North Queensland Land Council

Message Stick

Your way forward

September 2019

Pictured: Dennis Hunter, Djabugay Traditional Owner

A proposal for furthering the
Uluru Statement from the Heart

Ewamian Tatampi Puranga Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC
Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation
Doing Deadly Things In Eco-Tourism

NAIDOC 2019
VOICE. TREATY. TRUTH.

NAIDOC WEEK:
POSTERS OF THE PAST
1972 TO PRESENT

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Djabugay culture lights up Redlynch

Ngarraboolgan gets Djungan Cultural Sign

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Message from

Madam Chair

Welcome to the September 2019 edition of NQLC's Message Stick. I would like to commence by acknowledging all of the traditional owners within our footprint. I would like to pay my respects to our elders, past, present and emerging. I would also like to acknowledge those who are no longer with us but who helped us get where we are today. Their legacy lives on through us, and through the foundations they have laid in native title and their determined lands.

This quarter has been a very busy time with visiting different places, who have invited me out to see firsthand their plans and the progression they are making. The Board and I have been putting our focus into one of our main objectives which is how NQLC can be of more service to our mobs post determination, and how we can encourage economic growth in our communities. Two directors and myself met with the Kimberley Land Council (KLC), who have a long history of working alongside their mobs to form businesses and development opportunities. They're doing deadly things over in the Kimberley and as a fellow native title representative body, it was wonderful to see how they have grown their organisation to support the changing needs of their people. I would like to thank the KLC Chair, Mr Anthony Watson, and KLC CEO, Mr Nolan Hunter, for taking the time to meet with us; for their generosity, sharing their knowledge and for showing us their breathtaking country. The wheels are in motion and we have some great plans in the pipeline.

In early August, Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation (EAC) Chair, David Hudson invited myself and others to visit Talaroo Station. The Queensland Government recently announced a $4.5 million dollar investment into four key projects in a bid to develop Tropical North Queensland's tourism industry. The Queensland Government is partnering with EAC to build new tourism infrastructure and re-open the Talaroo historic hot springs near Georgetown.

The Talaroo Hot Springs are a

Photo descriptions. *Page 3, clockwise from top left): Deadly Bush Foods Dinner hosted by Tully State High School and Girringun Aboriginal Corporation; NQLC directors at the Kimberley Land Council office; students from Tully State High School; Phil Rist with Gulngay Elders Aunty Marjorie Kinjun and Aunty Doris Kinjun; visit to KLC CEO Nolan Hunter's Bardi homelands; visit to Talaroo Hot Springs. | Above, clockwise from left: Talaroo Hot Springs; Kaylene Malthouse and June Oscar AO at the Uluru Statement from the Heart brainstorming session in Cairns; NQLC directors with Yawru PBC, NQLC directors with Waardi Limited.*

UNESCO registered geospring, which is huge potential to attract people further inland. David Hudson and EAC General Manager Sharon Prior shared their development plans with us, which are incredibly impressive. We have included a four-page spread within this edition of Message Stick for those who would like to read up a little more about it. The Ewamian People are such a wonderful mob and it was a privilege for me to be able to visit their country, and see how they plan to develop the area. It shows that there are opportunities out there, we just need to find them, and we need to grab them and not give up until we've achieved what we set out to. I would like to personally thank David and the Board of Ewamian, Sharon and the rangers for making me feel comfortable at Talaroo it was well worth the trip and I hope to get back around one day. I'd also like to acknowledge the other stakeholders supporting/partnering with Ewamian mob on their projects. There was an opportunity to meet their neighbours, also the Mayor of Georgetown and the CEO, who welcomed the upgrades for the station.

At the end of August I attended a brainstorming weekend meeting with determined people from around the country to discuss a way forward on the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The outcome of the session was a proposal for a carefully worded letter to Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, and Minister for Indigenous Australians, Ken Wyatt. The letter proposed reactivating the regional dialogues footprint, beginning as soon as next February, to design local and national structures for the Voice.

Later in August I had the pleasure of attending the third instalment of the 'Deadly Bush Foods' dinner, hosted by the Tully State High School's year 12 kitchen operations students and the Girringun Aboriginal Corporation. The dinner was a showcase of local bush food from native plants harvested in the local region, designed into a four-course meal created and produced by the students. Guests were treated to salt bush arancini and Burdekin plum relish, kangaroo and ginger leaf ragout lasagne with Alexandra palm slaw, corned beef with yam cooked three ways finished off with béchamel quandong sauce, chocolate delice cake with murrgan jam and lemon myrtle cheese sponge cake. It was a wonderful evening enjoying the beautiful tastes of our traditional tucker, and seeing our young ones working with the native plants our peoples have been using for thousands of years. Seeing our young ones proudly embracing culture and sharing it with others, was a very proud moment for me. It was very well attended by the parents and public supporting this annual event. Thank you to Girringun Aboriginal Corporation's Mr Troy Wiles Whelan (Chair) and Mr Philip Rist (CEO) for the opportunity to attend.

Please enjoy the September 2019 edition of Message Stick.

KAYLENE MALTHOUSE

Chair, NQLC

Update from the

Chief Executive Officer

Welcome readers, to our September 2019 edition of Message Stick. I hope it finds you well.

