

Volume 21 July - August 2016



Link-Up (Qld)
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION®



Still Bringing Them Home

Chairperson - Sam Watson



Sam Watson

Recent shocking revelations about the abuse and mistreatment of a number of Aboriginal children at certain juvenile detention centres in the Northern Territory has caused governments and leaders and ordinary people to talk about the way in which young people are treated in the criminal justice system.

The ABC's Four Corners team conducted an extensive investigation into the issues and revealed terrible images of young boys being assaulted, being held down, bashed, abused and even restrained in a primitive looking chair. The screening of the investigation caused an instant reaction and both the Northern Territory government and the federal government jumped in with immediate promises and took urgent steps to set up a Royal Commission. The television, radio and newspapers have been running hot on these issues and experts everywhere have pointed fingers of blame and they all have strong opinions.

Here in Brisbane we know that the Four Corners report is really nothing new. Our children have been forcibly torn away from their families for many decades and many of them have then been placed into similar institutions in which they were abused, assaulted and exposed to ongoing regimes of brutality. The children and their families have been denied their basic human rights and many of our community people walking around today, come to us from those very dark backgrounds.

Governments are far too quick to step up and scream for the setting up of Royal Commissions. They take high positions of anger and righteous indignation and they promise the world to the victims and their families.

The fact is that these high profile, highly public legal forums really achieve very little. The Four Corners team were able to document and record a litany of terrible and barbaric abuses. Those abuses are against the criminal law. The persons who committed those acts have broken the law and they can be charged and prosecuted now. We do not need a Royal Commission. We do not need special meetings or continuous press conferences. Aboriginal children have rights. Those rights are defined by the law of the states and of the federal jurisdiction. This nation is also a signatory to the Universal Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

Children who are forcibly removed from their families and torn away and shotgunned into cold, isolated cells - have rights. If they are members of the Stolen Generations they must be protected and they must be supported. If they come to the attention of the child welfare authorities they must also be protected and supported.

This entire community has a responsibility to defend the rights of these children and as a community we must stand up and speak out for these little ones. We may not have had the capacity or the opportunity to stop the waves of welfare officers breaking down our doors in the middle of the night to take our children away before; but in 2016 we do have the capacity and we do have the resources and the standing to make sure that those horrific abuses will never be allowed to happen again.

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Front Cover:
Patricia Shadforth
throwing rose petals
onto Lake Moondarra.

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 Conlon



Patricia Conlon

Welcome to another very colourful edition of our Link-Up (Qld) magazine packed with stories and photos from around our state. Staff have been very busy promoting the important work we do at NAIDOC events and attending various activities. NAIDOC is an important event on the

annual calendar for us to

share in the celebrations of our culture and to recognise and pay tribute to the significant achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The National NAIDOC Awards were held in Darwin. I am privileged as a member of the National NAIDOC Committee to participate and attend the National event. The National NAIDOC Committee recognises and celebrates the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their contribution at a National level and in their communities and congratulates the ten outstanding Award recipients who were honoured at the 2015 National NAIDOC Awards Ceremony.

Being in the Northern Territory provided Link-Up (Qld) an opportunity to visit Batchelor Tertiary Institute of Aboriginal Studies. We joined in the NAIDOC celebrations at the Institute and were provided with a tour of the facility. We were very impressed with the facilities and grounds – what a serene place to learn.

We were particularly interested to visit the old Radio Rum Jungle Studios which started over 28 years ago as Australia's first Indigenous media training course at Batchelor Institute. Many of our people have trained there over the years and we were very impressed with where the new studio is being established on campus and the opportunity media students would be given to

learn and continue story telling over the airways and in film. Fantastic place!

Link-Up (Qld) values our staff and supports their professional development. We also value our partnership with Gallang Place where recently six of our staff completed their Cert IV in Mental Health. Supporting staff to achieve this qualification equips them to undertake their roles in an effective and professional way. This learning journey was over 12 months, so congratulations to those staff who committed to the study and celebrated with a graduation ceremony at Gallang Place recently.

I was honoured to speak at Parliament House on National Sorry Day about the important partnership we have with the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships through the Community and Personal Histories Unit. The partnership involves Community and Personal Histories providing Link-Up (Qld) with direct access to records created by the Department during the Protection era. The records relate to many of our clients and/or our client's families and are crucial to piecing together family histories.

