



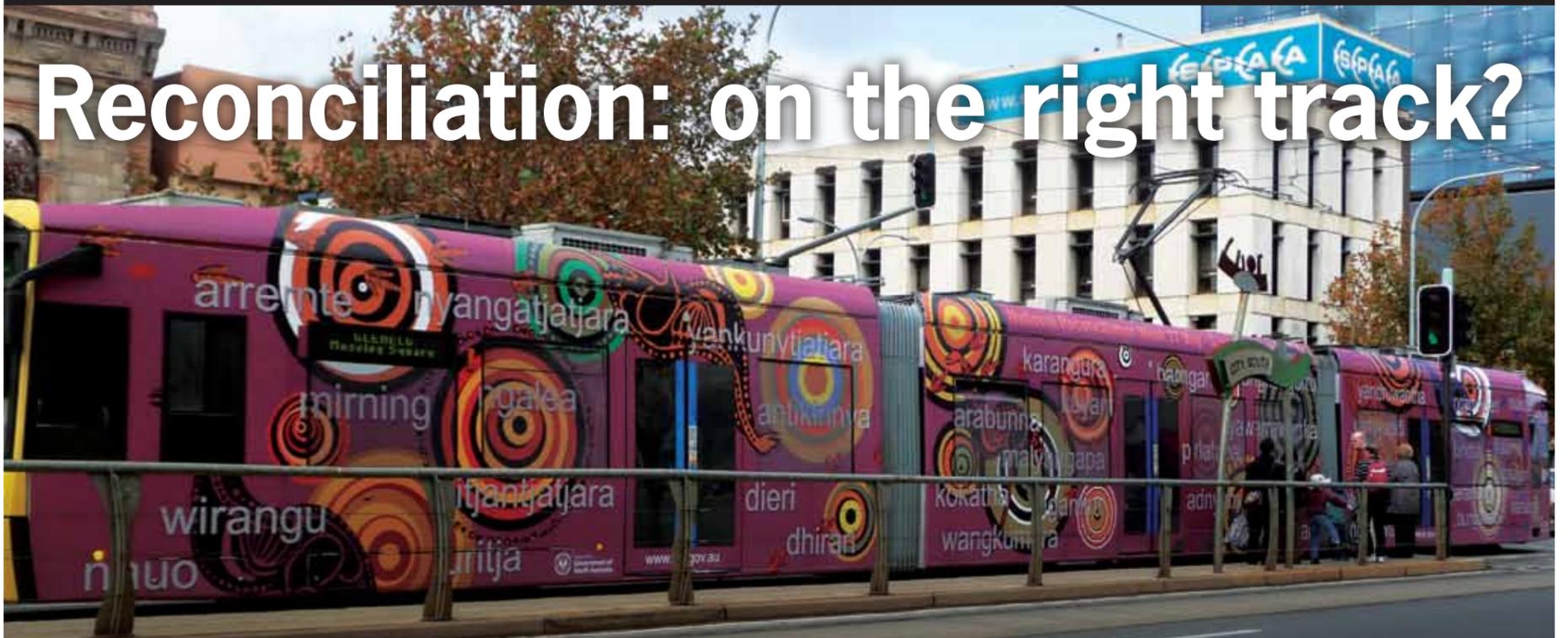
Aboriginal Way

Issue 45, June 2011

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The Reconciliation Edition

Reconciliation: on the right track?



An Adelaide Metro tram has been wrapped up in Aboriginal Art to highlight Reconciliation Week 2011.

The tram will remain in the artwork for nine weeks, taking in National Sorry Day, Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week.

“The design celebrates the spirit of reconciliation and the importance of Aboriginal art and culture, acknowledging all 39 language groups whose country is either fully or partly located within South Australia,” said Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Minister Grace Portolesi.

The art was designed by the 2010 NAIDOC SA ‘Artist of the Year’ Paul Herzich.

Minister raises racism as reconciliation issue

Racism was the buzz word during Reconciliation Week in South Australia.

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Grace Portolesi raised the issue during the Reconciliation Breakfast at the National Wine Centre on May 27.

“Racism has a very damaging impact on the lives of Aboriginal people,” she said.

“Research from across the world shows that racism affects people’s mental and physical health and we know that racial discrimination can significantly reduce people’s opportunities.

“This year’s theme for Reconciliation Week is ‘Let’s Talk Recognition’.

What I’m asking our community to recognise is that racism is profoundly experienced by Aboriginal people and that we have a responsibility to face up to it as a community and actively tackle it.”

“Aboriginal people tell us about the discrimination and prejudice they experience in their daily lives and research bears this out.

“Comprehensive national research released this year by the University of Western Sydney showed that more than a quarter of Australians polled expressed anti-Aboriginal sentiments. One in five Aboriginal people polled said they were often treated with disrespect and mistrust.

“I believe we, as a community, will continue to struggle with closing the gap of Aboriginal disadvantage until we acknowledge that Aboriginal people are confronted with racism and its consequences on a daily basis.

Minister Portolesi said she had asked the SA Aboriginal Advisory Committee to develop strategies designed to tackle the problem and indicated they would make it a priority of their current term.

“We should not underestimate the importance of small but practical steps such as this,” she said.

“South Australia has come a long way with legislative reform against discrimination since Don Dunstan’s pioneering legislation of the 1960s. But despite this racism persists, so we need to publicly recognise it and consider practical action.”

Reconciliation Co-chair Peter Buckskin told Aboriginal Way that racism was a real issue that needed attention.

