



# THE TIWI

NEWS for  
Traditional  
Owners



## Good to know

Last fortnight Tiwi Forest workers volunteered 40 extra hours (106 hours on the job) managing fires.

No requests or permission for four or five boats a week that enter Port Hurd. The most regular boat has the name FISHERIES written along the side.

About 200 Tiwi are sleeping rough each night in Darwin. Barry, Teresita and Kevin Doolan are linking up with Larrakia, St. Vinnies and Therese of Red Cross to help.



## Chairman's Words

Our bush holiday has been great for us all with our people taking care on the roads and with lighting fires.

Our lives are changing for the better. When I was 20, Tiwi could only expect to live until 47. Now data is telling us our average life is 67 thanks to some great health workers in our clinics and the healthy living programs.

It is still disappointing that the drugs keep coming. Good news is the talk about who is doing this and the aircraft and boats they use. Now families are saying they must stop doing this for the sake of our kids and our future.

Tiwi business is drug free; like in Singapore where I was able to finalize construction details with Ezion for our new Port during the month. Our partners have a strict policy called "ethical investment." We meet their standards which are like our Tiwi traditions of respect. It is the only way forward in business.

And we respect the sadness of families and of loved ones gone these past months. On behalf of the Land Council we offer our sympathy and prayers to all Tiwi families.

I hope you enjoy this edition of THE TIWI  
Gibson Farmer Illortaminni  
Chairman

## Topic

Chairman's Words	1
TIA Bathurst Island Lodge	2
Managers' Notes	3
Rubbish and Respect	3
Munupi Art	4
Tiwi Fire Week	5
Burnt Plantations	6
Burnt Plantations	7
Tiwi Forests	8
Traditional Owners burn their country for carbon	8
Red Goshawk	9
Quiz	9
Welcome Students	10
Mantiyupwi Family Trust	10
Old Canoe arrives	11
Tiwi Bombers	12
Ted Egan Connection	12



Gibson with Chew Thiam Keng (TK.) CEO of EZION concluding construction detail of Port Melville - 12 July 2012

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# Tiwi Islands Adventures Bathurst Island Lodge



## Before The old Barra Base

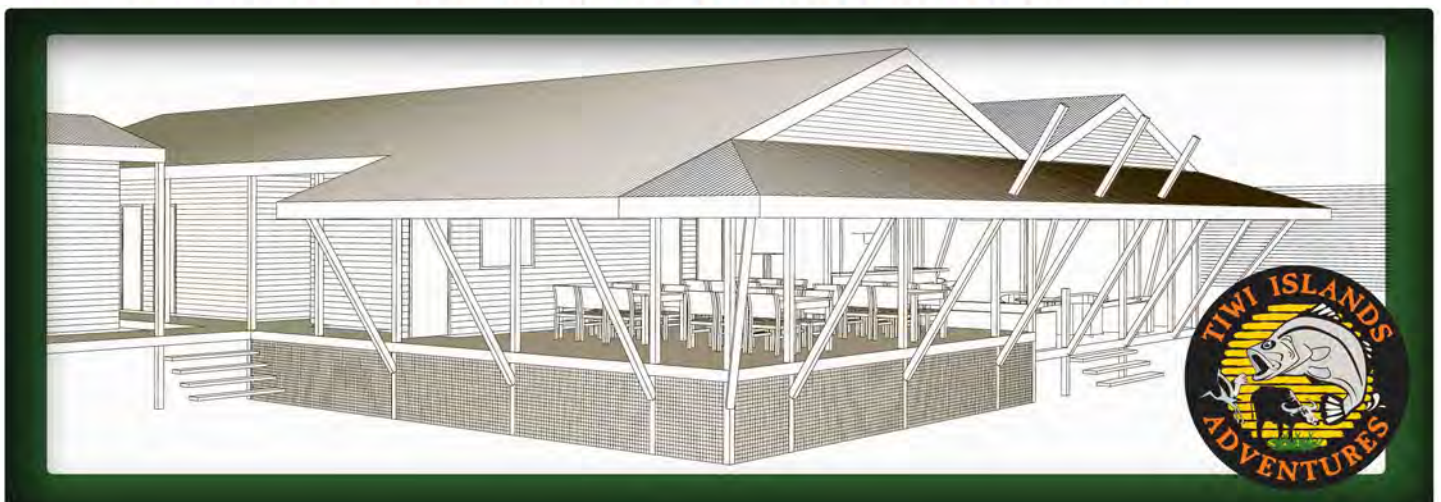


The Tiwi Islands Adventures construction of Bathurst Island Lodge at the old Barra Base site is well underway. Chairman of Tiwi Islands Adventures, Mr. Andrew Tipungwuti said: "It's a very big project which involves fully refurbishing the old Barra Base buildings plus adding new staff accommodation, new power, water and fuel supply plus all new furniture and equipment. We also need to remove the sea cages and the old pontoon, which was destroyed a couple of years ago. The reconstruction will take us most of this year but the finished lodge will be worth the time and investment and will be a special place that all Tiwi can be proud of".