I am pleased to announce that we have a new location for our Townsville operation. Due to some unforeseen circumstances we were forced to find new office premises in July, at very short notice. Following a lot of leg work (literally) by our Corporate Services Officer Brian Cahill we were fortunate to secure a highly suitable new office space at Level 1, 19 Stanley St in Townsville and our Townsville crew are now happily settled in. If you're in the vicinity please feel free to pop in for a cuppa.

Since the last Message Stick the Commonwealth Government has established the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) under the Minister for Indigenous Australians, Ken Wyatt and CEO Mr Ray Griggs. All Indigenous Australians programmes previously managed by the Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet have now been transferred to NIAA. To date there have been no noticeable effects on the NQLC through the change. Further information about NIAA can be found at www.niaa.gov.au .

Intensive work by the NQLC's Claims Unit continues on our priority claims: Wakaman (now set for trial), the Cairns Regional Inquiry process, Gurambilbarra Wulgurukaba, Yuwibara, Bindal and Warrgamay, with steady progress being made. Research continues on future claims for Manbarra (Palm Island), South Central Region, Southern Warra, Gia, Ngaro, Gugu Badhun and a sub-regional sea claim in the area between Townsville and Innisfail. Research has also commenced in support of the Jirrbal # 4 claim and will be finalised shortly.

The NQLC's Engagement and Development Support Team (Future Act and PBC Support) has been extremely busy with a range of activities since the previous Message Stick and I refer you to the EDST report on page 8 for further details.

The team is doing some great work.

Following recent recruitment rounds I'm pleased to announce that two new staff members have commenced in our Townsville office – Mr Julian Santamaria and Ms Sarah Von Pein. Julian has taken up the position of PBC Support Coordinator, and brings to us extensive experience in working with PBCs at Desert Support Services (a subsidiary of Central Desert Native Title Services) in WA. Sarah has been appointed to the position of Legal Administration Officer into the vacancy created by Laura Burton's recent promotion and brings to us lengthy experience in legal administration and paralegal duties in Townsville law firms. We also have a new temporary receptionist in the Cairns office, in Krystle Edmonds. Krystle is with us until end December when Melanie Philpot is scheduled to return from maternity leave. We are delighted to welcome Sarah, Krystle and Julian into the team.

Some readers will be aware that Queensland Treasury Department officials delivered information sessions on native title compensation in August in both Townsville and Cairns and I'm pleased to advise that the NQLC was well represented at both. In order to avoid potentially costly and lengthy litigation the Qld Government is proposing to develop a native title compensation settlement framework. The NQLC's Chairlady delivered a very strong speech at the Cairns session about local Traditional Owners' aspirations for any compensation settlement, which left the Treasury officials in no doubt about the level of input regional native title holders require into the process. For our clients who were unable to attend the sessions I refer you to the article on page 7 of this edition for further information.

You may recall that the NQLC recently engaged NOUS consulting to provide a report on developing options around some of NOUS's earlier recommendations about the NQLC's governance model and strategic planning, moving into a post determination future. The report has now been completed and was considered by the Board at its September meeting in Townsville. I will report further in Message Stick on developments but please be aware that the NQLC is moving into an era of significant and exciting change in the way it does business and supports the region's Traditional Owners – particularly in the areas of native title compensation and economic development.

Finally, I must advise that the NQLC's long serving – 19 years – Principal Legal Officer, Martin Dore, left us in August to pursue other goals. The Board, staff and I and wish to extend our gratitude and sincere thanks to Martin for his lengthy period of service and the many, many positive outcomes he achieved for the region's native title holders. We wish Martin all the very best with his future aspirations. It is hoped that a new PLO will be recruited shortly but in the interim Mr Nigel Hales of Miller Harris Lawyers has agreed to fill the role on a consultancy basis. Nigel can be contacted via the NQLC.

Again I commend you to this edition of the Message Stick and I hope you enjoy the content.

Cheers.

STEVE DUCKSBURY

CEO, NQLC

COMPENSATION
NATIVE TITLE

WRITTEN BY: CHRIS HARRISS, SENIOR LEGAL OFFICER

When we look down the long road of native title and the ground we've covered, a handful of significant legal cases spring to mind. Mabo for example, was the first time native title was recognised by the Australian legal system. In Wik, the legal system recognised that pastoral leases had not extinguished native title and they could coexist. Yorta Yorta established that Indigenous laws and customs must be acknowledged and observed without substantial interruption since Captain Cook's day in order to prove native title.

On 13 March 2019 the High Court of Australia decided another significant case, that of Timber Creek. In this matter the Ngaliwurru and Nungali Peoples of Timber Creek in the Northern Territory, were awarded compensation for the extinguishment of their native title by public works. For the first time the High Court examined the *Native Title Act*'s compensation provisions and put a monetary value on the loss of native title including the intangible harm caused by disconnection with country.

State and Territory Governments have known about the potential for compensation claims since the *Native Title Act* was first passed in 1993. Timber Creek has set a precedent for similar claims across the country and marks the beginning of a shift from determining the existence of native title to determining compensation for the loss of native title.

On 15 August 2019 the Native Title Compensation Program Office (NTCPO) of Queensland Treasury held a consultation session in Cairns. In attendance were NQLC Chair Kaylene Malthouse, NQLC Directors Terry O'Shane and Vana O'Shane, NQLC CEO Steve Ducksbury and a number of NQLC staff.

