



Noongar Boodjar Waangkiny News Letter

Noongar Boodjar Language, Cultural Aboriginal Corporation
Keeping Noongar Language Alive

In this issue

Staff Member Profile

Project Updates

Visual Activity
Language Lesson

New Stories

Word Find Activity

MANAGER'S REPORT

Noongar Boodjar Language Centre is Open for Business!

Welcome to the very first Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation's (NBLCAC) newsletter!

The NBLCAC Board of Directors are very pleased to announce that the Noongar Language Centre was established in Bunbury in November 2015 and the doors are opened for business on Monday 16th of November. The language centre's new office is located in the heart of Bunbury.

The NBLCAC Board established the Noongar Language Centre to work on the preservation, analysis and databasing of the Noongar language and production of preservation documents such as dictionaries and grammars for the language and each dialect. The language centre will also produce teaching and learning resources as well as run language learning classes, teacher training and cultural competencies training.

The Noongar Language Centre is YOUR language centre. It's a place where Noongar people can go to record and preserve the language as well as a place to find resources and services that will enable people to use and learn the language.

Funding for the language work has come from the Commonwealth Government under the Indigenous Language Support program. NBLCAC was awarded four years funding which will enable much work to be done on the preservation and development of resources for use of the language.

A number of Noongar Elders were the visionaries for the development of this language centre. Sadly, many of them passed away before they got to see the language centre open. We would like to pay tribute to those Elders who were determined to see their language preserved and passed down for all Noongar children to learn and enjoy. Their guidance continues as the language centre focuses on achieving their vision by ensuring the language is preserved, used and taught as widely as possible.

Whilst the process for appointing permanent staff for the language centre is undertaken, the Board has contracted 3 people to establish the centre and develop the roles. Denise Smith-Ali is A/Linguist, Charmaine Councillor is A/Education Officer and Sue Hanson is A/Manager.

Many thanks to all the current and past Board members for your hard work in the development of the language centre.

The Noongar Language Centre would like to hear from any Noongar speakers who are interested in recording their stories or words for inclusion in the Noongar dictionary.

Sue Hanson
Acting Manager



Denise Smith-Ali

Noongar Language Centre Official Opening

The NLC will be officially opened on Thursday 28th of January 2016, 6.30pm. Everyone is invited to attend the opening and celebrate the development of the service. Go to the NBLCAC website for updates on the opening www.noongarboodjar.com.au



Gloria Dann -Board Director

‘Language is for everyone’, This has been Gloria Dann’s motto during her long and distinguished career in Noongar language work.

Gloria (Nora) Dann, a Balardong, Wardandi woman, is an Elder of the Noongar community in Bunbury and has been instrumental in initiating and developing Noongar language activities over the past 20 years. She started her language work in 1995 as an Aboriginal Education Officer at Djidi Djidi Aboriginal School Bunbury.

Gloria began her journey into reviving and learning the Noongar language by achieving a LOTE qualification, enabling her to teach primary school children within a school setting. She was one of first language participants to achieve a Noongar Language Certificate in Aboriginal languages 1998.

Gloria was known as Nanna Nora and taught Noongar language every week at Djidi Djidi. Nana Nora had a huge impact on the Noongar children that she taught over the many years at Djidi Djidi and still holds a special place in the hearts and minds of her former students. All her efforts to revive and save our language did not go unnoticed as she went onto receive the 1998 Aboriginal Education Award of Excellence, acknowledging her as an outstanding Aboriginal educator.

Gloria’s status as a language specialist grew and she began to receive other accolades not only within the Noongar community but also all over the south-west. Gloria is a recognised Noongar Elder and has been involved in many community projects taking the roles of mentor, Noongar community advisor and role model to many including encouraging other language trainees to become language teachers. Today Gloria continues her language work as an active member of the Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation established in 2014.



Linguist: Noongar Language Database

The team is focusing on developing a strong database representing all the Clans of the Noongar Nation. Within that database there will be a focus on 3 existing dialects that are evident today; the Northern, the Great Southern and the Eastern.

All entries are to be analysed recorded and entered in a special linguistic database known as Toolbox.

Noongar Language Archives

NBLCAC is establishing a Noongar Language Archive, which houses copies of all material related to the Noongar language. This archive is being developed to support the work of the Noongar Language Centre in the documentation and study of the language. The archive will ensure that the language material is stored in a safe way preserving it for the future generations.

If you have any material about the Noongar language please contact us to talk about depositing it in the Noongar archives.

Linguist Field Trip

Denise Smith-Ali is our Noongar Linguist who has undertaken the amazing task to visit all the clans within the Noongar nation over the next 6 months. Her aim is to seek out any speakers of the Noongar language and to provide those speakers the opportunity to preserve, document and hopefully revive their dialect for the next generation of speakers.

