



asgmwp.net

Elimatta

Winter 2011

Aboriginal Support Group – Manly Warringah Pittwater

ASG acknowledges the Guringai People, the traditional owners of the lands and the waters of this area.

Outback Meets the Beach

SUNDAY 10 MARCH – MONDAY 18 MARCH 2011

In 2007, North Palm Beach SLSC launched a reconciliation and cultural exchange programme titled *Outback meets the Beach*. The objective of the programme was to promote iconic young groups of Australians from the beaches with those of Outback Australia to travel to each other's communities and spend invaluable time learning and living in the vastly different environments that each has to offer.

Each year young Indigenous youths between the ages of 14 to 20 travel to Sydney's Northern Beaches from the remote Jawoyn communities of Burunga, Manyallaluk, Bulman and Wugularr – from south west Arnhem Land, near the heritage listed Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory of Australia.

"It's not just a holiday," North Palm Beach SLSC representative Terry Kirkpatrick said. "It's an opportunity for education, mentoring and sharing a very different culture as well. For the majority of these kids, it's the first time they have seen the ocean."

Following a lot of planning the very first group Jawoyn group taking part in *Outback Meets the Beach* were flying from Darwin to Sydney on February 13, 2008, while Australia's then Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, was apologising to the *Stolen Generations* on behalf of all Australians in Parliament.

While staying with members of the Surf Club at North Palm Beach the Jawoyn mob are given the opportunity to learn how to surf and gain instruction in swift water rescue techniques, as well as receive basic training in first aid and resuscitation. They also meet with and receive mentoring from Indigenous people working in sport and the arts.

During their stay our Jawoyn visitors are taken on *behind the scenes* tours to Taronga Zoo and the Sydney Opera House. Indigenous rangers from the National Parks and Wildlife Service share with the Jawoyn mob the history and sites of Aboriginal significance around Pittwater and Kuringai.

In return, regular trips are made by members of the Surf Club to remote Outback communities, providing a unique opportunity for them to learn about the traditional life of the Jawoyn people first hand. Experiences include kangaroo and turtle hunting, waterhole fishing, eating bush tucker, making didgeridoos, tucker bags and baskets, and learning about Aboriginal art.

Outback meets the Beach is a ground breaking program which facilitates education on a *two way street*. It is about breaking down the barriers of bigotry, racism and providing an environment for people from different backgrounds to learn and depend upon each other.

This program is made possible by the generous funding from the Ian Thorpe Fountain For Youth Foundation, the Sky Foundation and the generous support from members of the North Palm Beach SLSC and community.

For more information visit:

www.northpalmbeach.com.au



The 2011 Mob were: Sybil Ranch, Diana Bruce, Eddie Oenpelli, Jamie Ahfat, Anne-Marie Lee, John Anderson, Ricardo Ranch, Brentley Plummer, Kieran Ranch, Sheyann Daniels, Illana Cooper, Teelizah Bonson, and Chicquitta Bostock. Photo courtesy Leslie McLeod





Tributes for the great Lionel Rose

AAP May 9, 2011

Australia's boxing community was in mourning on Sunday following the death of legendary fighter Lionel Rose aged 62.

Rose, shot to stardom when he became the first Aboriginal boxer to win a world title in 1968.

Rose was named *Australian of the Year* in 1968, the first time an Indigenous person had received that award. He was also appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE).

"He became world champion at a time when, in two or three states of Australia, Aboriginal people weren't entitled to vote," an emotional Quill, president of the WBC's ratings committee, told AAP on Sunday.

Rose refused a big money fight in South Africa in 1970. "He considered the fight and if he had have taken it he would have had to go there (South Africa) as an honorary *white*", Quill said. "So he said: 'I'm not going'."

"To my knowledge he was the first sportsman to refuse to go to South Africa because of Apartheid."

Rose also enjoyed some success as a recording artist, having two hits with *I Thank You* and *Remember Me*.

Lionel Rose was given a state funeral on Monday 16th May 2011.

Bennelong's grave found in Sydney garden



ABC News 20/3/2011

The grave of one of Australia's most prominent colonial Aboriginal figures, Bennelong, has been discovered in a Sydney garden after it was lost for 198 years.

Ryde council has been searching for the final resting place of the man who was the first Aborigine to live amongst white settlers. The council has confirmed it has found the grave site at Putney in Sydney's north-west.

Councillor Vic Tagg says talks have begun to verify the find with members of Bennelong's tribe. "He was from the Wangal tribe," he said. "This is fantastic. We'll make sure we get the elders there and make sure we do the right thing by the Aboriginal community."

