

Dharriwaa Elders Group wish to acknowledge the following for their valuable contributions:

The following staff and suppliers worked for the DEG this year:

DEG staff this year were: Cultural Heritage and Language Project Officer: Virginia Robinson, Elders Cultural Support Officer: Neil Weatherall, Elders Support Officer: Kim Sullivan, Cleaner: Kay Kennedy and Kim Sullivan. All staff were employed as casuals except for Neil Weatherall who was employed as a permanent part-time employee working 20hrs a week under the Commonwealth Government's National Jobs Package. Wendy Spencer of Heuristic Video provided project management and resources production services, CASE Inc supplied network administration and software development services, HCPL provided archaeology services, Keith Whiteman of Carrigan and Co provided auditing services. Various individuals supplied art and exhibition content for the DEG shop and exhibitions. Various local and other suppliers provided operational goods and services.

The Dharriwaa Elders Group was supported financially or in kind this year by:

1. the Commonwealth Government through the

- * Maintenance of Indigenous Languages and Records, the Indigenous Culture Support and the National Indigenous Heritage Programs of the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
- * Indigenous Women's Program of the Department of Families, Community Services, Housing and Indigenous Affairs
- * Healthy Active Australia Program of the Department of Health and Ageing
- * Regional Arts NSW

2. the NSW Government through

- * Thubbo Aboriginal Medical Co-operative and NSW Dept of Ageing Disability and Homecare
- * NSW Dept of State and Regional Development

3. and by the following companies and individuals

- * Gilbert + Tobin, Blakes Dawson
- * HCPL
- * Mrs Reid, Virginia Robinson, DEG directors, CASE volunteers, the Von Gavel family, NSW Dept of Human Services (Community Services).

DEG Elders Councillors and Office bearers

At the 1 July 2009, DEG Office Bearers: were Tim Creighton (Speaker), Thelma Thorne (Treasurer), Virginia Robinson (Secretary), Elders Councillors: Ted Thorne, Marj Weatherall, Gladys Kennedy, Les Pitt, Fred Walford, Leonard Simpson, Richard Lake, Lewis Beale. On the 10 July 2009, Tim Creighton resigned as Speaker and Lewis Beale was elected in his place. On the 10th July 2009 Ken Dennis was invited to join the Elders Council, Virginia Robinson resigned as Secretary and Marj Weatherall was elected to take her place. Lewis Beale resigned as Speaker 28 August 2009 and Richard Lake was elected in his place. From the AGM of the 15th December 2009, DEG Office bearers were Richard Lake (Speaker), Thelma Thorne (Treasurer), Victor Hill (Secretary). Elders Councillors were Fay Sands, Elizabeth Peters, Ken Dennis, Vera Dennis, Marj Weatherall, Ted Thorne. An additional two Elders were invited to join the Elders Council after the meeting of 29 January 2010 - Fred Walford and Gladys Walford.

DHARRIWAA ELDERS GROUP INCORPORATED - a charity endorsed by the ATO INC9883394

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ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2010

DEG's 2nd Wugan Gaay Launch



Left: Gladys Walford and Virginia Robinson perform a Welcome to Country to launch the exhibition. Right: Elders Flossie Kennedy, Marj Weatherall and Ted Thorne and a Lightning Ridge student in deep conversation at the launch.



The second component of the Wugan Gaay exhibition - a display cabinet full of Uncle Roy Barker's wooden weapons

that he had donated to the DEG previously, was launched in December 2009 by the DEG. Details follow within.

DEG congratulates Walgett BAC for winning the knockout!



In October 2009 the Dharriwaa Elders Group were very proud that the Walgett BAC (Barwon Aboriginal Community) team won the NSW Aboriginal knockout.

Left: The DEG women decorated the DEG's shop window after the big win, which was broadcast nationally on television for the first time, by NITV.

Baayaami gimbila ngiyangu dhiyaan wilaygu milanda Dharriwaaga. Giirru. *Biami let our people live as one through Dharriwaa. Amen.*

Walgett Grassroots governance

Changing of guard at Dharriwaa Elders Grp.

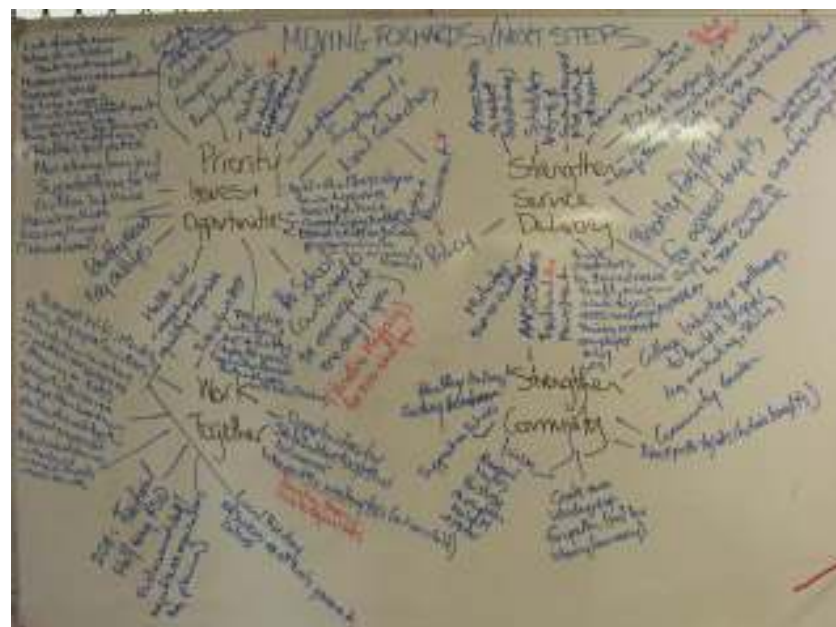
DEG elder Gladys Walford has taken on the senior elder leadership role within the DEG now that many of her brothers and sisters have passed away. She is seen here in August 2009 with Lewis Beale and NSW DAA's Director General Jodi Bruon, welcoming community and visitors to the first community workshop regarding COAG's Remote Service Delivery Project. We are proud that Aunty Gladys has taken on the ceremonial mantle for the DEG.



DEG learns of COAG's "Closing the Gap"



DEG members were invited to a community workshop in August 2009 to learn about COAG's new Remote Service Delivery Project for Walgett, and met the controller Brian Gleeson (above). Right: the white board containing the off-the-top-of-the-head thoughts from the workshop. (Hint: use magnifying glass)



Closing the Gap visitors

Jennie Shortt, Senior Advisor Queensland and NSW, Office of the Co-ordinator General for Remote Indigenous Services, visited the DEG in February 2010. She and her colleagues have been tasked by both the Commonwealth and state governments of Australia, to work with Walgett and 28 other Aboriginal communities, to Close the Gap in life expectancy, education and employment opportunities, between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. She wants the Walgett community to work with the government on this project. The first step is to make an Implementation Plan for Walgett.



