

SHANNON'S STORY

A planning activity book for Aboriginal young people with disability and their families to help prepare for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.



If you missed the feature story about Undalup Youth Ambassador, Shannon Hart Cole in our Djeran issue, then read on!

Shannon struggled for many years with mental health issues and found his way of healing was through creating music. Shannon has since worked with WA's Individualised Services (WAIS) – a small organisation which supports people with mental illness or a disability – to produce a book called “Shannon's Story”. This planning and activity book has been designed to assist Aboriginal young people transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) – to plan for the future and reconnect with culture and people.

“Shannon’s Story” is available to purchase from the Undalup Association Inc. for \$30 (plus GST) per book plus postage. Proceeds cover printing costs. If you think you or a family member could benefit from this important resource, please email undalup@outlook.com. To find out more, please visit: <http://waindividualisedservices.org.au/shannons-story/>



Noongar Goodbye

“Jinnung Noonduk Boorda Yen” – See you in the future

If you enjoyed this edition of *Undalup News*, please subscribe by emailing undalup@outlook.com with the subject “Subscribe” and your first name, surname, email address and phone number in the body of the email. We thank you for your support!

Getting involved

Undalup Committee meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 4:00pm at the Undalup Office (High Street Hall – 47 Bussell Hwy, Busselton). Membership forms are available on our webpage to download and complete. Visit undalup.com.au.

Show your support

If you like what we are about, or want to find out more, you can like or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube – don’t forget to hit “Subscribe” and switch on notifications. Like, follow and share to show your support. You can also check out our website for the full story on who we are and what we do.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported our Culture Journey. We are excited to have you along for the ride.

Undalup Association Inc.
PO Box 5373, West Busselton WA 6280
ABN: 91 308 448 476 undalup@outlook.com



Compiled by Carley O’Neil of Assurance Admin Solutions.

The knowledge contained in this document is to be protected and respected as the specialist knowledge of the Traditional Elders and Custodians and collaboration with the local Aboriginal people is necessary. If you wish to use or quote any information in this manual/presentation, you must ASK FIRST before reproducing. Please ensure all references include acknowledgement to the Wadandi Cultural Custodians.

Djilba issue

August to September 2019

We are excited to present to you the third issue of the Undalup Seasonal Newsletter. Each issue will come out with the change of the Wadandi Seasons. *Undalup News* will bring you the latest in Wadandi culture, events, arts and community.

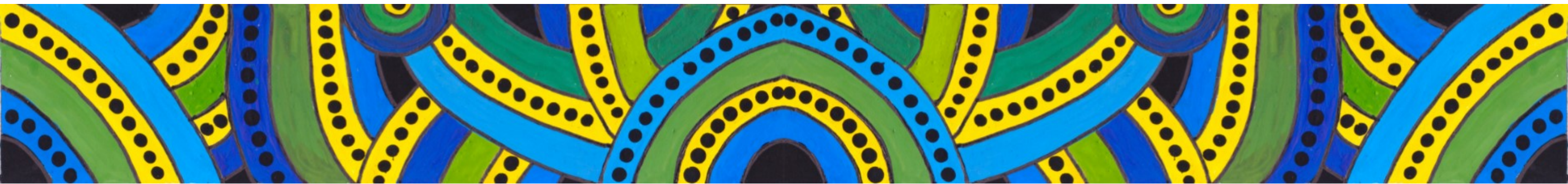
“Kaya” Welcome

The Undalup Association Inc. would like to acknowledge the past, present and future Traditional Owners and Elders, whose cultures and customs have and will continue to nurture the land on which we walk and live – Boodja.



About Undalup

The Undalup Association Inc. was formed in 2012 with an aim to develop and empower the South West region’s Aboriginal communities by increasing employment opportunities and promoting health and well-being – and to uphold their obligation to Country and Culture. We believe that the approach we are taking with creating partnerships with other organisations in the area, and involving the community in our projects and events, will lead to a more reconciled and respectful future – giving us all a sense of belonging and drawing everyone into the cultural, spiritual, heritage and historical aspects of the area.