He says the grave was in two possible locations. "In the history there were two stories coming out – that it was either near the orchard or down on the banks," he said. "It proved to be right that it was near the orchard that he was buried which is very significant. We've got to change the history a little bit."

*The Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser
Saturday January 9th 1813, page 2*

"Bennelong died on Sunday morning last at Kissing Point. Of this veteran champion of the native tribe little favourable can be said. His voyage to, and benevolent treatment in Great Britain produced no change whatever in his manners and inclinations, which were naturally barbarous and ferocious. The principal Officers of Government had for many years endeavoured, by the kindest of usage to wean him from his original habits, and draw him into a relish for civilised life; but every effort was in vain exerted, and for the last few has been little noticed. His propensity to drunkenness [sic] was inordinate; and when in that state he was insolent, menacing [sic] and overbearing. In fact, he was a thorough savage, not to be warped from the form and character that nature gave him, by all the efforts that mankind could use".

The unmarked site was allegedly found again in 1927 by Charles Watson, a descendant of Squire, who was told by his mother about a black man's grave underneath a tennis court that had been built behind the brewer's old house.

In the decades that followed roads were laid down, further clouding Bennelong's location. In 1970, a local elderly man who had visited the site in 1927 with Watson insisted the grave was now part of a suburban allotment on the intersection of two streets in Putney.

Today, a memorial plaque sits in Cleves Park, Putney, to mark the approximate area where he is believed to be buried. After almost two centuries, the speculation is finally over.



Indigenous Jobs are focus for new Uluru Resort owners

Malcolm Brown May 28, 2011

YULARA, the tourist resort set in central Australia with Uluru and the Olgas in the middle distance, finally became totally Aboriginal owned this week, completing the process that started 26 years ago with the hand over of Ayers Rock to traditional owners.

The four star resort was bought by the Indigenous Land Corporation for \$300 million last October but the final hand over had been delayed because of complications over licences and the operation of the airport.

The Corporation will run Yulara, also known as Ayers Rock Resort, in partnership with the indigenous organisation Wana Ungkuntja, which represents Indigenous business interests in the nearby communities of Mutijulu, Imanpa and Docker River.

With 300,000 visitors a year, and a busy schedule that includes coach trips, tours and dinners in the desert under the stars, the resort is from all appearances a money-spinner.

The Corporation's chairwoman, Shirley McPherson, said although the resort employed 670 people, Indigenous employment had historically been low.

"A key priority in this acquisition is to train and employ 200 Indigenous people to work at the resort by 2015 and see Indigenous employment climb to 315, or nearly 50 per cent, by the end of 2018," Ms McPherson said. "The provision of a memorable and quality cultural and environmental tourism experience at Uluru will continue to be the primary focus, but Ayers Rock Resort will increasingly provide badly needed Indigenous jobs and industry-accredited training."



Money-spinner ... dining under the stars at Yulara.

Eric Roberts, a Corporation spokesman, said: "We have bought all the infrastructure there, various levels of accommodation, the recreation facilities, the supermarket, shops, the airport, the petrol station and workers' housing. The 670 staff working there will remain. We have set some targets for Aboriginal employment ... We have a vision that it will become a hub of operations and training."

The Corporation, established under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005 to help Indigenous people acquire and manage land to achieve social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits, has been busy.

It operates a range of pastoral, tourism and agricultural businesses in collaboration with Indigenous communities and has already provided substantial training and employment.

Ms McPherson said there would be a close working relationship with the Sydney based National Centre for Indigenous Excellence, with the object of establishing a campus at the resort.

NOVEL INDIGENOUS QUIT CRUSADE

Patricia Kavelas From: The Australian March 28, 2011

IN a first, a nationwide ad campaign urging Aborigines to quit smoking has hit the airwaves. The effort is part of the Gillard government's crusade to close the gap.

It is the first Indigenous-specific television commercial as part of a national health campaign. This campaign depicts a young Indigenous woman reflecting on her experience of having lost family and friends to smoking-related diseases and how she doesn't want her own children to think dying early from smoking-related diseases is normal.

Health Minister Nicola Roxon and Indigenous Health Minister Warren Snowdon called on Aborigines to break the family chain and kick the lethal habit.

"This campaign addresses the harsh reality that one in two Indigenous Australians smoke, and one in five will die from smoking-related diseases," Ms Roxon said. "The statistics are alarming, but the message is simple: break the chain and give up a habit that will kill you."

