



WAANYI

Wire

November 2014
<http://www.waanyi.org.au>

Doomadgee rodeo another good win for community

There were plenty of thrills and spills as the Doomadgee Rodeo once again proved to be a huge success for the community. The popular and exciting event brought in hundreds of people from riders and spectators to businesses and visitors, all of whom benefitted from a great weekend. The Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation and the Doomadgee PCYC are the main sponsors of the event. More pics on p 3...



INSIDE!

- Waanyi Language Program
- Land Rights Project Update



Aunty Eva Gilbert, Aunty April Peter & Aunty Ada Walden





2014 'Show Me Your World Tour' underway

Go to school. Get your child in the habit of going to school – and they will be eligible to go too when their turn in Grade 6 or 7 comes. That's just one of the messages behind the Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation's annual 'Show Me Your World Tour', now completed for 2014.

This year 24 students qualified for the fourth year of the Tour, the biggest group to date. Any Doomadgee State School student from any tribe is eligible for the annual event, and are selected by their teachers, Student Attendance Officers, principal and deputy principal. It's not just about attendance, they said, it's about 'showing up and behaving yourself'. See our next issue of Waanyi Wire for more pics from every year of the tour so far, including 2014, and a full feature on one of our biggest and most exciting projects.

The Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation was established in June 2001 to represent the interests of descendants of the Waanyi people in and around the Lower Gulf Area of Northern Queensland. The Corporation is wholly owned and operated by Waanyi people and was strengthened in 2004 by a joint venture with Exact Mining to form Northern Project Contracting (NPC) which provides vocation training and opportunities for indigenous locals in the successful mining operations in the region. The WAC is committed to improving the lives and developing the communities of Waanyi people

today and long into the future. The WAC adheres to the following charter in conducting its activities:

- To assist in the relief of poverty, misfortune, destruction, disadvantage, distress, dispossession and suffering amongst the Waanyi Aboriginal people of the lower Gulf, including the provision of housing, education, health care services and facilities, transportation and communication services, and land under secure title for dispossessed Waanyi Aboriginal people;
- To hold land, and to develop and manage land and resources;

- To undertake training and employment activities;
- To carry out cultural activities including customs; and,
- To take advantage of investment opportunities that will assist the funding of the charitable objectives of the corporation.

Waanyi Wire is published by the Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation and edited by Christine Howes.

The text font is Dyslexie, for more information see <http://www.dyslexiefont.com>

This newsletter may contain images of deceased persons.

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Doomadgee Rodeo 2014



Phil Newton Photography



Phil Newton Photography



Phil Newton Photography



Pics with thanks to Phil Newton & Kate Miller

Telling our stories our way

A full colour ‘coffee table’ book and a travelling exhibition will be the end result of an exciting new Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation project.



Auntie Eva Gilbert, Auntie April Peter, Kerrie Foxwell-Norton & Auntie Ada Walden

Working in partnership with the Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research (FAIRA) and Griffith University researchers, with matching funding from the Australian Research Council (ARC), the project will give people the chance to tell their stories in their own words about land rights and broader struggles for justice.

Research comparing mainstream media’s story of land rights and justice struggles against our own Indigenous media’s story will also be part of the project.

WAC Board members said Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation was proud to support the project.

“This project will begin to produce a record

of our experience in this country in recent times – coming from us, by us,” they said.

“It is a record for our children.”

The project’s researchers with the help of local workers have conducted more than 25 interviews from communities all over Queensland with Brisbane, Cairns, Cherbourg, North Stradbroke Island and more to come.

Senior Lecturer in the School of Humanities at Griffith University, Kerrie Foxwell-Norton visited Doomadgee recently to carry out interviews for the project and has also been to Townsville, Mt Isa and Cairns. She also hopes to travel to Palm Island, Mornington Island and Burketown for the project.

“We normally just start with

one question, which is about the interviewee’s earliest memory of there being a struggle for Aboriginal people, and we don’t have to say much after this,” she said.

“People are telling us the most wonderful stories...stories which tell a different history of Queensland, stories of courage and some very sad times, but never far away is a wicked sense of humour.”

The book will be distributed to communities and followed by an exhibition which will include interviews, photos and other materials collected during the course of the research.

WAC will also receive a history of their organisation as part of this bigger project.



Waanyi dictionary ready to go online

The Waanyi Language program, designed to recover, maintain and ensure the revitalisation of Waanyi language for current and future generations, has been of great benefit to the Waanyi community, workshop participant Dawn Aplin says.

