family and growing up in foreign environments.

Northern Territory Minister for Family and Community Services, Marion Scrymgour, acknowledged members of the Stolen Generations, saying Australia would better understand the impact of past laws and policies because of events like National Sorry Day.

As balloons were released to recognise the five NT institutions



CHILDREN POSE AGAINST THE WALL OF HANDS IN JABIRU

that children were removed to, children signed their names on the 'Sea of Hands'.

At Charles Darwin University in Darwin, staff and students attended a special screening of the feature film "Rabbit Proof Fence."

In Jabiru, the Town Council honoured National Sorry Day by making a formal apology to the Aboriginal community for past laws and policies.

The Council created their own "Wall of Hands" to demonstrate their commitment to reconciliation.

The Council made the decision to apologise after being approached by members of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community.

With input from the Northern Land Council and local Aboriginal corporations Gundjehmi and Gagadju, the statement acknowledges the Mirrar people as the traditional owners of Jabiru, and apologises for the pain, grief and suffering of Aboriginal people that occurred as a result of past laws, government policies, actions and attitudes.

More than 250 people clapped and cheered when senior Mirrar traditional owner, Yvonne Margarula, raised the Aboriginal flag over the Jabiru Council chambers.

MIRRAR TRADITIONAL OWNER, YVONNE MARGARULA HOISTS THE ABORIGINAL FLAG IN JABIRU



WARREN SNOWDON, ALEC KRUGER, DAVID ROSS, VICTOR VINCENT, SORRY VINCENT, KATHY MILLS, MAURIE RYAN, WILLIAM BROWN AND HAROLD FORBER ATTENDED THIS SPECIAL OCCASION

dedication of canberra memorial artwork

"One of the most moving experiences of my entire life", was how stolen generation member Maurie Ryan described the dedication of three memorial artworks at Reconciliation Place in Canberra in May.

Two of the artworks were dedicated to the Stolen Generations. The other artwork acknowledges and celebrates the leadership of two important people in our history, Mr Vincent Lingiari and Senator Neville Bonner. Mr Vincent Lingiari led the Wave Hill Station walk-off in the 1960's and Senator Neville Bonner represented Queensland as a Liberal Senator in the Federal Parliament.

The Alice Springs contingent included James Bray whose father, with many others, wrote to the Government in 1941 protesting about the removal of children from "their birthright country - central Australia". This letter forms part of the memorial artwork. Lingiari's son Victor Vincent spoke strongly about the legacy left by his father and the other Gurindji people who were involved in the 1960's Wave Hill

walk-off. Mr Rory Ryan, step-son of Senator Neville Bonner also spoke passionately about his 'old man' Senator Bonner.

Senator Amanda Vanstone acknowledged that the dedication of the memorials brought "mixed emotions". On the one hand there was the dedication of the past injustices of the removal policies

that "is a sad, tragic and significant part of our history" and on the other "we honor great Indigenous leadership" through artworks honoring Mr Vincent Lingiari and Senator Bonner.

The memorials were organized by Reconciliation Australia, National Sorry Day Committee and the Federal and ACT Governments.



Are you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

Do you want to help fight against diabetes in our community?

BE PART OF THE DRUID STUDY!

What is DRUID?
DRUID stands for Diabetes and Related conditions in Urban Indigenous people in the Darwin region. The first part of the study includes a FREE Health Check followed by a FREE Lunch.

Why is DRUID IMPORTANT?
Diabetes is a growing problem among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of all ages. The DRUID Study will help us learn more about how we can fight against it.

Who can take part? ALL Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who:

- are aged 15 years and over
- have lived for at least the last six months in the Yilli Rreung ATSIC Region (which includes Darwin, Palmerston and the rural area)
- and do not live in a boarding school, hospital, prison or other institution

To make an appointment for your free health check, or to find out more

**Contact the DRUID Study Team on
8922 8508
or e-mail druid@menzies.edu.au**

back on our country

The Kaltukatjara community, 750 kilometres south west of Alice Springs is using a combination of traditional Aboriginal tracking skills and Western science techniques to determine the status of rare, threatened and notable animal species on the Petermann Aboriginal Land Trust (ALT).

Like elsewhere in central Australia, a considerable number of native mammal species have become extinct in this region over the last 100 years and many other animals are still in danger of disappearing.

The traditional landowners of Docker River have expressed interest in better managing their country for some time but have not had the support to do so.

Wati Pulka, Jim Nyukuti says the project is good for Anangu people.

"It's really good because it lets us get back on our country and look for animals we use to see all the time and look after country Anangu way," said Jim.

Thanks to recent funding from the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT), the CLC has been working with key men and women from the community to record traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) for a number of threatened and notable species in the area.



PASTOR ROY YALTIANKI, SANDY WILLIE, ROBBIE ALLEN, JACOB CARROLL AND HAI NYOROTI

Some of those species include; murrutja (mulgara), tjakura (Great Desert skink) and ninu (bilby).

A senior traditional owner, Ronny Allen has designed a badge for the Kaltukatjara rangers who are working on this project. This project will run for 12 months and lead to further land management work in the area.

Scientists think that these animals declined because of a combination of predation by cats and foxes, competition from rabbits, and changes in the fire regime from traditional patch burning to broadscale destructive wildfires. Camels are regarded as a significant threat to bush animals and plants - there are estimated to be as many as 80,000 of them roaming the desert country of Central Australia.

country visits core to school activities



BURNING COUNTRY RIGHT WAY

Overnight country visits are becoming pivotal parts to the Willowra school curriculum with ongoing country excursions essential to the student's two way learning.

The idea for an overnight excursion first grew from local lady, Dora Napaljarri Kitson, an active community leader and a part time school instructor for teaching of Warlpiri.

