

# KARIYARRA NEWS.

FEBRUARY 2020

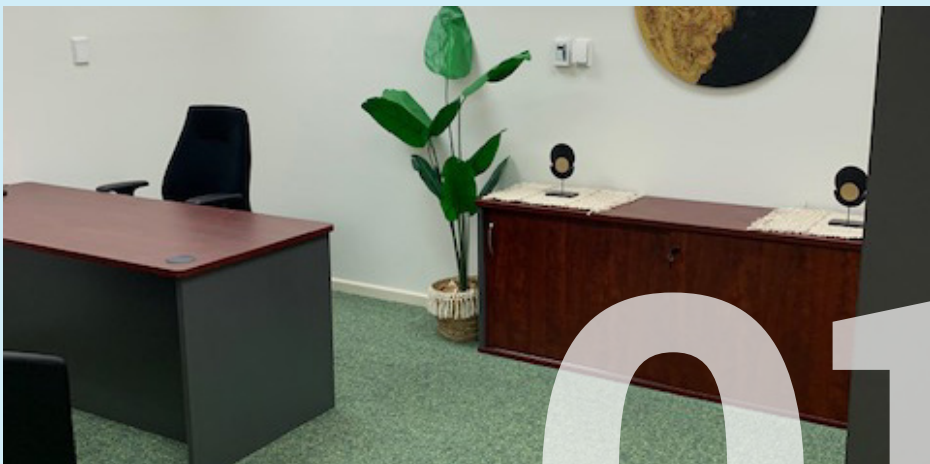


**KARIYARRA**  
Aboriginal Corporation

# WELCOME

Welcome to the first Kariyarra Newsletter for 2020! Starting this year with a bang, we would like to announce that Kariyarra has officially moved into their new office at **23 Hamilton Street, South Hedland.** The staff and directors are loving the new fresh look and are excited to have a very sizable board room that allows continuous space for growth.

We would like to thank Liam Clayton from LA Claytons for putting so much effort into making sure the renovations moved along quickly, spending countless hours of his own time working closely with Lisa Jenkins the Kariyarra Office Manager in the Co-ordination of this very successful project.



# GET TO KNOW YOUR CEO

*A big welcome to Stephen Stewart, the new Kariyarra CEO!*

## **What brought you to Hedland/ What was the path you took to get to where you are today?**

I was the child of teachers and went to school everywhere from Kununurra to Borden in the far south and many places in between as my parents went from school to school. After high school I joined the navy and served for over twenty years. I then went back to university and studied a law degree. On graduation I was employed by Legal Aid WA. I worked in Hedland for seven years and then was transferred to Carnarvon. I became aware of the position of CEO and wanted to move back to Hedland so I applied. I'm very lucky to have been appointed as CEO because I enjoy Hedland and its people.

## **Personal interests / hobbies?**

I like AFL and support the West Coast Eagles. I also like cricket. It has been a few too many years since I last played. I have two old Land Rovers that I am restoring.



## **What excites you about joining Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation?**

The Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation (KAC) is fairly new in terms of the PBC side of things. I am very interested to work for the Board and assist KAC to be a vibrant and functional organisation that defends and develops the rights of the Native Title holders.

## **What do you feel is the biggest strength of the company right now?**

The KAC Board is very future focused and looks to develop, improve and preserve the benefits of the Kariyarra Peoples.

The Board is very good at engaging with the business side and is keen to become a competent and respected Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC). The Board always uses traditional law and culture to make sure that the right people are speaking for the right country and that culture is respected at all times.

**What goal do you have for the company/what does the future hold for KAC?**

I would like the PBC to be respected and an example to all other about how to run an operate as a Native Title body. The PBC is very busy with tracking down and

developing opportunities for the benefit of the Kariyarra Peoples. There are some very good projects in the pipeline and I expect those projects will bring a lot of benefits for the members.

**What do you believe are the key challenges for KAC and other WA Aboriginal corporations going forward?**

First the government and then the Board makes the rules. It will be a key challenge to ensure that the rules that are set are applied equally to everyone. The upcoming projects will have jobs for Kariyarra people and it will be a key challenge to get members ready to have those jobs.



# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## DID YOU KNOW?

The mining industry generates about 70,000 tonnes of used mine truck tyres in the Pilbara region each year. Unfortunately, only a small fraction of this waste – around 4% - is recovered for recycling.

