



**KIMBERLEY
FOUNDATION
AUSTRALIA**

Researching, preserving and promoting Kimberley rock art.

KIMBERLEY FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA LIMITED
(A PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ABN 12 084 464 648

Annual Report
For the year ended 30 June 2014



Wanjina NW Kimberley

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DIRECTORS' REPORT

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors, the Directors state:

Vision Statement

Researching, preserving and promoting Kimberley rock art

Our vision is to promote scientific research into the rock art of the Kimberley and, in conjunction with the aboriginal people of the region, ensure it is preserved and recognised for its national and international significance. We believe the more the significance of the rock art is understood, the more likely it is to be preserved.

Mission

The Foundation supports and encourages integrated scientific research into the rock art of the Kimberley region for the purpose of increasing our knowledge of the earliest Australian people, their art and cultures and their relationship with a changing environment. We recognise the importance of traditional knowledge and support the presentation of it alongside the scientific.

We work with the assistance of local aboriginal people and we are committed to sharing and using this knowledge to ensure the ancient rock art is recognised and promoted for its national and international significance and protected and preserved accordingly.

The Foundation raises and allocates funds with the following aims:

- To foster scientific research into the rock art and its chronological, cultural, ecological and climatic contexts;
- To promote research outcomes to ensure the broadest possible appreciation of the national and international significance of Kimberley rock art;
- To collaborate and share knowledge with aboriginal groups, the public, academic institutions and museums;
- To closely involve local aboriginal people in field research and training;
- To encourage new young scientists into these fields of research;
- To encourage protection and preservation of Kimberley rock art.

With respect to all the objects, the Foundation respects the sensitivity of aboriginal people to their cultural beliefs.

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CEO'S REPORT

Review and Results of Operations

The Company was incorporated on 24 September 1998.

The Company did not conduct any fundraising appeals during the year. A number of sponsored fundraising lunches, public lectures and private donor events were held.

Revenue and other sources of income totalled \$1,344,574 were received. The net operating profit for the year 2014 was \$306,297. The Foundation continues to advocate for Kimberley rock art to be researched, preserved and promoted for its national and international significance.

In 2011, KFA commenced a pilot project targeted at training local (remote) Kimberley people in recording rock art, flora and fauna. The training draws on the cultural and environmental knowledge of the elders as well as being firmly grounded in science. The third **Rock Art Recording** program took place in August 2013 and is reported in the Research section of this report.

Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art at the University of Western Australia

The appointment in February 2013 of Peter Veth as Winthrop Professor, **Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art** at the Centre for Rock Art Research + Management (CRAR+M) at the University of Western Australia has been much greater than the appointment of just one person. It has had a significant multiplier effect.



Winthrop Professor Peter Veth, Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art

There are now six Faculty members in CRAR+M led by Winthrop Professor Jo McDonald (Director), Kimberley Foundation Chair Peter Veth and Ben Smith (Winthrop Chair in Global Rock Art and working in China, Arnhem Land & South Africa). Peter Veth and Jo McDonald have been approached to head the Presidency/Vice-Presidency of the International Scientific Committee for Rock Art for *UNESCO* World Heritage Centre – International Council of Museums.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Assoc. Professor **Sven Ouzman** (South Africa) who joined the team in July is working with Peter Veth on the Kimberley research program for the next three years. Sven was previously Curator of Archaeology at Iziko South African Museum and worked as the Head of the Rock Art Department at National Museum in Bloemfontein. He has been appointed Associate Professor at UWA until mid-2016.

At the International Federation of Rock Art Organizations (IFRAO) in 2013 there was recognition from the 50 rock art bodies that met in Albuquerque, New Mexico at IFRAO that CRAR+M Perth, Australia is now a global leader.

Major achievements of Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art

Major achievements (reported per calendar year as at end of 2013) are listed under four primary areas of quantifiable progress:

Nationally

1. Competitive Grants Funding;
 2. Consultations and Conferences;
 3. Research Output;
 4. Heritage Management and Public Outreach.
-
1. Competitive Grants Funding:
A major multidisciplinary **\$480,000 ARC Linkage grant** *Dating the Aboriginal rock art of the Kimberley region*, Western Australia was awarded with Peter Veth as the Project's Chief Investigator archaeologist; incoming KFA Scientific Advisory Committee ('SAC') Chair, Prof. Andrew Gleadow is Lead Chief Investigator. KFA is a major Linkage partner.
 2. Consultations and Conferences:
In the last year Peter Veth participated in **37 consultative forums**, Ministerial briefings, and meetings with Aboriginal Corporations and individuals, industry and heritage representatives, and academics.
 3. Research Output:
Prof Peter Veth and Assoc Prof Sven Ouzman delivered **28 plenary and other presentations** at **21 conferences and workshops**; both domestically and internationally in the last 9 months. **11 scholarly works**, including the state-of-the-art 700,000-word book on *World Rock Art* and two major reports were produced; CRAR+M has **four rock art Postgraduates** and descriptions of viable Kimberley rock art projects have been drafted and circulated to prospective students. The Chair is liaising with the Chair of KFA Science Advisory Council (SAC) and leveraging off new ARC Grants towards new Postgraduate scholarships for start in 2014-2015.
 4. Heritage Management & Public Outreach:
A major public education and outreach achievement was the ground-breaking **television series *First Footprints*** that went to air on the ABC on 12th July 2013, in which Kimberley and other Australian Rock Art featured prominently. The Chair Peter Veth was the primary Archaeology Advisor and Series Consultant. The Australian Archaeological Association noted it was "thrilled to see a documentary showcasing the richness of Australian archaeology recognised at this

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prestigious level.” Peter Veth gave **20 public lectures during 2013.**

CEO’S REPORT (CONTINUED)

KFA SCIENCE WORKSHOPS

The Future of Kimberley Rock Art Research Workshop and associated *Nomenclature & Database*
Held at University of Western Australia 29 Sept-1 Oct 2013
Convened by KFA Science Advisory Council (SAC) Chair Dr. Jim Ross and W/Professor Peter Veth

KFA revisited the research themes originally conceived in 2007 at a high level collaborative workshop involving Australia’s top Kimberley researchers. This workshop was hosted by KFA in conjunction with University of Western Australia’s Centre for Rock Art Research + Management (CRAR+M) and gave researchers the opportunity to come together and identify key research themes and priorities that will drive Kimberley research over the next decade.