“Education is the key to tackling this but also all people need to take responsibility for the way they behave and interact with others,” said Professor Buckskin.

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Parry's view

Re-igniting the spark of reconciliation



Above: SANTS CEO, Mr Parry Agius.

For Aboriginal people, the few simple words that recognise country, mean a lot. It means that there is an element of acknowledgement that they ARE the traditional owners, who deserve respect and thanks for having people on their country.

It is a ceremony, which has been seen by some people interstate and I suspect here too, as a waste of time.

I believe the recognition ceremony has become, and should remain, an integral part of how we conduct business in South Australia.

It is significant that people are talking about getting rid of the welcome to country ceremony, or paying respects to the traditional owners.

It shows that in the 11 years since 300-thousand people crossed Sydney Harbor bridge in support of reconciliation...and 55-thousand here in Adelaide...that reconciliation has gone off the boil...it's hardly even spoken about.

What happened to those 55-thousand voices that offered loud support to reconciliation? Where are they now?

Maybe you were among those people who joined together in the spirit of reconciliation.

If you were I wonder if you can remember how that felt? To me, it was a feeling of real happiness...of hope...not unlike the feelings of a first kiss.

The question we have to ask ourselves today is how do we reignite the spark so that the flame of reconciliation can burn strong again.

I'm not sure what the answer is – but I do know that it has to start in your heart and travel to your mind so that the thoughts of reconciliation become more than just thoughts...that we take some action.

In the current State Government strategic plan Aboriginal unemployment is a big ticket item, with the government worried that the numbers of Aboriginal people out of work is three times the rate of the non-Aboriginal population.

The government wants to reduce the gap...how are we going? Well, the State's report card into the strategic plan shows that there has been some positive movement in the "gap" between Aboriginal unemployment and non-Aboriginal unemployment...but the reality is not much has changed. There may be a few more Aboriginal people employed in the public sector...but not enough. Not enough in the private sector either.

It's a similar story in just about every social indicator...there are more aboriginal people in prisons, on welfare, dropping out of school than the rest of the population.

Aboriginal people die younger too... did you know that the life expectancy for an Aboriginal man is 67...11½ years less than for the wider community... for women it's 72, 10 years less.

It's simply not good enough. How do we fix these problems? Where do we start?

Reconciliation must be the key. I want you to think about that bridge walk or that first kiss and try to remember how good that felt.

Can you imagine what it would be like if you could get that feeling on a regular basis because you did something positive towards reconciliation?

Now please don't think I'm accusing you of doing nothing. I'm not. I know that many of you do much for Aboriginal people.

What I'm asking you is to please think about reconciliation again...not just today, or tomorrow, but every day.

First Nations representatives make history

The National Congress of Australia's First Peoples have announced the results of its first elections for the Board of Directors.

Congress Co-Chairs Josephine Bourne and Sam Jeffries, said that the elections are the historic final steps towards forming the first elected Board of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples.

The Directors were elected by the delegates at the inaugural meeting of the National Congress.

The new board continues to embody our commitment to gender equity which is still a first in Australia.

The Directors Elect will take office in July and consider the policy recommendations from this inaugural National Congress at their first meeting.

Joining Co-Chairs Ms Jody Broun and Mr Les Malezer on the first Board will be: William (Brian) Butler (SA), Venessa Curnow (QLD), Dennis Eggington (WA), Rodney Little (ACT), Tammy Solonec (WA) and Daphne Yarram (VIC).

Anangu construction workers recognised

Minister for Housing Jennifer Rankine has acknowledged the achievements of 20 Aboriginal construction workers and presented them with a nationally-recognised qualification in Civil Construction.

The awards ceremony was the culmination of a successful, six-month employment and accredited training program resulting in the construction of 33 houses on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands in the far north-west of South Australia.

"The ceremonies recognise the achievements of 20 Aboriginal people from the APY Lands; 13 from Mimili and seven from Amata," said Ms Rankine.

"This is a great achievement and the Amata and Mimili communities can be extremely proud of the result.

"The skills these individuals have gained during their participation in the program will give them great opportunities to work within their communities and beyond."

Ms Rankine said work involved the construction of fencing, gates, shade shelters, fire pits and clothes lines for the 33 new houses. The work was

supervised by a contractor on behalf of Housing SA.

The properties were funded in 2009–10 under the National Partnership Agreement for Remote Indigenous Housing.

The accredited training, Certificate I and II in Civil Construction, was delivered on and off the job by Industry Services Australia, a recognised trade training provider based in Darwin.

"Career Employment Group, a not-for-profit Group Training and labour hire organisation, co-ordinated the workforce development program in both communities, employed members of the Anangu community, and provided community care services," Ms Rankine said.

"Housing SA now requires all contractors who work on the APY Lands to include Anangu people in their workforces.

"I am confident we will continue to see very real benefits flow to families and communities through our program of building new houses along with our work to ensure local people benefit from the increased employment opportunities," she said.

It's a fact...

Many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience discrimination.

More than one quarter (27%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 and over had experienced discrimination in the last 12 months.

One in 10 (11%) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 4–14 years reported being bullied at school because of their Indigenous origin.

Information supplied from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Oct 2010.

Remembering and recognising our Aboriginal veterans

A moving ceremony commemorating the service of Aboriginal veterans was held in Adelaide on May 27.

About 300 people attended the service on the steps of the South Australian War Memorial on North Terrace, city.

