



Undalup News

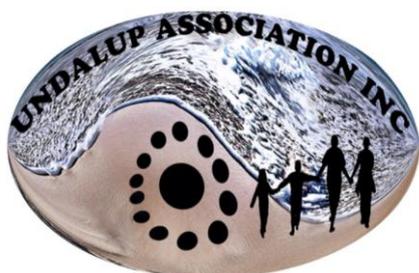
Kambarang issue

October to November 2019

We are excited to present to you the fourth issue of the Undalup Seasonal Newsletter. Each issue will come out with the change of the Wadandi Seasons. *Undalup News* will bring you the latest in Wadandi culture, events, arts and community.

“Kaya” Welcome

The Undalup Association Inc. would like to acknowledge the past, present and future Traditional Owners and Elders, whose cultures and customs have and will continue to nurture the land on which we walk and live – Boodja.



Connection to Country

The Wadandi people have a long association with the South West and its natural resources. Aboriginal lore (learning and knowledge of tradition) dictates how best to keep “Caring for Country” and this is something the Undalup Association is sharing with the broader South West communities.

Aboriginal heritage is a central element in Aboriginal spirituality and customary lore and is inseparable from the natural environment which is associated with dreaming stories and cultural learning that links Aboriginal people with who they are and where they belong. Its conservation ensures continued respect for the ancestors and ancestral beings who shaped the land.



Our History

The Stolen Generation

The Undalup Association provides Cultural Awareness Training to schools and other organisations and includes a presentation on the Stolen Generation, delivered by Wadandi Elder and Undalup member, Sandra Hill.

The period between 1910 and 1970 was one of the darkest chapters of Australian history with the forced removal of Aboriginal children from their families as a result of various government policies.

The Undalup Association looks at opportunities where we can build on the strength of our Aboriginal and non-Indigenous Australians to work together to build awareness in the community of the importance of healing for our Aboriginal people and this includes addressing the effects of intergenerational trauma.

It is important for us all to address the ongoing trauma caused by the disruption and mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples over the past 230 years. This includes actions like the forced removal of tens of thousands of children from their families – the Stolen Generations.

The hibiscus flower is a symbol for the Stolen Generations. It was chosen because its lilac colour denotes spiritual healing and compassion and for the fact that it is widespread, grows everywhere and is a survivor.



Heal our past, build our future.

“Over many decades, assimilation has impacted enormously on my people, Cultural isolation and alienation, loss of culture, country, knowledge and traditions, are all important to us as a connection to Boodja (Country) and our identity. Being a part of the Stolen Generation, being taken away from my family at such a young age has left scars and emotional trauma I have to live with and it affects my family and myself. The loss of kinship links and the task of trying to fit in at a level that would most benefit the generations to come have taken its toll on my people. Education, mental and physical health, the ongoing maintenance of our culture and traditions, developing strong partnerships and networks and self-determination are of the utmost importance to our people, if we dare to aspire to a future that we as a community can collectively embrace as First Nation Australians.”

Sandra Hill, Wadandi / Pibulman / Minang Traditional Owner. Stolen Generation from Sister Kates.

Featured Story

World Rivers Day Event 2019

Each year, Transition Town Margaret River (TMR) in conjunction with the Augusta Margaret River Shire, holds a series of events and this year's theme is "The Water Connection", aiming to promote best practice water management in the region. Transition Town Margaret River is a community-led local approach to creating a more sustainable future. With a focus on recognising the biological limits of the Margaret River Region and the planet, Transition TMR focuses on promoting ways of living that have the lowest impact on our local environment.

This year's event was supported by the Undalup Association, Margaret River Regional Environment Centre and the Friends of the Margaret River supported this cause. The program included a Welcome to Country, delivered by Wadandi Elder Wayne 'Wonitji' Webb, a screening of the "Bloodlines" documentary, the story of the "Wooditjup Bilya", Margaret River proudly presented by the Undalup Association and a presentation by Dr Michelle Maloney from Australian Earth Laws Alliance on "Rights of Nature Laws".

Michelle is a Co-Founder and National Convenor of the AELA, an organisation working to increase the understanding and practical implementation of Earth centred economics, ethics, education and law - including Rights of Nature laws - in Australia.