These meetings were attended by 34 Kimberley specialists and adjuncts (five KFA Directors and CEO, seven SAC /ex officio members, 13 researchers from CRAR+M and 10 Kimberley-related specialists) and provided an invaluable multi-institutional, inter-disciplinary context to future research in the Kimberley.

Annual Science Advisory Council (SAC) Workshop

Looking Back, Forward and Outward
Held at University of Western Australia 14 November 2013
Convened by KFA SAC Chair Dr. Jim Ross

The Foundation is unique in its collaborative approach in support of scientists. Each year the KFA Board hosts a **Science Workshop** in Perth at the University of Western Australia (‘UWA’). Researchers funded by KFA come together at the multi-disciplinary workshop to report on progress and present and share their research findings with each other and with members of the KFA Board. In November 2013, the 8th SAC Workshop took place. It was attended by 10 KFA Directors, 2 staff, 12 SAC members, 10 invited researchers from UWA’s Centre for Rock Art Research + Management including five PhD students, and an additional six researchers from six universities and two researchers from related organisations. It was easily KFA’s largest and most comprehensive ‘Workshop’ to date with **a total of 43 attendees.**

Retiring SAC Chairman, Dr Jim Ross convened the Workshop. Since the SAC’s establishment in early 2007, Dr Ross has steered the SAC on key research questions and advised the Board on the strategic direction of KFA research. Appropriately, the Workshop was called *Looking Back, Forward and Outward*, and showcased the five priority research themes that had been identified at the *The Future of Kimberley Rock Art Research* the previous month.

KFA Chairman, Maria Myers, paid tribute to Dr Ross at the **Annual SAC Dinner, attended by 35 guests.**

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

ANNUAL PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

The Foundation's first public lecture was delivered by Grahame Walsh in 2006 at Newman College, University of Melbourne. Since 2009 KFA has presented an annual public lecture at the University of Western Australia, Perth.

On 13 November 2013 the Foundation presented its 5th Annual KFA Public Lecture at UWA. The lecture ***Dating Kimberley Rock Art: The long and the short of it*** was delivered by Winthrop Prof, Peter Veth, Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art at UWA. Prof Veth presented the same lecture in Sydney at the State Library of New South Wales on 27 November and in Melbourne at the National Gallery of Victoria on 21 March. The lectures attracted a combined 570 registered attendees.

EVENTS

During the year KFA presented 13 events marking it **the most active year in KFA's history**.

Three of these relate to KFA's annual public lecture series – an important component of the Foundation's commitment to the dissemination of research information and public engagement. Two other talks were presented: ***Dating the Rock Art of the Kimberley*** delivered by Prof Andrew Gleadow to members of the Harvard Club of Victoria (hosted by Allens; KFA CEO presented an overview of KFA research activities), and a talk on Kimberley Rock Art delivered by Prof Peter Veth to partners and staff of KPMG's Perth office, hosted by **Gary Smith, Chairman of Partners, WA. KFA CEO also presented an overview of KFA research activities**. The Royal Society of Victoria organised a lecture for its members (not included in the table below because it was arranged outside of KFA), delivered by Adjunct Prof June Ross whose talk ***Picturing Kimberley's Past: Boat people, megafauna and changing lives*** was based on her KFA-funded research project Change and Continuity.

Six of the 13 events were fundraising events: KFA Directors John Calvert-Jones and Christina Kennedy each hosted a cocktail party in Melbourne and Sydney respectively; Christina Kennedy co-hosted an additional two fundraising lunches in Sydney (one with Chairman Maria Myers and one with Director Brenda Shanahan); a lunch was co-hosted in Melbourne by the Chairman and John Calvert-Jones at Stokehouse City, and a lunch was hosted by **KFA Patrons Andrew and Nicola Forrest** in Perth.

Two other events were presented by KFA during the year. A stakeholder briefing luncheon held in Broome in July was attended by a large number of invited guests from the Kimberley Land Council, Kimberley Training Institute, tour operating companies, local councillors and others. An end of year event was held in Melbourne with a special address from **Assoc Prof Sven Ouzman** representing the Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art at UWA.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Events Summary over the past 3 years

Year	Public engagement & dissemination of research information	Fundraising events	Positioning & Profiling events	Total Events
2012	1	2	2	5
2013	5	3	3	11
2014	5	6	2	13

Event Sponsorship

During the financial year the Foundation secured a \$28,000 joint sponsorship for its annual public lecture and Science Advisory Workshop in Perth from Azure Capital Limited and the Indigenous Construction Resource Group. The Macquarie Group Foundation sponsored the public lecture at the State Library of New South Wales on 27 November in Sydney.

Communications

The Foundation distributed four quarterly e-newsletters to 1775 email subscribers over the 12 months period and one six-page full colour printed newsletter to its supporters. KFA produced two print publications for marketing purposes: *Rock Art Styles of the North & Central Kimberley*; and a fundraising brochure *Protecting Australia's Indigenous Cultural Heritage*.

