



YEARS

Still Bringing Them Home

Chairperson - Sam Watson



Sam Watson

This year we pause, and we reflect on 35 years of serving our community. We look back on those three and a half decades, those millions of miles travelled. Those thousands of lives that we have reached out to and formed bonds with... we think of the high times, the sad times, and the laughter, and the

tears, and at night when we are home and thinking back on what we have done that day, we probably ask ourselves – has it all been worth it!?

We are Aboriginal people. We are the holders of a culture that is the oldest living culture in the world. We are living, breathing extensions of the land and country on which we walk. This land was crafted by the Rainbow Serpent during that long-ago night of creation. As Aboriginal people we have responsibilities to serve and protect our sacred lands, we must keep it safe and we must carry out our cultural practices, so the land stays healthy and continues to breathe.

There is life in our country, deep – spiritual and ancient life that started back at the very beginning of time and has carried through to the modern day. As Aboriginal people we can stand on the highest mountain on our land and we can look out upon the country and we can feel the invisible, powerful chains of the Song Lines that criss cross the land and we can feel the electricity of those millions of lives that have been lived on this land.

We taste the eternal winds and we draw in the fresh acrid smell of the cooking fires. Yes, we come from those Song Lines and we spend our mortal lives serving and succouring those Song Lines and in time

when we are called back to the Dreaming, we once again become another link in the vast, eternal chains that are the Song Lines.

Yes. Most definitely these 35 years have been worth every blessed minute. Link-Up (Qld) may not have been there to save the children of the Stolen Generations from being removed and taken away. Link-Up (Qld) may not have been there when our small ones were cast into the dormitories and cold, hard walls of the concrete cells.

But 35 years ago, a small group of champions and warriors stepped forward and held up a mighty shield and said in a resounding voice – no more mister protector. No more!

Our children will live. They will survive and in time – they will hear again the voice of the Song Lines that are calling to them. They will hear that voice and they will come home once again... back to country.

And Link-Up (Qld) will be there to walk with them on that journey.



Auntie Bev at the Thompson Reunion, Cairns, 1987



Auntie Bev with 5 Generations of her Family; her Grandmother, Mother, Daughter and Granddaughter



Cover:
**Link-Up (Qld) is celebrating
 35 Years of Still Bringing
 Them Home**

DISCLAIMER: Whilst every effort has been made to respect cultural traditions, Indigenous readers are advised that this publication may contain images of people who are deceased.

CEO - Patricia Thompson



Patricia Thompson

Welcome to this edition of our magazine which will be out in circulation just prior to our 35th Year Anniversary Gala Event. By now if you haven't purchased your tickets, you will no doubt be missing out on celebrating this important milestone with us. More than

half our tickets were sold

within the first 3 weeks of going live on the website. We are holding this event at the Brisbane City Hall, one of Queensland's most significant heritage and cultural icons and community meeting places in the heart of the city.



The Queensland Heritage Register and the National Trust of Queensland list City Hall as a "culturally, historically and architecturally significant building". City Hall closed its doors in January 2010 for restoration and repair and re-opened to the public on 6th April 2013.

Each year on Sorry Day, the Lord Mayor holds a Sorry Day event in King George Square followed by morning tea inside City Hall.

We are looking forward to our 35th Year Anniversary Gala Event to celebrate the highlights and achievements and to acknowledge current and past Board members, staff, clients and also the support of agencies and other friends of Link-Up (Qld) over those 35 years.

Aunty Beverly Johnson, Link-Up (Qld)'s first worker in 1984 said that she felt she was given a great

opportunity to work in this unique service of helping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to reunite them back to their families and community. Her first impression of the job was "*what a Challenge... and what a challenge it has been*".

Aunty Bev shares with us the frustrations, the ups and downs, the disappointments and the disillusionment in those early days. However, with the support of her family who reminded her constantly – "*You can do it*", "*You can make it*" and "*You've got what it takes*".

Thank you Aunty Bev, for laying those really important foundations in those very early years for us to continue this *heart* work.

