

Mandingalbay Yidinji People

Wait-a-While

Newsletter | Edition 13
December 2020

DJUNBUNJI

LAND & SEA
PROGRAM



Celebrating our tenth year



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A word from ED Dale Mundraby

This year Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation's agent company Djunbunji Ltd celebrates a decade of successfully running our Land and Sea Ranger program, Executive Director Dale Mundraby writes...

We have also marked our sixth year of conducting and operating commercial tourism operations in partnership with Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours.

Our original vision, which was to establish a framework to create socio-economic wellbeing through economic participation and the engagement of the wider community of Yarrabah and Far North Queensland, remains intact.

Over the past ten years our rangers have played a key role in the management of our Country, by diversifying their abilities and overcoming challenges.

Overall, our success would not be possible without our high performing Ranger team, who have continually grown with the organisation over the past ten years and are integral to our achievements.

Our rangers are more than rangers.

Our rangers are compliance officers who look after our seas and marine environment.

Our rangers are protectors of our country and natural, cultural and environmental values.

Our rangers are managers of ecological and cultural knowledge and responsible for weed and pest management activities.

Our Rangers are people connectors and have positive partnerships with other agencies including the Commonwealth Government, Queensland Government, Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation, Wet Tropics Management Authority, Universities, Cairns Regional Council, Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council, local schools and other Indigenous communities.

Our rangers are role models and leaders in our community.

Our rangers are committed to our community and assisting those in times of need.

Our rangers are Mandingalbay Yidinji.





I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the Board of Directors, who have voluntarily served the Company for the past ten years, and my co-founders Vincent Mundraby (RIP) and Dewayne Mundraby, who were instrumental in the creation of Djunbunji Ltd.

On behalf of MYAC, I would also like to acknowledge our partners and agencies who have been integral to Djunbunji Ltd's land and sea operations:

- Commonwealth Government, National Indigenous Australians Agency & Department of Agriculture;
- Queensland Government, Department of Environment and Science, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Queensland Police & Queensland Rural Fire Brigade;
- Member for Mulgrave Curtis Pitt;
- Leslie Sherriffs and the team from the Wet Tropics Management Authority;
- Callum Howell and the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation;
- Stewart Lockie and the team from James Cook University and Cairns Institute;
- Southern Cross University;
- 3d Environmental;
- Justus Kithiia and the team from the School of Field Studies;
- Mayor Ross Andrews & the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council;
- Cairns Regional Council;
- Yarrabah State School, St Andrews Catholic College, Gordonvale High, Djarragun College, Bentley Park College;
- Mark Olsen and the team from Tropical Tourism North Queensland;
- Russell Boswell and the team from Savannah Guides;
- Leah Cameron and the team from Marrawah Law; and,
- Victor Steffensen.

While we have celebrated many successes over the past ten years, it hasn't been without challenges and these challenges have grounded us – made us stronger and more determined to achieve our goals.



We look forward to hosting our official 10-year anniversary celebrations with you in 2021, the Year of Indigenous Tourism - more details to follow!

Please join us while we take you on the journey over the past ten years to highlight and celebrate some of our best work and achievements.

Dale Mundraby

Eco-tourism venture wins national award for best Australian small project planning idea in 2020

Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation's (MYAC's) eco-tourism venture was recognised as the Planning Institute of Australia's best 'small project' idea at their 2020 Awards for Planning Excellence at a virtual ceremony held in late September.

MYAC Indigenous Protected Area, Tourism and Infrastructure Manager Dewayne Mundraby said it was inspirational to be recognised as Australia's best planning idea for small projects, particularly in the year of Indigenous Tourism 2020.

The Mandingalbay Eco Cultural Infrastructure Tourism Project also won the Planning Institute of Australia's 2019 Award for Planning Excellence in Queensland: Best Planning Ideas, Small Project.

Judges in the national award said the MYAC development was a standout project that exemplified true innovation, originality, transferability, engagement, and it was an exemplary example of delivering cultural knowledge and vision with contemporary engineering, science, planning and Traditional Owner management.

"The Mandingalbay Yidinji People are very excited and humbled to receive this prestigious national award, which complements our Queensland State Award for the same category in 2019," Dewayne said.

"This achievement will heighten our exposure and viability in seeking further investment to complete the next five stages in accordance with the approved Development Application."

He said Stage 1 was scheduled to get underway in January next year, and would secure employment for five MY People.

"Going forward, there are several milestones to achieve, most importantly, rejuvenation of Indigenous tourism in the Far North post-Covid-19," he said.

He said the MYAC and Djunbunji Ltd. Board of Directors wished to thank:

- our staff who have been instrumental in implementing the Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples vision through this project development;
- our Project Partners for their professionalism and innovation with special mention to Ethos Urban, Philip Follent Architects, CC Change Sustainable Solutions, BMT Global, Bligh Tanner, Bennett and Bennett;
- our funding partners the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation, National Indigenous Australians Agency and the Queensland Government for financially supporting our vision and aspirations for our people, country and culture through a funding application-based process,
- our local State Member for Mulgrave Curtis Pitt and retiring Minister Kate Jones (who will be sorely missed), and
- our award sponsor, The Comms Team, and the Planning Institute of Australia for this Award and recognition.

