



Kanyirninpa Jukurpa

Vol 36 Newsletter 2018

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KJ is ready for another big year

Over 320 Martu are employed with KJ. Through their engagement with the ranger, *Puntura-ya Ninti*, healthy country, language and leadership programs Martu are looking after and keeping country healthy and culture and language strong. Martu are continuing to learn about the mainstream world and becoming strong leaders for their future generations.

KJ Board has decided upon a new management structure for the organisation. Moving forward KJ has appointed three General Managers to look after the organisation instead of a single CEO. The Board prefer this model of senior management for a number of reasons including: minimisation of risk, carriage of a heavy workload, benefits of complementary skillsets, succession planning and a resonance with Martu social forms.

The General Managers that have been appointed have over 20 years combined experience working with Martu. They are Gerald Keyer, Tristan Cole and Zan King. Gerald will continue to look after KJ's finances, Tristan will look after the ranger and healthy country program and Zan will be overseeing the *Puntura-ya Ninti*, language and Martu leadership program.

The first edition of KJ's newsletter for 2018 includes stories from KJ's teams about work that has happened since summer break and what is planned for the coming year. It is looking like it is going to be another busy year.





Martu Leadership Program: Looking back and planning forward

Every year there is a big gathering of Martu that have been working on the Martu Leadership Program. This is a time to look at what the team has been doing in the program and think about where they are going.

This meeting talked about the journey of the Martu Leadership Program. The participants built a wall of the most important parts of their work. This was a powerful story that started with how Martu on the Martu Leadership Program are building a strong team. There is a good feeling from Martu working together. Everybody could see that this program gave Martu from all communities a chance to come together and work as one.

Martu are gaining confidence through participation in the program. People are feeling stronger to get up and tell their story to external stakeholders and Martu back in communities. A big part of 2017 was providing feedback to the seven different communities.

These feedback sessions are an opportunity to explain to Martu about what they are doing in the program as well as sharing their knowledge

Martu are gaining confidence through participation in the leadership program

on topics such as how to run a strong company, how to work well with government and how to create more job opportunities for Martu. Members of the Martu Leadership Program can see that they can be a big part of the future for developing strong Martu controlled companies.

Martu are building strong partnerships. Looking back we could see that last year the MLP presented to a number of different service providers, companies, organisations, agencies and government. Members of the Martu Leadership Program say *Kujungkarrini* – working together – is the way forward for Martu.

Planning for 2018, Martu are keen to keep leading discussion and seeking change in the criminal justice system.

Martu continue to work closely in partnership with the police, the magistrate, the staff at Roebourne Regional prison and lawyers from the Aboriginal Legal Service.

Some key areas for the participants to work on in 2018 include:

- Working with the Roebourne Regional prison and inmates on developing parole plans and clear pathways for people after prison.
- Changing the licensing story for Martu by working with the magistrate so more Martu can get their licenses for work and slowly prove themselves to get their licence back.
- Trialling a new way to explain restraining orders and police orders. Working with the Newman Police and Martu in Newman to explain what the law is trying to do to keep people safe. This is two-way learning for Martu and police working together.
- Setting up a diversionary program, to keep people out of prison.

- Thinking differently about money, jobs and the Martu economy. Working with Deloitte to find new ways for Martu to make money.
- Expanding Martu involvement in delivering cultural awareness to all the service providers and organisations that work with Martu.
- Expanding what the Martu Leadership participants has learnt about governance and sharing this knowledge with community councils and other ranger teams throughout Australia.

There is a lot of good feeling for what comes next and 2018 is shaping up to be another busy year for the Martu Leadership Program.



Kalyuku Ninti trips for 2018

Last year's big *Kalyuku Ninti* (return to country) trip was cancelled due to the flooding of the lake chain between Parnngurr and Punmu. The team hope to run this trip this year in July/ August with the Parnngurr and Punmu rangers.

The trip will leave Parnngurr, follow the Canning Stock Route north to Raarki and Tiwa, head west to the lakes and Mukurtu and then follow the chain back around to Punmu. The trip will pass through Kartujarra, Manyjilyjarra and Warnman country.

Many of the sites that will be visited were relocated during the 2016 and 2017 aerial mapping trips and the Punmu rangers have already made a track from Punmu in anticipation of the trip.

KJ and Central Desert Native Title Services are hoping to run a combined family-ranger trip to the southern area of the Martu Determination this year. The trip will be supported by the Jigalong rangers but will involve family members from Parnngurr as well.

