

AUTUMN 2011

GUMALA NEWS



COVER STORY

Gumala purchases 7 lots of residential land in Tom Price, in line with our visionary Housing Strategy to create affordable housing solutions for Gumala Members and their families

Pictured is Gumala Chairman Stuart Ingie Snr being congratulated by Shire of Ashburton CEO Jeffrey Breen

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A message from the Chairman

Dear Members,

By now you should have received the AGM Notice and Annual Report as we prepare for important meetings on 2 & 3 April 2011. The future of GAC and its related entities is at stake.

After three years of consultations and over a \$1 million spent on four major reviews including the most recent report from Andrew Collett – the Barrister we appointed to develop an implementation plan – the time has come for the members/beneficiaries to consider GAC's proposals.

At the heart of the changes, your Board is supporting a "merger" proposal that will see the Trustee functions of the General Gumala Foundation incorporated into the operations of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC).

The Board believes that the "merger" will reduce administrative costs and enable the expansion of members' services to continue at a rapid pace.

Your Board urges all members to attend and to vote "Yes" to a merger and to the other related GAC proposals.

Should the non-binding resolutions be supported by the members/beneficiaries, it is the intention of GAC to have binding resolutions ratified by the membership/beneficiaries at a special Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to be called in May before the start of the new Financial Year.

May I again express the trust and confidence the Board has had in the leadership of the Chief Executive, Steve Mav who has served us exceptionally well over the past three years as we have grown significantly.

I need not remind everyone that three years ago only \$1 million was being spent on members' programs whereas today that figure is more than \$11 million – over a 1000% increase.

The Board is very pleased with the recent purchase of 7 blocks of land in Tom Price to add to our investment

property portfolio and as part of the Members' Housing Strategy.

The hard work has only just begun and the Board has asked Management to proceed quickly to build the houses that will be offered to our Members.

It is vital that the strategic growth of GAC continues uninterrupted by "family politics" and that the Members support their elected Directors and recognised Elders.

On a final note, while I am not facing election at this year's AGM, six of the nine Directors will be facing re-election and I would like to recognise their contribution to the Board for the time they have served the Members.

I look forward to seeing you in Port Hedland on 2 and 3 April 2011 as we embark on the next chapter of GAC's growth!

Warmly,

Stuart Ingie Snr

Chairman



Gumala's Housing Strategy marches forward with major land purchase in Tom Price

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) was the successful bidder for 7 lots of residential land at the auction that took place in Tom Price in late February 2011.

GAC successfully bid for the 7 lots on behalf of the General Gumala Foundation Trustee, Gumala Investments Pty Ltd. The lots range

from 684–730m² each and are located in Warrara Street, Tom Price.

The land acquisition is part of GAC's Housing Strategy, which involves sourcing land and constructing appropriate residential accommodation for our Members in the Pilbara.

Gumala previously purchased 10 residential lots of land in the Demarchi sub-division, Port Hedland.

Gumala is in the process of negotiating with the Department of Housing in order to secure vital funding (for construction costs etc) before the construction of the homes in Port Hedland can commence.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) Notice

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF GUMALA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION ICN 2744 TO BE HELD AT THE GRATWICK HALL AND CIVIC GARDENS, MCGREGOR STREET, PORT HEDLAND ON SATURDAY, 02 APRIL 2011 AT 2.00pm

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation **HEREBY GIVES NOTICE** to all Gumala Aboriginal Corporation Members including all Banyjima, Innawonga and Niyapali Peoples of an **Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 02 April 2011 at 2:00 pm.**

The general nature of the business to be conducted at the Annual General Meeting is:

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Confirmation of minutes of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 13 December 2009
3. Adoption of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation 2009/2010 Annual Report
4. Appointment and remuneration of Auditor for period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011
5. Chairman/Chief Executive Report
6. Election of Board Members
7. General Business

Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) Notice

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING
GUMALA BENEFICIARIES / TRADITIONAL OWNERS
GENERAL GUMALA FOUNDATION
TO BE HELD AT THE GRATWICK HALL AND CIVIC GARDENS
McGREGOR STREET, PORT HEDLAND WA ON
SUNDAY 03 APRIL 2011 AT 2:00pm

PURSUANT TO THE GENERAL GUMALA FOUNDATION TRUST DEED DATED
FEBRUARY 1997

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation ('GAC') as Manager of the General Gumala Foundation **HEREBY GIVES NOTICE** to all Gumala Beneficiaries/Gumala Traditional Owners including all Bunjima, Innawonga and Niapaili Peoples of an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held at 2:00 pm on Sunday 3 April 2011 at "The Gratwick Hall and Civic Gardens", McGregor Street, Port Hedland, Western Australia.

