

Mandingalbay Yidinji People

# Wait-a-While

Newsletter | Edition 11  
December 2018

# DJUNBUNJI

LAND & SEA  
PROGRAM



## From strength to strength



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# A word from ED Dale Mundraby

Welcome to our 2018 - one of our biggest years ever – Wait-a-While newsletter which I hope reflects on just some of the many things that have happened over the year, big and small, significant and seemingly less significant – although that’s never really the case, Executive Director (ED) Dale Mundraby writes...

Our aspirations over many years, supported by our hard work and commitment, are coming to fruition at last.

In the newsletter you will read about our first Indigenous Protected Areas and Economic Development Conference ‘Thinking Beyond Borders’ held in June this year where we successfully brought together many of our stakeholders, supporters and interested parties into one room to talk about how we are doing things, and why.

You will read about how we have our Deadly Dinners, an event at the high end of our tourism product, which we now have down to a fine art.

You will read about our growing involvement and engagement with the Yarrabah Council and community on several different levels from the GMYPPBC Master Plan and signage project, the Social Reinvestment Project, and even their school careers day – we’re happy to contribute and support these important community projects.

This year our organisation has grown and developed considerably, not only in terms of partnerships, but also in terms of developing the people in the organisation – our People.

There has been training and forums, some of which have led to an expansion of our roles as rangers across

new areas of expertise, from quarantine to coxswains.

Everything we have done, even long before this great year, has been for a purpose of achieving our objectives which are about improving the well-being of our People, Country and protection of cultural natural values.

And we are doing that by developing and participating in the regional economy, creating a sustainable future through hard work.

It is through nothing less than hard work that we have achieved what we have and that’s through partnership, collaboration, disrupting the welfare cycle and just people getting to work and doing business on our Country.



*Dewayne Mundraby, David Hudson & Dale Mundraby at the Thinking Beyond Borders conference in June this year.*

# Our development journey to date...

**2006** Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation (MYAC) was established following our Native Title Determination

**2009** Launched the MY Strategic Plan to guide us in shifting MY aspirations into action.

**2010-2011** MY land and waters were dedicated into our own **Indigenous Protected Area**

- Number 50 in Australia
- First of its kind to be over multiple tenure where no traditional owner tenure existed.
- Tenures include National Park, State Forest, fish habitat, wet lands, agricultural areas – cane, banana farms, water all the way to the fourth LED in Trinity Inlet.
- Enabled us to develop and establish partnerships

**2011** Djunbunji Ltd was established as MYAC's agent company to manage and deliver our **Working on Country Program** which directly supports land, People and culture.

**2015** Completed the **MY Property Management Plan (PMP)** to identify the eco-infrastructure we need on MY country to carry out commercial, cultural and environmental activities and experiences.

- The PMP was granted in accordance with Section 34 under the *Nature Conservation Act* which provides for use and access to existing infrastructure. As a result the ranger program and commercial activities are delivered and housed at Grey Peaks National Park.
- Our **Commercial Activity Agreement** is an enabler that facilitates the delivery of our products which include our three hour cultural and environmental experiences, overnight camping and our Deadly Dinners – under the banner of **MY Eco Indigenous Tours** (see <http://www.mandingalbay.com.au>).

**2017** In September last year MYAC submitted a preliminary Development Application (DA) to Cairns Regional Council (CRC) to build a nature-based tourism development in the East Trinity Reserve – called the **Mandingalbay Yidinji Eco Cultural Tourism Infrastructure Project (MYECTIP)** which will feature observation towers connected by boardwalks, zip lines, ropes course and “glamping” style accommodation.

**On 10 October 2018 CRC approved our MYECTIP DA.** Every step of the MYECTIP development will go through an assessment process for CRC approval before works can be carried out.

**October 2018** Funding applications have been submitted for early work infrastructure including:

- o Floating Pontoon Jetty
- o Board walk
- o Turn around area
- o Signage to welcome visitors in various languages
- o One high end facility

**Looking ahead** we are currently developing an **MY Indigenous Employment Strategy** to cover training, employment and the development of micro business for our People in the construction and operation phases of MYECTIP.

