

Mandingalbay Yidinji People

Wait-a-While

Newsletter | Edition 12
December 2019

DJUNBUNJI

LAND & SEA
PROGRAM



MY celebrates award-winning year!



INSIDE...



Investing in a
green future for
our Country

Focus on
Mangrove
risks

COMING UP!
Bumper January Issue
⇒ watch this space!



Pic thanks to Jabalbina Aboriginal Corporation

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

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

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

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

Ranger Laurissa Mundraby has been to two shared 'hands-on' networking workshops in the far north over the past few months.

The first was hosted by Innisfail-based Terrain NRM and held in Tully at the Eco-Adventure Centre.

"That was attended by several local ranger groups from Girringun and throughout the Wet Tropics for women from the Rainforest Aboriginal Network and Lake Eyre," she said.

"The second workshop was the Queensland Indigenous Women Rangers Network held at Archer Point, south of Cooktown.

"It was also about providing support and sharing our work roles.

"The best thing about them was coming together and sharing knowledge with them, and updating our skills."



Pic thanks to Vanessa Drysdale Terrain NRM



Baseline Data Surveys and Community Clean Up activities were central to a partnership between Yarrabah's Social Reinvestment Project (SRP) and Djunbunji Ltd throughout 2019.

The SRP has several other partners including the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and Tangaroa Blue.

Activities involved hundreds of volunteers from schools in Yarrabah and Cairns collecting hundreds of kilos of rubbish from Bessie Point to the Yarrabah foreshore.

Baseline Data Surveys, introduced in December 2017, determine any reductions in numbers since the single use plastic bag ban and container deposit scheme and will continue into next year.

The Rangers and all our partners in this work are looking forward to seeing how much we can collect, count and hopefully reduce our waste into 2020 and beyond.

2019 has been an award-winning year for the Mandingalbay Yidinji People, Executive Director Dale Mundraby writes...

Next year will be even better.

This year we brought home not one, but two prestigious awards and secured more than \$2.2 million for Early Works Infrastructure to support the growth and development of Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours.



The Mandingalbay Eco Infrastructure Project was awarded the Planning Institute of Australia's 2019 Award for Planning Excellence in Queensland: Best Planning Ideas, Small Project for the Mandingalbay Yidinji Eco-

Infrastructure Tourism Project in East Trinity Reserve.

The project will now go forward to the Planning Institute of Australia's National Awards in May in Glenelg South Australia. Watch this space!

This is a significant achievement for MYAC and acknowledgement of the Mandingalbay Yidinji vision and hard work undertaken by valuable members of our team.

Dewayne Mundraby in particular has been instrumental in facilitating and progressing this nationally-recognised, award-winning project. Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours was awarded a Wet Tropics Management Authority Cassowary Award for Tourism and Presentation for our exclusive Deadly Dinner product.

This is the organisation's second Cassowary Award after taking out the People, Country and Culture Award in 2018.

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

Tours is growing from strength to strength and is recognised as a viable award-winning operation.

We have delivered three tourism products: Three Hour Cultural Tour, Deadly Dinners and overnight stays throughout the year.

These products were recently marketed on the 'Queensland on Tour' European Roadshow, which included presentations to wholesale and inbound Tour Operators in France, Austria, Germany and London.

The Tour was proudly sponsored by Queensland Government and Tropical Tourism North Queensland and was the first time an Indigenous Tourism business in Queensland was included.

I was honoured to be sponsored to represent the Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours and the four other indigenous products featured in the 'TTNQ Deeper in Dreamtime' marketing campaign.

In July, MYAC received combined grant funding to the value of \$2.2 million from the Queensland State Government, National Indigenous

Affairs Agency and Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation.

This funding will enable MYAC to undertake early works on the Mandingalbay Indigenous Eco Cultural Tourism Precinct, which includes the construction of a Pontoon Jetty and early works at Hills Creek.

The project has gone to tender and early works is expected to commence in March 2020.

MYAC values good governance and one of our key priorities for 2020 is to maintain a strategic board of directors with those strong governance qualities.

To ensure our organisation maintains that good governance, addresses risk and supports our commercial and cultural activities moving forward, we will hold ORIC Governance training for our new Board of Directors in the New Year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Board of Directors for their dedication and commitment over the past two years, and congratulate our

new Directors on their appointment.

We also welcome our new Independent Director for the Djunbunji Ltd Board Mr Graeme Spoon.

I look forward to working with our Directors and Staff to achieve many more positive outcomes for the Mandingalbay Yidinji People together.

I also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the support, hard work and dedication of our staff, our milestones and achievements would not be possible without you.

We celebrate this success because of you and appreciate your ongoing support, leadership, dedication and commitment to the Mandingalbay Yidinji People.

Critical to our success has been our partnerships.

MYAC has established invaluable partnerships over the past decade and we could not have achieved our success and our award wins this year without their ongoing support.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge our partnerships

and key people and personnel for investing in our vision, joining our cause and working with us to bring our vision to a reality and create socio-economic change and benefit for our people.

2019 has been an exciting year for the Mandingalbay Yidinji People and the achievements we have made due to our hard work should be celebrated by everyone.

Next year MYAC will celebrate a decade of successfully running our Djunbunji Ltd Land and Sea resource management ranger program, and mark our fourth year of conducting and operating our commercial tourism operations through the Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours.

We will also see the dirt turn on our early works program at Hills Creek.

2020 is going to be a remarkable and memorable year for Mandingalbay Yidinji People!

We'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and an exciting New Year.

Dale

Our Partners



See our websites for more information:

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<http://www.mandjalabay.com.au>

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