During the school semester each class takes it in turns to go on overnight bush trips every fortnight to hunt for and collect bush tucker.

Last month the Central Land Council assisted the school with a school country visit. These ongoing country visits are an important way of taking old and young people onto country to practise and pass on traditional land management knowledge.

The group of 28 school students, teachers, a linguist helping tape record and Warlpiri Media set off with a trailer packed, water trailer full, swags tied onto every available vehicle and the bus full of excited children, they set off for Panma Parnta (Smokey Bore).

The country is south of Willowra, out towards Pawu (Mt Barkley) and belongs to the skin groups Jampijinpa/Nampjinpa and Jangala/Nangala.

The first lesson of the day included the older ladies grabbing a crowbar and kids to gather yarla (bush potato). After an hour of digging for the bush tucker everyone met back to show how much they had gathered.

After a morning of tea and damper the group set off on their next lesson to the Panma Parnta soakage.

As the group walked along, one lady held a smouldering stick to the spinifex grass and another followed with a branch brush holding the grass down so that it would burn stronger showing the kids traditional burning proper way.

The group arrived at the soakage leaving a trail of smoke and sat down on the smooth rock. The ladies sang

and told the story for the place. After some ceremony the ladies then showed the kids how to clear the grass around the hole by burning and got the children (once the fire had died down!) to dig it out more. The Warlpiri ladies showed the kids the hole in the rock that had been used by their ancestors which was worn down by grinding seeds.

The young students were able to use this country visit back in the classroom by writing accounts of the visit in English and retelling the dreaming stories in Warlpiri. This school work will be made into posters, books and power point presentations by students and shared with the community and with students from the other Warlpiri communities.

bush trips: an adventure



Battling bushfires and driving on barely visible dirt tracks are all just part of a mining meeting country visit.

Four CLC staff and approximately 30 traditional landowners travelled to Jangankurlangu, Yirrinirli, and Munyapunji in Central Australia recently.

The traditional landowners expressed an interest to visit country before they made a collective decision of whether or not to allow mining companies to explore on their country.

This visit provided an excellent way for traditional owners to revisit country and sites that many of them had not been to for many years. Another country visit east of Jarra Jarra is planned for later this year.



MAISIE KITSON COOKING DAMPER ON THE SCHOOL EXCURSION

palm valley gas agreement renewed



EDWARD RONTJI SIGNING THE AGREEMENT, CONRAD RATARA AND CLC STAFF MEMBER RODGER BARNES

The Central Land Council has renewed an agreement for the operation of the Palm Valley Gas Field on Aboriginal land near Hermannsburg in Central Australia.

The CLC and Western Arrernte traditional landowners signed the agreement with joint partners Magellan Petroleum and Santos Ltd at the gas field. The field is operated by Magellan.

The 21 year-old agreement for the area recently expired and the new agreement gives immediate opportunities for three local men to train and work on a drilling program on the gas field.

CLC director David Ross said he welcomed all opportunities which gave local Aboriginal people employment opportunities.

"These young fellas will now gain transferable skills on the drilling program," he said.

"We can only applaud when a company gives Aboriginal people, from remote areas and without stable work histories, the chance to earn a wage and get some training. It is through these types of actions that the local economy will be transformed and the CLC wishes the



CLC CHAIRMAN WILLIAM BROWN SEALS THE AGREEMENT



ANITA RATARA

companies all the best for their future explorations."

The agreement was

negotiated under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act (Northern Territory) 1976.*



batchelor graduation - 2004

Northern Land Council Chief Executive Officer, Norman Fry, has been appointed an Adjunct Professor by the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Education in the Northern Territory.

It was an emotional Mr Fry who received his special award at this year's graduation ceremony. The award recognises his long-standing commitment to Indigenous Education in the NT.

Mr Fry worked for several years as a teacher in Darwin and also on Melville Island, before spending time working in the area of special needs education. In 1984 he accepted a teaching position with the Northern Territory University, ultimately becoming the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

As guest speaker at the graduation ceremony, Mr Fry paid tribute to, the Institutes achievements in Indigenous

education over the past 30 years.

With a welcome to country completed by Traditional Owners Edith McGuinness and Gloria Jones, the Jarrakuk Dancers from Beswick performed a dance ceremony to honour graduates.

Batchelor Institute's Deputy Chairperson, Rosie Kunoth-Monks and the NT Minister for Education, Syd Stirling, congratulated students and the Institute on their shared successes.

Addressing the gathering, Institute Director, Veronica Arbon, said that despite the educational disadvantages facing Aboriginal people, graduation numbers are on the increase, as more students successfully complete their studies.

Today, more than 3,100 students from over 900 locations around the NT and across Australia are enrolled in courses varying from certificate studies to the more demanding post



ERROL THORNE, NLC STAFFER

graduate studies at the Institute.

This years graduating class consisted of some 300 students. Boasting a 93 per cent graduate employment record, the statistic spells good news for the graduates and for the Territory.

The Institute has come a long way since its humble beginnings as a small annexe of Darwin's Kormilda College in the 1960's. It provided short training programs for Aboriginal teachers and teachers' aides in community schools.

Today, the Institutes main campus is located in the township of Batchelor, 70 kilometres south of Darwin. With a second campus established in Alice Springs, annexes include Darwin, Nhulunbuy, Katherine and Tennant Creek.

Continually moving forward, the Institute has now set its sights on becoming Australia's first Indigenous University.



GEORGE BUTLER AND ROSIE KUNOTH-MONKS

Larrakia enjoy fruits of development

LARRAKIA PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN FINDING WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GIANT WICKHAM POINT GAS PLANT, WITH 24 EITHER EMPLOYED OR OFFERED JOBS SO FAR.