DEG teaches GY at Syd Uni



At left: From left to right are Joyce Fazldeen (Goodooga/Brewarrina), Peter Swan (Moree), Marilyn Richards (Boggabilla) Elizabeth Peters (DEG), Virginia Robinson (DEG) and David Prosser (Murrumbidgee) receiving the GY Certificate One. This picture was taken in the grounds of the Koori Centre at the University. Other participants attending summer school were the Wiradjuri and Gumbaynggirr language learners.

In the second week of January 2010 Virginia Robinson (DEG's Language Project Officer) and Elizabeth Peters (DEG member) travelled to Sydney for one week teaching Gamilaraay/Yuwaalaraay to students of the Gamilaraay nation. The participants complete 3 days of a beginners

course and the last two days are spent teaching more advanced areas of the language. One of main things that students learnt was that sound development is a slow process and that mastering the GY sounds, pronunciation and grammar rules all enable good GY speakers.



November's meeting of the Walgett Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay Teaching Group was attended by Karen Flick and Lyn Rummery from Walgett Community College, DEG's Virginia Robinson, Gladys Kennedy and Marj Weatherall. The DEG aims to support the work of those working in Aboriginal language teaching, and lobbies on their behalf for the implementation of priorities identified by the Group in its Strategic Plan for the development of Y/G language use in Walgett. This group and its leadership is vital for moving forward in language work in Walgett.

PS: The DEG celebrated a victory in October 2010 after TAFE finally agreed to bring an Aboriginal language teaching course to Walgett, after many years of lobbying by the DEG. This activity was found by the Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay language Teaching group to be vital for the continuing ability of local Aboriginal people to teach their own language in Walgett.

Walgett Community College language teacher Karen Flick with Harry Hall and Virginia Robinson during one of her regular Friday visits with the DEG, in October 2009.



There is always a good roll up for the GY language teaching group's monthly meetings. Above: Fay Green OAM, Vera Dennis and teacher Lyn Rummery discussing concerns about the TAFE Certificate 1 for language teachers for Walgett in February 2010. This Group has been lobbying TAFE to conduct the course. We have lined up the



teachers and participants but the course remains unorganised. We need the course so that more community people will become confident to teach language in the schools. Right: Julie Miller, John Brown, Tony Spiller from St Joseph's working through some ideas on the logistics of running the GY Certificate course.

DEG language program

This year achievements of the DEG's language program included: Providing support for the leadership of Elders in language business, convening the Walgett Yuwaalaraay Gamilaraay Language Teaching Group, teaching basic language to Walgett services so they can use more language with their clients, disseminating language news and information in Yundiboo magazine, providing support for lan-



Above: Elders beginning their March monthly board meeting prior to be inundated by the GYLTVG who arrived for a separate meeting about language but joined the DEG



At another meeting to discuss language were Gladys Kennedy, Virginia Robinson, Thelma Thorne and Joan Morgan. Elders are confronted with issues about lack of teachers and a GY teaching course, concerns from other areas where Elders aren't accepting the dictionary or the revival



The Walgett GY language group's April meeting convened by the DEG. DEG Director Ken Dennis listens with much interest as the group discusses strategies/plans on how to progress the desperately needed GY TAFE Cer-

guage teachers in the region, implementing a language display at the 2010 Walgett Show and judging entries, working for more language teaching in Walgett schools with principals and the Dept of Education and teaching a Gamilaraay language program at Sydney Uni. Staff training and records management activities were also undertaken, along with other necessary operational tasks.



monthly meeting instead. Pictures above show elders Vera Dennis, Elizabeth Peters, Fay Green OAM, Julie Miller, Tony Spiller, Thelma Thorne (back to camera).



of language. Other issues are the discovery of govt. plans for a regional language centre in Dubbo, and the announcement about a new Catholic Church Aboriginal cultural centre in Walgett. Both plans have proceeded without the knowledge of the DEG or the GYLTVG. Go figure!



tificate with Glenda Simpson. Above: DEG Elders with St Josephs Principal Tony Spiller consider the many issues facing GY teaching.

DEG governance workshop

In November 2009 Edward Nathan of JCE Positive Outcomes provided a workshop on governance. The aim was to assist better understanding of DEG's directors' legal obligations, and of the DEG's constitution. Those present found the session very useful and we plan to repeat the process regularly, resources permitting.



NSW Minister for Education visits



NSW Minister for Education Verity Firth visited the DEG 19 August to introduce herself and ask how the Walgett Community College is progressing since its structure was reviewed in late 2008. She was welcomed to Gamilaraay country by DEG elder Lewis Beale. She then attended a meeting with the DEG elders present, and then the Minister and elders joined the Walgett AECG and other interested community members, to hear about how the new community college model is working since it was reviewed at the end of 2008. DEG participated in the review extensively.



DEG supports LALC

On 31 August the DEG workshopped the Walgett LALC's Draft Community and Business Plan, and wrote a submission in response to that document in September. DEG has proposed to negotiate an MoU with the LALC, as DEG believes the two organisations should be working more closely together.



More Walgett grassroots governance

DEG meets Gosford Mayor



Left: Keith Hall (Aboriginal Liaison Officer Gosford Council), Lawrence Walford (Walgett Councillor) and Terry Thirlwell (Gosford Council) introduced the Mayor of Gosford, Chris Holstein, to the DEG on the 11th August 2009. The delegation from Gosford had come to attend the Walgett Community Festival. We believe the Gosford Council has financially backed the Walgett Community Festival since its inception. Some sister city issues were discussed and the mayor invited to DEG's upcoming exhibition launch.

AA Minister visits Narran Lake



NSW Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Ageing Disability and Home Care, Paul Lynch, was hosted to visit Narran Lakes by the Dharriwaa Elders Group in September 2009. DEG's Cultural Heritage Project Officer Virginia Robinson quickly showed the Minister the rich evidence of people's lives that are clearly visible as far as the eye can see at the lakes. DEG's Speaker, Richard Lake, gave the Minister a video produced by the DEG "Welcome to Walgett" and copies of DEG's recent policy work for his information.



