



KIMBERLEY
FOUNDATION
AUSTRALIA

Newsletter

December 2011



RECORDING THE ROCK ART OF THE KIMBERLEY

Aboriginal Rock Art Training Camps win support

In July and August 2011 KFA commenced a community project targeted at training local Kimberley people in recording rock art, flora and fauna. The training draws on the cultural and environmental knowledge of the local communities as well as being firmly grounded in science.

The pilot, *Developing Skills in Recording Kimberley Rock Art Flora & Fauna* was co-funded by the WA Department of Indigenous Affairs and individual KFA contributors. Partnering KFA

was Kimberley TAFE and the Kalumburu and Mowanjum communities. KFA was supported by Conservation Ark (Royal Zoological Society of SA), Wildlife Unlimited (Vic) and the elders and trainees of Kalumburu and the Majaddin clan. The project reflected a growing demand for Aboriginal local people skilled in both traditional and scientific knowledge to lead tourism in the area.

KFA has been approached by other communities interested

in the training and is committed to continuing the program. KFA Chairman Maria Myers says future planning of the Kimberley must proceed with the full knowledge of sites of cultural significance. "Our goal is to establish a program whereby the rock art of the Kimberley is mapped and recorded with the assistance and support of the local Aboriginal communities. KFA has the expertise, with the assistance of the elders, to carry out this important task," she said.

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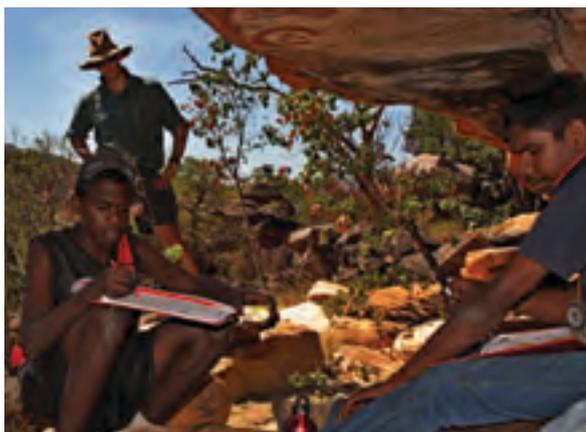


Image (Bottom Left): Trainees recording rock art on country at Majaddin.

Image (Bottom Right): 'Nurrawal' bush classroom at Kalumburu camp.

Image (Top): KFA crew: (L to R) Nick Sundblom, Cecilia Myers, Rena Gabarov, Louis King, Sam Lovell and Frank Bird.

Kimberley Foundation's multi-disciplinary approach applauded by scientists

Each year the KFA Board hosts a Science Workshop in Perth at the University of WA bringing together key scientists working on KFA research projects. This year's Science Advisory Workshop, the 6th in the series, attracted 33 attendees, reflecting the growing number of projects funded by the Foundation.

Prof Andy Gleadow from the School of Earth Sciences at Melbourne University applauded the unique approach taken by KFA. "I know of no other situation where scientists have the opportunity to present their research findings to the people who support the research and who are passionate about it," he said. "To present our projects to the KFA Board, and to spend time with this eminent group of enthusiasts and business people who take such an active interest in our work is a very rare opportunity for the scientists; to have the opportunity to work with Aboriginal communities, meet and collaborate with other scientists and researchers from institutions across Australia at this multi-disciplinary workshop is an incredible opportunity."

Board members commented on the obvious excitement generated by the opportunities for research collaboration. The breadth of experience and multi-disciplinary expertise within the group was evident.



KFA Science Advisory Council members (Left):

Back Row L to R: Karl-Heinz Wyrwoll, Peter Veth, John Dodson, Jim Ross (Chair), Andy Gleadow (Dep Chair); Front Row R to L: Moya Smith, Kim Akerman, Jane Balme, Mike Donaldson and June Ross.



KFA Board of Directors (Left):

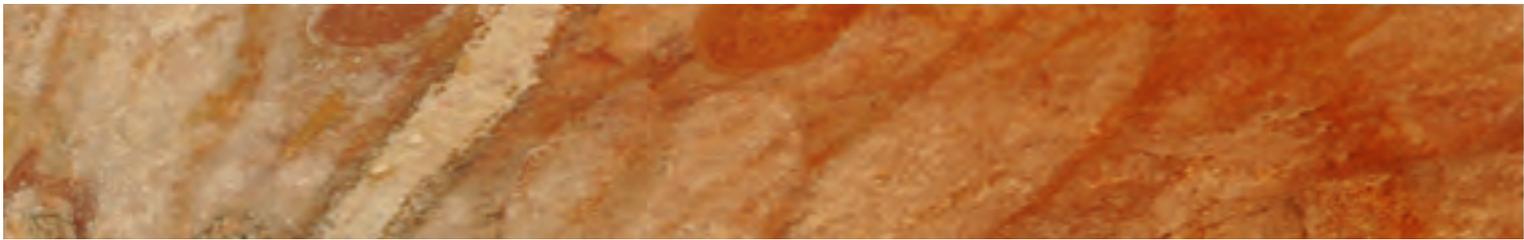
Back Row L to R: John Calvert Jones AM, Justice Henric Nicholas, Susan Bradley, Sam Lovell AM, Deidre Willmott, Dr Jim Ross AM; Front Row R to L: Cas Bennetto (CEO), Brenda Shanahan, Bruce Cameron, Maria Myers AO (Chair), Laurie Brereton (Dep Chair), Christina Kennedy and Wal King AO.