At this stage we are looking for support from:

- o Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- o State Government – DATSIP
- o Indigenous Land Corporation

Going forward we are currently working with a cross-section of government, industry and FTI Consulting to developing the **MYECTIP Prospectus**.



We trust you will enjoy this issue of Wait-a-While, it has been a great year and we're thankful for what and who we have.

I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge: Mandingalbay Yidinji Community; MY Aboriginal

Corporation Board of Directors; MY Rangers and Volunteers; and Helen Tait.

**And finally, I'd like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Enjoy your break, if you have one, and we can all be ready for the many bigger and better things 2019 might bring us.

*Dale Mundraby*

# Fisheries training means fair go for all

This year Rangers Vincent Mundraby and Victor Bulmer have gained their Cert IVs in Fisheries Compliance after successfully completing their two blocks of study requirements.

Mr Bulmer said it was about addressing illegal activity in the Great Barrier Reef's Green Zone under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act. "At this point we can only

assist under the EPBC Act," he said.

"So when we see people fishing in the Green Zone we call the relevant agencies.

"So it's about knowing the rules, how to be

transparent and fair – it's about protecting our Country, but it's also about protecting the people who are going to use that Country and making sure they know what the rules are.

## MY Rangers upskilling in Burketown

The second Australian Biosecurity Indigenous Ranger Forum was hosted by the Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation in Burketown, on Gangalidda 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 & Gungandji Rangers on the salt pans in Burketown and the Mornington Island Dancers.*





# Ranger exchange provides long list of benefits



Ranger exchanges form an important part of training, learning and swapping ideas for how to deal with the many impacts all manner of activities have on Country and, because of its location, Djunbunji rangers play an active role in the many visits from groups across the nation.

Most recently rangers from Yuku Baja Muliku (Archer Point, near Cooktown) and Aptuma (on the far north eastern side of Cape York) were given a tour of how Djunbunji deals with quarantine and biosecurity issues.

"It's called 'fundamental training' and was organised under the Northern Quarantine Australia

Strategy," Ranger Laurissa Mundraby said.

"There was staff on board as well, from Biosecurity and quarantine.

"These are really good opportunities for us, we get to showcase the work we do as well as exchange information on issues we face."



# Setting sail for a future at sea

Gunggandji Ranger Coordinator Brian Murgha invited our Djunbunji Rangers to participate in the Deck Hand Course conducted by the Tribal Warrior and the NSW TAFE at the Rum Jungle Shipyard at Lee Yan Road East Trinity in October MY Ranger William Mundraby writes...

After two intensive weeks of training involving everything from deploying a life raft to tying up a vessel, all our participants were then presented with Certificates over at the Yarrabah Community at a graduation ceremony in front of family and friends, followed by a kup murrie, which was enjoyed by all.

Earlier this year Djunbunji hosted a camp for the Palm Island crew who sailed from there to Yarrabah as part of their training.

Through the course we learned aspects of boat safety where crew members were assigned to specific tasks such as making sure the passengers were safe

and supplied life jackets they knew how to use properly, how to operate fire fighting equipment properly and effectively, where to assemble in case of a fire on board the vessel, and how to shut-off fuel supply to the vessel etc.

We also learned how to deploy an eight-man life raft and did our safety courses at the Yarrabah Swimming Pool where everyone involved enjoyed being in the water, even when the boys had to fight their way out of the raft with the cockroaches running over their feet!

All of us got to have a drive of the Tribal Warrior

vessel in the Trinity Inlet, which included pulling up to the dock safely, securing the vessel the correct way so that if, for example, two vessels are docked on the same mooring, each vessel can get off without their ropes getting tangled.

There was also a lot of paper work we had to do to complete with our training.

A big thank you to our teachers, Captain Kippa Zechariah, Allan and Chris for his words of wisdom.

It is only a matter of time before our mob will be operating their own passenger and commercial vessels, now we have these tickets.