With the help of linguist Dr Mary Laughren, the Waanyi dictionary is going through it's final editing stages.

From there it will be sent to the Australian Society of Indigenous Language (AuSIL) to be installed into tablets and mobile devices for easy access, as well as the development of web-based and stand-alone versions which will be online and able to be downloaded onto any computer.

Last month nine people workshoped skin names, moieties and kinship relations along with vocabularies around water (wanami).



“We had a powerpoint presentation with photos of different forms of water which were linked to sound recordings of Waanyi speakers saying words and sentences,” Ms Aplin said.

“We listened to that, repeated the words and wrote down how to pronounce them.

“We also listened to a fishing trip story told by Waanyi elder the late Mr Seccin. That helped us to work out the words and grammar by learning to repeat whole sentences.”



Some of the recordings they have will be used in the development of digital and multimedia resources for the Waanyi language mobile application and dictionary as well as children's story and E-books. The group has also worked on a Waanyi alphabet book, where each word was illustrated with pictures.

AuSIL will put the results of their work into a Lexiaue Pro software package which will enable a basic version of the dictionary, including pictures and sound files, to be put online on the website at www.ausil.org.au

The material will also be sent to Bruderlin MacLean Publishing Services (BRUMAC) to produce a hard copy dictionary and turn current Waanyi stories into

children story books. For more information about how that's done see www.brumac.com.au

Workshop participants were Lila Cairns, Irene Walden, Gwen Baker, Kathy Willetts, Inez Diamond, Dawn Aplin, Shandel Toby, Tarnee Toby and Everyl Johnny.

The program is an initiative of the Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation which began in 2007. It is supported every year by the Waanyi Language Festival which is held alongside Doomadgee Rodeo where various competitions and activities are organised to promote the program and to encourage language use.

Language speakers, linguists and keen community members are also encouraged to attend the Annual

Waanyi Language and Culture Camp which is an opportunity to spend three days of intense immersion in language and an opportunity to work on ways to further the language project.



NORTHERN PROJECT CONTRACTING

At first glance it might be difficult to imagine a connection between the Doomadgee Rodeo and drilling projects in Central Queensland or the Pilbara; or the Waanyi Language Program and building projects in Fitzroy Crossing.



BRINGING CULTURE TO BUSINESS

But Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation's commercial arm - Northern Project Contracting (NPC) - is responsible for those connections and also the returns which are invested into all the community programs you see featured here in the *Waanyi Wire*.

NPC chair Derek Aplin said as the closure of Century Mine drew closer they had been busy establishing businesses in other parts of the country so they could continue to provide funds for the growing number of community programs and support.

"Our new businesses are developed by partnering with other communities who share the same dreams as the Waanyi people for employment and prosperity for their local communities," he said. "NPC can bring skills and experience to the partnership and local communities can help to provide access to business opportunities on their traditional country through their Prescribed Body Corporates and other agencies. We already have a

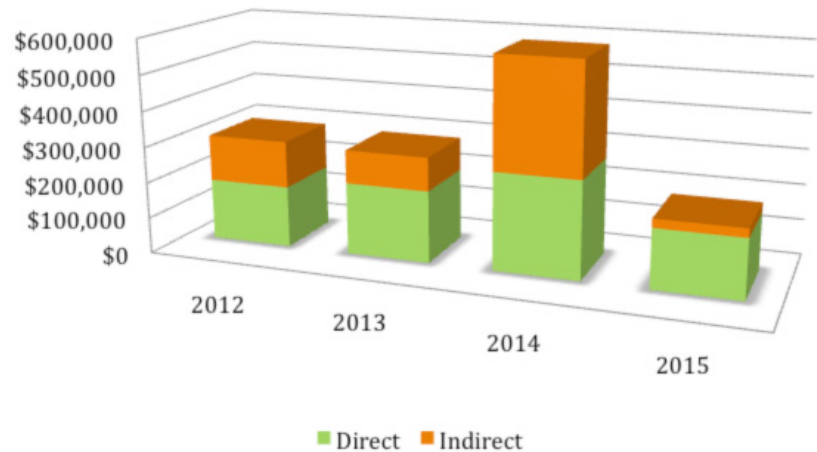
partnership with the Wiri peoples in Central Queensland

and have formed a new company called Central Queensland Project Contracting (CQPC) with them.

