

Martu are the traditional owners of the Martu native title determination spanning 13.6 million hectares, an area about twice the size of Tasmania. The determination includes parts of the Great Sandy, Little Sandy and Gibson Deserts, collectively referred to as the Western Desert. Martu country is rich in cultural heritage and environmental value both for the Martu and the wider community. Fifteen fauna and twentynine flora species of international, national or state significance can be found on Martu country.

Many Martu were born and became adults in the desert, living a traditional life without the knowledge of the whitefella (Western) world with many coming in from a completely traditional desert life in the 1950s and 1960s. This group are known as *pujiman*.

Martu *pujiman* hold a vast amount of social, cultural, spiritual and environmental knowledge and a rich language unique to the Western Desert. This knowledge assists Martu in maintaining the connection to country, cultural identity and social stability.

Martu now mainly live in the remote communities of Jigalong, Parnngurr, Punmu and Kunawarritji as well as the neighbouring towns of Newman, Port Hedland and Wiluna. People who identify as Martu are also located in several Kimberley communities, particularly Bidyadanga and communities south of Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek.





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Kalyuku Ninti – Puntuku Ngurra Limited trading as Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa 18 Panizza Way, Newman, WA 6753 | PO Box 504 Newman, WA 6753 admin@kj.org.au | www.kj.org.au | (08) 9129 5100 ABN: 73 136 673 893 Martulu ngapilu Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa. Martu-ya wangkangu warrkamurriku-la. Martu-ya yumu-ya parrayanu warrkamparni. Kanyirninpa jukurrpangkakurrungu warrkamu-ya manu, warnku-ya manu, ninti-ya manu, nantirrarringuya. Kurrurnpa palyarringu nantirrarringu.

Muuki Taylor, OAM

Martu created Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa. Martu said what work it should do. Martu were walking around with not much work in the communities. Some went to work with Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa. They got work, they got good money, they got knowledge, they got strong. The feeling inside, their spirit, is happy and strong.



# OUR YISION

Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa (KJ) is a Martu organisation established in 2005 to work with Martu to build strong, sustainable communities. Our vision is to:

- support Martu to look after culture and country;
- build a viable economy in Martu communities and
- build pathways for young Martu to a healthy future.

To achieve these objectives, we deliver an integrated suite of programs that provide significant social, cultural and economic benefits to Martu. All our programs are based on Martu culture and priorities and aspirations to go back to country, teach young people about their culture, and look after country. By looking after culture, KJ assists Martu to retain a strong Martu identity, social stability and resilience to face the increasing social and development pressures.



# OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES



#### WALYJA

Family – people working together and identifying personally with this work as one would with family.



### **MINYIRRPA**

Being serious – taking matters seriously, 'not playing games' and being 'real about it'.



### **KUJUNGKA**

Partnership – Martu and non-Martu working together as equals, with complementary skills and knowledge.



### **YIWARRA**

Building – creating the future that Martu people want, that strengthens Martu society and engages confidently and effectively with mainstream society.



### **NGAPARRJI-NGAPARRJI**

Respect – Martu and non-Martu can work strongly together if they respect each other and act with respect towards each other.



### **YILTANYJU**

Honesty – talking to and dealing straight with each other, government and others.



### **WARRKAMU**

Participation – by building a culture of participation in Martu communities, individual Martu will be supported and strengthened.



#### **NYAKUMA NINTIRRI**

Reflection – combining action with reflection, to learn as we go.





Muuki Taylor, OAM

# MESSAGE FROM OVR SENIOR CULTURAL APVISOR AND CO-PATRON



Muuki was born in 1945 at Wayinkurungu, a soak on the side of the Percival Lakes. His family walked across the entire Great Sandy Desert, north to Joanna Springs and south to Parnngurr. Muuki was brought into Jigalong mission in 1965 and returned to the desert in 1980. He now lives in Parnngurr. Muuki is a senior law man with encyclopedic knowledge of Martu law, songs and customs, waterholes and Martu walking tracks, flora and fauna of the desert and Martu family histories.

He, along with Peter Johnson and Sue Davenport, founded Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa. He was the chairman of the KJ board for many years. Muuki works as the senior cultural advisor and is a co-patron for KJ, providing invaluable cultural advice and guidance. In 2020 Muuki was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to Martu.



Wuulpipul-ya wangkajunu kujungka wangkangka nyinaraku palutinkurnungka ngurrangka. Kuju wangka – one voice. Palyangkalaju nyinaraku. Wuulpipulmili kalyu. Kujungka wangkangka.

Ngurra nyakuranku yarnngalu. Ngurralu-ya yarnngalu junu wangka. Wangkangu-ya Yantikujingka wangkangka-ya kujungka junu.

Jijilu-ya malajanulu ngurra kalyulurrju nyakuran. Kapalimili, jamumili ngurra nyakuranpa. Palyulu-ya.

Nintilku-lajujananya jurnku malajanungka-ya nyakuranpa. Jiji malajanungka-yajananya nintirlkuranpa. Palunyaku-lajujananya nintirni. Ngurra walyja. Jijimalangkajalu nyakuran wulungulyu. Palunyaku-lajujananya ngurra walyja nintirnin.

Ngayunpa-laju wuulpipul wiyarrinangka. Ngaa-lajujanampa wangkajunimpa. Jiji kuululukangkalurrju nintirni.

The old people talked together about all Martu country. One voice. We need to be strong together, like them. The old people looked after the waterholes. They spoke with one voice.

Everybody looked after the country. Everybody came along and said this was the right way. They talked together in Yantikuji about this.

The children must continue to look after the country and the waterholes. They are seeing and knowing their grandmothers' and grandfathers' country. This will be good.

We will teach the children, so that they can look after the country. They will need to teach their children. They will be able to teach their grandchildren about their country – our own country. Children will see and know their country forever. They will know their own country.

Our old people are all gone now. My words are for the children. The country is the right school for the children.









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# MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-PATRON

Fred Chaney, AO



This has been another big and successful year for Martu and KJ. Even though Covid has continued to make things more complicated and difficult KJ has got on with the business of building better lives for Martu.

This year Martu have made it clear what they want for themselves and their futures. Looking after old people, looking after families, working and living together are all important as well as finding ways to improve their lives through two way learning and getting back to community. KJ completed a 10 year evaluation which was an important thing to do because knowing what you want KJ to do means KJ will continue to serve all Martu.

A lot has been done in a year with increased employment in the homeland communities, important work with Boola Bardip WA Museum showing Martu people and culture to the wider community, trips on country and mapping important water holes, training and ranger work. I am very pleased that KJ has received three year funding from the Australian Government for a Women's Leadership program that will work on governance, family violence and dealing with financial literacy. Alongside the work with the prisons and courts KJ will continue to help get people out of lock up and back to community.

There are some exciting times ahead as Martu celebrate 15 years of working together in KJ. I congratulate elders, all Martu, and the staff for their great work. I am proud of what you do and see the continued support you get from sponsors including BHP as a sign that others also appreciate the great work KJ does.

Mr Fred Chaney was appointed as Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1997 "for service to the Parliament of Australia and to the Aboriginal community through his contribution to the establishment of the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia and mediating with the National Native Title Tribunal". Fred held ministerial posts in the Australian Government, including as Minister for Indigenous Affairs. Fred was appointed KJ's co-patron in 2016. He has a deep respect for Martu people.



#### TRADITIONAL OUTCOMES

# MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD

It has been another busy year for KJ. As a company we are growing larger with lots of new programs starting. KJ is providing lots of work and opportunities to visit the country for Martu in every community. We are very proud of KJ and the work it does.

As a board we met four times over the past 12 months in the remote communities and in Newman. Our elders and cultural advisors helped us and together we look after the company, make sure money is being used the right way and keep KJ working towards delivering what KJ members and communities want.

We thank our elders for supporting us and we are looking forward to celebrating all of them at a special event in October later this year.