The consultation marked the beginning of the State of Queensland's engagement to develop a response to Timber Creek and address its compensation liability. The State acknowledged that compensation is a right under the *Native Title Act 1993* and confirmed that it (the State) is already responding to three compensation claims lodged in the Federal Court.

State representatives at the session advised that the State's preference is to resolve matters through agreement and indicated that their advice to government – resolution by agreement – would not change. That's because negotiated settlements can avoid significant costs (possibly exceeding the quantum of the compensation awarded) and go toward building and improving relationships.

The NQLC's Chair Ms Kaylene Malthouse addressed the assembled group and informed the State that recognition of thousands of years of Indigenous history was paramount and that financial compensation was but a small part of just compensation. Madam Chair went on to acknowledge that the social part of compensation must include a long term commitment to rebuild Indigenous societal foundations on which future generations will retain their places as distinct societies.

Madam Chair indicated that the NQLC would support its clients through negotiations with a view to not only receiving economic compensation but also long term solutions to benefit future generations. The Chair advised the State representatives that in order to achieve successful outcomes, the State must commit to resourcing the NQLC to facilitate wide ranging consultation to ensure free, prior and informed consent underpins final decisions on compensation.

Kaylene Malthouse, NQLC Chair, speaking at the native title compensation consultation session in Cairns, August 2019.

Engagement and Development Support Unit Update

The Engagement and Development Support Team (EDST) continues to provide services and advice to PBCs through their PBC Support Unit (PBCSU) and Future Act Mining and Exploration (FAME) Unit.

Since our last Message Stick, we were pleased to welcome Julian Santamaria as the new Coordinator of PBCSU. Filling the vacant position based in our Townsville office, Julian joins us from Perth where he has extensive experience working closely with the PBCs of WA's desert country. We are very pleased to have Julian on board and no doubt you will be seeing or hearing from him in the near future. You can read more about Julian in his staff profile on the opposite page.

The FAME Unit has continued to provide direct advice and representation to many of our client groups in respect of future act notifications, negotiations and implementation of agreements. Additionally, FAME is providing support and advice on a range of projects, such as a new defence project and a growing number of renewable energy projects in North Queensland, as well as an increase in mining matters in the right to negotiate following the expiry of two previous small scale miners ILUAs.

The FAME Unit has also been working with PBCs in relation to economic development opportunities that are being leveraged through various negotiated ILUAs and mining agreements, including assisting the Ewamian People with their aspirations for reopening Talaroo Station as an eco-tourism destination. You can learn more about this project on page ####.

The PBCSU has been busy with the new funding period for the 2019/20 PBC Support Funding during July and August. We are pleased to report that most PBCs received funding for this financial year and the first funding releases have now been made.

Julian and the PBC team are also reviewing the proposed capacity development workshop schedule and PBCs will be advised when that schedule is settled. The schedule will include the National Native Title Council (NNTC) Compensation Information Workshop and the PBC Regional Forum, which is hosted by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA).

We also remind PBCs that at the Governance Workshop held in May, Shane Carroll advised that he is available to conduct his governance program with PBC Boards. There is no charge for Shane's attendance but PBCs are responsible for the costs of having their directors attend and making the arrangements such as venue, catering etc.

Finally, we wish all PBCs well in the conduct of their AGMs which need to be held before 30 November.

WRITTEN BY:

RHONDA M JACOBSEN

Manager, Engagement & Development Support Team
Senior Legal Officer

JULIAN SANTAMARIA
Coordinator, PBC Support Unit

Julian has joined our PBC Support Unit from Perth where he was working with PBCs in Western Australia's desert country. He has a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of International Studies from Deakin University and is interested in bushwalking, various sports and spending time with family.

Having grown up in Tasmania, attended university in Victoria and worked in WA, Julian is a keen AFL fan but is looking forward to being indoctrinated by the NRL/Cowboys fans.

Julian is excited to be in North Queensland and is already stunned by the beautiful country - he can't wait to spend some time on it. Julian is keen to learn more about people, culture and country and working with PBCs to achieve their aspirations.

A proposal for furthering the

Uluru Statement from the Heart

Above: Jackie Huggins AM, June Oscar AO, Pat Anderson AO and Kaylene Malthouse at the Uluru Statement from the Heart brainstorming session in August, in Cairns QLD.

Cairns was the location at the end of August for a brainstorming weekend meeting of people from around the country, determined to help find a way forward on the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

The meeting was hosted by Referendum Council leaders Megan Davis, Pat Anderson and Noel Pearson and organised by the UNSW team led by Professor Megan Davis, as was a meeting in May which travelled to Yarrabah to honour the leaders of the 1967 referendum.

Leaders hailing from all corners of Australia saw an opportunity to offer the Morrison government a blueprint for designing the First Nations Voice to Parliament outlined in the Uluru Statement.

In a carefully worded letter to the Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, and his Minister for Indigenous Australians, Ken Wyatt, a detailed pathway towards a Voice that could be enshrined in the constitution by 2021 was proposed.

The Voice to Parliament was determined through the historic Referendum Council Regional Dialogues process to be the only satisfactory form of First Nations Constitutional Recognition.