Kathleen Bobongie, our Service Delivery Manager in the Cairns Office has moved on, unable to resist her calling home to country and family in the Northern Territory. Kathy has been a valuable member of our Link-Up (Qld) family for almost 3 years. During that time Kathy has been instrumental in developing and implementing new processes, training and mentoring staff, making significant contributions to meeting our KPI's and reuniting Stolen Generations with their families, country and culture.

Whilst we are sad to see Kathy go, we are happy that she is going home to spend more time with her family and on country.

Staff professional development is high on the agenda for the Link-Up (Qld) Board and Management. We highlight in this edition staff attending and completing their Certificate IV in Mental Health and Diploma of Counselling at Gallang Place.

In the Cairns region, staff attending a professional development workshop on case management run by the Social Emotional Wellbeing Workforce Support Unit within the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (QAIHC) followed by a cultural tour of the Mossman Gorge.

Staff attended Marumali training run by Aunty Lorraine Peeters and her daughter Shaan.

We are proud to support our staff, empowering them through learning to support our Stolen Generations on their healing journeys.

We look forward to celebrating our achievements and highlighting our clients journeys at our 35th Year Anniversary Gala.

Deidre Slater Reunion - Currawillinghi



Sandra and Deidre at Currawillinghi

Link-Up (Qld) recently organised a reunion, where I met Sandra Leonard – my last remaining living cousin on my father’s side of the family tree...or so I thought. It turned out that Sandra’s brothers were still very much alive. Though they were briefly mentioned in earlier information I’d been given, their names didn’t appear on any copies of the family tree I was working with. Needless to say, I was happy to know that I had more living cousins than I thought!

During the reunion there would be a number of surprises, and it turned out to be a memorable experience. Along the way finding out about our family and its long history.

During our childhood, my two siblings and I were always told that our father was Spanish, but for some reason we always suspected he wasn’t. We had often wondered, of course. However, it wasn’t until I was 35 that the long journey to find my father’s true heritage first began.

Unfortunately, due to existing barriers in place at the

time, it wasn’t until some ten years later that I had any kind of success.

Almost twenty years passed. Then, with the help of ‘Find and Connect’ (a government initiative to help ‘Forgotten Australians’ reconnect with their family), all the necessary searches began.

Those searches were followed up with long hours of hard work by the Link-Up (Qld) research team, who provided far greater details of my closest relatives. Thus, my family tree is now complete – all ten generations. Starting with my great-grandson, right up to my Great-Great-Great-Great Grandmother Jeannie (or Jennie).

Unfortunately, my father passed away nine years ago now, still preferring to keep his true heritage hidden; right up to the very end. He would have had his reasons and though it was disappointing for us not to know why, since his passing we can only wonder what those reasons might have been. The irony is, it wasn’t until after my father, Harley Smith/Morris, had passed



Deidre Slater, Jessie Cobbo, and Sandra Leonard



Ray, Sandra Leonard, Deidre Slater and Michael

away that certain information from official files was then able to be released.

On the first day of the reunion we commenced the first part of our long journey, stopping overnight in Goondiwindi. It had been a very hot day, and it wasn't much cooler in the evening. The next day we began the second leg of our journey, stopping overnight at Dirranbandi.

We decided that late afternoon would be the best time to visit the Dirranbandi cemetery – to pay our respects. It's not a large cemetery, so it didn't take long to find our family. While standing at my Great-Great Grandmother's graveside, though I spoke few words, what I felt in my heart said all that I needed to. I know so very little of Sarah's life journey, but what I do know is that it would have taken a very courageous person to have survived the terrible harsh times that far too many indigenous men, women, and children had to live through.

The third day we headed straight for our destination – Currawillinghi Station.

It's here that a huge thank you must go Michael Eckford, and to his good friend Ray Tubby, for having taken the time to share their extensive knowledge of

the history of so many past families at Currawillinghi Station, and elsewhere. Between them they have a mountain of knowledge. So much so, it was impossible for us to take it all in. After showing us around the land, its historical buildings, and other significant structures, we had morning tea in the huge shearing shed.