At the end of 2020, KJ engaged Social Ventures Australia (SVA) to undertake a process for Martu to define what is important to us – the outcomes we want to work towards for a strong future. Eleven outcomes were decided. These are listed opposite.

NGURRA

1. Looking after and caring

for country



WANGKA

2. Keeping language strong



**NINTI** 

3. Learning from and respecting old people



WALYJA

4. Looking after kids and family



KUJUNGKARRINI

5. Unity and harmony between Martu

### **MODERN OUTCOMES**



STRONG COMMUNITIES

6. Making community strong with a high standard of living



**CONFIDENCE** 

7. Building confidence through two-way learning



BACK TO COMMUNITY

8. Getting people out of town, out of 'lock up' (prison) and back to community/country



**RESPECT** 

9. Better respect and relationship with 'whitefellas'



**WORK** 

10. Work and training



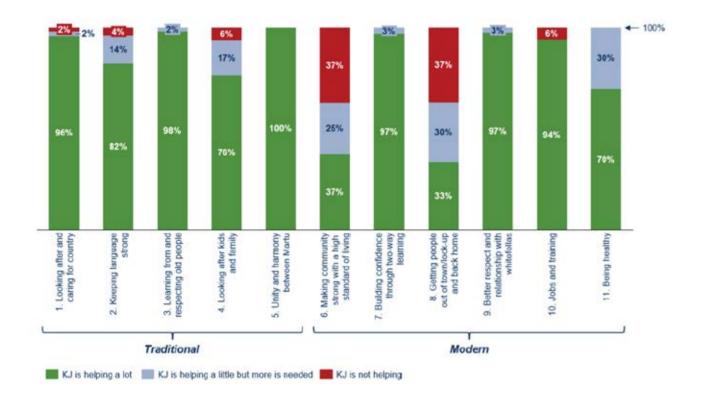
**HEALTH** 

11. Being healthy



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### **2020-21 KJ Board**





SVA and some Martu Leadership participants visited every community to talk to Martu and ask them to look back over the past ten years and measure KJ against these outcomes. Overall, Martu said KJ was doing well in nearly all areas and identified areas where we need to do more.

With the new diversionary program, transport program and prison program, KJ will begin to help more Martu get out of town and lock up and back home to their communities where they can work and be happy and healthy. KJ will also continue to work with WDLAC (the prescribed body corporate), other agencies, and communities to talk to governments about improving our communities' infrastructure, particularly our housing.

The board reviewed the SVA report at our last meeting and decided it was important to add one more outcome – safety. This outcome includes workplace safety, women's safety, children's safety, support for Martu, support for non-Martu staff and cultural safety. The board believe KJ is doing well in most safety areas but there is still room for improvement.

We will undertake consultations with Martu every two to three years to keep checking with Martu that they feel KJ's work is helping Martu to achieve these 12 outcomes. A copy of the evaluation report is on our website (kj.org.au/our-impact).

We want to take this opportunity to thank funders and partners for their continued support of KJ and staff for their hard work over the past twelve months.



Virginia Booth

Newman representative



**Terry Sailor**Newman representative



**Landy Jeffries**Jigalong representative



Maria Lane
Jigalong representative



Clifton Girgiba
Parnngurr representative



**Neville Taylor**Parnngurr representative



**Dwayne Dunn**Punmu representative



Charleston Miller
Punmu representative



**Christopher James** Kunawarritji representative



**Vacant** Kunawarritji representative



Andrew Minyardie
Diaspora representative



Randall Bullen
Diaspora representative



Muuki Taylor Senior Cultural Advisor



**Peter Johnson**Non-voting Advisory Director



**Sue Davenport**Non-voting Advisory Director



Alice Barter-Lapworth Non-voting Advisory Director

**Cultural Advisors to the Board:** Waka Taylor, Gladys Bidu, Ngamaru Bidu, Joshua Booth, Mark Jeffries, Thelma Judson, Marianne Larry, Yikartu Bumba, Kumpaya Girgiba.

**Alternate Directors:** Luke Frank, Anthony Gibbs, Gavin Nanudie, Lionel Judson, Peter Kendrick, Richard Taylor.

# MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGERS



**Gerald Keyer** 



**Tristan Cole** 



Zan King

The 2020-2021 financial year has been another remarkable one. KJ continues to provide employment and activities on country and in communities. KJ engaged 447 Martu during the past twelve month paying \$2.78m in wages. Martu women make up 50% of the workforce.

Throughout the past twelve months Martu continue to share their ninti (knowledge) of country and culture with each new generation of Martu. Three helicopter trips targeting high priority areas occurred, resulting in 24 waterholes being re-found – seven of those being yinta (permanent sacred waterholes). Another trip was also made for elder Kumpaya Girgiba during a joint camp at Nyinmi with the Kiwirrkurra IPA and Warlayirti Artists from Balgo. Kumpaya and family were able to visit a highly significant waterhole, Nyila, and found another water source along the way. All of these sites have been uploaded to the KJ waterhole mapping data base and the ranger teams will continue to work with the elders to access the sites, where possible, by vehicle.

Sixty-four Martu visited their parents and grandparents' country around the important rainmaking places of Wirnpa and Kirriwiri in the remote Percival Lakes area. The trip, over eight days, brought family together from Punmu, Parnngurr and Kunawarritji communities as well as Newman, Hedland, Yandeyarra and Bidyadanga. This trip was in very high demand as the last time Wirnpa was visited by car was more than 11 years ago. Elders and brothers Muuki and Waka Taylor and Merridoo Walbidi were able to come together to tell stories and teach Martu about their connection to country and to each other.

Martu continue to look after country with the use of fire. Aerial and ground burning activities were undertaken resulting in a total of nearly 19,000 hectares being actively managed.

Nineteen rangers undertook training to become qualified incendiary machine operators. Well done rangers!

A traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) fire camp with the Parnngurr ranger team took place in April 2021. The camp included workshops with elders to share their traditional knowledge





of making and using fire. Martumili Artists supported the camp, which enabled Martu to create paintings depicting traditional ecological and cultural knowledge. Each day started with an activity reviewing key Martu language terms. Traditional language continues to become increasingly central to all Martu TEK activities. KJ is consistently trialing new techniques to integrate traditional language within all KJ activities.

Martu also continue to drive several new initiatives within the Social Program area including the Wama Wangka, Prison Program, Getting Back Home, Kids on Country, Staying at Home and the Newman Feedback Group.

Martu facilitated 20 Wama Wangka workshops and short camps on Martu country. The program is growing significant momentum engaging more Martu from every community including Newman. With additional funding Martu now visit Roebourne Regional Prison every month to deliver workshops and discuss alternative life pathways for Martu about to be released. Kids on Country is a new pilot program for youth in Newman and Jigalong who may not be attending school and might be getting into trouble. Martu adults take groups of young people out on country for day trips or longer camps.

The program is becoming very popular and the participants have several ideas of where they would like to see the program go.

The Getting Back Home program enables Martu to be transported from Newman to their remote communities and the Staying at Home Program assists Martu to undertake transactions in community without having to travel to a town.

The Newman Martu Feedback group meet with the local police on a fortnightly basis. These regular meetings are working towards building strong engagement and close cooperation on a range of strategies involving children, particularly those related to sniffing, crime and safety.

Since 2009, KJ has grown substantially – in the breadth of its programs; in the extent of Martu participation; in the revenue that it has delivered through wages to Martu and Martu communities; and in its delivery of Martu aspirations.

As noted in the board's message, KJ commissioned Social Ventures Australia (SVA) to consult with Martu and undertake an evaluation of KJ. SVA together with Martu identified a distinctively Martu set of criteria or outcomes that they believed were the most significant for them. These outcomes were then evaluated to assess KJ's ten-year performance. The final report available on our website (kj.org.au/our-impact) shows Martu believe KJ is performing well in most of the outcomes. We believe this evaluation is a significant step in Indigenous program and organisational evaluation and would like to thank The Lionel and Yvonne Spencer Trust, The Brian J Sutton Charitable Trust and BHP for their support in enabling this project to occur.

