

Djabugay

Buwal-Barra

Newsletter

Team Profile



NICHOLAS MILLS
Acting CEO

Nicholas has been engaged as the acting CEO to assist the organisation transition into a stronger future. He will be supporting a strategic planning and development process over the next couple of months, as well as running the day-to-day operations of the corporations.

Nicholas has a long background in cultural development in the Far North, and has worked across local Government and the independent sector. With a background in arts and event management, cultural development, and planning facilitation, Nicholas has played a critical role in supporting a range of individuals and groups in developing into the future.

For the last few years, he has been a consultant and sub-contractor, working across the sector in a range of capacities. This has included running remote camps for Traditional Owners on Cape York when they are doing land management work, coordinating remote camps for CIAF artist camps, and assisting communities with cultural mapping projects.

"It's an honour to work with Djabugay corporations and the community they serve. I'm excited to work with such a great team to realise a stronger and brighter future for Djabugay people".



Cultural Fire Management

Our Bulmba Rangers help educate others on the Cultural Fire Management principles and practices...

As part of the 2019 Land and Sea Indigenous Rangers Workshop, our Rangers held a field trip to showcase the cultural aspects of burning country. The team discussed the importance of reading country and burning according to the indicators in the landscape. Inspecting the soil, looking at the dominating trees and plants, observing the animals and the seasons all play a part in the country talking to us and telling us when it is right to burn.

The team spent the weeks leading up to the workshop doing several training days out on country with traditional fire practitioner, Victor Steffensen from Mulong. In

addition to the practical training, the group conducted their own study and revision, networked with key stakeholders and coordinated the program and logistics of the day.



70 participants from various departments including Indigenous Ranger groups, Rural Fire dept, Wet Tropics Management Authority, Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service, landholders and Kanjini volunteers.

The morning commenced with a Welcome to Country (by Astro Brim) and Smoking ceremony for all participants. A minute silence was also held in respect for the passing of Djabugay elder & previous DAC Chairperson, Gerald Hobbler.



Cultural Fire Management continued next page....

Bulmba Rangers



Our Bulmba Rangers Team:

Toby Graham
Faye McInerney
Jimmy Richards
Ezekiel Deshong
Marcus (Mickey) Riley
Charlie Oui
Athol Brim
Gavin Donahue
Zane Saunders
Floyd Riley
Russell (Wokko) Hobbler

Queensland Indigenous Youth Leadership program

Ezekiel Deshong has put up his hand & submitted an application for the 2019 Queensland Indigenous Youth Leadership program being held in Brisbane from 29 June to 4 July 2019.

The program focuses on leadership skills development and supports participants to work together to develop community project proposals that help address community issues and drive change.

The program provides participants with opportunities to:

- take part in leadership and professional development workshops
- learn how to create and write a community project proposal
- take advantage of mentoring and networking opportunities with Elders and respected Indigenous community leaders, past participants and stakeholders
- experience the role of a member of parliament and deliver a speech in Parliament Chambers as part of the Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth development workshops

FINGERS CROSSED!!

Cultural Fire Management *continued...*

The younger rangers took key roles in the presentations during the day. Russell Hobbler leading the way, discussing the Mixed Bloodwood country and how the previous burn had damaged the landscape.

Faye McInerney talked about the bush food and medicine found in that area and how that too is used as indicators for fire management.



Ezekiel Deshong discussed the next area of unburnt Mixed Bloodwood country, doing a small fire demonstration to highlight the differences between healthy (native grass) and unhealthy (leaf litter/weed) fire, and the smoke and the burn they produce.

After jumping in the buses, troupies and 4 wheel-drives, the group heard Charlie Oui discuss the indicators of Boxwood country, and how to apply fire to address the problems of overgrazing and weeds; before returning to the camp for a BBQ lunch.

The group finished the day with Mickey Riley and Victor Steffensen teaching on indicators to assess Iron Bark country; completing the experience with a small traditional burn demonstration.

All of the Rangers worked together to share their cultural fire management knowledge and showcase their team work skills.



Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation pays tribute to the late GERALD HOBBLER.

Family and friends farewelled Gerald Hobbler at his funeral on Friday the 12th of April, 2019. The dearly loved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather passed away peacefully on the 28th of March 2019 at the Mareeba Hospital, aged 63 years.

Gerald held the position of Chairman for the organisation for several years, as well as serving on numerous other action groups and committees for the betterment of his people. It was only due to ill-health that slowed him up and prevented him from continuing in his Chairing role.

