

## Wadandi goodbye

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

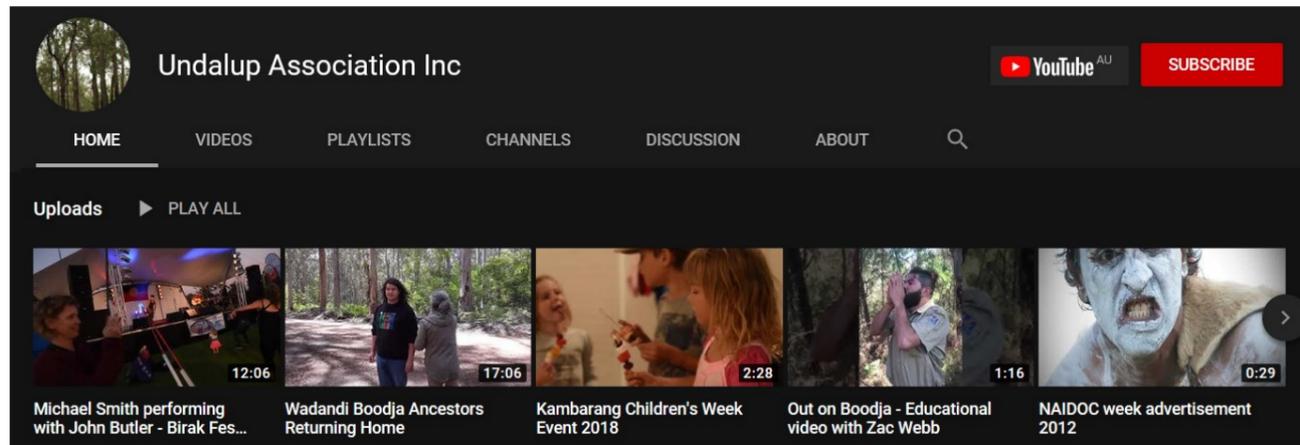
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### Getting involved

Undalup Committee meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 [www.undalup.com](http://www.undalup.com).

## Find us on Social Media

Check out our YouTube Channel!



We have uploaded a bunch of great entertainment and educational videos to our new YouTube Channel. Search for “Undalup” next time you log into YouTube and you can see a few videos that have already been uploaded. Show your support by subscribing to our channel and switching on notifications so you can make sure you are the first to view our videos.

### Contact Details

If you like what we are about, you can like or follow us on Facebook and Instagram. 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.

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## Makuru issue

June to July 2019

We are excited to present to you the second 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.

“We are the change we want to see”

### Our Vision

Undalup’s vision is to share the culture, traditions, knowledge and history of the Wadandi people with the broader South West communities – to impart an understanding of the importance of Boodja (Country) and to teach the significance of and respect for the Wadandi Elders and Traditional Custodians.

Through the development of genuine partnerships, Undalup embraces the Aboriginal culture, and with the shared ownership of our projects and cultural events, we believe it will lead towards a more reconciled and respectful future giving all a sense of belonging and drawing everyone into the cultural, spiritual, heritage and historical aspects of the area.

Undalup intends to work with local businesses, groups, organisations and industry to increase awareness of the south west as a destination where Aboriginal culture is strong, vibrant and diverse and to develop, in consultation with Aboriginal communities, sustainable Aboriginal tourism products and experiences.



# The Wadandi Language

As this year is the International year of Languages, it is a chance to acknowledge and understand how important keeping the local Aboriginal language alive is to our Wadandi/Pibulman Elders and Cultural Custodians.

The new Australian coin (pictured right) celebrated the International Year of Indigenous Languages 2019.

*Boya means 'rocks' in the Noongar language – once used as a currency.*



The United Nations declared 2019 to be the International Year of Indigenous Languages after concluding about 40% of the world's estimated 6,700 languages are in danger of disappearing. Among these are the Doonan and Dwordan – the dialects of the Wadandi (Saltwater) people who are the Cultural Custodians of the Wadandi Boodja (Country) region here in the South West of WA.

*Together – we can make a difference*

Undalup Association holds a bunch of cultural workshops which include a lot of Wadandi words. In each *Undalup News* edition, we will include words for you to practice. Together, by taking an interest, learning and sharing the Wadandi language, we can all help to keep the local traditional language alive.



We are lucky enough to have Undalup members Isaac Webb and his father, Wayne Webb (pictured left) to teach us the Wadandi language. Zac and Wayne are the last speakers of the two dialects native to this region. Photo courtesy of the Busselton Dunsborough Times.

Western Tourist Radio



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# 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.

**Makuru (June to July)**

**Colours:** ● grey ● black ● brown ● red

**Climate:** Cold and rainy

**Known as:** Fertility season

This is the cold time as the rains begin on Boodja, signaling the beginning of the fertility season. Yoonganjarli (people) start to move away from the ocean as the sea begins to rise along with the rivers.