Each year more Martu gain the knowledge and skills required to participate in KJ's aircraft activities

Aerial incendiary training



In early March, KJ rangers from Jigalong, Parnngurr, Punmu and Kunawarritji together with KJ staff and staff from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions joined together for training at the ranger station in Millstream National Park. This training was also attended by the Ngurrawaana rangers, Department of Fire and Emergency Services and Shire of Ashburton staff. There were over 20 trainees in the course, with more than half the participants from KJ.



The training was in the use of the incendiary machines and how to work safely around aircraft. This training occurs every year. The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions staff organised for a small plane to be brought up for the week from Perth. This allowed an opportunity for everyone to become familiar with how to work around aircraft. Almost everyone went up in the aircraft to see what these small planes can do.

Each year more people gain the knowledge and skills required to participate in all of KJ's activities that require aircraft, like small planes and helicopters.



It was great to partner with the other organisations to learn new skills. Having a chance to talk about work that everyone does and to see new places makes a week like this very rewarding. Everyone involved thanked the KJ and Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions staff who made the training possible. Thank you also to the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions for providing the trainers from down south.

A special thanks to the Ngurrawaana rangers who made everyone feel so welcome and looked after the Martu rangers during our stay.

Martu gave an inspiring presentation in Nannup

Our kurrurnpa (spirit) was full of a pride and a happy feeling



Kipinju-ya-janampa OJ Biljabulu Dukejukamu Nannupjalu wangka tungun-tungunpa junu kartiyakajaku festivaljakajaku Nannupjakajaku March 3. Nintijunu-ya-jananya pijaparaku photoparaku. Kulirnu-ya kartiyalu wangka martumili julyjujanu kuwarri-kuwarrijanukamu. OJ Biljabulu-janampa yinkarnu turlku walyja jalykarra juriminyirri. Turlkunga-ra nyampaku marlakurrinyjakajaku Punmukutuku Kunawarijikutuku julyjuku. Jilanya-ya-jananya kartiyakajangka nintijunu wanyjalyuru-ya Wild Dingo Band wangkinpa turlkukajakurlu, kulilkuraku-ya Wild Dingo Bandmilikaja kartiyalu turlkukaja wangkakaja.

Nintirrira-ya kartiyakaja pukurlminyirringu! Martukujupaparakulukamu-ya Wild Dingo Bandmalulu nyakupayi kulilpayi wangkakarranga tungun-tungunpa. Wajarnu-ya Martulu, kulira-ya wangka tungun-tungunnga wirla muku-mukurringu kurrurnpa walyja. Juri-ya turlkukaja Wild Dingo Bandmilikaja yilatingu Nannupja! Wurulu-ya-jananya yankuka kulirnu pukurlarringu! Parntirrminyirri ngaa!

The Wild Dingo Band played at Nannup festival in March. Members of the band, Clifton Girgiba and OJ, together with KJ's applied linguist Duke, gave an inspiring presentation to a big audience one afternoon.

The audience watched films, saw photos, and listened to both old and contemporary Martu stories. OJ sang a beautiful new song about the homelands movement. They explained how the Wild Dingo Band are speaking in their songs which helped the audience understand their music.

The audience really enjoyed learning about the music, Martu culture and some Martu language. Some members from the Wild Dingo Band who did not present on stage watched and listened to their band mates. They commented afterwards that their *kurrurnpa* (spirit) was full of a proud and happy feeling.

Ranger program outlook for 2018



2018 is shaping up to be another huge year for KJ's ranger program

KJ's ranger coordinators are back in their communities working with the rangers to gear up for an action-packed 2018.

Rangers from Jigalong, Punmu, Parnngurr and Kunawarritji kicked off their field season by travelling to Millstream to undertake training to enable them to operate an aerial incendiary machine from helicopters

and fixed-wing aircraft. This training builds on KJ's fire management program and increases the ability to put right-way fire into country.

Jigalong rangers have been involved in a 'mock court' in Newman with KJ's Martu Leadership Program and staff from the WA Police. The aim of these sessions is to empower Martu engagement with the criminal justice system and

provide valuable cultural perspectives on the system and how it functions from a Martu point of view.

Parnngurr rangers are hosting KJ's first Board meeting for the year while Punmu rangers have their first on-country field trip scheduled for late March.

2018 is shaping up to be another huge year for KJ's ranger program.

