



CLCAC
CARPENTARIA LAND COUNCIL
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



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Standing Strong and Leading the Way!

Today is the 34th anniversary of the incorporation of CLCAC

CLCAC was first established in 1982 as a community based organisation to represent, protect and secure the rights and interests of Aboriginal people in the Gulf of Carpentaria. Following the holding of a large meeting in Doomadgee, CLCAC was incorporated under the Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act on 27 April 1984.

CLCAC would like to acknowledge the first Board of Directors: Charlie Dick, Major Walden, Norris King, Tommy George, Willie Doomadgee and Phillip Yanner. CLCAC would also like

to acknowledge all subsequent Board of Directors and their contributions.

Today, CLCAC is the largest and most eminent corporate entity representing the interests of constituent traditional owner groups in the southern Gulf of Carpentaria. For further information on CLCAC and all of our achievements check out www.clcac.com.au





Congratulations!

Coxswains Grade 1 Licence

Congratulations to Brenton Yanner, Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger Coordinator for successfully gaining his Coxswains Grade 1 Licence.

Another huge milestone achieved following on from Brenton successfully being accredited as a Savannah Guides late last year.

Brenton is the first Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger to gain this qualification and his achievement will assist more CLCAC Rangers to gain their Coxswains ticket in the near future.



Keep up to date with all the Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger activities on their Face Book page <https://www.facebook.com/ggrangers/>



World Science Festival

CLCAC's Land & Environment Unit was invited to be part of the World Science Festival held at the Queensland Museum in Brisbane.

CLCAC participated in an expert panel on migratory shorebirds and joined leading researchers, scientists and senior government officers to discuss conservation of these threatened species.

Presentations were given by Phillip George (Normanton Ranger Coordinator), Thomas Wilson (Wellesley Island Ranger Coordinator) and Brenton Yanner (Gangalidda & Garawa Ranger Coordinator) on the work of their respective groups.

A highlight of the Festival was the opportunity to meet with the Hon Leeanne Enoch – The Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Science and Arts. CLCAC would like to thank the Minister for engaging with the migratory shorebird conservation initiatives driven by Traditional Owners in the lower Gulf. We would like to acknowledge the Department of Environment and Science and the Queensland Museum for their support.





Ranger Appointments

Congratulations to the following Normanton Ranger appointments of Phillip George as Ranger Coordinator and Lance Rapson as Head Ranger. We also congratulate Gangalidda & Garawa Ranger's Brenton Yanner as Ranger Coordinator and Desmond Armstrong as Head Ranger.

Phillip and Lance have been with the CLCAC since the inception of the Ranger Program in Normanton. During this time they have shown commitment to the organisation and contributed to the continual development of the Ranger Program to ensure the best outcomes are delivered on country. These efforts, particularly in the early stages, provided a pathway for the growth of the Normanton Rangers from the original 3 to 9 fulltime positions.

Brenton Yanner and Desmond Armstrong have shown great commitment and leadership qualities through their training and day to day administration in carrying out land and sea projects. Their aptitude to their work has been rewarded with their appointments. The Burketown based Rangers now total 12 fulltime positions.





Cultural Heritage Site

The Gangalidda and Garawa Rangers have been hard at work in preparation for the wet season with the maintenance and protection of culturally significant sites.

Pastoral activity surrounding the important Woods Lake (Jilgura) site has resulted in serious erosion causing a burial ground to become exposed.

By strategically placing sandbags and rocks and constructing fencing, the rangers have temporarily protected the site from further damage. This project is still ongoing as options for more permanent protection are considered, especially with more rain on the way.





Drone Training

The Gangalidda & Garawa and Normanton Ranger Groups recently participated in Remote Pilot Aircraft training.

Drones are a new technology that allow access to the sky at the touch of a button. High quality cameras can take photographs and videos whilst in the air. Live vision will allow the Rangers to access even the most remote parts of their country for animal surveying, biodiversity mapping and future project planning.

Following on from drone training the Gangalidda & Garawa Rangers put their new drone to good use conducting cast net surveys. The drone has been used to identify suitable flood crossings for the conduct of the surveys which are aimed at monitoring the region's aquatic biodiversity during the wet season.





Queensland Indigenous Land & Sea Ranger Forum

On 20-22nd March 2018, Ganglidda & Garawa, Normanton and WILSSED Rangers together with CLCAC Operational Staff and Senior Management attended the annual QILSRP Ranger Workshop in Cairns.

Indigenous Ranger groups funded through Queensland Indigenous Land & Sea Ranger Program gathered to share their successes in land management & conservation and network with a number of government stakeholders, delegates and other Ranger groups. During the workshop, CLCAC was provided the opportunity to deliver two keynote addresses. This included a synopsis on the CLCAC 2017 Strategic Review which was presented by Rachel Amini-Yanner, CLCAC CEO and Murradoo Yanner, CLCAC Director.

The second keynote address was presented by Terrence Taylor, Lead Instructor for the Jigija Indigenous Fire Training Program which provided an overview of the Jigija program and

Terrence's transition from the Ranger Program to Business and Economic Development.