Rights of Nature laws have been inspired by the ancient Earth-centred laws of indigenous peoples all around the world where First Nations Peoples are advisors and participants. These new laws do not aim to replace or take over the laws of First Nations Peoples, but merely to act as a bridge to move from current western laws that are disrespectful and harmful to nature, to shift society towards a respectful Earth centred legal system.

The Bloodlines Project

The cultural and ecological knowledge held by the Wadandi people about the Wooditj Bilya (Margaret River) is valued knowledge of its story, its ecological function and the methods of protection and management of the River. This knowledge remains within the collective Wadandi knowledge systems that has developed from generations of living within the cultural landscape and having a relationship with both the spiritual and physical worlds.

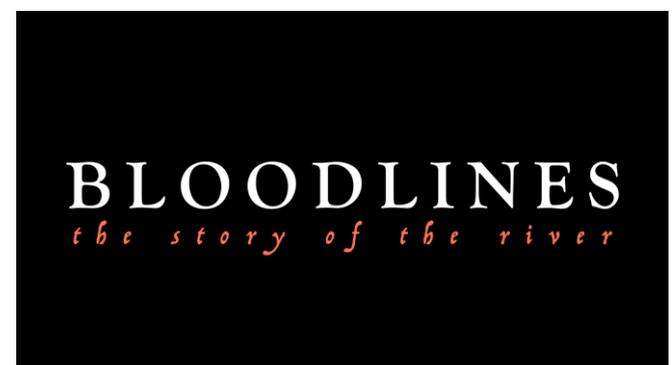
In describing our community's ongoing relationship with this waterway - our bloodlines - we have established a platform to negotiate a future of more effective education and management of our land.

The challenge is to develop ways of communicating the complex Wadandi systems of understanding and sacred ecology to the more disconnected systems of contemporary land management.

The documentary, "Bloodlines, The Story of the River" along with the work that Undalup is doing with the broader South West communities, is another step in the direction of sharing this knowledge to ensure the conservation of Our Land, Our Country.

You can view our documentary online at:

<https://vimeo.com/344238079>



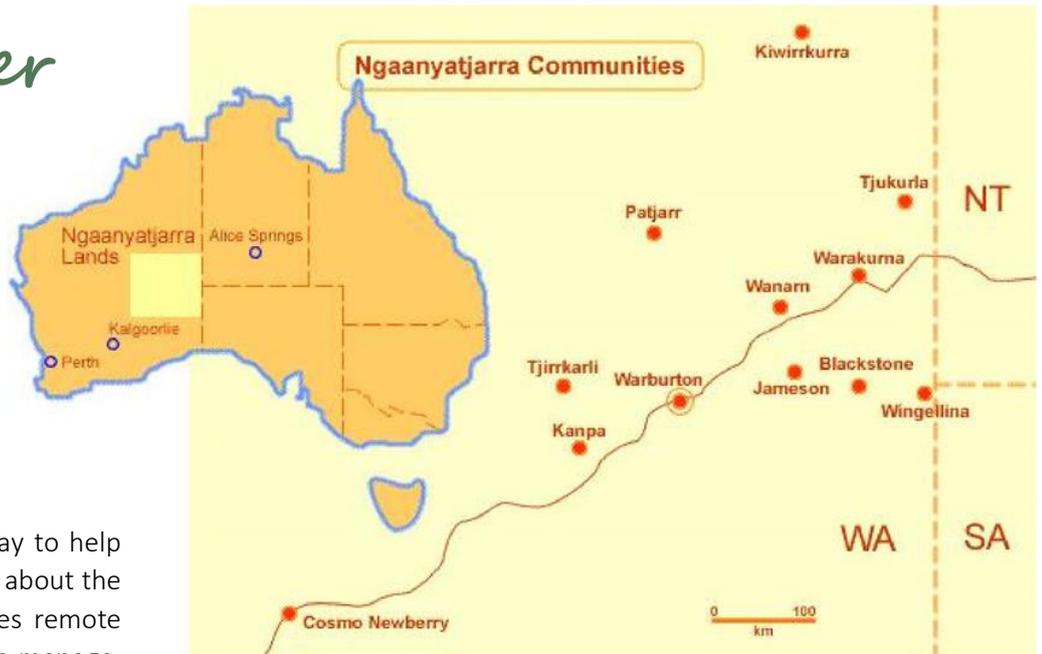
The 'Rights of Nature' movement argues that we can no longer legally allow governments, corporations and other groups to mistreat our beautiful natural world. The movement calls for new laws that recognise the inherent rights of "nature", to exist, thrive, evolve and regenerate.