The NLC's has been working with developer ConocoPhillips and chief contractor Bechtel to ensure jobs and training for the Larrakia, who settled a native title claim over the Wickham Point site in 2000-01.

NLC Chief Executive Norman Fry said the positive outcome was a continuation of the employment and training model pioneered by the NLC on the Alice Springs

to Darwin railway.

"All the key ingredients are there – a constructive relationship with employers and industry partners along with proper mentoring for Indigenous employees and trainees," he said.

ConocoPhillips controls the offshore Bayu Undan gasfield in the Timor Sea, which started production in March and which will eventually feed gas through to the Wickham Point plant for processing.

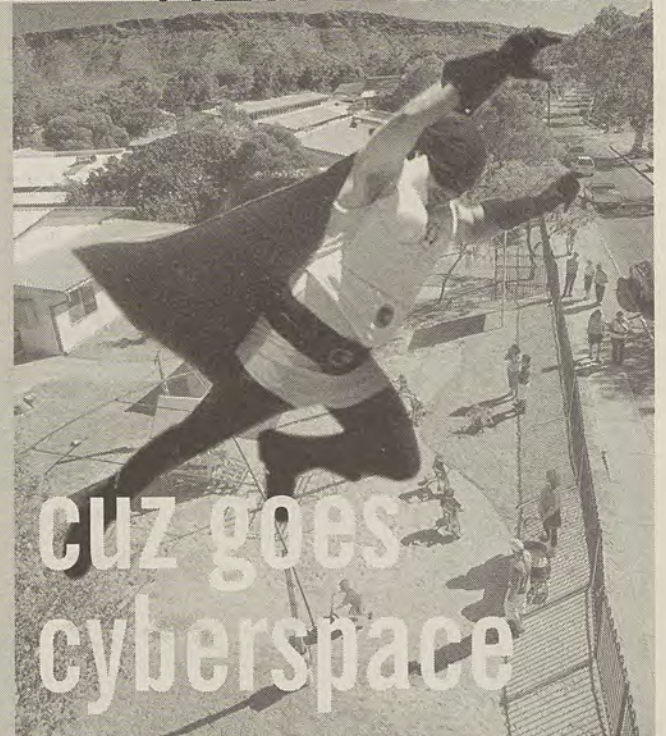
In further good news for the Larrakia, work has just begun on Stage 3 of the \$24 million Darla residential subdivision being developed by the Larrakia Development Corporation in the Palmerston region.

Larrakia Development Corporation Chief Executive Greg Constantine said the whole project was expected to be completed by 2007.

"We completed Stage 1 last year at a

cost of \$2.4 million with all 57 blocks sold, while Stage 2 has just been finished at a cost of \$2 million with 40 of 59 blocks already under contract," he said.

"The money we make will be there for investment in other development activities. We are already developing a turf farm in Palmerston and discussions have started over the leasing of commercial land at East Arm Port."



CUZ GOES CYBERSPACE

NEW WWW.CUZCONGRESS.COM WEBSITE TARGETS ABORIGINAL YOUTH SEEKING HELP ONLINE.

With more and more Aboriginal youth going on-line using the Internet in schools and community centres throughout Australia, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress in Alice Springs considered that it would be more culturally appropriate and efficient to consolidate a wide

range of medical and mental health support services on one gateway site: www.cuzcongress.com



Cuz Congress is an Aboriginal super hero-type character developed in the 1980's to promote serious issues of good health in a light hearted way mainly through television advertising .



WA Ranger workshop

Central Australian Aboriginal rangers travelled to Dryandra in Western Australia for an Aboriginal Rangers conference.

The workshop was organised by the Threatened Species Network to get different Aboriginal groups talking about the landcare work they are doing, to share ideas and learn new ways to help do some of this work.

The workshop looked at issues like disappearing desert animals and conservation is important, conservation work which is currently happening on Aboriginal lands and using cyber-trackers to record tracks and burrows.

Senior Yuendumu Ranger, Neville Poulson spoke up about making strong links between different groups who went to the Dryandra workshop by forming an alliance of central Australian Indigenous rangers and having regular meetings together to share stories and talk about work on country.

traps for young rangers



WULAIN RANGERS: JEFFERSON LEWIS, SHANNON ROSE AND ROBERT GEORGE AT LAKE TALBOT

Five young Indigenous rangers and seven senior traditional owners from Lajamanu got out and about on their country in the northern Tanami recently collecting information to determine the region's conservation status.

The survey also aimed to build community capacity to manage it as a potential Indigenous Protected Area.

During the two week survey the Wulain rangers were given hands-on training to use traps to catch animals by the New Central Land Council Lajamanu Project Officer, Jamie Moore. They also checked fauna traps and collected plants as senior landowners handed down traditional land management knowledge and skills.

Helicopters were used in the field to access areas which are seldom visited.

The sites surveyed included Lake Buck, Spider Lake, Kamira Lake, Wilson Creek Flood-out and Lake Talbot, Cattle Creek and the Jiwarranpa (Mt. Winnecke) area.

new tertiary support

Increased participation and success rates for Indigenous tertiary students are the goals of a new initiative offered by Charles Darwin University.

Darwin woman Meg Friel, who has worked with a number of organisations such as the Northern Territory Government, Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education and the University of Technology Sydney, has begun work as the newly-created Indigenous Support Programs co-ordinator to further enhance Indigenous education outcomes.

"Some of the outcomes I will be working toward across the University include greater literacy and numeracy, educational access and completions, professional development of staff

involved in Indigenous education and involvement of Indigenous community members in educational decision-making," Ms Friel said.

Ms Friel will also be co-ordinating a team of Indigenous Academic Support lecturers whose goals are to improve the participation and success rates for Indigenous students.

This new position follows the formation of an Indigenous think tank to help develop Indigenous research and education strategies.