It has been an honour for the three general managers to work with the KJ board once again this year. It is great to see how strong you are as a Board; how you are determined to ensure KJ does what Martu want it to do; and that funding is spent the right way. We would like to thank all staff and Martu for another amazing year. Thank you to our partners and funders who continue to support KJ to achieve these important outcomes for Martu.



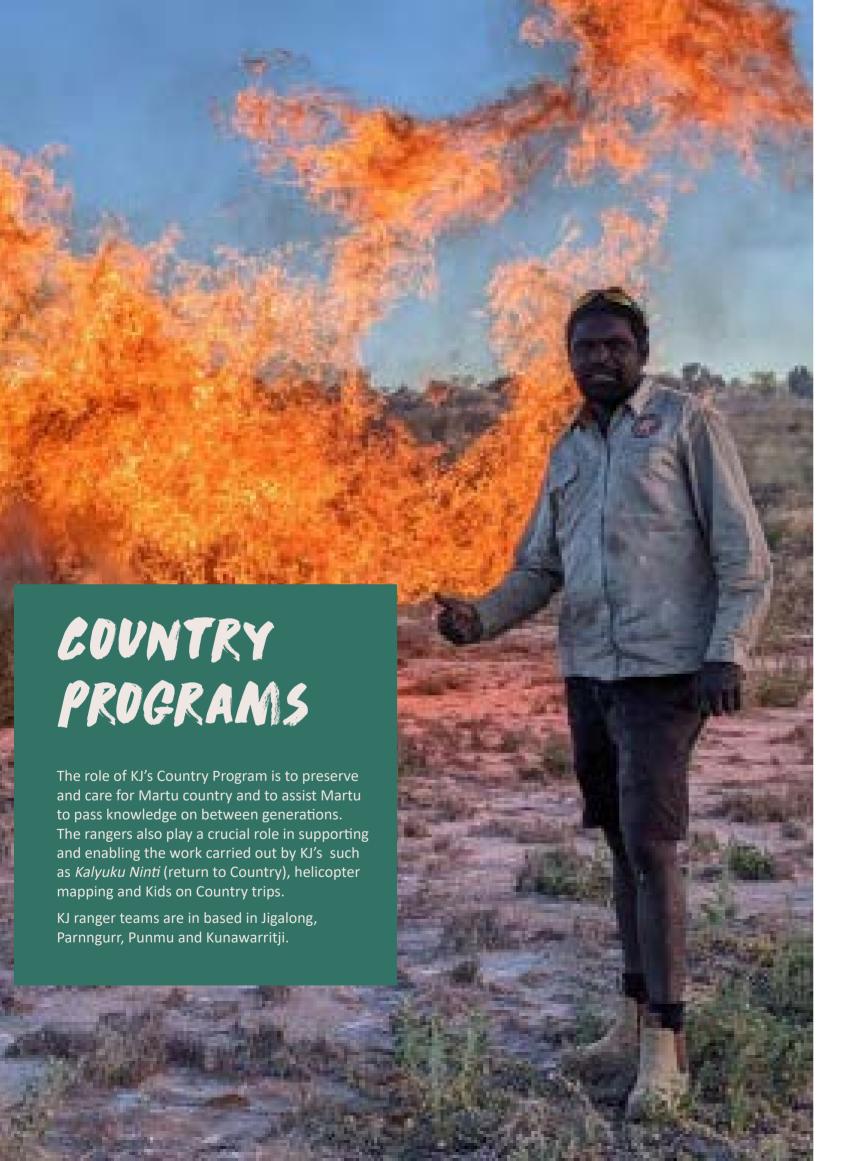
447 **MARTU EMPLOYED** 



**50**% **WOMEN EMPLOYEES** 



\$2.78M **PAID IN MARTU WAGES** 





"It's good to use the helicopter but we still burn Martu-way, nyurnma (fire scar) to nyurnma"

Dean Brooks, Martu ranger and IMO

### Fire

KJ's fire management program includes ground burning and extensive aerial burning in remote country. The use of mosaic burning patterns and resulting patchwork of fire scars and vegetation regrowth help to prevent destructive summer wildfires and sustain the biodiversity of the desert.

During the annual burning season Martu rangers are guided by pujiman (desert born Martu) and supported by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' fire officers. Together they undertake strategic ground burning to protect cultural sites, threatened species habitats and Martu communities. Nearly 19,000 hectares was actively managed by aerial and ground burning activities undertaken by the rangers.

Nineteen rangers undertook training to become qualified incendiary machine operators. The aerial burning links existing fire scars to break up continuous older growth spinifex into smaller patches.





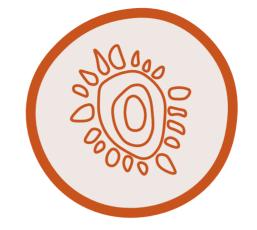


A traditional ecological knowledge camp focusing on fire was held in 2021. Hosted by the Parnngurr rangers, the camp bought together four generations of Martu to learn *pujiman* fire skills.

Collaborative partners Martumili Artists jointed the camp which provided an opportunity for younger rangers and artists to learn the fire expertise of their elders. Over three days the camp focused on revitalising fire-related language, teaching traditional fire toolmaking and learning the knowledge needed to implement "right way" fire in the landscape.

Field trips saw the elders guiding burning and explaining the stages of regrowth that occurs afterwards. At the camp artists painted while children attempted to make fire using 'bush matches', the *pujiman* fire-making tools.

Information learnt during the camp will inform ranger work going forward. Martumili Artists intend to feature paintings made during the camp and inspired afterwards in an exhibition in Newman.



### Yintakaja (waterholes)

Throughout the year rangers conducted visits to waterholes and other culturally significant sites that had been identified during aerial mapping. The rangers assessed and recorded the condition of each site, its access tracks and undertook cultural activities such as recording stories and cleaning the waterholes. A total of 90 ranger days have been spent on cleaning out water holes including Karimarra Bore, Yukuri, Jawalirli, Mungakurlu, Jijipukujarra, Tuutuu, Jila, Wilara, Wankarr, Paji and Yilyara.











### **Teaching the younger generations**

KJ's ranger teams have engaged in activities, trips and camps with both school age and younger children involved in the Families Program. These activities aim to assist families getting out on country and continuing the transfer of knowledge between generations.

A high school ranger program is delivered in Punmu, Kunawarritji and Parnngurr, with record school attendance being recorded when the program is delivered. Students participate in a range of activities such as threatened species monitoring, bush medicine collection and preparation, cleaning of waterholes and recording of oral histories.









# Threatened species

Martu country provides one of the last wild havens for some of Australia's highly threatened desert species. The ranger teams work together with scientists and environmental consultants to coordinate and manage the monitoring and preservation of threatened species such as bilbies, great desert skinks and the night parrot.







The Punmu rangers and Families Program participants hosted a threatened species camp in 2021. Over 26 people came together including a visiting ranger team from Kiwirrkurra to share information on the endangered *Mulyamiji*, conduct surveys using Indigenous expert knowledge and a monitoring method designed by ecologist, Rachel Paltridge.

Each group provided an update on their monitoring of *mulyamiji* in their communities. Parnngurr rangers reported they recently found a healthy population and the Kunawarritji rangers explained how they will begin to search for any sign of *mulyamiji* by revisiting sites where they occurred back in *pujiman* times and using fire satellite imagery to located potential habitat. Punmu rangers reported they lost some burrows after fires in 2018 however during recent surveys found a few new sites.

The outcome from this monitoring provides further evidence of the detrimental impacts of fire on *mulyamiji* and reiterates the critical importance of including a fire management strategy and respecting Indigenous priorities, aspirations and culture within monitoring programs.