Some of the activities for the next few months include:

Jigalong:

- Joint trip to Yimiri with Punmu Men's team
- Mapping of rockholes and other traditional water sources in the vicinity of Hammer Bore
- Aerial fire and mapping work with staff from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Second translocation of Black-flanked Rock Wallabies between Kaalpi and Pinpi



Parnngurr:

- Threatened fauna survey work, focusing on the Great Desert Skink, Greater Bilby and Black-flanked Rock Wallaby
- Weed and site management of GJ Bore, a popular tourist campground and reliable source of water on the Canning Stock Route
- Joint men's and women's trip to complete installation of Martu signage at wells on the Canning Stock Route



Punmu:

- Newhaven "Cat Camp" and Kiwirrkurra ranger exchange
- Two trips to conduct aerial mapping of cultural sites in the vicinity of Paru and Mulyarkiri
- Punmu community fire week

Kunawarritji:

- Burning and aerial mapping north and west of Kunawarritji community
- Aerial mapping of cultural sites around Mulyarkiri (with Punmu)





Aerial mapping in 2018

KJ is planning to run two large aerial mapping trips in the northern part of the Martu Determination this year. This is building upon previous successful aerial mapping trips that have occurred over the past few years.

The first trip will be based in Paru and will map the northern boundary and the cross-over area between the Martu and Kulyakartu Determinations. Elders Muuki Taylor, Waka Taylor and Minyawu Miller will direct the mapping with the support of the Punmu rangers in April.

The second trip will be based out of Mulyarlkiri with Thelma Judson and will focus on the Percival Lakes area. This trip was scheduled last year but was cancelled due to the extreme rainfall events that occurred early last year. Everyone is hoping that this year will be a little drier and that the trip to map this area with the help of the Punmu and Kunawarritji rangers will occur in May. More mapping may be conducted out of Kunawarritji and Punmu.



KJ ranger teams caring for *mankarr*

Mankarr (Greater Bilby) used to live across much of Australia. However, population numbers are much smaller now. They are only on Indigenous owned or managed lands in the north-west of their former range. Aboriginal people are responsible for managing the majority of the *mankarr* population that are now found in small and scattered populations.

During 2016 and 2017, the ranger teams from Jigalong, Parnngurr, Punmu and Kunawarritji contributed to redesigning the *mankarr* monitoring program. Ranger teams will use this monitoring program this year to assess the status of *mankarr* populations. The aim of the project is to track trends in *mankarr* populations on Martu country over time.

The new way of working incorporates Martu understanding of the landscape and harnesses Martu expert knowledge of *mankarr*. The data collected will be used to tell a bigger story of what is happening across Australia for this special animal. This design process has been assisted by Anja Skroblin from NESP Threatened Species Recovery Hub. Ranger teams play a very important role in saving the *mankarr* from extinction.



*KJ ranger teams contributed to redesigning the *mankarr* monitoring program*



Martu ways that help *mankarr* to stay strong:

- Sharing of detailed and complex Martu knowledge of *mankarr*.
- Knowing which country to look for to find the *mankarr*.
- Applying Martu expert knowledge and skills, by locating *mankarr* tracks, diggings, burrows and scats.
- Carrying our surveys to record data on *mankarr*.
- Remembering whether *mankarr* populations and habitat have changed.
- Making small hunting fires that reduce large hot wildfires and that encourage foods to grow.
- Encouraging cat hunting.

Language program community feedback

Languageprogramnga martukurnu. November RNLD Language-Workshopjalu-ya wajarnu, languageprogramnga martukajamili, mirta ngayunwiyayijumili. Wajarnu-ya, Mirta-laju kurranyu pinrrimalpa nintikurlu ngaajanukurlu ngayunwiyayiju. Jukulypa-la-janampa martukajaku junkuranpa Feedback, kujungka-la-ra martukaja languageprogramkunga wanalkuranku. Karu-laju language-teammalulu yankumalpa communitykutu Feedback kangkumalpa.

Wangkamalpa-la-ra wanyjalyuruku nintirranku-ra-ya marlajanukaja wankaku pujimanmiliku kaparlilimiliku jamumiliku nintipukamiliku warrarnja. Nintipukarrikuranpa jukuny-jukunyukaja marlajanukajalurrju. Languageprogramnga-janampa kuwarrianuku marlajanukukamu.



*The old people's language must
continue to be passed down*



This language program belongs to Martu. The Martu who attended the RNLD (Resource Network for Linguistic Diversity) language workshop in November said that this program has to be for all Martu. They said that they mustn't run ahead with this knowledge just for themselves. We need to pass on the message and give feedback so that all Martu can walk slowly together with the language program. Accordingly, some of the language team will be travelling to communities to give feedback.