Mr Snowdon said smoking alone accounted for about 20 per cent of all Indigenous deaths, and was the No 1 cause of chronic conditions and diseases such as cancer and cardiovascular disease among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"Smoking kills," Mr Snowdon said. "It's that simple and the Gillard government is not going to stand back when death and disease caused by smoking can be prevented."

"Our government is committed to halving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander smoking rates by 2018."

"This campaign will complement our new tobacco health workforce."

The government has placed Indigenous Tobacco Action Workers in 57 regions across the nation.



Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council picks up Merit Award at NSWALC Conference



Always was Always will be Aboriginal Land

Representatives of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, Chairperson Ricky Lyons and CEO Paul Morris attended the NSW Aboriginal Land Council State Conference on 5th-7th of April 2011 to be met with the surprise of winning a Merit Award for the Most Improved Land Council in NSW. This was a great boost to our Land Council and our community given the hardship everyone has gone through over the past 3 years.

Congratulations from ASG-MWP!

GILLARD HANDS BACK N.T. LAND TO ABORIGINES

AAP - June 7, 2011

Prime Minister Julia Gillard has capped off the first day of her Northern Territory tour by handing a large parcel of Aboriginal land back to its traditional owners.

Two of the four land parcels – Finke Gorge National Park and Simpson Desert stage 4 – were some of the earliest claims lodged under the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976.

Ms Gillard gave the deeds, including two belonging to land parcels in the Hermannsburg area, back to their traditional owners at a ceremony in Alice Springs on Tuesday.

The Finke Gorge National Park will be leased back to the Northern Territory for 99 years for use as a national park.

“Traditional owners will have a strong voice in the future management and operation of the park,” Ms Gillard said.

“The Central Land Council and traditional owners are working to design community development projects that can be supported with the income received under park leasing arrangements.”

BIALA Hostel Report

I can hardly believe half the year has gone already – we have been very busy at Biala as usual.

We have had quite a few new girls start the year but unfortunately homesickness struck and some have returned home, however a couple that did leave have just contacted us and are coming back to the hostel next term.

We have a new face at Biala this year, Emma who has joined us as Relief Houseparent and you know Di, Zita and our weekend cook Norman. Sheku has also just started here as our cleaner/handyman.

Our homework centre is going along well and we have had some representatives from IBM during this last term. They wanted to do some community work and decided to offer their services to Biala. So we have had this extra helper which has been really good along with our regular volunteers. The people from *Jews for Social Action* are also coming in each fortnight on Sunday afternoons to help the girls, and they also play games with them which has been fun.

The girls have been trying very hard with their schoolwork and have had excellent results which I think is due to all the help they get from our homework centre helpers and *Youthreach* tutor.

We have had our pool replaced which of course the girls can't wait to use this summer, and all the flooring was taken up and lovely new stuff put down. The girls have new beds and linen and their bedrooms are starting

to look much nicer. We are looking forward to new curtains and new lounges soon which all makes a huge difference to how the girls feel about the place.

The kids have been kept busy with netball, soccer clinics, touch footy and loads of other activities, the list below is just a small portion of what they have done:

- The *Culture Cruise* to Rodd Island with the Aboriginal community.
- Carol and Suzen took some of the girls to see *Murundak Aboriginal Songs of Freedom* movie at Manly cinemas.
- Carol also took a couple of girls to see some short films at *Message Sticks* at the Sydney Opera House.
- Various outings with the kids from Kirinari Sylvania Hostel and Kirinari Newcastle Hostel.
- Luna Park, Sydney Aquarium & Wildlife Zoo, Paddys Markets, and *Football @ Brooky*.

We all enjoyed coming to your *Sorry Day* event at Narrabeen – it is always a special day.

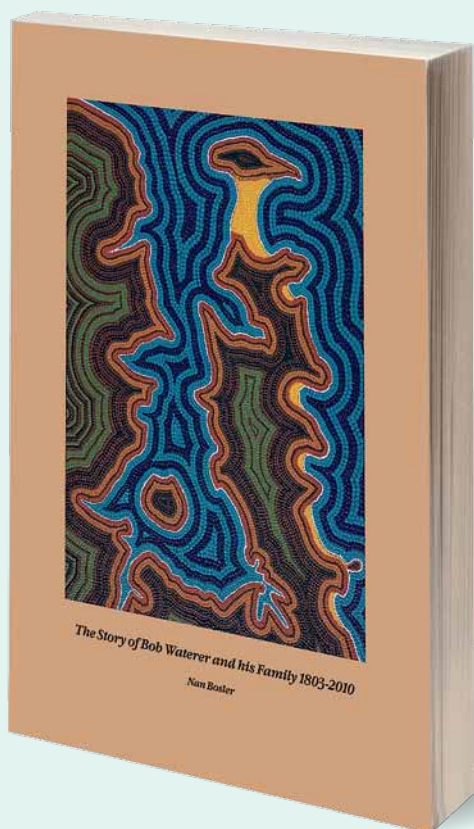
Thanks again to the Support Group for your ongoing support.