It is intended that non-binding special resolutions will be proposed at the meeting relating to the re-structure of the General Gumala Foundation following the Parakeelya, Chaney/Lennon and ORIC reviews. The general nature of the special business to be transacted at the meeting will be to consider and vote upon the non-binding resolutions.

Cecil Parker joins the GAC Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) have appointed Cecil Parker to the Board.

Cecil is from the Innawonga language group. He is from West Side Community.

Cecil is the replacement Innawonga representative for Melanie Condon, who resigned from the GAC Board of Directors on health grounds.

Cecil was appointed on 7 February 2011, with immediate effect, until the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 2, 2011.



GAC Director (Innawonga language group)
Cecil Parker

Gumala appoints highly credentialled Finance Manager



Gumala's new Finance Manager, Matt Selby, is a highly qualified and experienced Chartered Accountant

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has appointed Matt Selby to the position of Finance Manager.

Matt, who was appointed to the position in January 2011, is a Chartered Accountant whose previous role was in the Business Advisory Division of Perks. Prior to his two and a half years at Perks, he worked for nine years in public practice accounting for a small accounting firm.

Born in Sydney and growing up in Adelaide, Matt holds a Commerce/Law Degree from University of Adelaide (2004) and became a Chartered Accountant in 2010.

Upon his appointment at Gumala, Matt said he was looking forward to developing a new skill set as Finance Manager, ensuring the finance office runs smoothly and continuing to provide excellent service to the Members. He added that he was very excited to be living and working in the Pilbara, learning about Aboriginal culture and getting involved in the community. Matt is also a keen sportsman.

Supporting Matt in Gumala's Finance Department are Finance Assistant Emma Heys and Bookkeeper Jayde Robbins.

Gumala congratulates Ronwyn on new leadership role

Long-time Gumala Aboriginal Corporation employee Ronwyn James has been appointed Members' Services Unit (MSU) Acting Team Leader. Ronwyn is a Traditional Owner (Innawonga language group) and has been a loyal employee at Gumala for over ten years.

Chief Executive Steve Mav said Ronwyn's promotion was fitting, considering her experience, hard work and dedication over many years at Gumala.

"Ronwyn will be working closely with the new Members' Services Manager, Tracey Blokland, as well as our other MSU Team Leader, Liz Diver, to continue the excellent work being done by MSU," Steve added.

Ronwyn joined Gumala in 2000 as Receptionist, before gradually moving up through the ranks to the position of Senior MSU Officer and now MSU Acting Team Leader.

Her goal in the MSU is to provide superior service to our Members in the delivery of programs that benefit our Members and their families.



MSU bolstered by appointment of Members' Services Manager

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has appointed its first Members' Services Manager.

Tracey was previously employed as the Members' Services Unit (MSU) Team Leader, before being promoted to the position of Members' Services Manager in February 2011.

Tracey is professionally qualified in Community Services and previously worked for a Not for Profit organisation for nine years. Her broad employment portfolio includes key roles at Centrelink and the Western Australian Police Department.

She is passionate about working within Aboriginal communities and working alongside Gumala's Traditional Owners.

Tracey is originally from Newcastle in NSW and spent many years living in NSW, particularly on the north coast. She relocated to Perth in 2007 before moving to Tom Price in 2010. She has three children, two grandchildren, and her husband is employed with Rio Tinto through its Indigenous employment program.

Tracey: "I'm from an Indigenous family, and I love working for an Indigenous organisation that's making a difference to people's lives."

"The key reason why a Members' Services Manager is required at Gumala all stems from the enormous growth of the MSU.

"A dedicated manager is needed in order to co-ordinate and manage the MSU as a whole.

"The MSU has expanded incredibly, as have the programs we provide for the Members. It is critical that Members' applications are processed quickly and accurately, and this has now become a reality.



"At the MSU we really do strive to give our Members the best possible quality service. Both on the phones and behind the scenes we do an enormous amount of work to ensure we provide the Members with the level of service they expect.

"The division of the MSU along language groups, as well as the employment of additional staff, has led to major efficiency improvements.

"Providing quality of service to our Members is our number one goal. It's what we come to work for every day."

Tracey's top tip to our Members:

"In order to ensure applications are processed as quickly as possible, I would like to remind our Members that application forms must be filled in completely and accurately, and you must provide us with any additional documents that are required. Providing us with a contact number is important, this allows us to follow up with further queries and inform you when your application has been processed. Following these simple steps will enable us to process your applications quickly and efficiently."