Featured Story

Elizabeth Quay Water Playground Design

Undalup Board Member and Elder, Sandra Hill is a leader in indigenous art in Australia. Previously she was Director of the Associate Degree in Contemporary Aboriginal Art at Curtin University (1999-2004), training a cohort of contemporary Noongar artists. Sandra also worked as an arts teacher in the West Australian Juvenile Justice system.

Sandra is deeply committed in maintaining cultural integrity in her work and she has a true passion for sharing and healing of the Noongar people. Through the arts she is known through every level of the arts community for her passionate commitment to advancing Noongar contemporary art to a standard that will afford emerging artists to be competitive in the mainstream arts industry.

Sandra is a leading Noongar artist with a professional practice of 26 years. Her work is represented in major National collections and Institutions as well as international collections.

On 25 May 2017 Sandra's work was exhibited in one of the most prestigious exhibitions in the country, the National Indigenous Artist Triennial III. The exhibition commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the Aboriginal Referendum and the exhibition titled "Defying Empire" at the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra. She is the only Noongar artist out of the thirty top Indigenous artists around the country to be chosen for the exhibition.

Through her art, Sandra hopes to engage the wider community by continuing to share her people's stories in the hope that the collective experience of the Noongar people will further diminish the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. In 2020, two of her works will be included in the largest Indigenous exhibition to tour Asia via mainland China. The exhibition is titled 'Indigenous Masterpieces Australia', and will be launched by the NGA & Westfarmers.

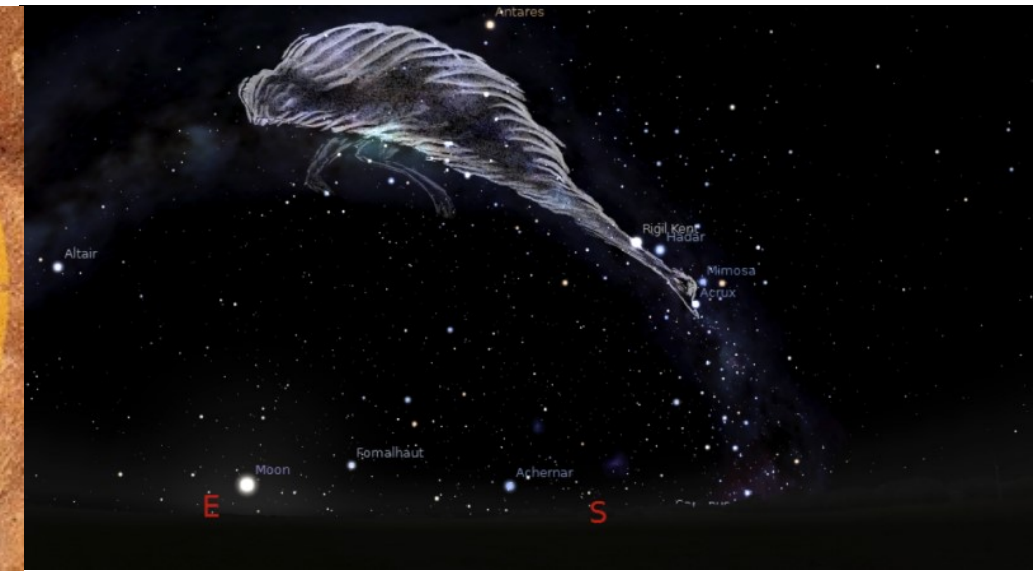
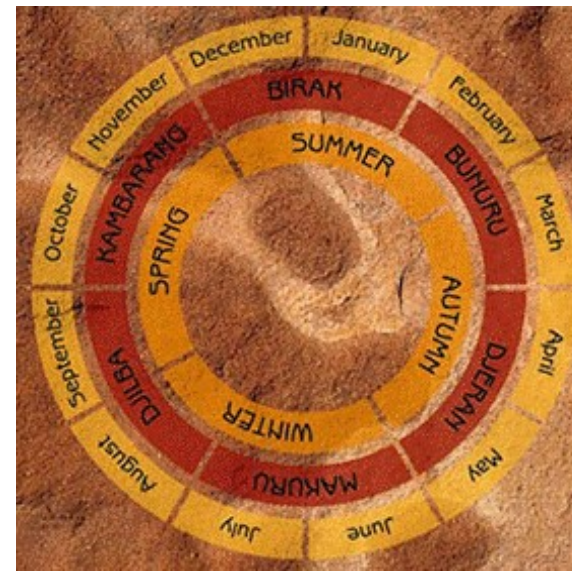
Sandra intends to stimulate and nurture the Noongar art movement by her ongoing Cultural Art workshops and other events in collaboration with the Undalup Association.