"Most importantly we acknowledge and thank the Mandingalbay Yidinji People for their perseverance and grit through challenging and uncertain times," he said. "The work we have done together

BEST PLANNING IDEAS - SMALL PROJECT

CATEGORY SPONSOR: THE COMMS TEAM

Awarded to recognise outstanding planning ideas for a project that is limited to a site, local place or neighbourhood.

AWARD:

MANDINGALBAY
YIDINJI ECO
INFRASTRUCTURE
TOURISM PROJECT

PROJECT TEAM:

MANDINGALBAY
YIDINJI ABORIGINAL
CORPORATION,
ETHOS URBAN, PHILIP
FOLLENT ARCHITECTS,
CCHANGE
SUSTAINABLE
SOLUTIONS, BMT
GLOBAL, BLIGH
TANNER, BENNETT
+ BENNETT, QLD

The Mandingalbay Yidinji Eco Infrastructure Tourism Project is a standout project that exemplifies true innovation, originality, transferability and engagement. It provides an exemplary example of delivering cultural and ecotourism facilities that marries indigenous cultural knowledge and visioning with contemporary engineering, science, planning and traditional owner land management.

The project is unique, being entirely indigenous led, owned and operated. Early works have commenced and it is expected the project will open in late 2021.

The innovation and progressive approach to the project's governance model which drove the collaborative approach from stakeholders across all levels of government and private industry is highly commended. The partnership with the project consultants documenting and upholding the Mob's interest,

is considered to be highly transferrable to other projects of all scales.

The judges also noted the restriction of businesses anticipated to occur within the project, is a bold move that will have an interesting consequence in shaping the future of this project. Participation and engagement from a grass roots level instilled realistic and viable delivery of the project being run through the Mob into the future.



Source: 2020 PIA National Awards Commemorative E-Book

has created a strong foundation and collaborative framework for socio-economic development.

"That foundation will translate into jobs and infrastructure, and create economic independence and prosperity for our people and the wider community of Yarrabah.

"It will also keep the environmental and cultural values of our country intact."

Djunbunji Land & Sea Program Executive Director Dale Mundraby said the awards were significant.

"These awards are an acknowledgement of the MYAC vision and hard work

undertaken by our much-valued team," he said.

"Dewayne has been instrumental in facilitating and progressing this now nationally-recognised, award-winning project.

"Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours' exclusive Deadly Dinner product also gave us our second – the first was in 2018 – Wet Tropics Management Authority Cassowary Award for Tourism and Presentation.

"We are very proud of these awards and achievements, which recognise the commitment and ongoing hard work of our dedicated team of staff."



Team effort goes into upgrades

Several infrastructure upgrades, including access to Lot 158 at East Trinity Reserve, have been completed following negotiations and team work with the Queensland Department of Environmental Science, Parks and Wildlife Service.

Lot 158 is MYACs newly registered Trustee Lease block earmarked for the Mandingalbay Eco Cultural Tourism Infrastructure Project - Stage 1 Early Works Project.

The development works included the upgrade of three bridges and the road into the East Trinity Reserve, adding benefit to the wider area of East Trinity and protecting local environmental values.

Ranger Coordinator Victor Bulmer said the project was a collaborative effort.

"We've been working closely with the engineers, who were engaged by Queensland

Parks & Wildlife Service," he said.

"We also have the Indigenous Protected area dedicated over East Trinity Reserve, a commercial permit to undertake tourism activities inside reserve and a commercial

agreement with QPWS to deliver maintenance within the reserve."

MYAC acknowledges and thanks the Queensland Government for their contribution and support for these important upgrades.



East Trinity set to expand



Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation (MYAC) is set to expand their existing Indigenous Eco Cultural tourism project at East Trinity.

The project has all necessary tenure and approvals for the land based towers to the construction of a pontoon and jetty, Planz Town Planning Director (and Australian Planner of the Year 2020) Nikki Huddy said.

"The newly expanded project would take the existing and successful Ancient Indigenous Tour business to a world class tourism facility that showcases and celebrate the East Trinity Indigenous and ecological history," she said.

"The project will expand the business from approximately 15 jobs to 50 permanent jobs, and will create 346 construction jobs.

"The development allows MYAC to reinvest profits into the local Indigenous economy and

into the management of the land and broader economic benefits equal to approximately \$305 million over 30 years are anticipated."

She said those benefits would include:

- Upskilling of Indigenous people and preservation of cultural sites.
- Community-generated funds for cultural education and programs, and ranger training.
- Upskilling in tourism and hospitality for MY people.
- Raising awareness of caring for country and the cultural significance of the site to the wider community.
- Transfer of cultural practices to future generations.