## Now The new Bathurst Island Lodge under construction



## Soon Concept of the new Bathurst Island Lodge's dining and recreation area



# Managers' Notes



Managers are continually at work piecing together the issues that affect our people and our traditions from the use and management of our land and resources. Decisions about opportunities and impacts today will influence our future tomorrow. Landowners - please talk to our Managers and delegates about any issues of interest that you would like discussed.

Since our last issue we have discussed many things. Some have included • work for rehabilitation of the Matilda Zircon site planned in September • processes and applications for grants from the Aboriginal Benefit Account • development and Tiwi work plans with Tiwi Islands Adventures • media and launch of our Water Study • maritime and coastal research • mining exploration and impacts • 70 permit requests • Tiwi

wide electricity grid • VHF radio systems needs and operations • Tiwi Bombers player payments and budgets • structure and budgets for Island and College football • audit of our health and safety compliance, incidents and monitoring • conservation parks (Wonaeamirri, Imalu, Malawu, Vernons) • crocodile egg harvests • feral cat controls • turtle research • College training plans and links to industry • code of conduct issues • township planning at Pirlangimpi • Red Cross programs and integration • Port Melville engineering and construction details • Art Centre support for programs • Fire week and operations for fire controls • in addition to assistance for our people in hospital and our support for funeral and ceremony responsibilities.



## Rubbish and Respect do not go together



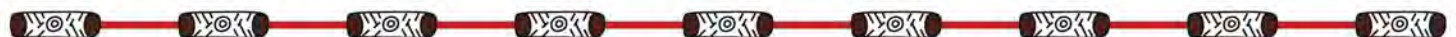
“Give us a break!” We hear that all the time. Landowners feeling for their Tiwi land. Too many people are making our land a dirty place. That is not a Tiwi tradition. Our custom treads lightly across the landscape. You cannot even see where we have passed by. Today we sure can see rubbish left everywhere and people doing their dirty stuff.



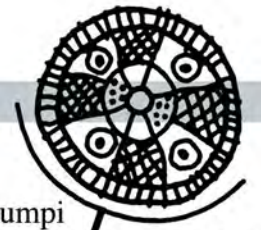
Please help people cover their dirty tracks. Rubbish has a place in rubbish bins. Take it home. It has no place out bush, or along the streets of our Towns.



**Thank you!**



# Munupi Art



On the 15th of June, Pularumpi School and Munupi Arts at Garden Point held an exhibition of artwork by the local school children. This was part of the now annual 'Turtle Dreaming' Festival which includes many, many other activities for the kids in conjunction with other community organizations throughout Term 2.

## Joint Winners of the best paintings!

Joint winners of the best paintings were Kino, Jolene and Shannon. After they were announced as winners they then completed a larger work, all of which were displayed as a feature at the exhibition. All 3 works were sold to a visitor from Nathalia, Victoria before the show even opened, and received major prizes for the winning artwork!

The opening of the exhibition featured 8 school kids performing traditional Tiwi dance. Due to the quality of the paintings completed by all the Pularumpi School

children 6 joint Runners Up were chosen and each artist received a prize. Fiona Puruntatameri completed a large scale mural at the school, depicting the Tiwi creation story. Make sure you take a look!

Thanks to the Tiwi Land Council for supporting such an important activity and keeping Tiwi culture strong. And thanks to all the school staff and Munupi artists who helped bring it all together.

*By Terry Larkin*



● Shannon's winning painting

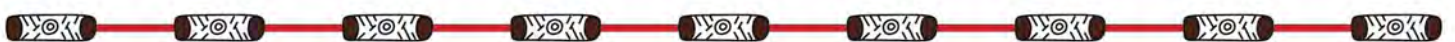


● Jolene's winning painting

Shannon  
Jolene  
Kino



● Kino's winning painting



## Facts

After 48 years at work, Alberta Puruntatameri finishes up in July her lifetime commitment to Tiwi Health. [Follow next edition of The Tiwi.]

