



## Huge win for Roebuck Bay!

**After years of community advocacy through investigations, questions in parliament, media stories and lobbying Ministers and bureaucrats, one of the major sources of contamination of Roebuck Bay will be closed.**

The Roebuck Bay Working Group, led by Kandy Curran and people like Dave Dureau, Dr Ryan Vogwill, PhD students and Yawuru people, all pushed hard to protect Roebuck Bay from contamination. EK was also at the forefront. A large number of people signed our petition to the McGowan Government after the 2018 floods to stop the contamination. The floods led to the treatment plant overflowing, causing severe erosion of pindan, which was carried into the Bay, and can still be seen at low tide, covering the mudflats.

The Minister for Water, Dave Kelly, visited our offices this month with the good news that the sewage plant will be closed. We thank him for taking this action, which will help protect Roebuck Bay.

The treatment plant will be closed in 2022 and remediation of the site will take nine years. The area is surrounded by important bushland, including vine thickets, full of wildlife. We will be working with the community to retain the area as public open space. One idea already put forward is for a botanic park. Let us know your ideas.



Minister for Water Dave Kelly at EK office



Sewage ponds showing proximity to Roebuck Bay



# Report From The Chair

Kate Golson

**Hello from Canberra, where I am once again visiting family and writing this report — though for the first time waiting to receive approval to re-enter my home state.**

While we have all been preoccupied with the pandemic, you may have missed the news that a significant review of Australia's (failed) national environment laws has been underway.

These laws — the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act) — were passed in 1999 by the Howard Government and are only reviewed every decade.

In November last year, the Morrison Government appointed Professor Graeme Samuels, former chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, to head the review, which released its interim report in late June 2020 (<https://epbcactreview.environment.gov.au/resources/interim-report>).

Among the findings are the following: that Australia's natural environment and world heritage places are in 'an overall state of decline and are under increasing threat, that the current environmental trajectory is 'unsustainable', and that the EPBC laws are ineffective, complex and costly, and need a major overhaul.

To overcome the problems with the Act, the report recommends establishing strong and legally enforceable national standards and a well-resourced, independent watchdog to monitor the impacts of projects and ensure the law is enforced (and not subject to the political direction of the Minister).

On the same day as the report was released, Environment Minister Susan Ley ruled out an independent regulator as an 'additional layer of bureaucracy'. The Coalition's priority has long been to hand over federal approval responsibilities to the state and territory governments.

While the review report was being prepared, the Auditor General released a high-level report finding that 80% of approvals under the EPBC laws were non-compliant or contained errors. The Environment Department (now the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment), was found to be deficient in its administration of the Act, the result, according to Federal Labor, of the Coalition's funding cuts of some 40% since it came to power.

It is unclear when the review is due to be completed, but there is ample opportunity to have your say.

Turning to WA and the Government's commitment to establish a (long-overdue) container deposit scheme, after months of silence since the first round of meetings last year, information sessions were held in various parts of the state, including in Broome this month. EK is assembling information about what is proposed for Broome and the Kimberley, but until then official information is available here <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/wa>

Keep safe,

Kate



**B**ROOME  
**C**ONVENTION  
**C**ENTRE  
**C**HINATOWN

12 Frederick Street, Broome • Phone: 9192 6222  
Mob: 0418 938 724 • Email: [broomeconvention@bigpond.com](mailto:broomeconvention@bigpond.com)



**Damian Kelly Photography**  
Broome Western Australia

0459 233 780

[www.damiankellyphotography.com.au](http://www.damiankellyphotography.com.au) email [dkphoto@tpg.com.au](mailto:dkphoto@tpg.com.au)

## Contact

PO Box 2281 Broome WA 6725  
P: 08 9192 1922  
web: [envirokimberley.org.au](http://envirokimberley.org.au)  
email: [community@envirokimberley.org.au](mailto:community@envirokimberley.org.au)

## Staff

**Director:** Martin Pritchard  
**Kimberley Nature Project:** Louise Beames, Malcolm Lindsay, Ayesha Moss, Kylie Weatherall, Danielle Bain, Michelle Pyke, Hamsini Bijlani and Jesse Alai  
**Finance:** Christine Elsasser  
**Community Projects and Events Coordinator:** Tessa Mossop  
**Frack Free Coordinator:** Shaun Clark

## Board

**Chairperson:** Kate Golson  
**Deputy Chair:** Peter Mitchell  
**Secretary:** Kat Taylor  
**Treasurer:** Laurel Sutcliffe  
**Members:** Carmel Leahy, Sarah Dobson, Sean Salmon, Craig Phillips and Cassandra Douglas-Hill

## Acknowledgements

**Newsletter design:** Iannello Design  
**Original logo:** Rose Cox  
**Artwork:** Robyn Wells

## Letters To The Editor

Enviro Kimberley welcomes letters to the Editor. We accept comment and criticism, and print all letters that are not obscene, offensive or libellous. If you have a bone to pick, pick it with us.