Thank you to all the Link-Up (Qld) staff who helped organise our reunion and, once again, thank you to all of those hardworking researchers. After all of their crosschecking had been done, nobody could have been more surprised than I was. There were so many names on our family tree! From my grandmother, Ruby May Smith/Leonard – her mother, Eva Chapman/Smith – her mother, Sarah Eckford/White – her mother, Louisa Nicholls, and last (but by no means least), her mother – my Great-Great-Great-Great Grandmother Jeannie (or Jennie), who would have been born well before those two words 'Botany Bay' came into existence.

Finally, a special thank you must go to Jessie Cobbo and Christine Reeves. They looked after Sandra and myself so well. In fact, the only thing that Sandra and I had to be concerned about, was all of those very sharp, thong-loving, hard to remove, on country deadly prickles..!



Paying respects at John Eckford's grave



John Eckford's grave on Currawillinghi Station



Crossing the 150-year old sway bridge at Currawillinghi



Sandra and Deidre at Currawillinghi

Sandra Smith Reunion



Sandra Smith and her family at the Graveside of her Grandfather Charles Palmer

My name is Sandra Smith and I'm from Yarrabah in Far North Queensland. I grew up in Oombunghi in Yarrabah with my family. When the state took over control from the Church we were all moved from Oombunghi to the main part of the mission in Yarrabah when I was a little girl in the 1960's. I went to the primary school at Yarrabah and then attended Cairns State High school which we had to travel via boat to Cairns and back. When I finished school, I worked as a babysitter minding the Matrons child and then went on to work at the hospital. I met my husband Philip and we have a beautiful family, 6 children who are all grown up and I have lots of grandbabies, 28 all up including one great granddaughter.

I met with Link-Up (Qld) in 2015 where I knew a support worker. I had a break from researching for a little while but resumed my quest to find out more information on my Grandfather Charles Palmer, my mother's father.

Ever since I was a young girl my family always wondered what happened to Granddad Charles. Granddad Charles was born in Cooktown district, a traditional Kokomudji man born around 1873. He was brought to live in Yarrabah at the time of the Stolen Generations with his sister Polly. He married

my Grandmother Tilly Holloway and had 8 children, one still with us in Yarrabah who is 91 years old today. Granddad Charles was bitten by a snake in 1936 in Yarrabah and taken on the boat to Cairns to get medical help. We were told he died and we never knew where they had buried him or if he had a graveside service. When Link-Up (Qld) told me they had found his grave, I felt excited and sad at the same time.

On the day of the graveside reunion I gathered flowers from my garden here in Yarrabah and proceeded to travel into Cairns with my cousin sister Cherene to meet with Link-Up (Qld) staff and some family members at my Granddad's grave. I had mixed feelings when I saw his unmarked grave, I was very sad because he was buried not far from a family's graveside I had attended not long ago. I couldn't believe I stood so close to where he was laid to rest and I had no idea. It was a very emotional day for myself and some members of my family as we gathered around his grave where he laid unmarked and unknown for over 80 years and one of my family member who is a great grandson of Charles Palmer, Reverend Edward Murgha, said an opening prayer and a graveside blessing.

Now we finally know where he is and can heal and find closure. It felt like a heavy sad burden was lifted off my shoulders. Family have started to make plans to memorialise Granddad Charles and develop his grave from being unmarked.

I would like to thank my support person my cousin sister Cherene and some members of my family for attending the graveside reunion. I would also like to thank my Caseworker Sylvia Wright and the other Link-Up (Qld) staff members, Kathleen Bobongie, Daniel Houtman, Shane Wallace and Josh Thompson for their support on that day. I would also like to thank Tamarra Maisema and Kayleen Jackson from the Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services for their help and support throughout the whole graveside reunion process. I would just like to recommend anyone from the Yarrabah community to get connected to Link-Up (Qld) if they want to search for any family members past and present because Link-Up (Qld) done a great job for finding out about my Grandfather Charles and also to find closure not only for myself but for the whole Palmer family to know where he was buried.