Do you know the Six Seasons?

The Six Seasons of our Wadandi people, traditions and culture are relied on to this day to keep Nala Boodja (Our Country) strong and healthy.

The six seasons are governed by what is happening and changing around us rather than by dates on a calendar. It helps to understand and respect plant and animal fertility cycles and preservation of the land.

Each of the six seasons coincides with a seasonal abundance of a variety of food resources which informs which foods and medicines should be consumed at that time of the year.



(Above: The Emu in the Sky - Image created by the University of Melbourne)

Djilba (August to September)

Colours: ● black, ● blue, ● green, ● yellow

Climate: Mixture of wet days with increasing number of clear, cold nights and pleasant warmer days.

The yongar (male kangaroo) and woorar (female kangaroo) are not hunted during this season as the woorar has boodjid (given birth) and has a joey to care for.

As you walk across Boodja you will also notice the possum bush, with its cream florets that resemble mini cauliflowers, are ready to bloom, an indication that the koomal (brushtail possum) and gnaren (ringtail possum) have babies and cannot be hunted. You can also observe injid (cockies tongues or templetonia retusa) with its vibrant red blossoms which indicates that the skippy djijit (fish) are boola (plenty) and can be caught.

Quinnin (zamia palm) are also beginning to produce a seed known as boyan. Boyan was used by the Wadandi people by leaching toxins from the nut to create a flour that can be used to cook a form of fermented bread used for the production of good bacteria in the stomach.

Djilba is the season to also collect tubers (underground stems or roots) such as borna (bush chilli), kara (carrots) and djubak (potato) to be eaten raw or roasted on karla djedal (fire coals). Wannang (peppermint tree or agonis flexuosa) is also ready to blossom telling us that the rains will continue to fall, replenishing the country until the next season of Kambarang, when the land will warm and we once again live with the sea.

Djilba is also known as Boodjari Boodjid (Conception Time). During this time, we djinnung (look) into the djinda (stars) through the Milky Way to observe the Dark Emu that indicates to our people that wetj (emu) is now nesting and cannot be hunted to ensure sustainability.

The artwork at the BHP Children's Water Playground at Elizabeth Quay in Perth was designed by Undalup Cultural Custodian, Sandra Hill. Made in collaboration with Ceramic Artist, Jenny Dawson from the J Shed Art Studio. Next time you're in the city, pop down to the Quay and check this artwork out. *Photo courtesy of the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority*





Events Recap

'Respect yourself, Respect Your Culture' Undalup NAIDOC Week Festival 2019

The aim of this year's 'Respect Yourself, Respect Your Culture' Undalup NAIDOC Week Festival for 2019 (sponsored by Healthway) was to focus on the reconnection of culture during each workshop – and to provide a spiritual healing to many – learning and gaining cultural knowledge of the land, the arts, the language and the people. Importantly it was a chance to engage the local community in the rich and diverse local culture of the Wadandi people. NAIDOC week is an opportunity to build stronger relationships between the community and the local Aboriginal people and to promote a broader understanding and acceptance of this unique place of Indigenous cultures in Australian society.

