

asgmwp.net

# Elimatta

May 2016

Aboriginal Support Group – Manly Warringah Pittwater

ASG acknowledges the Guringai People, the traditional owners of the lands and the waters of this area

## 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE APPIN MASSACRE



**We are deeply sorry.  
We will remember them.**

See full story on Page 2



# 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE APPIN MASSACRE

One of the darkest days in the Illawarra's early European history was marked with a somber ceremony as a group of indigenous and non-indigenous people gathered at Cataract for the 200th anniversary of the Appin Massacre.

Responsible for the deaths of at least 14 Dharawal men, women and children – with some shot or decapitated and others driven over cliffs near Cataract River – the massacre was one of the first government-ordered killings of Aboriginal people in Australia's settlement records.

On April 17, 1816 the military was deployed, at Governor Lachlan Macquarie's orders, to "inflict terrible and exemplary punishments" on "hostile natives" who made "the smallest show of resistance".

He wrote in his diary that the military had been "authorised to fire on them to compel them to surrender; hanging up on trees the bodies of such natives as may be killed on such occasions, in order to strike the greater terror into the survivors".

NSW Reconciliation co-chair Cecilia Anthony said the commemoration ceremony, which has been held since 2000, helped to highlight an event in Australia's history which was not well known.

"Because of the way Australian history was taught until fairly recently, the full history of post-invasion just wasn't known," Ms Anthony said.

"People aren't aware that the wholesale rounding up of Aboriginal family groups and communities was very common. But for Aboriginal people this is very contemporary in their thoughts."

"The first step of any reconciliation is acknowledgement of truth, whether it's good, bad or ugly – and we as a nation are just at the start of that process."

Amid Wollongong City Council's Illawarra 200 events – which mark the bicentenary of white settlement in the region – Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbery said the Appin massacre's anniversary held lessons for today's society.

"This is an ugly aspect of our history, and we can't resile from the tragedy that it highlights and that's still going on in Australia," he said.

"We still have big issues with our Aboriginal citizens, and the Appin massacre was right at the beginning of a history of unfolding sadness. We can't change the past, but we have to recognise it."

It was hoped the repatriation of the remains of three Aborigines killed in the massacre would have happened in time for the 200th anniversary but unfortunately it has not.

"I haven't heard anything," Dharawal Elder Frances Bodkin said. "I hope they are returned soon." The skulls are at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra.



Scenes from the historic commemoration. Photos: Jeff McGill

Attending the ceremony:  
David Hurley – Governor NSW  
Leslie Williams MP – Minister of Aboriginal Affairs NSW  
Colin Markham – Ambassador for Reconciliation NSW  
Cr Paul Hawker – Mayor of Campbelltown  
Cr Simon Landow – Mayor of Wollondilly  
Lynda Burney MP

**We are deeply sorry. We will remember them.**



## TV star Stan Grant tells of poverty and racism growing up in NSW



Stan Grant speaking about his new book — ‘Talking To My Country’, at Avalon Community Centre. Picture: Troy Snook

SKY journalist and author Stan Grant took his fight for indigenous rights to Sydney’s northern beaches today, where he said he had always felt there was much support.

Grant, who lives in Annandale but spends a lot of time at his house in Palm Beach, told *the Manly Daily* now was the right time to talk about Australia’s dark history.

He said next year could be a turning point with the anticipated referendum on changing the constitution to recognise the history of the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders.

Grant, 52, said his new book, *Talking to my Country*, was part-memoir, part-letter, part-history about the inequalities between the white and indigenous populations in Australia.

He told the *Bookoccino* hosted event at Avalon Community Centre, the book was “born out of the pain of our history”.

The father-of-four said he grew up in poverty in Griffith, in country NSW, where he always had the feeling

he was “subhuman” because he was indigenous.

“As a young boy, I remember trying to rub the colour off my skin because I was so ashamed to be that colour,” said Grant, who is married to Manly born and bred radio journalist Tracey Holmes.