All KJ ranger teams continue to monitor and manage *mankarr* populations. This year the Jigalong rangers and Punmu rangers have engaged with caregivers and young children involved in the Families Program. Everyone is shown how to complete *mankarr* surveys. During the surveys rangers have reported new burrows and scats being found in places that the teams had not previously visited.



















The Parnngurr and Jigalong rangers continue to work closely with Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions to monitor and manage *pakulyarra* populations on Martu country. Predator monitoring and baiting for cats is ongoing and recent surveys by the Parnngurr team have identified a previously unrecorded population.

The Jigalong rangers continue to successfully manage fire to protect Pinpi (Durba Hills) and Kaalpi (Calvert Range) - two important desert refugia for the species. One new population of *pakulyarra* has been discovered by the Jigalong team.





Ngaartijirti (Night parrot)

Punmu rangers confirmed the presence of *ngaartijirti* on Martu Country in 2020. Experts from the University of Queensland have been assisting the search and, to the rangers' delight, the hard work has finally paid off! "I feel really good to have found that Night Parrot, we were lucky to put that sound recorder in the right spot," said Martu ranger Gavin Nanudie.

It is the fifth confirmed location of the Night Parrot in Western Australia, adding to a growing body of knowledge regarding their ecology in the region. Four of the five records are associated with salt lake systems that offer protection from large fires and provide important feeding and roosting areas for the critically endangered species. The ranger team continues to work hard to identify further populations and locate roosting sites. Sound recorders have been installed in suitable habitat narrowing down the search.









Part of protecting endangered species is the management and monitoring of feral animals such as camels and cats. The rangers work alongside Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions staff with implementation of agreed feral animal management strategies.



### **Training**

The ranger program seeks to provide opportunities for rangers and other community members to participate in various education, training and development opportunities. This year members from all ranger teams participated in a variety of training courses including firearms training and incendiary machine operator training.

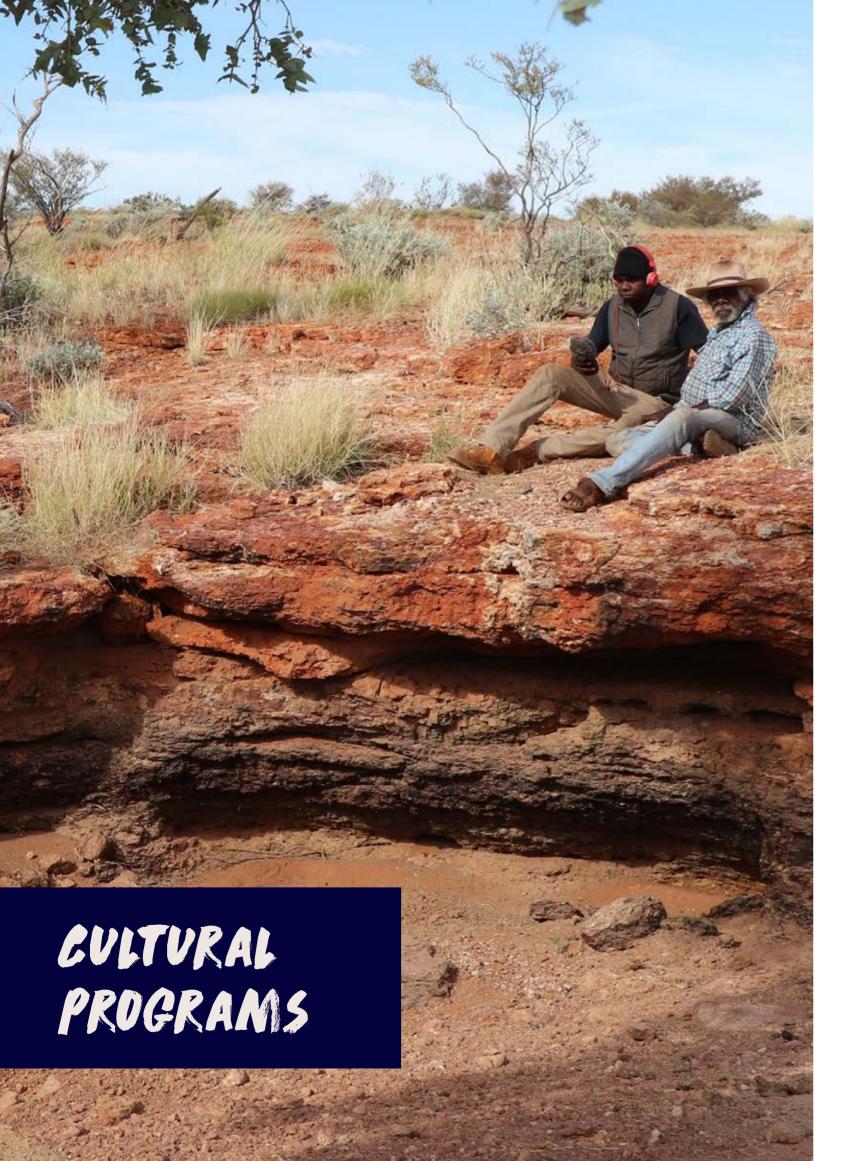














### **Family trees**

This year was a milestone year KJ. The Walyja (family) database has been completed. After 20 years of talking to Martu and collecting old family trees KJ now has over 11,000 names in the family tree database. A celebration was held on Martu country where the family trees where shown to over 80 Martu. The Walyja database will be put on all KJ computers in each Martu community so Martu can access the information. KJ will continue to check family trees to ensure that all the information in the database is correct.

A lot of people worked hard on this project many of whom we would like to thank – Desmond Taylor, Kanu Taylor (dec), Minyawu Miller, Waka Taylor, Muuki Taylor, Curtis Taylor, Kumpaya Girgiba, Clifton Girgiba, Thelma Judson, Ngamaru Bidu, Miriam Atkins, Emma Stock, Mark Chambers, Sue Davenport and many other KJ staff.











### Kalyuku Ninti

Kalyuku Ninti (return to country) trips enable Martu families from many different places to spend time with their old people and extended family groups and reconnect with who they are and where they belong. Many Martu who participate on the trips may have never had the opportunity to be on their country before.

In June 2021, 64 Martu in 16 vehicles, including four cars from Bidyadanga, one car from Yandeyarra and Hedland, and one car from Newman, visited the remote Percival Lakes area for eight days. Elders Muuki Taylor, Waka Taylor, Merridoo Walbidi, Nola Taylor and Thelma Judson led the trip to the main places of Wirnpa and Kirriwiri – which are very significant soaks. There were long days of travel making new roads however spirits remained high because everyone was so excited to be visiting this country. Wirnpa, the important rain-making place, had not been visited by car for more than 11 years. . Martu were able to see their parents' and grandparents' country, where they were born, where they walked, and listen and learn from the old people on the trip.

In the evenings family tree sessions were held giving everyone the opportunity to see where they fit into their extended family and trace connection to country through their common ancestors. Playlists of oral histories from the main Wirnpa and Kirriwiri elders who are now passed away were listened to with great interest in the cars on the long days of travel. Thank you to the old people for sharing your stories, ninti and laughter on the trip.











### **Oral Histories Program**

In 2020 KJ focused on training Martu in community to become confident using voice recorders. Thirty-nine Martu completed the training which will enable more important stories and ninti (knowledge) to be recorded as part of ranger trips, Families Program work and even in homes in the community. The aim of the recordings is that future Martu generations can keep listening and learning from their elders.

One example includes the collection of Waka Taylor's Ngartiwarta jukurrpa story. This story was recorded in Parnngurr and played to the Punmu rangers and students on a high school ranger trip to Ngartiwarta the following month. There were high levels of engagement with the cultural knowledge contained in this recording which was able to be passed on to several Martu on country without Waka's presence on the trip.