Lore Time ceremonies take place over the summer – over 20 boys go through

It's been another big summer of Lore Time activity, with several traditional Lore ceremonies taking place between December and February at Gumala's lore camps at Cane River and Wirrilimarra, as well as other nominated sites throughout the Pilbara.

Over 20 'young boys' (children of

Gumala Members) went through, becoming 'young men'. With the families of all of the young men attending the ceremonies, hundreds of Traditional Owners were at the Lore ceremonies over the summer.

The Lore Camp upgrades were completed by Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) before Lore

Time began, so everyone was able to enjoy the improved facilities, including fresh running water. As usual, GAC provided grants for travel and food expenses.

GAC wishes to acknowledge all of our Elders who were there providing guidance and assistance during Lore Time.

Health and Education Needs Analysis announcement is good news for Gumala Members and their children

by Gumala Member Doreen Jackson

I would like to congratulate Gumala in initiating an agreement with Murdoch University to complete a Health and Education Needs Analysis of Gumala Members and their children.

Investing some of our monies into health and well-being of our people could be the commencement of finding a workable model that will truly result in the improvement of Aboriginal people's health. That hopefully will be utilised by other Aboriginal health services.

A mobile health clinic – marvelous, going out to the people. I was a Community Nurse for some 18 years and prior to that was a Midwife.

As a Community Nurse I was involved with Aboriginal people in the city, no matter what plans that were drawn up for the health of Aboriginal people it would not work because they had little involvement in the process.

I always maintained that you should



provide a service where the people actually live.

Once you explain the health issue and what they could do themselves, that makes them feel better and with our support many would change some of their bad habits.

Education being the key here. Education is the key to change, therefore the education of our children is vital. After all, they are the future of Gumala Aboriginal

Corporation. We need to see that they are well and healthy and not just accept that they too at a certain age will develop heart disease and diabetes etc, as their parents and grandparents did. And many of these parents and grandparents passed away too young.

I am very proud that this Needs Analysis is being carried out by Gumala and I wish everyone involved in this project success.

Gumala Member chosen to represent Australia at United Nations in New York

Gumala Member, Nyiyipali Traditional Owner and mother of two, Jahna Cedar, has been honoured to represent Australia at this year's United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

Jahna, who grew up in Marble Bar and currently lives in South Hedland (where she runs her own consultancy business), said her aim in attending the New York meeting was to bring an Indigenous perspective to the table. This year's session, the Commission's 55th meeting, took place from February 22 to March 4.

Unfortunately when Gumala News was going to press, Jahna was in New York for the forum, so we trust it was an amazing experience for her!

Jahna was chosen as the Indigenous Australian delegate at the forum (which is the global body for the promotion of equality between men and women), together with two other Australian women.

The Minister for the Status of Women, Kate Ellis, said she was delighted that Jahna had been selected from such a strong field of community applicants.

Ms Ellis said Jahna had made a significant contribution to her community and to the welfare of women. She added that Jahna brings to the table personal knowledge of the barriers women can face in the community, having already done much work to support Indigenous women and girls.

"It is important that Australia has strong and diverse representation at the Commission so we can continue to advance the status of women - and I am proud that we are sending such a talented community delegation."



Jahna Cedar

Acknowledging the high calibre of applications from Indigenous women, the Australian Government's Indigenous Leadership Program chose to support Jahna's participation as an Advanced Leadership Opportunity.

Before leaving for New York, Jahna told Gumala News that throughout her life she has devoted herself in promoting equitable service delivery, equal employment opportunities and recognition and the rights of the child.

"My passion in life is to break down negative stereotypes about my people and inspire others to pursue their dreams and aspirations," she said.

"I firmly believe training and employment of Indigenous youth will ensure that living conditions and economic stability can improve within our communities and hopefully one day Indigenous

communities can become self-sustainable.

"With this passion, I was a member of a 3 person team who created a Job Information booklet and CD, funded by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, aimed specifically for young Indigenous Job seekers.

It included local success stories, resumes, cover letter templates and definitions, and how to apply for a job."

Jahna's achievements are many, including being elected on the Commonwealth Bank Youth Advisory Council for Australia; and being selected as the under 18s representative on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) delegation to attend the United Nations third preparatory committee for the special session on children.