The team will also be discussing how to make sure that specialised *nintipukamili* (Martu vocabularies – old people's language) – continues to be passed on to future generations. Children and future generations should keep on becoming highly educated experts in their language. This program is for current and future generations.

Translation work

Puntura-ya Ninti are continuing to work with Martu in Newman to translate some of the stories that KJ holds in Martu *wangka* (language): Manyjilyjarra, Warnman and Kartujarra. Last year, we were able to translate some interviews done by Duke and Cameraman for an upcoming KJ film thanks to Attaya Angie, Corban Clause-Williams, Danielle Booth, Neil Lane, Carol Williams and Curtis Taylor. If you are interested in doing some translation work while you are in Newman come have a chat to *Puntura-ya Ninti* staff in the KJ office in Newman.



Martu leadership participants are building strong partnerships

Martu attend East Pilbara Shire Council meeting



The Martu Leadership Program participants joined Carol Williams at an East Pilbara Shire council meeting. This was one of the first meetings for the newly elected councillors and the Martu Leadership participants were there to support Carol at her first meeting with the new board of councillors that were elected in late 2017.

The Martu Leadership participants talked about Martu working in the communities through the KJ ranger programs. They talked about the ideas and strong partnerships that Martu on the Martu Leadership Program are forming with different agencies, organisations, government and companies throughout the Pilbara area and beyond.

At the end of the presentation the Shire councillors were keen to know more. This could be the start of a new relationship with the Shire leadership team. The Martu Leadership participants see this as an important step forward to supporting Carol in her role as part of this Shire council and engaging in a positive way with the East Pilbara Shire.



Old photos returning to community

Old photos donated by Ray and Diana Vallance (principal and school teacher in Punmu 1984-88) and James Eldridge (community coordinator in Punmu 1985-86) will be touring the communities this year. In each community, slideshows of the photos will be played at community BBQs and film nights organised by KJ. These photos will also be available soon on the Martu Archive.

Community school teachers attend cultural awareness class



Slowly the Martu Leadership participants are developing their own team of cultural awareness presenters. Increasingly, the Martu team are finding new ways to tell their own story and help non-Martu understand more about their culture.

Everybody on the Martu Leadership Program is keen to present cultural awareness as they want to help people working with Martu to learn important things about their people, culture and country. Topics discussed include how the Martu kinship works, the history for Martu since leaving a fully traditional life in the desert (for some that only happened in the mid 60's), what Martu are involved in presently and some Martu language training.

The training is becoming increasingly popular. Martu leadership participants are proud of this and feel it shows a level of respect from those that are wanting to work closely with Martu.

Giving back oral histories and family trees

Puntura-ya Ninti has received many requests from Martu to continue recording their elders' stories. Since July last year nine stories were collected from Martu elders. The *Puntura-ya Ninti* team are hoping to head out to the communities to record more stories throughout the year.

Part of the team's goal this year is to increase Martu access to the many stories that have been donated or collected by KJ and held for Martu. It is important to bring the stories on trips that are happening on country. Stories are relevant to the places Martu are visiting and the families that belong to those places. Martu can listen to the stories from old people that may not be around anymore or may not be able to come on that trip.



Martu Archive

Late last year the Martu Archive (CAL) software was upgraded. It still does all the same things however it looks a little bit different now. There have been some problems getting the upgraded archive to work on the dedicated iMacs in communities, but the *Puntura-ya Ninti* team is working hard to fix these so that Martu can continue to access their photos, films and stories.

In Punmu, Gemma will continue to work one day a week with Martu to tag people in the photos on the archive. There are many collections of old and recent photos that have people in them that we need to add their names to. Tagging work is important so that we can name the old people in the photos before the people who know their names and stories pass away.



Farewell to Ben Mikus

In March KJ said farewell to Ben Mikus – KJ's first ranger coordinator in Kunawarritji.

Working with the Kunawarritji community, Ben has assisted in building a strong, cohesive ranger team that is owned by the community. This has resulted in a strengthened community with families returning home. With more families returning home for work there has been a doubling in school attendance and an overall increase in community vibrancy.

Ben, his wife Georgie and their new arrival 3-month-old son Charlie are off to travel Australia after spending three years in Kunawarritji.

We wish your new little family all the best for the future. You will remain in the hearts of Martu and KJ.



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