Rights of Nature laws change the legal status of 'nature' from property, to rights-bearing entities. Around the world, First Nations Peoples have been central to building the Rights of Nature movement as people who love and care for Country. These laws can allow people to speak for Country in a modern court and defend plants, animals and ecosystems more easily than in the current legal system. Rights of Nature laws are also designed to be proactive, so they can stop unwanted development before it occurs and change land management practices so that 'Caring for Country' becomes central to the legal system.

Visiting Elder

Undalup Association was privileged to host a visit from Daisy Tjuparntarri Ward, a proud Ngaanyatjarra Elder from the Warakurna community. Daisy was the portrait subject for the winning Archibald People's Choice award in 2019 (pictured on the cover of *Undalup News* with artist, David Darcy).

Mrs Ward had been looking for a way to help her community by raising awareness about the societal disadvantages and challenges remote Indigenous communities are trying to manage. Mrs Ward felt that through her involvement in this artwork, it would be a great platform to help raise awareness of this issue.



"I want it to tell people ... the government: 'look at my people in central Australia, hear our voice'. We need help, we need support."

Mrs Ward is a cultural and community liaison officer for regional WA schools and is a director on the NPY Women's Council, an advocate against domestic violence, a qualified translator, artist and sought-after storyteller.

Undalup Association has invited Mrs Ward and friend, Ms Roberston to collaborate in the near future with cultural engagement and cultural sharing events with the objective being to assist Mrs Ward in her efforts to support her community through cultural inclusion, connectivity, sharing and Connection to Country.

The Warakurna community is located 1100km north east of Kalgoorlie with a population of 268 according to the 2016 census. Warakurna is a large Aboriginal community, located in the Goldfields-Esperance Region of Western Australia, within the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku and is situated on the Great Central Road. It is at the western end of the Rawlinson Ranges near the West Australian/Northern Territory border approximately 330klms west of Uluru. The residents are mostly Ngaanyatjarra speakers. Many of the Traditional Custodians experienced their first contact with non-Aboriginal people in the late 1930's with the establishment of the Warburton Mission while for other residents their first contact was in the late 1950's with the Native Patrol Officers working for the Weapons Research Establishment in Woomera, South Australia. After families originally returned to their traditional lands, they settled closer to Docker River where the rockhole Warakurna was.

The Ngaanyatjarra Lands are situated in the east of Western Australia comprising some 250,000 sq. km. (about the size of Victoria) stretching from the tri-state border with South Australia and the Northern Territory. Approximately 2,000 Aboriginal people live in eleven communities that comprise the 'Ngaanyatjarra Lands'. The population of the Ngaanyatjarra Lands includes people who came out of the Western Desert in the 1930s and 1950s. The Ngaanyatjarra people have never left their country, nor has their land been annexed or occupied by outsiders. The predominant language spoken is Ngaanyatjarra though in some places people speak Western Desert dialects of Pitjantjatjara and Pintupi.

The Aboriginal people in the Lands still hunt and gather bush tucker in traditional ways. Traditional men's and women's *business* remains very strong. The Elders teach the young people about the traditional ways of hunting, gathering and cooking bush tucker, but they also work within the community painting, (tjanpi) weaving and making artefacts (purnu). The Aboriginal people (Yarnangu) who reside in the communities are part of a single social system that is referred to as the Western Desert Cultural Bloc. The Ngaanyatjarra people maintain a rich cultural heritage that is based on a close connection with the Land. They have a unique culture in society, economy, religion and outlook.