The think tank includes Professor Mick Dodson, Professor Marcia Langton, NLC chief executive Norman Fry and CLC director David Ross.

For further information contact Meg Friel on (08) 8946 7754.



barunga festival 2004

After 12 months in the "festival wilderness", the Barunga Festival has bounced back in 2004 with a vengeance.

This long running, historic event is now well and truly back on the festival map, and Festival Coordinator, Paul Armarant, is determined to work hard to keep it there.

"It's probably the most popular Festival in the Territory," Paul said.

Prior to 2003, the Barunga Festival had been held annually for more than two decades.

"Last year we just couldn't get the funding to go ahead, so we held a sports carnival instead. This year though, government support and corporate sponsorship was great, and there was such a great response from the people.

In 1988 the Barunga



Festival was the location where Aboriginal people from all regions of the Northern Territory presented to the then Prime Minister of Australia, Bob Hawke, a document now known as; "The Barunga Statement." A bark petition that

called for the development of a Treaty between black and white Australia.

"Barunga was one the first Festivals to showcase Aboriginality. Over the years other festivals had combined to draw funding away from it, making things hard."

Community and visitor response to this years Festival numbered more than 4,000 over the three-day period.

"People look forward to it every year. I think it does the tourism industry in the region good as well. The region needs it."



always a hit - the merrepen festival



Despite the constant threat of rain and the coldest day in more than 60 years, there was little mother nature could do to dampen the enthusiasm of visitors to this year's 17th Merrepen Arts Festival.

Held each year in the Aboriginal community of Naiyu, on the banks of the picturesque Daly River, the Merrepen Festival is always a popular event and this years festival was no exception.

Sporting events, cultural competitions, bush tucker tasting, art exhibitions, auctions and many more activities were on offer for those willing to

make the journey to Naiyu, 200km south-west of Darwin.

As in previous years, this year's festival attracted many sporting teams from communities throughout the Top End. Teams from as far away as Ngukurr came to compete in the basketball, softball and football competitions.

It was the Darwin-based school team of Kormilda College that

overcame all others to win a competitive football competition. The boys from Berrimah were too good for their cross-town rivals, St Johns.

For the people of Naiyu however, the festival provided a great opportunity to showcase an activity they are fast developing a sound reputation for - art.

With various mediums such as screen-printing, ceramics, glazing, weaving and traditional art pieces on offer, festivalgoers had plenty of options to choose from.

The weekend's entertainment was topped off with a concert on the Saturday night, headlined by prominent Territory musician and former member of the Warumpi Band, Neil Murray.



BARUNGA FESTIVAL SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL:
Kalano defeated
Ngurdalingi Tigers

BASKETBALL (MENS):
St Johns defeated
Charles Darwin University

BASKETBALL (WOMEN):
St Johns defeated
Ngukurr Outstations Girls

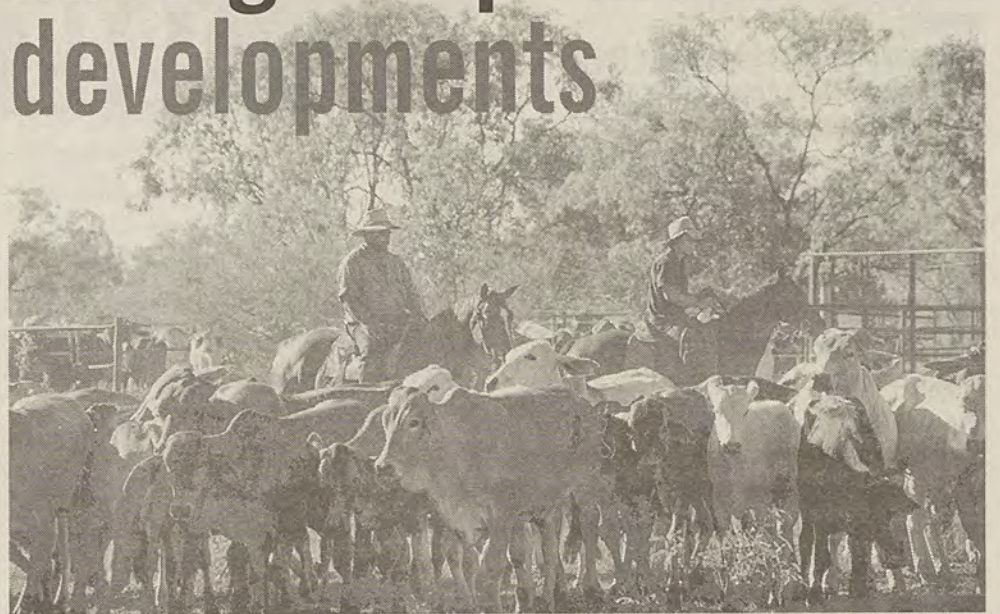
SOFTBALL:
Doomadgee defeated
Borrooloola... 24-9

BARUNGA SPRINT (MENS):
Justin Ramingining, from
Ramingining

BARUNGA SPRINT (WOMEN):
Natasha, from Doomadgee

BARUNGA MILE (MEN):
Triple dead heat

aboriginal pastoral developments



A three-year project aimed at boosting Aboriginal pastoral properties has made some recent developments that will assist Traditional Owners achieve pastoral, land management and employment outcomes.

Launched in April 2003, the Indigenous Pastoral Project is an agreement between the Northern and Central Land Councils, the NT Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development and the Indigenous Land Corporation. The project aims to get Aboriginal land back into production, gain employment for Traditional Owners and help Aboriginal people create income for better land management.

Recently the Amanbidji community in the VRD signed several lease agreements with two pastoral companies across certain areas of their Land Trust. The companies will pay annual lease fees, fix up fences and watering points, and provide jobs for TO's living on country.