- Creation of a new experiences, unlike any in the region.
- Opportunities for improved environmental and cultural research.
- Best practice in eco-tourism and cultural tourism products.

"When it comes to eco and cultural tourism, the MYAC project is unrivalled in Australia," Ms Huddy said.

"The development is a powerful platform for inspiring a multicultural understanding and connectedness to the Aboriginal culture and knowledge.

"It is an incredibly exciting time for Cultural Tourism and we at Planz Town Planning are incredibly proud to have the opportunity to be involved."

TK meets tech in microgrid project

The planning stages of Yarrabah's Microgrid project – which offers to potential for the town to become self-reliant and sustainable – are near completion.

GMYP Chair Dewayne Mundraby said the process had involved combining their Traditional Knowledge (TK) with leading technology in matters as wide ranging as fire management through to renewable energy as a response to climate change.

"The Gunggandji-Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples Prescribed Body Corporate (GMYPPBC) Board of Directors look forward to collaborating with Planz Town Planning to undertake an inclusive consultation with the wider community to develop the Microgrid feasibility study," he said.

"Together we can realise potential opportunities and develop a viable business case for microgrids, as well as upgrading existing off-grid technologies.

"This project is a partnership with some of the best renewable energy experts and regional planners in the Asia Pacific region.



"Our own people are best placed to know our own interests and we are leading by example in our determination area to empower our community and ensure decisions are made as close to us as possible by making sure local services are tailored to local circumstances."

Planz Town Planning Planner Jesse Marnock said it was small-scale efforts which created the building blocks for economic prosperity.

"The GMYPPBC are planning for local resilience based on local strengths and opportunities within the GMYPPBC Trustee Area," he said.

"It is their knowledge of country and pride in place, their spirit of optimism and the strength in community that are the foundations for prosperity in local tourism, local agriculture, local fisheries, local business.

"In other words, everyone from local producers to local artists can benefit from this project."





Community reflects on ten years of growth

Our Mandingalbay Yidinji community came together in August to share an update of our activities and celebrate our successes.

ED Dale Mundraby said it was great to see.

"It was so great to see our Elders and young people come together at the Community Meeting in August," he said.

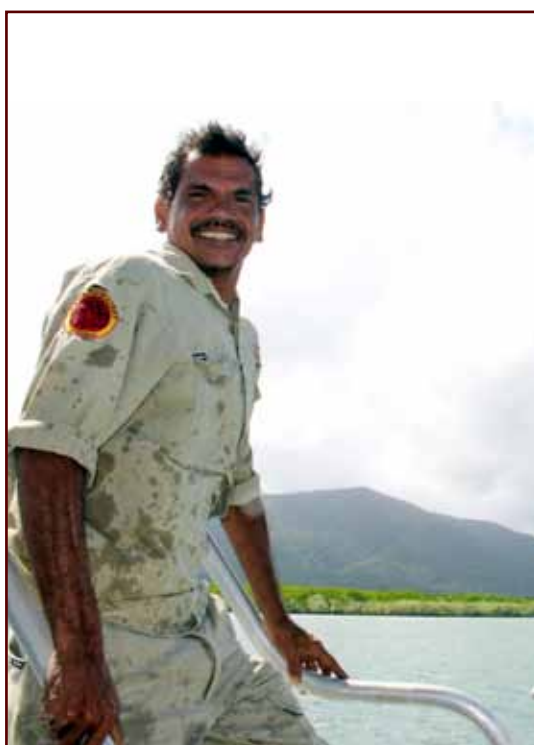
"Our Rangers shared an update of activities undertaken throughout the year and together we celebrated our achievements in the midst of what has been a

difficult year.

"We look forward to holding more of these events in the new year and sharing the work we are doing with our families and friends."

Our own qualified Marine Park Inspector

The best thing about being a ranger is walking on MY country and managing our country for our people and future generations, Ranger Coordinator Victor Bulmer says.



"My biggest highlight over the past six years with Djunbunji Ltd was becoming a qualified Marine Park Inspector with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority," he said.

"This qualification strengthens our capacity by giving us power through the Environment, Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act to raise awareness about the Green Zone.

"We can check

registrations and licensing, and uphold compliance on the Great Barrier Reef.

"It also enables us to share our cultural knowledge to bring about a greater appreciation of Aboriginal culture and our connection to sea country."

He said the qualification helped all the rangers to maintain and uphold their cultural integrity and stronger partnerships.



Dugong death prompts warning for boaties

A baby dugong washed up on the shores of Giangurra in October. Ranger Coordinator Victor Bulmer said local residents alerted the rangers to the carcass, which had ended up on the beach.

"Rangers took the width, height and length measurements of the animal, and notified GBRMPA," he said.

"They collected the dugong and completed an autopsy which determined the dugong had died from a propeller strike – an unnatural cause of death, unfortunately becoming increasingly common."

He said dugongs were listed as vulnerable species.