Among the guests of honour were SA Governor, Kevin Scarce, Reconciliation Co-chairs Prof Peter Buckskin and Ms Robyn Layton and Professor Lowitja O'Donoghue.

The day was held to honour the

many Aboriginal soldiers who have served Australia.

The gathering was told that Aboriginal men and some women have served in every conflict that Australia has been involved in.

Lieutenant Jack Pearson gave the address, reminding those present that even when Aboriginal people were not recognised as citizens they still served.

"They made up their nationality, so that they could serve," he said.

"Aboriginal people have proudly served this country for over 100 years and continue to do so.

He said the wished the wider community could follow the military's lead when it came to racism.

"Racism and discrimination is not a feature in service. We can do it in the military, why not in the wider community?" he asked.

An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island War Memorial is being commissioned

to honour the memory and contribution made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service men and women.

The memorial will face the Torrens Parade Ground.

Donations are being sought to purchase paving for the area. Pavers can be engraved with the names of those who served or their families.

For more information contact Marj Tripp on 0404 090 058 or Frank Lampard on 0417 807 838.



Above: On the steps of the War Memorial, in North Terrace, Adelaide.



Above: Lieutenant Jack Pearson being interviewed after the ceremony.



Above: Mr Steve Dodds wore his medals with pride. He served in Korea at the Battle of Kapyong in 1951.



Above: Major Sumner performed a Smoking Ceremony.



Above: Professor Lowitja O'Donoghue and Amy Levi lay a memorial.



Above: Aboriginal Australian Soldiers, past and present, on the steps of the War Memorial.

Sorry. Still living on borrowed time

National Sorry Day was held on May 26 with the theme 'Sorry. Still living on borrowed time!'

Sorry Day organisers say there is still much to do, that there are many people still hurting as a result of the Stolen Generations.

"We must not forget those affected," said Sorry Day Chair, John Browne.

"There are many people who were hurt, many are still hurting," he said.

"Sorry Day gives us an opportunity to recognise that.

Mr Browne also urged people to show their support for a piece of legislation currently in the South Australian Parliament.

The Greens Tammy Franks, MLC, has introduced to the Parliament, a bill called the Stolen Generations Reparations Bill.

At present the Liberals' have made some amendments to the Bill which essentially call for an inquiry into the Bill via the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee. The amendment is seen as a positive one.

If this happens, the committee most likely will call for contributions from July.

The bill seeks to establish a tribunal and provide monetary and other forms of compensation to Aboriginal people who were forcibly removed from their families.

The bill has in principle support from Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, which wants people to contact their local members of parliament to get them to support it.

Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Minister, Grace Portolesi said there is still a lot to be done to achieve justice for the stolen generations, many of whom are now senior citizens.

"Members of the stolen generation still have this very raw memory of being taken from their families," said Ms Portolesi.

"I've heard some of their heartbreaking stories and I know how vital it is that all Australians not only recognise these wrongs, but support the process of healing."

In Adelaide, Sorry Day was marked with the Mattanyaitpinya Wodlianni Stolen Generations event in Victoria Square (Tarndanyangga).



Above: Students from Hampstead Primary School.



Above: Left to right: Jeffrey Cooper and Ivan Copley.



Above: Children from Sturt Street Primary School were fascinated by the exhibits on show from the Adelaide Museum.



Above: Left to right: Ellen Trevorrow and Noreen Kartinyeri from Camp Coorong showed how to weave baskets.



Above: Left to right: Debra Rigney and Leanna Vandenheuvel from Domiciliary Care.



Above: John Browne from SA Journey of Healing.



Above: Performers showed off some traditional Islander dances.



Above: Amelia Campbell told her story and sang at the Sorry Day event.



Above: Left to right: Damon Koomatrie, 11, Alex Pinkie, 11 and Robert Koolmatrie 10 from Alberton Primary School.



Above: Left to right: Doris Kartinyeri and Maxine Risk.



Above: Left to right: Shannen Bartel, 10 and Harley Callaghan, 12 from Enfield Primary School.



Above: Left to right: Hazel Martin and Chris Charles at ALRM's Sorry Day event.



Above: Left to right: John Browne, Neil Gillespie and Brian Butler at ALRM's Sorry Day event.

Reconciliation Down Rundle: Healthy Land, Living



and Culture



Aboriginal Heritage News

To recognise the importance of Heritage and Native Title being considered together, the Aboriginal Heritage Branch (AHB) of the Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division (AARD) will have a small section in this newspaper to address what we are doing about important issues.

The State Aboriginal Heritage Committee (SAHC) and the AHB are working closely with the Congress Heritage Sub-Committee and the South Australia Native Title Services (SANTS).



**Government
of South Australia**

Site conservation project at Loxton

On 15 April 2011 conservation works were carried out on an exposed burial site at Loxton. This site was recorded by the Heritage Protection and Conservation Team of the Aboriginal Heritage Branch within the Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet when first discovered.

The burial is situated in an eroded vehicle track on high ground on the southern

bank of the River Murray. The burial site is part of a larger archaeological site. Evidence of the archaeological site is visible with remains of midden material and the presence of stone artefacts. The area is criss-crossed by several unregulated vehicle tracks.

The burial site was flagged off to stop access while arrangements were made by the Heritage Conservation Team for its conservation. It was determined that in the short term the burial was to be

covered over while a management plan for the wider area is developed.

Dirt and sand used to cover the burial was donated by the District Council of Loxton Waikerie. The labour was provided by the Working on Country Rangers who covered and landscaped the burial sites and built the fence. Mr Eric Cook also assisted by conducting a smoking ceremony.