Lara Ruttlely
Senior Houseparent, Biala Hostel



The Story of Bob Waterer and his Family 1803-2010

by Nan Bosler



Cover image
painted by Paul McCarthy

This is the story of one family that can trace its heritage back to Sarah (Biddy) Wallace – a member of the Broken Bay clan led by Bungaree.

Featured in the story is Bob Waterer's great grandmother, Catherine Bens (1838-1920) who was known to many locals as *The Queen of Scotland Island*.

Meticulously compiled by local author and historian Nan Bosler, this superb 112 page limited edition is a fascinating family history and archive of the early days in the Lower Hawkesbury River, Scotland Island, Pittwater and Brookvale.

Packed with vintage photographs, the book also features a comprehensive list of descendants of the Waterer Family, from the children of Sarah Wallace to present day.

The book will be launched by the Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO, on 29 July, the opening day of 2011 National Family History Week.

This book will be available for purchase after the launch for \$25 each.

Please contact Pat Frater to reserve your copy/s:

email donandpatfrater@bigpond.com

telephone 02 9971 0735



REVERSE PROOF OF TITLE, SAYS PAUL KEATING

In a landmark speech, Paul Keating has called for the onus of proof in the Native Title Act to be reversed so that Aboriginal claimants are no longer required to establish a continuous association with their land. Instead, the former Prime Minister says, Native Title objectors should be required to prove a continuous attachment no longer exists.

Delivering the annual Lowitja O'Donoghue Oration at Adelaide University last night, Mr Keating lamented that only 121 native title determinations had been concluded from the 1300 lodged claims in the 15 years the Act had been operating.

He said the "onerous burden of proof" had placed an unjust pressure on those native title claimants who had suffered the most severe dispossession and social disruption.

"It (the onus of proof) has substantially slowed the right of redress by Aboriginal people to adequate recognition of their rights in respect of land, water and other natural resources.

"Native title should not be viewed as some museum-like strain of law which, snap frozen, requires defrosting around anthropological principles, documentary records that rarely exist, if they ever existed, and an onus of proof built within rules of evidence which are calibrated so as never being able to helpfully apply," he said.

Mr Keating, whose government passed the Native Title Act in 1993 after historic negotiation with Aboriginal



Former Prime Minister Paul Keating with Lowitja O'Donoghue in Adelaide

Picture: Kelly Barnes

Source: David Nason *The Australian* June 01, 2011

leaders, said he was adding his support to principles previously enunciated by High Court Chief Justice Robert French in 2008.

"Justice French suggested that some change in the act as it relates to onus of proof could facilitate a presumption of continuity of connection by claimants and continuity since sovereignty," Mr Keating said. "Justice French went on to say it would be important that any presumption be robust enough to withstand the mere introduction of evidence to the contrary; that is, proof to the contrary being required.

"I can only add my recommendation that the federal government give legislative effect to such changes so as to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and equity of the Native Title Act."

Biala Girls see *Murundak: Songs of Freedom*

A group of Biala girls accompanied Suzen Meagher and Carol Ritchie to the Manly Cinema to see *Murundak: Songs of Freedom*.

The film followed the Aboriginal group *The Black Arm Band* on the road as they took their music and songs of resistance and freedom around Australia.

The band brought together such wonderful pioneering Aboriginal singers as Archie Roach and the late Ruby Hunter and also emerging Aboriginal singers such as Dan Sultan and Emma Donovan. The songs in the film tell the stories of the artists and their lives as Aboriginal people in Australia. The songs contain powerful and moving words from the protest times of the 1970's and which are still relevant today.

It was a wonderful documentary/film that was really enjoyed by all the girls as well as ourselves.

Murundak: Songs of Freedom was a compelling and emotional experience which we think would inspire anyone who sees it.