Those dialogues were held at 12 locations around the country between late 2016 and mid-2017, including one in Cairns hosted by the North Queensland Land Council.

Around 1200 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were consulted through this formal process, leading up to the historic constitutional convention at Uluru in May 2017.

The Cairns letter proposed reactivating the regional dialogues footprint, beginning as soon as next February, to design local and national structures for the Voice.

There may have been the appearance that doors are closing but actually the Prime Minister is looking for solutions, and we could be the brokers of those solutions ..... all may sometimes seem lost but it's not lost – look at what was achieved.

– Kaylene Malthouse
Chair, North Queensland Land Council

The proposed next stage would also involve allowing the wider national community to participate, possibly through a national convention or some kind of parliamentary committee.

The government has already committed $7.3 million for "co-design" of the Voice but the letter was a clear reminder that First Nations, not bureaucrats in Canberra, must lead the process.

It proposed that a panel of legal experts could draft the words to go into the Constitution that would enable the Voice's creation, and that a referendum on it could then be held by mid-2021.

A Joint Select Committee report last year found significant support for the proposed Voice and recommended that "following a process of co-design, the Australian Government consider, in a deliberate and timely manner, legislative, executive and constitutional options" for its establishment.

North Queensland Land Council chair Kaylene Malthouse said the Cairns meeting demonstrated there was still great possibility for the Voice despite recent doubts cast on it by Mr Morrison and Mr Wyatt.

"There may have been the appearance that doors are closing but actually the Prime Minister is looking for solutions, and we could be the brokers of those solutions," Kaylene said.

"All may sometimes seem lost but it's not lost – look at what was achieved."

The significance of holding such meetings in Cairns has been noted previously, with a similar meeting in May paying tribute to the tireless heroes of the successful 1967 referendum.

During that meeting a trip was made to the Tree of Knowledge in Yarrabah and honour paid to two of the heroes of 1967 – Ms Ruth Hennings, aged 85, and Mr Alf Neal, aged 94.

Written by:

Stephen Fitzpatrick

Uluru Dialogue, University of NSW

Stephen Fitzpatrick is a dual Walkley Award–winning former foreign correspondent and Indigenous affairs editor at The Australian. He works in the newly established Uluru Dialogue at the University of NSW.

Above: Leaders were delighted to join in for four year old Walter's birthday celebration. Walter has been attending these leadership meetings for half of his life, with mum Sally and aunty Jill.

Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation staff and board members and Elders with consultants, QPWS staff and NQLC staff members in June 2019 at Talaroo Hot Springs.

Ewamian Tatampi Puranga Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC
Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation

Doing Deadly Things In Eco-Tourism

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE EWAMIAN PEOPLE ON THE PLANNED REOPENING OF THE TALAROO HOT SPRINGS.

In June, the Palaszczuk government announced their plan to give a $4.5 million boost to four key projects in the Far North - cementing the region's position as Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural experience capital.

In the 1990's, Ewamian Elders sought to acquire a landholding on Country as a base for our people to reconnect to Country following our earlier dispossession. Talaroo was selected and in 2009 EAC lodged a successful funding application to purchase Talaroo based on the significance of its cultural and natural values, and its potential to help us realise our people's aspirations for self-determination and financial sustainability in the future.

Talaroo IPA is a 31,000ha property on the Einasleigh River and our central base on Country from which we run a successful Ranger's program funded by the Qld Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program whose focus is to help manage and protect the natural and cultural values of Talaroo. Talaroo was purchased under the National Reserve System and managed in accordance with a Plan of Management under international conservation guideline standards (IUCN categories II and IV).

Talaroo is home to a unique, mounded hot springs complex which, through the assistance of Queensland Government's *Growing Tourism Infrastructure Program* funding, corporate and other government sponsors, and their own resources, EAC plan to re-open to tourists in 2021.

What are the Talaroo Hot Springs?

The Talaroo Hot Springs are unique, mounded structures of springs, composed of travertine, which according to scientific evidence has taken approximately 65 million years to form. According to testing, the water currently being discharged is most likely rain water that fell over 20,000 years ago when megafauna roamed, to seep through the substrate, making contact with super-heated granite up to five kilometres underground on its long

Images: (Top) Queensland Government pictured with Ewamian's David Hudson and Sharon Prior and fellow successful funding recipients Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation, Sunlover Reef Cruises and the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council Arts & Culture Precinct. (Bottom) Talaroo Hot Springs.

journey to be pushed back to the surface.

Water ranges in temperature up to 72 degrees celsius, discharged from six vents which flow from the springs into three drainage streams to the Einasleigh River.

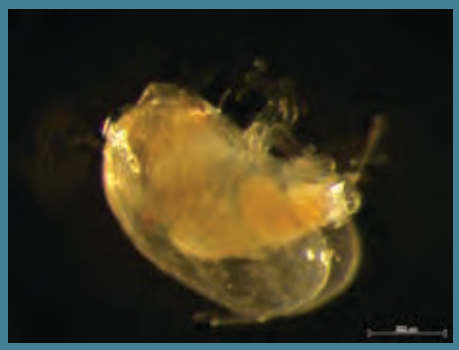
Talaroo Hot Springs Cultural Significance

Ewamian People have their own values for the springs which are held within the community. Previous interviews with Elders have suggested the following values, which EAC has elected to make publicly known:

- Ewamian women birthed their children in the cooler pools of the outflow streams
- A woman, whose shape appears in steam arising from the pools, is the Spirit of the Springs
- At night time, Quinkan spirits are said to be at the springs
- An archaeologist has also recorded stone artefact scatter sites at the hot springs.