"We believe this incident highlights the need for education for vessel operators operating in sea country, and in particular sea grass meadows, and better awareness of the impact vessels can have on the marine and ecological environment and values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park," he said.

Six things you probably didn't know about dugongs!

1. The dugong is one of four species of the order Sirenia, a group of marine mammals are strictly herbivorous meaning they eat only plants. They're a tropical to sub-tropical species found in 37 different countries.
2. Dugongs are the only completely marine mammal that has a diet consisting solely of sea grass.
3. Believe it or not, the closest land relative to the dugong is the elephant. Male dugongs grow tusks when they reach maturity. Female Dugongs also get tusks but these erupt in older females.
4. You can estimate a dugong's age by how many rings that they have on their tusks, just like a tree!
5. Dugongs breathe in oxygen from above the surface of the water through their nostrils, a dugong can hold its breath for up to 11 minutes and dive up to 33 metres to feed.
6. Dugongs don't have the best eyesight, but they make up for it with excellent hearing. Dugongs can communicate using barks, chirps, squeaks, trills and other sounds that can travel through water.

Source: <https://www.visitsealife.com/sydney/information/news/6-fun-facts-about-dugongs/>

Congratulations Djunbunji Ltd!



It has been a privilege to work with the Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation through community and with the Djunbunji Land & Sea Rangers. I am proud of the achievements they have made and know that they will only thrive as they go forward with making a better future for their land and people. **Victor Steffensen**

For as long as I've known the **Mundraby family**, since at least the mid-1990s, they had a desire to not only reclaim their land, but to turn it to good purpose.

When I was a Cairns Councillor, I was very much a part of a campaign to prevent development on what was called the CSR land, or East Trinity, after it had been approved but which was eventually turned around by Peter Beattie in the early 2000s.

It's been my privilege to walk beside those with such strong leadership, vision and moral codes, who always had that view to be providing employment for MY people. Good, solid and real jobs was always the dream and that dream will soon turn into a reality. My warmest congratulations to Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation and all my best wishes for the future. **Former-Senator Jan McLucas**



IPA handover celebrations 2011



Curtis Pitt MP
11 April 2019 · 🌐

People would know that I've been a supporter of the **Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours** proposal for a major ecotourism offering at East Trinity. I had great pleasure while in Perth this week to introduce Dale Mundraby to my good friend WA Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs **Ben Wyatt** to brief him on this investment ready project. Consistently we hear that international tourists wanted more opportunities to experience our amazing Indigenous cultures when they visit Australia. Queensland and WA Indigenous tourism providers can learn from each other about how to maximise opportunities to attract greater numbers of overseas visitors.

It has been a pleasure to support the Djunbunji Land & Sea, Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation (MYAC) and Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours over the past decade.

Since their inception in 2010, the group have gone from strength to strength and have won national recognition and awards.

I've been proud to work with Uncle Vince (RIP), Dale and Dwayne Mundraby over this time to see MYAC's authentic Indigenous experiences at East Trinity come to life, and I fully expect their plans for a large scale eco-tourism development to become a reality.

The first 10 years have been amazing but with 2021 declared as the 'Year of Indigenous Tourism', the next 10 years have the potential to be outstanding.

MYAC are well positioned to showcase their rich cultural heritage well into the future.

Hon Curtis Pitt MP

On behalf of the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and the people of Yarrabah, we would like to congratulate the MYAC People in reaching this milestone and the good work that has been achieved in the East Trinity area.

We know through our relationship amongst our family and friends and more broadly, the Yarrabah Leaders Forum recognise the work that you do is important to your people.

The MYAC Board and Leaders should be commended in promoting the visions and aspirations you have for your people.

We are grateful to have brought two YLF meetings to your native title area and was proudly welcomed by members of your group.

The council and YLF members appreciate the support and our working relations developed over the years and wish you well on the future economical and social aspirations you have for your people.

Congratulations and well done on celebrating this victory.

**Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
Mayor Ross Andrews**



Congratulations to Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours for ten years of operation.

A decade of hard work that has provided employment for locals and an opportunity to share the stories of the land with people from across the planet.

2020 has been tough, so it was great to get out with my two young sons recently to spend a morning with the Djunbunji Land and Sea Rangers around the fire, learning to throw a spear, and walking on country, learning just some of the important lessons learned by thousands of generations of Yidinji people on how to work with the land and thrive.

Thank you to MYAC for its vision and persistence and TTNQ looks forward to working with you as the new boat and jetty development drives another ten years of success!

Mark Olsen, CEO, Tourism Tropical North Queensland



The successful securing of over \$2M in funding by the

Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation (MYAC) for the MYECTIP Early Works Package is testament to the hard work of MYAC and its partners over the past several years. The Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC) is please to be a part of this exciting project, and looks forward to helping to realise the aspirations of MY people.

Callum Howell, ILSC



As the Division 1 Councillor

for the Cairns Regional Council taking in the area of East Trinity, I was excited in my first term of Council 2016 to 2020 to meet with representatives of the Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation to discuss what it is they do and to hear of their plans for a development of their site on the Pine Creek - Yarrabah Road.