"Due to my pride in my Aboriginality, my aim in life is to improve the stereotypical image that society holds on the Indigenous race and inspire youth to pursue their dreams and aspirations, because your life will only be what you make of it," Jahna said.

"I also use my cultural background and optimistic attitude towards reconciliation to urge myself into helping and hopefully inspiring and empowering other Indigenous people.

"I am lucky to have walked in both words (I have a Caucasian father and Indigenous mother) but I know that life's opportunities are there to take and make the most of.

"With hard work and dedication, everyone can achieve anything. All it takes is passion and commitment."

West Coast Eagles visit Tyree on his 18th birthday

Young Gumala Member Tyree Hayes, who was a passenger in a car that was involved in a serious accident in mid-2010, recently received two special visitors at Royal Perth Hospital for his 18th birthday.

Two players from his favourite footy team, the West Coast Eagles, came to the hospital especially to see Tyree.

The players, Tim Houlihan and Pat McGinnity, spent time with Tyree and Tyree's family and signed his 18th birthday card.

Tyree's mum, Gumala Member Tanya Hubert, said she was very thankful to the hospital's social worker who organised the visit, the West Coast Eagles Football Club and the two players.

Tyree was very excited about the visit from the Eagles... so excited, in fact, that he hardly slept the night before the visit - which meant he was fast asleep during the whole time the Eagles players were there!

On a serious note, although the car accident resulted in serious injuries -

including head injuries - Tyree has been making slow, positive progress, step by step.

Tanya and her children relocated from Karratha to Perth straight after the accident in order to be with him and support him. The family spends many hours with him every day in hospital, which is where he has been since the accident.

Everyone at Gumala Aboriginal Corporation wishes Tyree all the best in his recovery. Tyree and his family have our full support.



Tyree and his mum Tanya, surrounded by family members Tremell, Grant, Ashton and Shona, and West Coast Eagles players Pat McGinnity and Tim Houlihan

In Profile

Layneisha Sgro

Scholarship award winner – The Indigenous Youth Leadership Program

Name: Layneisha Sgro

Age: 13

The Gumala connection: Her mother is Gumala Member Lisa Coffin

Language Group: Nyiyapali

The school Layneisha attends: Presbyterian Ladies College (PLC) in Perth

The scholarship she was awarded: Layneisha has been accepted into the The Indigenous Youth Leadership Program (IYLP) at PLC, which is one of Western Australia's top girls schools. This lucrative scholarship covers her boarding and tuition fees for the next 5 years and is considered to be an enormous honour.

How Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has assisted: Gumala's Education Office assisted Layneisha and her family (including her mother Lisa) to travel between Broome to Perth for all of the interviews and tests.

We also assist her with all the requirements for her boarding house and travel home to Broome on breaks. Layneisha is receiving additional Gumala support through our development programs, including our Computer Support program and Sport & Recreation program.

Layneisha's schooling achievements: She completed Years 1 to 7 at Broome Primary School and was the Year 7 Runner-up Dux for 2010. She received many academic achievement awards throughout her primary school years.

She applied for the PLC Indigenous Youth Leadership Scholarship, which is offered to only 4 applicants per year from Year 8 to Year 12. She was the first preference out of 40 applicants.

Details of the scholarship: The IYLP offers scholarships and leadership opportunities to young Indigenous Australians, with a focus on Indigenous youth from remote or regional communities. The IYLP gives



Indigenous young people the opportunity to study at high performing secondary schools or universities and benefit from practical leadership experiences, personal development and mentoring.

The program is funded by the Federal Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. PLC is a Partnership Broker for the IYLP in Western Australia.

What Layneisha's mum says about Layneisha: Lay and myself are very grateful for all the support from Gumala. She is committed and serious when it comes to her school grades.

As this is the first time she has been away from home she has found it hard, but is determined to continue her studies and complete Year 12.

What she does in her spare time: Layneisha loves to sing like her musician Grandmother Lorrae Coffin (Gumala Member, Nyiyapali language group) and she enjoys spending time with her friends and family. She is also a book-worm!

Gumala school kids rewarded with Cultural Trip to Europe

by Hannah Newnham

Six lucky Gumala children will be rewarded for their academic progress, community and school spirit and high attendance rates with an 18 day cultural trip through Europe as part of the Tom Price Senior High School 2011 'Europe Experience'.

The students, who have all managed to meet the strict eligibility criteria set by the school, have formed a 'Europe Club' with Gumala

Education Coordinator Hannah Newnham, who is helping them prepare physically, mentally and practically for their first International trip.

Hannah: "Many of these children haven't ever left the Pilbara, and are from remote communities such as Wakathuni or Bellary.