Each year the total NT barramundi catch is 400,000 by commercial fishers; 100,000 by recreational fishers and 40,000 by landowners.

# Tiwi Fire Week



Willie Rioli, Tiwi Land Ranger, and Bruce Holland, Tiwi Forests

Tiwi Fire Week was held from the 21st to the 25th May. A travelling roadshow was put together by the Tiwi Land Council, Tiwi Forests, Bushfires Council and CSIRO. The roadshow went to the communities of Pirlangimpi, Wurrumiyanga, Ranku and Milikapiti.

**If you want a copy of Willie's DVD or a Tiwi Carbon Story book, or if you are interested in becoming a Bushfire Volunteer, then phone Kate on 8944 8416.**

Tiwi Fire Week is all about letting people know what is happening with fire on the Tiwi Islands. This year we looked at the work CSIRO is doing with the Tiwi Rangers about carbon, and showed a video of Willie Rioli talking about the project. Bushfires Council showed how firebreaks can protect buildings and other areas. Tiwi Forests talked about their burning programme to protect the forestry estate. During the week we also signed up people interested in becoming Tiwi Islands Bushfire Volunteers.



Over the next few months we will catch up with them again and hold the first meeting of the Tiwi Islands Volunteer Bushfire Brigade.



Model forest and when fire takes over



Gibson and Willie putting out the fire



Tiwi Fire Week was such a great success that we plan to do it every year, and try to get to more areas including Tiwi College.



# **BURNT PLANTATIONS**

## **COST TIWI PEOPLE - \$ 501,300**

**A Fire was started at Andranangoo 3a on Monday the 1st August  
2011**

**One area of Plantation was burnt and the lives of the Tiwi Employees  
were put at risk trying to control the fire**

**Burning Tiwi Trees is Burning Tiwi Money**



# **BURNT PLANTATIONS**

## **COST TIWI PEOPLE - \$ 140,000**

**8 Fires were started near Plantation on the roadside at Northern  
Beaches and 2 Fires at Kilu-impini on the main Pirlangimpi Road  
on Monday the 13th of June 2011**

**Two areas of Plantation were burnt and the lives of the Tiwi Employees  
were put at risk trying to control the fire**

**Burning Tiwi Trees is Burning Tiwi Money**





# **BURNT PLANTATIONS**

## **COST TIWI PEOPLE - \$ 330,000**

**A Fire was started near Pickertaramoor 9  
on Saturday the 23rd of July**

**2011**

**Two areas of Plantation were burnt and the lives of the Tiwi Employees  
were put at risk trying to control the fire**

**Burning Tiwi Trees is Burning Tiwi Money**



# **BURNT PLANTATIONS**

## **COST TIWI PEOPLE - \$ 1,200,000**

**2 Fires were started near Plantation at the Kilu-impini waterhole  
on Wednesday the 22nd of June**

**2011**

**Two areas of Plantation were burnt and the lives of the Tiwi Employees  
were put at risk trying to control the fire**

**Burning Tiwi Trees is Burning Tiwi Money**



# Tiwi Forests



Last year wildfires cost us \$2m. These are risks that increase as our land dries out – risks that now include injury and death for community members as well as our firefighters. Our Forestry staff is well trained. Many also live in Tiwi communities. For generations fire and hunting mean the same. Now we have risks to things we never had before. They include people on roads and crops growing for our future bank account. If you are planning a fire burn let us know about your plans.



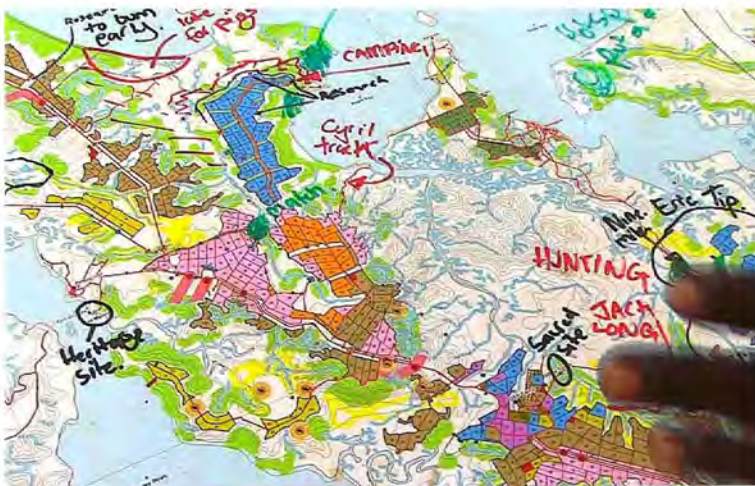
Call our guys

**1800 622 001 (free call)**

Let them know your fire plans. Save our future.