During a dedicated networking workshop block, CLCAC spent time with Fisheries Queensland, Department of Environment and Science (DES) and Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) as well as many others to discuss potential future collaborations towards positive on-country outcomes.

CLCAC looks forward to attending the next QILSRP workshop in 2019.



Saltwater Marsh Conference

On 16th-20th April 2018 CLCAC were invited to attend The Australian Mangrove and Salt Marsh Conference held in Sydney Australia.

The conference attracted scientist focused on mangrove and salt marsh from across Australia and also international representaives, Government and Independent Consultants.

CLCAC's Rangers were the only Indigenous Ranger Group that attend the conference. As part of the conference Desmond Armstrong and Phillip George gave a presentation on mangroves and CLCAC's response to recent mangrove dieback in the southern Gulf of Carpentaria. As Traditional Owners, both Desmond and Phillip highlighted the multitude of ecosystem services that mangrove provide in the Gulf coastline and waterways and as such consider the health of mangroves to

be critically important to indigenous values as well.

The presentation received excellent feedback and led to a number of networking opportunities with conference attendees; notably CLCAC Rangers were able to continue discussions on the Mangrove Watch program with Dr Norm Duke and Jock Mackenzie who have been involved in previous CLCAC Ranger projects.

The Ranger groups look forward to future mangrove work.



Shorebird Food Resources

The Normanton Rangers, along with the Gangalidda & Garawa Rangers, have commenced research into shorebird food resources.

In late 2017 Rangers worked with Dr. Andrew Storey of Wetlands Research & Management to undertake sampling of benthic infauna at the region's two Flyway Sites, Delta Downs and Nijinda Durlga (Tarrant). Samples were collected from mudflats around healthy mangroves and mangroves impacted

by the recent dieback. This investigation will complement on-going shorebird counts and MangroveWatch surveys undertaken by Rangers to build scientific knowledge of lower Gulf shorelines and inform best management of country.





Wellesley Island Rangers

The Rangers participated in a Turtle Education field trip to Spring Point with the Grade 4 students from Mornington Island State School.

Acting Head Ranger Roy Amini talked to the students about the turtle species found on Mornington Island and their cultural importance. Ranger Clifford Yarrack then explained turtle nesting habits and how a turtle can be identified by its tracks.

Community involvement in particular with the local school is an essential and rewarding part of the job for the Wellesley Island Rangers.



Keep up to date with all the WILSSED Ranger activities on their Face Book page <https://www.facebook.com/Wellesley-Islands-Rangers>



Native Title Updates

CLCAC continues to work with native title claim groups in the Gulf to progress Native Title claims by providing legal advice, project support and administrative assistance.

CLCAC is also committed to supporting the Gulf Region Aboriginal Corporation (GRAC), Gangalidda and Garawa Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (GGNTAC) and Waanyi Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (WNTAC) as the prescribed bodies corporate (PBC).

These PBC's manage the Native Title rights and interests of the Lardil, Yangkaal, Kaiadilt, Gangalidda, Garawa and Waanyi Peoples.

CLCAC assisted with the following meetings:

- Gangalidda Garawa People Native Title meetings: 23 April and 19 June 2018.

- Gkuthaarn Kukatj People Native Title meetings: 18-19 March and 23 May 2018.

- Kurtijar People Native Title meeting: 30 April 018.

- Waanyi Native Title Holder's Community meeting: 17-18 May 2018.

- GRAC meetings: 16-19 January, 30-31 January, 15-16 March, 20 April and 29 May 2018.



Staff Updates

CLCAC would like to welcome their newest recruits!

Rangers

Maali Yanner - Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger, Burketown.

Ronald Bob - Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger, Burketown.

Michael Watson - Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger, Burketown.

Milmarja Yanner - Casual Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger, Burketown.

Martin Evans - Casual Gangalidda and Garawa Ranger, Burketown.

Other Recruits

Emily Chalmers - PBC Support Services Officer, Gangalidda and Garawa Group, Cairns.

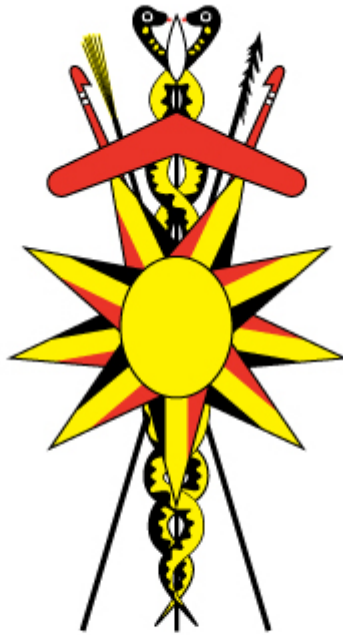
Jory Stariwat - Land and Environment Projects Officer, Normanton.

Jeremy Drimer - Land and Environment Projects Officer, WILSSED.

Apryl Ford - Administration & Project Support Officer, Burketown.

Quitaysha Thompson - Corporate Services & Project Support Officer, Cairns.

We sadly farewell Kate Bellchambers, Dynieka Taylor and Charlene Levers and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.



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