*PICTURED: Above: the Palm Island crew staying at Djunbunji; Right: Cert I Deckhand graduates with TAFE Digital Maritime Head Teacher Chris Heeks and Tribal Warrior crew; Below: Tribal Warrior CEO Shane Phillips (left) and Captain Kippa Zechariah (right) with David Mundraby with family and; previous page: all the crew and family members celebrate their graduation.*







ABOVE: More than 40 tourism guides from the Wet Tropics to the Gulf were invited to our East Trinity Inlet campsite in March this year, for a hands-on workshop – including an overnight camp – aimed at showcasing the best of Djunbunji’s cultural tourism products. The two-day event included a tour of the inlet and Mayi Bugan trail and a spectacular feed cooked by Utah Mundraby in what was a very successful sharing and cross-promotion exercise. The event was supported by other Ranger groups, including Giringun.

RIGHT: Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) educators from the CSIRO were welcome visitors to Djunbunji in August this year, keen to have a look at some aspects of how western science might tie into traditional knowledge – in this instance, in the area of how to go about a traditional burn. “We also talked about plants being indicators for letting us know when certain food is available and various other aspects of cultural knowledge,” Ranger Laurissa Mundraby said.





# QPWS takes cultural awareness on board

Queensland Parks and Wildlife (QPWS) staff enjoyed two days of cultural awareness training at the East Trinity Campsite in June this year.

Ranger Laurissa Mundraby said about 12 people participated in the course, which took them through the importance of being aware of the many and varied practices of different groups.

"It was good for them to come out because they were able to get a better understanding of the importance of how country is managed and what to do when they come across areas that may have cultural significance," she said.

"There are different protocols in different areas and one of the things we were able to explain to them was how different



groups have different laws in different places.

"So whatever they're doing and wherever they're going, they need to be aware that things might be done differently.

"I think the message they should have gotten was it always best to engage with Traditional Owners of the area they are working with, just to make sure they are getting it right."







## Rangers take on rubbish for survey

More than 160 kilograms is the combined total weight of waste collected from the baseline surveys carried out at East Trinity and Bessie Point, as part of MY Rangers' participation in Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council's Social Reinvestment Project over 2018.

Gunggandji-Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples Prescribed Body Corporate Aboriginal Corporation (GMYPPBC) and Tangaroa Blue took lead roles in the project, which was initiated by the Yarrabah Leaders' Forum, to create positive change around waste management in the Yarrabah community and surrounding areas.

It was funded by DATSIP in December 2017 and has been extended into 2019.

For the past year the MY Rangers have been undertaking baseline data surveys every three months

at the same 100 metre transect located at East Trinity and Bessie Point.

The purpose of the surveys was to determine whether there has been an improvement and reduction

in the waste collected since the introduction of the plastic bag ban in July 2018 and the Container Deposit Scheme in November 2018.

This data also linked in with the transect data collected by the Gunggandji Rangers to provide a snapshot of the data collected across the Yarrabah Peninsula.

We have found there







is a big improvement at Bessie Point with the waste reducing over time and the residents at Bessie Point are actively keeping their beach and recreational area tidy. East Trinity results have been mixed as the rain and tidal flow impact on the amount of waste pushed into the mangroves, which comes mostly from Cairns. Rangers have retrieved lots of balls, glass bottles, cans and single high heel shoes at the base of the bund wall compared with recreational rubbish at Bessie Point.





# NAIDOC networking promotes project

There were 302 butts about it – and Ranger Laurissa Mundraby knows, because she had to count them – the day the MY rangers went to NAIDOC at the Gindaja Treatment and Healing Centre in Yarrabah in July.

The butt of the joke was actually about guessing how many cigarette butts there were inside a jar – a surprising number, given it was only a 500 gram coffee jar, and an indication of just how many more there are out there in our waterways, beaches, roads and bushland.

“I’ve picked up a lot of rubbish myself, so I wasn’t as surprised at the number but I don’t think people really understand the impact these little things can have,” Laurissa said.

“The main thing is the impact it has on our marine life - our fish, our turtles, and then on our community.

“They never break down, they’re actually plastic, and they’re easily washed out to sea where they float and can be poisonous if they’re eaten.”