Darren Miller, Henry Miller, and Rev Edward Murgha



Darren Miller speaking at the service



Mareka Miller reading a poem at the service



Sandra Smith and Aunty Lois Choikee, 91 years old, the only remaining daughter of Charles Palmer and Tilley Holloway



Tilley Holloway and 10 year old Lois Choikee



Rev Edward Murgha, Cherene Palmer, and Sandra Smith

National Link-Up Leadership Meeting Alice Springs - March 2019

The National Link-Up Leadership meeting was hosted by Congress Link-Up Service (Central Australian Aboriginal Congress) in Alice Springs in March 2019. A big thank you to Tracey Brand, General Manager – Health Service Division and Fiona Hadden - Team Leader for Congress Link-Up Service and their team for their hospitality.

Traditional Owner, Aunty Doris Stuart Kngwarreye welcomed us on country and took us on a cultural tour of significant sites around Alice Springs. On the page following is a poem by Aunty Doris' son, Tony Renehan – Compromise, Compromise. As Aunty Doris welcomed us and pointed out significant sights, we felt her pain, her sadness and her sorrow – Tony's poem expresses that pain, sadness and sorrow.

The National Link-Up Leadership Group meets bi-annually to provide leadership, strategic advice and recommendations to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet on the implementation and operations of the Link-Up services.

We are committed to achieving solutions and strategies for National Link-Up organisational improvement and quality assurance of operations with integrity and accountability.

It is acknowledged that all Link-Up organisations apply different business and operational strategies to their organisations but will work in conjunction with one another to develop national solutions where possible.



Compromise, Compromise,
See our country through our people's eyes
There's so much sadness and sorrow inside
That's because we have to Compromise.

Compromise, Compromise,
Our spirits and people, they have to die
And it's all because other people have lied
Over and over, our people are tested and tried.

Compromise, Compromise,
Our people have done it, time after time
They've done it for roads, for people to reside
And what do we get, a Sacred Site sign

Compromise, Compromise,
Our Sacred Sites, where can you hide?
Do you end up as rubble, like on Barret Drive?
Or do you end up as land fill on a building site?

Compromise, Compromise,
Looking through other people's eyes
They don't hurt, they don't cry
They see nothing but a handshake, and dollar signs.

Compromise, Compromise,
People will never understand
They will never feel it, because it isn't their land
All they worry about, is the town.

Compromise, Compromise,
Our people are laying down, looking up at the sky
It's not their fault, they didn't have to die
They were strong and happy, so full of life
But then there's that word, which rips you inside
That word we all know,
That word Compromise.

Tony Renehan

National Leadership Meeting

The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet is working with each Link-Up organisation to develop a shared Evaluation and Monitoring Framework. This has come about from numerous discussions over time at the National Link-Up Leadership meetings which Irene Krauss, Senior Advisor, Health Branch within the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet has been in attendance. Irene has now left the department, however we appreciate the work Irene has done to bring this project to fruition.

Kathleen Stacey and Associates have been selected to work on this project. There was good participation and robust discussion around the project at the Alice Springs meeting. Kathleen's team will be visiting each Link-Up organisation to see how each organisation operates, so that recommendations can be made to develop a shared Evaluation and Monitoring Framework.

Sharron Gollan (Sharron Gollan and Associates) and Sheryl Boniface (beyond.Kathleen Stacey and Associates) recently visited Link-Up (Qld) and met with Chairman Sam Watson and staff looking at our operations.



National Close the Gap Day at Bunyapa Park, West End

On 21st March, Micah Projects once again hosted a community event for National Close the Gap Day. Link-Up (Qld) participated at this year's event!

The National Close the Gap Day campaign was led by ANTaR (Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation) and aimed to address the 17-year gap in life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. It has expanded over the years, with health still the priority, but to address gaps in education, training and employment opportunities.

Micah Projects event was to raise awareness about the issues and a call for action regarding health, that sadly hasn't seen significant improvement.