Mick Gooda, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner was also a key speaker on the day. Mick is also Chairperson of the Stolen Wages Reparations Taskforce. The Palaszczuk Government announced closure of the controversial Aborigines Welfare Fund, a part of the system of stolen wages and savings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders for more than 70 years. Treasurer Curtis Pitt and Mick Gooda signed the Aborigines Welfare Fund Closure document on that day.

Treasurer Curtis Pitt said "The decision to close the Aborigines Welfare Fund represents a significant milestone in Queensland's history and is an important act of reconciliation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders and their families whose wages or savings were stolen by past governments".



Link-Up (Qld) staff at the Batchelor Tertiary Institute of Aboriginal Studies

NAIDOC Day - Musgrave Park, Brisbane



On Friday 8th July Link-Up (Qld) attended the family fun day at Musgrave Park for NAIDOC week 2016.

The crowd, as always, was huge proving that this event is still one of the largest celebrations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture in Australia. Many Brisbane organisations were represented with information stalls, plus food and local entertainment on show.

An influx of people to the Link-Up (Qld) stall seeking information on the services provided proved to be successful with many potential clients now seeking follow up meetings. The Link-Up (Qld) magazines that were handed out were well received, many people were eager to point out themselves a friend or family member whose reunion story was shared in our newsletter.

Another big hit was the Link-Up (Qld) merchandise that was given out, things such as torches, card holders, t-shirts, bags, badges and wrist bands were so successful that most things were gone by 11am.



NAIDOC Day - Elorac Place, Carole Park, Brisbane



Link-Up (Qld) CEO Patricia Conlon & Caseworkers Rob and Jessie attended the NAIDOC Fun Day held at Elorac Place Community Centre in Carole Park. The day was a success, the turnout by the community was great and they showed a lot of interest in what Link-Up (Qld) provides to the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community. It was great to see Brisbane City Councillor Matthew Bourke attend the event. Huge thank you to Casey and Aunty Faye for their help on the day & the volunteers. Looking forward to next NAIDOC event in Elorac Place Community for 2017.



NAIDOC Day - Inala



On Wednesday 6th July 2016, Caseworker Rob Frescon, Researchers Rhyll Tonge and Lauren Scheiwe attended the Inala NAIDOC event. We were pleased to have a consistent flow of community members visiting our stall, enquiring about Link-Up (Qld) services and we happily gave away a lot of our merchandise which included our magazines.

We spent time networking with various organisations that were at the event and members of the community. We also enjoyed the entertainment of the day and look forward to next year's event.



NAIDOC Day - Logan



On Wednesday 6th July, Link-Up (Qld) staff members Jessie, Ruth, and Sam travelled to the Logan to attend a NAIDOC week event. Out on the park it was a bit windy and cold, but all the people we got to meet and talk to made the visit worth it. People couldn't get enough of our magazines and many representatives from other organisations said that they were great reading material for their clients and workers. At the end of the day we had barely any newsletters left.



NAIDOC Day - Ipswich



NAIDOC day at Ipswich was held at the Briggs Road Sports complex. It featured arts and crafts, rides and entertainment, food and many information stalls.

Traditional dance was performed by Nunukul Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Troupe and proved to be very entertaining. The Link-Up (Qld) stall was very popular with many visitors enquiring about our services.

Link-Up (Qld) staff members Sharkira Butterworth, William Conlon and Cheryl Page being kept very busy for most of the day.



NAIDOC Day - Taigum



NAIDOC at Koobara Taigum was a family day with a general energy of celebration and community. For me it was reconnecting with community members that I knew and meeting others that I didn't; yarning with others who came to our stall and enquired about what we do and who we are as well as being snap happy with the camera capturing the day's events was a day of connection, education and enjoying the whole meaning of the day - Link-Up (Qld) SEWB Counsellor Carmel Schieger.



NAIDOC Day - Morayfield



Link-Up (Qld) was invited by Moreton ATSICHS Clinic Manager Noelene Trotter to join with them to celebrate their NAIDOC day with a BBQ at their Morayfield clinic.