"This will really be a life changing experience for all of them, and will add to their life experience

and view of the world – and most importantly, showcase what the world has to offer them."

The students will visit France, Germany and Belgium, and will be investigating the history of Australia's involvement in both World Wars.

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation is assisting with sponsorship, and preparation of students leading up to the October trip.



From left: Geneva Hyland, Jaselle Tucker, Hasen Tucker, Brandon Cook, Leticia Jones. Not pictured: Rodderick Hughes. Image courtesy of Jasmine Harris, Project Coordinator at the Tom Price Enrichment Centre

Gumala welcomes aboard new permanent staff

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has the pleasure of welcoming two new permanent members of the Members' Service Unit (MSU) team – Samantha Way and Joanie Mummery.

Samantha and Joanie have both been employed as MSU Officers.

Their appointments are in line with Gumala's strategy to implement significant "capacity building" measures, in order to maximise the efficient and effective delivery of Members Services.

ADDITIONAL STAFF

In recent months Gumala has appointed additional new MSU staff members, including Karen O'Brien, Eleanor (Eli) Lukale and Debbie Eatwell.

In addition, Gina Leckie (Administrative Assistant) and Penny Body (Personal Assistant) have been appointed to bolster Gumala's administration and support services.



Clockwise from top left:

Samantha Way, Joanie Mummery, Karen O'Brien, Eli Lukale, Debbie Eatwell, Gina Leckie and Penny Body.



Keifer & Eugene Lyndon get a once in a lifetime learning experience

Two young Innawonga men, Keifer and Eugene Lyndon, have received Gumala Aboriginal Corporation assistance through our Education funding program to showcase Gumala talent an international stage.

The two Gumala Members are currently studying at the Michael Leslie Foundation for the Performing Arts, and Gumala provided financial assistance to fund their trip to the 23rd Annual International Association of Blacks in Dance conference in Los Angeles, California that took place in late January.

This was an unforgettable intercultural learning experience for Keifer and Eugene, enriching their future work in the performing arts. The two talented performers travelled with Indigenous choreographer Michael Leslie and an Indigenous mentoree assistant.

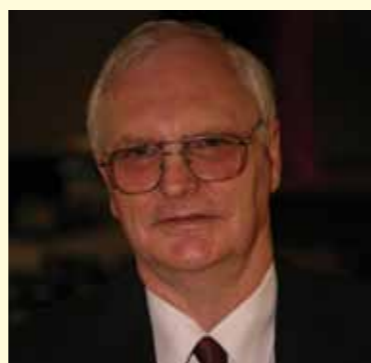
Gumala's funding assisted with airfares, accommodation, travelling allowance, passports and visa applications.

Keith Pearson joins Gumala in advisory capacity

Civil Engineer and Town Planner Keith Pearson has been recruited by Gumala Aboriginal Corporation on a consultancy basis to assist with Gumala's Housing Strategy.

Keith has more than 35 years experience in civil engineering and town planning. He was formerly the Deputy City Planner for the City of Melbourne, and, more recently, was Chief Executive Officer for the Shire of Ashburton.

In between those roles, he was a founding partner of a consultant engineering firm which specialised in providing advice to property developers, major retail chains, as well as state and local governments, in relation to residential and commercial



property developments.

Keith's area of particular expertise is obtaining regulatory approvals for a wide range of developments.

Of particular relevance has been his extensive involvement in the planning and approvals processes for major resource developments within the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

Two new Trainees appointed, as Gumala begins rolling out its 2011 Traineeship program

As part of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation – Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation strategic partnership under a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the two organisations, Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation has agreed to employ two Gumala Trainees, effective from March 2011.

The two new Trainees are Kieran Smirke (Innawonga language group) and Nathan Black (Banyjima language group).

Both Kieran and Nathan will be on Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's payroll but will be based at the offices of Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation. Gumala's Indigenous Mentor, Joyce Gust, will act as Kieran and Nathan's Indigenous Mentor.

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's 2011 Traineeship program is now in full swing, with plans to identify and employ several new Trainees this year.

See the Gumala Traineeships advertisement on pages 16 and 17 of this newsletter for further details.



Kieran Smirke (centre) and Nathan Black (right) pictured alongside Gumala's Indigenous Mentor Joyce Gust

Boxing glory for Jayden and Julian at the Australian National Championships – Olympics selection looms for Jayden

Talented boxing brothers Jayden Hansen and Julian Jeakings, who are sons of Gumala Member Paula White and her husband Ben, have been crowned silver medalists at the Australian National Championships that took place in Melbourne in early March.