The Aboriginal Heritage Branch acknowledges the participation of

the First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee, the Working on Country Rangers, Tonkin Consulting, the Department for Primary Industries and Natural Resources, The Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the District Council of Loxton Waikerie, in assisting us with this project.

**Heritage Protection and
Conservation Team
DPC-AARD**



Above: The Caring for Country team: Steven Cullingford, Troy Cullingford, Robert Tripp, Ken Karpany, supervisor Mark Rover, Tina Morgan, Belinda Blight and Amanda Morgan.

This section sponsored by the State Government of South Australia

West coast heritage site visits and recording



Above: Allan Wilson, Penong Miller, Kenny Wilson and Matt Morrison near Baird Bay.

The first week in May 2011 saw the Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and South Australian Native Title Services staff undertaking site visits with Allan Wilson, Penong Miller, Matt Morrison and Kenny Wilson of the Wirangu No 2 Native Title Management Committee in the area between Elliston and Streaky Bay in the state's west.

The aim of the trip was to relocate sites already recorded on the DPC-AARD Central Archive and to document any

un-recorded sites along the way. Preliminary research showed that previous archaeological work in the area had been limited to coastal areas and suggested that much remained to be done.

The NTMC wanted to concentrate efforts on the coast as well, but also included some inland sites to visit. Our daily work schedule was determined by the priorities of the NTMC members and resulted in the inspection of several known sites and the recording of over a dozen new sites.

Site cards and a short report will be drafted for the NTMC, and the new sites

added to the DPC-AARD central archive. This trip highlighted the scale of the task faced by communities and heritage professionals in recording sites. The cliché 'it's a big country' is true and a lot more work still needs to be carried out throughout this area.

We would like to thank all of the Wirangu No2 NTMC members, in particular Allan, Penong, Matt and Kenny for a great week in a beautiful part of the world.

**Heritage Protection and Conservation Team
DPC-AARD**

Aboriginal Heritage Branch

If you have a question about heritage or want to be on our mailing list you can contact us via the people listed below.

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Register of Aboriginal sites and objects

It is really important for communities to understand the importance of having site information on the Register of Aboriginal sites and objects.

In the Heritage Information Team we receive and respond to development, mining and exploration applications. Once received we are able to compare the applicant's project area with the Site Register to determine if there are any heritage sites within the project area. The response can fall into 2 categories:

- Yes, there are heritage sites. We then prepare a response letter advising the applicant that there are sites within their project area. This response includes a map that shows the approximate location and the type of site: Archeological, Anthropological, Historical or Traditional. This is the only site information contained in the letter. We also include Traditional Owner (TO) information for the applicant to contact for further information. The TO details are

sourced directly from the site card or Heritage Committee contact list.

- No, there are no heritage sites listed on the Register located in the project area. There may still be sites present and these sites are still protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988*.

This reiterates how vital it is that we have heritage sites recorded on the Register. If we are sending out 'no sites on the Register' letters, when in fact there

are sites on country, there is a higher potential for applicants and pastoralists to unknowingly damage or disturb these sites.

I would like to extend an open invitation to all communities to come and visit our office, meet the staff and check the information that we contain is up to date. Please contact the Heritage Information Team by telephoning 8226 8900 to make an arrangement.

This section sponsored by the State Government of South Australia

In memory and recognition of our elders: they

Kunmanara Tur

Aboriginal elder **Kunmanara Tur** passed away recently.

Mrs Tur was born in 1936 at Hamilton Bore, about 100kms from Oodnadatta, north-west South Australia.

She spent her early years in a bush camp with her mother, the late Mary Inawantji Carroll, a Yankunytjatjara woman and her father, the late John Edward (Jack) Kennedy, an Irish man.

At the age of seven Mrs Tur's family relocated to the township of Oodnadatta where she entered Oodnadatta Mission to begin school.

At the age of 14 she was sent to the Bagshaw family in McLaren Flat, Adelaide to work as a domestic where she helped raised their three boys.

Throughout this time Mrs Tur continued to see her mother and her little sister, Gloria, and was still able to speak her

mother tongue, Antikirinya-Yankunytjatjara fluently. This skill would lead to a life long career as a translator and interpreter.

In 1973 Mrs Tur began teaching Pitjantjatjara at the Summer School of the University of Adelaide and began interpreting for the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement. This was the beginning of a career that spanned almost 40 years as an interpreter for Anangu people where she was employed with the Ethnic Affairs Commission and as a court interpreter on the North West circuit.

Mrs Tur was given Eldership status at the age of 46 from the Antikirinya-Yankunytjatjara community northwest of South Australia in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara, Yankunytjatjara lands (APY lands).

She has been a tireless advocate and cultural broker for the Anangu community in relation to land rights, health provision, and maintenance of Anangu languages and as an interpreter.

Mrs Tur was given permission and selected by Pitjantjatjara Elders to teach and interpret Pitjantjatjara (as this is not her mother tongue) in courts, prisons, hospitals, for Native Title claims and as a lecturer with the University of South Australia.

Mrs Tur was the first Aboriginal Artist in Residence with Carclew Youth Performing Arts Centre, performing in numerous schools teaching children about Anangu culture, storytelling, song and dance.

In April 2011 Mrs Tur was awarded the Flinders University Honorary Degree of Letters, honoris causa for her lifelong contribution as a cultural education, oral linguist, interpreter and advocate for Indigenous rights.