Over millennia the water flow from Talaroo Hot Springs has provided a constant supply of water that supported unique flora, fauna and invertebrates to subside during times of climate change, including:

- Ostracods (small shelled crustaceans) – *new to science*
- A new species of snail living in the drainage streams and other endemic plant and animal species found only at Talaroo hot springs
- Cynaobacteria and sulphur bacteria in the springs
- Are similar to the first photosynthesising life on earth over 3 billion years ago
- Intricate travertine rock formations are produced through biomineralisation; fossilisation of animals killed by the hot water of the springs and mineralised by cyanobacteria and bacteria
- A carnivorous kangaroo megafauna sample is located in the mound as well as a range of fossils
- A range of unique plants



Top: A close up of ostracods found in 45 deg. waters. Bottom: Shallow pools formed by barrages of travertine associated with emergent cyanobacteria. Source: Peter Negus, Jonathan Marshall, Alisha Steward, Glenn McGregor & Ruth O'Connor 2013.

Aspiration for the Springs and Talaroo

Reopening the Springs to Tourists.

The springs are currently closed to the general public and are managed and monitored by the Ewamian Rangers, based on the best scientific advice.

EAC, over the past three years have been planning to reopen the springs to tourists. They have undertaken significant planning, design, business development and experience planning in preparation of opening a *'culturally and environmentally sensitive'* tourism destination. An offering that allows people to visit the springs, spend time with Ewamian people, and participate in a range of activities on beautiful Talaroo and Ewamian Country.

Visitor Experiences

The Talaroo Hot Springs hold important cultural significance to the Ewamian People and in order protect the springs, the Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation are targeting visitors who will respect their Country, their people and their culture.

Target markets and activities may include:

- Caravans and Campers, with numbers limited to minimise impacts and ensure visitors can enjoy a more immersive cultural experience.
- Self-Drive market to the 'accessible outback' from Cairns and other regions, offering permanent and ondemand 'glamping', food and beverages for packaged stays.
- Tours – breakfast, lunch and sunset tours of the Springs with Ewamian tour guides, who take visitors through the natural and cultural values of the springs. These are to include 'welcome to country smoking circle' and other cultural activities, food and beverages.
- Tours will be pre-booked and available to guests of other tourism operations including Undara Outback Experience, Bedrock Village Caravan Park, Cobbold Gorge, the Savannahlander Train, and other local operators.
- Workshops and conferences - EAC will host local workshops and small conference groups at the campground 'Hub' amenities (subject to availability) during and outside of the peak tourism season between March and September.
- Wellness activities – bathing in spring waters, spa and traditional treatments will be available to reinvigorate visitors and connect them to Country.
- Cultural sites, 'truth-telling' and spending time with Ewamian People - Talaroo is home to grinding grooves along the Einasleigh river, scar trees and many artefacts. It is also the location of a massacre site when many of Ewamian People's forebears

> *"...when the truth of history is told, we can all walk together."*
>
> - Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation

Ewamian Rangers

Ewamian rock art hand stencils.

Ewamian Traditional Owners at the Wundu Walk Walking track entrance on The Canyon Resource Reserve National Park (near Einasleigh).

perished. While this site is today exclusively for Ewamian People's reflection and connecting with ancestors, EAC wish to share their history and encourage visitors to learn through truth-telling. The Ewamian People believe when the truth of history is told, we can all walk together.

- When available, visitors can spend time with Ewamian rangers on other parts of Talaroo, participate in artefact making including didgeridoos and boomerangs, or explore scenic areas and witness abundant bird and animal life on their walking trails complete with interpretive information and signage.
- Talaroo mid-season festival – EAC are also in the early planning stages for a cultural festival ground featuring music and dance which, if supported by the board, would be held annually or bi-annually after the tourism enterprise is operational.

Project Timeline

2019
- Funding secured
- Detailed design
- Experience and operational planning
- Tenders to construct

2020
- Tenderer appointed
- Construction period
- Soft opening – September/October

2021
- Official opening planned for March 2021

Infrastructure

The funding for infrastructure is in place, and will include:

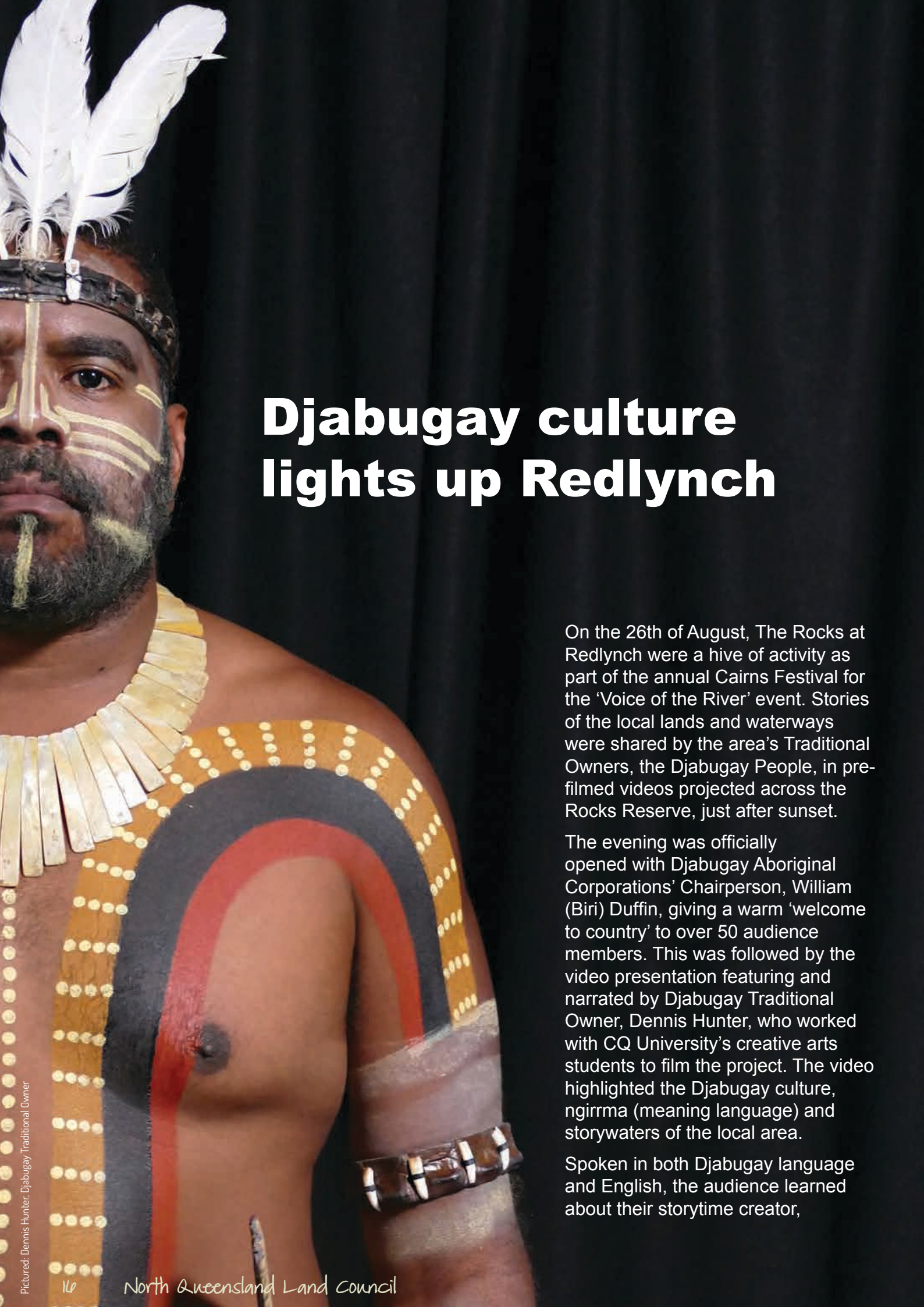
- Springs boardwalks and amenities to be updated to enable visitors to experience the springs while minimising any impacts.
- A new access road and development of camp and caravan/RV sites.
- New iconic 'Hub' building developed, including kitchen and café, amenities block including self-cater camp kitchen, laundry and showers.
- Permanent and on-demand glamping tents, some with ensuites
- Spa facilities including spring water swimming pool, hot spas, showers, change rooms and amenities.
- Walking tracks.

This article was written from information obtained from the Talaroo Hot Springs Media Kit and printed with the permission of the Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation.

NQLC are proud supporters of the Ewamian People's vision for the development of their Country and look forward to bringing you updates throughout the lifetime of this project.

Artist's Impression - Hub entry and Yarning Circle

Artist's impression of the outdoor dining area and Hub Building



Djabugay culture lights up Redlynch

On the 26th of August, The Rocks at Redlynch were a hive of activity as part of the annual Cairns Festival for the 'Voice of the River' event. Stories of the local lands and waterways were shared by the area's Traditional Owners, the Djabugay People, in pre-filmed videos projected across the Rocks Reserve, just after sunset.

The evening was officially opened with Djabugay Aboriginal Corporations' Chairperson, William (Biri) Duffin, giving a warm 'welcome to country' to over 50 audience members. This was followed by the video presentation featuring and narrated by Djabugay Traditional Owner, Dennis Hunter, who worked with CQ University's creative arts students to film the project. The video highlighted the Djabugay culture, ngirrma (meaning language) and storywaters of the local area.

Spoken in both Djabugay language and English, the audience learned about their storytime creator,

Pictured: Dennis Hunter, Djabugay Traditional Owner

Damarri, and how he stopped the rising seawaters from reaching Gimuy (meaning Cairns). They learned about one of Djabugay's totems, the cassowary, and how it is the rainforest guardian, creating the rainforest by spreading seeds.

The evening was capped off by performances from the CQ University students, who performed songs on the history of Redlynch.

Photos courtesy of Djabugay Aboriginal Corporations.

NAIDOC 2019

VOICE. TREATY. TRUTH.

