



WILLUM WARRAIN

Aboriginal Association Incorporated

Hello,

Well, it has been a long 11 weeks in lockdown and a disappointing term 3 for us here at Willum Warrain. We had lots of exciting events and programs planned, however, the safety of mob is more important!

The term wasn't completely a loss with **Women's Group** doing natural dying, harvesting lomandra and we finally have our new t-shirts made (which look deadly!) and **Men's Group** working on their possum skin cloak and group paintings. Our Bubups in **Bush Playgroup** made animal wall hangings, painted, played in puddles and learnt about karkalla, whilst our **Deadly Youth** made a group artwork and got deadly new t-shirts.

We have been supporting mob with meals and food hampers, thanks to Ange, Sammy and Justine for delivering them. Thanks to **Somerville Bakers Delight**, **Bright Sparq** and **Lil's Yokly Dokey Eggs** for your generous donations. Having deadly yarns online each week with the fellas and sistas is another way we have been keeping vital connections in place.

We also received fantastic news that the Willum Warrain conceptual Masterplan was **unanimously supported by Council** and adopted in August. This means our footprint has doubled in size and expanded to include three parcels of land next to the Gathering Place with the length of our lease now extended to 30 years. This commitment to self-determination has provided us with significant future security. We are so excited to be able to continue healing country and creating more cultural spaces at Willum Warrain. In addition, we know this expansion will create new employment opportunities for mob into the future. As the current largest employer of Aboriginal people on the Peninsula, we are keen to grow even further.



We are also aiming to build a **new entrance building** in the coming year and are actively exploring grant opportunities as well as having launched a GoFundMe which has raised almost \$10,000 so far. A big shout out to 40 community members who have already donated and the three philanthropic benefactors (Grow Corp, HG Children's Foundation and Julie Kantor) who have made significant donations to our building fundraiser.

We also really appreciate the program support we have recently received from three other philanthropies who believe in our mob. A special thank you to **5point Foundation**, **Evans5fund** and **Mornington Peninsula Foundation** who have recently committed to funding our Women's and Children's programs for the next 3 years. Long term funding like this really secures our future.



MORNINGTON
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PLACE BASED PHILANTHROPY

Term 4 Newsletter

During the lockdown, we partnered with Peninsula Health and VACCA to run two COVID-19 vaccination clinics at the Gathering Place and saw over **70 mob** come through to get double jabbed. We were all so pleased to see so many people doing their bit to **keep our mob safe**. A special thanks to Aunty Helen for driving this important initiative.



Our horticultural team have been working hard these past 3 months and, with the addition of a new hot house, the **Bush Nursery has bloomed!** We have an abundance of pike, vanilla and chocolate lily, grasses and many more plants ready for sale. We will be having **plant sales** in the coming weeks – so keep your eyes on our Facebook and website for details and make sure you support your local Aboriginal mob.

It is with sad hearts we acknowledge the loss of a wonderful **Elder** from our community. He was a Ngarrindjeri fella who contributed so much to our Gathering Place, within Men's Group, as a Board member and as our go to community photographer. We send our deepest condolences to his family (Andrea, Sam and Linden). Rest easy in the dreaming, Uncle Ken.

We are planning for a shorter term 4 (given the current roadmap) and expect to resume in person programs in November. In the meantime, we still have weekly **Zoom Yarns** for Women's and Men's group, if you want to join in please text your email to 0403 528 034

Lastly, don't forget to join us on **Saturday 23rd October** at 10.45am for our virtual **AGM** to hear about all the deadly things happening at Willum Warrain.

Until then, stay safe and stay deadly!

Peter Aldenhoven and Taneisha Webster

Executive Officers Men's / Women's Business

We are always just a phone call away as well. Please contact us on 0403 528 034 for a yarn or leave a message and we will get back to you and do our best to help. We are here to support mob in any way we can.