The previous CEO of Djabugay, Mr Hanz Spier, gave the eulogy at Gerald's funeral, and shared a heart-warming acknowledgement and personal account of his friend's passion, determination and hard work during their working relationship.

The current Board, CEO and staff would like to salute the great contribution Gerald made to Djabugay Aboriginal Corporations, the Djabugay people and the Aboriginal community of the Kuranda region.

GARRU: DAGIL BAMA DAYAL...

Horticulture



Our Horticulture Team:

Jaimee Brimm
Jeremy Richards
Simon Bugeja
Trevor Kilby
Langton McLean
Dean Newbury
Jermaine Faulkes
Austasia Kapteyn
Jeremiah Simon
Waverly Richards
Richard Drumduff



Another busy month for the Horticulture team, keeping the grass down, weeding, preparing garden beds, establishing seedlings and repairing shade cloth between rainy downpours. The fruits and vegetables are growing well & we have recently given a box to the respite centre to contribute to the elders' meals.



WTMA Cassowary Awards 2019

TWO Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation nominees for this year's Cassowary Awards.

Established to celebrate the outstanding contributions made towards the conservation and presentation of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, the awards recognise exceptional conservation and presentation efforts from a diverse range of individuals, groups and organisations.

The **Djabugay Bulmba Rangers** were nominated by Kuranda Envirocare in Category 1: Thorsborne Award for Community Conservation and Rehabilitation. This category honours recipients who rehabilitate and protect the fauna, flora and other natural landscape elements of the Area for the improvement of natural values of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

We have also nominated **Barry J Hunter** in category 5 for his work on the Bama Plan. Category 5: 'People. Country. Culture' recognises Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples' initiatives throughout the Area, and includes enterprise development and innovation, commitment to looking after their country, and interpretation and presentation of the cultural and natural values of the Area.

CHAIRPERSONS MESSAGE

Dear Members,

As the wet season passes, and the sun shines, it's great to see our Djabugay mob busy out and about taking care of country and community. With our Bulmba Bama Plan now launched and sitting on a range of Government Department desks, we are now focused on new conversations that will benefit Djabugay people. Our dedicated staff are currently yarning with a range of stakeholders to realise new opportunities for economic and enterprise development, and we hope to be able to share some of this good news in the near future.

Our Bulmba Rangers have been busy doing a range of on-country activities, and while the big wet slowed down some activities, there is always plenty to do! Our second newsletter is hitting the ground, and we have just launched our new-look website.

You might have noticed that our main street office is being renovated, and during this time the staff have been working from Nyawarri Estate. While the view is fantastic at the 'farm', it will be great to get back to the Djabugay office in town, and re-establish our presence in the 'village in the rainforest'. Meanwhile the board of directors will be undertaking a strategic planning process in June, and developing a framework for strength and capacity into the future.

Lastly, we are all very keen to engage with our membership a lot more into the future, and through the newsletter and social media we have been keeping in touch. We all know how great it is when everyone can come together, yarn and share culture, so on Sunday the 23rd of June we will be having the first of our "DJABUGAY MANYDJIRRI !" (celebrate Djabugay) community cultural days. This event is all about sharing the good news of the corporation, keeping our members informed, and sharing culture together as a community. I look forward to seeing you there!

Kind regards,

William Duffin
CHAIRPERSON

INDIGENOUS LAND AND SEA RANGER WORKSHOP 2019

Jimmy Richards, Athol Brim, Gavin Donahue, Toby Graham and Faye McInerney attended this year's rangers' workshop in Kewarra Beach and co-hosted by Dawal Wuru.

The week commenced with Monday night's Welcome dinner at Paradise Palms; the evening including a special certificate ceremony to acknowledge rangers who have achieved significant lengths of service. Tuesday and Wednesday provided workshops covering a range of topics including ranger coordinators, junior rangers, practical sessions, education and economic aspects of ranger activity. Our rangers gave a presentation on cultural fire management work and their use of Ngirrma (Djabugay language) on country.

Thursday gave the rangers an option of 2 field trips: Field trip 1, Indigenous reef education tour of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park hosted by Dawal Wuru Aboriginal Corporation and Reef Magic Cruises. Field trip 2, hosted by Buda:dji Aboriginal Development Association and facilitated by Victor Steffensen, assisting ranger and community understanding of traditional fire practice. (see previous article)

Faye McInerney and Maria Grauner (Communications Officer) attended Friday's Qld Indigenous Women's Rangers Network forum, aimed at identifying the needs of women rangers (& associated roles), and how the network could best support them.