During his visit we gained some useful insight into the Minister's thinking regarding the Stolen Trust Funds Reparation Scheme, and an understanding of the Minister's thinking regarding the new DAA Community Engagement positions around NSW. He said their role is to develop the communities they are working in, and assist grassroots organisations like elders' and men's group, to build their capacity. DEG looks forward to working with the Walgett position for this purpose.

Policy advice



Left: staff and members worked on a draft document in November 2009 advising NSW government how mining should be managed to accommodate Aboriginal cultural heritage protection. Whenever Dharriwaa Elders Group produces a paper or policy submission, it is workshopped by a collection of members appointed as a sub-committee by the DEG directors.

Yaama ngiyaningunda
(hello all)
Nhalay ngiyaningu guliyaan
(this is our news)

DEG plans its future



The Dharriwaa Elders Group constantly undergoes change as since 2005 we have been growing our service independently from our auspicer. Another big change occurred with the death in December 2008 of our founding Chairperson George Rose OAM. Other original DEG members were also lost in 2008, and we experienced positive income growth - our best year in 2009/10. The directors and staff thought it was time to reassess the goals of the organisation and to test its strength and sustainability for the future. With the aim of developing a three year plan, the first step was a brainstorm undertaken with the assistance of Paul Shenck from Industry and Investment NSW. In September a handful of our super-engaged members contributed towards this important first step. All present prophetically agreed that DEG must attract income so that it becomes less reliant on government funds.

DEG explains extra admin time

This is Wendy Spencer speaking - the Project Manager of the Dharriwaa Elders Group. I want to bring to your attention the extra project management time that has been demanded of us this year by the Commonwealth Government. The DEG operates from receiving annual project funds which fund particular activities. Government does not holistically fund our services and seem loath to pay the full cost of providing the services of the DEG. So far we have made do, in order to build the organisation. One aspect of project management I undertake weekly is the accounts. The Commonwealth this year insisted we use separate bank accounts for each department. This means we juggle 5 bank accounts currently, and a payment for one invoice may be made with multiple cheques. The extra administration time imposed is not reflected in the funding DEG receives. I believe good accounting software and annual audits would negate the need for multiple bank accounts. Thank you for reading. At right: Taking the cheque books and accompanying requisition paperwork to a DEG signatory to sign.



Techno savvy elders



DEG members and staff use Skype to communicate with DEG's Project Manager (who began working remotely for the DEG half-time in Wagga and half-time on site in



Walgett, since January 2010) and stakeholders. Above are pictured Lewis Beale and Gladys Kennedy confidently using the system.

Regular on-the job staff training



Above: DEG staff Kim Sullivan and Neil Weatherall were trained by Stella Sands in January to use the cash register when making sales from the Centre's shop. The Commonwealth Government's National Job Package Program provides the DEG with funds to provide regular training for Neil Weatherall provided both on-the-job and externally. Kim Sullivan and Neil Weatherall share the task of managing the DEG's arts and crafts and exhibition space and so consequently, without many computer skills, have had rapid and on-going training opportunities provided throughout the year.

collection management



In May 2010 DEG's Wendy Spencer and Virginia Robinson, underwent



training in the use of Mosaic software purchased by the DEG to manage the DEG's

collection catalogue so that the DEG's collection will be more accessible to the Walgett community in the future. Unfortunately we have attracted no funds for our staff to undertake this job, but the FaHCSIA Community Capability Fund will allow DEG to bring in a librarian to complete this task. This activity was planned to be completed before the end of June 2010, but has been extended due to the sickness of the librarian selected by Zenith Management to perform the task.

Community Capability Fund benefits



DEG was very grateful to receive assistance from Walgett CDEP men in the delivery of two glass display cabinets we took receipt of in November. They were purchased with funds provided by the Commonwealth Government



through the Walgett Community Capability Fund. They now house Roy Barker's weapons that he donated to the DEG for safekeeping, and other cultural items acquired by the community for safekeeping by the DEG.

DEG outreach to other NSW elders



In November DEG elders Thelma Thorne, Gladys Kennedy and Elizabeth Peters travelled with staff Virginia Robinson and Wendy Spencer to meet with Moree elders at the Indigenous Dhiyaan Centre, to provide



information to the Moree elders planning to set up their own elders group. DEG realises that support from other elders' voices will assist its aims as increasingly the authority of elders in Aboriginal community and cultural matters is ignored.

Council interacts

Right: DEG met with consultants working for the Walgett Shire Council 25 August to discuss ideas for the beautification of Walgett's main street. A meeting was held with the community in the new year in which the consultants presented their plans.



More Walgett grassroots governance



Doctor Wendy Jarvie and Professor Wendy Stuart from NSW University visited the DEG in May 2010 to research community perspectives of the Murdi Paaki COAG trial which the DEG had intimate experience of in Walgett.



DEG said it would like to see an independent research evaluation of the trial and the benefits it brought to Walgett, as we would have liked to undertake an evaluation ourselves if we had the resources.



DEG requests community healing

Elders met with Barbara Aspelt & Brenda McDonnell from the Rudd Government's Healing Foundation, to discuss community healing, in June 2010. DEG requested from the RSD "Closing the Gap" a community healing as a necessary first step to improve Walgett's future capacity.



Council's LEP process

Australian Museum Services consulted DEG in June 2010 about an Aboriginal Heritage study for the Walgett Shire Council in which they will record local cultural knowledge. The DEG is unsure of how it will participate in this limited project, which will inform the Local Environment Plan.



Ombudsman re-visits DEG

NSW Ombudsman's Office has been tasked with the Safer Communities project and on 6 May visited the DEG for discussion about its concerns for child and community safety initiatives and to gather Elders advice/opinions about strategies to deal with community violence. At left are Elders Dick Lake, Tim Creighton, Virginia Robinson and Lewis Beale with the Deputy Ombudsman.

Elders' join community celebration



Walgett's August Community Festival featured a lantern parade for the first time in 2009, facilitated by professional community arts workers from Lismore. Everyone who participated thoroughly enjoyed it, including DEG elder Virginia Robinson who is seen here leading the way with her grandson Dylan. A giant dhinawan led the parade, which DEG recorded on video for the historical record and inclusion in the tourism promotion video it is making. The Walgett community festival has been developed around grassroots Aboriginal community events of long-standing - the Ricky Walford football gala, George Rose Jnr memorial football gala and Jenny Wright memorial netball gala day. DEG contributes by timing its cultural exhibitions to launch during this week. Walgett has benefitted greatly from the financial and other assistance provided by sister city Gosford Council to the annual festival.