I met with Dewayne and Dale Mundraby from MYAC at their site office within the Grey Peaks National Park, east of Cairns to hear of their culture and history, their planning of walking trails, ranger duties, and their development proposal for a nature based tourism, tourist attraction, environmental facility, educational establishment, function facility, landing and shop.

Councillors and Council officers were invited to do a site inspection and receive a personal briefing of the project.

Council subsequently approved the development subject to conditions and in May this year approved a minor change to allow a staged development of the site.

This development is a great opportunity to showcase our local indigenous culture with a in- culture experience. There is training and employment opportunities for indigenous youth and the wider community. Environmental education of the grasses, mangroves, flora and fauna of the area. It is a unique offering that will bring economic, social and environmental benefit to our local community.

A highlight for me personally was to be invited to a 'Deadly Dinner' on site for an evening meal, smoking ceremony mixed with mystical music from a local harp player and a delicious meal of authentic indigenous cuisine and informing discussions of culture and history.

I am pleased to support this project by MYAC and hope to see it come to fruition.

Cr Brett Moller Division 1 Cairns Regional Council

Thanks so much for asking me to be part of these celebrations – I'm always so impressed with how much has been and is being achieved.

So many great things have been achieved, it's hard to believe it's all happened in just 10 years.

The world class remediation of East Trinity, restoring country and welcoming back wildlife; the engaging Ancient Indigenous tours, presenting a World Heritage

Area from a rich, bio-cultural perspective; the Deadly Dinners - the best on-country, evening experience you would find anywhere (with amazing food); a visionary Master Plan for country that supports the aspirations of the community and preserves the bio-cultural values of an internationally significant area; winning not just one but two prestigious

Cassowary Awards for excellence; and all through a commitment to engaging inclusively and collaboratively to achieve the best outcomes for MY people, country and the World Heritage Area.

Congratulations on 10 years - the best is yet to come.

**Leslie Shirreffs PSM:
Chair, Wet Tropics
Management Authority**





Getting to know Djunbunji and MYAC has been one of the highlights of my six years at JCU in Cairns.

Providing a venue for the *Thinking Beyond Borders: Indigenous Protected Areas and Economic Development Conference* in 2018 was another highlight – bringing traditional owners from across North Queensland together with government, tourism and natural resource management organisations to share practical knowledge and inspiration.

MYAC's own Eco Cultural Infrastructure Project at East Trinity makes a powerful statement about the cultural landscape of the Wet Tropics as well as providing employment and education opportunities. Every member of the community benefits from the work of MYAC and Djunbunji. Congratulations on ten years!

Distinguished Professor Stewart Lockie (PhD, FASSA), Director, The Cairns Institute, James Cook University



Incredibly proud to be a part of the journey to date and to see such wonderful successes. Look forward to seeing what's in store next!

Leah Cameron, Principal Solicitor Marrawah Law Pty Ltd



The Mandingalbay Yidinji Eco Cultural Tourism Project is a world class, iconic Australian eco attraction that will be renowned across the world as a showcase of Indigenous culture, the environment and rich cultural values. The Planning Institute of Australia's National Award for excellence was a collaborative team effort and a testament to the tenacity and determination of the Mandingalbay Yidinji People.

I am pleased and grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of this project and its early evolution.

Some of my favourite pics here are: Landscape architect Catherine Brouwer with the boys at the site of the early works Trinity Inlet in February this year.

In April 2018 I took this pic of Dale, Dewayne and Vic and Planner Josh Walker and the spectacular model of country which MYAC are justifiably very proud of...the perfect orientation tool for visitors to the HQ.

Finally there is one of Dale on country doing "heavy lifting", taken in April 2018.

**Philip Follent, Architect,
Philip Follent Architects**



Philip Follent
ARCHITECTS



The 2018 Wet Tropics Tour Guide Field School on Mandingalbay Yidinji Country was a valuable sharing of culture and skills, featuring the Djunbunji Rangers.

Over 30 participants came together over two days and were able to see the vision for tourism that is now unfolding.

These tourism experiences will transform guests, inspiring them with a mix of the ancient and modern on traditional lands.

**Russell Boswell
Manager, Savannah Guides
Limited**



I am an independent ecological consultant and Principal of 3d Environmental, a small consultancy that operates mostly throughout northern Australia.

I was first invited to assist Djunbunji Rangers in 2014 with preparation of a 'Biodiversity Management Profile' to guide the land management program.

I have since been involved with co-ordination of a number of programs including fire management, flora, fauna and fish surveys.

The Mandingalbay Yidinji Rangers employed through the Djunbunji Ltd land and sea program have taken a hands on approach to managing their pristine lands.

With contagious enthusiasm they have undertaken traditional cool burning to maintain their unique coastal woodland habitats, they have discovered rare plant species which have been lodged as scientific records, they have completed surveys for threatened fish species and they have mapped remote regions of their traditional lands on foot.