It was great to see the clinic's services being utilised by so many people who in turn used the NAIDOC event to network and socialise.



NAIDOC Day - Darwin

Link-Up (Qld) Finance Manager Mirko Soto, Multi Media Manager Donna Ives and Multi Media Officer Jason Ives were fortunate to be in Darwin to attend their NAIDOC day at Bennett Park.

Community members were treated to a BBQ breakfast, entertainment and a performance by a dance troupe from Arnhemland. Around 500 people then marched from Bennett Park to the Mall where official speeches took place.



NAIDOC Day - Mossman, Far North Qld



On Friday 15th July, Link-Up (Qld) workers Wayne and Robyn Ah-Wong attended the NAIDOC celebrations in Mossman.

Approximately 650 people marched through the main street of Mossman led by 14 local Indigenous Yalanji Dancers. 5 schools were involved in the march including: Mossman Secondary and Primary, Miallo Primary, Julatten Primary, Port Douglas Primary and Daintree Primary Schools. Local Indigenous and non-Indigenous people added to the school numbers participating on the day.

Aboriginal Elder Janice Walker opened the celebrations by acknowledging traditional owners past, present and future in the Bubu Kinkari (George Davis) Park. There was food, entertainment and local organisation stall set up in the park. Local Cr David Carey gave a speech, Yalanji Dancers performed and the Walker band entertained the crowd. Link-Up (Qld) staff took many enquires on the day.



NAIDOC Day - Cairns



5,000 people attended the Cairns NAIDOC - Family Fun Day in Fogarty Park. The first event of the day was the traditional march and participants marched with the slogan “Be Loud Be Proud”.

Gimuy Walibara Yidinji traditional owner Gudju Gudju Fourmile presented the ‘welcome to country’, while Nathan Williams the Cairns NAIDOC Committee Secretary described the day as “electrifying ... people coming to celebrate the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Cairns”.

It was also announced that Cairns would be the ‘Host City’ for the 2017 NAIDOC week which will aligned with the 25th anniversary of the Mabo Land Rights Decision.





Link-Up (Qld) Cairns staff set up a stall and handed out magazines and promotional material for the day. This once again proved very popular.

Many community members approached the stall and commented about their relatives being clients of Link-Up (Qld) and how they had found family and country. Many also stated that Link-Up (Qld) was doing great work within the community. It was a good day to network with other service providers.

A highlight was the Link-Up (Qld) stall being featured in the afternoon Cairns local TV news and was seen as an ideal way to promote Link-Up (Qld) to the local area.



NAIDOC Day - Mt Isa



This year Link-Up (Qld) Mount Isa took part in the NAIDOC Elder's Luncheon and held a stall at the NAIDOC Family Fun Day.

Link-Up (Qld) Prize packs were donated to both events, with everyone hoping to win the deadly promotional give-aways.

Approximately 130 Elders attended the Luncheon with many locals, community organisations and youth serving our elders at their tables. A highlight of the Luncheon was dancing by newly formed Mt Isa dance group "Sundowners" and visiting from the Torres Strait Islands the "Gerib Sik Torres Strait Islanders" dance group. A moving didgeridoo rendition was also played by Shawn Major.

The Mt Isa NAIDOC Fun Day was held at a new venue and was a huge success with 38 Stalls this year. The atmosphere was abuzz as everyone anxiously awaited Coloured Stone's first appearance of the week. A highlight was an impromptu moment when local singer/band member Darren Walden took to the stage and sang 'Black Boy' with the band.

Footballer Kierran Moseley, who hails from Cloncurry and now plays for NRL Team Gold Coast Titans, visited our stall on the day as well.

Coloured Stone and Kevin Kropinyeri were special guests in Mt Isa this year and everyone totally enjoyed both acts.

It was a great NAIDOC Week with many organisations and locals again coming together as one and celebrating the uniqueness of both the Aboriginal and the Torres Strait Islander cultures within our community.



Photo courtesy of Roslyn Von Senden



NAIDOC Day - Townsville



Tolowah, Lahtayah and Nina preparing the Link-Up bags for NAIDOC



On Friday 9th July Townsville NAIDOC held their Deadly Day Out. Around 500 local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders marched from Kirwan State High School along Thuringowa Drive to Riverway Parkland.