She has also written an autobiography *Cicada Dreaming*.

Commissioner Klynton Wanganeen said Mrs Tur has spent her entire life helping others and is very highly regarded both in the community and non-Aboriginal community.

"She was a born teacher and from a very early age she began helping others," said Mr Wanganeen

Commissioner Khatija Thomas said Mrs Tur was an inspiration to many in the community as a women who lived and survived through the many challenges faced by our people of her generation.

"As a pioneer in teaching, translation and interpretation, her volunteered generosity of spirit and time in sharing her cultural knowledge will be sadly missed," said Ms Thomas.

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon Grace Portolesi said Mrs Tur touched many people's lives and was a catalyst for people who sought to retain or regain their Aboriginal language and for those of us who wished to learn an Aboriginal language.

"She worked tirelessly to ensure Aboriginal knowledge and language was accessible to people, learning institutions and Government.

Ngarrindjeri Nation Ngartar art project

Picturesque Sturt Reserve at Murray Bridge was the setting for the launch of the Ngarrindjeri Bollards Carving Project in May.

Proceedings began with the choir, Ngarrindjeri Mimir Kykulan performing three songs including their own Welcome to Country song.

Guests were welcomed by Mayor Allan Arbon OAM, followed by the official launch by Trish Hansen, Manager, Public Art and Design, Arts SA.

Lena Rigney, Ngarrindjeri elder, and member Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnan Arts Advisory Committee gave a brief background of the project and spoke about the project as a participant and gave out certificates to participants and support organisations.

The Ngarrindjeri Bollards Carving Project was a Community Arts Development project for the Aboriginal community funded through ArtsSA and endorsed by the Ripples Aboriginal Steering group as a Ripples 2010 skills development opportunity.

Members of the Aboriginal community were invited to develop designs around the ngartar (totems) of the Ngarrindjeri Nation under the guidance of artist Michael Tye who then refined the designs to be applied to the bollards.

This process was supported with ecological information provided by the Murray Darling Natural Resource Management Board and the carving skills and expertise of the Murraylands Woodturners Club and the South Australian Wood Carving Academy.

The outcome of this project is six beautiful images of birds and animals of the region carved into posts and then painted in black and white. They have been installed by the river



at Sturt Reserve by the council depot staff both as works of public art and functional mooring bollards.

This project has not only added to the skills set of local Ngarrindjeri artists, but created partnerships and understandings

between different community groups whilst promoting understanding of Ngarrindjeri culture and reconciliation.

will not be forgotten

She will be sadly missed. Kunmanara Tur remains an inspiration to many of us, non-Aboriginal people and Aboriginal people alike," said the Minister.

Noeline Casey

Aboriginal elder **Noeline Casey** passed away recently.

Born in Kingston, SE South Australia in 1936, Mrs Casey was a descendant of the Tanganekald, Meintangk and Bunganditj peoples of the South East and was the youngest of five children.

In her childhood and teenage years Mrs Casey was a great sports person and was associated with Largs Bay Sports Club and Taperoo Sports Club. She played netball and basketball and was a great swimmer. She swam the Port canal many times, for which she won many medals.

She continued her involvement with sporting clubs in later years and assisted

Aboriginal sports groups to raise money to attend carnivals and purchase uniforms and sporting equipment.

"Mrs Casey was a true inspiration and role model. Never one to just sit back and watch, she was always finding new ways to get the community involved", said Mr Wanganeen.

Mrs Casey's particular interest in Aboriginal women's issues saw her become a founding member of the South Australian Aboriginal Women's Council in the 1970s.

Mrs Casey was passionate about protecting and preserving the Aboriginal heritage of the South East and has dedicated many voluntary years to this and in 1988 she became a founding member of the South Australian Aboriginal Heritage Committee.

"Caring for the land was very important to Mrs Casey", said Ms Thomas, "the protection and preservation of Aboriginal heritage was paramount to her and she

led the way in taking care of the Kingston SE camping and burial grounds."

In 1988 Mrs Casey became Chairperson of the Kungari Association, once again displaying her desire to ensure greater recognition of Aboriginal culture and the protection of Aboriginal sites.

It was also very important to Mrs Casey that young Aboriginal people were engaged in issues and had positive role models. Mrs Casey and the late Tony Williams instigated and ran the first Aboriginal youth drop in centre in Dale Street, Port Adelaide.

Mrs Casey was well known by many Aboriginal communities throughout South Australia. She was a very caring person and was well liked by all people whom she met. She developed many friendships with other Aboriginal Elders from other communities. She was a Founding Member of the South Australian Elder's Council.

Mrs Casey also looked after the elderly people who camped at the Latare site at Glanville and would frequently visit and take food and share stories with them by the campfire.

Mrs Casey has also been involved in the return and repatriation of Aboriginal human remains from overseas.

Ms Casey is survived by three daughters, 12 grand children and seven great grand children.

Kunmanara Edwards

Kunmanara Edwards from the Yalata community has passed away.

He was a strong and staunch advocate and representative for his community as an ALRM Board member from 2002 to 2010.

He was also very active in the Yalata community and will be sadly missed.

Our column in review features reviews and stories on Aboriginal writers, artists and musicians. We welcome your feedback and suggestions. So if you know of a new work about to be published or an artist or musician please contact us on (08) 8110 2800.

New CD for Gurrumul

It's called 'Rrakala', and it's the second stunning CD by Gurrumul Yunupingu.

The title 'Rrakala' means a sub-group of people within the Gamatj clan and the CD is full of songs that reflect deeper into Gurrumul's identity.