 @EnviroKimberley  
 [enviro.kimberley](https://www.facebook.com/enviro.kimberley)  
 @envirokimberley

Thanks for helping us to protect the Kimberley environment





# Director's Report

## Fitzroy River pressure rising

### Martin Pritchard

**Martuwarra Fitzroy River Traditional Owners, the Kimberley Land Council and four Prescribed Body Corporates (PBCs) took the unprecedented step of taking out a full page advertisement in the West Australian on July 22 calling on the McGowan government to:**

- Stop out-of-date water planning processes and work collaboratively with Traditional Owners on river planning and management
- Properly resource the KLC in partnership with the Martuwarra Council and PBCs to provide an information and consultation process for Aboriginal people
- Adopt a planning process that is not determined by out-of-date water planning processes and legislation

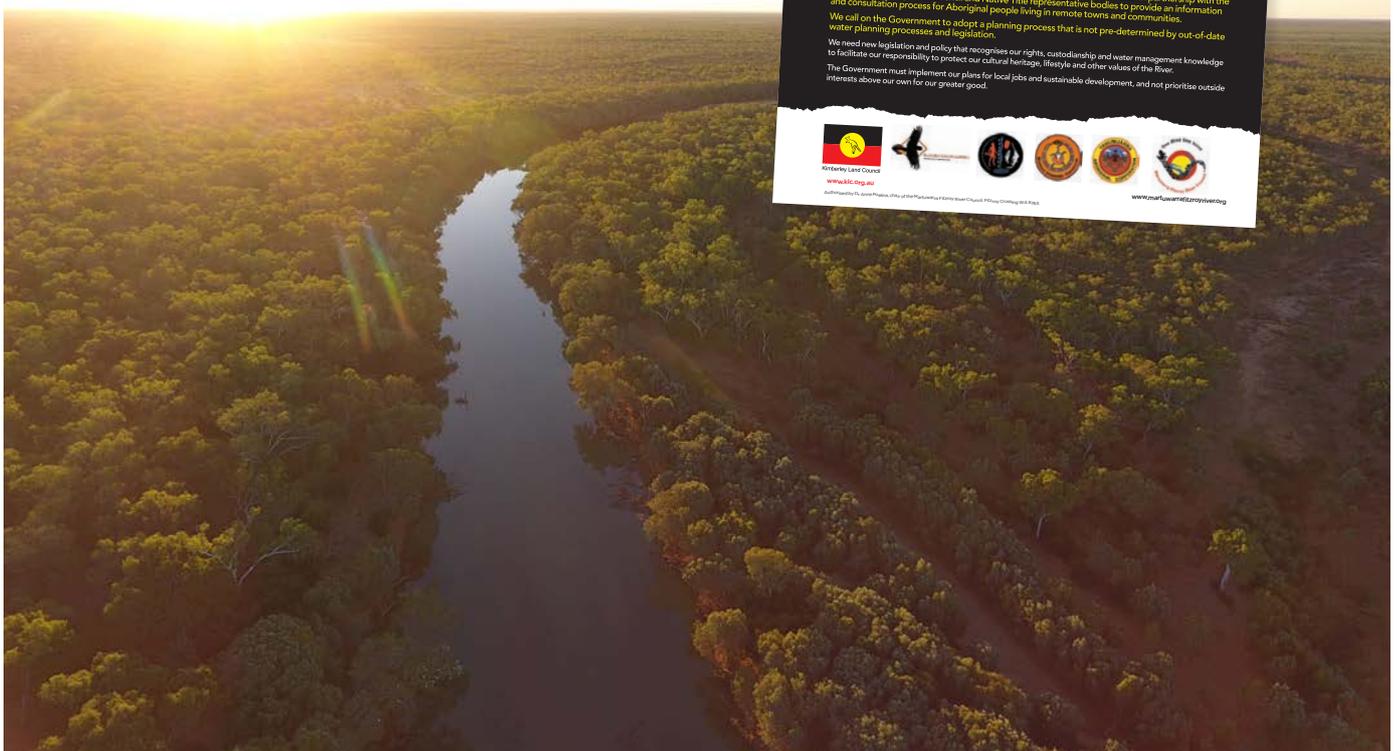
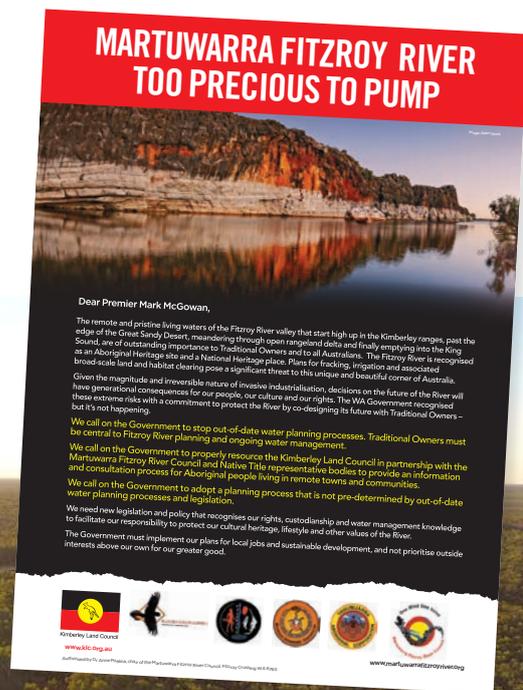
We have yet to see a public response from the Premier but we fully support the call in the interests of the people of the Fitzroy Valley and the health of the river.