The competition and information table on the day was about promoting Yarrabah’s Social Reinvestment Project (SRP) to the Yarrabah community.

“The SRP is a partnership project between the rangers and the Yarrabah Council and several other groups with an interest in marine habitats and pollution, such as Tanageroa



Blue, who have helped us several times in the past with clean-ups,” she said.

She said the project, which included four clean-ups over the year in Yarrabah and surrounds, reflected her own passion for working with kids and change.

“I’m passionate about it, I love working with kids, I love mentoring them,” she said.

“I think we need to lead by example when it comes to showing that leadership, not just as an Aboriginal woman but a mother, as a female and as a member of my community.

“I’ve always wanted to give

back to my community and I see this as an opportunity to do that.

“One of the things I kept saying to the kids was, ‘whose community is this?’ and they’d say, ‘my community!’

“I’d say, ‘exactly, so it’s your responsibility to look after it’.

“It’s our responsibility to look after our Country, not anybody else’s, it doesn’t matter who threw that rubbish there, pick it up.

“It begins at grass level and we have to lead by example.”

Pictured above is Laurissa (right) with Helen Tait.



With the support of the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and valued sponsors, the Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation hosted the 2018 Regional Indigenous Protected Areas & Economic Development Conference: **Thinking Beyond Borders in June this year.**



The MYAC and Djunbunji Ltd team sourced an array of speakers and 180 registered participants to share their experiences and deliver key messages to encourage, inspire and assist traditional owners and PBCs with achieving their ambitions for land, people and culture.

The premise behind the conference was that for too long the focus has been about how to operate within the confined space of determined native title rights and interests, rather than

thinking beyond borders, what is possible through building relationships and agreement making, and the unification of people, land and culture.

We appreciate native title is a core issue that demands attention, and it is important to recognise our past in going forward, but in going forward we also need to recognise our future and the potential we can be draw from the now.

The focus of this Conference was to provide emerging businesses with a platform to share and create

meaningful economic and social impact from thinking beyond borders, and investing in land, people and culture through the development of Indigenous-owned businesses and provide a path to fulfilling their ambitions.

A packed program over the two-day event saw university professors speaking directly to tourism bodies who were speaking directly to Traditional Owners who were speaking directly to architects and planners and so on throughout the event.









**PICTURED Above:** Conference goes on Day 2; Far left MY Rangers taking it all in. Speakers: Far left below: Adjunct Professor of Economics Dr Natalie Stoeckl; Ross McLeod, Cape York Peninsula Tenure Resolution Program, Department of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partnership; Joann Schmider Mamu Traditional Owner, Researcher & Advocate; From top left: Ethos Urban Planning Principal Josh Walker and Architect Phillip Follent; David Morgans, Director, Destination & Experience Development, Global Marketing, Tourism & Events Qld; Anthony Beven Partner Grant Thornton Australia; From top right: Paul Kalmar NAIF; Dr Paul Chantrill, Principal Project Officer Tourism & Presentation, Wet Tropic Management Authority; From top far right: Elverina Johnson, Owner/Manager/CEO at Diringhi ARTS & Culture; Jeff Schrale, ANZ Regional Executive Far North Queensland and Callum Howell, Divisional Manager, Indigenous Land Corporation. Pics by Christine Howes.





## What they said when we asked what they thought...

### **Leslie Shirreffs, Chair of the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA)**

"The conference has been absolutely visionary. I think it's an excellent example of people coming together to share positive learnings and also practical learnings about how to deliver things. I was really impressed with the benefits of land management programs, it just tells me how important it is to do Indigenous ranger programmes and have Indigenous Protected Areas, and the economic, social and cultural benefits that arise from that. But also, absolutely delighted at the genius of the MY Tourism Venture proposal, and I have every confidence that one day it'll be an international attraction.



I think the networking is something that's really important for us and the need to engage early and also to involve rainforest Aboriginal people in the decisions about the Wet Tropics World Heritage area."



### **Professor Stewart Lockey, director of the Cairns Institute at JCU**

"For me the conference has been inspiring. I'm always coming across really interesting and exciting things that people are doing in the community and to see what people are trying to do to get some economic and some social value out of their interest in Indigenous-protected areas that are not of title is really fantastic."