So where does the rest go?

Companies that generate these waste streams usually manage the waste 'in-pit'. In other words, they bury it.

This waste management approach is concerning because the material is never actually recovered. It raises questions around how companies can possibly ensure that the land is properly rehabilitated and preserved for our future generations when many hundreds of thousands of tonnes of waste material is buried on Country.

Yet whilst the practice is concerning, mining companies are not legally doing anything wrong. The Government grants mining companies the right to bury their rubber

waste because there are no viable solutions in the region to tackle the issue.

This issue was brought to the attention of the Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation mid last year. Since that time we have been investigating possible solutions that can deliver better environmental outcomes and preserve the land for future generations. The Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation is pleased to advise that, in partnership with Australia's oldest and largest tyre recycler, it has identified an effective waste management solution focused on processing the waste into usable products.

This strategic partnership presents an exciting opportunity for Kariyarra to support the mining industry in caring for the land in a way that preserves it for future generations, while also generating a stable source of jobs and income for Kariyarra People.

Stay tuned in future newsletter issues for further information.



# HERITAGE SURVEYS

The end of last year saw a large amount of heritage survey work carried out by Kariyarra people for numerous proponents. These included Novo Resources and De Grey Mining, both companies which Kariyarra has a great relationship with. We truly believe a reciprocal approach to heritage work delivers the best results - with parties working together rather than a survey being "just a checkbox" for proponents.

While it is currently Law time for Kariyarra

and other people around the Pilbara, we have been busy organising further heritage surveys for later in the year. Our aim is to create a good relationship between the Kariyarra People and stakeholders, and in so doing, develop the best model for the protection of the rich heritage of the Kariyarra Country.

Any proponent on Kariyarra country should feel comfortable to approach us and enter discussions for heritage work.

A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is a bright yellow-orange orb on the horizon, casting a long, dark shadow of itself onto the wet sand. Three oil rigs are visible on the horizon line, their silhouettes against the bright sky. The foreground shows the textured, wet sand of a beach at low tide, with some darker patches of seaweed or rocks. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a lighter, hazy yellow at the top.

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## SNAKE AWARENESS

by Roslyn Alec

Up in the Pilbara it is all too common to have daily encounters with native animals and reptiles dead and alive, as our Senior Liaison Officer Junior found out whilst moving into our new office.



This is a skeletal frame of what we think is a king brown/mulga snake. The king brown/mulga snake is one of the most venomous snakes in Australia, which grows up to 3m in length.

We are now in the perfect weather for these snakes — the warmth brings them to the coolness of your garden beds and due to rain fall from cyclones there is water laying around, which is a perfect breeding place for frogs, which are a snake's main diet.

If you happen to come across a snake at home of any kind, do not try to remove it yourself, instead call your local snake handler. If you see a snake on your walk, do not disturb it, just let it go on its way.

## LAW AND CULTURE

by Junior Gorden

Law time has started again. My forefathers and the forefathers before them have been participating in our Law ceremonies for thousands of years.

It's a way we come together for our ceremonies, when a boy becomes a man. In our culture a boy isn't a man until he goes through our Law. Our Law is still going strong, it's a privilege to be part of the oldest men's club in the world – 60,000 years and we're keeping our Law alive and strong.





# KARIYARRA 'FUTURE ACTS'

Kariyarra country includes Marapikurrinya (Port Hedland), the highest tonnage port in Australia, and its southern approach, which is criss-crossed with iron ore railways from major iron ore deposits operated by BHP, FMG, and Hancock Prospecting in the east and south Pilbara. Over half a billion tonnes of iron ore is transported across and exported from Kariyarra country each year. Other major resources mined and/or shipped from Kariyarra land includes salt (Dampier Salt, a subsidiary of Rio Tinto), manganese and soon, lithium.

With such significant mining and industrial activity operating on and around Kariyarra country, the Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation (KAC) has significant future act compliance obligations and agreements from the operation of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) (NTA).

## Mineral Titles

As at 13 February 2020, Kariyarra has 568 live or pending mineral titles including 483 live and 85 pending applications including 17 that are subject to legal proceedings under the NTA.

Since December 2019 there have been five new mineral titles applications lodged and three mineral titles granted on Kariyarra country pursuant to existing agreements.