"These agreements are not about white fellas taking over Aboriginal land" NLC Land Management Facilitator, Mark Ashley said. "The agreements support the aims of Traditional Owners who will run their own pastoral company on the

Land Trust. It's about bringing in money to build a strong Aboriginal Pastoral Company that will remain at the end of the lease agreements."

The leases are the end result of a 2-year process of planning and conflict resolution. Directors of the Amanbidji Aboriginal Pastoral Company have been undertaking corporate governance training to ensure they have the skills to make the company strong in the future.

The future for Amanbidji is now looking brighter, they will have income to look after their country. Problems the community will now be tackling include, 10,000 head of feral donkeys, weeds and control of annual fires.

The community will receive ongoing support from the Indigenous Pastoral Program, whose staff will attend their monthly meetings and provide advice on cattle and financial management. This is not the end of the process – just a start toward achieving economic independence.



CLC DIRECTOR DAVID ROSS, CLC CHAIRMAN WILLIAM BROWN, MINISTER KON VATSKALIS, NLC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NORMAN FRY AND DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER JOHN BERTO AT THE LAUNCH IN DARWIN RECENTLY

Central Land Council Director David Ross says a new guide to assist potential mineral explorers on Aboriginal land benefits from the CLC's years of experience in forging agreements between miners and traditional owners under the Land Rights Act.

The booklet, *A Guide to Exploration and Mining on Aboriginal Land* is a step-by-step user guide explaining the *Northern Territory Mining (NT) Act* and *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*.

"We congratulate the Government, particularly the Department of Business Industry and Resource Development, on this fresh approach to working with the Land Councils to encourage exploration," Mr Ross said. "Everyone benefits from a lively resource industry and I think with an approach like this, current

healthy levels of exploration can only get better.

"In the Tanami alone, more than \$10 million will be spent this year on gold exploration. In the entire CLC region, we currently have 46 agreements covering more than 31,000 square kilometres of Aboriginal land.

"Obviously the magnitude of expenditure by these companies has a very positive impact on our regional economies and flows through to Aboriginal and non Aboriginal Territorians.

"The former CLP Government continually peddled the line that the Act was a

barrier for exploration so it is important that exploration companies new to the Northern Territory have no negative misconceptions about working with the Land Rights Act.

"The reality is that it is a straightforward process providing certainty to mining companies by avoiding costly disputes down the track.

"The knowledge we have built from nearly 30 years of the Land Rights Act serves the community well," Mr Ross said.

The booklet was launched in Darwin by Business, Industry and Resource Development Minister Kon Vatskalis.

new permits regime for nhulunbuy

From July this year residents and visitors to Nhulunbuy will be able to access a much simpler and less time consuming system for transit permits on the Central Arnhem Road (The Track).

Previously residents or visitors wishing to access the Track had to apply and wait for the issue of a permit. During peak periods the delay could be up to ten days due to the enormous volume of permits processed by the Nhulunbuy and Katherine offices.

As of July applicants will be able to be issued with a permit on the spot at NLC offices in Nhulunbuy, Katherine and Casuarina.

Residents will need to provide their home address in Nhulunbuy as will friends or

relatives wishing to visit, whilst tourists wishing to drive into Nhulunbuy will merely have to provide proof they have booked one nights commercial accommodation.

It is hoped that this new system will alleviate some concerns for local residents and allow tourists some certainty when planning travel.

It will also free up staff time to better service the needs of Aboriginal communities and those needing to access the more remote parts of Arnhemland.

Cape Arnhem name change

The passing of three senior Yolngu men in north-east Arnhem Land has left the Dhimurru Land Management Corporation with no option but to issue a name change for the popular Cape Arnhem region near Nhulunbuy in the Northern Territory.

Yolngu culture requires that name's that sound the same or similar to a deceased person must be changed so as not to cause distress to the family of the deceased. It is for this reason that Cape Arnhem is to be now referred to as "Wanuwyu."

With all three of the deceased having a strong association to the region Dhimurru had no option but to adhere to traditional wishes.

The name change is seen as a mark of respect and in keeping with Yolngu cultural practices.

Closed to the general public since the passing of Dhimurru's former Senior Cultural Adviser in January, it is not known for exactly how long the region will remain closed. Though the length of time an area remains closed can often be determined by special ceremonies that need to take place prior to access being granted once again.

"If we want to break away from the colonial past, and begin anew, then we have to walk together – hand in hand, side by side – as a truly reconciled nation.

A republic that does not make the first concrete gesture towards reconciliation is a republic that walks in the footsteps of the Crown... My dream is of Australia as a reconciled republic."

Mr Djerrkura, 2004

June 30 would have marked his 55th birthday, but sadly for Mr Djerrkura, he passed away before he and many others could celebrate the occasion.

Regarded as one of Australia's most accepted and respected Aboriginal leaders, Mr Djerrkura was a Wangurri man, born at the community of Yirrkala in north-east Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory in 1949. His passing on 21 May 2004 was felt throughout the country.

At the announcement of his passing, tributes flowed from senior Aboriginal leaders, politicians and educators, all seduced by this tall, elegant man's charm, wit and passion for his people.

On 12 June 2004, more than 300 people journeyed to Mr Djerrkura's home of Yirrkala to pay their last respects to a distinguished Aboriginal leader with great wisdom, strength and integrity.

Mr Djerrkura was regarded as a strong man, a visionary, who, along with thousands of others, walked across the Sydney Harbour Bridge on that memorable day in 2000 pursuing harmony and reconciliation for all Australians.

Mr Djerrkura 1949 - 2004

"He was a man of great integrity and principle. A quiet man who was able to move amongst his community with grace and dignity - A true leader," NLC Chief Executive, Norman Fry said.