Members Corner

DJABUGAY MANYDJIRRI!

Community Cultural Day

Sunday 23 June
1.00pm-7.00pm
Kuranda Amphitheatre

Local Bands
Elders' Q & A
Membership Drive
Ranger Guided Walks
Jumping Castle
Cultural Art

Stay updated by
following us on Facebook
or update you members'
contact details
Ph - 0448 823 153

Have you checked out
our new website??



www.djabugay.org.au

**COMMUNITY NGIRRMA
CLASSES**
Every Friday morning
9:30am to 11:00am
in the Language Room,
Nyawarri Estate (the farm)

Community News...

Be part of our next edition...

If you've got a good news story,
lets share it with community,
so that everyone can acknowledge,
encourage & celebrate
your achievements.

Contact Maria on
0448 823 153 or
maria@djabugay.org.au

SHARING NGIRRMA...

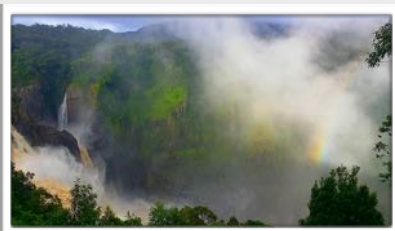
GUDJU-GUDJU

(taken from "Ngirrma: Badji! Djabugay!" book)

NGANYDJIN NGADJI GARRANG
BANA-M GULBUL-MU
Our Grandfather is coming
from the water from the sea

GUDJU-GUDJU GARRANG
BANA-MALIM GULBUL-MU
Rainbow coming
from the water from the sea

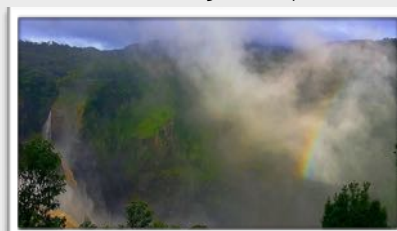
GUDJU-GUDJU GARRANG
DJANAY-GALING BUNDA-WU
Rainbow coming
going to stand on the mountain



NGANYDJIN NGADJI GARRANG
NGIRRI YINGAL NGANYDJINDA
Our Grandfather is coming
sending a message to us

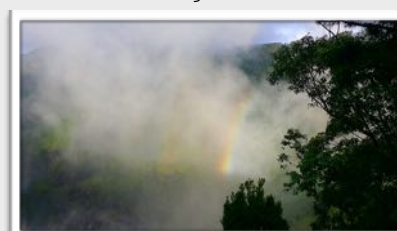
GUDJU-GUDJU GARRANG
NGIRRI YINGAL DJIN.GAL-NDA
Rainbow comes
sending a message in the sky

GUDJU-GUDJU DJANANG
DJANA-DJANANG DJIN.GAL-NDA
Rainbow standing
standing in the sky



NGIRRI-NGIRRINDJI DJANANG
DJANA-DJANANG DJIN.GAL-NDA
Brightly coloured standing
standing in the sky

GUDJI NGUNDA WANGGARR
DJANANG NGUDA:-LA
Look at that above
standing in the clouds



GUDJU-GUDJU DJANANG
DJANA-DJANANG DJIN.GAL-NDA
Rainbow standing
standing in the sky

Community News...

PUBLIC ARTWORK BY INDIGENOUS ARTIST

As part of the Therwin Street Upgrade Project for Mareeba Shire Council, well-known indigenous artist (& Bulmba Ranger), Zane Saunders, has completed his 2-piece commissioned artworks for the Kuranda Centenary Park toilet block.

The vibrant two acrylics on board paintings, a continuation of his Visitors Centre mural, depict the flora and fauna of this region. Zane says these pieces are his expression of his experience growing up here with the culture and his work as a ranger and tour guide.

He feels privileged to be in the position of an artist and to be given the opportunity and recognition for his work. He hopes his work bring something positive to the community, artistically and culturally, and may allow other local indigenous artists similar opportunities in the future.

Zane is hoping to deliver a performance art presentation to the local community in the near future.

www.zanesaunders.com



Photo courtesy of Greg Hillman (Kuranda Photography)