Stories are provided back to Martu on request. At the 2020 KJ AGM 140 USBs were handed back to the main story tellers, their families and to the community. These contained a total of 130 audio files that can now be listened to whenever people choose in their home, car or at work on-country.





### **Community Histories Project**

The 1980s homelands movement was identified by Martu as a priority area for recording in 2020. It was agreed that capturing this important part of history needed to be done as a matter of urgency. In 2021 the Community Histories Project started to record the unique perspectives and experiences of the historical Martu homelands movement when Martu first decided to move away from towns and go back and live in the desert on their country. The project team visited and recorded Martu stories in Jigalong, Punmu and Kunawarritji, and will be visiting Parnngurr, Newman and Hedland later in 2021.

Martu have talked about why they decided to start up the desert communities, what it was like living in the communities in the early days, how it changed from living in humpies and tents, to building the first schools, shops and houses, and what it is like living in community now and why it is important to keep living there.

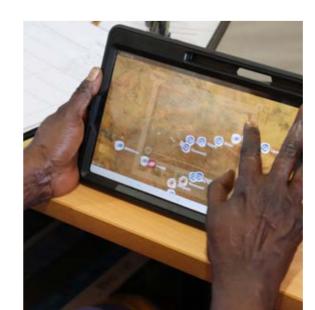






# Warrarnmili Wangka

The Warrarnmili Wangka app is a place-based stories app which will assist Martu in preserving, revitalising, maintaining and celebrating Martu language and culture through its use both on and off country. The app underwent testing with the Kunawarritji rangers in September 2020. The rangers provided feedback on how to improve and enhance the app for Martu. Since then, the app has been trialled by Martu in Jigalong, Punmu and Parnngurr communities. Trialling will continue until September 2021 to ensure that more Martu have an opportunity to test it out and any further improvements can be made.















### Waterhole mapping

It has been a big year for helicopter mapping with three camps based at Pinpinjanu rock hole, Karimarra bore and Kukapanyu soak (Well 39 Canning Stock Route). Elders Waka Taylor, Ngamaru Bidu and Thelma Judson flew across country looking for waterholes which they have not seen since they lived as *pujiman*. Ngamaru finally found Nyingkul and Yankaly which are *yinta* (permanent sacred waterholes) for which she has been searching for a long time, as well as Kunturrukurangu where Jakayu's mother passed away. Waka found Jawalirli and Jijipurrkujarra, main places for Bidyadanga families, near to Matakurlu. Thelma found three *yinta* south and north of the Percival Lakes – Junpunkunja, Mirntilypi and Ngalyawirltily.

During a joint camp at Nyinmi with the Kiwirrkurra IPA rangers and Warlayirti artists from Balgo elder Kumpaya Girgiba with elder Helicopter Tjungurrayi and family were able to visit a highly significant waterhole, Nyila, and re-discover another water source along the way, Jangalijarrpa.

These trips targeted high priority areas for mapping as identified by elders. In total, 24 waterholes were found – seven of those being high priority or *yinta* which elders had set out to locate.











# Cultural data and collections management

The extensive range of KJ's historical cultural data and the ongoing collection of photos, audio, film and documents, as well as objects and GIS data, has highlighted a need to focus on streamlining acquisition and collection management processes to manage this information in more comprehensive ways.

As a result, KJ has begun to investigate options for improved methods of data and metadata capture in this area. Investigations are also under way to better manage materials acquired from donations and repatriated materials. Current work is going a long way towards building a foundation for improved cataloguing of holdings and the establishment of appropriate long-term management of these valuable assets to better enable searching, access and sharing.







### **Language Program**

Karlki-laju yanu IDAkarti nintijunkukija-jananya martukujupangka wanyjalyju-laju wangka nintikamu julyjujanu jawara wajarninpa martulu. Murlpirrpa-lajujananyara wangkangu kurrurnku muku-mukurrinyjaku, wangka nintikamu ngaa jawanyjajanu. Wajarnu-ya martukujupakajalu pirrawatijanulu, yuwa, mularrpa ngaa palyaminyirri!

Ngulampa-lijujananya wangkangu martukujupakajangka worldwidejanungka — americajanungka, africajanungka, indiajanungka. Wangkangu-lijujananyara kanyinyjaku wangka, warrarnpa, walyjapirti. Nyakunma nintirrinyjaku-lijujananyara KJngkaku wangkangu. Kulira-ya pukurlarringu nyarrukajalu ngarntawanakajalu. Wajarnu-ya, yuu, yilta-nyurra martukajalu junga palya wangkangka walyjapirtingka warrarnja kanyirninpa. Walykumunungulyu.

Ngaampa-la ngaangka pirrangka nyuri wangka walyjapirti ngurrara kanyilipayingulyu. Countryngka-lajananya jijikajangka nintilpayi warrarnku, kukakajaku, mayikajaku. Parnngurrjanu-la yanu jawara wajalpayi nintipukamili pujimanmili waruku wangka. Yitupunginpa, winyji, taarru, tiirrru – jilanyayukungulyu wangka julyjujanungulyu. Punmujanu-yajananya jijikajangka katipayi kapikajakarti yinikajaku-ra nintimankupayi, mangunypa wangka yuti wajalpayi. Kunawarijijanu-lajananya wirrimanumalungka kiwirrkuramalungka kujungkarringu nyinmiwana. Nyarramartaji-lanyapula parrakatingu kapikaja nintijunu. Karlki-ya chopperkurlu Nyilakarti yankura jikirnu. Ka-lajujananya wirrimanumalungka Kinyukarti katingu. Marlakurringu-ya pujiman karlki julyju-julyjujanu, marlaku Kinyungka nyangu. Ngaparrji-ngaparrji-langku yilta kanyilpayi, walyjapirtiku ngurraraku mangunyku wangkangu. Pukurlarringu-laminyirri! Warrarnpa, wangka, walyjapirti. Kanyilkuranpa-lara nintirrikuranpa, wajalwajalkuranpangulyu. Palyaminyirri ngaa.





Over 130 Martu have been involved in KJ language activities this year. In 2020 some Martu went to the Indigenous Desert Alliance conference to show other groups how Martu are 'digging up' and using old language again. Martu spoke strongly about how 'digging up' the old language and knowledge makes Martu feel proud inside.

Martu also spoke at a virtual conference to Indigenous people from across the world – from the Americas, Africa, and India. They spoke about how Martu are looking after language, country and their connections the right way and how together Martu reflect and learn about the work. They were all really pleased and impressed to see how Martu look after their language, country and connections the right way.





"In Jigalong, we've all been teaching the young people about the country, about all the animals and plants. From Parnngurr, some of us went to dig up and speak old language from highly knowledgeable pujiman about fire – including old knowledge and language about things like yitupunginpa, winyji, taarru and tiirru. From Punmu, people have been taking all the kids out and teaching them their sacred waterholes and the names and open dreaming stories of those places. From Kunawarritji, some of us went out and met up with the mobs from Balgo and Kiwirrkurra, and all came together at Nyinmi. A couple of people who belong to that country around there took us around to find and teach us about the water places near Nyinmi. A few people even got to go in the chopper to see and drink from Nyila. After that, we led the Balgo mob right up to Kinyu. Some of them got to see that place for the first time since their pujiman days. Everyone really looked after each other, and spoke about all their connections, their country, and the mangunypa in those places there. It was a joyful time. It's truly important that we keep on looking after, learning, and speaking our country, connections and languages. This is seriously good and fulfilling work."