Both making it all the way to the final and fighting off for gold medals, the two young champion boxers were both unlucky in having points decisions going against them against Victorian boxers.

At ages 18 and 12 respectively, Jayden and Julian fought boxers much older than them at the Australian National Championships. Jayden fought under the Elite Seniors division, while Julian fought under the Under 15s School Boys division.



Champion boxing brothers Jayden Hansen and Julian Jeakings

JAYDEN MOVES A STEP CLOSER TO OLYMPICS DREAM

Jayden is now very much in the mix to represent Australia in the 2012 Olympic Games in London. Finishing first or second at the Australian National Championships was considered to be critical step in the process to gaining 2012 Olympics selection. Success in further championships will secure his selection.

Their father Ben said he wished to thank Gumala with their on-going support of his boys' boxing careers. Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has supported Jayden and Julian with funding for travel and training expenses, including the Australian National Championships and the recent Australian Golden Gloves. Julian and Jayden both

won gold at the Australian Golden Gloves, which were held in Queensland late last year.

Gumala congratulates them for the great achievements and wishes them all the best as their careers further develop.

Visit www.gumala.com.au to find out about our Sport & Recreation program. This program is designed to assist the participation of our Members and their children in organised sporting and recreational activities. Contact our Members' Services Unit (MSU) on 1800 486 252 to see if your or your child's activity qualifies.



Gumala and Pilbara cousins hit the newspaper headlines

The following newspaper article featuring our Members' children appeared in a recent edition of The Post newspaper in Perth.

The girls pictured are (from left to right): Marika Parker, Year 8 and her sister Ivette (Louise) Parker, Year 10 (Father: Brendon Parker); Heidi Parker, Year 10 (Mother: Renira Parker, Father: Michael Thompson); and Peta Drummond, Year 8 (Mother: Carmel Parker).

Also featured in the article is Shania Hubert, Year 8, (Father: Kellviston Parker, Mother: Tomasina Hubert).

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has provided funding for the girls' schooling at St Hilda's and has assisted and coordinated the boarding arrangements.



Courtesy of Post Newspapers. Photo by Paul McGovern.

Heidi Parker (15) and her grandfather, Slim Parker from Karijini National Park in the Pilbara, have helped pave the way for four more girls in their family to enjoy blue ribbon educations in Perth.

Mr Parker is an Aboriginal elder and a member of the Gumala Aboriginal Corporation which has provided bursaries that have enabled the teenagers to live and study in Perth.

Heidi, who is from Tom Price, 1550km from Perth, started as a boarder at St Hilda's a year ago. She said it was tough going at the start being so far away from her family.

Life became much easier when she was joined a short time later by the first of her cousins, Louise Parker (14), also from Tom Price.

This year three more cousins, all starting Year 8, have joined them – Louise's sister Matika (12), Shania



Cousins swap Pilbara for St Hilda's

By HEIDI PARKER Heidi advised her cousins to make lots of friends and get into a lot of sport to keep their minds off home. "I got homesick a lot when I first came," she said. "I missed my mum and dad. I am an only child here when I first came. It's a lot better now – I have my four cousins and friends."

Parker (12) and Peta Drummond (13) from Onslow.

The new girls described boarding school as freaky and frightening and said the worst part of their new life was being away from their parents to just photographs for company.

They said the best part would be the shopping in the abundance of city shops – a stark contrast to the small towns in which they grew up.

The girls said they thanked their families for the opportunity of a better education.

Post Newspapers, February 5 2011

Heidi advised her cousins to make lots of friends and get into a lot of sport to keep their minds off home.

"I got homesick a lot when I first came," she said.

"I missed my mum and dad. I am an only child and I didn't have Louise here when I first came. It's a lot better now – I have my four cousins and friends."

Despite the comfort of company, she still finds it hard to figure out why people walk so fast in the city.

"They're always in a rush," she said. "I like to take my time."

Slim Parker grew up on Mulga Station, which was owned by Lang and Hope Hancock (nee Nicholas).

Coincidentally, the Nicholas family home in Mosman Park now houses St Hilda's administration centre for its boarders.

GUMALA TRAINEESHIPS NOW AVAILABLE!