During this time, the Pibulmun Wadandi people believe the “koodjal norn waatu norn gep baaminj”: the saltwater snake and the freshwater snake fight one another.

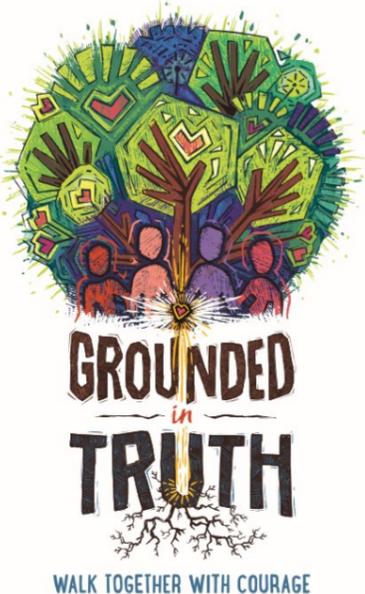
As the people head inland to set up their keelip (camp) they look for an area not too far from swamp paperbark (*melaleuca raphiophylla*) so they can use the bark to thatch their mia-mias (houses). This is one of the oldest ways for weatherproofing homes.

Yonga (male kangaroo) were hunted during this time and their skins removed to create booka (clothes), much like a poncho. The woora (female kangaroo) was not hunted at this time as she is raising her joey which will provide sustainability for the future. By turning the booka inside out, the fur insulates the body while the outside can be rubbed down with emu fat creating a waterproof rain jacket, perfect for the coldness of Makuru

As the bilya (rivers) begin to fill from the rains, kooljuk boola (swans plenty) begin nesting across the Boodja. The nests are created in wetland areas so that predators such as the snake, brush tail possum and chuditch find it hard to steal the nurruk (eggs).

During this time the wannang (peppermint tree or *agonis flexuosa*) are full of seed, getting ready to bloom in the next season of Djilba, telling the people rains will still fall upon the Country.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2019  
27 MAY - 3 JUNE



## National Reconciliation Week 2019

The Undalup NRW 2019 event sponsored and supported by the Shire of Augusta Margaret River was held at the Margaret River town library on Saturday 22 June 2019. Cultural activities, bushfood tastings and a cultural film presentation were among the activities available on the day.

This year's National Reconciliation Week (NRW) theme was "Grounded in Truth".

Let's speak the truth – however painful, however confronting. In understanding each other's stories, we all grow. Check out this short NRW video on the Reconciliation Australia website:

<https://www.reconciliation.org.au/national-reconciliation-week/>

*"The Truth will always defend itself"*  
Wadandi Cultural Custodian, Iszaac Webb

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have long called for a comprehensive process of truth-telling about Australia's colonial history. Our nation's past is reflected in the present, and will continue to play out in future unless we heal historical wounds. Australians are ready to come to terms with our history as a crucial step towards a unified future, in which we understand, value and respect each other.

Whether you're engaging in challenging conversations or unlearning and relearning what you know, this journey requires all of us to walk together with courage. National Reconciliation Week is an opportunity for Australians from all backgrounds to contribute to our national movement towards a unified future.

## Upcoming Events

### Respect Yourself, Respect Your Culture Undalup NAIDOC Week Festival 2019

10 - 13 July 2019

High Street Hall, Bussell Hwy, West Busselton

Under the theme "Voice. Treaty. Truth. Let's work together for a shared future" NAIDOC Week 2019 will be held nationally for a weeklong celebration of Culture. The *Respect Yourself, Respect Your Culture* Undalup NAIDOC Week Festival 2019 will be held from Wednesday 10 to Saturday 13 July 2019 with a variety of cultural workshops and activities bringing many people together in harmony.

Voice. Treaty. Truth. These words represent the unified position of First Nation's Australians as set out in the Uluru Statement. They are words connecting us to Country and to the people who are the oldest continuing culture on the planet.

The final day of NAIDOC week, Saturday 13 July 2019, is the Family Fun Day where everyone comes together after a week of workshops to celebrate the festival outcomes. This day provides a variety of cultural activities for all the family. With cultural entertainment, stalls, children's workshop performances from all the participants, having an opportunity to showcase their talent with the audience.

NAIDOC week stands for National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920s which sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.



Sandra Hill is honoured as the resident Noongar Elder of our area and has been responsible for the professional instruction and training of most of the current generation of successful Noongar artists. Sandra has extensive experience in both the fine arts and public art. She is arguably the most successful Noongar artist today.

## Featured Story

### Ellensbrook Homestead Opening

The reopening of Ellensbrook Homestead at Mokidup (located in Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park) on 23 February 2019 was a great celebration with everyone involved in bringing the historic place back to its former glory and acknowledging its history and the stories of all who have been involved over the years. The reopening after many months of renovation and restoration of the old homestead was a celebration of history, stories, Country and collaboration.