Research Publications

- 11 publications added to KFA Rock Art Index
- 8705 Abstracts on Rock Art Index



Nicholas Evans, KFA Rock Art Recording Camp at Drysdale River National Park, August 2013.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Publications by KFA-sponsored researchers:

1. **Australian Archaeology Journal** *The first Australian Synchrotron powder diffraction analysis of pigment from a Wandjina motif in the Kimberley, Western Australia* | Jillian Huntley, Helen Brand, Maxime Aubert and Michael J. Morwood | June 2014
2. **Australian Archaeology Journal** 78: 10-23 *Occupation at Carpenters Gap 3, Windjana Gorge, Kimberley, WA* | Sue O'Connor, Tim Maloney, Dorcas Vannieuwenhuysse, Jane Balme and Rachel Wood | June 2014
3. *Early modern humans in Island Southeast Asia and Sahul: Adaptive and creative societies with simple lithic industries* | Sue O'Connor, Jane Balme in R. Dennell & M. Porr (eds), *East of Africa. Southern Asia, Australia and Human Origins* Cambridge University Press | 2014
4. *Rock art and continuity in the south central Kimberley region of Western Australia* | Balme, J. and S. O'Connor in Bansi Lal Malla (ed.) *Rock Art Studies Volume II Interpretation through Multidisciplinary Approaches*, pp 19-42 Aryan Books Internal, New Delhi | 2014
5. **Springer Science+Business Media New York** *Bifacial Flintknapping in the Northwest Kimberley, Western Australia* | Mark W. Moore | 2014
6. **Rock Art Research** *A port scene in rock art of the inland Kimberley, Western Australia* | Balme, J. and S. O'Connor in press.
7. *Traditions and change in scaphopod shell beads in the southern Kimberley from the Pleistocene to the recent past* | Balme, J. & S. O'Connor in D. Bar-Yosef and A. Choyke (eds) to be published by Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at ULCA in press.
8. **Archaeology in Oceania** *New dates for point technology in the Kimberley* | Maloney, T., O'Connor, S. and J. Balme in press.
9. **Australia Antiquity** 87: 539-554 *Marking resistance? Change and continuity in the recent rock art of the southern Kimberley* | O'Connor, S., J. Balme, J. Fyfe, J. Oscar, M. Oscar, J. Davis, H. Malo, R. Nuggett & D. Surprise | 2013
10. **Archaeology in Oceania** book review of *A Companion to Rock Art* | edited by Jo McDonald and Peter Veth, Wiley Blackwell | 2013
11. **Achaeometry** *One colour, (at least) two Minerals: A study of Mulberry rock art pigment and a Mulberry pigment 'quarry' from the Kimberley, Northern Australia* | J Huntley, M. Aubert, J Ross, HEA Brand and MJ Morwood | 2013
12. **Quaternary Science Review** *A Stalagmite record of Holocene Indonesian Australian summer monsoon variability from the Australian tropics* | Rhawn F. Denniston a, Karl-Heinz Wyrwoll, Victor J. Polyak, Josephine R. Brown, Yemane Asmerom, Alan D. Wanamaker Jr., Zachary LaPointe, Rebecca Ellerbroek, Michael Barthelmes, Daniel Cleary a, John Cugley, David Woods, William F. Humphreys, August | 2013
13. **Journal for the Australian Association for Maritime History**, The Great Circle Vol. 35 No 2, 2013 'Ancient Mariners' in North West Kimberley rock art: an analysis of watercraft and crew depictions | June Ross, Meg Travers.
14. *Linguistic prehistory of the Australia boab* | Patrick McConvell, Thomas Saunders and Stephen Spronck. The Australian National University, Independent Researcher | 2013.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Research

Kimberley rock art is a complex archaeological issue and KFA has responded by developing a research program that spans key scientific disciplines. KFA supports researchers from the fields of geochemistry, geochronology, environmental research, geomicrobiology, paleoecology, palynology and archaeological science to work in partnership with aboriginal communities to uncover Australia's earliest untold settlement history through rock art.

The **priority research themes** summarised below, reflect leading questions in Kimberley rock art research and guide KFA in identifying and funding research projects:

1. Reconstructing past climate and environments
2. The production, composition and conservation of Kimberley art
3. The antiquity of engraved and pigment art in the Kimberley and how we understand its variability across space and time.
4. The chronology of human occupation of the Kimberley in the context of archaeological and genetic data from Sunda (southeast extension of the continental shelf of Southeast Asia) and Sahul (part of the continental shelf of the Australian continent)
5. Strangers on the shore: Macassans, the mercantile class and pastoralism

Project Selection

The SAC assesses each project proposal in the context of KFA's long-term research interests, and with consideration of the interests and participation of indigenous communities, sustainable research outcomes and the wider academic discourse.

Selected projects are anticipated to produce research results that will inform both policies and practical measures, leading to better protection and preservation of Kimberley rock art. Findings will also contribute to measures to find an optimum balance between access and conservation, which is increasingly becoming an issue.

Research findings are communicated via professional journals and to the wider public in order to meet these goals.

Approved projects commence as Stage One projects. Funding is typically between \$10-30,000 and enables the senior research team to scope the research challenge and take stock of work already done. This may be achieved through reviewing prior research findings, identifying questions and gaps, and scoping the subsequent stages of research work required.

In 2013-14 KFA approved additional funding for a Rock Art Dating project and for the second stage of a palynology project.

Research projects already underway continued to make progress or were completed. All 'Stage One' projects have been completed or moved into second stage projects. All projects listed below are in their second stage.

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1. ***Change & Continuity: Chronology, archaeology and art in the Northwest Kimberley, Australia*** led by the late Prof. Mike Morwood, Professor of Archaeology at the University of Wollongong, Dr June Ross, prominent rock art archaeologist (University of New England) and Dr Kira Westaway, geochronologist (Macquarie University).