Gumala Aboriginal Corporation wishes to advise all Members of the following Traineeship opportunities in 2011:

- Members' Services Unit (MSU)
- Reception / Administration
- Lore & Culture
- Gumala Radio
- Manager (Trainee)
- Gumala Contracting

These are permanent positions (Monday to Friday) based in Tom Price. The positions are available in 2011 for Members or their children. There may also be an opportunity for a Reception / Administration Trainee to work in our Perth office on a permanent basis after undertaking 3-4 months training in our Tom Price office.

Traineeship Requirements:

- Ability to work in a busy office environment
- Enthusiastic
- Ability to talk to a variety of people
- Able to handle stressful situations
- Some computer skills
- Common sense and strong initiative
- Willingness to learn new skills and do a variety of jobs
- Punctual



Additional requirements for the Trainee Manager position:

- Must be willing to undertake further study/tertiary
- Will work closely with and be mentored by the Chief Executive
- Potential to develop strong written, verbal and leadership skills
- Eager to learn and absorb the duties expected of a manager
- Dynamic personality and high energy levels



These trainee positions include shared accommodation in Tom Price. As a trainee with Gumala, you will be required to undertake study courses through TAFE in Tom Price which relate to the position.



INDIGENOUS LAND COUNCIL (ILC) TRAINEESHIPS

Gumala is also offering traineeships in partnership with the ILC, with opportunities to work in rural operations, agriculture, beef & cattle production and exciting tourism traineeships. Contact Hannah or Joyce at Gumala to find out more about this new opportunity.

A personal invitation from:

Steve Mav
Chief Executive
Gumala Aboriginal Corporation

How to apply for a Traineeship?

Please email your cover letter and resume to joyce.gust@gumala.com.au. Alternatively, mail your cover letter and resume to Gumala Aboriginal Corporation, Attention Joyce Gust, PO Box 61, Tom Price, WA 6751; or hand-deliver to Gumala Aboriginal Corporation, Attention Joyce Gust, 1 Stadium Rd, Tom Price. If you require more information regarding these opportunities, please speak to our Indigenous Mentor, Joyce Gust, by phone (Ph 1800 486 252) or in person (1 Stadium Rd, Tom Price).



1 Stadium Road
Tom Price
Western Australia
PO Box 61, Tom Price
Western Australia 6751
Ph 1800 486 252 (1800
GUMALA)
Fax (08)9188 1846
Email gac@gumala.com.au
www.gumala.com.au

Head office phone system upgrade successfully completed

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has completed a software upgrade to the phone system at our head office in Tom Price. The upgrade enables improved efficiencies in dealing with in-coming calls from Members. For

example, we can now place calls into separate Members' Services Unit (MSU) queues, by language group, which effectively reduces call waiting times for Members. The upgrade also means we can resource

reception and the MSU with greater efficiency. We can also obtain useful statistics, such as average in-coming call waiting times, so that we can implement further resourcing improvements where necessary.



Left: Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's Customer Service Team Leader Carol Nicholson and Receptionist Janice Garbutt, pictured in reception. The live call statistics are displayed on the monitor on the wall.

Going Going Gone – a poem by Naydene Mynnette Robinson

The following poem, titled "Going Going Gone", was penned by Gumala Member Naydene Mynnette Robinson. Her poem was inspired by and coincided with the 3rd Anniversary of 'The Apology' speech that was delivered by former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on February 12, 2008.

Country STRONG, Children STRONG, Culture STRONG, Identity STRONG.

Cheated, Mistreated, Abused, Confused, Refused.

Ridiculed, Segregated, Separated, Humiliated.

Country GONE, Children GONE, Culture GONE, Identity GONE.

Missionised, Baptised, Ostracised, Patronised, Victimised,

Misplaced, Disgraced, Belittled, Befriended, Behaved.

KNOW: Resilience is common place among our Mighty Race.

KNOW: Country is Ours, Children is Ours, Culture is Ours, Identity is Ours.

KNOW: Country in US, Children from US, Culture is US, Identity is US.

Slowly: Walk Behind, Wait Behind, Bide your time.

Children RETURN, Culture RETURN, Identity RETURN.

Never to Return COUNTRY, GOING, Going, gone.



In Profile Nicholas Wortham

Gumala Member Nicholas (Nick) Wortham is proud about his recently discovered Pilbara roots.

Nick was born in Perth where he was adopted and raised by his adoptive family.

Nick had grown up knowing he was Aboriginal, but had no idea where his biological family was from. As Nick's young daughter (Rachael) grew older, he wanted to be able to answer her questions about his heritage.

So in 2003 Nick embarked on a journey of self-discovery in order to answer these questions, not only for himself, but also his daughter.