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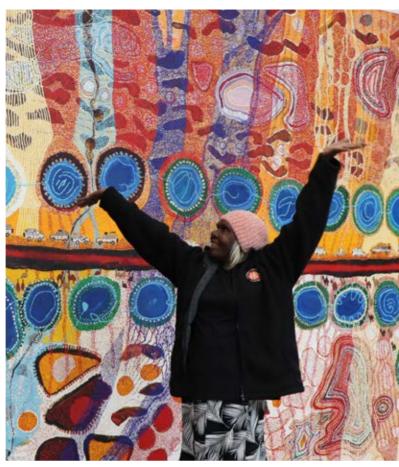
### **Western Australian Museum Project**

The WA Museum opened in November 2020 featuring many Martu stories across five galleries. Since 2018, Martu have been working with the museum to share stories about their traditional ecological knowledge, such as fire making, waterholes, traditional bush foods, Martu histories of contact with European civilisation and the way Martu are forging a new path for themselves through the Martu Leadership Program.

Prior to the opening, Martu elders made a special visit to Perth to see the new museum. Elders enjoyed seeing themselves on films and photos and seeing their artworks on display. Martu are happy to be sharing their histories, culture and languages with so many people.

During the visit in Perth, elders also visited the WA Museum Collections and Research Centre and saw how objects from Martu country were being looked after by the museum. Elder Kumpaya Girgiba found one of her own baskets in the museum's collections.







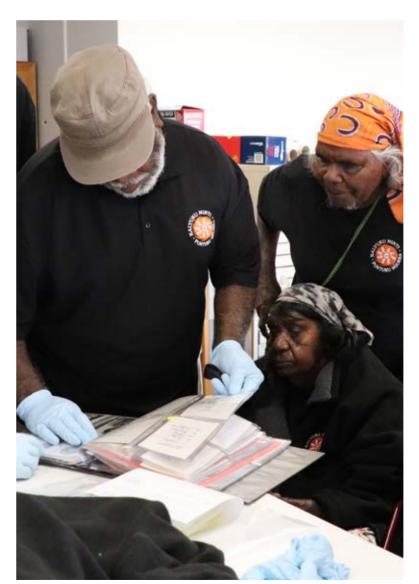




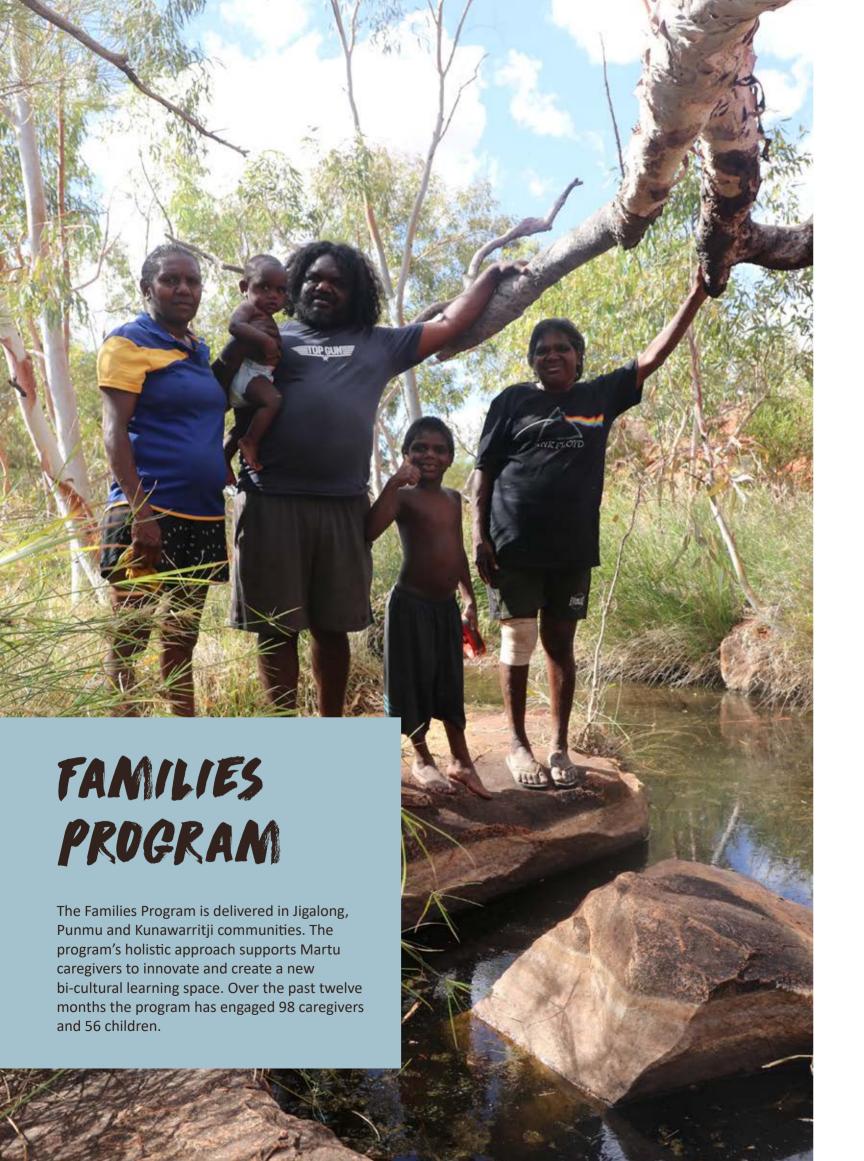
### **State Library and Berndt Museum**

During the elders' trip to Perth Martu were also invited to the State Library of WA and the Berndt Museum. At the State Library the group were shown original photo collections of the Canning Stock Route and mission times at Jigalong. This included copies of original portraits taken by Norman Tindale. Many of these portraits were of parents and grandparents of Martu in the group. There was much enjoyment reminiscing of family who have now passed away and of the old days at the mission.

Both the State Library and the Berndt Museum have committed to return these photos to the Martu community. The collections are currently under going sorting and digitisation. Copies will be deposited with the KJ archive and made available through archive computers in the Martu communities.









# **Bilingual Bi-cultural Playgroup**

The Family program assists in preparing young children to enter mainstream school. This is done in part by teaching children pre-school activities in the playgroup as well as by getting them used to a school and classroom environment. Playgroup sessions focus on creating a bi-cultural and bilingual learning space that is informed by both Martu and mainstream knowledge systems. Martu caregivers have been working together to develop a curriculum that reflects this and is based on two-way learning principles. By formulating and leading activities with the children the caregivers are developing their own confidence and leadership skills, whilst teaching and exposing the children to important cultural knowledge and language.











### On country learning

The Families Program also focuses on engaging caregivers and children in trips and activities out on country. These trips are important for the passing down of cultural knowledge as well as for encouraging moving and physical engagement with the children. Some of these activities are done in conjunction with the ranger teams which provides opportunities for broader community engagement. Activities on country this year have included teaching the children to collect bush food, visiting rockholes, tracking threatened species and sharing and telling of stories.



















# **Working with** external agencies

There have been multiple visits from WA Country Health Service, during which women have engaged in workshops surrounding the topic of health and healthy eating with particular emphasis placed on the issue of sugar and diabetes. In Kunawarritji these workshops have resulted in the women organising a tasting of sugar free drinks to decide which to stock in the shop.

The Families Program has also been working alongside Newman Women's Shelter to coordinate clothing drops offs and recently ran a two-night camp with the Punmu school and Punmu Families Program.

A three-night women's health camp with Martu women and teenage girls, alongside staff from the Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS) and the female police officer from Jigalong was also held. Conversations focused on health issues and using narrative therapy as a healing mechanism to help address anti-social behaviours.







### **Martu Leadership Program**

The Martu Leadership Program (MLP) is the foundational program for Social Programs. It has been quiet during 2020-21 partly because of COVID, partly because of reduced funding and partly because the Social Programs area has been concentrated on starting several new initiatives. The team still managed to deliver 20 workshops on topics such as criminal justice, governance, companies and employment law. The team presented to the WA Police Force at Perth headquarters and partners BHP in December 2020 to provide an update on the program. The Martu presenters had a profound impact on every audience. The MLP program will grow in its domain areas next year to include personal finances and a family violence strategy.