DEG judges NAIDOC art

St Josephs School requested Elders to judge and choose a winning work of art from a collection by St Josephs students for NAIDOC week. Many of the entries were very well done and Elders had a little difficulty just choosing one winner. The Elders felt that all of the art entries should be winners! Right: Fay Green OAM & Tanya displaying the art for viewing by Elders. Aunty Fay holds her choice of art



work but the Elders were making up their own minds about which painting should be chosen. In the end the one above was voted as a second choice but the winning work is at the left.

Elders' NAIDOC gathering



In October 2009 the Dharriwaa Elders Group joined with Nanganya Aboriginal Homecare in Lightning Ridge, to host a gathering for Lightning Ridge, Walgett, Collarenebri and Goodooga elders to celebrate NAIDOC. Originally

the event was scheduled for July but was postponed due to rain on three occasions. Finally the day arrived in October. John and Trina Brown hosted the visit at Barriekneal Housing and Community's property Warrengulla.



Sharing stories for NAIDOC 2009

DEG members Lewis Beale (Speaker) and staff member Virginia Robinson sharing stories with children from Walgett Primary School. Children heard stories from Lewis about what life was like for Aboriginal people in the past and Virginia told some creation stories for Narran Lakes (Dharriwaa) and why the emu (dhinawan) can't fly.

The students were very knowledgeable about Narran Lakes and shared their own stories with the DEG during this enjoyable July 2009 session in the Walgett library.

DEG meets Director General of NSW Human Services and requests help



On the 11 March 2010 the DEG met with the Director General of Premier and Cabinet and NSW Human Services, with his media advisor John Scott, Scott Griffith (Regional Director of Ageing Disability and Homecare) and Bill Tatnell (previously Regional Director of Aboriginal Affairs and now working with Premier and Cabinet). Elders and staff put many issues to the visitors in the short time they were with us. The unfairness of how the Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme is being implemented, the need for Walgett Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, the need for a Walgett air service and the delays in opening the Walgett dialysis service were prominent issues discussed. Mr Scott Griffith was lobbied to provide greater financial support for the DEG's future. DEG requested Mr O'Reilly talk to the Attorney General about improving the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act so that it protects infor-

mation about Aboriginal sites. The DEG in recent years has been diligently registering Aboriginal sites in our area with NSW DECCW in the belief that once they are known by the NSW Government they will be protected by the department tasked to implement this Act. We believe this is the intention of the Act, yet in reality in our area, which the department rarely visits or monitors, the opposite is true. Recently we were shocked to discover that information about the location of sites is given by the NSW Govt freely to miners and developers, in the belief that the release of this information will safeguard sites. We believe that this information should not be given so lightly and request legal experts to improve a system which makes it easier for the unscrupulous and greedy to destroy sites that are located in the path of their development plans. Mr O'Reilly promptly followed up our concerns to no avail.

This is local governance in action



Above: DEG's project officer Virginia Robinson made a presentation to the October 2009 Council meeting on behalf of the Dharriwaa Elders Group regarding the Council's proposed Aboriginal Heritage Study, and again proposed that an MoU be negotiated between the DEG



and the Council. Above: Elders enjoyed a well earned lunch after their monthly board meeting of the Elders Council, where big issues are discussed and decided by Elders as a group.

DEG's cultural heritage management

DEG & Narran Lakes Co-Management Ctee



The Narran Lake Co-Management Committee was formed in April 2009. DEG's delegate Virginia Robinson, is seen here in March 2010 with Glenda Simpson, Virginia Robinson, Craig Trindall (Coordinator) Brenda Mc Bride and Jason Wilson. The Committee is working on a Memorandum of Understanding between it and DECCWH. Other activities include survey work on Aboriginal cultural heritage sites in preparation for diversion of a road for a day use area for school visits away from sensitive sites, and interpretive signage. The new Committee is undergoing a difficult birth which has required much patience by the DEG's delegate and some intervention by the DEG's Elders Council.

Inland Rivers Network meeting

On 17 March DEG staff Virginia Robinson, Wendy Spencer and Elder Elizabeth Peters travelled to Coonamble to attend the Inland Rivers Network (IRN) forum/workshop on wetlands. The IRN hosted the workshop to show the values of wetlands and floodplains in Coonamble and focused on the Castlereagh wetlands which are along the floodplain of the Castlereagh River with much of the wetlands situated on the property "Wingadee." The workshop was a great chance to learn about the different types of wetlands and on the ground management of them. We also learnt of the development of the Murray Darling Basin Commission's Plan for preserving the health of the Basin. Right: Coonamble Elders: Bertie Bartholomew, Gloria Fernando and Ray Fazeldine.



Land clearing

The DEG discovered a scarred tree that was cleared and then burnt and destroyed as part of land clearing, during DEG's regular trouble-shooting activities for cultural heritage management in July 2009. DEG requested NSW DECC (Dubbo) to investigate. The photo shows one of the many trees cleared - scar is visible.

ABC Radio visit

DEG's Tim Creighton and Virginia Robinson discuss local Aboriginal cultural heritage matters with an ABC Radio journalist in December 2009. The DEG has found this year that there is a growing interest in Aboriginal cultural matters in the wider community and is happy to ensure that information is given directly by elders in the Walgett area.



The February healthy elders session saw a huge turn up of Elders. The session was provided by the WAMS' dental team and visitors informing about peri-natal mental health and post-natal depression. Above: Elders are very engaged with



the resources made available for the session. Above: Aboriginal Health Worker Andy Carroll checking Victor Hill's blood pressure. These simple checks are performed weekly by staff from Walgett Hospital.



Above: Joan Dixon from NSW Outback Division of GP discusses some concerns and aspects of the condition for women who suffer post-natal depression. Elders appreciated this information as some said they did not know about post-natal depression and the signs of it. Above right: Jim Fields at



his first health session looks on as the women enjoy morning tea whilst awaiting the arrival of the health worker who will do basic checks for blood pressure and diabetic sugar levels. Pictured are Gladys Russell, Vera Dennis, Jim Fields, Flossie Kennedy and Gladys Walford.



Above: Andy Carroll from the Walgett Health Service checks elders blood sugars and blood pressures at the DEG's weekly Monday elders health program, in October 2009.



As Walgett services learn of the success of the Elders Health program, they eagerly used it to promote wider aspects of healthy living. Above: Rose Gordon from EWON (the Electricity and Water Ombudsman) gave information to elders in October about the assistance they can receive regarding their fair access to utilities.

Elders Health Program funds end in May but DEG determined to continue.