Many Traditional Owners we have spoken to have been given very limited information on what effect opening up the river to big pumps, clearing land for irrigated crops, applying chemicals and pesticides would have on land and water.

Ms Gina Rinehart's Hancock Agriculture has proposed taking 325 billion litres of water per year and the NSW Harris Family, cotton and beef farmers, are seeking 50 billion litres a year and over 8,000 hectares of land. This is more water than the two million people in Perth and the South West use in a year, and it would be given away free.

The WA Government has flagged a 'Strategic Indigenous Reserve', which would be a percentage of the water from the river that would be given to Traditional Owners. Some people think that this would have a dollar value. This is not the case; water can only be traded when a system is 'fully allocated'. If the Fitzroy River system were fully allocated it would in all likelihood have irrigation all along it. Also, as Traditional Owners have pointed out to us, the water is theirs and not the Government's, to allocate them a small percentage. They've also told us the river is fully allocated to all the ecosystems and food sources it supports.

The Premier Mark McGowan, Ministers Ben Wyatt, Dave Kelly, Stephen Dawson and Alannah MacTiernan, and the rest of government, have a clear choice – support Traditional Owners and protect the Fitzroy and Margaret Rivers or give it away to billionaires for free.



# Book Review



**'FROM THE BUKARIKARA — The lore of the southwest Kimberley through the art of butcher Joe Nangan'** by Kim Akerman.

Broome people who were around Broome in the 1970s and 80s or earlier may remember Butcher Joe, the songman and artist, who straddled several cultures and was supremely confident in his identity as a *mabarn* and lawman.

Of Nyikina and Walmajarri descent, Butcher Joe was born in the early 20th century and grew up in the Broome Shire. He absorbed the local culture as well as that of his parents. His nickname 'Butcher' came from the job he held on Streeter's Station. Nangan was his Nyikina name.

The German anthropologist Herman Petri met Nangan in 1938, and noticed that his early work used traditional abstract motifs. Before World War II, Nangan started to produce representative drawings 'in the style of comic-strips', having learnt the technique from Mr Nicholas, a Greek migrant. Later, he started making full-page drawings in pencil and watercolour, and became a prolific artist. He also carved pearl shells with realist images.

Something of a mystic, Butcher Joe was an ardent adherent of his traditional belief system, and the Bukarikarra or 'Dreamtime' stories he grew up with provide the themes of most of his drawings on paper and his incised pearl shells. Because they are western-style images rather than traditional abstract patterns, the works were little appreciated by the art world, apart from a small number of collectors and institutions. This oversight has now been rectified by Kim Akerman in this grand production from UWA Press.

Hugh Edwards did ghostwrite a selection of 20 of Nangan's stories in the book *Joe Nangan's Dreaming*, published in 1976. Edwards retold the stories in his own words, according to the conventions of western storytelling, making them accessible to non-Aboriginal readers. The book features pencil illustrations by Nangan, but few are full-page drawings.

Akerman's production is altogether different, covering over 60 of Nangan's drawings on paper and 19 pages showing multiple images carved on pearlshell. His extended introduction is key to understanding the artist, his context and his intentions. He also gives us a glossary of language words that recur within the stories, such as *jalnganguru*, meaning a person skilled in the arts of healing and magic.

After setting the scene, Akerman presents a synopsis of each story, followed by one or more drawings that relate to it, with minimal explanatory text. Each drawing takes up a full page.

The drawings are skillful, lively depictions of pre-contact life and Bukarikarra stories. The figures are highly expressive — even the birds and animals show their feelings without becoming cartoons of themselves. Read and enjoy this book, and you will have a much clearer idea of the lore that was so dear to Nangan's heart, which he strove to keep alive through his art and teaching. Most poignant of the photographs of the artist himself are the two that show him dancing in his Pelican headdress: as a young man in the 1920s, and as an old one in the 1980s.

## Ruminating with MAD COW



### PHOTOSYNTHESIS

I once did an introductory course in Botany, through TAFE. By the time I'd finished, I was regarding trees with a new respect. Trees are so like us. Besides sharing with us all seven characteristics of living things, their cells manufacture Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP), just as ours do. ATP is described as 'the primary energy carrier in all living organisms on earth' — and, of course, it originated in plants, which are able, somewhat miraculously, to feed themselves from light, water and minerals.

I started to experience myself and other human beings as walking trees. The ones fastened to the ground have worked out ingenious ways of coping with being stationary while fulfilling all their needs — but are unable to defend themselves against us and our diabolical machines. Their evolution didn't run alongside ours — it started millions of years earlier. Yet it was flowering plants that invented sexual reproduction. They manage that from their fixed positions, usually through the service of other living things, such as insects, birds or bats, which act as carriers. It took human beings a long time to work out how to do that — it's called artificial insemination.