Martu women were asked to present at the Kimberly Land Council Women's Ranger Forum in Home Valley out of Kununurra. Unfortunately, the forum was canceled after arriving in Kununurra due to COVID outbreaks in the Northern Territory.









### Wama Wangka

Wama Wangka is a Martu-designed, Martuled approach to alcohol and substance abuse, violence, depression, suicide and other sadness. At its foundation, it seeks to build personal and community resilience through the development of cultural knowledge and identity. Martu cultural values, knowledge and practice inform Martu-led strategies that support the formation of a new narrative about being a strong Martu adult in the modern context, particularly in an alcohol-free environment. In the past 12 months there have been over 20 workshops and short camps facilitated by Martu. Upwards of 100 individuals have participated in Wama Wangka activities and the program has gained profile and momentum throughout the Martu communities. Martu have presented about the program to the Mental Health Commission, the Department of Corrective Services and the Prisoners' Review Board – all of which provided positive feedback.











### **Martu Visitors Program**

Martu Visitors Program is now a monthly program in which members of the MLP go into Roebourne Prison to speak with and teach Martu prisoners. The focus is encouraging and helping people to apply for parole, designing personal parole or postrelease programs and learning cultural knowledge. A session in Roebourne Prison in April 2021 with 20 prisoners was also attended by the Director-General of Justice and Commissioner of Corrective Services. They saw 20 prisoners engrossed in a Wama Wangka session on cultural education and Martu family trees. The following day 35 participants participated in a full day workshop which included spending three hours poring over family tree canvases laid out on the floor, and expressing a real hunger for more cultural education. This has led to a doubling of funding for the program in that prison and a commitment to implement a full cultural education program for Martu prisoners.















# Yiwarra Kuju (Martu Diversionary Program)

Yiwarra Kuju is designed to help people escape a cycle of alcohol, trouble and prison. It combines life in a remote community with ranger work, MLP work, Wama Wangka and personal support and mentoring. This program has now been funded and will start from July 2021. This program will assist KJ achieving Martu aspiration to assist getting people out of 'lock up' and in town back out to community.





# Ngurrakarti (Getting Back Home)

Ngurrakarti is a transport service to help Martu who would otherwise be stuck in Newman to get back to communities. It uses Martu drivers and a fleet of vehicles to transport Martu people and families back to a safer environment. KJ are supporting Martu to obtain their WA drivers licence and providing employment opportunities through the Getting Back Home program. Between 1 March and 31 May, 212 Martu were transported from Newman back to communities including 31 children.











### Mitirlpa (Staying at Home)

Mitirlpa is a service to provide Martu in the three remote communities with high-quality digital access to Government and other services, including such things as court, police reporting, Corrective Services, licensing, banking and so on. It has been designed in 2020-21 and will be implemented in September 2021.





### **Martu Patrol**

Martu Patrol is a joint program of KJ and the Newman Women's Shelter to find Martu youth who are out at night in Newman, make sure that they have something to eat and drink and to take them somewhere safe. This is a new initiative and although it has only been running for a few months it is proving to be very successful.









# **Kids on Country**

Kids on Country is a new pilot program for youth in Newman and Jigalong who may not be attending school and might be getting into trouble. Martu adults take groups of young people out on country for day trips or longer camps sharing knowledge and stories and participating in activities such as fishing at the river, looking for wuukarta (honey ants), mata (bush potato) and bush medicine. The Jigalong team took kids out to camp at Kuparna for three nights.

The program has been operating since late June and engaged 33 adults and 63 youth - 16 of who were engaging in high levels of anti-social behaviours.

Lots of Martu want to be part of this program because it provides more work for Martu adults and teaches youth about Martu culture which assists with bringing hope and healing.

The pilot program is engaging with several stakeholders: PAMS, Remote School Attendance Strategy, Newman State High School, Newman Police, Newman Women's Shelter, Headspace and Newman Future many of whom are beginning to come out and participate in the day trips. .



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# **10 Deserts Project**

The 10 Deserts Project is continuing to fund a program in which the Martu Leadership Program builds up knowledge and capacity in other desert areas so that they can have a similar leadership program. The funding has enabled KJ to document the program to enable a train-the-trainer model.

This year, the MLP gave a workshop at the IDA conference in November 2020 which was very well received. A group of 14 MLP participants travelled to Kurlku, a very remote outstation in the Kimberley and spent time with 25 Ngurrara rangers to deliver workshops over two days. In 2021 the team travelled to Wiluna and presented to eight participants including four directors of a new land management company they have started called Birriliburu Pty Ltd. The feedback was very positive with one participant remarking "We learnt a lot. We could understand. We never had this training before. We would like to do more."







### Newman Leadership Program

Newman Leadership Program started early in 2020 and now regularly meets with police and with other agencies. Many Newman initiatives have been started by this Martu group, including Kids on Country, the Martu Patrol and the Police Liaison Group. It works closely with Newman Futures.













### **Cultural Awareness**

Martu continue to deliver cultural awareness courses to agencies who work with Martu. The course was delivered to over 100 staff from agencies such as PAMS, Newman Police, Shire of East Pilbara, Newman Senior High School and Adult Community Corrections as well as other local agencies.









# CORPORATE

This year KJ employed 447 Martu with a total of \$2.78 million paid in Martu wages. Another \$427,000 was paid to Martu communities for supplies and rent. The total contributed to Martu and their communities therefore was just over \$3.2 million.

This is an increase from last year with an additional 64 Martu employed and \$800,000 in contributions.

KJ remains in a healthy financial position. This is aided by the efforts of the KJ office in Newman who work hard to ensure that:

- Martu are always assisted and supported regarding pay and other needs.
- Logistical support is provided for Martu before and after trips.

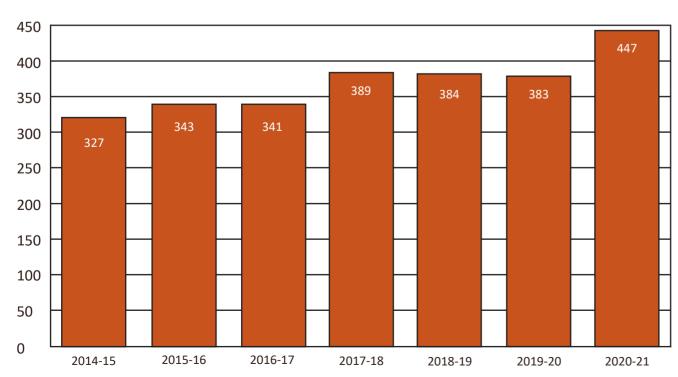
- Accurate payments to suppliers are done on time.
- KJ's board is well supported in regard to planning of meetings, accommodation and travel.
- KJ's vehicles are well looked after.
- Buildings and equipment required by KJ's teams are properly maintained.

KJ's office in Newman employ dedicated project officers who are available to assist Martu with advocacy and pay queries. Martu men and women are employed to support the Newman office with administration and logistics.

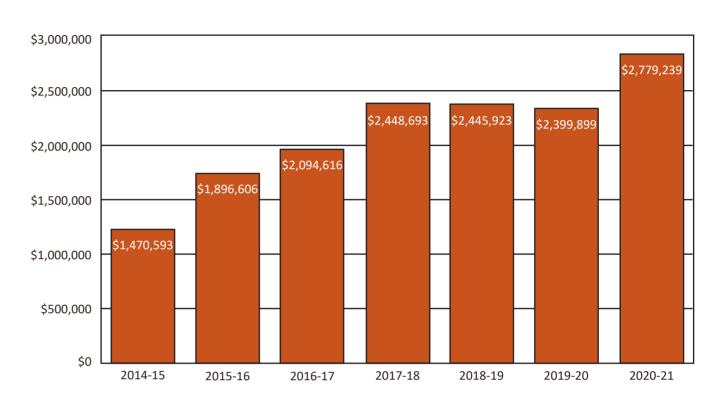
KJ funding helps to provide the administration and logistical support for Martu to be able to continue to work in all KJ programs. In addition to this, the money is used to build and maintain a sustainable system of governance with a strong Martu Board, finance subcommittee and executive and operational management team who together build a foundation for KJ to support Martu into the future.