At his memorial service held at his home of Yirrkala in north-east Arnhem Land, Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister, Amanda Vanstone, described Mr Djerrkura as "A man who moved very comfortably between two worlds, two very different worlds."

As a member of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, it was these same two worlds Mr Djerrkura fought hard to unite for most of his adult life.

In 1996, Mr Djerrkura became the last federal government appointee to the position of Chairperson of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), a position he held until 1999. A brief stint as ATSIC's Northern Zone Commissioner ended in 2000 with his resignation.

However, one of Mr Djerrkura's last acts before his passing was to write a newspaper article in which he soundly criticised the federal government for their handling of Indigenous affairs in Australia.

At the heart of the article was Mr Djerrkura's disappointment of Prime Minister, John Howard's, inability to

understand Indigenous aspirations in Australia.

In the article he expressed dismay at the Howard government's recent decision to abolish ATSIC, describing the move as being conducted in;.. "the classic imperial fashion, without negotiation, without understanding and with little empathy."

"The Prime Minister has long refused to accept the fundamental difference of Aboriginal people in our community. He was never sympathetic to the principles on which ATSIC was based and founded. He has always rejected any suggestion of Indigenous autonomy and self-determination. Even when the Prime Minister took up my invitation to visit Arnhem Land in 1998, he seemed incapable of understanding Indigenous aspirations," he wrote.

Sent to bible college in Brisbane in the 1960s, Mr Djerrkura was one of a number of Yolngu men sent away in the hope of gaining an understanding of the balanda

(European) world.

In his exposure to education, Mr Djerrkura saw the benefits it provided to his people. It remained a significant motivating factor in his life.

For eight years he proudly occupied the position of Chairman of the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education in the Northern Territory, one of his greatest dreams was always to see the Batchelor Institute achieve university status.

Veronica Arbon, Director of the Batchelor Institute is determined to see Mr Djerrkura's vision for the institution become a reality. At the memorial service in Yirrkala, Mrs Arbon said:

"The Chairman walked the local, national and world stage with grace and goodwill, and during my time as Director guided with clear direction and vision. We will carry his dreams into the future."

Mr Djerrkura was a senior leader of the Wangurri Clan, of the Yirritja Moiety.

Under Yolngu Rom (Law) he also had great responsibility towards his mothers clan, the Djapu-Mununggurr clan. He was buried in keeping with traditional Yolngu customs.

garma festival 2004

The annual Garma Festival is set to take place at Gulkula in north-east Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory from 6th to 10th August.

This years theme: "Indigenous Livelihoods and Leaderships"

Announcing the theme, Deputy Chairman and founder of the world acclaimed Yolngu band "Yothu Yindi," Mandawuy Yunupingu said; "The Indigenous livelihoods theme will allow us to discuss and work on a wide range of ways to get employment and opportunities for Yolngu. It presents a valuable opportunity to nurture leadership and to sustain and share Indigenous cultures."

"The forums, the learning, the entertainment and all the other activities at Garma can be about tourism, art, music, education, culture, sport – anything which can provide real sustainable livelihoods and results," Mandawuy said.

Now into its 6th year, the Garma Festival has evolved to become something more than just a music and arts festival.

It is now an event that has highlighted such themes as; visual arts, the environment, intellectual property rights and played host to a legal forum on Indigenous Australians and the criminal justice system, and along the way it has become a significant cultural experience for all festival goers.

Continually striving to unite Indigenous and non-Indigenous people through its ability to share knowledge and culture, Garma is regarded as a "both ways" learning process.

With restrictions placed on the number of visitors, people wishing to attend are encouraged to register their interest by visiting the Garma website at www.garma.telstra.com or emailing garmafest@bigpond.com

Friday 6th - Tuesday 10th
AUGUST 2004
GULKULA

GARMA

SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE

GO! BUKMAK YOLŃU, WALALA MARRTJIYA GARMALILI

Family members of these clan groups, permanently living in their homeland communities in north east Arnhem Land, are officially invited to Garma free of charge:
Gumatj, Gupapuyngu, Wangurri, Ritharrngu, Mangalili, Muniyuku, Madarra, Warramirri, Liyalanmirri, Rirratjingu, Galpu, Djambarrpuyngu, Golumala, Marrakulu, Marrangu, Djapu, Datiwuy, Naymil, Djarrawark

Food and campsite provided. Bring a swag. No alcohol. No drugs.

Bungul Djama, prize money for best clan presentation
Indigenous Livelihoods Forum - Leaders and Leadership forum
Music Symposium - Band workshops, recordings and concerts

www.garma.telstra.com

email: garmafest@bigpond.com fax: 89411088 GPO Box 2727 Darwin NT 0801 Australia

NAIDOC in the top end

NAIDOC Week is on again this month, celebrating the achievements and continued survival of Aboriginal people, and this year activities are planned for the Larrakia Nation in Darwin and Palmerston.

The Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation is proud to host this year's NAIDOC activities, with activities commencing on July 9 at 8.00am at Bennett Park, adjacent to Parliament House, where a breakfast will be served by Aboriginal Hostels.

All Indigenous people are then encouraged to gather at the St Mary's Cathedral at 10am for the NAIDOC March which will start at 10.30am.

The March will go up Smith Street, onto Knuckey Street and then along Mitchell Street to the flagpoles at Parliament House.

There will be a flag-raising ceremony from 12pm and then all

Indigenous people are invited back to Larrakia Nation's Karawa Park Cultural Facility for a range of cultural activities and events, including demonstrations in basket-making/weaving, didgeridoo playing, textiles/screen printing, music and dance performances.

Other NAIDOC events in Darwin include a youth disco at the Greek School Hall on July 9 from 7pm until 11pm.