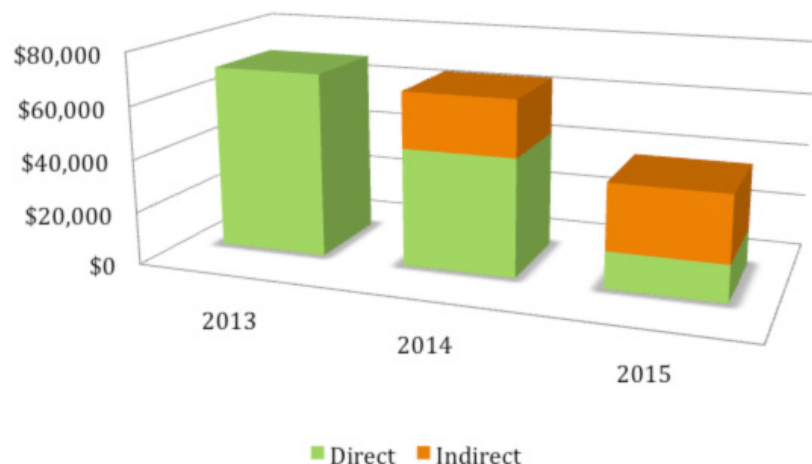
"CQPC has a contract with BHP Billiton /Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) for drilling services at Peak Downs Mine. We're also

working with Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation in the Pilbara region of Western Australia. This business is known as Ashdrill and will be looking to provide drilling services to major mining companies in the region."

Waanyi Social Program Expenditure



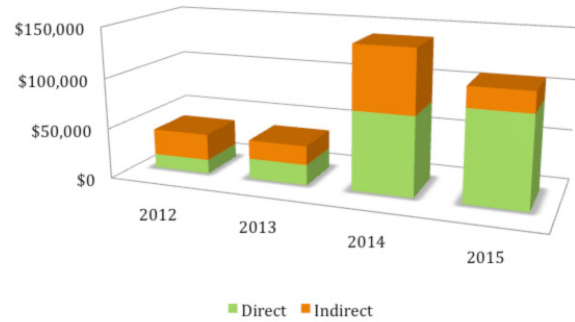
Direct Community Support



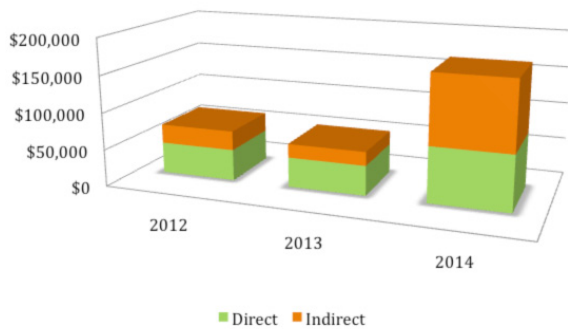
NORTHERN PROJECT CONTRACTING

The Annual **Doomadgee Rodeo** is one of the premier sporting events in the Gulf region. The WAC and Northern Project Contracting have proudly supported the event, for a number of years. Alongside the Rodeo, WAC will support the Waanyi Language Festival, which gives people of all ages the chance to explore the Waanyi Language. *See page 1 for more.*

Waanyi Doomadgee Rodeo Program



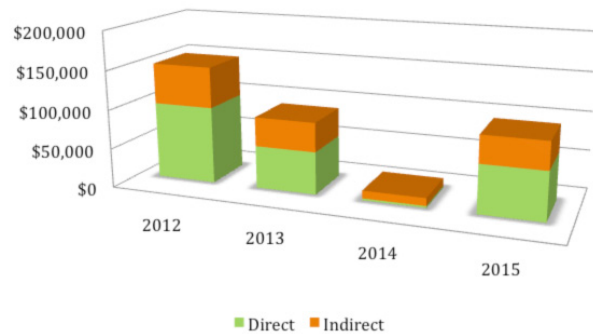
Waanyi Student Exchange Program



The broad aim of the **Student Exchange Program** is to provide an opportunity for children living in a remote Indigenous community to be introduced to whole host of experiences and possibilities that are not available locally. A diversity of interactions at various sites are designed to incite awareness of possible career pathways. *See page 2 and our next edition of Waanyi Wire for more.*

The **Waanyi Language Program (WLP)** is an initiative of Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation (WAC) to restore and revitalise the Waanyi language. The aim of the WLP is to ensure and secure the revitalisation of the Waanyi language project so that current and future generations are able to access, learn and experience language, so critical to Waanyi culture and the Doomadgee community. *See page 5 for more.*

Waanyi Language Project



Mr Aplin said they had even ventured into building and were looking at agricultural opportunities.