The CD follows in the footsteps of the multi ARIA award winning double platinum album which was released in early 2008 and is sure to be as successful.

The songs on the album are sung entirely in Australian languages, and no English. Even if you don't speak Yolngu the sounds will move you.

The track Bakitju talks about home, that while he lives away from his home and history his body and mind are still there, they are of 'that place', his whole being is of the Rock Bakitju, the soils, seas and sea-land of his ancestral estates.

There are 12 songs on the album, one Warwu runs 8.27 which is quite long for a song.

When you listen to it though, you don't want it to end.

Gurrumul sings with a heartfelt passion. He also plays all the instruments on the album except the Double Bass, which is performed by Michael Hohnen and extra guitars by Craig Pilkington.

Rrakala is available from all good music outlets and on line through www.skinnyfishmusic.com.au or iTunes. It costs about \$30.



in review

Far West Coast news

The Far West Coast Traditional Lands Association has been operating an office in Ceduna since September last year after having been incorporated in February of 2008.

The association is doing what it can to provide services to members through a trust fund that has been set up off the back of a land use agreement with Iluka Resources.

The FWCTLA is making sure that services can be provided into the future long past the life of the mine by making investments and establishing enterprises.

In the last year or so the association has been able to purchase a D10 Bull Dozer that has been hired to Exact Mining at the Jacinth Ambrosia Mine. This was done with the assistance of Indigenous Business Australia who made a loan available.

As well as the dozer, the FWCTLA has also purchased a mobile light tower and an excavator that have been hired to Iluka Resources.

All of this machinery is managed by a company that's been set up by the land owners called Far West Mining and Civil that is managed through an agreement with MLCS Corporate.

Iluka Resources have a 20% Indigenous employment target and work well with the FWCTLA in trying to achieve this by holding regular meetings with a liaison committee made up of Iluka and FWCTLA representatives.

Aside from the objective of being recognised through the determination of Native Title Rights, the Far West Coast Traditional Lands Association has the objectives of relieving poverty, sickness, suffering, distress,

misfortune and helplessness amongst Far West Coast Native Title Claim Group through education, employment and economic development.

In the last twelve months, Aboriginal people who are recognised as traditional owners of the Far West Coast have been assisted with scholarships and education support, assistance with sports and youth activities, funerals and gaps in funding for medical assistance among other things.

It's taken many years and a lot of hard work from many people, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal alike, for the land owners of the Far West Coast to get to this point with plenty left to do.

Since opening an office, and employing an Economic Development Manager, the FWCTLA has been able to establish relationships with other organisations, service providers, government and non-

government agencies and business and has started working on strategies that will benefit traditional owners with engagement in education and employment.

The Economic Development Manager is working with the board to establish a structure where traditional owners who live in Adelaide, Port Lincoln and on the Far West Coast are able to access opportunities to improve their socio-economic circumstances.

The Far West Coast Traditional Lands Association acknowledges the hard work done by its members as well as South Australian Native Title Services, Iluka Resources and the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations.

For any enquiries please contact John Isgar, Economic Development Manager, email: isgar@fwctla.org.au



Above: The Far West Coast Traditional Lands Association recently purchased this excavator which is being hired to Iluka Resources for work at it's mine.



Above: Claude the Crow proved very popular with local children at a recent event, sponsored by the Far West Coast Traditional Lands Association.

New partnership provides jobs for Aboriginal people

The Aboriginal Foundation of South Australian and McMahon Services Australia Pty Ltd have joined forces to create a new indigenous employment program.

The program, called INTRACT Indigenous Services, will promote employment for indigenous people by performing contract services to Government and private organisations in the building and construction industry, particularly organisations with obligations or an interest in employing indigenous people in the building and construction industry.

AFSA received funding in February 2011 from the Federal Government to recruit, mentor and train 40 candidates for jobs with INTRACT.

AFSA CEO, Grahame Tonkin, said he is excited about the new enterprise.

"With the funding provided by the Department of Education, Employment and Work Place Relations, we can recruit people, hopefully young people for jobs with INTRACT, which will develop into long term meaningful employment," he said.

"They will be involved in contract work across a range of construction and mining activities and with companies that have a genuine interest in indigenous employment.

"It is an exciting development and if we succeed in employing say 20 people in the first year into full time meaningful work, then we have made a difference," he said.

"The Government of South Australia is committed to a minimum requirement for indigenous employment, so when the Government issues a tender for construction work, INTRACT can assume that role for the organisation that is successful in the tender.

"We'll take on that role of employing people through INTRACT...and I feel very positive about our ability to perform in this area," he said.

'INTRACT' Indigenous Services is a division of McMahon Services Australia Pty Ltd and has access to all of McMahon's plant and machinery resources through the cooperative agreement.

Training will include driving and operating heavy machinery and digging trenches as well as individual mentoring and drug and alcohol assistance.

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Historic hand back to traditional owners in Central Australia

One of the largest parcels of Aboriginal land in the history of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act (Northern Territory)* has been returned to traditional owners.

Prime Minister Julia Gillard has handed back the deeds to four parcels of land to traditional owners at a ceremony in Alice Springs in June.

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

Simpson Desert stage 4 is a parcel of two pieces of land, which together measure an area of approximately 1,827,600 hectares, making it one of the largest grants of Aboriginal land in land rights history.

This is a historic day for the Arrernte peoples of Central Australia and a milestone in the history of land rights in Australia.