His life changed when his father moved the family to Canberra where he prospered at his new school, went to university and has had a successful career in journalism.

However, he said it was a different story for 80 to 90 per cent of his indigenous peers from Griffith who were dead – many in their 40s or 50s.

“Australia is a prosperous, peaceful, cohesive society, but not for us, the Aboriginal community,” said Grant.

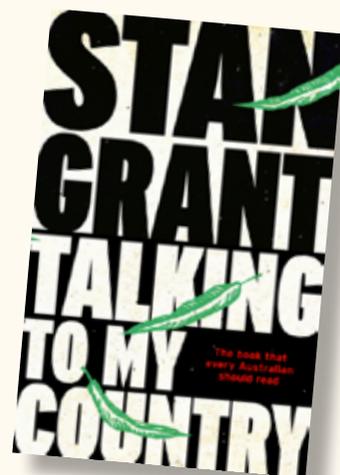
He added he was considering entering politics to push for indigenous rights and had not ruled out entering this year’s election race.

He said he had shared a beer recently with former prime minister Tony Abbott.

While he said the Warringah MP had made some mistakes, he did believe he had a deep, heartfelt commitment to indigenous issues.

“We are people who can help ourselves, we need the chance to do it,” he said.

Julie Cross  
– *the Manly Daily*



Stan Grant meets Aunty Clair Jackson, from Ugarapul Clan, Jagera Nation at Avalon Community Centre. Picture: Troy Snook



Stan Grant signs copies before his talk about his new book — ‘Talking To My Country’, at Avalon Community Centre. Picture: Troy Snook



# GURINGAI FESTIVAL

26 May – 10 July 2016

## Through My Eyes

A Celebration of Aboriginal Culture  
and Heritage

Events in association with ASG-MWP

**Mon May 9**

7.30pm - 9pm

### **The Greater Sydney Coast Walk – Barrenjoey to North Head**

**Free Screening** – All welcome

From Barrenjoey to Avalon Beach to Narrabeen Lake to North Head. Discover the landscape, history and prehistory of this area. Beautiful Bangalley Head with William Govett's 1830s sketch of Aborigines fishing in context. Bungan Castle, Newport Reef, Turrimetta Head with Dr Peter Mitchell OAM, Narrabeen Man, Narrabeen/Collaroy beachfront with Dr Caroline Ford, Long Reef with Phil Colman, the history of North Head with Nick Hollo, its vegetation and WWII defences with National Park Ranger Mel Tyas plus the stone walls and cliff face searchlights of North Head with Dr Geoff Lambert. The 3rd Quarantine Cemetery. Meet the filmmaker John Illingsworth. Dr Geoff Lambert will tell more about North Head. Free event – All welcome – includes a light supper. Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1606 Pittwater Road, Mona Vale.



**Sun May 29**

3pm – 6pm

### **Commemorate National Sorry Day 3pm – Start at Berry Park, Narrabeen**

A time for all Australians to reflect on the profound grief and trauma experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, particularly members of the *Stolen Generation*. It is also an opportunity to celebrate their strength and resilience, and to reaffirm our shared commitment to healing and reconciliation.

A *Welcome to Country* will be given and small talk, then a silent walk – a *Journey of Healing* to remember *Stolen Generations*, the children and their families, finishing at Bilarong Reserve.

#### **3.45pm – Scout Hall, Bilarong Reserve, 53 Wakehurst Parkway, Narrabeen**

After a *Smoking Ceremony* and *Welcome to Country*, Craig Kerslake will talk about the *Stolen Generation*, then a talk by Girls from Year 12 of Mackellar Girls Campus – How do they see Aboriginal people? There will be Kids Boomerang painting and colouring-in. Entertainment by Scott Romain playing Didgeridoo, Gerard McMinn and the Jannawi Dancers. Free BBQ and afternoon tea provided. Finishes around 6pm. All Welcome. More details: 0419 219 770



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Continued from Page 4

# GURINGAI FESTIVAL

Events in association with ASG-MWP

**Sat June 4**

10am - 2pm

## **Narrabeen Lagoon Walk**

**A great exploration especially for children's eyes**

Impressive carvings, extraordinary biodiversity set within the surprisingly changing landscape of the Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment.