Another thing we have in common with plants is photosynthesis. We don't create food out of sunlight and inorganic matter, but we do make vitamin D from sunlight acting on our skin. Children who don't see enough sunlight are prone to rickets — a disease that causes bone deformities, most noticeable in the legs. Even adults deprived of sunlight can develop rickets. I worry about people locked up in prisons, and people in Covid hotel detention with windows that don't open. The latter folk may not acquire rickets in two weeks, but they are still being deprived of one of the essentials of life — sunlight.

People with dark skin are most prone to getting rickets. Dark skin is a protective adaptation to sunny climates, whereas pale skin is designed to absorb all sunlight possible in dreary northern European climates, and olive skin is somewhere in between. Dark-skinned people living in places like the UK or Ireland have a hard time keeping up their vitamin D levels, and even light-skinned people who are too conscientious about staying out of the sun can become deficient in this essential vitamin. But I digress.

In recent years there has been an explosion of research and discovery about trees, how they react to stimuli and how they communicate and nurture one another through their subterranean root system, ably assisted by miles of filamentous fungi. Much of this information is contained in the 2019 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *The Overstory*, by Richard Powers. A delightful non-fiction book that visits much of the same territory, *The Hidden Life of Trees*, by Peter Wohlleben, a German forester, has been lambasted by scientists because of its unapologetic anthropomorphism. I was guilty of the opposite conceit, which I will call dentromorphism: humans as mobile trees. You read it here first.



# Kimberley on the fracking precipice

Shaun Clark

The Kimberley is again on the precipice of industrialisation. The McGowan Government opened the door in 2018 and welcomed the fracking industry in. Right now, a consortium has been created between the major petroleum leaseholders, agreements are being sought and formal fracking plans are being lodged with the EPA.

Vast-scale airborne gravity surveys have been approved, with more on the way, 2D and 3D seismic planning over massive areas and 'data room' (i.e. desktop) geological assessment of the potential petroleum resources is ongoing. Partners are being sought, pipeline options are being discussed at high levels of the Federal Government, and the Kimberley is being spoken about like an inert monetary concept, with total lack of respect for the living country that it is.

Whilst we commend the McGowan Government on its renewable initiatives, we deplore the fact that it has left the Canning Basin exploitable for thousands upon thousands of fracking wells, massive networks of pipelines/roads, flaring, processing facilities, workers' camps and environmental destruction of the largest intact tropical savannah left on the planet. The oil would need pipelines to a port (i.e. Broome) while the gas needs a major pipeline to either existing gas processing facilities like the North-west Shelf, or the mooted West-east pipeline, ultimately joining up with the network of pipelines that supply the east coast from the Moomba gas fields in north-west South Australia.

Black Mountain, a Texan fracking company, is here with grand destructive plans, whilst creating a consortium of Canning Basin petroleum leaseholders. Six new fracking test wells have been referred to the EPA, and 2D and 3D seismic testing in the Fitzroy River catchment is being planned.

Theia Energy has its plans to produce up to 100,000 barrels of oil per day. A single medium-sized vessel holds approximately 80,000 barrels, therefore either one such vessel per day or massive onshore storage facilities will be required. Fracked oil and gas wells cannot just be stopped and started when you want the resource, as the flow ceases within the shale. Broome has previously been mentioned in Theia's conceptual plans (now deleted from their website) as a potential port. Plus, massive volumes of gas will need a market — if they haven't already been flared because no immediate pipeline will be available whilst they develop the oil side of the business.

Buru Energy is looking for a Farm-In partner for extensive exploration across its vast holdings. Like Theia's, Buru's documents compare the Canning Basin to other massive US and Canadian formations. Buru calls it 'world scale'.

Finally, Squadron Energy (Andrew Forrest) publicly stated that it will be conducting survey work to seek out more climate-polluting gas.

While the children are screaming out for a future that has promise, they are being offered a climate that is in crisis and an ecology that is rapidly heading towards collapse.



Valhalla North



# Tackling the Sneaky Bush in Broome's Minyirr Park

Hamsini Bijlani

Nestled amongst the dunes of the stunning Cable Beach, Minyirr Park coastal reserve is one of Broome's great natural attractions. It contains ecologically and culturally significant Monsoon Vine Thickets, which are a diverse Endangered dry rainforest ecosystem. However, one of the biggest concerns about the health of the reserve is the prevalence of several species of weeds, which are competing with and strangling the beautiful native plants.

Coffee bush (*Leucaena leucocephala*), a highly invasive woody weed, is one of the more abundant weed species found in Minyirr Park. Also known as 'sneaky bush', it can grow almost unseen in sheltered and shaded areas of dense vegetation. Environs Kimberley staff and volunteers have been treating this weed in Minyirr Park to help the Yawuru Country Managers and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions protect the reserve and preserve the Monsoon Vine Thickets contained within it.

Whilst our main aim is to rid the reserve of this sneaky weed, EK staff and volunteers are also trialling different treatment methods to work out what is the most effective method to treat coffee bush in the region. The plants' response to the different treatments is being regularly observed and, by the end of the trial, the team hopes not only to develop a set of standard operating procedures for treating this nuisance weed in the area but also to remove all mature seeding coffee bush trees in Minyirr Park.