Finke Gorge National Park, located approximately 138 kilometres west of Alice Springs, has been recognised internationally for its rich diversity of Central Australian flora.

The Park includes a unique collection of rare and ancient plants. It also contains many sites of cultural significance to groups of the Arrernte people.

The park is the latest of 13 Northern Territory parks to be returned to traditional owners under joint management arrangements following a landmark agreement in 2004.

Under this agreement, the land is leased back to the Northern Territory for 99 years for use as a National Park, ensuring it operates as a protected conservation area for the enjoyment of all.

The traditional owners will have a strong voice in the future management and operation of the park under a joint management partnership with the Territory's Parks and Wildlife Service.

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

Simpson Desert stage 4, located east of Alice Springs, forms the estates of various traditional owners of the Arrernte group of peoples and is rich in cultural history and biodiversity.

The remaining two parcels in this package of four include two smaller grants of land in the vicinity of Hermannsburg.

Conference to address excessive incarceration

A national conference on the excessive incarceration of Aboriginal people will be held in Adelaide later this year.

The conference is being convened by South Australia's Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement.

The excessive incarceration of Aboriginal people in South Australia and across the nation continues to cause concern to ALRM Chief Executive Officer, Neil Gillespie.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's latest report shows the imprisonment rate of Aboriginal people has increased more than 50% over the last decade.

"Those numbers are simply outrageous," said Mr Gillespie.

"Indigenous Australians comprise more than a quarter of all people in prison, when they are just 2.5% of the total population.

"The Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Board and I express our continued frustration at the locking up Aboriginal people without adequate resources from Government to provide appropriate legal representation.

"We have advocated long and hard for early intervention and prevention, justice

reinvestment and restorative justice programs without much success."

"ALRM continues to be starved of resources while the Commonwealth and State Governments have argued for the last five years on who should be funding us.

"It appears both Commonwealth and State Governments are happy to simply lock up Aboriginal people which is the simplest solution to complex community issues, rather than implement programs that address the causes of Aboriginal engagement in the justice system.

The United Nations Human Rights Committee and other UN agencies continue to express concern to Australia about its continued mistreatment of Aboriginal people, and in particular the continuing denial of access to justice and excessive incarceration rates of Aboriginal people throughout the country.

Mr Gillespie said the outcome of the national conference is to identify initiatives and present these to Government in the expectation of influencing Government Policy in regard to justice issues in Australia.

Our planned Conference's slogan is "Justice without Prejudice" and our theme is "Locking us up isn't the Answer".

National Native Title Conference 2011

Our Country, our future was the theme of the 2011 National Native Title Conference, held in Brisbane June 1-3.

Several representatives from South Australia attended including Parry Agius, Osker Linde, Tom Jenkin and Michael Pagsanjan.

The conference is held each year by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and this year was co-convened by the Queensland South Native Title Services and hosted by the Turrbal, Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul Peoples, the traditional owners of the wider Brisbane area.

The conference promotes native title as an agenda for justice for people and country, including the broader relationships between traditional owners and country.

A new feature of this year's conference was The Dialogue Forums, which brought together people from diverse backgrounds and experience to discuss a set question about native title in a collaborative environment.

Osker Linde represented SANTS at one of The Dialogue Forums - 'Holding Native Title to ransom'. He discussed some of the challenges of settling native title and the current approach of the State Government in achieving whole of claim settlement.

Parry Agius also participated in a dialogue forum discussing the issue of 'Development vs Country' and whether you can have both. In his presentation, Parry emphasized the importance of people in native title – "It is people who file native title claims, it is people who negotiate agreements, it is people who receive determinations, it is people who receive and access benefits, it is people who will continue to look after country and culture."

Tom Jenkin participated in a panel discussion on 'when the deal is done' and the implementation of agreements.

Tom discussed the approach of SANTS to implementation through the Implementation and Partnership policy, which aims to position native title groups to manage their agreements and benefits on their own. He also discussed the importance of investing in native title groups leadership, governance and management and not focusing solely on agreements and the agendas of others, and also the importance of partnerships and projects to support the exercise and protection of native title rights and interests.

Michael Pagsanjan and Tom Jenkin gave a paper on Prescribed Body Corporates as an emerging sector in South Australia and some of the opportunities and challenges.

Their paper highlighted the significant opportunities that are before us through the forecast resolution of native title claims across much of SA over the next three years.

NT groups will be repositioned in a network of relationships and opportunities involving government, landholders, and industry based on a reinvigorated community governance platform. To realise these opportunities requires the needs of today to be addressed, through strategic investment in PBC development to facilitate governance and compliance, strategic planning, and economic development to ensure community leaders are in a position to guide and strengthen their communities.

Other people to attend the conference included Kerry Arabena, Mick Dodson, Andrew Leach, Mick Gooda, Toni Bauman and Miriam McDonald.

It's a fact...

In 2008, 19% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over (adults) and 13% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (aged 3-14 years) spoke an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language.

70% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (aged 3-14 years) and 63% of adults (15 years or over) were involved in cultural events, ceremonies or organisations in 2008.

The unemployment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians fell from 23% in 2002 to 17% in 2008, but remained more than three times higher than the rate for non-Indigenous Australians (5% in 2008).

Information supplied from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Oct 2010.

Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara native title

The Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara people have welcomed and celebrated their successful native title claim at a hearing and signing ceremony in Coober Pedy.

On May 11, at a specially convened Federal Court hearing, Justice John Mansfield made a consent determination recognising the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara People as native title holders of 78,672 sq km of land and waters.