## Traditional Owners burn their country for carbon



Landowners directing burning of their land for their purpose - Savings for us all.

When the rains come we will measure this early burning. We will measure the difference and start looking for someone to buy the Tiwi carbon we have saved.

Years ago fire just cleaned the animals out for hunting. Today it also cleans out the Tiwi bank account and threatens our lives.

Hunting with safety and savings is the plan. Bruce Holland and Craig Armstrong of our Forest Staff and Michael Carter from Bushfires Council help putting our plans in place.

Burn country **EARLY** in the dry season. It saves carbon going up into the air. CSIRO say this carbon saving can be sold because of Government new carbon markets.

Our senior owners have talked about this. Would burning early make a difference? Last month some owners went up in helicopters with Bushfires Council to burn these areas from the air.

Pedro Wonaeamirri said:

“When I went up in the chopper I saw the land was grey and smoky like there were clouds on top of the trees. When we went east to my area I understood the difference between the dry and the green. We dropped incendiaries in the dry area and flew out. When I looked back I could see that it was working. It was interesting to see the fire working in the dry areas and not in the green areas. I really loved and enjoyed it.”



Pedro Wonaeamirri



# Red Goshawk



The Tiwi Islands are home to approx. 100 Red Goshawks (*Erythrotriorchis radiatus*) which are listed as Vulnerable under both the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 and the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act.

Every August Tiwi Plantations Corporation staff undertake a 2 week survey for Red Goshawks on Melville Island. As Gossies are territorial, with a home range of approx. 3km, it makes it easy to identify existing pairs. Where new pairs are found, their location is captured using a handheld GPS and the person who identified the nest, gets to name the birds. Monitoring of the birds is undertaken at least once a week to determine their breeding success.



Red Goshawk "Kate"

**Colour:** Red Goshawks are large reddish, brown coloured birds with thick yellow legs and feet. Not unlike most humans, older birds develop grey feathers on their chest and underbelly.

**Size:** Like all raptors (birds of prey) the female is larger than the male. The male is predominantly 45 to 51cm tall while the female is predominantly 58 to 61cm tall.



Red Goshawk "Jodie's" Nest

**Nest Description:** Nests are built quite high in the tree, usually 15+ meters, in the fork of a horizontal branch. Their nest is the size of a washing basket and is made of large sticks. It is easily distinguishable from other nests as it has a characteristically flat shape. The majority of nests that are monitored are located on the side of a roadway or track.

**Nesting Time:** Male birds begin building their nests in July, in preparation for the female to lay her eggs in early August. The chicks are usually old enough to leave the nest in late December.

**Breeding:** Each pair lays 1 – 2 eggs/year, although it is uncommon for 2 young chicks to survive.

**Habitat:** Red Goshawks live in Tall Open Forests, near a permanent water supply.

**If you think you have seen a Red Goshawk nest, please phone the Tiwi Plantation Corp. Office on (08) 8978 3713 and let someone know.**

**We are always keen to find new nests.**

## Quiz

1. How many electricity generators are in use every day, every year on Tiwi Islands?

a) 6 b) 12 c) 23

2. How you call the water between Darwin and Tiwi?

a) Beagle Gulf b) Beaufort Gulf c) Arafura Sea

3. How many turtles were checked and counted in our two week study this year.

a) 57 b) 105 c) 154

4. How many Crocodile eggs are we allowed to harvest each year?

a) 500 b) 3000 c) 4500

5. How many people live in the Northern Territory?

a) 212,000 b) 365,000 c) 496,000

6. Which of our birds is on the endangered list.

a) Bush Fowl b) Red Goshawk c) Rainbow Bee-eater

7. There are 1527 people living at Wurrumiyanga. What is the average age?

a) 18 b) 26 c) 38

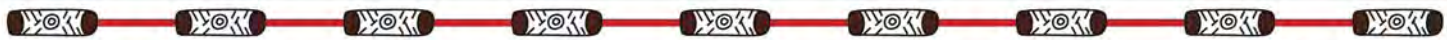
Quiz answers on page 11



The Tiwi Education Board and the Tiwi College staff would like to **WELCOME** back students for an exiting term 3.