Events Recap

CinefestOZ and IndigifestOZ

The Undalup Association presented a 'Wadandi Welcome' for all the Cinefestoz Aboriginal guests who came to Busselton for CinefestOZ and IndigifestOZ. Undalup did up some great collage boards of photos from all of the deadly times we have had with everyone over the years. As a result, lots of yarns were had and reconnections made. Congratulations to our Wadandi brother and actor, Kelton Pell for being the first Western Australian and blackfella to receive the award for CinefestOZ Screen Legend.

The IndigifestOZ event guest speakers offered a retrospective look at their careers. Kelton Pell and Aaron McGrath gave a humorous and heartfelt glimpse of their lives as actors. Kelton spoke of how there were so few Aboriginal actors when he was young and how actors like David Gulpilil inspired him as a young man to want to explore the world of acting and film. Aaron spoke of being inspired by actors like Kelton. Aaron spoke to the many students attending IndigifestOZ and said he hoped to inspire other younger Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians to follow their dreams and to give it a go saying "The only thing stopping you is YOU".

Photos: (Above Left) Kelton Pell (best known for movies Red Dog: True Blue, Bran Nue Dae, Redfern Now and TV series, The Circuit), Jub Clerc and Aaron McGrath (known for his roles in Redfern Now, The Code, Glitch and Jasper Jones). (Above Right): Wayne and Toni Webb striking a pose. (Below left) Aaron McGrath, & Allan Little (actor and model). (Below) Aunty Gloria Hill with Kelton Pell.



Our Coast, Our Land Striving Together

State NRM Conference , 1-4 October 2019

Each year WA Landcare hosts a State Natural Resource Management (NRM) and Coastal Conference in Perth. The 2019 event was themed “Our Coast, Our Land – Striving Together. Ngaalong Booyembara, Ngaalang Boodjar – Danjoo Warniny”.

This year the Undalup Association was selected as a finalists in the Indigenous Land Management Section. Undalup Board members Wayne (Wadandi Elder) and Toni Webb attended the Gala awards ceremony.

The Undalup Association has carried out a number of ground-breaking land care projects in the last five years that successfully combine traditional ecological knowledge with mainstream natural resource management. This has arisen through a grassroots approach to partnership building, local leadership, strategic planning and collaboration, and the development and implementation of well-structured heritage management plans. Undalup’s latest “Caring for Country” NRM project, “Mokidup Revitalization” is focused on rebuilding an ancestral cultural place of special significance (check out the Makuru edition of *Undalup News* for more information on this project).



Photo: The winners of the Indigenous Land Management Award, Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation.

Upcoming Events

The Kambarang Children’s Week Festival 2019 will be held at the High Street Community Hall on Saturday 26 October 2019 from 10am to 2pm. The Undalup Association Inc. is excited to be the recipient of a 2019 Children’s Week WA Community Grant to enable us to host this event for the children and families of Busselton and surrounding areas.

The event supported by the Department of Communities, Lotterywest, Healthway and Meerilinga will include children’s activities, fauna and wildlife displays, music and games and includes a healthy lunch! We look forward to seeing you there!



Do you know the Six Seasons?

The Six Seasons of our Wadandi people, traditions and culture are relied on to this day to keep Nala Boodja (Our Country) strong and healthy.

The six seasons are governed by what is happening and changing around us rather than by dates on a calendar. It helps to understand and respect plant and animal fertility cycles and preservation of the land.

Each of the six seasons coincides with a seasonal abundance of a variety of food resources which informs which foods and medicines should be consumed at that time of the year.

Kambarang (October to November)

Colours: ● blue ● green ● orange ● red

Climate: Longer dry periods, the flowering season.