It has been a privilege to observe, learn and be involved.

I congratulate them on 10 years of operation and wish them all the best with their future programs.

I am certain they will continue to set benchmarks for Indigenous land management.

David Stanton, 3d Environmental



For years, the Djunbunji Land and Sea Program has hosted different student groups from the School for Field Studies (SFS).

Our partnership with ranger program has been the most rewarding for our American students. Community ranger and Mandingalbay (MY) community leaders conduct students around their country, explaining the community's connection to land, cultural values, beliefs and traditions.

Different student groups have consistently ranked their visit to the community as the best learning experience they have ever had.

The times spent and lessons learnt by walking the trails, making pig traps, vessel tours, camping and so on, will remain etched in the students' minds for the rest of their lives.

On behalf of SFS, and our alumni who had the privilege to interact with the community rangers and other community members, I wish to congratulate you on celebrating your 10th anniversary.

**Associate Professor Justus Kithiia,
School for Field Studies**



On behalf of Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation I'd like to offer big congratulations to the Djunbunji Land & Sea crew, ten years is a wonderful achievement and the Jabalbina rangers are keen to acknowledge your efforts to get to this point. We look forward to following your progress with your tourism ventures which will showcase your Country and Indigenous tourism for all. Well done!

Kupa and the team @Jabalbina



Our Rangers' pick of the pics 2010-2019









2017



2018



2019



Beach clean-ups key to biosecurity



Over the past 12 months Djunbunji Rangers have worked closely with the Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy (NAQS), an initiative of the Federal Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.

These primary focus in our Country has been on biosecurity in the form of marine debris beach clean-ups. Ranger William said they worked well together. "They are always coming out here and giving us advice," he said. "We have a good relationship with them. We have done sea debris clean-ups all along the coast and all the way around in Second Beach. We jump on a boat and cover the whole coastline of our Country, which is why

our Coastwatch patrols are so important." Ranger Vincent said most of what they picked up wasn't from Australia. "It just washes up on shore and we pick it up," he said. "It's mostly very old and

most of it comes from ships. And that's where NAQS comes in. They track the material to see where it has come from and gauge whether or not it might cause any problems to our biosecurity."



Over the years our Rangers have teamed up with a diverse range of groups keen to help us maintain our biodiversity on Country, while keeping pests and weeds under control, and identifying foreign substances. This has been at the heart of our work with the Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy (NAQS) and other agencies, government and non-government, to maintain biosecurity.

Left & below
left: 2017;
Right: 2018;
Below: 2019

MY Rangers upskilling in Burketown

The second Australian Biosecurity Indigenous Ranger Forum was hosted by the Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation in Burketown, on Gungaharra Garawa country, in September this year.

Rangers Maynard Bulmer and Randolph Lefoe, along with Rangers Laurissa, Jason, Vinnie, Alfred jnr and Jason Mundraby were the lucky ones, taking the opportunity to attend workshops in the areas

of bio-security, pests, weeds, identifying foreign substances, working in partnership to look country for future generations along the coastlines and waterways.

Training options also

included slack handling, chemical handling, and even utilising vessels, aeroplanes and helicopters to assist with patrolling and surveillance, and monitoring for hazardous substances.



PICTURED: MY & Gungaharra Rangers on the salt pans in Burketown and the Mornington Island Dancers.



MEANWHILE Biosecurity Ambassador Costa Georgiadis (also known for his hosting role on Gardening Australia) visited Djunbunji and our Rangers in September this year.

His scheduled three-hour visit, to film a documentary on how we manage country, became five hours as his fascination with what we were doing and the country around him held his interest.

Ranger Victor took him on the Mayi Bayan Trail where he was able to contribute his vast knowledge of various species to the Rangers' existing knowledge.



Pic thanks to Jabalbina Aboriginal Corporation

As part of Djunbunji's ongoing work towards biosecurity and diversity, Mandingalbay Yidinji rangers hosted a workshop on exotic pest risks to Australian mangroves earlier this year.

The workshop was attended by Jabalbina, Gungaharra and MY Rangers, and facilitated by Emily Lamverton from Plant Health Australia.

"There are 39 species of mangroves in northern Queensland, but a lot of them are common throughout the Pacific and Asia and that makes them vulnerable to pests and disease," Ranger Victor Bulmer said.

"The workshop was a success and the biosecurity mob are now looking at doing more awareness programs across the biodiversity industry, much of which is in partnership with rangers across the region."

‘I want to be a ranger...’

It means a lot to Ranger Laurissa Mundraby to be a part of the Djunbunji Ltd’s Land and Sea Ranger Program and to celebrate this year’s ten year milestone.

“The ranger program is a legacy of our old people - it’s such a privilege and honour to be working on our traditional country,” she said.

“In 2012 I was working at the front reception desk and watching the Rangers walk in and out of the office.