This project has completed its final year of fieldwork in the NW Kimberley. Four journal articles have been published with others currently under review or in preparation. Significantly, results from three rock art dating techniques are being prepared for publication and will add considerably to the understanding of the timing of stylistic changes in the art assemblage. A database designed specifically for use by Wunambal Gaambera Traditional Owners has been completed and will assist with management of their cultural heritage.

Four PhD and two MA students working on data from the project will submit theses on topics ranging from rock art, geochemical analysis of ochre, shell and predictive modelling of past climates in 2014.

The balance of funds remaining on this project at 30 June 2014 is \$15,862.

2. ***Life Ways of the First Australians – Ancient cave dwellings & rock art, Oscar Napier Ranges Project***, led by Chief Investigator Prof. Sue O'Connor, Professor of Archaeology at ANU, CI Prof. Jane Balme, Professor of Archaeology of UWA and Partner Investigator Dr Moya Smith, West Australian Museum.

Industry partners: Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA), Kimberley Foundation of Australia (KFA), Western Australian Museum (WAM).

Aims: The aim of this project is to investigate the Indigenous archaeology of the Oscar Napier Ranges to better understand the complexity of the life ways of the Indigenous people of this region during the Pleistocene. The work involves identifying suitable archaeological sites for excavation, both in cave and open contexts, and suitable rock art sites that can be recorded, analysed and sampled for dating. The results of the archaeology and rock art analysis will be integrated, along with environmental data, to produce a more holistic picture of the life ways of the first Australians than has hitherto been attempted in a regional context.

The research is undertaken in consultation, and with guidance from the Bunuba and Goonyandi people. The project provides training for two Australian Postgraduate Award Industry students and three PhD students on Australian Postgraduate Scholarships. An honours student is analysing samples of macro plant remains from Riwi.

Overall Progress: The final excavation season was completed in June/July 2013.

Fieldwork completed 2013: Fieldwork was carried out in Goonyandi country in June–July 2013. The fieldwork team included CIs O'Connor and Balme, PhD students Maloney, Whitau and Vannieuwenhuyse and UWA student Dilkes Hall. Field time was mainly spent on completing the re-excavation of Riwi rock shelter which included extending the original excavation pit and excavating three new pits which gave a better understanding of the

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

stratigraphy and provided a larger sample of Pleistocene-aged cultural materials. The excavation was undertaken with the assistance of many of the Traditional Owners from the Mimbi community. The Mimbi community asked Balme and O'Connor to prepare a small booklet on the archaeology of Mimbi country which they will sell to tourists. The project will fund members of the community to translate the booklet into Goonyandi.

In addition to the excavation at Mimbi, the field team carried out survey work with other TO groups who are part of the Goonyandi PBC. On these trips new rock art sites were located and other sites known to the TOs but previously unrecorded were photographed and a GPS location recorded.

Fieldwork completed 2014 Fieldwork was carried out in both Bunuba and Goonyandi country in April 2014. The team returned to Carpenter's Gap 1 (CG1) originally excavated by O'Connor in the 1990s. The purpose was to uncover these excavations to obtain sediment samples because none of the other sites excavated for the project has a good record of the Last Glacial Maximum. Analysing the sediment representing this period from CG1 is essential for explaining the absence of sediments representing this period from other sites.

In addition to the work at CG1, Whitau and Dilkes Hall conducted vegetation surveys in the Windjana Gorge area to identify plants and collect samples as identification aids for the charcoal and macroplant remains from the site. This complemented the surveys conducted in 2013 in the Mimbi region. New areas in Goonyandi country were surveyed with TO Jimmy Shandley to identify sites and rock art to the north of the previous surveyed region. New rock art sites were located and other sites known to the TOs but previously unrecorded were photographed and a GPS location recorded.

Publications: O'Connor and Balme have published four papers, and have three papers in press and others submitted and under review. They are currently preparing a manuscript comparing the OSL and radiocarbon dates from Riwi as well as papers on stone technology. A booklet to support Mimbi Community tourism for Mimbi Gooroomba has been produced.

Conference presentations

- Fyfe, J. Dec. 2012 *The 'Wanjina' Continuum or Why Wanjina?* Australian Archaeological Association Annual Conference, Wollongong.
- Balme, J. & S. O'Connor April 2013 *Traditions and change in scaphopod shell beads in the southern Kimberley from the Pleistocene to the recent past.* Society of American Archaeologists
- Fyfe, J. April 2013 *What's all this other art? Rock art and identity in the southern Kimberley, Western Australia: marking the landscape with anthropomorphs: making and maintaining connections.* Society for American Archaeology
- Vannieuwenhuysen, D. Sept. 2013 *A microscale geoarchaeological investigation of Pleistocene and Holocene archaeological sites in the Kimberley* (North of Western Australia). Developing International Geoarchaeology conference 2013 and International Workshop on Archaeological Soil Micromorphology.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

- O'Connor, S. and J. Balme *Population change in the southern Kimberley over 50,000 years: a reevaluation of the models* December 2013 Australian Archaeology Association.
- Fyfe, J. *New for Old: The Emergence of the Waliarri in Bunuba Rock Art* December 2013 Australian Archaeology Association
- Gomez J. *Modelling Past Landscape Interactions in the Kimberley Using GIS*. December 2013 Australian Archaeology Association
- Vannieuwenhuysen, D. *Using micromorphology to investigate the relationship between environmental changes in human behavior in prehistoric Australia: contributions to the understanding of the LGM discontinuities in north western Australian archaeological sequences*. June 2014 Australian Quaternary Association

ARC Linkage funding of \$636,000 granted in June 2010. \$345,000 committed by KFA. The balance of funds on this project at 30 June 2014 is \$3,014.