Allow 4 -5 hours. BYO lunch and water.

Start next to 27 Morgan Road, Oxford Falls, finishing at Deep Creek and carpool back.

For bookings or more details  
phone Conny Harris 0432 643 295



**Sat June 11**

10am - 2pm

## **Bushwalk in the Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment**

**A walk you will remember forever**

Allow 4 hours. BYO lunch and water.

See great carvings near Red Hill. We will walk down to Oxford Falls and carpool back.

Start at 2-10 Cromer Road - 300 metres after entrance to Cromer Golf Club.

FREE EVENT - All welcome.

For bookings or more details  
phone Conny Harris 0432 643 295



**Wed June 15**

10am - 12 noon

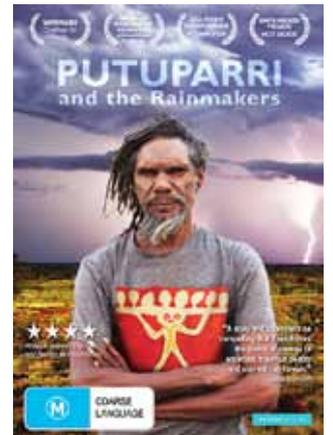
## **Putuparri and the Rainmakers**

**Free Screening** - All welcome

This is an emotional, visually breathtaking story of love, hope and the survival of Aboriginal law and culture against all odds.

Collaroy Cinema, 1097 Pittwater Road, Collaroy  
More details: 9999 3045

Made possible by Josephine and Roy Mustaca and Warringah Council



**Sun June 26**

10am - 2pm

## **Walk the Basin Track with Uncle Laurie Bimson**

### **Guringai Aboriginal Tours**

**Festival special: \$10pp** (Max 30)

At the site you will be told stories of times long gone by. There will be explanations as to how the rock carvings were used as school rooms for Aboriginal children. Bring your camera for the view from West Head. Amazing!

West Head Road, Ku-Ring-Gai Chase National Park.

Booking Essential: [GuringaiTours.com.au](http://GuringaiTours.com.au)



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# GURINGAI FESTIVAL

Events in association with ASG-MWP

**Monday July 11**  
7.30pm - 9.30pm

## **ASG-MWP Information Night** **NAIDOC**

### **Songlines – The Living Narrative of Our Nation**

Dreaming tracks crisscross Australia and trace the journeys of our ancestral spirits as they created the land, animals and lores. These dreaming tracks are sometimes called *Songlines*.

Speaker to be advised.

FREE EVENT – All Welcome. Including light supper.

Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1606 Pittwater Road, Mona Vale.



**Sunday July 3**  
10am - 12 noon

## **5,000 Bees get a New Home!**

### **Native Stingless Bees** **– Installation and Discussion**

Narrabeen is to receive a Native Stingless Bee Hive. Learn how to encourage and protect our many native bee species in our backyards and communities. Listen about the Aboriginal people’s integral relationship with the ‘Sugarbag’ Bee through medicine, food and spirit. Children’s workshop.

More details phone Dan 0404 604 569

Made possible by Warringah Council, ASGMWP and Permaculture Northern Beaches



## **NT Minister calls on Aboriginal elders to allow tourists to climb Uluru** 9NEWS

Northern Territory Chief Minister Adam Giles has called for traditional Aboriginal custodians to allow tourists to climb Uluru. While

there is no formal ban, the iconic climb is not supported by the Nguraritja and Anangu people of the land.