Keynote speakers included Jackie Trad, Deputy Premier; Terri Butler MP, Federal Minister for Griffith, Jonathan Sri, Greens Councillor for the Gabba and Christian Rowan (Shadow Minister for A&TSI partnerships) attended. Entertainment by local musicians, Art and feedback activities, Blood pressure checks, and free BBQ.



Elijah Blair, 98.9FM Drive Show host



Syl Johns, IUIH



Jackie Trad, Deputy Premier of Queensland



Micah Projects Staff



Farewell Kathleen Bobongie

Sadly Kathleen Bobongie has decided it is time to say “see you later”. Kathy commenced working with Link-Up (Qld) in June 2016 in our Cairns Regional Office. Kathy is a qualified Social Worker, experienced SEWB Counsellor and is teacher trained. These qualifications together with her extensive work experience equipped her to take on the roles of SEWB Counsellor and Service Delivery Manager covering regional and remote areas of Queensland. Kathy has successfully managed a regional office, mentored and trained staff, achieved outcomes contributing to meeting organisational KPI’s, which included reuniting Stolen Generations with their families, country and culture.

Kathy was also instrumental in developing Link-Up (Qld)’s Service Delivery Framework which sets out clearly the processes and workflows involved in service delivery. Kathy worked closely with our late work colleague Rob Frescon on this framework with other staff providing support where necessary. Whilst there were processes and the relevant forms in place, having a document setting out the workflow process improves the quality of Link-Up (Qld)’s service delivery, providing clearly the process and guiding

principles of our important work.

Kathy’s final message to staff reads:

“Today has crept up quickly and it’s my last day. My leaving comes with mixed feelings, sad to go from LUQ but happy to go home. My country and family have been calling me for a while so it’s time to move on. I have enjoyed meeting the clients and their families and really resonated with their stories and loved the way LUQ staff made them feel comfortable and helped them on their healing journey. LUQ is truly an impressive organisation with great staff. My passion and drive for working for the Stolen Generations comes from the fact that my mother was a stolen child so I wanted to make a difference in the lives of other people who have been impacted by removals. I thank you all for the cherished friendships and support you have given me. Will see you all at the Gala in May”.

Kathy’s home and family are in the Northern Territory. Thank you Kathy for the valuable contribution you have made to Link-Up (Qld) and the difference you have made in the lives of our Stolen Generations. See you at our 35th Anniversary Gala.





Staff Professional Development Gallang Place Graduation



Joshua Thompson and Anne Garrett recently graduated from studies at Gallang Place. Joshua with a Certificate IV in Mental Health and Anne with a Diploma of Counselling. Our work colleague, the late Rob Frescon also finally completed his Certificate IV in Mental Health and his sisters April and Tania were there to receive his certificate.

Our CEO, Pat Thompson was invited to the graduation to acknowledge Rob's achievement and to present his certificate to his sister Tania. All the graduates spoke very fondly of Rob, how they missed him and they wish he was there. Pat let them know that he will always be with us, how can he not be, he is in our hearts, he was our brother, our friend, our confidante – he was funny, smart, loyal, generous and respectful and always there helping anyone in need. His presence is all around us.

Pat also acknowledged that Rob had completed a Certificate in Indigenous Leadership – the Board of

Link-Up (Qld) as well as his colleagues acknowledged him as an emerging Leader.

Congratulations to Jack Day and Jamie Lee Edmonds for also completing their Diploma of Counselling and Melanie Allen, Raeleigh Deem, Hellene Demosthenous, Jody Skeen, Elizabeth Smith, Rhonda Van Den Berg for completing their Certificate IV in Mental Health.

Thanks to Katalina, Greg and their team of trainers for supporting our staff. Ella Mizzi, one of the trainer/assessors spoke of the exchange of wisdom between her and the students. *“Thank you for the wisdom you have given me,”* she said.

Julie Allen from QAIHC also spoke about the important relationship between QAIHC, Gallang Place and our organisations in terms of workforce development support and funding.