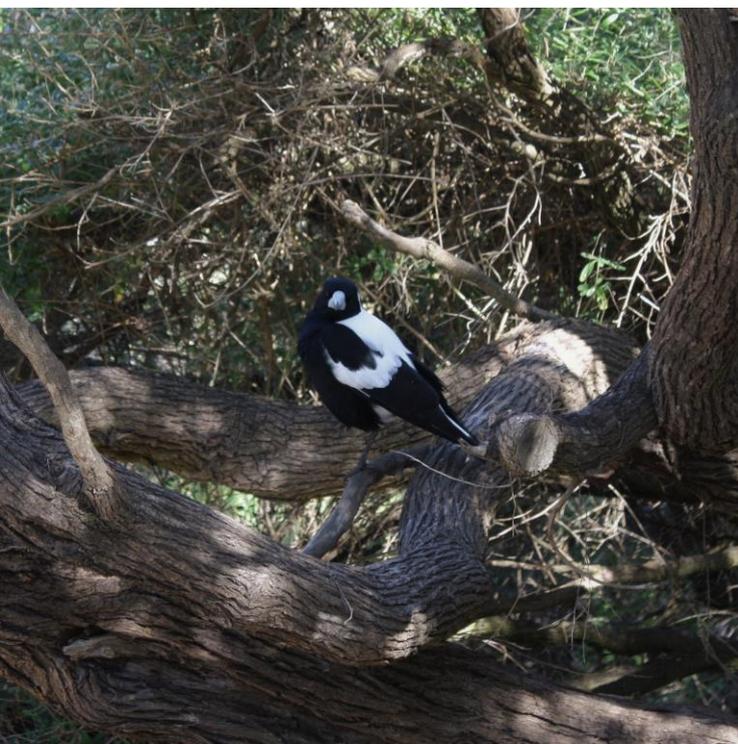
Known as: Wildflower season (season of birth).

The rain has started to ease and Boodja (Country) is warming, as seen from the clouds opening up and the Ngark (Sun) beginning to bring to life all the djet (flowers) of the land. We see an abundance of colours and flowers exploding all around us. The yellows of many of the acacias continue to abound, along with some of the banksias and many other smaller delicate flowering plants including the kangaroo paw and orchids.



One of the most striking displays of flowers to be seen during this season will be the mooja (Christmas Tree or Nuytsia). The bright orange and yellow flowers serve to signal the heat is on its way.

For the animals, October is also the most likely time of the year that you'll encounter a snake as the reptiles start to awaken from their hibernation and look to make the most of the warmth to assist them in getting enough energy to look for food. It is also a time that many young families of birds will be singing out for their parents to feed them. Koolbardies (magpies) will also be out protecting their nests and their babies.



During this time the Wadandi people would collect tubers and bulbs such as kara (bush carrots), borna (bush chilli) and djubak (potatoes) which were either eaten raw or roasted in the ashes.

As the bilya (rivers) are full from the previous wet season of Makuru and Djilba, the Wadandi people would wade through the water to collect marron, gilgie (freshwater crayfish), gnoonern (duck), kooljuk (swan) and boyee (turtle) as sources of meat. The wannang (peppermint or sgonis flexuosa) flowers indicate that the tailor fish are schooling in waatu (ocean) and being caught in the bays.

The balga (grasstree) will also start to flower telling the Wadandi people that the season has changed, the warmer water creating the perfect opportunity for catching caabern (blue proper).

The Adventures of James & Wally



The Adventures of James and Wally

Cultural Weaver Lea Taylor, together with partner, Johnathon Mogridge, has published her first book entitled “The Adventures of James and Wally”, a children’s book about a couple of emus enjoying an adventure roaming around Boodja.

You can purchase a copy of Lea’s book from the Undalup office at the High Street Community Hall

Noongar Goodbye

“Jinnung Noonduk Boorda Yen” – See you in the future

If you enjoyed this edition of *Undalup News*, please subscribe by emailing undalup@outlook.com with the subject “Subscribe” and your first name, surname, email address and phone number in the body of the email. We thank you for your support!

Getting involved

Undalup Committee meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 4:00pm at the Undalup Office (High Street Hall – 47 Bussell Hwy, Busselton). Membership forms are available on our webpage to download and complete. Visit undalup.com.au.

Show your support

If you like what we are about, or want to find out more, you can like or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube – don’t forget to hit “Subscribe” and switch on notifications. Like, follow and share to show your support. You can also check out our website for the full story on who we are and what we do.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported our Culture Journey. We are excited to have you along for the ride.

Undalup Association Inc.

PO Box 5373, West Busselton WA 6280

ABN: 91 308 448 476 undalup@outlook.com



Compiled by Carley O’Neil of Assurance Admin Solutions.

Seasonal artwork by Wadandi Artist, Sandra Hill

Supported by Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association

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