Mr. Giles has urged them to rethink their position in a state parliament sitting in Darwin on Tuesday.

With the blessing of traditional owners of the land, the climb would increase jobs and lead to “a better understanding of Indigenous culture”, Mr Giles said.

Mr Giles, who is Aboriginal, referred to other worldwide cultural sites which were open to tourism.

“For example the Temple of Angkor Wat in Cambodia, the Taj Mahal in India and Machu Picchu in Peru,” he told ABC News. “Uluru is as spectacular as any of those. It is higher than the Eiffel Tower and a lot more beautiful.”

Whether people should be allowed to climb the sacred site has been debated for decades.

Former Prime Minister Bob Hawke agreed to stop the

walks completely in 1985, however the plan was never adhered to.

A Federal Government management plan for Uluru in 2010 said the climb would be closed permanently if other tourist experiences were established, or if the proportion of visitors fell below 20 percent of its average.

Mr. Giles has been criticised on social media for making the comments. “Traditional owners of Uluru say don’t climb, that should be enough. Chief Minister putting profits before culture?” WA Greens Senator Rachel Siewert tweeted.



*Climbing Uluru is not banned, however traditional Aboriginal elders disapprove. (AAP)*



# FIVE WAR HEROES YOU DIDN'T LEARN ABOUT IN SCHOOL

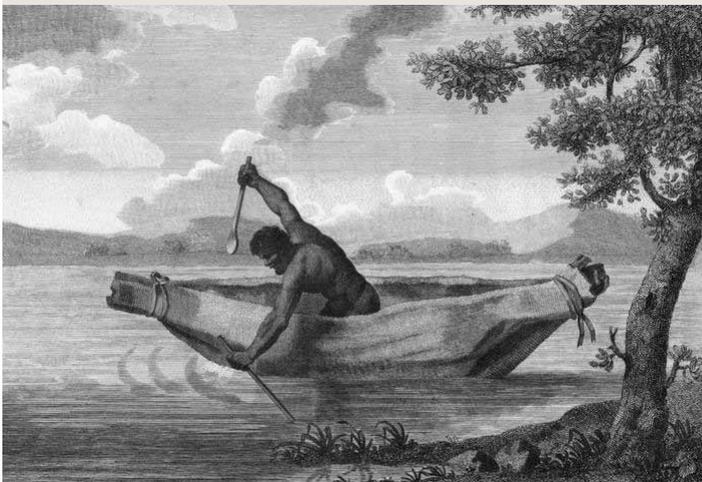
The Frontier Wars was the bloodiest conflict on Australian soil. We look at five of the warriors who fought for their people and their land against colonial forces.

## **Pemulwuy**

Pemulwuy was one of the earliest recorded resistance fighters of the Frontier Wars. A Bidjigal man of the Darug nation he reportedly had a clubbed foot, suggesting he may have been a Carradhy (clever man). In Port Jackson in 1790 he speared John McIntyre, the gamekeeper of Governor Phillip, who later died of his injuries. The Governor then called for an expedition in retaliation however it failed to find any Aboriginal people.

From 1792, Pemulwuy lead continued attacks on farming settlements: burning huts and stealing crops. The largest conflict was the 'Battle of Parramatta' where Pemulwuy lead approximately 100 warriors in an attack on the government farm at Toongabbie before marching towards Parramatta. Pemulwuy was shot seven times and at least five Aboriginal men were killed. Though Pemulwuy was kept in detention at the hospital, he escaped - increasing his already impressive reputation.

Despite recognising Pemulwuy as "a brave and independent character", Governor King offered a reward for his death or capture and issued a government order than any Aboriginal people seen near Parramatta should be shot on site. Pemulwuy was shot dead in 1802, and his head was removed and sent to Sir Joseph Banks in England for his collection, however its current whereabouts are unknown.