3. **Palaeoclimate Project: *The last 100,000 years of Kimberley climate and weather***, led by Dr Karl-Heinz Wyrwoll (University of Western Australia) and Prof. Andy Gleadow (University of Melbourne).

A long-term climate record of the Kimberley region has been undertaken through field investigations and extensive dating of dune and flood events as well as the isotope analysis of stalagmite specimens from caves.

This climate proxy record together with climate modelling experiments, including the feedback relationships between indigenous vegetation burning and climate has provided a comprehensive understanding of the activity of the Northern Australian monsoon and the environmental context for the early Kimberley inhabitants.

The remaining funds (\$9567) were used to cover the costs of a series of climate simulation experiments that are still being completed. This work is being undertaken in conjunction with Dr Guangshan Chen (University of Wisconsin-Madison). The experiments will ascertain the influence (through 'cold surge' mechanisms) that the Tibetan Plateau has on the northern Australian summer monsoon. The computer runs have been largely completed and the data analysis will be undertaken in the latter part of 2014.

Once the simulation work has been completed the project objectives will have been largely met. It is expected that all the results will have been published/submitted for publication by mid-2015 – three articles remain to be completed: the alluvial/ paleohydrology record; the dune chronology; and the results, of the not yet completed, Tibetan Plateau/Australian summer monsoon experiments.

KFA committed \$165,000 to this project. The balance of funds remaining on this project at 30 June 2014 is \$67.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

4. **Palaeoecology project – *Environmental Transformations linked to Early Human Occupation in Northern Australia*** led by Dr Simon Haberle (ANU), with Dr George Perry (University of Auckland), Dr Simon Connor, Prof Peter Kershaw and Dr Sander van der Kaars (Monash Uni).

This project is Stage 2 of the KFA-funded *Developing palaeoecological science in the Kimberley* led by Dr Simon Haberle (ANU), Dr Cassandra Rowe (Monash University), and Dr Ulrike Proske (ANU).

Abstract: How have interactions between climatic change, human activities and other disturbances over thousands of years shaped the landscapes we know today in Australia? Since the arrival of people into Australia sometime between 50000-40000 yr. BP (Before Present) we see existing lines of evidence from palaeoecological and archaeological sources pointing to significant changes to biodiversity, vegetation cover, and fire frequency. The extent to which humans influenced or overrode natural processes through time remains unclear. High-resolution, multi-proxy data in an innovative vegetation and mega faunal reconstruction will provide the first quantitative assessment of the response of Australian tropical savannas in the Kimberley region to a range of natural and anthropogenic influences.

Outcomes: This project will use cutting-edge palaeoecological proxy analyses and modeling to reconstruct the response of Australian savanna to human and climate driven change over 1000s of years. The results will provide significant insight in to how climate change and people impacted on social, biological and physical systems in Australia.

KFA committed \$60,000 this project. The first \$30,000 went towards Stage One Palaeoecology project (completed) and a further \$30,000 to the ARC-funded *Environmental Transformations* project. Field work is commencing in 2014.

At 30 June 2014 there is a balance of \$1,748 remaining.

5. **Palynology project – *Developing palaeoecological science in Kimberley region*** led by Associate Professor Hamish McGowan, Climate Research Group, The University of Queensland, and includes Dr Patrick Moss, The University of Queensland, Dr Samuel Marx, The University of Wollongong and Dr Andrew Hammond, University of Central Queensland, Mackay.

This project is Stage 2 of the KFA-funded Stage 1 Palynology project – *Unlocking the archives of the Kimberley's past: A pilot study of sediment cores from the North West Kimberley* led by Associate Prof. Hamish McGowan, Climate Research Group, University of Queensland, and Dr Andrew Hammond, University of Central Queensland, Mackay.

Abstract: The aim of this study is to develop new multi-proxy palaeo-environmental records for the Kimberley with the explicit objective of extending these back to at least 20,000 years before present to the height of the Last Glacial Maximum. The multi-proxy approach will use pollen, charcoal and sediments including dusts to gain new understanding of palaeo-environmental conditions including changes in vegetation and climate, and the possible impacts of human occupation on the Kimberley. The research team will collect sediment cores and sample stalagmites in the Kimberley in late 2014. These samples will then undergo analyses at The University of Queensland and The University of Wollongong.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Outcomes: The research will be conducted by a PhD candidate Emily Field at the University of Queensland under the supervision of Dr Hamish McGowan and Dr Patrick Moss. Results from the study will be presented at international conferences and prepared for publication in leading international geophysical journals.

KFA has committed \$40,000 to this Stage Two project. As at 30 June 2014 there is a balance of \$40,000 remaining.

6. *Dating the Aboriginal rock art of the Kimberley region, WA - landscape geochemistry, surface processes and complementary dating techniques* led by Professor Andrew Gleadow, The University of Melbourne.

The project is led by Prof Andrew Gleadow with a research team comprising Prof John Woodhead, Prof Janet Hergt, Dr Russell Drysdale and Dr John Moreau, all from the University of Melbourne, Prof Bert Roberts from the University of Wollongong, Prof Peter Veth from the University of Western Australia, and Prof John Dodson and Dr David Fink, from ANSTO. The Project also includes Partner Investigators (KFA CEO Cas Bennetto representing the KFA), Cecilia Myers representing Dunkeld Pastoral Co Pty Ltd and Fiona Hook representing Archae-aus Pty Ltd.