About 30 stall holders set up for the day these included local organisations and service providers. . There were speeches from Elders, a talent quest and bands which performed throughout the day as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural performances, arts and craft.



Patrica Shadforth Reunion - Mt Isa - SEWB Counsellor Desley Ah Wing



Patricia Shadforth and her son Jordon on the way to Lake Moondarra

Patricia Shadforth's dream was to have a Graveside Reunion to her Grandfather's grave in Normanton and to also find her Grandmother's grave. Patricia said "After my Grandmother passed away, my Mother was taken away from Normanton from her Father and was put in the Dormitory in Doomadgee with the Missionaries".

Unfortunately, we were unable to take this trip to Normanton for a Graveside Reunion to her Grandfather's grave, and Patricia was happy to undertake a Reunion "Remembrance Ceremony" at Lake Moondarra outside of Mount Isa.

Patricia has been very interested in obtaining her family tree and still has missing pieces to her puzzle that she'll continue to work on.

We picked up Patricia and her youngest son Jordon early on the morning of the Ceremony.

We unpacked at the Lake and all walked down to the water's edge. After we settled down by the Lake, it all went quiet and Patricia led us in prayer. We joined together in saying the Lord's Prayer which was followed by Patricia reading a verse from her personal bible relating to "Mothers". As she read each paragraph Patricia related each verse to how her Mother and Grandmother would have lived by these verses all those years ago.

As we watched on Patricia and her son stood together as one – her son Jordan draped the Aboriginal Flag around his shoulders with pride as Patricia threw rose petals onto Lake Moondarra.

With each handful, she spoke to different ancestors in a mark of respect, remembrance and acknowledgement of the past and the hardships they faced. A very touching, sombre and moving moment in time, and one that we know will stay with Patricia and Jordan forever.

After a BBQ Breakfast we continued to discuss the Mother's Poem and her family's history. Prior to returning to Mount Isa, at the lookout, Jordan and Patricia sat quietly on a park bench underneath a white ghost gum tree overlooking the Lake, reflecting on the morning and their family's history.

Although we couldn't make it to her Grandfather's grave in Normanton, Patricia still felt that she was able to pay respects to her Grandfather, Grandmother and ancestors that she had never met.



Jordon, Patricia and SEWB Counsellor Desley Ah Wing



PATRICIA'S STORY:

I've wanted to do this Research on my family for many years and decided to come to Link-Up (Qld) for help last year.

I felt that my Grandparents were well respected because of the way the Remembrance Ceremony was set out and organised by Link-Up (Qld). They showed they really care in what their job is, which is to make sure it was done successfully. We were able to acknowledge my Grandparents who I had never met. I wanted to show respect to my Mum as she had never met her own Mother and these women are important women in my life.

Before the Ceremony I felt happy and relieved that Link-Up (Qld) helped me to find out more of my family history and family tree. Although I am still searching for more information on my Mother's side, I feel excited and happy and a little more settled within myself to have showed respect to my Grandfather and to two very important women in my life through the Remembrance Ceremony.

I would like to say thank you very much, especially to Desley Ah Wing in the Mt Isa Office, for making this happen for me, I felt it was done perfectly and professionally.



Patricia and Jordon after the Remembrance Ceremony

Onyx Callewaert Reunion - Perth



Onyx Callewaert at his Grandfathers gravesite.

My name is Onyx.

I was born Casey but changed my name to Onyx Casey for very personal reasons, my friends call me 'Onny'. To look at me you wouldn't know I'm indigenous but white chocolate is still chocolate I guess.

My paternal family for as long as I could remember was a complete mystery as all information was deliberately withheld from my sister Amber & I which felt incredibly unfair as no one ever had the right to prevent us from knowing & understanding our lineage. Unfortunately our paternal grandmother left our grandpa, Dadda Keen with their three small children (my father & two aunts) in the middle of the night and they were never seen or heard of again by the Keen mob in Perth.

Our wonderful, doting Mother always wanted us to know & have connection to our extended paternal family despite the fact our father and his immediate family chose to have no contribution to our lives or upbringing. We probably were better off however I pined ever since I was little to have some sort of connection to family but didn't know how to make it

happen or how I would be received, given the family history & how my grandpa was left behind devastated.