“Not everyone wants to be a miner,” he said.

“We’ve formed a building company with our community partners at Fitzroy Crossing in the Kimberley region.

“This partnership has a commitment from the Department

of Defence to get started in 2015.

“It’s our plan to develop more jobs in building so the community can maintain their own houses.

And we’ve looked at investing in the agriculture industry because we believe it is important to offer different career choices.

“So far we have established growing markets for beef and other agricultural products and are now looking at ways to

finance getting this business started.”

He said NPC was proud of the support it was able to give to Waanyi Aboriginal Corporation’s community programs.

“We are looking forward to increasing employment opportunities for local people in a variety of industries,” he said.



Profile: Tarnee Toby

Tarnee Toby, 8, recently participated in the Waanyi language camp group and has learnt a lot of new Waanyi words. Here is a bit about who she is and a few of her favourite things:



What is your tribe? Waanyi

What is your skin group? Niwanama

What are your favourite Waanyi words you have learnt at the language camp? Kulibibi Kunyaba, which means “beautiful butterfly”

Favourite food is? Muma, which means “fruit.

Favourite fruits are – oranges, apples and strawberries.

My best friends are Miami, 11 years old and Learra, 8 years old.

What do you like to do when you're not at school?

Play with my baby sisters, Paris who is 6-years old, Katori who is 2-years-old and Kendra who is 4-years-old.

WORD FIND

BAWA (BROTHER – SENIOR)

BINAJARRA (MOTHER)

BUJARRA (AUNTY)

BUJIJI (MOTHER)

JAWAJI (MAN'S CHILD)

KABUKABU (UNCLE – MOTHER'S BROTHER)

KADIDI (MOTHER'S BROTHER)

KADUNGANYJA (FATHER-IN-LAW)

KAKULU (BROTHER – JUNIOR)

KAMBURRU (UNCLE – MOTHER'S BROTHER)

KANGKU (GRANDMOTHER – MOTHER'S MOTHER)

KAWAJA (FATHER'S SISTER)

KAYIKAYI (BROTHER-IN-LAW)

KUDU (SKIN NAME)

KUJAKUJA (DAUGHTER)

KUKUDI

(GRANDMOTHER – MOTHER'S MOTHER)

I W M X D H B I M N Y U K M U J U Y U I
L S V V J Z J A G L K U K A D A G N L G
I R K H R A N U W I K U W U A F F B U Z
W X N C W G R K E U Y X D E L M H C K H
A I E A K R A Y D I B N Y U O U M U A H
G S J A A B W I H A A A V R V L N K A
N W R R U K A D I D I R W A F I G U R X
F R R K W C Z Y C L D D R A W U N R W U
I I A A L A M A K R R U K A N S A I K C
Y B K A M B U R R U M A I Y J J W G N N
U E I J I W A G N A J M A B U A N F Q A
N L K Z B I Z W L A I R C B J A N L R B
D D Z U F N Z B W M R I M O K K L I B I
D N U D J Q U A W I I Y O I Y J M G B N
K S L R O A K Z W D J A J M M U I A A A
W F H N K P K J X U I K E Q E A Z W B B
X K F L T Z F U I N J I N J W I Y D E I
X Y E L G U J C J W U Y M Q W N I I D A
L I X J P O O T V A B A E A D J N X V T
K A D U N G A N Y J A K N A K J F R R H

KURRKAMALA (BIG MOB)

MALBU (ELDER)

MANGKARRI (WIFE)

MIMAYI (WOMEN'S – SON-IN-LAW)

MIMI (GRANDFATHER – MOTHER'S FATHER)

MUJU (SISTER)

NABI-NABI (BROTHER-IN-LAW)

NAWI (HUSBAND)

NGADA (MOTHER)

NGAWIJI (GRANDMOTHER – FATHER'S MOTHER)

NGAWILI (FATHER)

NGUNYARRI (MOTHER-IN-LAW)

NGURRARRI (GRANDDAUGHTER)

NINI (SKIN NAME)

WAANYI (TRIBE/GROUP – WAANYI)

WULULUKU (ELDER)