“As an outdoor person I was keen to get out on Country so I moved into the Ranger role.”

She said at the time the Ranger team was Victor Bulmer, Leon Wallis, Giles Mundraby, Damon Mundraby, Kenneth Kyle and her young cousin Terri Mundraby.

“The Ranger Coordinator was Jeff Arneth, who I hear has moved onto Jabalbina Aboriginal Corporation as their IPA Manager,” she said.

“Uncle Darryl Murgha was here as Cultural Heritage Officer.”

After being a stay-at-home Mum (for eight children!), she said joining Djunbunji led to many positive opportunities for growth and travel over the past eight years.

“In 2013 we walked from Djunbunji through to



Pine Creek to kick off our biodiversity program,” she said.

“It’s been such a privilege to see the changes on country, but also the community growth.

“When I first started I lacked confidence, so the program’s been really good for me, it’s helped me and my co-workers grow as rangers and leaders in our community.”

She said the team are all aware how lucky they were to be a part of the organisation.

“Because funding to work in this space is limited - we can only employ so many - it’s a really huge privilege to be able to be here and represent MY people,” she said.

“I have many responsibilities in this role, but I’ve always been aware of how I conduct myself because I know I’m considered a positive role model as a Mandingalbay woman, as an Aboriginal woman, a Yarrabah woman, a mother, aunt, sister and daughter.

“I’m aware a lot of girls look up to me, my own daughter finished her last year of school at Aloomba State School in 2019 and all the kids had to share what they wanted to be when they finish school.

“It brought a tear to my eye when she turned around and said, ‘I want to be a ranger, just like my Mum’.”

3D maps popular tools

In 2014 the Djunbunji Land & Sea Program took an opportunity to build Australia's first Participatory 3D Map (P3DM) with the Mandingalbay Yidinji Rangers and community.

"Our 3D map has become an important tool to showcase our country from an aerial perspective," Ranger Coordinator Victor Bulmer said.

"It's a conversation tool we have for our eco cultural

tours where we can point out significant sites, and it's always a big hit with our guests.

"It actually originated in Vanuatu and was introduced to us by M'Lis Flynn from Wet Tropics

Management Authority.

"M'Lis approached us with the idea of creating this map of our country, which is built up from a topography map.

"We have also built smaller versions, such as when

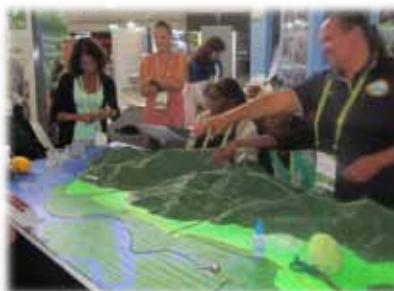
we went down to the International Conference for Conservation of Nature (ICUN), World Indigenous Networking Conference in Sydney in 2014.

"We won an award for that, which was actually presented to us by Nelson Mandela's grandson."

He said the smaller version had also been taken to school presentations and NAIDOC events – anywhere there was room for a stunning visual presentation of MY land and Country.



**MAPPING COUNTRY
-P3D MAPPING**





Executive Director Dale Mundraby said the best thing about the maps was the way they brought people together.

"The maps have travelled widely, even as far as Fitzroy Crossing in 2017," he said.

"Local interest in the map has also been high with the map featured on display at the Cairns Botanical Gardens in April 2016.

"The Wet Tropics Management Authority facilitated and funded the P3DM project.

"I'd like to acknowledge our partnership with WTMA and thank them for helping us create this opportunity.

"Their contribution to our work here at Djunbunji Ltd is always appreciated and I'd especially like to thank M'Lis Flynn for all of her support, time, contribution and help in developing the maps."



Signs for the times, thanks to Wet Tropics

The Mayi-Bugan Trail has a set of new signs and some new marketing material thanks to the a successful grant application to the Wet Tropics Management Authority Aboriginal Grants.

The small scale eco cultural tourism venture's sign project comprised of three elements:

1. Develop an environmentally friendly brochure that can be given to tour guests to explain the elements of the tour including the Mayi-Bugan trail and the 25 different flora species found on the walking tour.
2. Develop and install signs throughout the Mayi-Bugan trail that

cross references to the brochure.

3. Develop and install an entry sign for the front entrance of the Djunbunji Ltd office to help visitors locate and identify the office.