Patricia Thompson presenting Rob Frescon's certificate to his sister Tania Wilson

Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council Training

The Cairns team attended a two day learning experience hosted by QAIHC. This consisted of a day long workshop “Case Management Journey” and a visit to Mossman Gorge, a World Heritage Listed site located in the Daintree Rainforest. It was topped off with a presentation on Kija – an Aboriginal-owned and operated traditional bush medicines business. It was a also great opportunity to network with other workers in the health sector from across North Queensland. A highlight was also visiting the cultural centre at Mossman Gorge and to see the majority of workers on country are Indigenous.



Link-Up (Qld) Cairns Caseworker Joshua Thompson and Link-Up (Qld) Intake Officer Anne Garret



Anne and Josh with Link-Up (Qld) CEO Patricia Thompson



Anne Garret with Noleen Lopez



Joshua Thompson with Noleen Lopez



Judy Enoch from Ngoonbi and Sylvia Wright

Marumali Program

Recently Link-Up (Qld) staff Sylvia Wright and Joshua Thompson attended the four day Marumali Program® for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Service Providers delivered in Melbourne.

Aunty Lorraine Peeters expressed her Journey of life from a young age being forcibly removed and placed in the Cootamundra Domestic Training Home for Aboriginal Girls to leaving the home trying to find out about her family, country and connection, her breakdowns and not knowing how to cope or find peace. Aunty Lorraine developed a love for writing which helped her to heal and found a passion to help other survivors affected by removal policies.

The Marumali Program®, developed and delivered by Aunty Lorraine Peeters and her daughter Shaan Peeters, supports service providers to: realise the widespread impact of forcible removal and understand the potential paths for recovery; recognise the signs and symptoms of trauma associated with forcible removal in clients, families and others involved with their service; and to avoid re-traumatising members of the Stolen Generations. This supports participants and organisations to respond by integrating this knowledge into their policies, procedures, and practices.

Sylvia said that after attending and participating in the Marumali Program® it gave her a deeper sense of understanding of the traumas that was associated to the 'Stolen Generation' Aboriginal people and their families in this country and being a mother herself commented to Aunty Lorraine was 'how dare they' (government), in other words how dare they take a child from their life giver – their mother.

Joshua was touched by Aunty Lorraine's strength and story. There is so much that can be said about Aunty Lorraine's soft soothing voice, peaceful nature and calming spirit. Joshua highly recommends the four day workshop. It was a great honor to meet Aunty Lorraine and to be given her knowledge to help strengthen and support our people professionally and socially.

Thank you Aunty Lorraine and Shaan.



Joshua Thompson, Sylvia Wright, and Steven Hayes



Sylvia Wright and Aunty Lorraine Peeters



Shaan Peeters, Aunty Lorraine Peeters, Joshua Thompson and Sylvia Wright



Client Morning Teas

Brisbane

Link-Up (Qld) Brisbane had 18 clients attend our monthly Client Support Group morning Tea on Thursday 28 March. Caseworker Jessie Cobbo introduced the new Intake/ SEWB Counsellor Anne Garrett and then Jessie got the yarning happening around the table so new clients could get to know some of the older clients.

All attending enjoyed the food prepared by Link-Up (Qld) Brisbane's own cook extraordinaire, our Caseworker Jason Ives, who makes a deadly curry, and can cook corn beef to perfection.

With Easter holidays and ANZAC Day in April and Brisbane office being so busy with a Healing Camp, our 35-Year Anniversary Gala (24th of May) and our Sorry Day Ceremony (31st of May), there will be no Client Support Group morning teas during April and May.

We hope to see you at our 35-Year Anniversary Gala or our National Sorry Day ceremony, or both! The next morning tea will be on the 27th of June 2019.

Cairns

Lauren Varley, Program Officer from DATSIP Community and Personal Histories (CPH), was a recent guest speaker at the Link-Up (Qld) Client Support Group meeting held in Cairns. Lauren, who is a Cairns local herself, previously working in Brisbane DATSIP CPH office, explained her role as the Program Officer where she provides assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people wanting to access their records and search for their family if they were born in Queensland.