### **Rachel Buisserech, a Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar who's working at CSIRO until 2019**

Coming to this conference has been really interesting to hear the perspective of Queensland and how to get Traditional Owners engaged in doing things on country economically and through tourism. My family is from the Caribbean, we work a lot in the tourism space and have a lot of difficulty getting some of our more cultural community aspects at the forefront. It's a lot about hotels and the reef and things like that, but not really about our culture. It's really interesting hearing people talk about how to get Indigenous culture at the forefront of tourism in Queensland.

### **Tethie Lyons, a research scientist at CSIRO**

I've been really impressed by the diversity of the talks. We've had government, we've had local Indigenous elders also speak. We've



had Henrietta talk this morning, who gave a very critical and insightful response to some of the talks yesterday. I also found there are people here who I've worked with before and I'd like to explore potential science opportunities with them. So this was a really useful and impressive gathering of people.



# What they said when we asked what they thought...

## Vanessa Drysdale, from Terrain NRM

"It's been fantastic! I've been inspired. I've been listening to stories from owners who are setting up their own businesses, and I've been really inspired by their stories. I think this conference is interesting because they've had the idea that they wanted to hold this conference, and it came from them. So, it wasn't anybody else telling them what they should do, or how they should do it, or even the value of doing the conference at all. They came up with the idea themselves. They said, 'this is what we think is valuable', and then they went out and sought help from other people, so I think it's a really interesting conference in that regard. We need to do more to support groups with their



economic development. I think that Terrain has a role that I can play in assisting, and mentoring, and helping make connections for people that are interested in running their own businesses."



## David Mundraby from Yarrabah

"At this meeting here, what's really got me was what amount of knowledge that is brought here today. And where we are all sharing our ideas and where do we go from here to there. We have knowledge because we all come from different parts of country. It's just about getting good ideas of things that we can do in our own country."

## Jeanine Gertz, PhD student at James Cook University (JCU)

"I think the main thing I got out of the conference was really about lifting Aboriginal people's thinking around their aspirations, to really think big about opportunities in tourism and economic development."

## Theresa Petray, JCU

"The thing that I got most out of yesterday was just how much really exciting stuff is happening and is starting to happen with different Aboriginal nations and how inspiring that is to



think about what else could be happening.

## Paul Kalmar from Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)

"The programme has been very informative. The organisers have brought together key government, project consulting, funding, and academic resources available to Indigenous communities in considering how to go about the economic development all over the country."





# What they said when we asked what they thought...

## Andre Grant from the Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT)

"I think the biggest thing I take away from this conference is the inspiration to see so much more happening, starting to happen with Indigenous tourism, and also to see that Indigenous protectories and land management programmes can also spur some other opportunities. That's the main thing, as well as the social and the economic advantages that it gives to communities and individual Aboriginal people, but also that things like tourism and other business add-ons are possible from the basis of land management. That's pretty exciting."



## Callum Howell from the Indigenous Land Corporation

"The conference has been really valuable for me, getting to talk to people who are managing country and have aspirations for tourism on their country. It's been eye-opening to see what's going on, and the extent that the accumulated research done on the value of indigenous land and sea programs has been really valuable."







**PICTURED** Left above: Raffle winners Barry Hunter (Aboriginal Carbon Fund) and Yarrabah Cr Nadine Cannon with raffle holder Leah Cameron from Marrawah Law; Above right: Yarrabah Councillors Colin Cedric Nadine Cannon & Ian Patterson at the Networking Event & Below: Helen Tait & Dale & Dewayne Mundraby launching the new MYAC website at the conference.



**AND FINALLY** we were thrilled to see one of our presenters, Elverina Johnson, inspire the next presenter, Jeff Schrale, from the ANZ Bank, to the point where he ditched his own presentation and re-presented her powerpoint display on collaboration and culture within his own context of Indigenous Business Support.

There was also a raffle, furnished and run by Marrawah Law and a 'soft' launch of the new Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation website (pictured p 18).