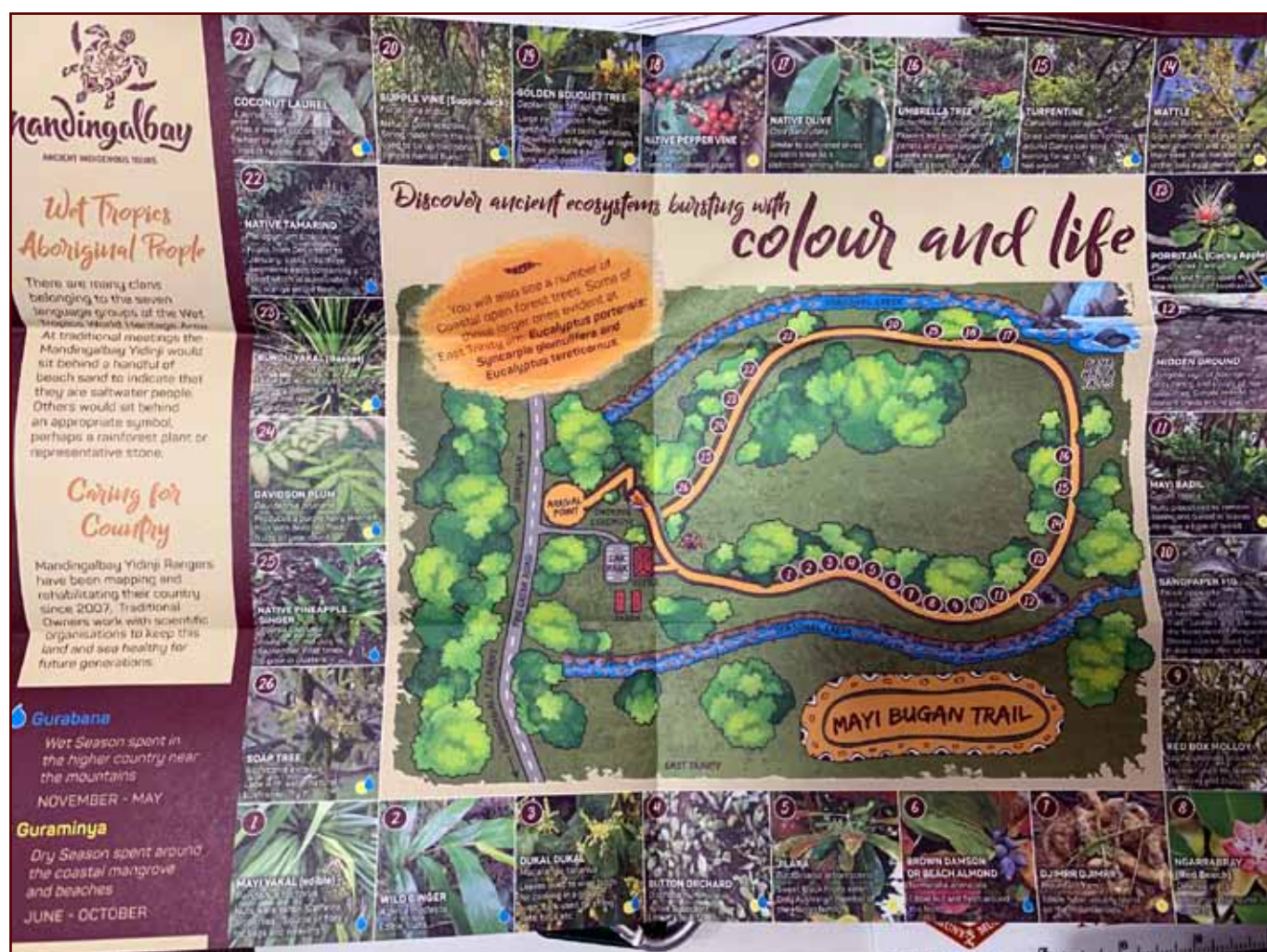
It was a project Ranger Coordinator Victor Bulmer said had involved everyone.

"This project had various elements involving the whole team, which included the development of the tour brochure and matching artwork and sign creation,

and the construction, development and installation of 25 customised signage frames throughout the trail," he said.

Rangers William Mundraby, who oversaw the actual construction of the signs, said the project had engaged the whole team.

He said special mention should go to Victor Bulmer, Maynard Bulmer, Vincent Mundraby, Randolph Lefoe, Charles Creed, Laurissa Mundraby and Josh Fourmile, who all worked





together to bring this project to reality.

Ranger and Elder Maynard Bulmer said the signs helped to keep our Country strong by keeping language alive.

"The Mayi Bugan Signage Project is a good example of keeping our language alive with the signs conveying traditional names and uses for the

various plant species located throughout the Mayi-Bugan trail," he said.

"We'd like to thank the Wet Tropics Management Authority for funding this project, which enhances the three hour eco cultural tour experience.

"The new signs and brochures have been very popular on the tours."



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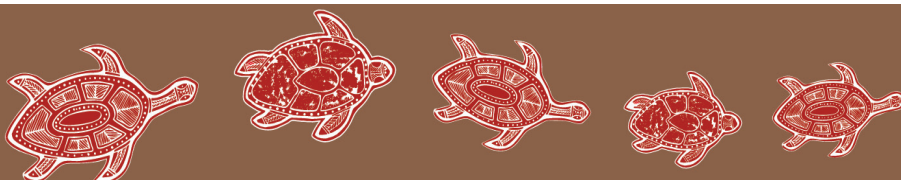
See our websites for more information:

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