**TIWI FUTURE IN TIWI HANDS**



## Mantiyupwi Family Trust



Mantiyupwi was established in 2008 to manage the projects and finances arising as a result of the 99 year lease over Wurrumiyanga. Mantiyupwi have achieved many outcomes over this time, and are working hard to improve facilities and create business opportunities in their community. Some of the projects Mantiyupwi are involved in are:

- Building single room accommodation for visitors to hire – these rooms are managed by Tiwi Enterprises
- Purchased Tiwi Tours, which is managed on Mantiyupwi's behalf by AATKings
- Entering into an agreement with Tai Asian Foods to sell take-away food from a van

Single room accommodation at Wurrumiyanga



Are you looking for **Accommodation** for Rent?  
Phone **8941 1162**

- Providing loans to local businesses, including Tiwi Plantations Corporations and BIHA
- Providing support to Tiwi College

## Mantiyupwi Making News

Mantiyupwi have recently committed to building a supermarket in Wurrumiyanga. Mantiyupwi business leaders have signed off on their \$2m Store- and Business Centre. Tipiloura and Mungatopi families have also invested in the project.

This is a huge undertaking with the potential to provide many benefits to the community, including jobs and

training in the retail industry. The shop will be located on the corner of Kerinauia Hwy and Malawu Street, opposite the church. There will also be small retail shops including a laundromat and games arcade. Tai will also be moving his business into the new complex. Construction will be starting very soon, and the shop will be open in time for Christmas.

Mantiyupwi is also currently in negotiations with the NT Government about purchasing the SIHIP contractors camp with the aim to establish it as a motel.

The current directors of Mantiyupwi are Mavis Kerinauia, Kalina Palipuaminni, Juan Orsto, Jennifer Clancy, Bruno Wilson and Wally Kerinauia.



# Old Canoe arrives at Jilamara

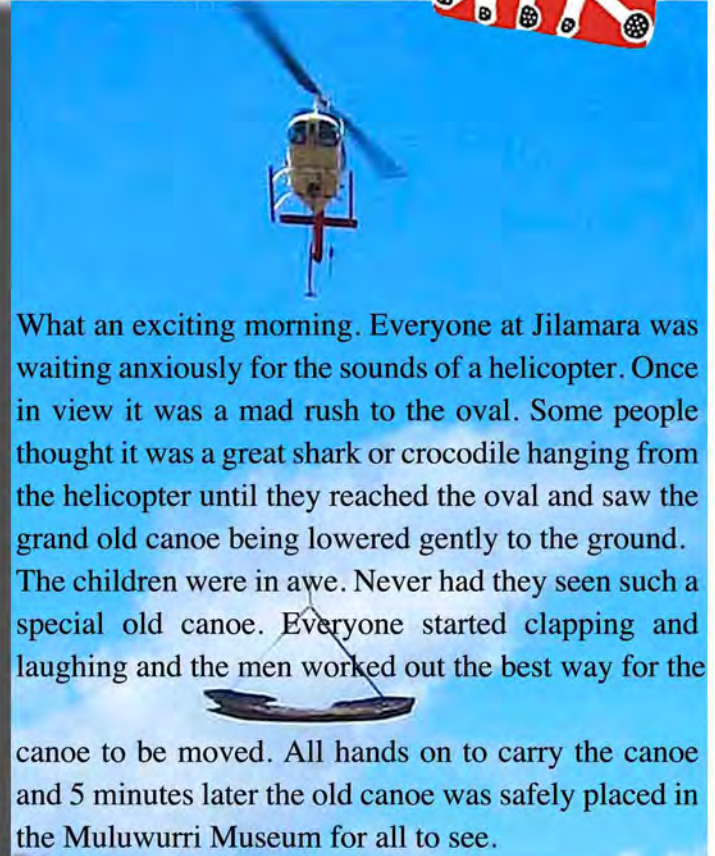


The old canoe was recovered by our Marine Rangers from a swamp inland from WOOLLOOWUNGA near Pirlangimpi in 2011. It might have been washed up there during the big tidal surge from cyclone Max in 1981.

There were dug-outs kept in this area around to Tayupu Cliffs for the purpose of travel to Seagull Island to harvest tern eggs and turtle eggs.