Carol Ritchie

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

**Your *Elimatta* Renewal Form
is on page 7
of this Winter Issue**

For those receiving *Elimatta* via Email
you can print this by right-clicking on P7,
select current page, print.

**Please mail your completed form to:-
ASGMWP
P.O Box 129 Narrabeen NSW 2101**

Doing this will help us keep your details up to
date, thanks for your assistance.



Your Subscription Renewal is due 1 July 2011

Dear Member,

Membership renewal for the 2011/2012 year is \$25 and payable from 1 July. Your subscription monies help to meet expenses such as postage, paper, print and website. They cover also monthly hall rentals, our *Elimatta* Newsletter and subscriptions we pay to related Reconciliation bodies.

The renewal form below provides also for an *Optional Donation* for Aboriginal Education. Supplemented by bequest monies, the \$2,200 accompanying subscriptions last year enabled the Aboriginal Support Group—Manly Warringah Pittwater to distribute over \$4,000 as listed:

2010 Grant Allocations

- Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation 120
- Book Donation, Benefactor Forestville RSL 40
- Hardship Grant..... 450
- Charles Perkins Trust (Film screening takings)..... 240
- Northern Reconciliation Groups' funding
– for Eastwood Public School's "Lilly" to join school
excursion to Houston USA *Space Camp* 300
- Yuendumu/Mt Theo substance misuse rehab program..... 200
- N.T. Intervention Rollback Group 200
- Ian Thorpe Foundation – part proceeds of film screening..... 266
- Balance of proceeds to *Our Generation* filmmakers 266
- Gapuwiyak School Arnhem Land
– for Education materials 1,000
- Ramingining School Arnhem Land
– for sports equipment and attendance encouragement..... 1,000

Total

\$4,082

Additionally \$1,000 was held in reserve for Biala Hostel girls' extra-curricular needs and for an embryo South Coast NSW Women's' Group

Angela Rosenstein and David Harrison – Joint Treasurers



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Please Complete and Return with your payment

Mailing this form will also facilitate prompt issue of a receipt

Name:

Street:

Suburb: Post Code:

Phone: Mobile:

Email:

Membership Renewal Fee \$ 25

Optional Donation *For Aboriginal Education* \$

TOTAL PAYMENT \$

I would like to pay by: ☐ Direct Deposit ☐ Cheque/Money Order

Please Tick appropriate Box

Payment via Direct Deposit:

Acc. Name: ASGMWP

Commonwealth Bank Dee Why

Acc. No: 00 906 332 BSB: 062 155

Please use your NAME as the reference
on your deposit slip or electronic transfer

Payment by Cheque/Money Order:

Payable to: ASGMWP

P.O. Box 129

Narrabeen NSW 2101



OUR GENERATION

Showing in London

Report from Christine Waterer 16th May 2011

As I sit in a speeding train heading 200 miles north to my home in Yorkshire I think about my third viewing of *Our Generation* which was premiered yesterday at The Barbican as part of the London Independent Film Festival.

The film takes on a dream quality in my mind, beautiful and harrowing images that highlight the crisis that the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territories are experiencing.

Each time I see this film I 'hear' more, 'see' more, 'feel' more, and I'm increasingly outraged that the Australian Government (only 200 odd years old!) supported by that general Aussie habit of hiding from this hard truth, has, once more, created a situation that could make Traditional Aboriginal Culture EXTINCT. FOREVER!

A press release on the *One World* website begins "Faced with deliberate attempts by the Australian Government to marginalise Aboriginal people from their resource rich lands, as well as disempower their traditional leaders and suppress Indigenous languages in schools, Australia's *First Peoples* are on the brink of cultural genocide. The time has come for the world to listen to their cry for freedom."

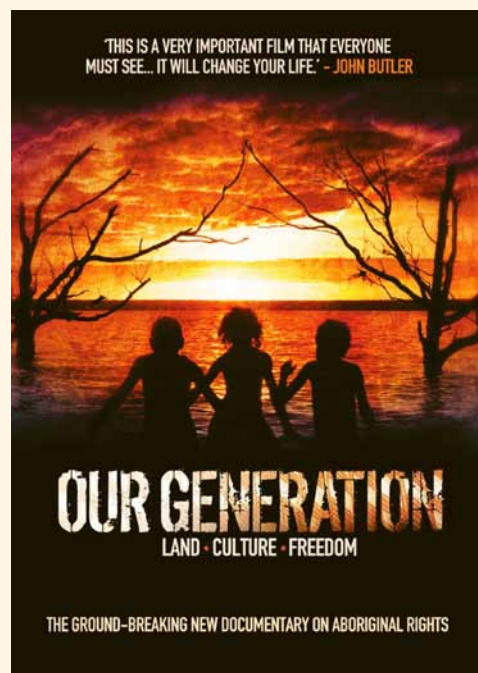
The *Intervention* is yet another example of the appalling treatment the Aboriginal People of Australia have been subjected to in such a short period of time compared to thousands of years of survival. Sinem Saban and Rev. Dr Gondarra supported by the Yolngu people and cinematographer, Damien Curtis, have created a sensitive and realistic view of the plight of those who wish to live a more traditional life in their homelands and of those who appear to be dispossessed.