The Rock Art Dating Project was formally awarded a major grant of \$480,000 under the Australian research Council's Linkage Projects scheme at the end of June 2013 under the title of "*Dating the Aboriginal rock art of the Kimberley region, WA - landscape geochemistry, surface processes and complementary dating techniques*".

The first year since the grant was announced has been taken up with three major activities. The first of these has been the negotiation of a formal Partner Agreement between the different Universities and Partner Organisations involved in the project, as required under the

ARC's funding rules. This agreement was concluded on 27th June 2014, allowing for a formal start to the research project on 1 July 2014, from which date the project will proceed for a period of three years.

The second major activity that has spanned the whole of the past year has been as series of detailed consultations with various indigenous groups and traditional owners across the Kimberley to build an understanding of the project and its objectives, and to establish a process whereby research sites can be identified in conjunction with Traditional Owners and formal permission to carry out the work obtained. To this end consultations have been held in conjunction with researchers from UWA with representatives of the Dambimangari, Wunambal-Gaambera, Kalumburu and Balanggarra Aboriginal Corporations in a series of meetings in Derby, Kalumburu and Wyndham. To date these consultations have led to a Research Agreement being concluded with Balanggarra Corporation and UWA covering the Rock Art Dating Project, and a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kwini group within Balanggarra to cover research within their country.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

A longer-term research agreement is also being negotiated between the Dambimangari and Wunambal-Gaambera corporations to cover a range of research activities. With the first Agreements in place it is anticipated that fieldwork for the project will begin in August 2014.

Finally, a two-day Workshop for all of the research and partner participants in the project was organised and held in Melbourne in February 2014. The workshop was attended by all project personnel, along with some additional members of some of the research groups involved. The occasion provided an excellent opportunity to develop a greater understanding across all of the different project components, and prepare specific plans for the conduct of the project over the next three years.

The project was awarded an ARC grant of \$480,000 on 28 June 2013. KFA previously committed \$41,564 to the Dating project leading up to the ARC submission. KFA contributed \$3,928 to the Project Workshop at The University of Melbourne and spent \$5,798 on aboriginal consultation and TO meetings during the year. Some of these consultation funds come out of the SEWPac IHP project (below).

KFA's commitment to the ARC linkage project, starting 1 July 2014, is \$225,000 to be spent over three years. The balance of funds on this project at 30 June 2014 is \$6,071 pre ARC linkage and \$225,000 – a total of \$231,071.

7. Indigenous Heritage Project (IHP)

Rock Art and Cultural Heritage Recording & Training Camp

Carson River / Drysdale National Park, 19–26 August 2013

Held in collaboration with the Kalumburu community

In 2013, with **Freedman Foundation** support and funding from the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPac) Indigenous Heritage Program, KFA continued to work closely with the Kalumburu community and the Aboriginal Corporation in Kalumburu. The Foundation has run three camps with that community and trained 33 Aboriginal students on country.

Understanding and interpreting the rock art is an essential part of the indigenous heritage management tool kit, and is important and relevant to community. Cultural sites are recorded in both the scientific and traditional method.

KFA has built knowledge and support for the program over three years. This year the course materials were adapted for iPad use and participants were equipped with mini iPads. The Foundation is in discussion with KLC Ranger groups to offer the rock art recording course to rangers already committed to the Conservation and Land Management (CALM) Certificate.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The rock art recording course was developed in collaboration with Kimberley Training Institute, and the course units are accredited towards the Certificate 11. The recording program has also afforded KFA the opportunity to open up discussions with community groups about the cultural data co-generated and the importance of managing that information.

KFA Director Susan Bradley and CEO Cas Bennetto visited Kalumburu in July 2013 to discuss camp logistics with Traditional Owners and to obtain the requisite permissions. Ten participants from the Kalumburu community – Ian Waina, Kevin Williams, Rowan Waina, Malcolm Karadada, John Paul Karadada, Nicholas Evans and Uriah Waina, along with elders Bernadette Waina, Agnes Charles and Mary Taylor, took part. Students were joined by Sven Ouzman, Associate Professor at the Centre for Rock Art Research + Management, University of Western Australia.

KFA acknowledges the Traditional Owners on whose land we were allowed to camp and work as well as the many people who helped to make the camp such a success including Susan Bradley, Cecilia Myers, Nick Sundblom, Robin Maher, and John and Tracey Gibbs. Thanks also to Sven Ouzman, Associate Professor, Centre for Rock Art Research+Management at UWA. The Foundation extends its thanks to the Freedman Foundation for its three-year sponsorship of the Rock Art Recording program.

KFA spent a total of \$70,590 in 2014 on the IHP program. \$46,557 was spent on the 2013 IHP Rock Art Recording program and an additional \$24,033 on the Indigenous Heritage Project in the first six months of 2014. There is no further commitment.



John Paul Karadada, KFA Rock Art Recording Camp at Drysdale River National Park, August 2013.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

8. Research Communication Project

KFA spent \$1,091 on a Communicate Research Findings project with science writer Leigh Dayton. The project involves interpreting some of the inaccessible academic language into prose the layman can understand. A balance of \$7,984 remains on this project.

9. KFA Scholarship Program

The Foundation did not award any scholarships in the financial year. A \$2,350 travel grant and laboratory expenses was awarded to UWA student India Dilkes Hall of which \$518 was spent. Dilkes is attached to Professor Jane Balme's *Life Ways of the First Australians* project. A scholarship fund balance of \$14,936 remains.

10. Chair in Rock Art

The Foundation spent \$515,000 on the Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art at the Centre for Rock Art Research + Management at the University of Western Australia. The project is reported on earlier in the CEO's Report.

The \$1.5 million from the Ian Potter Foundation towards establishing the Chair has now been fully expended. An administration, management and reporting balance of \$4,600 remains.