Nick: "When I started the search for my family, I was surprised at how quickly it took me to find my Dad. I was 25 years old when I found him. Now I know where I'm from."

"That's why I only recently became a Gumala member. Since finding out where I was from and who my family are, I have been able to re-

connect and get to know the family quite well. It's been a life changing experience.

"I wasn't sure what to expect, but my family have been really accepting of me. I was also very lucky in that I got to spend a lot of quality time with my Dad before he passed away last year."

Nick attended Curtin University in Perth for 3 years, and in 2008 completed a Bachelor of Social Science with a double major in Anthropology and History. In the future Nick is also hoping to go onto Postgraduate studies.

Prior to commencing his studies, Nick also held various jobs including: Indigenous Student Support Officer, Student Services Officer, Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ATAS) Support Officer, Student Services Assistant, Student Support Administration Officer, Student Systems Enrolment Officer and ATAS Officer.



Having completed his Anthropology degree, Nick is now keen to find some form of employment in the areas of Native Title and Cultural Heritage.

Nick: "While I was studying, I gained a real interest in the areas of Native Title and Cultural Heritage."

"With all the mining going on in the Pilbara, both currently and in the future, I would like to work and contribute towards the detection and protection of Aboriginal sites of heritage and cultural significance."

Well done to young Harrison!

Below is an email letter of thanks from Harry and Karen White

My husband Harry White and I would like to thank Gumala for their support of our Harrison White who has been selected for the 2010/2011 Kalamunda Rangers State Under 9s Inter-district Team.

Gumala has supported Harrison with his equipment and fees. White's Transport (WA) is our company and we are the Team Sponsor. Harrison began playing tee-ball with the Drillwest Rockets in 2009 and this is the first year he tried out for the State Team.

He loves playing the game and always tries to hit a "home" run. Attached are some photos. Harrison is in the back row, far right, of the team photo.

Kind Regards, Harry & Karen White.



Tadam's Gumala Radio update

Thunurrdu! Hello listeners, Hope everyone had a safe Xmas and is having a good year so far.

A bit of an update on the radio – There's a little change to the sound as we have "Voice of America" News and a Jazz Hour in our programming.

Other changes include: Weekly News from NIRS, and Newline Radio episodes, which we are rotating, so there may be repeats from previous years.

We did a successful "Ad campaign" for DCS in February. We still have issues with our new software playout system, which our "Techy" Mike Ryan and I are working on. Our annual maintenance trip is due in March, so if anyone has issues, please let us know.

Hopefully we'll have Peedumulla back receiving the service. Ngarda Radio are starting to get back from their break and broadcasting again, so listen out.

We are aiming to have something from Wangka Maya soon, as well as collaborating with Hedland's community radio on languages. So, effectively we could broadcast into Hedland and vice versa.

I'll be getting out to Waka for the kids to do their shows this month.

If there's an event you would like me to cover, let me know. Hopefully I'll also get out to other communities soon.

That's it for now. Looking forward to hearing from you. Regards, Tadam.



Gumala Radio Broadcaster John 'Tadam' Lockyer



Gumala footnote: As Gumala News was going to press, we learned of the passing of Tadam's father. Everyone at Gumala sends their condolences to Tadam and his family on their sad loss.

Your 'thank you' messages are appreciated!

Everyone at Gumala always appreciates our Members' messages of thanks. Gladys McEwan's recent message to us is typical. Gladys phoned the Members' Services Unit to thank everyone for the Birthday Card she had received from Gumala. Sometimes it's the little "thank you" messages that really make our day...

How to contact Gumala News

Phone Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's Communications Officer Peter Caruso on (08) 9361 0522. Peter will call you back to pay for the call. Or you can email him: peter.caruso@gumala.com.au

Gumala Radio draws fans from afar!

Annette Geerling from Victory Downs Station writes:

"In appreciation of your radio show as we live on Victory Downs Station, in the Northern Territory, on the border with South Australia.

The music selections are magnificent. I recommend others to tune in and thought I would send this note of thanks for your 'consideration, choice and support for us in the bush'. The song about 'the big rain coming' really touched me.

Congratulations and a big thank you. Yours 'in the bush'. Annette Geerling, Victory Downs Station.



GUMALA
Aboriginal
Corporation
ICN 2744

Address: 1 Stadium Road
Tom Price, Western Australia

Postal Address: PO Box 61
Tom Price
Western Australia 6751

Phone: 1800 486252
(1800 GUMALA)

Fax: (08) 9188 1846
Email: gac@gumala.com.au
Website: www.gumala.com.au