*Image: Pemulwuy. (NSW State Library, James Grant, "Narrative of Voyage of Discovery in the Lady Nelson", 1803*

## **Musquito**

Musquito was born on the northern shore of Port Jackson and by 1805 had begun raiding settlements in the Hawkesbury region. A warrant was then issued for his arrest and he was captured and gaoled in Parramatta. He was later exiled to Norfolk Island where he remained for eight years before being sent to Launceston, Tasmania.

By 1817 he was working as a tracker, hunting down bushrangers including Michael Howe; however he

eventually became known as a bushranger himself. After Indigenous people were increasingly pushed out of the main settlements he retreated to the bush and formed a gang. The group of 20-30 conducted raids on farms, killing several stock keepers on the East Coast between 1823 and 1824. Musquito was wounded and captured in 1824 and later charged with aiding and abetting the murder of a stock keeper. He was hanged with another Aboriginal man, Black Jack, at Old Hobart Gaol in 1825.



*Aboriginal Warriors by Joseph Lycett 1815-1822 (National Library of Australia)*

## **Windradyne**

Windradyne, a Wiradjuri warrior, was a key resistance figure in the Bathurst War in 1824. When Governor Brisbane came to power the pace of settlement greatly increased west of the Blue Mountains, placing competition on traditional food sources. Windradyne began leading attacks on small farming outposts using guerrilla warfare techniques. In December 1823 he was blamed for the death of two stockmen. Soldiers were dispatched to capture him and it reportedly took six men to subdue him.

After he was released, the hostilities continued to escalate with Aboriginal women and children being killed and seven stockmen attacked in the Wyagdon Ranges. The town of Bathurst was finally placed under martial law in 1824 and a reward issued for Windradyne's capture. However he avoided arrest and was later pardoned by the Governor when he appeared at the annual feast in Parramatta.

## **Yagan**

Born around 1795 Yagan was the son of Midgigoroo, an influential Noongar elder in the area south of Perth. After a young boy was shot near the homestead owned by Archibald Butler, the Noongar man retaliated by spearing one of his servants, labourer William Gaze. Yagan was captured and sentenced for Gaze's murder in 1832, spending six weeks detained on Carnac Island before escaping. Despite having no knowledge of boats, Yagan and two others managed to steal one and steer it the 13km back to shore.

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After his return he eluded capture for another year and became a well-known figure in the Perth colony. Robert Lyon, a minister who studied the local Indigenous people and pleaded to save Yagan from the death penalty, described him as “the Wallace of the age” in the Perth Gazette. Yagan was killed in an ambush by brothers William and James Keates in 1833 and his head was taken to England where it was kept in the Liverpool Museum. His remains were finally repatriated and buried in 1997. A new development in Perth is being named Yagan Square to honour him.

### Jandamarra

A Bunuba man, Jandamarra was born about 1870 in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. As a youth he spent time living on a remote station and became a good horseman but he later returned and became an initiated man of the Bunuba people.

Though he was captured for killing sheep the charges were later dropped when he agreed to care for the horses at the police station. He later became a stockman and joined the police as a tracker, charged with capturing his own people who had been spearing stock.

He was given an ultimatum by the Bunuba and so he subsequently shot his police partner Constable Richardson while he slept and freed the detained Aboriginal people at the station. For the next three years Jandamarra led his people in resistance to the settlers. Fifty painted warriors fought against the settlers in the ‘Battle of Windjina Gorge’, which left Jandamarra with severe wounds. He later raided his former police station twice before being shot dead by another Aboriginal tracker in 1887.

Karina Marlow



## ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES GET STREET NAMES

The South Australian government has recently completed a \$272,000 program to allocate house block numbers and to name 143 roads across 13 communities covering about 100,000 square kilometers.

About 2500 people live in these communities and while local knowledge of where people live is often sufficient, the allocation of street names and numbers is also about providing services and programs that others across Australia take for granted – and allowing those communities to be better serviced.