The conference bag - still much admired - was designed by Yarrabah artist Eric Orcher and is being sported by Terrain NRM's Vanessa Drysdale (pictured right).

The conference finished with a spectacular networking event – with a bigger than life-sized projection of the MYAC logo on the side of a building – on the pool deck of the Pullman Hotel.

Feedback overall was very positive, as you can see from the testimonials above, and there was support for the conference to be held annually or biannually.

Many thanks to our conference sponsors: PMC & Indigenous Protected Areas Program; Queensland Government; James Cook University & Cairns Institute; Wet Tropics Management Authority; Tropical Tourism North Queensland; and Terrain NRM.



# United land use idea key to Master Plan vision

A united land use vision for Gurabana, Guragulu and Mandingalbay Yidinji peoples is the idea behind the development of a Gunggandji-Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples Prescribed Body Corporate Aboriginal Corporation (GMYPPBC) Master Plan (see page 20).

The Master Plan Project includes a feasibility assessment and review of the Yarrabah Shire Planning Scheme.

The aim is to identify land within the GMYPPBC Trustee Area which might be included in a zone or zones other than conservation and environmental protection.

It is also hoped the plan will identify where the range of uses and activities permitted under the current zoning might be expanded.

The Master Plan Project enables GMY People to identify development and economic opportunities to

support their aspirations for their people, country and culture, and the ongoing development of Yarrabah to create a sustainable and prosperous living environment.

The first steps are the establishment of a planning framework for development and use (a 'Master Plan') and continued management of the lands in the Southern Trustee Area in terms of economic, social and environmental outcomes.

Proposed amendments to the Yarrabah Shire Planning Scheme for Council and DATSIP to incorporate

via a planning scheme amendment process are one of the intended outcomes of developing this project, to ensure outcomes sought by GMYPPBC are embedded into the planning scheme and have legislative status. The Master Plan is currently on track to be finalised and amendments to Yarrabah Planning Scheme will be submitted to Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council by June 2019.

Consultation notices will be circulated ahead of scheduled meetings.

The Consultation team will be back in community in 2019.

## What has been achieved in 2018?

- Consultations with Gurabana, Guragulu and Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples, including make-up meetings following sorry business.
- Developed a Consultation Summary Report based on the feedback received at the consultation meetings, including turning consultation plans into digital illustrations.
- Flooding, Coastal, Ecology and Economic experts have been engaged and reviewing technical information to determine opportunities and constraints on Country.
- Meetings with Wet Tropics Management Authority and Council
- Developed a draft vision based on feedback from consultations. The draft vision will be reviewed in further detail and refined at consultations in 2019.
- Developed an outline and some information on the Master Plan including what and where might be developed on country.





**Our Timeline:**



GMYPBC Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples Master Plan Project Consultation: 25 July 2018





# Signs of the times launched in 3 locations on Country

Three spectacularly presented signs were officially unveiled at a celebration at Jilgi, Ganyiira and Buddabadoo earlier this month.

The Gunggandji-Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples Prescribed Body Corporate Aboriginal Corporation (GMYPPBC) was funded by Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) to develop the signs for the GMYPPBC Trustee Area south of Yarrabah.

They were developed by the GMYPPBC Board of Directors and include beautiful artwork by volunteer artists Maynard Bulmer and Connie Richards depicting the stories for the local area.

The signs have been installed in each of the three locations and were revealed at an Official Reveal Ceremony attended by the Mandingalbay Yidinji People, Gunggandji

People, local community members and stakeholders.

Dignitaries included the local MP Curtis Pitt, WTMA Chair Leslie Shirreffs and Yarrabah Mayor Ross Andrews.

Mr Pitt said he was honoured to share a few words and described it as an 'important day for the Southern Prescribed Body Corporate Board at Yarrabah'.

"This group has shown tremendous leadership and vision since their Native Title Determination in 2012 to ensure continuity of culture, retention of language and vision for the future, including eco-tourism opportunities," he said.

GMYPPBC Executive Officer Helen Tait said the

signs were symbolic.

"They are a sign of what the GMY People have achieved over the years and through their Native Title determination," she said. "And they are also a sign of what is to come for the organisation and future generations of the GMY People."