Chairperson of the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara native title committee, David Brown said the fight for recognition had been going on for many years.

"We put in our claim over 15 years ago. It was important that we did not give up hope. Today shows us what we can do if we stick to our goals and get good advice and assistance," he said.

Mr Brown said that the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara people already have a strong relationship with the mining companies in the region and look forward to the opportunities native title will bring.

"We see education, training and jobs for our children and grand-children as the way for the future.

"We want to stand on our own feet and make it happen for ourselves, and this determination of native title has given us the confidence to keep trying to make it happen," he said.

"This country is very special for us. It holds the spirit of our old people. It tells us who we are. We are part of it," said David Brown.

Following the Court proceedings the pastoralists, the SA Government and the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara People finalised 29 pastoral Indigenous Land Use Agreements that set out the terms of the ongoing relationship between the pastoralists and the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara People.

The SA Government, the District Council of Coober Pedy and the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara People have also signed an ILUA regarding the Breakaways Reserve and the Tallaringa ILUA is also now authorised.

The Court has recognised non-exclusive rights to hunt, fish, live, camp, gather and use the natural resources, undertake cultural activities including those relating to births and deaths, conduct ceremonies and meetings, and protect places of cultural and religious significance.

Native title holder, David Crombie said the native title determination will allow for Aboriginal people and non-Aboriginal people to form close working relationships and both cultures will learn more about each other.

"Coming this far I think we can all work together...people can learn more about Aboriginal culture and both cultures can share their skills. It was a learning process when we went for native title... it was a learning process for each culture," said Mr Crombie.

"To all aboriginal people in the area and throughout the APY and across to Yalata, right across the west, it means a lot to us today, we will all be happy today," said David Crombie.

SANTS CEO Parry Agius praised those who had been involved in the negotiations, saying that careful negotiation and goodwill from all parties had resulted in strong long-lasting relationships as well as a solid agreement.

"This agreement provides certainty for all and sets out the relevant processes for access to the land. It will make for smoother and stronger relationships, especially with regard to minerals exploration and mining in that region.

"The Rann Government wants to push for more minerals exploration and mining to allow for strong economic growth in our state; agreements such as the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara consent determination play an important role in ensuring that exploration and development can occur in ways that will benefit everyone," said Mr Agius.

National Native Title Tribunal Deputy President Chris Sumner said the outcome was the culmination of many years of careful negotiation and perseverance by all parties.

"All the parties involved in the process leading to today's outcome are to be congratulated for their willingness to work together to achieve a fair result. In particular the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara People and their representatives have worked with dedication and commitment to achieve this result.

"This determination is a further example of what can be achieved when all those involved in the native title process – the Federal Court, the Tribunal, South Australian Native Title Services, the SA Government and legal and anthropological advisors – work together in a cooperative way," Mr Sumner said.

This is the fifth determination in South Australia, following the contested determination of De Rose Hill in 2005, and the consent determinations of Yankunytjatjara/Antakirinja in 2006, Witjira National Park in 2008 and Adnyamathanha People in 2009.



Above: Lucy Evans, John Rau, Phil Broderick.



Above: Tim Wooley, Roger Thomas, Elain Moosha.



Above: Ian Crombie, David Brown, Bill Lennon.



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The Editor has the final decision on all stories and advertising that appear in this publication.

Native title facts

What kind of rights can be recognised by a determination of native title?

A determination of native title will state whether or not native title exists over the area claimed in the application.

If native title is found to exist, the determination will go on to specify both who holds it and the content of their native title rights and interests. It will also recognise the non-native title rights and interests in the area and set out the basic grounds for the co-existence of those two sets of rights.

The content of the native title bundle of rights will depend on the native title holders' traditional laws and customs and on the capacity of Australian law to recognise the rights and interests they hold under those laws and customs. For example, the existence of other rights and interests over the same area may prevent native title being recognised or limit its content.

The native title bundle of rights may include the right to possess, occupy, use and enjoy a particular area to the exclusion of all others (often called a right of exclusive possession). This includes the right to control access to, and use of, that area. However, this right can only be recognised over limited parts of Australia, such as some areas where the only other interest holder is the crown (sometimes called unallocated or vacant crown land) and certain areas already held by, or for, Indigenous Australians.

Over other areas, the native title bundle is most likely to be a set of 'non-exclusive' rights (which means there is no right to control access to, and use of, the areas). These may include the right to:

- Live on the area
- Access the area for traditional purposes, like camping or conducting ceremonies
- Visit and protect important places and sites

- Hunt, fish and gather food or traditional resources like water, wood and ochre
- Teach law and custom on country.

There can be no native title rights to minerals, gas or petroleum recognised under Australian law and in tidal and sea areas, only non-exclusive native title can be recognised.

Whether exclusive or not, native title:

- Is subject to regulation by Australian law in the same way as other peoples' rights are
- Does not give native title holders the right to veto future developments but may mean their rights and interests need to be taken into account.

Indigenous Australians may also have the right to be compensated for loss or impairment of their native title.

This information was supplied by the National Native Title Tribunal.



Above: Professor Lowitja O'Donoghue, Maud Tongerie, Steve Dodd and George Tongerie at the launch of the DVD "For Love of Country" documenting the contribution of South Australian Aboriginal ex-servicemen and women in every conflict from the Boer war until now.



Above: The team from SANTS took part in Reconciliation Down Rundle event "Healthy Land, Living & Culture".