“With no recognised addressing system, Aboriginal people living on the lands were unable to provide a valid address when interacting with the wider world,” Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan said. “Online forms for everyday use such as registration, banking and Centrelink access were out of reach.”

The program is also a benefit for people coming onto the lands, including emergency services, who can have access to maps that will allow individual streets, houses and businesses to be located. Copies of those maps have been distributed throughout the communities. Streets have been named using local landmarks and sites and also Aboriginal words for Australian animals.

The program was completed in about 12 months while others in Western Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory have been ongoing for several years.

Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure spokesman Sean Frost told the Paper Tracker radio program that Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) community members were engaged throughout and the final list of street names was approved by local officials. He said a key element of the project was about ongoing recognition of Aboriginal communities in mainstream Australia.

But the project has stopped short of actually installing street signs on the lands, which drew criticism from the South Australian opposition.



Health spokesman Stephen Wade also questioned if the money spent was the best use of taxpayer funds, given other issues facing the APY communities, including health concerns.

“APY communities are relatively small and residents generally know each other and where they live, as do the local policing and support services,” Mr Wade told parliament in February. “In the event that an external service provider visits a community to make contact with an individual or household and has their house number and street name, they will be unable to locate the house in the absence of any road signs.”

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Kyam Maher said the project should not be seen as limiting other work on the APY Lands.

“I don’t think it is a case of by doing one thing you are necessarily detracting from everything else you do,” he said. “I think the more we can provide services and deliver programs that everyone else around Australia has come to expect, is a good thing.”

AAP Sky News  
– Sunday, 24 April 2016





**SYDNEY  
LIVING  
MUSEUMS**

This family-friendly festival celebrates the namesake of Parramatta – the eel, and its significance to the local Darug people known as Burramattagal, who would gather and feast, share stories and trade around the time of the eel season.

The Eel-based demonstrations, talks, tours and tastings, as well as an outdoor market with stalls from the Blak Markets selling affordable arts, crafts and produce including wood carvings, bush weaving and refreshments was just wonderful.

Galamban weavers come to Elizabeth Farm on Burramattagal Country so we could participate in an ancient southeast tradition of weaving using local natural materials and technologies passed down through thousands of generations. The specialised technology developed for gathering Burramatta (eels) and weave into our lives the extraordinary tradition of connecting to country and promote the cultural resources that make Burramatta significant within this landscape.

Then the 'cook-up' with Fred's Bush Tucker, you gain an understanding and appreciation of Australian Indigenous culture through traditional bush foods, medicines and culture. Fred's Bush Tucker promotes the acceptance of quality, authentic, Australian Indigenous bush foods by encouraging everyone to try 'Just a Taste'. As well as being a source of food, eels are a critical indicator of river and ecosystem health. Members of the Georges River Aboriginal Riverkeeper Team help you learn all about the habitat of the eel and the Riverkeeper's work in monitoring river health. This was a chance to get hands on with water quality testing and even 'meet' an eel face-to-face.

We also watched and hear stories as Uncle Greg Simms showcases traditional wood carving methods. It was a real privilege to attend. Thank you Sydney Living Museums!



*The 'cook up' with Fred's Bush Tucker*



**AIATSIS**

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF  
BORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT  
ISLANDER STUDIES

## Welcome Craig Ritchie

The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies' (AIATSIS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Craig Ritchie, a Dhungutti/Biripi man, as its new Deputy Chief Executive Officer from Tuesday 26 April, 2016.

AIATSIS CEO Russell Taylor AM said he is very pleased to welcome Craig to the position and looks forward to working with him in the new role.



## The Tribal Warrior's Boat 'Mari Nawi' Significantly Damaged by Fire



The Tribal Warrior Association was established by concerned Aboriginal people with a view to spread and vitalise Aboriginal culture, and to provide economic and social stability.

The Association provides quality training for employment skills, and extends everyday practical assistance by distributing food and groceries to struggling families.