It was my great privilege to meet and shake hands with Sinem and Djiniyini. Two people who are very humble and have a gentle strength and determination to tell their powerful story before it is TOO LATE. I was glad to be able to round up seven friends in London to come see the film and their most significant comments are "Why haven't we heard about this?" (Very little news from *down under* gets through to the European countries) and "What can we do?"

What action can we take to challenge the Australian Government, make people aware of the crisis, and protect Aboriginal Traditional Culture?

We can:

- As a priority, add your name to the petition
- Revisit the *Our Generation* website
- Buy the DVD and show it to friends and community group
- Watch the DVD again
- Complain to the Australian Tourist Board
- Complain to the Australian Government



- Complain to the UN
 - Tell friends in other countries
 - Support The Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation's work towards the preservation of traditional language
- www.guringai.com.au
www.ourgeneration.org.au
www.oneworldgroup.org

Language lover listed in Queen's honours

Ninemsn Mon Jun 13 2011

She's written countless books and spent most of her life acting as an intermediary between black and white Australia.

After 30 years fighting to preserve her peoples' language and culture, Veronica Mary Dobson has finally gained the recognition she deserves.

The Arrernte elder has been appointed a Member (AM) of the *Order of Australia* for service to the Indigenous community as a linguist, naturalist and ecologist.

With fewer than 2000 speakers remaining, the central Australian Arrernte language is considered endangered.

Ms Dobson developed two curriculum documents and a colouring book to bring Aboriginal languages into mainstream schools in places like Alice Springs, and taught language courses to both Aboriginal and non-Indigenous adults.

Since the 1980s Ms Dobson has worked in many different translating and interpreting roles for media organisations, courts and hospitals.

The many books she has co-authored cover a variety of topics, including kinship and traditional healing.



SORRY DAY NEWS

29th May 2011

Personally I feel the Day was a great success.

The atmosphere was very friendly & relaxed, just like being at your Auntie's.

What also impressed me was the higher percentage of Aboriginal people this year, including our own Auntie Nancy.

I had fun encouraging kids to colour in the Aboriginal inspired art work sheets that Clair brought.

A couple of Biala Girls took great delight in sitting with very little ones.

Veronica (Koori crafty woman from Lane Cove and member of LCRR) brought prepared friendship bracelets in red yellow & black for the older kids to complete.

Wallanari and Les Walsh were *deadly*. So was the Murri Magician. I especially loved the way they all involved the kids.

Laurie brought a powerful portable BBQ and helped cook all the snags and onions, thanks to Helen, Allan and Laurie great job. Again thank you Devitts Meat Narrabeen for donating the sausages.

The bread and bread rolls plus scones and cakes were donated by Bakers Delight Warriewood.

As the weather was raining and cold, without the Elanora Scout Hall it would not have been possible to have had such a great day. Thanks.

The Biala girls assisted in all aspects of the day, Thank you girls! Much appreciated!

The Pittwater Council helped make it possible with a small grant for the extra costs. Thank you.

But of course the day had to be organised and again



Photo courtesy Angela and Sue

Clair, supported by many Member of the Aboriginal Support Group, Thanks to Kevin for bringing and setting up the all-important sound system. And Vanessa for dismantling it and for all her sterling work beforehand in producing flyers and

in publicising to local newspapers. Very special thanks to Carol Ritchie for finding and arranging for The Diramu Aboriginal Dance and Didgeridoo troupe. You've done it again. Thank you so much for a wonderful experience, starting with our Remembrance Walk from Berry Park to Bilarong to be greeted with a warm welcome at Berry Park by *Uncle Bob Waterer* with *Acknowledgement of Guringai Country*.

Speakers on the day included Uncle Bob, Melinda Walker, Sue Pinckham, Leigh Bowden, Lizzie Landers, Clair Jackson. A memorable experience yet again.