The Festival was held at the High Street Hall from 10th – 13th July 2019 and included cultural workshops, music and entertainment, children's activities, stalls and Merenj Boodja café offering delicious bush tucker – all open daily to the public. Workshops this year included:

- Cultural Weaving – with Leanne Taylor, Noongar / Wadandi Yorga, Aboriginal Artist & Weaver.
- Cultural Tool Making – with John Mogridge, Wadjuk, Baladong, Yuart Noongar.
- The Singing Plants Workshop – with Tamara Jarrahmarri, 'Jamarri' is Djugun, Nyul Nyul, Bardi, Mardjargool (Yorga) from Saltwater country, Broome, Kimberleys.

The Undalup Association also partnered up with the Shire of Capel for a community NAIDOC week event at the Capel Shire Hall. The Welcome to Country was delivered by Wadandi Elder and Undalup member, Sandra Hill and there were lots of cultural activities, bush tucker and food tastings, a cultural display, cultural dance workshops and performances. Fun was had by all. We look forward to working again with the Shire of Capel!



Pictured: (Above & Front Cover) Bindjareb Middars cultural dancers. (Far left) A father and son working together on some cultural art. (Left) Wayne Webb with Undalup youth members showing their support in their Undalup shirts. (Below) Some bush food items on display at the festival.



Out on Boodja

NRM Restoration Project with St Mary MacKillop College

Students have been helping with our Natural Resource Management (NRM) projects out on Boodja. If you read our last edition of *Undalup News* you would have seen the article about Hampton Senior High School. St Mary MacKillop College were involved in the restabilising of the dune system and cultural site at Mookidup, with rolls of bio tek coir mesh matting being rolled out to prevent dune erosion. Wayne and Zac Webb, Wadandi Cultural Custodians led the NRM project and gave a cultural presentation to students. Students reported that they enjoyed the outings, engaging in the cultural display and talking with Wadandi Elders and Custodians. The Undalup Mob would like to give a huge thanks to students, teachers and Undalup volunteers for a job well done.



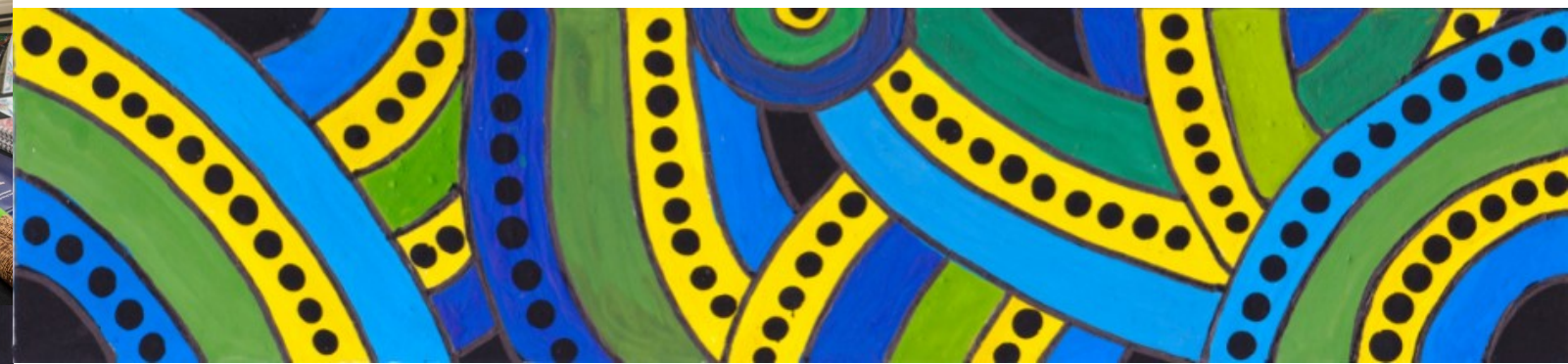
Cultural Awareness Training

Our Cultural Trainers have been out and about teaching our schools about Cultural Awareness. The Yallingup Steiner School recently attended a Cultural Awareness Training session with Undalup Chairperson and Cultural Custodian, Zac Webb presenting the workshop which gave workshop participants a clearer understanding of the local Wadandi culture and cultural protocols, history, lore and significance of and association with cultural sites in the South West.