The National Trust engaged the Wadandi/ Pibulmun Traditional Cultural Custodian and famous Noongar Visual Artist, Sandra Hill to create and design artwork for the entry statement at Mokidup. Sandra's artwork depicts the history, songline and connection of the Ellensbrook Home and the local Wadandi people.

At the opening, the Hon David Templeman MLA, Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts mentioned how there are so many unique Australian stories in WA that need to be acknowledged today, for future generations and mentioned how proud he was to see and acknowledge the great works of Sandra Hill in the South West. David congratulated Sandra for her ability to capture the area of Mokidup in such a special way. He also expressed what a great example it was for a project to be represented to the community, through Sandra's artwork.

The Hon Michael Murray AM QC, Chair, National Trust of WA announced how extremely proud the National Trust is of everyone's contributions to this project, "Well done to you all. Sharing all the stories, the knowledge and everything about this region in this magnificent project".

The reopening was the culmination of years of effort by the National Trust, Lotterywest, Undalup Association Cultural Custodians, members of the Bussell Family and many others to bring this historic place back to its former glory and to acknowledge its history and the stories of all involved with it over time.

Right: Ellensbrook artwork by Sandra Hill entitled, "The Wadandi Six Seasons". Above: Pictured (L to R), Sandra Hill, Julian Donaldson (CEO, National Trust of Western Australia – behind), Hon David Templeman (MLA, Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture – with Sandra), Hon Michael Murray (AM QC, Chair, National Trust of WA), Iszaac Webb, Prof Peter Klinken (Chief Scientist & Chair of Lotterywest) and Wayne Webb. Photos courtesy of Wendy Slee Photography.



## Out on Boodja

### Working with Students on Boodja: Natural Resource Management Project - Mokidup Revitalization

The Wadandi Elders and Cultural custodians have been working towards a more sustainable future with improving the management of local areas including Mokidup (Ellensbrook). The main focus of this project was on stabilising the dunes, removing local weeds and educating the public on the Wadandi history of the area.

Mokidup is a culturally significant place that combines an ecological restoration project and an educational project to learn about the Wadandi and European history. The project has provided encouragement and a greater understanding by local visitors and the community on how we must look after this important cultural landscape.

*Our Cultural Leaders received some heartfelt feedback from the Hampton Senior High Principal, "As you know, my aim for the camp was to provide my Follow the Dream Aboriginal students with a chance to work alongside students from our Bushranger Cadets in order to build a shared acknowledgement of Aboriginal culture and sustainable environmental action. The secondary purpose was for each student to be challenged to develop their interpersonal skills and self-discipline...As a group they now have a shared connection across cultures and year groups, have each demonstrated increased leadership skills and increased engagement with their studies since returning to school."*

Students helping with our Natural Resource Management (NRM) projects "Out on Boodja" were Perth schools Hampton Senior High School and the Rover Scouts as well St Mary McKillop College here in Busselton. Students and teachers helped with the re-establishing of the dune systems at Mokidup (Ellensbrook) by rolling out bio tek coir mesh matting. Everyone having a great time with a Cultural presentation from Wadandi Cultural Custodians Wayne and Zac Webb, all students enjoyed the outings, engaging in the Cultural display and talking with Wadandi Elders and Custodians. Thanks to all the students and teachers and the Undalup Volunteers for a job well done.

## Undalup Events Recap

### Margaret River Readers Writers Festival 2019

The Undalup Association Wadandi Cultural Custodians were invited along again to this year's Readers Writers Festival, with Welcome to Country on opening night by Wadandi Cultural Custodian Isaac Webb. Zac led an early morning walk, telling stories of Boodja that have been passed down through the generations, which was followed by a Cultural Bush Tucker session. He received overwhelming feedback from festival organisers

Our Traditional Custodians enjoyed sharing the Culture and experiences with the festival goers. Wadandi Elder Sandra Hill and her daughter Tracie Pushman gave a presentation called "Coming Home", a discussion on Sandra's personal experiences as part of the Stolen Generation. It was a real, raw and powerful discussion that received the following comment from a member of the audience:

*"For the first time, I attended the MRRW Festival; on Friday with an all-day pass. I thoroughly enjoyed the day. I was just so glad I attended the 2pm session – "Coming Home". It must have taken Sandra Hill amazing courage to share her story. It was awful and powerful and wondrous all at the same time. What a wonderful Elder, mother, artist and story teller. I felt truly ashamed yet uplifted by Sandra's resilience, strength and courage – and artistic talent. Thank you for including Sandra in your programme".*

Undalup Association would like to thank the MRRW Festival organisers for their kind works and support. We look forward to working with you again in the future.

Pictured: Zac Webb at the festival launch, captivating his audience. *Photo courtesy of Margaret River Mail.*

*"There was so much genuine respect, admiration and awe from our audience, and Zac's Welcome to Country at the launch was a standout moment which was so full of information and so entertaining".*