11. The Future of Kimberley Rock Art Research

As reported earlier in the CEO's Report, the Foundation presented a special science workshop in October 2013 at the University of Western Australia in addition to its annual Science Advisory Council workshop. \$13,856 was spent on the workshop. A balance of \$21,144 remains.

12. Unspent funds

A 'Genetics' project scheduled for 2014 has not yet taken place and a \$15,000 balance remains. In addition, a commitment of \$45,000 of research funding remains at 30 June.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Science Advisory Council

Dr Jim Ross AM, a distinguished exploration geologist, resigned the Chair of the Science Advisory Council ('SAC') in November 2013 after seven years in the role. The SAC guides and shapes KFA's long term research program. It has a broad multi-disciplinary membership made up of a diverse group of eminent scientists from tertiary institutions across Australia. The new Chair of the SAC is Professor Andrew Gleadow FAA, Professor of Geology and former Head of the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Melbourne.

The SAC comprised of nine members plus three ex officio member organisations:

Members

- Dr James Ross AM, Chairman*
- Prof. Andrew Gleadow, Deputy Chairman, Melbourne University**
- Mr. Kim Akerman, Adjunct Professor of Archaeology and member of the Advisory Board for CRARM at The University of Western Australia (UWA)
- Prof. Jane Balme, University of Western Australia
- Prof. John Dodson, ANSTO
- Assoc. Prof. Hamish McGowan, University of Queensland
- Dr June Ross, Adjunct Professor of Archaeology, University New England
- Winthrop Professor Peter Veth, Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art, University of Western Australia
- Dr Karl-Heinz Wyrwoll, University of Western Australia

*retired 15 November 2013

** appointed Chairman February 2014

Ex Officio members

- West Australian Museum represented by Dr Moya Smith
- Kimberley Society represented by Dr Mike Donaldson
- UWA Centre for Rock Art & Research+Management represented by Prof Jo McDonald

Alternate members

- Assoc Prof Sven Ouzman, CRAR+M alternate for Professors McDonald and Veth
- Prof. Sue O'Connor, Australian National University, alternate for Jane Balme
- Prof. Mike Morwood*, University of Wollongong, alternate for June Ross

*deceased August 2013

Members and alternates of the Science Advisory Council do not receive fees.

During the current financial year the SAC participated in the annual workshop (November 2013) and in three teleconferences. Formal agendas and minutes were recorded and kept. In addition to the annual SAC Workshop a supplementary workshop was convened in October 2013 with seven of the SAC/ex officio members attending. A formal agenda and minutes were kept.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

State of Affairs

No significant change in the state of affairs of the Company has occurred during the financial period.

Events Subsequent to Balance Date

In the opinion of the Directors, there has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Directors of the Company, to affect significantly the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

The Chief Executive Officer was appointed as the Company Secretary on 27 November 2010.

The following information is supplied in respect of persons who acted as Directors during the financial year:



Maria Myers in front of Gwion Gwion Clothes Peg figures in NW Kimberley

Chairman - Maria Myers AO

Maria Myers is Chairman of the Kimberley Foundation Australia and director of the Australian String Quartet, McClelland Sculpture Park and Gallery and Dunkeld Pastoral Company Pty Ltd. She is also a member of the State Library of Victoria Foundation Council, Loreto College Ballarat School Council and a member of St Mary's College Council, University of Melbourne. Maria joined the Board in 2001.

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Deputy Chairman - Laurie Brereton

The Hon Laurie Brereton is a Director of EADS Australia Pacific Pty Ltd, Australian Aerospace Ltd, Beelgara Estate (Australia) Pty Ltd and John Curtin House Limited. In 2004 Laurie retired from public life after a distinguished parliamentary career spanning 34 years in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly and the Australian House of Representatives.

In NSW he served as Minister for Health, as Minister for Public Works and Ports and as Minister for Roads. At the national level he served as Minister for Industrial Relations, Transport Minister and as Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service. In opposition he served as Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Laurie is a former Member of the Council of the University of NSW and the Australian National Commission for UNESCO. He joined the KFA Board in 2006.

Director/Treasurer - Brenda Shanahan

Brenda Shanahan has served in senior executive and Board roles in Australia and overseas, primarily in stockbroking, funds management and investment consulting. She was appointed Director of DMP Asset Management in 2010. Brenda is a former member of the Australian Stock Exchange, partner of May Mellor Laing & Cruikshank and principal of Investment Consulting and worldwide partner at WM Mercer. Brenda is currently the Chair of St Vincent's Medical Research Institute and a director of Challenger Limited, Clinuvel Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Bell Financial Group. Brenda was recognised at The Australian Financial Review and Westpac Group Woman of Influence 2012 Awards where she was awarded the second most influential woman in the category of Boards and Management. Brenda joined the KFA Board in 2009.

Director - Susan Bradley

Susan Bradley is a founding member of the KFA Board which she joined in 1998. She is a pastoralist and has lived in the Kimberley for over 40 years. Susan has held many local community positions and public and private board positions relating particularly to Northern Australia. She lives on a pastoral property in the North Kimberley and manages three cattle stations. She is a member of the Regional Development Australia Council.

Director - Bruce Cameron

Bruce Cameron is a graduate of Monash University and holds a Bachelor of Jurisprudence and Bachelor of Laws. He is a commercial lawyer with around 30 years' experience in the law and business. He is a senior member of a boutique commercial law practice he established with others in Melbourne in 1986. Bruce assisted the Foundation for several years on a pro bono basis on matters concerning Aboriginal rock art and culture. He is a director and trustee of a number of private companies and trusts which are involved in matters of business and the care of others. Bruce joined the KFA Board in 2010.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Director - John Calvert-Jones AM

John Calvert-Jones is the Executive Chairman of Seafirst Australia, a family investment company. He is a Trustee of the McClelland Gallery. He is a former member of the Australian Stock Exchange Limited, former Chairman and Managing Director of Prudential Bache Securities (Australia) Ltd and has been a director of several public and private companies. John joined the KFA Board in 2010.