Coffee bush pile



Before weeding



After weeding



# How do Kimberley ecosystems recover from hot fires?

Malcolm Lindsay

## Documenting the recovery of Broome’s threatened and priority ecosystems.

On the weekend of August 10–11 2019, a series of hot fires around the Broome town site burnt significant bushland in the Minyirr Buru Conservation Park: specifically in Minyirr Park and between Gantheaume Point and Port Drive. This fire scorched wide areas of savannah woodland as well as three Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (TEC/PEC).

The fires burnt 16 hectares of the Nationally Endangered Monsoon Vine Thickets (Mayingan manja balu) of the Dampier Peninsula, 83 hectares of the Priority ecosystem Mangarr (Minyjurru, *Sersalisia sericea*) on relict dunes (roughly 33% of total extent), and 25 hectares of the Priority Cable Beach Ghost Gum community (Gunurru, *Corymbia paractia*). These three ecosystems are important not only for their ecological and conservation values but also for their cultural significance for the Yawuru people.

There was a lot of concern about the fires from the Yawuru and broader community and, through the Yawuru Park Council, Environs Kimberley is leading a study into how the three threatened/priority ecosystems recover from the fire. We have conducted two surveys, the first in December last year before the rains, and the second in March this year. We have established 24 long-term monitoring flora quadrats, each 25mx25m, in the fire-affected habitats, within which we will count the plant species, and their abundance and structure, to map how they recover over 10 years.

The initial survey was timed in December to catch the aftermath of the fire before the rains. Although the survey captured the utter destruction and loss of plants and habitat, it was encouraging to see the amount of regeneration that had occurred in the four months of build-up season with no rain, especially in fire-adapted savannah species.

The second survey was timed in March to capture the regeneration post-wet season. Not surprisingly, there had been an explosion of seedlings (e.g. *Acacia eriopoda*) and ephemeral species (e.g. *Adriana tomentosa*), which are adapted to quickly growing and seeding post-fire before longer-lived species have a chance to outgrow them.



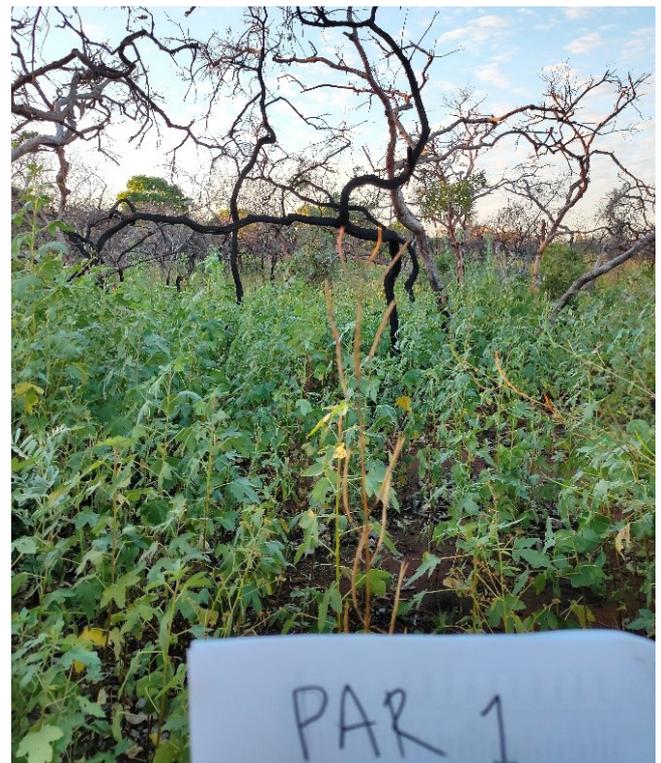
Tim Willing, Monica Edgar and Malcolm Lindsay checking the survey data in the field tablet.

Within the quadrats in the Paractia ecosystem, the average number of plants per 25m x 25m quadrat rose from 152 in December, to 4534 in March! Across all quadrats there was increase in species diversity, from 78 species in December to 150 in March, with the spinifex *Triodia schinzii* the most abundant (11,525 individuals), followed by the herbs *Corchorus pumilio* (8,195) and *Waltheria indica* (6,530).

The explosion of life is a nice reminder that fire is both a good and a bad force in the Kimberley, with some species depending on it. That is why mosaic burning is the goal. Informed by traditional burning practices, it creates many small burnt patches in a landscape to provide habitat for fire-adapted species whilst protecting nearby long-unburnt habitat.

Although we only have early results, it has been encouraging to see the recovery so far, especially in fire-sensitive species of the Endangered MVT.

How long it takes to reach the size and complexity of mature long-unburnt vegetation, essential for providing habitat for other species, is another question. We will have to wait and see.



Site Par 1 showing an explosion of *Adriana tomentosa*, a species adapted to quickly growing and seeding post-fire.

The work has been funded by Landcare Australia and Rangelands NRM, and has benefited from the botanical expertise of Tim Willing and Chris Howe-Piening, and field support from Yawuru Country Managers, DBCA staff and volunteers.