For further information on the youth disco please connect Radio Larrakia on (08) 89 820809

The Larrakia Nation will also be assisting Patsy Raymond in organising a Seniors Dance at the St Mary's

Club on July 10, from 7pm to 1pm.

In the Darwin suburb of Palmerston, a community day is planned for July 4 at Marlow Lagoon (turn off Elrundie Avenue, Palmerston).

For further information on the seniors dance call Patsy on (08) 89 275577.

The day will feature traditional dancers, basket-weaving, didgeridoo playing, talent quest finals, community awards, kids activities, information display stalls and sports activities, between 10am and 4pm, and will include a free BBQ, drinks and fresh fruit, proudly presented by Palmerston NAIDOC 2004.

21st - telstra art award

Judges in this year's Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award are set for a tough time as they settle in to choose a winner of this year's prestigious award.

A total of 336 entries have been culled down to a final figure of 103.

Covering four categories and offering up a \$40,000 first prize, the competition is regarded as one of the richest in Australia, and has been won by some of the biggest names in the Indigenous art world.

This years entrants include works from artists as far afield as the remote community of Balgo in the desert region of Western Australia, Bidyadanga near Broome, Titjikala in Central Australia and Maningrida in the Top End of the Northern Territory.

Finalists in this year's award include prominent names such as Brook Andrew, Christian Thompson, Ian Abdulla, Rosella Namok and bark painter Lofty Bardayal

Nadjamerrek.

With regular mediums such as photomontage, ceramics, recycled wire, bronze and bark well represented, the 2004 awards also features unique works in dugong bone and feathers.

Since its introduction in 1992 the award has continued to gain in prominence and stature, with many winners continuing on and gaining national recognition.

"Telstra's continued support has not only further built the profile and reputation of the Award on a national scale, but has also helped an important area of the Australian

art community achieve the recognition it deserves," Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) Director, Anna Malgorzewicz, said.

Judges for this years Award are Edmund Capon AM, OBE, and Art Gallery of New South Wales and Dr Julie Gough, Curator of Indigenous Art, National Gallery of Victoria.

The winners will be officially announced at the MGANT on Friday 13 August, with a display of all works to be held from 13 August to 7 November.

2003 TELSTRA ART AWARD WINNER, RICHARD BELL, WITH HIS WINNING ENTRY





Northern Land Council

Election 2004



Our Land, Our Future!

Nominations for Council members close on 20 August 2004.
Contact your NLC Regional Office or the Darwin office for details.

<p>LEAD OFFICE PO Box 4297 Darwin NT 08 040 7897 Fax: 08 8947 5421</p>	<p>WARRINGHOLA BRANCH PO Box 100 Warringhola NT 08 075 3844 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>	<p>SISSONVILLE BRANCH PO Box 214 SiSSonville NT 08 075 3844 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>	<p>WEST ARTHUR BRANCH PO Box 100 West Arthur NT 08 8775 3342 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>	<p>WARRINGHOLA BRANCH PO Box 100 Warringhola NT 08 075 3844 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>	<p>SISSONVILLE BRANCH PO Box 214 SiSSonville NT 08 075 3844 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>	<p>WEST ARTHUR BRANCH PO Box 100 West Arthur NT 08 8775 3342 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>	<p>WARRINGHOLA BRANCH PO Box 100 Warringhola NT 08 075 3844 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>	<p>SISSONVILLE BRANCH PO Box 214 SiSSonville NT 08 075 3844 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>	<p>WEST ARTHUR BRANCH PO Box 100 West Arthur NT 08 8775 3342 Tel: 08 8775 3342</p>
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NLC elections coming soon

The Northern Land Council is calling for nominations from interested people for election to its 2004 – 2007 Full Council.

If you would like the opportunity to represent your community - then you should consider nominating.

With many major projects planned for

the Northern Territory, the next three years will be important for Aboriginal people in the Top End.

It is essential that there is a strong land council to travel through this period.

Nominations for membership of the NLC's Full Council closes on 20th

August - So don't delay!

Becoming an NLC Regional Councillor is serious business.

If you think you have what it takes, then register your interest at the NLC office closest to you.

For further information freecall on 1800 645 299

tapalinga take tiwi title in thriller

TIWI FOOTY

The Tiwi Island community of Nguiu turned on its usual red carpet welcome for mainland visitors on Sunday 28 March ahead of the football Grand Final between Melville Island's Imalu Tigers and Bathurst Island's Tapalinga Super Stars.

And what a match it was – one of the closest games in the competition's 35-final history and without doubt one of the most exciting final quarters.

The day began with the steady drone of aircraft engines as hundreds of visitors began to pour into the community. There was plenty to keep them occupied ahead of the main game, with Nguiu's Tiwi Design art sale augmenting its offerings with work from Melville Island's two art centres of Munupi and Jilamara.

Then, after presentations of the player awards for the 2004 season, a spectacular display by sky divers and a performance of traditional dance, the game began.

Imalu started strongly and stayed on top for the first half of the game before Tapalinga came back in the third quarter, leading at the final break by seven points.

After strong words from coach Sibbie Rioli, Imalu bounded out off the blocks like a team possessed, evening up the scores early in the quarter then edging ahead with a couple of minor scores.

The momentum seemed to be with the Tigers, a fact confirmed when a free kick was awarded right in front of goal and Imalu converted for a handy eight-point lead.

However, Tapalinga were not finished and countered with a quick goal, leaving them two points adrift with just three minutes to play.

Then, whether it was the heat or the expectation that all they had to do was play safe, Imalu suddenly folded. First Tapalinga took advantage of a free kick right in front of goal, then from the very next centre bounce a high bomb went up and was taken just 20 metres out from goal.

The kick went through, the whistle blew and the Super Stars fans erupted, engulfing their heroes in the middle of the field.