*Suzen Meagher
(ASGMWP member)*

PLAQUE UNVEILING AT PYMBLE CATHOLIC PARISH

Wording on the Plaque:

The Aboriginal People

As we enter this sacred place we pay respect to the Aboriginal people and their ancestors who first walked this Great South Land. We follow in the footsteps of those whose song once echoed through the Ku-ring-gai bush.

We acknowledge that our church stands on the traditional lands of the Guringai Aboriginal People – and, also, the spirit of this land. In doing so, we recognise and embrace our connection to the long, continuous and rich history of Australia's Indigenous people.

*Welcome to this sacred place,
Sacred Heart Pymble, May 29 2011*



Brett Rowling and Gerry Wake next to the plaque

Brett Rowling was asked to unveil the plaque and provide a *Welcome to Country* combined with a brief history of our people. "I must say that I felt really proud to be able to do this".



Guringai Festival 2011

The Guringai Festival, One Voice – the modern day Corroboree – What's happened so far...



Thursday 26th May

2011 Guringai Festival launch

by Susan Moylan Coombes
The Gala Dinner Event held at the Hornsby RSL Club and organised by the *gpNetwork Northside*. The aim of the dinner was for GPs in the northern area to mix in a social setting with the Aboriginal community. It was very well organised with beautiful table settings, the MC Adam Cryer, helped organise the event, along with Sue Pinkham. There was an Aboriginal art exhibition and Emma Donovan sang and entertained us.



Friday 27th May

Mosman's Community Restaurant

Celebrated the Guringai Festival with Aboriginal style food. No witchetty grubs or crocodile meat – but the food was wonderful and served enthusiastically by *Mary the kitchen Fairy* and her helpers. Then the performance by the Aboriginal group *Talara Freeman and the Freeman Dancers* was excellent. Olivier for your help and the Mosman Council, thank you.



Friday 27th May

Warringah Event

St Anthony in the Fields, 46 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills

The First Australians Dinner and Conversation with Nicole Watson

Nicole Watson, a Birri Gubba woman from Central Queensland, is an Aboriginal lawyer (a research fellow at UTS).

First the Problem of the Intervention, then the Constitution

Over a scrumptious meal, we listen to Nicole Watson provide informed background on this topic which is important for all Australians. Joined in conversation with local Aboriginal Community members and prepare yourself for this question to be put to a referendum at the next Federal election.

It is seen as an important step in the path to reconciliation, the abandonment of the raft of discriminatory laws and policies – a constitutional guarantee of equality; a Constitution which reflects the values of contemporary Australian society and a possible guarantee of racial equality for all Australians.



Wednesday 15th June

Bran Nue Dae

The Aboriginal Support Group held the annual film day at Collaroy Cinema as part of the Guringai Festival. This year we showed *Bran Nue Day*, the story and music are wonderful. Although the film features the injustice suffered by Aboriginal people, it uses humour to get its message across.

A very good crowd turned up to see the film and all seemed to enjoy it.

Our thanks once again to Roy Mustaca for allowing our group the use of the Collaroy Cinema for the morning.



Thursday 23rd June

The many faces of Bungaree: Lecture by Dr. Keith Vincent Smith

Bungaree, known as chief of the Broken Bay Aborigines, was a central figure in early Colonial Sydney. An aboriginal leader, he was the first person known to have been called an *Australian*. His story presents a rich and layered history of one man's remarkable exploits and ability to navigate calamitous times to become a highly respected leader, and bridge between Aboriginal and white cultures.

He accompanied Matthew Flinders on his circumnavigation of Australia between 1801 and 1803. Bungaree had achieved what no Aborigine had – making Aboriginal and Maritime history by circumnavigating Australia twice.

Guringai Festival 2011

More to celebrate at – The Guringai Festival, One Voice – the modern day Corroboree

20 June – 10 July

10am-5pm daily

Mosman High Guringai Festival Art Display

Mosman Art Gallery foyer,
cnr Art Gallery Way and Myahgah Road, Mosman
Free Event

Enquiries: Julie Petersen 9978 4186 www.mosmanartgallery.org.au

Throughout July

During Library Hours

Lane Cove NAIDOC Week Children's Exhibition

Lane Cove Library, Library Walk Lane Cove
Free Event

Enquiries: LCRR Frances de Jong 0420 289 057,
Library Karen Mitchell 9911 3634 www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au