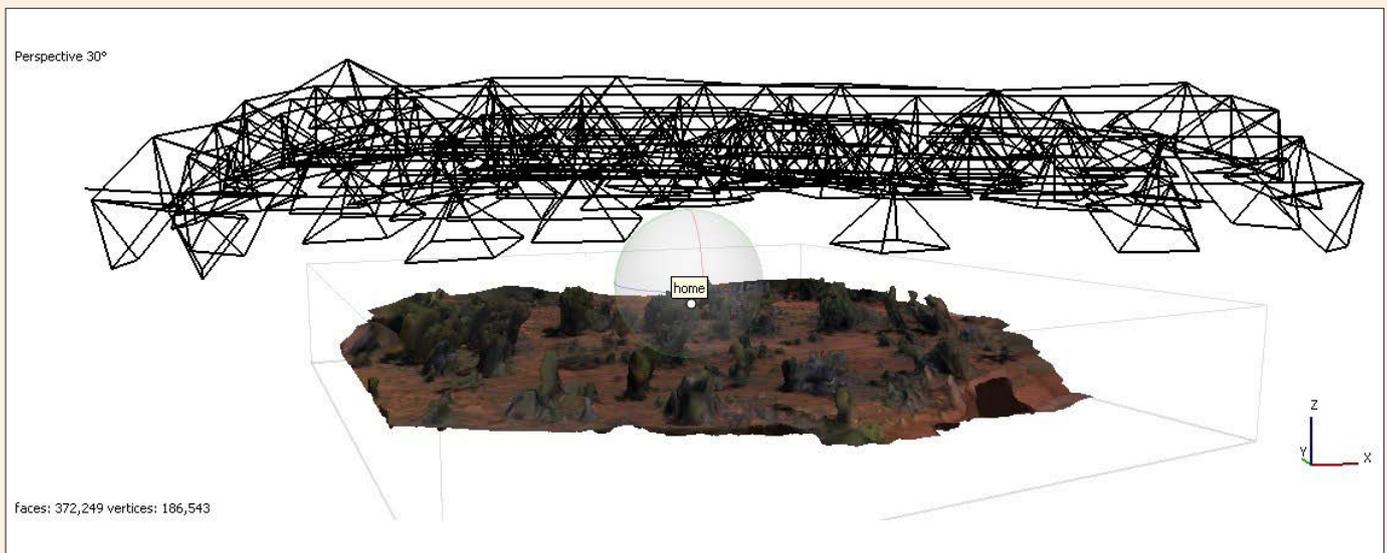
# New Tech for Conservation

Jesse Alai

At Environs Kimberley we are always investigating how new technologies can assist our projects to protect the Kimberley's environment and culture. In 2018 we were Runners-up in the 2018 Australian Google.org Impact Challenge, alongside our partners the Karajarri Rangers and Walkes Services. We thought it would be great to tell you about some of the new technology we are investigating through the Google.org project and others, and to explain how we will apply it to conserving the Kimberley. To start off this New Tech for Conservation series, here is a great article from Jesse Alai about using drones to create 3D vegetation models.

complex structure of vegetation with our eyes, a process that requires a lot of effort to be accurate.

Advances in drone technology and three-dimensional spatial mapping software means that we can now use drones to fly over target vegetation and take multiple images. The mapping program then stitches all those images into a detailed 3D computer model of the vegetation. This technique is known as structure from motion photogrammetry. We can then measure and monitor a range of different vegetation metrics from the 3D model, such as the biomass, far more accurately and easily. Already researchers have used this drone technology to assess the health of remote mountain rainforests, measure the biophysical properties of crops and even monitor change in entire reefs.



## 3D Drone Vegetation Mapping – Learning to use Structure from Motion Photogrammetry.

It is exciting when new, everyday technology can have a significant impact on your field. Remotely piloted aircraft systems or, as we all know them, drones, are one of those technologies for ecologists. Although we have been using drones for many years in our projects, it is the more advanced drone uses that Environs Kimberley has started exploring. One such advanced use is Structure from Motion Photogrammetry; sounds fancy but stick with us.

If our ecological question is whether one site has more of an Endangered plant before or after a fire, we measure vegetation structure properties such as number of trees or biomass. As ecologists we are concerned with understanding and measuring the structure and arrangement of the components of an ecosystem, and how they change over time. Conventionally, we would trudge our way through the undergrowth, battling heat and unfriendly vegetation, all while trying to estimate the

We are in the testing phase (really, it's the 'learn what the heck is going on and how the heck do we use this software' phase) but results are looking promising. We are testing the technology with an existing flora monitoring project around Minyirr Park. In August 2019, big fires tore through Minyirr Park, scorching three Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (TEC/PECS), including Endangered Monsoon Vine Thickets. Through the Yawuru Park Council Working Group, Environs Kimberley is leading a long-term monitoring project to see how the habitats recover after the fires, with support from Tim Willing, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and Nyamba Buru Yawuru. We are using more traditional survey methods, including detailed flora surveys at 24 sites across the three ecosystems, for the next ten years! A key measure of recovery is how the physical structure of the vegetation recovers, for example, when will recovering trees reach the same height or size as trees in equivalent unburnt habitat? A perfect project to trial the Structure from Motion Photogrammetry, but we see that the new technology can be used in many of our other projects too.