A non-profit community organisation initiated and directed by Aboriginal people with Aboriginal Elders.

The Management Committee of the Association includes grass roots Aboriginal people from various areas, and respected Elders.

The Tribal Warrior Association uses the gaff-rigged ketch *Tribal Warrior* and the *Mari Nawi* to train Aboriginal people to attain their Master Class V commercial maritime certificate and other qualifications including Radar certificate, and Marine Engineer certificate.

On all public occasions and celebrations, the *Tribal Warrior* flies the Koori Flag and the jib sail painted with the words "It's a Koori Harbour" and the *Black Duck* totem.

Wherever the boat goes or where Aboriginal people have seen it, it has been intimately their boat. This has been the spirit and goal from the beginning.

We exist to empower disadvantaged Aboriginal and non-indigenous people – encouraging them to become self-sufficient by providing specialised training programs leading to employment opportunities in the maritime industries.

In the words of Shane Phillips, we try to fund parts of our programs through our boat *Mari Nawi*. The vessel caught fire whilst tied up to its mooring. There was no one onboard but the apparent electrical fire has caused substantial damage and could be a game changer!

We have faced other major hurdles over the many years and being the only Koori maritime company in Sydney we must survive. It is important that we support *Mari Nawi*, *Tribal Warrior* and the vision that it signifies.

Any donation big or small will go a long way to the repairing of *Mari Nawi*!

As well as providing training opportunities, *Tribal Warrior* the vessel is a symbol of hope and pride for every Aboriginal person who sees it. If you would like to know more about *Tribal Warrior*, please visit

<http://www.redfernfoundation.org.au/tribal.html>



## VALE DAVID PAGE – BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE MUSIC DIRECTOR



**BANGARRA**  
dancetheatre

The Bangarra Dance Theatre — and the Australian arts sector — is in mourning today, following the announcement of the unexpected death of its music director, David Page. He was 55.

Page joined Bangarra in 1991 as resident composer. He composed music for 27 of the theatre company's shows as well as this year's feature film *Spear*. The film's score is an astonishingly complex combination of traditional and non-traditional Indigenous Australian sounds.

In 2000, Page worked with Steve Francis to contribute music to the Opening Ceremonies of the Sydney Olympic Games. He received many accolades over the course of his career, including eight nominations for the *Deadly's Sound Awards* and an *ARIA* nomination. He was the inaugural winner of the *Indigenous Artist Award* for the Sidney Myer Foundation in 2000.

David was a descendant of the Nunkul people and the Munaldjali clan of the Yugambah tribe from south-east Queensland.

Stephen Page, David's brother, is the Artistic Director of the Bangarra Dance Theatre.

DAILY REVIEW



# ABORIGINAL ELDERS CALL FOR THOUSANDS OF ARTEFACTS TO BE SAVED AT RANDWICK SITE

A group of Aboriginal elders in Sydney is calling for a site found to contain tens of thousands of artefacts to be protected.

The Indigenous artefacts, including spear tips, knife blades, and scrapers, have been unearthed during construction work on the new light rail at Randwick.

Elders from the Bidjigal people, the traditional custodians of the site, say it could be the last chance for the city to preserve an area of such significance.

“They will never ever find a site of this magnitude in Sydney again,” Assen Timbery from La Perouse said.

“We have not got one sacred site in Sydney, it’s all been destroyed or taken away. All we’ve got is a couple of rock carvings.”



*Some of the 20,000 Aboriginal artefacts found at the site in Randwick.*

*Photos: Fairfax Media: Tocomwall*

“ **a site of this magnitude will not be found in Sydney again** ”

– Bidjigal elder Assen Timbery

Bidjigal woman Yvonne Simms wants construction work at the site to be halted to allow more time for the area to be excavated.

“Twenty-thousand artefacts, to me, it needs to be protected,” she said.

“It’s not about stopping the light rail; it needs to go forward but there needs to be investigation into the site.”