Above: The weekly Monday Elders Health Session undertaken some gentle exercise in September 2009. The Elders Health program consisted of hosting a weekly gathering of elders at the DEG, undertaking regular blood sugar and pressure tests, and a program of health promotions delivered by Walgett service providers. The Steering Committee of the Elders Health Program (seen above right) contained representatives from the NSW Outback Division of General Practice, Walgett AMS and Walgett Health Service of



the NSW Greater Western Area Health Service. This committee met quarterly to steer the program. An evaluation report was produced for the project by Virginia Robinson, a registered nurse and Class C researcher, who at the time of her engagement was not employed by the DEG. The program's funding was completed in May 2010 and was not renewed by the Commonwealth government despite its success.

Elders' Swine Flu immunisation

In November Skye Duncan from WAMS visited the DEG's Monday morning health sessions and gave everyone swine flu immunisation after first explaining it and receiving their consent. The DEG's weekly elders health program provides the Walgett health services with the best opportunity to access Aboriginal elders for health promotions, and in this way assist knowledge of important programs to disseminate faster in the community.



At right: one of the March 2010 Monday Healthy Elders sessions where Andy Carroll consistently made blood pressure and sugar checks. Some of the regular attendees at right include Marjorie Weatherall, Vera Dennis, Elizabeth Peters and two Elders hidden behind Aubrey Weatherall. The elders health sessions came to an end due to the funded program that provided it being completed in May 2010. The DEG believes that the program is a cost effective strategy for keeping elders out of hospital and well in their community and will continue to provide the program with the assistance of health service providers.



Ongoing issues preventing impacts

The Lightning Ridge Miners Association met in February 2010 with the DEG wanting to consult with traditional owners about Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the property Barfield which miners hope to mine for opal soon. The DEG advised the LRMA that it is appropriate to consult the DEG in its own right, as well as other Aboriginal stakeholders.

The LRMA needs to commission Aboriginal cultural heritage and environmental surveys of the property Barfield before opal prospecting begins. This will ensure that their members will know where they can and cannot lawfully mine

DEG believes that Aboriginal cultural heritage includes the environment as well as archaeology. We seek to understand the potential impacts of mining on the environment as

Right: Virginia Robinson, Maxine O'Brien, President Sebastian Deisenberger and Secretary Mark Holland.



well as on occupation and creation story sites on Barfield, before any mining proceeds, so we can make sure that nothing important is destroyed. We are not content to let things happen as they have in the past, where elders have had no voice, or access to quality advice to help them make these difficult decisions about the potential destruction of cultural heritage.

Today because the DEG is finally recognized as a stakeholder by government, it would need to assist any survey

process, and provide its opinion and advice to the NSW government regarding the findings of any survey. Ultimately, buffer zones will have to be drawn up on a map, inside of which miners would not be allowed. Miners will have to be forced to stay outside the buffer zones. We appeal to the NSW Government to make this a condition of prospecting or mining licenses. The LRMA were unable to tell us at this meeting how they might enforce a buffer zone system with their members.

ABC TV speaks to DEG about mining



The ABC News helicopter landed at Barfield in July 2009 to record the concerns of the DEG about proposed opal mining going ahead there and the threat to both farming and the extensive Aboriginal cultural heritage in the area.



Above: Lewis Beale and Virginia Robinson share with ABC Reporter Paul Lockyer information about the rich Aboriginal cultural values of places on Barfield which includes its rich and varied native vegetation.



Ecologist Laura Torribles visited the DEG in March 2010 to record their stories about water, rivers and creation stories, particularly in relation to the Macquarie River. Her report for the NSW Government will be for-

warded to the DEG (although it has not been received yet). A similar report was prepared by Laura after consulting with the Warren Aboriginal community.

DEG training surveys of OPA-4 continue



In August 2009 DEG resumed its archaeology training surveys with Heritage Concepts, in OPA 4. We aimed to survey a representative sample of the very large Opal Prospecting Area 4 so that DEG can provide to government written evidence of the rich Aboriginal cultural heritage that needs protection from impending opal mining activities. Neil Weatherall, Virginia Robinson and Kim Sullivan received training this time. DEG would like to learn how to survey biodiversity as well, in other words, the environmental context of the archaeology. We have not been able to attract funding for environmental activities so far. We would like to extend thanks to Springvale for their welcoming response to our team.

Visit to Cuddie Springs dig



Above: Dharriwaa Elders Group visited the Cuddie Springs archaeology dig in September 2009. Kim Sullivan, Aunty Elizabeth Peters, Aunty Gladys Kennedy & Virginia Robinson pose with Dr Judy Fields. Above: Observing the next (second) platform showing animal bones

uncovered lower left corner. Despite establishing a relationship with Dr Fields for many years now the DEG remains uninformed of Dr Fields visits. The DEG looks forward to one day receiving information about the digs directly.

Council learns how to limit impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage

The Dharriwaa Elders Group wrote to the Council requesting a site visit of proposed work they will undertake to repair six bridges in the Walgett area. This work will impact on areas significant to the Walgett Aboriginal community, so the Dharriwaa Elders Group requested a site visit to survey the proposed works at one of the bridges, in November 2009. Our project officer, Virginia Robinson, was

accompanied on this trip by the Shire engineer Tekin Colak and Anne Dennis from the Walgett Local Aboriginal Land Council. DEG wrote to the Council a submission in response to a cultural heritage study of the proposed work they commissioned of GHD Pty Ltd that took place without DEG's knowledge. We have requested that studies such as these do not occur in the future without DEG's involvement.



Above: a scarred tree surveyed by DEG in May 2010 for Council.



Left: James Bellwood promoted his new role in April 2010 to the DEG as a Drug & Alcohol worker in Walgett for the Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise. DEG Elders and staff gave him many ideas for strategies and future programs. At right: DEG listened to Pru Goward (NSW Opposition) as she sought women's views on DV, jobs, housing, and child abuse issues in Walgett in April. We await her report.



NSW response to child abuse



On the 25th May Rachel Ardler from NSW Aboriginal Affairs visited the Dharriwaa Elders Group to introduce the NSW Safer Families project, which is the NSW Government's response to tackling child sexual assault and other family issues in Aboriginal communities. Rachel explained that NSW AA's task in Safer Families is to build confidence and resilience in families so they can do something if there is child sexual assault, so they can make a report themselves. It will be operated on a community development model and will work in with DoCS and Police.



Above: DoCS met with elders and staff to consult regarding the opening of their newly renovated facility. We take this opportunity to note that the Dharriwaa Elders Group thanks DoCS for its generous donation of office furniture.



Above: Felicity Taylor Edwards and Jillian Newman dropped into the DEG 29 September as they will be newly working with NSW Human Services "Safer Families" project.