## Current Agreement

KAC has over 100 current agreements with resource, exploration, infrastructure and

government entities including twelve major project operation and/or infrastructure agreements, two State Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs), the Alinta-Kariyarra Electricity Infrastructure ILUA (2015) and Kariyarra and State ILUA (2017) as well as several agreements with Government agencies/entities including the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Landcorp, Water Corporation, Department of Housing and Main Roads.

KAC has 18 Heritage Protection Agreements (HPA) over exploration/prospecting titles, that provide for the conduct of heritage surveys to protect areas of importance to Kariyarra people

## Current Negotiations

KAC is involved in several major project negotiations for substantive long KAC agreements that are hoped to be resolved in 2020. KAC preferred HPA's are currently being negotiated over 17 exploration licence applications.

## Historic matters

There are several hundred mineral title and other tenures currently operating on Kariyarra country that are not subject to any Agreement with KAC. These have been identified and their legal status and obligations to Kariyarra are currently being reviewed for future action.



# BOARD

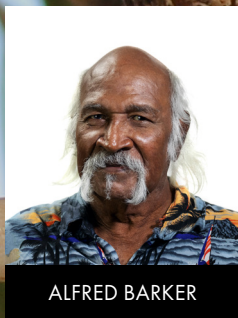
MEET THE 2020 DIRECTORS BOARD



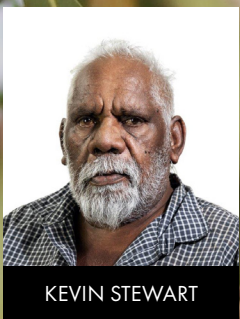
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ALFRED BARKER



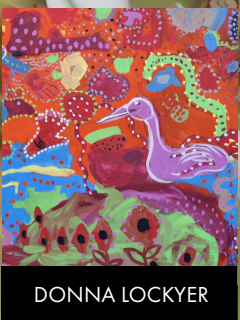
KEVIN STEWART



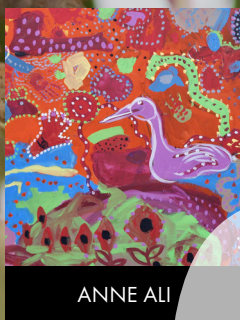
JEANNIE SNOWBALL



TARYN WATKINS



DONNA LOCKYER



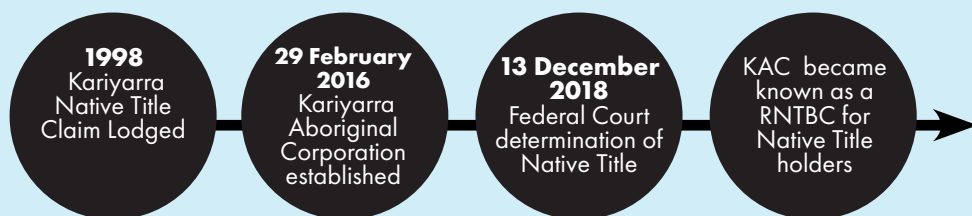
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# KAC IS A PBC AND A RNTBC. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

The Native Title Act states that when a Native Title determination is made, Native Title holders must establish a corporation called a Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBC) to manage and protect their Native Title rights and interests.

are required to deal with in regard to the management of traditional owners' Native Title rights and interests.



When a PBC is officially registered, it becomes a Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC). This makes it clear to other people and organisations that it is a corporation that manages Native Title.

A PBC is the first point of contact for government and other parties wishing to undertake activities on Native Title land.

As legal entities, PBCs have certain roles and responsibilities under the Native Title Act and other legislation.

The main job of a PBC is to manage and protect Native Title on behalf of the Native Title holders. PBCs are required to consult with and obtain consent from Native Title holders in regards to any decisions that surrender or affect Native Title rights and interests. There are some things that PBCs

## **KAC's key legal responsibilities include:**

- » Future Acts (that affect Native Title)
- » ILUA's
- » Exercising, negotiating, implementing and monitoring Native Title agreements
- » Compensation
- » Bringing future Native Title application cases in the Federal court

## **Other matters that KAC may need to be involved in:**

- » Land and water management
- » Tenure issues
- » Biodiversity and environmental protection
- » Cultural heritage
- » Land use planning





# THANK YOU FROM KARIYARRA

If you have any queries or would simply like to connect with Kariyarra please do not hesitate to email: [info@kariyarra.com.au](mailto:info@kariyarra.com.au)