# Letters to the editor



*Dear Editor,*

I am sure EK people and members like myself will not need any prompting to be upset at the reported Rio Tinto Zinc (RTZ) destruction of rock shelters that were 46,000 years old, owned by the PKKP Aboriginal Corporation. They are called the Juukan Gorge sites. I know that this could not happen in Europe, if indeed Europe has sites as old. And I know that EK has in mind the protection of such sites in the Kimberley. Thank goodness for EK. That is why I am a member.

I cannot begin to imagine the deep upset the destruction of the sites has caused the people in the Pilbara, the people of the PKKP Aboriginal Corporation. I don't know those people, the custodians of those places that were destroyed by corporate RTZ 'legal' vandalism, but I feel that it is all of our history that has been destroyed. It reminds me of Indian leader, Mohandas Gandhi, who, when he was asked what he thought of Western Civilisation, answered, 'I think it would be a very good idea.' I used to think it was a funny comeback line. But now, and not for the first time, I find it true, and am full of grief for what that part of our human family in the Pilbara has lost, and what we have all lost.

What Rio Tinto Zinc has done is what any number of commercial corporations would do, if they could get away with it, in order to make a profit. That is why we cannot allow them to determine our future. They are doing that. If any readers are sceptical, please watch the excellent Greenpeace film, DIRTY POWER, BURNT COUNTRY. You can Google it. It is only 20 minutes long. Michael West, the esteemed economist who lives in this part of the world (Sydney) is a big part of it. Noam Chomsky wrote a telling book, Hegemony or Survival. He meant US hegemony, but I think it could equally be corporate hegemony. I think of another phrase of Noam's describing our colonisation: 'The European plague'.

If you have contact with them, please extend my condolences to the people in the Pilbara, traditional custodians of the Juukan Gorge sites.

As we learned from our East Timorese friends during their long struggle against occupation: 'TO RESIST IS TO WIN.'

Yours sincerely,

*Stephen Langford*

*Dear Editor,*

With the drastic life changes we've had lately, these are strange days indeed. I don't think things will ever be the same again; a new sort of normal has come into being in the world. Unfortunately, I've been expecting and fearing that eventually the climate crisis and our damage to the earth's ecosystems, the wildlife trade (and markets), factory farming and other things would catch up with us. Scientists, environmentalists and activists have been warning us about our destructive lifestyles and appalling over-exploitation of the earth's resources for a long time. We've had so many warning signs, with the increasingly dire natural disasters and viruses that happened over the past decade.

But let's hope some good comes from this terrible experience and we can begin to heal the earth, treat other people, animals, other life forms differently and see the necessary changes that can make the world a much better place for all. But maybe that's wishful thinking and when the present catastrophe is over people will just go back to our bad ways, ignoring the reality, not listening to or watching what's happening and just go on partying, consuming, using and abusing until the next pandemic, more extreme weather events or other calamity hits us. That will lead us towards a very sad and disastrous fate. The earth may well in time recover, but we might not.

It will be a long haul; to get through it we will need to be very supportive of each other, be more understanding, compassionate and caring. And it will test our patience, endurance and tenacity. But we humans sometimes neglect what needs to be done until it's almost too late and the crisis bears down and cannot be avoided or ignored any longer. And then we come together and work relentlessly on solutions to the challenges we face. If we are wise enough, we will change direction in time and transform our communities and society, and leave our world in improved health for our children, grandchildren and the rest of life on the planet.

*Steven Katsineris.*

## Kimberley Cottages

18 Windjana Rd. Derby WA

Windjana Wellness & Sustainability Services

phone 0891911114 kimberleycot@gmail.com  
Permaculture Design Bokashi Composting  
Natural Farming Fresh Produce & Food plants



\* Soaps \* Candles \* Skin Care \* Essential oils

*Great gift ideas all hand made with love here in Broome*

Customers are welcome to our workshop showroom

2 Harriet Road, Blue Haze Ph (08) 9193 7036  
Monday - Friday 9am-4pm Fax (08) 9192 3880

[www.hiddenvalleyhandcrafts.com.au](http://www.hiddenvalleyhandcrafts.com.au)

*Proud to be associated with Environs Kimberley*

## Free Computer Service

for Pensioners and Unemployed  
1st Tuesday of the month



**20 Hunter St. Broome 9192 2832**

[sales@eclipsecomputers.com.au](mailto:sales@eclipsecomputers.com.au)



# EK Fundraising Concert with The Gray Brothers

Tessa Mossop

After a slow start to 2020 many EK members and supporters were itching for a night out and some live music. Offering to host a fundraising concert in support of EK, The Gray Brothers provided the perfect opportunity.

Harry, Albert and Elwood Gray rarely perform as a trio, but joined forces on this special occasion to wow the eager audience with their telepathic ease, and vocal harmonies that only brothers could achieve.

Not even a serious finger injury for Harry in the week leading up to the concert could stop the three seasoned performers from putting on a great exhibition of musical skill and good humour, which left the crowd — three encores later — still calling for more.

The Gray boys were joined on stage for special guest appearance from Kimberley virtuoso Stephen Pigram. Martin Pritchard, Environs Kimberley's Director, who never misses an opportunity such as this to remind us how wonderful the Kimberley is and what we all need to do to protect it, addressed the receptive audience.