The detailed audited financial report including the Auditor's report and Directors' report will be presented at the AGM in October 2021.

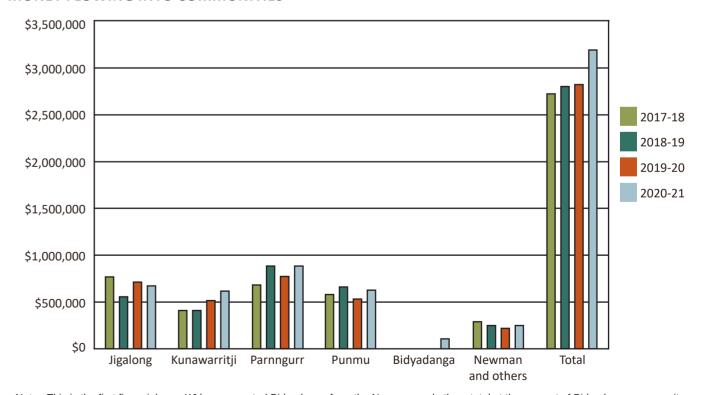
#### NUMBER OF MARTU EMPLOYED BY KJ



#### **KJ PAYMENTS TO MARTU**



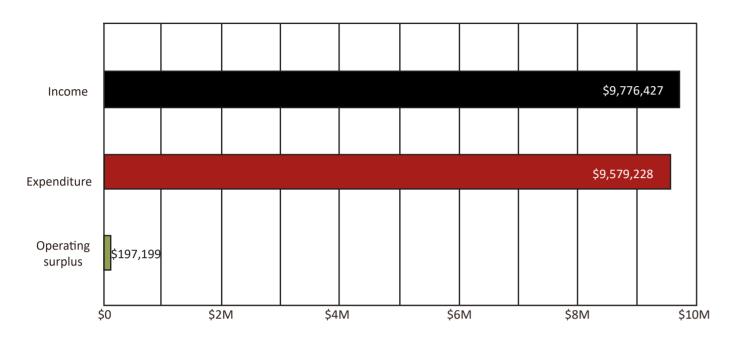
#### MONEY FLOWING INTO COMMUNITIES



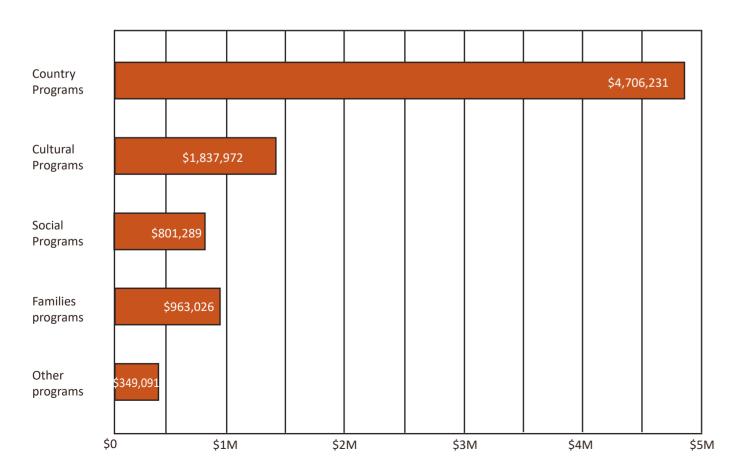
Note: This is the first financial year KJ has separated Bidyadanga from the Newman and others total at the request of Bidyadanga community.

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#### TOTAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE



#### PROGRAM EXPENDITURE



# FUNDERS, PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

While 2020-21 was another year of navigating the challenges and impacts of COVID-19, the commitment and support from KJ's funders and partners during this time is a resounding endorsement of our mission to support Martu to build strong, sustainable communities that reflect Martu values and needs. For Martu, it was a period of resilience and innovation.

KJ continued its suite of environmental and cultural programs, and the growing aspirations of Martu and their strong desire for lasting social and economic change, drove both the expansion of existing and creation of new social initiatives. Supporting Martu in determining their own pathway for the future is a philosophy held strongly at the centre of KJ's purpose, and at the centre of how KJ and Martu seek to work with partners and funders to create these changes.

It is through working together and sharing the ethic of self-determination as the right of the Martu people, that KJ's partners and funders can make a genuine and significant difference.

We are energised by the resilience, generosity and commitment of those who have provided funding, resources and time on this journey of walking alongside Martu. Our work is not possible without your support.

We would like to thank our corporate, philanthropic, government and community partners who share KJ's principles of working together with realism, honesty and respect and who have contributed to creating a healthy and prosperous future for Martu.

- Australian Government
- BH
- Chrysthanthemum Foundation
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Department of Communities
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

- Department of Justice
- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- East Pilbara Shire
- Ian Potter Foundation
- Jigalong Community
- John T Reid Charitable Trusts
- Kunawarritji Community
- Lotterywest
- Martumili Artists
- Martu Future Fund
- Mental Health Commission
- National Film and Sound Archive
- National Indigenous Australians Agency
- PAMS
- Parnngurr Community
- Perpetual Trust
- Pilbara Development Commission
- Punmu Community
- Rangelands NRM
- Regional Arts WA
- Social Ventures Australia
- The Ian Potter Foundation
- Today Design
- WA Museum
- WA Police
- WA Primary Health Alliance
- WA State Government
- 10 Deserts Project

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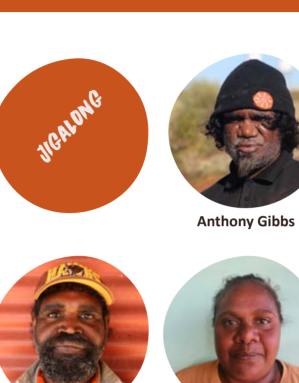
# OUR STAFF

KJ continues to grow with dedicated Martu and non-Martu staff working together to keep country, culture and communities strong. All KJ's programs and activities require effort and commitment from staff, many of whom are pictured below and work across multiple programs.

















**Dawn Oates** 

**Cedric Watson** 





**Beth Jeffries** 



**Bimbi Samson** 



**Galvin Roberts** 



**Gareth Samson** 

Families Program Coordinator





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**Adrian Bullen** 



**Shoshanna Jeffries** 





Wilson Njana



**Andrew Minyardie** 



**Angus McPharlin Logistics Officer** 



Breoni Sorensen



**Caroline Bayer** Manager, Finance and Administration Manager, Funding and Partnerships



**Catherine Cole** Social Programs Project Officer



**Christine Edmonds** 



**Curtis Taylor** 



**Daniel Johanson** Healthy Country Officer - Fire & Fauna



**Danielle Tucker** Manager, Country and Culture 64 | Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa



**Deborah Bisa** Cultural Data Officer



**Desmond Taylor** 



**Desrae Anderson** 



**Garry Earl-Spurr** Language Officer



Jenny Butt



**Genevieve Newman** 

Finance Officer



**Gerald Keyer** 

General Manager







**Kayla Larson Communications Officer** 



**Harry Thorman** 

Social Programs Project Officer

Lingani Akujalo-Stephen Social Programs Practitioner



**Judith Samson** 

**Loraine Arnott** 



**Luke Frank** 



Mitch Keyer Community Histories Support Officer



Nakita Baker Financial Administrator



Natasha Busher Puntura ya Ninti Officer



**Patrick Cook** Social Programs Senior Practitioner



**Peter Johnson** Manager, Strategy and Governance



**Phoebe Jones** Office Administrator 2020-21 Annual Report | 65





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