3 July – 10 July

Open library and
business hours

Mosman NAIDOC Week School Students' Artwork Exhibition

Mosman Library, Mosman Art Gallery,
Commonwealth, Westpac & National Australia Banks in Mosman & Neutral Bay
Free Event

Enquiries: Frennie Beytagh 9909 0203 www.mosman.nsw.gov.au

5 July

10am-12pm

Damper Making and Aboriginal Games with Uncle Les

Mona Vale Library, 1 Park Street, Mona Vale
Free Event

Enquiries: Client Services Librarian 9970 1600

6 July

6.30pm-8.30pm

Talk: Lorraine McGee Sippel – *Hey Mum, What's a Half-Caste?*

Mona Vale Library, 1 Park Street, Mona Vale
Free Event

Enquiries: Client Services Librarian 9970 1600 www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au

6 July

6.30pm-7.30pm

AuthorTalk: Christopher Bevan – *A Kinchela Boy*

Gordon Library Meeting Room, 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon
Cost: \$5 – light supper

Enquiries: Gordon Library 9424 0909

7 July

1pm-6pm

Chatswood NAIDOC Week Mall Market Celebrates

Chatswood Pedestrian Mall, Victoria Avenue, Chatswood
Free Event

The traditional Aboriginal didgeridoo and dance troupe, The Daramu

Enquiries: Willoughby City Council Events Department 9777 1000
www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au

8 July

6pm – 8pm

One Voice: Call for Constitutional Change

Glen Street Theatre, cnr Glen Street and Blackbutts Road, Belrose
Free Event

Join the national discussion about the proper recognition of Indigenous Australians in our constitution.

Enquiries: Janine Turnbull 9942 2502 www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

10 July

10am – 3pm

Native Grass Weaving and Bushcraft

Children's Workshop 10am – 12pm / Adult Workshop 1pm – 3pm
Newport Community Centre,
The Boulevarde, Newport Beach (off Barrenjoey Road)



Monday July 11

7.15 for 7.30pm

ASG-MWP Film Night

Murundak – Songs of Freedom Free event.

Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1606 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale

Murundak – songs of freedom follows *The Black Arm Band*, a gathering of some of Australia's finest Aboriginal musicians, as they take to the road with their songs of struggle, resistance and freedom.

Please join us afterwards for a cup of tea or coffee.

For further details contact Leigh Bowden 0405 381 038 or Anna Bell 9913 7940

First full week July

NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee

This committee was once responsible for organising national activities during NAIDOC Week and its acronym has become the name of the week itself.

NAIDOC Week is celebrated annually in the first full week of July, not just in Aboriginal communities, but also in increasing numbers of government agencies, schools, local councils and workplaces.

Sunday July 24

5.00 pm

Our Generation screening at Avalon Baptist Church, 2 George St. Avalon

Jeff McMullen will speak and present a Q and A session.

This event is inspired by the Guringai festival and hosted by the Avalon Baptist Church and Avalon Amnesty International Group.

We plan to provide a free supper of soup and rolls.

We also suggest donations to Ian Thorpe's *Fountain for Youth*

Thursday August 4

National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day.

Celebrated on 4 August each year, the theme for 2004 is

From small to big: growing stronger every day.

For more information www.snaicc.asn.au

Monday Aug 22

7-9pm

Future of Narrabeen Lagoon & Catchment

Upstairs at the Tramshed

Rob Stokes, Member of Parliament for Pittwater, will talk about steps to the declaration of Narrabeen State Park.

For more information and to book your ticket, contact Judith Bennett 99052135, email sydney.educ@npansw.org.au or visit www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au

August 8

7.30pm

ASG-MWP Business Meeting

Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1606 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale – All welcome

September 12

7.30pm

ASG-MWP Information Night

Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1606 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale – All welcome

For more details contact Leigh Bowden 0405 381 038 or Anna Bell 9913 7940

An Invitation to join us

Aboriginal Support Group Manly Warringah Pittwater

Founded 1979

Membership is \$25 per year

(02) 9913 7940 (02) 9982 1685

P.O. Box 129 NARRABEEN NSW 2101

www.asgmwp.net

Elimatta is the newsletter of the Aboriginal Support Group Manly Warringah Pittwater.

Articles are welcome with the understanding that editorial changes may be made and that contributors agree that the material will be archived by the National Library of Australia.

Contributors to **Elimatta** are from many different cultures and backgrounds. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editors or members of the ASG.

Please email articles where possible to the.elimatta@gmail.com

If you use any of the material it would be appreciated if the extract is set in context and the source acknowledged.



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