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC, originally standing for 'National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee' was a committee once responsible for organising national activities during NAIDOC Week. Its acronym has since become the name of the week itself. Turn over to page ___ for a look at the history of NAIDOC.

2018:
BECAUSE OF HER, WE CAN

2017:
OUR LANGUAGES MATTER

2016:
SONGLINES

2015:
WE ALL STAND ON SACRED GROUND

2014:
SERVING COUNTRY: CENTENARY & BEYOND

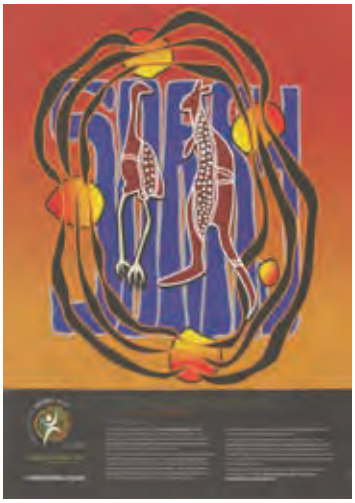
2013:
WE VALUE THE VISION: YIRRKALA BARK PETITIONS '63

2012:
SPIRIT OF THE TENT EMBASSY 40 YEARS ON

2011:
CHANGE: THE NEXT STEP IS OURS

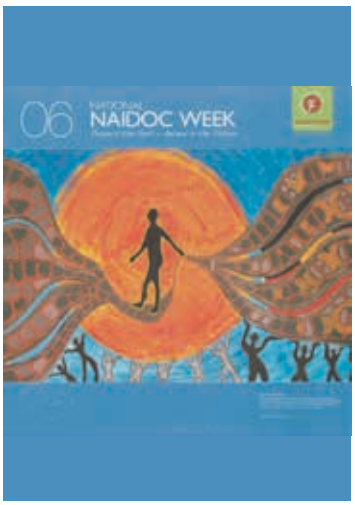
2010:
UNSUNG HEROES: CLOSING THE GAP BY LEADING THEIR WAY

2009:
HONOURING OUR ELDERS NURTURING OUR YOUTH



2008:
ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR?

2007:
50 YEARS: LOOKING FORWARD, LOOK BLAK



2006:
RESPECT THE PAST – BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE

2005:
OUR FUTURE BEGINS WITH SOLIDARITY

2004:
SELF DETERMINATION: OUR COMMUNITY. OUR FUTURE. OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

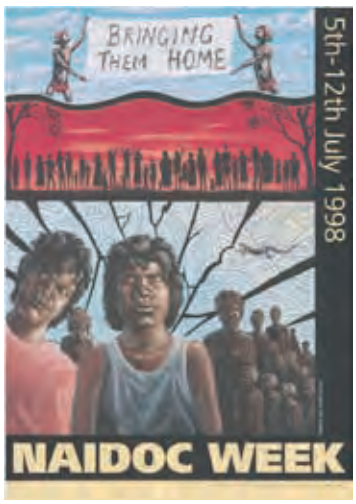
2003:
OUR CHILDREN, OUR FUTURE

2002:
RECOGNITION, RIGHTS & REFORM

2001:
TREATY... LET'S GET IT RIGHT

2000:
BUILDING PRIDE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

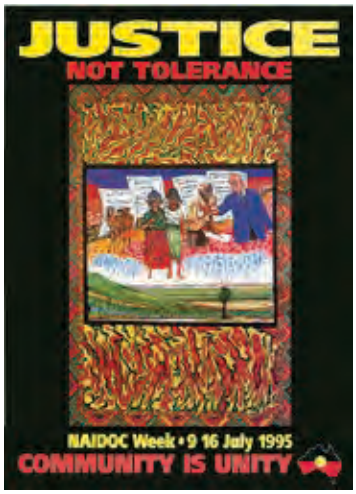
1999:
RESPECT YOUR LAND RESPECT YOUR PEOPLE



1998:
BRINGING THEM HOME

1997:
THREE STRIKES FOR JUSTICE

1996:
SURVIVE. REVIVE. COME ALIVE.



1995:
JUSTICE. NOT TOLERANCE.

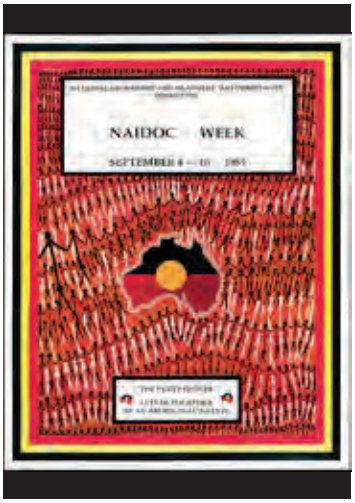
1994:
FAMILIES ARE THE BASIS OF OUR EXISTENCE... MAINTAIN THE LINK

1993:
OWNERS OF THE LAND SINCE TIME BEGAN

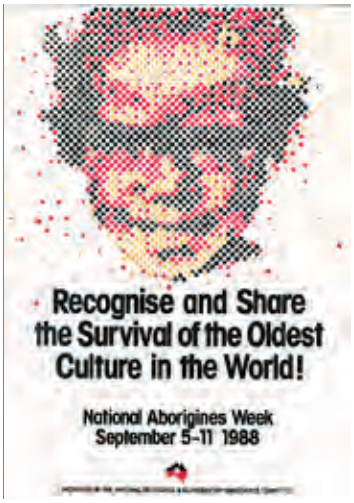
1992:
MAINTAIN THE DREAMING– OUR CULTURE IS OUR HERITAGE