Commonwealth response to abuse

Right: Police Officers from the National Indigenous Intelligence Commission visited the DEG 3 August to assist their work in improving child protection systems on the ground in Aboriginal communities.



Elders welcome DoCS

In November 09 DoCS moved into their newly renovated Walgett premises and held an unofficial opening ceremony. DEG elders Fay Green smoked the

premises and Leonard Simpson performed other duties. DEG was pleased to receive a donation of unwanted furniture from DoCS during the office move.



DEG works to improve assist services



Above: Tony Mureau from the Walgett police service introduced himself in July as the LAC's Aboriginal Affairs officer and discussed his role with elders. He also discussed progress of the Aboriginal Strategic Directions project and the role of Police ACLO. DEG saw Inspector Mureau once, at its request, after this introduction.

Walgett's Family Violence Prevention Service consulted elders about issues and concerns requiring legal advice in March. Making a will, enduring guardianship, caring for grandchildren, disciplining children, money, care and protection and housing were discussed. The service offered to return with information requested at a later date.



Left: DEG received an early morning visit from NSW Royal Lifesaving Society after their educative work with schools and Youth Off the Streets clients. Right: DEG met Ric Tasker from Council's Visitor Information Centre in January to discuss the ways we want to develop cultural tourism.



New community centre launched



Above: Debbie Field, Manager Lyn Field, NSW Dept of Aboriginal Affairs employees Tracey Shillingsworth and Lesley Houston at the opening of Walgett's new Community Centre in January. The DEG printed an introduction to the Centre in its January Yundiboo magazine, and DEG Elder Lewis Beale has taken a prominent role lead-



ing the new organisation. DEG attended the launch en masse. Above: Arms full of grandchildren. Fay Sands with her great grandchildren Kiara Mackenzie-Green and Kye-hain Mackenzie-Green enjoying their day at the newly-opened Walgett Community Centre. FaHCSIA published photos from the DEG of the launch event.

Heritage management with NSW CMAs

Right: DEG conducted a meeting at Barfield with the landholder and officers of the Western CMA on 12 and 26 August to plan a potential joint project to survey areas of high conservation value on Barfield.

Namoi CMA produced TV commercial



The Dharriwaa Elders Group sends a delegate, Richard Lake, to the Namoi Catchment Management Authority's Aboriginal Advisory Committee meetings. A priority for the committee has been to promote itself and the CMA in a series of community service announcements on regional television. The DEG used the opportunity to promote its management activities of Aboriginal cultural heritage. The photo here was taken in September 2009 dur-

ing rain and shows the commercial television crew recording DEG staff and elders surveying a magnificent scarred tree near Walgett. The DEG hopes that the Namoi Aboriginal Advisory Committee will provide advice to the Namoi CMA which will influence the land and water and vegetation management of the region significantly. Optimistically the DEG will find itself in a position one day to report to its readership this eventuality.

Dhangaliirr (AP-nominated by the DEG in 2002) is researched by Govt.



Dhangaliirr is a place highly significant to Walgett's Aboriginal community. The DEG nominated it to the NSW Government as an "Aboriginal Place" under the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act in 2002. It has visible remains of a cemetery, a traditional burial ground for the uninitiated, an important trading site marked by middens, traditional campsites and a stand of gidjiirr trees with many markings showing where hardwood tools and weapons were made, remains of a contemporary station camp where many people in the Walgett community were born, lived and worked, with their families. After seven years the NSW



Government has employed historians Waters Consultancy to collect the evidence it requires to gazette Dhangaliirr as an Aboriginal Place. Despite the DEG having recorded many elders talking about Dhangaliirr's significance, the historian wished to record interviews with elders and community members discussing why the place is significant to them. Kate Waters from Waters Consultancy is seen above talking to Virginia Robinson, Vera Dennis, Harry Hall and Gladys Kennedy about their memories in September.

DEG launches cultural exhibition #2



On the 14th August the Dharriwaa Elders Group launched its second cultural exhibition during Walgett's community festival. Wugan Gaay (wood story) is an exhibition of wooden weapons from the Walgett area that are stored by the Australian Museum. The exhibition was made possible with assistance from Regional Arts NSW, the Australia Museum and photographer Stuart Humphreys. Gladys Kennedy, Virginia Robinson and Ruben Allas from Regional Arts NSW, made speeches at the event.

Uncle Roy Barker's work on permanent display



DEG launched to the community Uncle Roy Barker's wooden weapons display on the 8th December, which provides evidence of a living culture to display alongside the historical photos of the Wugan Gaay exhibition. Uncle Roy explained the history of boomerang making and other weapons, how they were used and manufactured. DEG hopes local artists will find them useful templates for years to come. He is pictured in July 2009 at left.



Donation of wooden tools



Above: Yillaman (shield) donated to DEG by the Von Gavel family of Walgett in June 2010. They told us that their father (who has just recently died) took them from Mr. Ian Sanderson's property where he was working on fencing out that way, and around Narran Lakes too. The yillaman is a thick shield about 30 cm long and 15 cm



wide, made of light wood such as kurrajong, used to "slant off" or deflect spears or block boomerangs. Above: Bundi (club) also brought in and donated to DEG by the Von Gavel family of Walgett. The bundi is a long handled club or waddy with a round knob on the end. Used now as a general word for "club".

More DEG services for the NSW Govt NSW Aboriginal Trust Funds business



From 2004, the DEG has been assisting its members and the Walgett community, to respond to the NSW Government's undertaking to finally repay funds owing to NSW Aboriginal people from their trust funds and those of their deceased relatives, that were kept by the Aboriginal Welfare Board and placed into general revenue when it closed in 1968. In October the government imposed a deadline on claimants forcing them to make decisions about how they want their claim considered, and to respond in writing if they want their claim to be dealt with according to the original guideline set. No response would allow the government to make a payment of \$11,000 regardless of the amounts in the trust funds. People were being asked to make this decision when they had no or little knowledge of the amounts in their trust funds, as the government has lost files over the years, and provides very

little researcher time required to find clues stored in various files spread around archives in NSW. The DEG was inundated with people who had received a letter from the NSW Government and needed assistance with first understanding the letter and then responding to it. The DEG sought legal advice for the community, and arranged a face to face workshop with NSW Legal Aid from Dubbo. At the

last minute NSW Legal Aid had to cancel the workshop, so instead we hurriedly organised a speaker phone session. Luckily the high school had a room big enough for this to take place, thanks to Peter Nicholls. No body funds the DEG for the work it undertook for the community on many occasions to assist those with stolen trust funds to receive some satisfaction. To ignore the work involved would have

been to perpetuate the injustice of expecting Aboriginal elders to be able to receive and respond to letters within a month's timeframe without providing any useful assistance. We hope the NSW Government will financially recognise the value of the DEG when we undertake the work required to implement government policy. The DEG wrote to NSW Human Services about its experience.