The night also featured a debut performance by 'For Sure', with Adel Oliver, Bart Pigram and Michael Pigram — another talented Broome trio I am sure we will be seeing much more of in the future.



Michael Pigram, Adel Oliver and Bart Pigram

EK sends a huge thank-you to The Gray Brothers, For Sure, Mick and all others at the Broome Chinatown Convention Centre, and to everyone who came along and made this another memorable night in celebration of EK and the Kimberley.



Elwood, Harry and Albert Gray

Catch Your Share of the Kimberley Sun

Enviro Solutions 

T: 9192 6145  
Broome WA

Website: [www.kimberleyenvirosolutions.com.au](http://www.kimberleyenvirosolutions.com.au)

Power Your Electricity by Solar

**TROPPO SOUND**

- Musical Instruments
- PA & Lighting Systems
- Mobile Stage
- Recording Studio

MICK CONNOLLY

Shed: 29 Hunter St. Ph: (08) 9192 2394 Fax: (08) 9193 5690  
Shop: 19 Frederick St (old min-golf building) Ph / Fax: (08) 9192 6222  
Mobile: 0418 938 724 Email: [tropo@comswest.net.au](mailto:tropo@comswest.net.au)  
PO Box 185, Broome Western Australia 6725

# EK Art Auction 2020 Style

This year's art auction, held on the evening of August 7th, was different from previous ones. Owing to Covid restrictions, the number of attendees was much smaller than usual, and only 27 pieces were up for bidding in the live event.

The smaller audience was made up for by Zoom, now familiar to most of us, which allowed anyone not present to make bids through the redoubtable Malcolm Lindsay, wearing his broker's hat. What used to be the 'silent auction' went on line, and this innovation also proved highly successful, not least because all the items were up for patrons to browse for seven days before the auction, and works passed in on the night remained open to bidding with everything else until COB on Sunday, 9th.

The shorter, tighter live auction worked brilliantly; there was the usual sense of excitement in the smaller crowd, but less pressure on our indefatigable auctioneer, Chris Maher, who exploited the rivalry between the bidders present and those he dubbed 'strangers' bidding on line. Furthermore, the auction finished at a reasonable hour, with much less drainage of patrons, as is inevitable when the auction drags on into the night. Preliminary assessments indicate that takings for EK did not suffer greatly from the new model. I for one will be voting to conduct future art auctions in a similar manner.

Thanks are due to many people for making the event a success, most notably Tess, our events coordinator, whose hard work and thoughtfulness really paid off. We are, as always, grateful to Chris Maher, auctioneer extraordinaire, and to the EK team who managed the door, the Zoom, the record-keeping and the takings, not forgetting the tireless art handlers. A big thank-you to Mick Connolly for use of the venue, and to the band 'Chica' and Jaime Jackett for the first-class music and song. Of course, the auction would have been impossible without the art, and we are ever grateful to the artists and art centres who contributed work for this event, one of the highlights of the EK calendar.



Martin, Tess and Chris prepare for the auction



Malcolm and Ayehsa facilitating online Zoom bidding



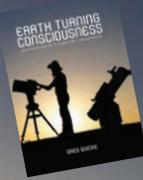
Now on the BBC and ABC  
'Stargazing Live' program  
with Professor Brian Cox.



**GREG QUICKE'S ASTRO TOURS**  
delivering intensely practical astronomy to humanity since 1995



**Greg's new book!**



**'Broome's Astronomy Experience' or 'Quickies Cosmic Tuneup'**  
is a 2 hour educational and entertaining mind bender using big telescopes, lasers and fun under some of the best stargazing skies on the planet.

From April to October when the skies are clear!

Bookings essential!

Check the online schedule and book at

**www.astrotours.net**  
**greg@astrotours.net**  
**0417 949 958**

 Greg Quicke's Astro Tours
  astrotoursbroome  
 @GregQuicke #spacegandalf

# MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

- 1 year for \$30.00/ Concession \$20.00 (Inc of GST)
- 3 years for \$80.00/ Concession \$50.00 (Inc of GST)
- Lifetime membership for \$500 (Inc of GST)

I would also like to make a donation of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive my quarterly EK Newsletter and other correspondence by email

## CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

Credit card payment - please debit my    

CVV Code No:

Card No:

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date   /

## CHEQUE PAYMENTS

**ENVIRONS KIMBERLEY**  
 PO Box 2281, Broome WA 6725  
 Phone: 08 9192 1922  
 Email: [finance@environskimberley.org.au](mailto:finance@environskimberley.org.au)  
 Subscription is also available online at:  
[www.environskimberley.org.au](http://www.environskimberley.org.au)



The EK gift fund is a public fund and is listed in the register of Environmental Organisations under item 6.1.1 subsection 30-35 (1) of the income Tax Assessment Act 1997.



POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 BROOME  
 WA 6725

PO Box 2281,  
 Broome WA 6725



**SUPPORTING US HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER**

More members and friends are choosing to give an automatic monthly donation to EK. This means you don't have to think about it and we have the security of knowing how much you want to give us through the year.

You can provide a monthly donation through our website.  
 Please ring Christine if you have any queries on (08) 9192 1922.