This canoe has a step for a mast and sails. Tiwi canoe travel was often during April and May when the SE winds made it a good time for travel.

Captain Larry Tessmann and Terry Larkin got the canoe in the air



What an exciting morning. Everyone at Jilamara was waiting anxiously for the sounds of a helicopter. Once in view it was a mad rush to the oval. Some people thought it was a great shark or crocodile hanging from the helicopter until they reached the oval and saw the grand old canoe being lowered gently to the ground. The children were in awe. Never had they seen such a special old canoe. Everyone started clapping and laughing and the men worked out the best way for the canoe to be moved. All hands on to carry the canoe and 5 minutes later the old canoe was safely placed in the Muluwurri Museum for all to see.

Brian Farmer Illortaminni Jilamara Executive and artist, commented "what a proud special day for all Tiwi people to see such a great old canoe here on the islands in the Muluwurri Museum for our next generation of children to see the 'old Tiwi' way".



We are asking for help to see if anyone knows more about this old canoe. We would love to have the proper provenance for the Museum records and cataloguing. It is very special. We all feel quite overwhelmed in its presence. *By Cher Breeze*

**Please give us a call at Jilamara: 8978 3901**

## QUIZ ANSWERS from p.9

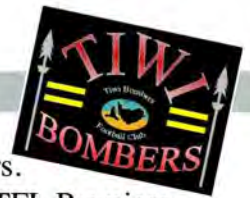
1. c) 23
2. a) Beagle Gulf
3. c) 154
4. b) 3000
5. a) 212,000
6. b) Red Goshawk
7. b) 26



## Facts

Apsley Strait is 600 metres to cross at Wurrumiyanga. A Bridge would cost \$14 million.

# Tiwi Bombers



Anthony Tipungwuti

Tiwi Bomber players continue to excel during the “off-season” with young Bathurst Islander Anthony Tipungwuti starring at the NAB National Under 18 Championships

where the NT won its second AFL-National 2nd Division title. Anthony, who made his debut with the Bombers early last season, was amongst the NT best against Vic Metro, South Australia, NSW/ACT, Queensland and Tasmania.

Anthony is in Victoria where he plays with State League club Gippsland Power as he pursues his dream to play with an AFL club hoping to be drafted in November.

Other Tiwi Islander players in the NT team were Jason Puruntatameri, Jack Long, Benny and Willy Rioli (all Pularumpi) and Jack Williams (Milikapiti) who we hope one day will also be Tiwi

Bomber players.

As reigning NTFL Premiers, Tiwi Bombers have commenced preparations to defend the title with the re-appointment of Premiership Coaches Leigh Crossman and Pedro Rioli. Inaugural Premiership Captain and Tiwi College based Shane Tipuamantimerri and Pularumpi based NTFL Player Life Member Willie Rioli have accepted roles as Assistant Coaches.

In club administration news the 2012 Annual General Meeting will be conducted on Tuesday 14th August at the Holiday Inn Esplanade commencing at 6.00pm.



# Ted Egan Connection

Connections continue to drive Ted Egan. With us it has been our football, our language, the harmony of our life. Now in his 80`s, Ted recently visited us for a few days to connect again the special bonds he shares, and to record – you guessed it – “Connection: Singing My Country.” Over some exciting days, Ted, with our families and children, sang of who we are, drawing our strength from our Land. Ted has also recorded the song in German, Japanese and Welsh connecting the world through joy and strength that flows from the respect and attachments of all people to their Land.

## “Connection: Singing my country”



Ted Egan in Wurrumiyanga



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Share the magic<br/>Know the value<br/>What it is, and who we are<br/>Know the worth<br/>We all know that<br/>It is we, and we alone<br/>Who are entrusted to preserve<br/>This sacred earth</p> | <p>3. Kukunari<br/>Kakarrijuwi<br/>Ngara kuruwala yoiyoi ningani<br/>Ngawa Tiwi<br/>Pilingawa yati ngampangana<br/>Ngingingawula<br/>Ngiramini</p>   |
| <p>2. Parlingari<br/>Tunuwuwi<br/>Ngawa, ngingingawula<br/>Jabuji<br/>Ngawa Tiwi<br/>Awi ngini muwila<br/>Pungunta ngawurrani<br/>Ngurumaingi</p>  | <p>4. This is why we<br/>Sing together<br/>When we do it is to say<br/>We understand<br/>We all know that<br/>It is we, and we alone<br/>Who guard the treasure we inherit<br/>In our land</p> |