Dharriwaa Elders Group organised a fourth legal information session on the 23 January 2010 regarding the NSW Government's Trust Fund Reparation Scheme. Patrick Latham from Legal Aid NSW explained some of the confusing correspondence received by those who have registered claims with the scheme. The NSW Government held trust funds on behalf of many Aboriginal people and are now attempting to return the funds. But instead of researching who rightfully owns the trust fund monies, they are expecting Aboriginal people to claim directly, mostly with no legal resources. Many are confused and are expected to correspond with the scheme within impossible deadlines and are unable to do so.



Aboriginal studies content improves

The DEG was very pleased to work with new Aboriginal Studies teacher Jenadelle Trindall this year. She began the obvious process of consulting elders regarding local content. Right: Students from the Walgett High School visited the Dharriwaa Elders Group in October to plan with elders their final year Aboriginal Studies projects, with Ms Trindall.



Church requests cultural content



Meetings were held by DEG with Lee Herden and Sharon Cooke from the Catholic Diocese of Armidale in Decem-



ber and January to discuss feasibility of working with the DEG to develop cultural content for religious education.

NSW DET requests cultural content



Judyanne Albini met with the DEG twice in 2009 to develop a relationship and assist her work to enable the delivery of the NSW curricula in Walgett Community College in ways that engage Aboriginal students more. Cultural busi-



ness and resource development is one of DEG's strengths and we have been pleased to meet this focussed professional.

Uni students visit DEG

Students from the University of Technology Sydney visited Walgett and were welcomed by the Dharriwaa Elders Group in September as part of their pilgrimage to Freedom Ride communities around NSW.



Archive explores future with DEG



Kirsten Thorpe visited the DEG in May 2010 to renew her connections with our organisation, in her new role working with University of Technology Sydney. We had met Kirsten in her work with NSW State Records. She came to work with the DEG to develop protocols for her new project - the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Data Archive. UTS was invited to establish a national trusted repository for Indigenous data in 2008. This specialist data archive, which is part of the Australian Social Sciences Data Archive (ASSDA), manages the collection and storage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research data.

ATSIDA says it will provide a trusted, secure digital repository for the long term preservation of and access to Indigenous research. In the past only a small fragment of data produced by

researchers has been available to other researchers, students, policymakers and the communities who have actively participated in research projects. Much of the material has tended to remain in researchers' offices, often eventually irretrievable, unusable due to format obsolescence or destroyed. There are obvious benefits to be gained from preserving and making more widely available the data assembled during research projects that are usually expensive in both cost and the time of researchers and Indigenous participants, provided confidentiality and other requirements are met. In addition, a trusted archive will play a significant role in directing the course of research projects and be provided with copies of research products.

ATSIDA is working to gain the confidence of researchers to deposit their

datasets under conditions which permit reuse for reasonable purposes with appropriate conditions. Then it will manage the datasets properly to respect the Indigenous peoples and the depositors.

A particular commitment of AT-SIDA is to deliver back to communities materials about them that have been collected in the past.

The DEG discussed receiving copies of cultural information currently held by researchers or inaccessible institutions. The DEG seeks suitable off-site storage of its own materials. AT-SIDA needs the assistance of Aboriginal elders to write its protocols.

Benefits ATSIDA could bring to Walgett will ultimately improve the DEG's capacity to pass on cultural knowledge to future generations - one of the core aims of the DEG.



DEG's media production continues



DEG produced 12 issues of its monthly magazine Yundiboo this year, its 11 volume. Yundiboo still struggles to be recognised as an effective community media out-



let. DEG believes there is a great need for services to explain and promote their programs to the Walgett community. Yundiboo should be part of a smart community media strategy for services and we hope this can be recognised in the future so that printing and postage costs do

not have to be borne by direct funding and limited DEG resources. Heuristic Video documented the launch of the Wugan Gaay exhibition in August and attempted to complete shooting for the DEG's tourism video at the same time. Still needed are successful fishing shots.



Cultural business

Aboriginal artist Frank Wright made a proposal to the DEG in March to be a part of an art exhibition in Gosford that he is organizing. Frank requested that an Elder might travel with him to Gosford to explain the DEG's exhibitions. The DEG decided that it could not travel its exhibition at that time to another destination.

History wall project investigated

Mr Lewis Beale (Speaker) met with executive management of BEST Employment to discuss arrangements for an Aboriginal family history wall outside BEST's Walgett office in Fox Street in July. The DEG proposed the project be funded by the FaHCSIA Walgett Community Capability Fund. DEG thanks the support of BEST but realised it could not proceed with the project without receiving funds itself to undertake the research and project management work the project required. Unfortunately FaHCSIA's guidelines would not allow the DEG to undertake the project.



Dungalear sale

In March 2010 staff and directors worked to investigate the possibility of the Walgett Aboriginal community purchasing the highly significant Walgett property Dungalear. Government was lobbied and staff produced a brief for FaHCSIA and the Closing the Gap RSD team. Nothing resulted from our efforts.

DEG's Gladys Walford showing on one of DEG's many visits to Dungalear the remains of the bath house (see cement floor) 16/4/02



Above: Aunty Noelene Briggs-Smith was asked by the DEG in July to discuss the difficulties faced by the Indigenous Dhiyaan Centre at the Moree library, what this will mean for the Gamilaraay nation and the cultural information DEG elders has entrusted to her safekeeping.



Above: Sam Newstead of Outback Arts visited the DEG in July to progress the "Connecting Marks" project which will seek to pass on knowledge to local artists about local traditional designs. Sam proposed to submit further information to the DEG for its support and guidance.



Above: Uncle Harry Hall presenting an award to Kevin James Murray at the school assembly. This was Uncle Harry's first attendance at a high school assembly in September 2009 and he enjoyed it. This award was given for



achievement in sport. Above: Kathy Suey receiving an award from Aunty Gladys Walford who regularly made awards at the high school assemblies in 2009 on behalf of the DEG.

Easter Hat parade



DEG Elders participated in the school's Easter Hat Parade in April with children at Walgett Primary School. DEG's Vera Dennis helped judge the winning hats in the Easter Parade. Students were happy, excited and full of hope as they paraded



in front of judges with hopes that their hat would be judged the best and most original.