Final scores: Tapalinga 10-10-70 vs Imalu 9-6-60. Best on ground was awarded to Rolan Graham.



ABOVE: IMALU TIGERS, 2003 - 2004 TIWI ISLAND RUNNERS UP



ABOVE: "SWEET SUCCESS": TAPALINGA ARE THE 2003 - 2004 TIWI ISLAND PREMIERS

IMALU SUPPORTERS GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF THE OCCASION!

IT'S TAPALINGA ALL THE WAY FOR THIS KEEN SUPPORTER



story writing competition

Tjukurpa munu Mani-Mani Walkatjunanyi

Dhawu Wukirri Yolngumathakurr Competition

Nyurruwiyi manu jalangu jaru yirrarninjaku

Mbarrangarranga Lyatinyaka Intalilintja

Warra-wurruwurruj-jinyung ana-lhaawu warrarina wu-mamanunggu. Anani ngangga-arrarri Wubuy-wala ana-lhaawu ngagurru

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES STORY WRITING COMPETITION

Entries close 5pm, 8th Oct., 2004

Prizes:

Traditional Stories and Contemporary Stories.

Contemporary 'Stories' can include any form of writing that is not considered to be a traditional story. This can include song lyrics, poems, funny stories, personal journal writing, narratives, etc.

Adults are encouraged to work with children on writing the texts. Entries that involve community elders will be highly regarded. Entries can be submitted with or without illustrations.

All entries should be written in the authors first language and include a translation into English. Entries should have an entry form attached.

First Prize in each category will be \$1,000.

All entries must be eligible to be considered for publication.

The competition is supported by the Central Land Council, IAD Press and Magabala Books.

Enquiries to competition coordinator:

Conrad Tamblyn (ph) 08 89 517 014

(fax) 08 89 517 061

(e-mail) conrad.tamblyn@nt.gov.au

(mail) c/- GSMC West

NTDEET

PO Box 1420

Alice Springs NT 0872

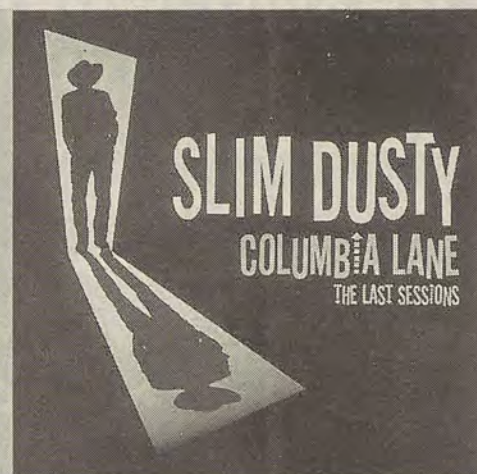
Tjukurpa munu Mani-Mani Walkatjunanyi
Dhawu Wukirri Yolngumathakurr Competition

Nyurruwiyi manu jalangu jaru yirrarninjaku

Mbarrangarranga Lyatinyaka Intalilintja

Warra-wurruwurruj-jinyung ana-lhaawu warrarina wu-mamanunggu. Anani ngangga-arrarri Wubuy-wala ana-lhaawu ngagurru

slim dusty columbia lane the last sessions



It seems somewhat prophetic that Slim Dusty's last album cover should portray the great man silhouetted in a doorway with his shadow cast forward.

After all, this was a country music performer who, for many decades cast a shadow so large and so inspiring, that he encouraged many of the household names in the Australian country music industry to become the artists that they are today.

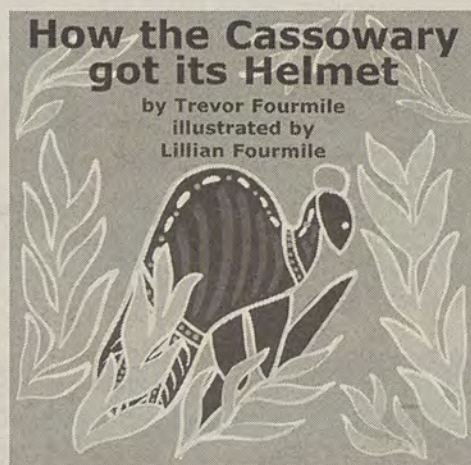
Columbia Lane - The Last Sessions is classic Slim Dusty.

Only Slim could capture the feel, warmth and colour that is Australia, and no one tells a truckies story like Slim Dusty.

The album only offers the listener seven tracks, so if it seems incomplete - it is. This is the album Slim's Music Director, Rod Coe, describes as the one Slim "didn't quite get to finish."

Slim Dusty may have left us, but his music will continue to entertain listeners for many years to come.

how the cassowary got its helmet



Trevor Fourmile
Published by Black Ink
Press, RRP: \$16

a group of snakes. Saving them, the Cassowary is hoisted high and cheered by the other creatures. From that day on the Cassowary was never teased again.

Regarded as the Protector of the rainforests in Far North Queensland, the Cassowary is a solitary bird incapable of flight, but being large in size and possessing a nasty kick, it presents a formidable figure.

A winner in the inaugural Black Ink Writing and Illustrating Awards, the story isn't of a traditional nature, but it is set and illustrated in a traditional style and sure to be entertaining for children of all ages.

This book is a first for the author, artist and publisher, and is an entertaining and enlightening story that should be enjoyed by everyone.

Beautifully illustrated by author Trevor Fourmile's mother, Lillian Fourmile, the story is set in the bush of North Queensland and tells of how this large, magnificent, flightless bird achieved recognition.

Constantly teased by other creatures of the rainforest for its awkward size, hard-headed helmet and lack of flight, the Cassowary shies away from contact, until he is befriended by a Sea Eagle.

Then one day the Cassowary rescues the other creatures of the rainforest that are being attacked by



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