Lauren informed the group that in searching for records CPH will assist those wanting to find out more where their family comes from, who their family are and how their connections to a certain place. Lauren also informed the group that because of past Government policies, records had been kept for Aboriginal people that were born and living in Queensland under the 'Protection Act'.

For more information on Family and Personal History contact 1800 650 230 or submit an enquiry online. www.datsip.qld.gov.au



Brisbane Morning Tea



Cairns Morning Tea



Len Utz, Brian Gray, Len White and Jason Ives



Lauren Varley at Cairns Morning Tea

National Redress Scheme

The National Redress Scheme is in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

National Redress Scheme Line -1800 737 377

Link-Up (Qld) can assist individuals eligible to make a claim for the National Redress Scheme to complete their applications. We offer a supportive environment in which you can speak to our Specialist Support Counsellor for assistance with your application in complete confidence.

Filling in the application can take some time. If you have some information already about your lived experience, which may include documents, details of your experience and the impact of how this affected your life, gather these together and have copies ready for your submission. This may also include jotting down some points of what you remember including areas of vulnerability such as cultural disconnection, isolation from your family, physical and verbal abuse and lack of care.

When filling in the application there are guidelines throughout that will help you understand what information the question is asking you for. At the end of the application form there is a checklist that will help you to make sure you have everything that you need for your application.

Be aware that the application process may take some time. Part of this process is waiting to hear back from the institute/s that you have in your application. If you are worried about the progress of your application, please call the National Redress team. If you have your reference number - have this handy so they can access your application. On the National Redress Website, there is an application form that you can fill in on your computer and a link for anyone with a MyGov account. Alternatively, you can request an application package to be sent to you.

The website now has an interactive map that you can use for looking at institutions in different States and Territories. These institutes were identified in the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. This includes the final report from the Royal Commission. However, this does not mean all institutes have been named or identified. The Government is expecting that these institutes will join the scheme and take responsibility for the abuse.

Applications that have been submitted with an institution that has not yet joined the scheme or are in

the process of joining will not be assessed until this happens. The Department of Social Security have a team that has been calling the institutes that have not joined and are inviting them to do so.

Further Services have been granted funding to support the National Redress Scheme process.:

- ACT Disability and Carer Advocacy Service
- Cape York Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care Advisory Association
- Pilbara Community Legal Service
- Survivors and Mates Support Network (SAMSN)
- Blue Knot Foundation

If you are experiencing emotions you're not coping with, the following services can be contacted 24 hours a day and seven days a week:

Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636

1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732

MensLine Australia: 1300 789 978

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467

For more information or to find support services, go to the National Redress Scheme website: <https://www.nationalredress.gov.au/> or call 1800 737 377 Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm (local time), excluding public holidays.



Julie Pemberton, Specialist Support Counsellor from link-Up (Qld) doing an information session on Palm Island

Link-Up (Qld) Brisbane Client Morning Tea Dates 2019

Morning tea is on the last Thursday of the month

June 27th

July 25th

August 29th

September 26th

October 31st

November 28th

For more info call Link-Up (Qld) on 07 3638 0411



National Sorry Day 2019

Cranbrook Place Girls:

- Lucy Wheeler
- Clara Wheeler
- Hannah Hamilton
- Mary Combo
- Mabel McCullough
- Lucy Gracemere
- Lizzie Smith
- Nellie Mahar
- Jessie Thompson
- Kitty Stott
- Sarah Stott
- Ettie Walsh
- Cissie Fraser
- Minnie Mackay
- Alice Barnett
- Fannie Logan
- Mary (Mary-Anne) Thorpe

Friday 31st of May 2019
8am-10am
Cranbrook Place, Orleigh Park
104 Hill End Terrace
West End

Link-Up (Qld) is funded by Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Social Services, Attorney-General's Department, Ministry for the Arts, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services.

Link-Up (Qld) Cairns Client Morning Tea Dates 2019

Morning tea is on the last Thursday of the month

May 30th

June 27th

July 25th

August 29th

September 26th

October 31st

November 28th

For more info call Link-Up (Qld) on 07 4041 7403



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