1991:
OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON US

1990:
NEW DECADE: DON'T DESTROY, LEARN AND ENJOY OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE



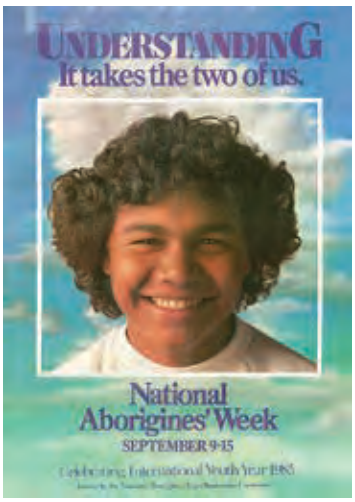
1989:
THE PARTY IS OVER. LET'S BE TOGETHER AS AN ABORIGINAL NATION



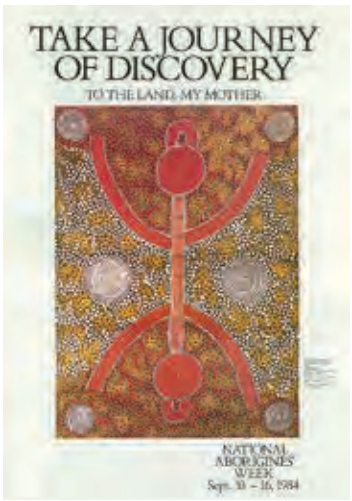
1988:
RECOGNISE AND SHARE THE SURVIVAL OF THE OLDEST CULTURE IN THE WORLD

1987:
WHITE AUSTRALIA HAS A BLACK HISTORY

1986:
PEACE - NOT FOR YOU, NOT FOR ME, BUT FOR ALL OF US...

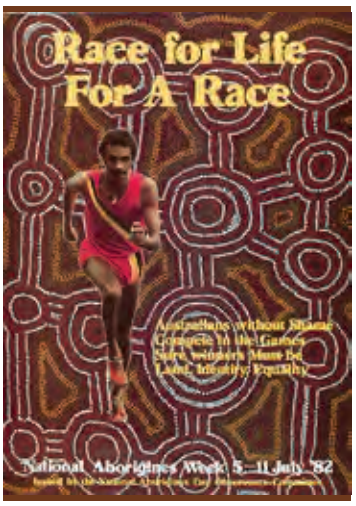


1985:
UNDERSTANDING:
IT TAKES THE TWO OF US



1984:
TAKE A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

1983:
LET'S TALK - WE HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY

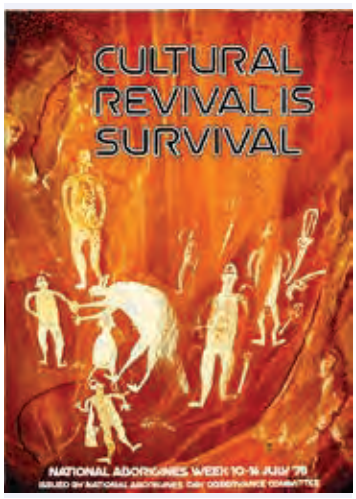


1982:
RACE FOR LIFE, FOR A RACE

1981:
SACRED SIGHTS, ABORIGINAL RIGHTS, OTHER AUSTRALIANS HAVE THEIR RITES

1980:
TREAT US TO A TREATY ON LAND RIGHTS

1979:
WHAT ABOUT OUR KIDS!



1978:
CULTURAL REVIVAL IS SURVIVAL

1977:
CHAINS OF CHANGE

1976:
TRUCANINI. LAST OF HER PEOPLE

1974:
SELF DETERMINATION

1972:
ADVANCE AUSTRALIA WHERE?

Ngarraboolgan gets Djungan Cultural Sign

Congratulations to the Djungan People on the installation of an information sign at Ngarraboolgan (Mt Mulligan), approximately 150km west of Cairns.

The Djungan PBC, Nguddaboolgan Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (NNTAC) was successful in securing a Regional Arts Development Fund grant from the Mareeba Shire Council, for a Djungan cultural sign.

With the traditional knowledge and sketches from Djungan Traditional Owner, Djungan Paul Neal and NNTAC, the 3000x2200mm sign was developed and installed in July. Visitors to Ngarraboolgan will now be able to read about Djungan's laws and customs, dreamtime stories and learn about historic events in a detailed timeline.

If you are ever visiting Djungan country, be sure to take the time to visit the sign and acknowledge the deep history of the Djungan People.

North Queensland Land Council
Native Title Representative Body Aboriginal Corporation

Cairns – Head Office
61 Anderson Street Cairns Qld 4870
PO Box 679 Cairns North Qld 4870
Tel: 07 4042 7000 Fax: 07 4042 7070

Townsville
Level 1, Stanley Street Townsville Qld 4810
PO Box 5296 Townsville City
Tel: 07 4042 7000 Fax: 07 4042 7070

Your way forward