Above: High School music teacher Tanya Coelho consulted the DEG in June 2010 about her plans to teach students about their culture through language and song, inspiring them to learn more.



School assemblies were a weekly part of the DEG Elders' activities this year. Above picture taken on an assembly visit 3 March with William Ward's sports team after receiving their sports merit awards from DEG's Virginia Robinson.

DEG's involvement in Walgett's schools this year



Above: Walgett teacher Deborah Walford's primary school class worked very hard to bring Christmas cheer to the Dharriwaa Elders Group in December 2009. They presented delicious Christmas puddings they had made



Above: Peter Partridge Walgett Community College Principal made one of his regular visits to the DEG in September 2009. DEG requested his visits so that DEG could feel that it was participating in the "community" part of the "Community College" and develop greater Elders involvement in the schools.



themselves and colourful art about the meaning of Christmas to Aunt Fay Sands, Uncle Harry Hall and Aunt Kim Sullivan.



New Walgett Community College Principal Peter Cochrane had his first monthly meeting with Dharriwaa Elders Group February 2010. He is seen here with DEG Treasurer Thelma Thorne and Speaker Richard Lake and Project Officer Virginia Robinson. DEG offers assistance to schools which has recently rarely been realized practically.

vibe Alive Dance for the June



In the lead up to NAIDOC Week Walgett Community School High School students came to perform exclusively for the DEG in June their winning dancing routine from the Vibe Alive ceremony at Moree. DEG elder Tim Creighton had photographed the girls' winning performance at Moree and presented them with a framed copy of the photograph after their delightful performance for Elders.

DEG develops heritage project



Left: Gladys Kennedy, CSU's Denis Quin, Professor Max Finlayson, Vera Dennis, Victor Hill, Richard Lake, Thelma Thorne, Virginia Robinson and CSU's Annette Parker. At rear are seated Ted Thorne and Neville Beale.



Above: CSU's professor Max Finlayson and Andrew Hull from the Western CMA engaged with the meeting with DEG staff to try and finalise a winning idea for a Walgett Caring for Country project.

the guidelines. On-ground project management would also be a challenge. The all-day project talk was hard to follow for most DEG members as well. Consequently, the plans were shelved. However, promising new relationships were developed in the process.

In February DEG staff developed a relationship with Charles Sturt University, which had started when Rod Pope from CSU's Centre for Inland Health, dropped in unannounced to the Elders Centre one day. DEG is always quick to pursue opportunities, and we outlined a number of ways CSU could assist the DEG, particularly by providing software development skills, training and other services. CSU became interested in assisting DEG to pursue a Caring for our Country project. So we resurrected a project that had been previously unsuccessful, in the hope CSU could supply the skills and resources we need in order to persuade the Commonwealth Government that a Walgett project would be worthy of funding. The project would undertake surveys with elders to map their cultural knowledge and marry it to finds made by accompanying scientists, and document this information so that it can be used to protect and manage the area into the future. The project also aimed to educate participating landowners about sustainable farm practices, and perform on-ground works. DEG invited the Western CMA and the North West Livestock Health and Pest Authority to partner in the project as well, which they were happy to do. Unfortunately, after much brainstorming of the project with the Professor and his colleagues, and Andrew Hull of the Western CMA, we were unable to identify suitable on-ground works for the project to undertake that would satisfy the Commonwealth's guidelines. Water resource enhancement, and management of weeds of state significance were obvious potential projects, but do not fit



Above: The DEG advising and working with the YOTS Walgett Outreach in July and again in August 2009 regarding the delivery of cultural programs, like youth camps, the teaching of life skills and the



sharing of community resources and volunteers. YOTS has been supported by the DEG since it first came to Walgett. This year DEG developed a cultural learning program for



Walgett youth with YOTS. Above right: DEG elders met with YOTS' Cheryl Kinchela in January 2010 to plan DEG's cultural learning project for YOTS held in April and May 10.

Youth and Elders cultural learning

In April 2010 the DEG, YOTS and Reconnect visited the property Dungalear as part of DEG's cultural learning project. At right are a group of high school students in the vicinity of a burial site on the property listening and learning culture from the stories of life on Dungalear by Gladys Walford. The DEG are very concerned that burial sites on Dungalear are in a state of disrepair and in need of a general clean up. The DEG now seeks to negotiate a clean up and repair of these sites with the land-owners with help from the CDEP. This has proved difficult as Dungalear was sold in April or May 2010 and the new owner has been difficult to contact. These visits also allow the DEG's Site Officer's role of regularly monitoring and checking sites.



This year DEG delivered a series of cultural learning sessions for Youth Off the Streets, which were attended by Walgett Community College and Council staff as well. Elders talked to youth about experiences as Aboriginal people, Aboriginal identity and racism, Aboriginal families (kinship and respect) and experiences of life in different places, work, wages and rations. Right: DEG passes on cultural learning and site checking activities to young people at Nicholls Bend in May as part of the cultural activities partnership with Youth Off the Streets who invited the schools and Reconnect to join them. Right: Violet Morgan and Elizabeth Peters were excellent story-tellers telling students about what life was like living in the area before and after the levee bank was built. As with the earlier trip to Dungalear, students were rapt in hearing of our Elders' past life styles and how today they value this. As one student said: "I never knew of this place, I didn't know our people lived here so close to



town and yet so far away; our people were very isolated from food and basics."

DEG's work in life-long learning

TAFE consults DEG



In September the Western Institute of TAFE visited the DEG to seek Elder's views on cultural programs they want to run.



TAFE students visit as part of their Country Rugby League Business Services class - getting ideas for program.

IT'S COOL TO STAY IN SCHOOL

Sydney private school visits DEG

Students from Christian Brothers School Waverley College in Sydney, visited the Dharriwaa Elders Group in October 2009. DEG elder Virginia Robinson gave them a talk about the Elder's Group and how they got started, what the Elders do and how they do it. Students were given a tour of the DEG exhibitions, their art and crafts shop and shown the Elder's website. The students and teachers were given copies of the DEG's publication "Yundiboo."

The Elders then joined the students for some discussion of the way they lived in the past whilst enjoying morning tea with them.



College re-visit DEG



Waverley College (Sydney) students visited the DEG again this year as part of their cultural learning. This college first visited the DEG in 2009 and came back in June 2010 because they thoroughly enjoyed their time with our Elders. At left: students seen here with Tim Creighton, Gladys Kennedy and Fay Green OAM. Students were very interested in the Elders stories of their cultural heritage and how the Elders work with young people on projects like Youth & Elders Camps and how young people are taken on visits to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.