Director - Prof Andrew Gleadow FAA

Andrew Gleadow is a Professor of Geology and former Head of the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Melbourne. He has researched and published widely on the development and application of radiometric dating techniques, particularly in fission track analysis and thermochronology. His work has included dating of hominin fossil sites in East Africa. Andy has received numerous awards for his research, is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Sciences, and a former President of the Geological Society of Australia. Andy was appointed Chair of the Science Advisory Council in November 2013 after the retirement of Dr Jim Ross. Andy joined the KFA Board in 2014.

Director - Christina Kennedy

Christina Kennedy is a founding member of KFA and served as treasurer from inception until 2012. She is a director of the Institute for Professional Practice in Heritage and the Arts (IPPHA), a former director of Film Australia and operated a private physiotherapy clinic in Sydney for 25 years. She is a farmer at Bodalla NSW. Christina is a member of the University of Western Australia's *Centre for Rock Art & Research Management* Advisory Board. She joined the Board in 1998.

Director – Nolan Hunter

Nolan Hunter is the CEO of the Kimberley Land Council, an organisation that represents Traditional Owners in the Kimberley region. Nolan is a Bardi man with strong links to his people and culture across saltwater country in northern Western Australia. Nolan spent 14 years with various Commonwealth agencies, specialising in Indigenous affairs, and has worked extensively with Indigenous communities in Australia. He has undertaken Australian Consular work in England and worked on immigration and humanitarian programs within numerous embassies throughout Europe. Nolan is Chairman of the National Native Title Council as well as an Indigenous Leader representing the Kimberley in Empowered Communities, a group of high level Indigenous Leaders across Australia informing policy development to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Indigenous Affairs. Nolan joined the KFA Board in 2014.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Director - Wal King AO

Wal King is a graduate of the University of NSW holding a Bachelor of Engineering, a Master of Engineering Science and an Honorary Doctorate of Science. Wal has worked in the construction industry for over 40 years and was CEO of Leighton Holdings Limited from 1987 until Dec 2010. He is Deputy Chairman of Ausdrill Limited and UNSW Foundation Limited, and a Director of Coca-Cola Amatil Limited and Garvan Research Foundation Limited. During 2014 Wal was appointed Non-Executive Deputy Chairman of Sundance Resources Ltd, and an Independent Non-Executive Director of Asia Resource Minerals plc. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia, a Foundation Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, the Australian Institute of Building and the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. Wal joined the KFA Board in 2008.

Sam Lovell AM

Sam Lovell lives in Derby in the Kimberley. He has been employed by Aboriginal Economic Development (AED), Department of Industry and Resources as an Aboriginal Tourism Project Officer since 1995 and works as an indigenous consultant for Western Power. Sam has a background in tourism establishing his own business 'Kimberley Safari Tours' in 1981. A tourism award in his name, and his wife Rosita, is presented annually by the Kimberley Tourism Association. Sam Lovell is regarded as the 'father' of Indigenous Tourism in Western Australia, and is affectionately known as 'Mr Kimberley'. Sam continues to work in indigenous tourism supporting operators throughout WA. He is also a musician and travels across the country to Queensland every year to play at the Tamworth Music Festival. Sam joined the KFA Board in 200

Justice Henric Nicholas

The Hon Henric Nicholas, a former Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, a former director of NSW Cultural Management Ltd., a former chairman of St. Paul's College, University of Sydney, and an honorary councillor of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW. He is an arts/ law graduate of Sydney University. Henric joined the KFA Board in 2000 and was Chairman of the Board from February 2000 until November 2009.

Director - Dr Jim Ross AM

Jim Ross is a senior industry geologist with a diverse background in Australian and international mining, exploration and corporate management. A graduate of the University of Western Australia, he has a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, and holds Honorary Doctorates of Science from UWA and Curtin University. He is Chairman of Berkeley Resources Ltd, The John De Laeter Centre for Isotope Research, and Earth Science Western Australia, and a member of the Technology and Industry Advisory Council which advises the WA State Government on Science and Innovation. Jim joined the KFA Board in 2008 and was Chairman of the Foundation's Science Advisory Council until his retirement in November 2013.

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CEO'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Deidre Willmott

Deidre Willmott holds law degrees from the University of Western Australia and a Master of Laws from the University of Melbourne. She is Chief Executive Officer of the Chamber of Commerce & Industry WA and is a member of the KFA Board. She has been a senior executive at Fortescue Metals Group Ltd and Chief of Staff to the Premier of Western Australia. Deidre joined the KFA Board in 2010.

Directors Remuneration

During or since the end of the financial year, no Director of the Company has received or become entitled to receive any benefit because of a contract that the Director or a firm of which the Director is a member or an entity in which the Director has a substantial financial interest has made, during this or any other financial year, with the Company.

Chief Executive Officer Remuneration

The CEO, Cas Bennetto, was appointed by the Board in April 2010. She was paid \$123,662 for services from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.

Indemnities

Director's indemnity insurance premiums have been paid. The terms and conditions of the policy prohibit disclosure of the amounts paid for this policy. There have been no claims against the policy during the financial year.

Members Guarantee

The members at 30 June 2014 each guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding one dollar (\$1) in the event of the Company being wound up. Kimberley Foundation Australia Limited is a not-for-profit entity. The members of the Company comprise the Directors.

Dividends

The company is prohibited by its constitution from paying dividends.