

CONNECTIONS

April 2009

GREATER
BLUE

CO-MANAGEMENT projects



NSW National Parks
and Wildlife Service

mountains
WORLD HERITAGE AREA

Department of Environment & Climate Change NSW



NEWS FROM THE ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP

The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Aboriginal Reference Group met at St Albans on Thursday 5th February 2009. A number of recommendations from the ARG were put to the GBMWA Advisory Committee meeting held immediately after on the 6th February. Please contact Den Barber (Aboriginal Co-management Officer) for further details and watch for outcomes from these recommendations in future editions of Connections.



From Left: Glenda Chalker, Merle Williams, Wendy Lewis, Chris Tobin, Deb Swan, Sharyn Halls (Observer) and Noel Date. (Absent with apologies were Tom Miller, Shayne Williams, Craig Foresheaw and Jodi Cameron).

Aboriginal Discovery in the Blue Mountains

The Aboriginal Discovery Ranger program is expanding in the Blue Mountains Region with a range of activities and experiences being sought by schools and visitors. If you would like more information on how to become involved, please contact Sandy Holmes, Acting Discovery Coordinator by telephone on 02 4784 7301.



Aboriginal Discovery Rangers Janelle Randall-Court and Chris Tobin

LIVING COUNTRY CULTURE CAMP 2009 - JENOLAN CAVES

Following the success of the Living Country Culture Camp, at Ganguddy (Dunns Swamp, Wollemi National Park) in October 2008, the Aboriginal Reference Group have agreed to plan the 2009 Living Country Culture Camp in conjunction with an Indigenous Week to be held at Jenolan Caves this November. The Camp, hosted by the 6 language groups of the Greater Blue Mountains, will be supported by National Parks and Wildlife and held from Friday 20 to Sunday 22 November. Watch this space for more information.

The Australian Government supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

On Friday 3 April, Jenny Macklin, Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, announced Australia's support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the spirit of re-setting the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians and building trust. To see the Declaration go to:

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/drip.html>

The DARUG TRIBAL ABORIGINAL CORPORATION invites DARUG PEOPLE

to

CARIBBERIE

October 2009

The Aboriginal word, caribberie meaning, *corroboree*, which allows us to interact with the Dreamtime through meetings, dance, music, costumes and our stories.

October long weekend

2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th 2009

So please keep this weekend free as this will be the biggest gathering of our clans in decades. We are asking for members of the Darug community to come and join us and contribute in organising.

**Please contact: Sandra Lee
(02)96224081**

darug_tribal@live.com.au



DARUG SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

The NSW Government has allocated funding over 4 years for developing Co-management programs between the Darug Aboriginal Community and the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) to act cooperatively as partners for Darug Country and culture.

The Darug Small Grants Program aims to provide funding for one to four years to Darug people for projects that assist with delivering the priority issues outlined in *The Darug Peoples Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU) for park and cultural heritage management.

Applications close: FRIDAY 17th April 2009.



GUNDUNGURRA SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

The NSW Government has allocated funding over four years for developing co-management programs between the Gundungurra Aboriginal Community and The Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) to act cooperatively as partners in the management of parks in Gundungurra Country.

The aim of the Small Grants Program is to provide funding to Gundungurra people for projects that assist with delivering long term goals of cultural heritage management in parks within Gundungurra country, while raising the profile of Gundungurra heritage and culture.

Applications close: FRIDAY 8th May 2009.

Guidelines and applications for the Darug and Gundungurra Small Grants programs are available from:

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/comanagement/>

KOORI CONNECTIONS PROFILE

GBMWA Aboriginal Reference Group Member

Who are you?

Deborah Kim Swan

Who's your mob?

DARKINJUNG (lived in Darkinjung Country all my life)

Where you from? Ngarrindjeri Country SA. My father was put up for adoption in Crows Nest Hospital, Sydney after he was taken from Ngarrindjeri Country. I still do not know my clan, however am always searching.



His father was from around Alexandria Lakes / Wellington. On the European side of my family is New Caledonian, my Great Great Grandmother and her sister were taken over there when their parents were killed in World War II.

Got family? Yes. I have one gorgeous girl 23 years and a deadly 14 year old boy. I have 2 brothers and I am the eldest.

What do you do? Female Culture & Heritage Officer, Darkinjung LALC

What's important to you? Our Country and empowering our people to look after their own Country, under their guidelines. Seeing our mob get real, paid, stable work within the Environmental agencies and organisations. Getting to know my black grandmother (running out of time). Weaving economic sustainability into our communities.

What's your favourite part about working in the GBMWA?

Making sure that DARKINJUNG Country (Murrwan - in Darkinjung Language) is respected, included and interpreted correctly for our Ancestors, past, present and future. Involving our youth when appropriate

Favourite past time? Women's Business and hanging out with our Women.

Favourite bush tucka? Crocodile and Native Cherries

Favourite sport? Netball and Jacks.

Favourite movies? I like too many to list. I love a good romantic comedy and a good scary one.

Favourite music? Blues, Rock N Roll. Santana was my first love of music.

Favourite book? I use to always say that *Charlotte's Web* was my favourite. Betty J Eade *The Awakening Heart*, and *My Continuing Journey to Love*.

Got any advice? Teach our children our Culture and when looking at Country, always look up at the sky.

If you would like more information about these articles, funding opportunities or other projects that the World Heritage Unit is working on, we welcome your inquiry or feedback.

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Den Barber, Aboriginal Co-Management Officer Ph: 4784 7309 Mob: 0439 493 116 or dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au
Lois Carson, Admin Assistant (part time only) Ph: 4784 7327 or lois.carson@environment.nsw.gov.au

Visit our office at National Parks and Wildlife, 39 Whitton Street (cnr Camp St), Katoomba

World Heritage NSW DEC

Reply Paid 552

KATOOMBA NSW 2780

or email to gbm.worldheritage@environment.nsw.gov.au

We respectfully acknowledge the Darug, Gundungurra, Wanaruah, Wiradjuri, Darkinjung and Dharawal language groups as the traditional custodians of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.