Our Undalup Cultural Custodians Wayne Webb, Iszac Webb and Sandra Hill facilitate this training which teaches participants about :

- Caring for Country
- Plants and Animals
- Kinship
- Tourism
- The Six Seasons
- Dreamtime
- Aboriginal Heritage
- Education
- Lore & Cultural Protocols
- Respect for Culture
- Respect for Elders
- Language

Undalup News is our chance to share some of this education material with the community. We hope you enjoy learning as much as we enjoy teaching!



Our People, The Land

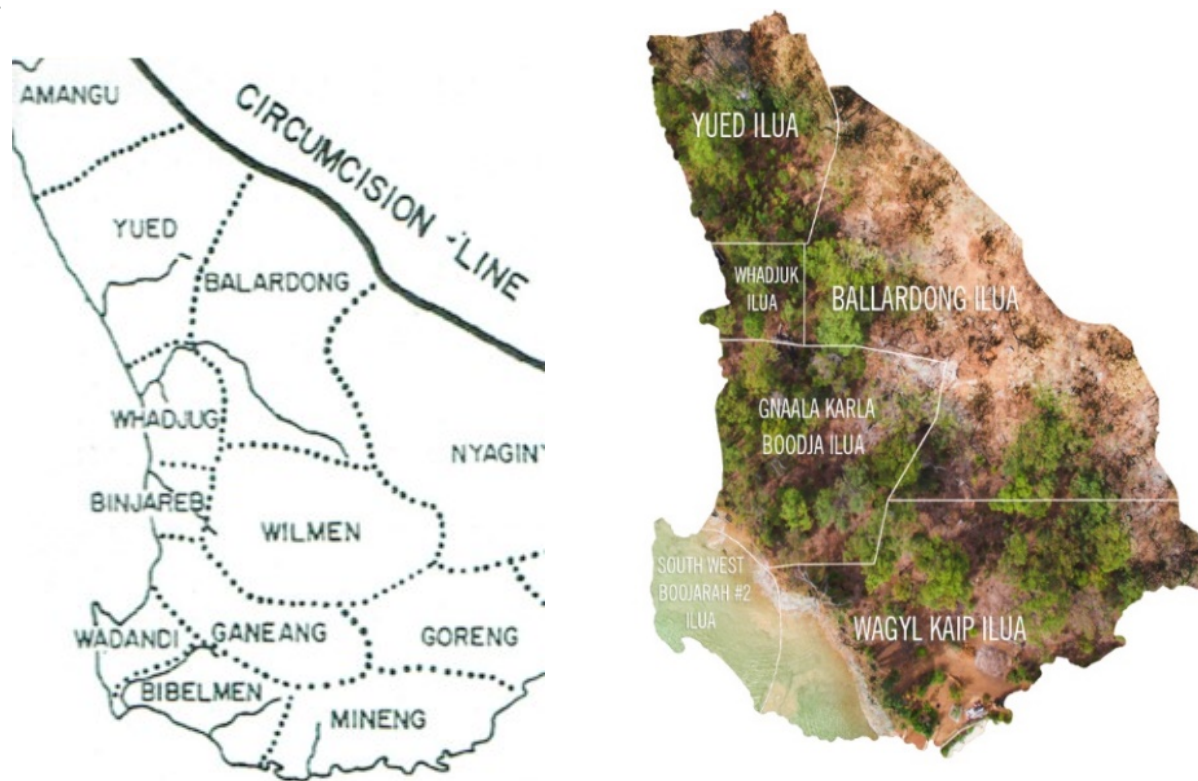
Noongar Tribal / Socio-Linguistic Boundaries

The South West Boojarah region refers to the Wadandi and Bibbulmun/ Pibulmun language or dialectical groups. Towards the east of the South West Boojarah region is the Wagyl Kaip region and northwards is the Gnaala Karla Booja region. The South West Boojarah region encompasses the towns of Busselton, Capel, Margaret River, Witchcliffe, Augusta, Windy Harbour, Northcliffe, Pemberton, Manjimup, Bridgetown and Nannup. The approximate size of the South West Boojarah region is 10,085 square kilometres.