An evening at KPMG Melbourne to update our supporters

KPMG generously hosted an evening for KFA supporters. Prof Andy Gleadow, University of Melbourne, spoke about *Dating Kimberley Rock Art: Difficulties, possibilities and achievements.*

Image (Below):
L to R: Alan Goldberg, Lady Primrose Potter & Rachel Goldberg.





OUR VISION

KFA's vision is to promote scientific research into the rock art of the Kimberley and, in conjunction with the indigenous people of the region, ensure it is preserved and recognised for its national and international significance.



Images (Clockwise)

Peg Randell & Sir Roderick Carnegie.

Cas Bennetto (KFA CEO), Janet Hirst (CEO The Ian Potter Foundation), Caitriona Fay (Senior Program Manager, The Ian Potter Foundation) and Prof Geoffrey Blainey (Potter Foundation Governor).

KFA Chairman Maria Myers & Baillieu Myer.

KFA Director John Calvert Jones, Maria Myers, Dr Ros Gleadow and Prof Andy Gleadow.

L to R: KFA Director Brenda Shanahan, Annette Davis & Leon Davis.

L to R: Liz Bate, Aldyth Tyler & John Bate.

Sue Schudmak, Katrina Cole & Philip Schudmak.

Carol Nettlebeck & Susan Renouf.



Your support

Your support allows us to fund our research program in which leading scientists and academics across Australia are working towards ensuring that the rock art of the Kimberley is recognised and promoted for its world-wide significance and is protected and preserved accordingly. All amounts of \$2 and over are tax deductible.



KFA acknowledges the support of The Ian Potter Foundation

Kimberley Foundation Australia Ltd

ABN 12 084 464 648
Level 4, 71 Collins St, Melbourne Vic 3000
Po Box 85 Elsternwick Vic 3185

Tel: 03 9653 3780 Fax: 03 9653 3789
admin@kimberleyfoundation.org.au
www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au



KIMBERLEY CLIMATE AND PEOPLE: THE LAST 100,000 YEARS

Dr Karl-Heinz Wyrwoll delivered the 2011 Kimberley Foundation Australia annual public lecture in Perth on 17 November to a packed audience at the University of Western Australia.

Aboriginal vegetation burning practices and their role in the Australian environment has

preoccupied Australian pre-historians and ecologists for a long time. Previous climate modelling studies have suggested that a decline in the strength of the Australian summer monsoon occurred once widespread vegetation burning was practised.

Dr Wyrwoll explained that current

modelling shows that the climate response was significant in the pre-monsoon season, with decreases in rainfall, higher surface and ground temperatures, and enhanced atmospheric stability. It is envisaged that such early monsoon season changes can invoke far-reaching ecological impacts and set-up land surface-atmosphere feedbacks that accentuate atmospheric stability and possible further decreases in rainfall and higher temperatures.

Dr Wyrwoll's work was selected as a 'research spotlight' by the American Geophysical Union and was also highlighted by ScienceNOW.



DOLORES CHEINMORA Former Kimberley Foundation Australia Director

Dolores Cheinmora was born at Pago in 1926 and died in Kununurra on 8th August 2011. She became a Director of the Kimberley Foundation in 2004 and retired from KFA owing to ill-health in 2008.

Dolores was the daughter of Nangola Maraltadji and Rosendo Maraltadji and with her brother Willie was brought up by the missionaries at Kalumburu.

Dolores married Idephonse Cheinmora when she was 17 years old and together they had 13 children all named after saints. Dolores was true to her Catholic faith whilst maintaining strong cultural beliefs.

She helped Father Seraphim Sanz to complete the P'la language dictionary and made a map of the aboriginal names of the Napier/

Broome Bay area which is in wide use today. She spent much time teaching culture and language to the students of the Kalumburu School, and cared for her children, 57 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Dolores made a significant contribution to bridging the gap between aboriginal and non-aboriginal people.

ALEC SHAND 1929 – 2011 Former Kimberley Foundation Australia Director 1998 – 2002

Alexander 'Alec' Barclay Shand was a third generation Shand to take silk. Alec only ever wanted to be a barrister like his father and grandfather before him. He was admitted to the NSW Bar in 1954.

Alec and his wife Lorraine attended the first 'Bush University' in 1995 at Prap Prap Marunbabidi in the NW Kimberley where Ngarinyin elders shared their stories of country and

participated in a sharing of knowledge. Alec was deeply interested in the aboriginal culture and became a Friend of the Ngarinyin which became the Wandjina Foundation and later the Kimberley Foundation Australia. Alec was instrumental in drawing up the Foundation's constitution and what became the future aims and objectives of the KFA. He acted on a pro bono basis for a number of Ngarinyin traditional owners and became a good friend to senior elders, David Mowljarlai, Paddy Neowarra and Laurie Gowanulli.

Alec played an important role in ensuring the rock art galleries and ancient culture of the Ngarinyin, Worrora and Wunumbal were preserved, as requested by his traditional friends with whom he felt an affection and respect. Alec is survived by his wife Lorraine, a daughter and three sons.

KFA new look website

kimberleyfoundation.org.au
We have re-vamped our website with a new design and functionality to enhance the

visitor experience. There's a terrific new animated section on understanding rock art which we hope will build on your knowledge and appreciation of Kimberley rock art (we are working on an ipad version).

We wish all our supporters a peaceful, Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

We look forward to continuing to engage with you regarding KFA's research activities in 2012.