She said the GMYPPBC Board of Directors also wanted to recognise and thank:

- Artists Maynard Bulmer and Connie Richards for their time and contribution to the GMYPPBC Signage Project; and,
- WTMA for their funding commitment and partnering with the GMYPPBC to develop these important signs.







PICTURED: Above: community invite; Top Left: Buddabadoo; Left: Jilgi; Below left: Leslie Shirreffs from WTMA, Dewayne Mundraby & local MP Curtis Pitt; and Below: details on the Jilgi sign.





# Deadly diners enjoy a spectacular night at high end event

Deadly Dinners are at the high end of Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporations tourism product and this year's was held on what CEO Dale Mundraby described as a "spectacular" evening.

More than 30 diners and guests paid up to \$300 a head for the experience and were well-rewarded as they were floated across the inlet to our MY bush 'supermarket' and pharmacy for a short introductory tour.

Before sitting down to enjoy a formal dinner, expertly prepared by Ochre restaurant chefs using seasonal bush produce under the guidance of our rangers, they were then treated to a cultural yarn and performance by our team of deadly dancers led

by David Mundraby.

CEO Dale Mundraby said they had developed the presentation of the 'Deadly Dinners' into a fine art.

"This event is getting bigger and bigger every time we hold it" he said.

"This year's was spectacular, a brilliant sunset kicked us off into an evening of cultural dance, story telling, a uniquely designed menu and a return trip for our guests across the inlet.

"We've got it down to a finer and finer art, we're

excited already to see how we can grow these events into the New Year.

"The Deadly Dinners are a fantastic way for us to showcase the work we do in an entirely different way.

"I'd particularly like to thank our multi-skilled and multi-talented staff (pictured below) for the work they have put in to these great events.

"They and the Dinners represent one of our biggest and best successes, and we couldn't have done it without them."











## Future generations' choice in hand in Yarrabah

Yarrabah High School enjoyed another successful Careers Day this year, showcasing options from the Army, Air force, Police, Ambulance, Djunbunji Yidinji Rangers, Gunggandji Rangers, Bumma Biperra Media and various other agencies.

Our future generations will have a great choice in years to come.

There was a lot of interest around the Mandingalbay Yidinji 3D map, with lots of questions about how we started the project, how we made the landscape and who was involved.

The kids were genuinely interested and were asking a lot of questions to both the Rangers groups and other career advertisers.

Even the Yarrabah Mayor came along to show his support for the event.

I want to say thank you to the Yarrabah High School for an eventful day and keeping up their good work.

William Mundraby





## School visits = opportunity

Any and every chance to visit schools is snapped up by our rangers who love to show kids what they're all about.

Year 3 students at St Andrew's in Redlynch

(pictured above and right) were thrilled – and still are – to have their very own bulmba bayan built in their school yard. Rangers David, William and Victor kept spirits high as they explained how the shelter was made and what was needed to make it just right. "We donated the bark hut and they actually helped us put it together," Ranger Victor said. "It was a lot of fun."

Pictured top is Doomadgee State School students and right are Clontarf Academy kids at Djunbunji.







See our website for more:  
<http://www.djunbunji.com.au> and  
<http://www.mandingalbay.com.au>  
 Email [admin@djunbunji.com.au](mailto:admin@djunbunji.com.au)  
 Address 1928 Yarrabah Rd, Bessie Point  
 Postal PO Box 329, Gordonvale, Q 4865  
 Phone 4056 8283  
 Fax 4056 8284



The MY Ranger Program is funded by the Australian Federal Government.

## Mangrove watchers capture important data for future

One of the MY Rangers many collaborative projects over the year is what's known as a 'Mangrove Watch', carried out in partnership with Cairns and Far North Environment Centre (CAFNEC) and Dr Norm Duke.

The project involves utilising a boat on a set tide and video recording a specific mangrove habitat twice yearly.

CEO Dale Mundraby said the data captured was invaluable.

"Over the years we'll be able to go back through the data and find out what mangroves are growing, where, how fast or if not, and look at reasons for that," he said.



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