Transport for NSW has employed four Aboriginal groups to advise on cultural heritage.

“All four Aboriginal groups have had significant involvement in all major decisions about the find,” a statement posted on the Transport for NSW website said.

Elders say groups being consulted have vested interest

Ms. Simms said these groups were not the traditional owners and as paid consultants have a vested interest in the work continuing.

“It’s being dug up and destroyed and I don’t like it,” she said.

Greens MP David Shoebridge said custodians like Mr Timbery and Ms Simms have been kept out.

“They’ve got a handful of registered Aboriginal parties that they seem comfortable dealing with but the Bidjigal elders who are really the traditional owners haven’t got a look-in,” he said.

Transport for NSW said interested Aboriginal elders are invited to contact them directly to organise a tour of the site.

Scott Franks is one of the paid Aboriginal heritage advisers on the site.

He said the land now earmarked to become a stabling yard for light rail carriages is an Aboriginal site of state significance.

“It’s incredibly important ... it’s a window back in time to see what was happening here,” he said.

“The importance of these stones is how these tools were being made, who made them?”

Mr. Shoebridge is calling on the Federal Environment Minister Greg Hunt to reconsider an application to give the area heritage protection.

Ten days ago the Minister wrote: “...I am not satisfied that the area ...is a significant Aboriginal area as defined.”



**Monday May 9**

7.30pm to 9pm

**ASG-MWP Information Night**

Free Screening of the documentary  
The Greater Sydney Coast Walk – Barrenjoey to North Head.  
See page 4 for details.  
Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1606 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale.



**May 26 – July 10**

**Guringai Festival 2016**

See pages 4 to 6 for details.



**May 27 – June 18**

**Vivid Sydney** A spectacular event of light.

See the spectacular illumination of the Sydney Opera House sails from the Harbour with Tribal Warriors.  
Details phoe 9699 3491 <http://tribalwarrior.org/>

**Sunday May 29**

7.30pm start

**ASG Commemorates Sorry Day**

Free event – All welcome. See page 4 for details.  
53 Wakehurst Parkway, Narrabeen



**Monday July 11**

7.30pm start

**ASG-MWP Business Meeting**

All ASG members welcome  
Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1606 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale.

**Friday June 3**

**MABO DAY**

**July 4 – July 10**

**NAIDOC Week**

**Friday June 10**

**Remembering the Myall Creek Massacre**

<http://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/history/myall-creek-massacre-1838#ixzz46vneJBbH>



**Thursday Aug 4**

**National Aboriginal And Islander Children's Day**

Celebrating Aboriginal culture in Sydney  
[www.sydney.com/things-to-do/aboriginal-culture](http://www.sydney.com/things-to-do/aboriginal-culture)

**Monday Aug 8**

7.30pm start

**ASG-MWP Information Night**

All welcome - Speaker TBA  
Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1606 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale.

**ASG-MWP would like to thank Dee Why RSL, Pittwater RSL, Forestville RSL, Avalon Beach RSL Pittwater Council and Warringah Council for their continued support in 2015**



Warringah Council

## An Invitation to join us

**Aboriginal Support Group  
Manly Warringah Pittwater**

Founded 1979

Membership is \$25 per year

**(02) 9982 1425**

P.O. Box 129 NARRABEEN NSW 2101

[www.asgmwp.net](http://www.asgmwp.net)

**Elimatta** is the newsletter of the Aboriginal Support Group Manly Warringah Pittwater.

Articles are welcome with the understanding that editorial changes may be made and that contributors agree that the material will be archived by the National Library of Australia.

Contributors to **Elimatta** are from many different cultures and backgrounds. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editors or members of the ASG.

Please email articles where possible to [the\\_elimatta@gmail.com](mailto:the_elimatta@gmail.com)

If you use any of the material it would be appreciated if the extract is set in context and the source acknowledged.



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