Denise’s first trip was to Mukinbudin along with Gloria Dann (Auntie Nora) to accompany her. The pair met community members of the Noongar Kaalamaya clan. Auntie Nora said ‘The response was good, it was good to see that people are wanting to learn and are seeking support for their communities.’

Denise will be visiting as many towns as possible over the next 6 months to locate people who wish to work on the recording and preservation of their language. She would love to hear from anyone who knows of language speakers who may like to work on language documentation with her.

Noongar Learning Resources and Training

The centre provides a range of learning and training packages ranging from cultural competency training through to a basic Noongar language course.

Charmaine Councillor will be presenting 3 workshops during 2016, ‘Basic Noongar Language Learning’, ‘Cultural Competencies Training’ and ‘Introduction to Noongar Language for Teachers’.

With these various projects, the Noongar Language Centre’s aim is to engage, inform, educate and promote Noongar language as a living and breathing voice encompassing all clans of the Noongar nation and together we can ensure the Noongar language remains alive and is well documented.

For information on the courses including the dates they will be running, check out our website at www.noongarboojar.com.au





Establishment of the Language Centre

"I too would like to see Noongar language spoken fluently right across Noongar boodjar.... and for our children to learn and continue with revival of our language."

Brett Hill, NBLCAC Director



Board of Directors



Killara Bennell placing signage on door



Front door sign - foyer



Inside foyer



Shelf resources



Yok!
Naatj noonook
djinanginy?

Ngany yooro
djinanginy!



yooro





Yok!
Naatj noonook
djinanginy?

Ngany karda
djinanginy!



karda



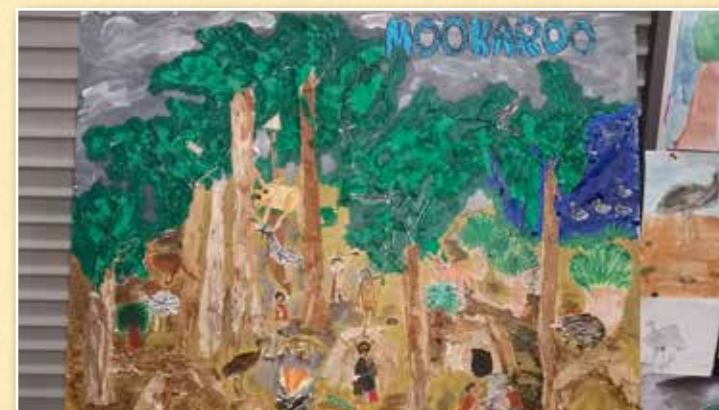


On the 5th Nov Charmaine Councillor was invited to conduct an Acknowledgement to Country in Noongar language for the opening of the new Bunbury Regional Trade Training Centre, Manea Senior College campus.

Glen Huon Primary School Eaton invited Education Officer Charmaine Councillor to present a week's workshop at their NAIDOC celebrations.

The theme chosen was about 'Bonar' (Noongar Seasons). In collaboration with the art teacher,

Charmaine was able to provide information about the seasons, and the Noongar names. Each class worked on a series of art works that depicted the diversity of the 6 Noongar seasons in Noongar country. Each piece displayed something unique about each season. During the workshops the children also wrote their own version of a season song and presented it and their artworks to family and friends at their gathering.





Word Find Activity

Noongar Waangkiny Wardiny Clans

(Find the Noongar clans)



AMANGOO
BALARDONG
BIBELMEN
KALAMAYA
KANIYANG
KORENG
MINANG
NGADJINGADJI
NYOONGAR
PINDJARAP
WADJAK
WADJARI
WARDANDI
WILMAN
YOOWAT

Partnerships and Fee-for-Service Activities

The **Noongar Language Centre (NLC)** welcomes opportunities to work in partnership with organisations and people on activities that use, record or preserve the Noongar language.

The NLC also provides services on a fee-for-service bases such as translating and interpreting, cultural competencies training, Noongar language learning, development of educational and training programs, cultural mapping and cultural heritage. If you have a need, contact the Manager, Sue Hanson, to discuss the ways we can work together.

If you would like to share a story of what's happening in your Clan or community please drop a line to Editor Charmaine Councillor education@nbalc.org

For Further Information:

Manager: Sue Hanson
manager@nbalc.org.au

Linguist: Denise Smith –Ali
linguist@nbalc.org.au

Education Officer: Charmaine Councillor
education@nbalc.org.au

Website
www.noongarbodjar.com.au

Noongar Language Centre
Unit 3, 14 Ommanney St, Bunbury 6230
Phone **(08) 9791 2224**