Wadandi – From Bunbury to Cape Leeuwin, along the coast of Geographe Bay and the vicinity of Nannup and Busselton.

Pibulmun – Lower Blackwood River on the hills, in the country between the Blackwood and Warren rivers, East to Gardner River and Brook Inlet, on Scott River and inland to Manjimup and Bridgetown, Hay River near Denmark.

Pibulmun is the ‘people of plenty’ with Bibbulmun being the true nation’s name that is referred to as the Noongar Nation.



(Map courtesy of the SWLSC)

Noongar means ‘an Aboriginal person/man of the South West of Western Australia’. The name Noongar came about through colonisation and was given to the ‘original inhabitants of the South West of Western Australia’, now known as the Noongar Nation of people, one of the largest Aboriginal cultural groups in Australia.

The Noongar culture has survived over 50,000 years with knowledge being handed down to enable its people to accurately describe many of the traditional and ongoing cultural values of Boodja. The Noongar nation is made up of fourteen different language groups. Each of these language groups correlates with different geographic areas with ecological distinctions.

What is the ‘Circumcision Line’? The Noongar Nation is an area of land where a line is drawn roughly from Jurien Bay in the North, down to the east of Esperance in the South East. This line is known as the ‘Circumcision Line’. The Aboriginal people of the Noongar Nation above the line practise a variety of initiation ceremonies (Secret Men’s Business). The Bibbulmun people practise nasal septum piercing and ciatricision (scarring) of the upper body.



Events recap

Noongar Footy Legends Nite

The Undalup Association celebrated a Noongar Footy Legends Nite in July 2019. The stars of the night were Noongar Football Legends, including some who were well known for playing some ‘black magic’ during their football careers. Famous Noongar actor, Kelton Pell was the MC of the night and hosts Peter ‘Buzz’ Bosustow & Mark ‘Jacko’ Jackson provided many laughs while retelling stories of their careers.

Following colonisation of their traditional homelands in South Western Australia, and by overcoming the terrible hardship that ensued, the Noongar people mastered Australian rules football and used it as a way to pioneer bold new futures in the face of adversity in a changed world. Football became a passion for generations trapped in missions, homes and on reserves ready to kick beyond the confines of marginal life and unite the nation through their inspirational passion, power and talent.

Football has been and still is a way of life for many Aboriginal Families, playing in bare feet out in the dirt, kicking, passing, dodging and running with anything that resembled a football. Football in Australia is well over 100 years old. Many of us remember the league being called VFL until 1990 when the game changed to AFL. The many Aboriginal players from the Noongar nation in premiership football created some of the greatest stories in Australian football history.

If a footballer’s worth is based on performances in the big games, then the Aboriginal contingent in the AFL can stand tall. Our players have been important ambassadors for their people, they have been heroes and outstanding role models for all our youngsters, particularly our Aboriginal children.



The many Aboriginal football players from WA's South West are to be forever honoured as football legends because of their extraordinary contribution to the national game. The Undalup Association would like to thank the following people, local business and organisations for their recent and continued support towards our association’s events.

Pictured: (Top left) Syd Jackson & Mark 'Jacko' Jackson share an embrace. (Top right) The warmth among the group was evident on the night – old friends coming together to share stories and many laughs – pictured with Undalup members Wayne Webb and Rachelle Cousins. (Left) Kelton Pell & Peter 'Buzz' Bosustow. (Front page) Syd Jackson, Wayne Webb and Jane Grljusich, daughter of the late George Grljusich