A close friend of mine who I was in regular conversation with about family & my longing for connection mentioned that Link-Up (Qld) were able to reunite families & did great work so I decided nervously to make contact with a lot of scepticism that they could help or that my family even would want to correspond.

I was proven wrong.

The morning of the trip started earlier than I'm used to, but somehow staggered my way onto an early morning flight with my fantastic Case Worker Rob and made the 5.5hr flight across the country to my "homeland".

I was really really nervous about meeting everyone but it helped that I broke the ice and spent months prior to the reunion engaging over the phone and on Facebook with a few 2nd cousins who came to feel like Aunties because of the relationship we gradually grew. The first Auntie we met was Julie and her



Onyx with Uncle Chris, Auntie Julie and Great Aunt Beryl.



With Auntie Julie, Andrea, Deanne and the kids.



beautiful mother, my great Aunt Beryl, who is my grandpa's big sister, eldest of 12 siblings and the matriarch/oldest living relative of the family, 90 years old, I'm amazed and in awe of her strength & big heart. She yarned to me over coffee & refreshments with Auntie Jules & her brother Chris.

We spoke of family I'm yet to meet and what my grandpa was like as a young man. From what I heard he sounded like a very family oriented man who dotted and looked out for his sisters and family. We didn't stay too long as nanna Beryl isn't in great health.

That same night we followed Auntie Julie over to her Daughter Andrea's welcoming home, where I also got to meet her little tribe and my other cousin Deanne. Between them they put on a massive spread of amazing food for dinner and chatted about anything and everything. It felt amazing to be so at ease and to feel a 'sameness' with people I had never met before.

The next day the Yoorgum crew took us out to my family's resting place at Midlands. A very peaceful cemetery roughly twenty minutes outside of the city. The weather was lousy, it was bleak, drizzly all day and bitterly cold! Rob made the observation that it literally stopped raining and the sun shone through the clouds when I sat down to be with my grandpa Robin and Nanna & Dadda Keen. It didn't feel morbid or sad, it was really peaceful and I paid my respects and left a rose wreath I had crafted.

Due to the time restraints and lack of time we had



Onyx and Auntie Dale

in Perth it was physically impossible to meet all the family over there I would've like to, we managed to squeeze in a dinner time meet-up with some relatives from a distant tree branch but I felt an immediate kinship with my Nanna Roni, Auntie Heidi & her kids, and my Auntie Dale (Julie's sister). This was another great night but was ended early due to it being a school night and we had an early morning flight back to Brisbane.

All in all it was a wonderful reunion and I am excited to go back for a couple of weeks to meet more family and strengthen family bonds that were always there despite the 33 years that passed, I really wasn't ready to leave though!

What I took from this trip is that family blood runs deep and love is forever no matter the distance or time that passes. I may not have a father or connection to his immediate family but where I missed out I have now gained lots of wonderful Aunties, Uncles, Nannas and Cousins.



With Nanna Roni, Auntie Heidi and her kids

Sustaining Connections Workshops

The Sustaining Connections project was a series of music therapy workshops revolving around the stories that connect us all.

For the workshops Link-Up (Qld) brought along Getano Bann, a singer/songwriter and music therapist to facilitate the workshops and music students from ACPA to help. The workshops visited Rockhampton, Mackay, and Mitchell.

Rockhampton

The first town we visited was Rockhampton. Due to “Sorry Business” taking place over this time we conducted two workshops and a performance in the park as well as visiting many local organisations.

An impromptu workshop at Colin Brown Park with 8 community members took place with much music, conversation and local history being shared. Also we visited the Gumbi Gumbi Rehabilitation Centre and enjoyed a great song writing session with the ACPA students and 6 clients from the centre.



Mackay

Link-Up (Qld) staff started the trip by visiting local organisations and promoting Link-Up (Qld) and the workshops and concert. While doing this, staff were invited to join Mabo Day celebrations at the local ATSICHS. Getano sang a few songs for the crowd and let everyone know about the workshops and concert that were being held at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC).

Link-Up's Multimedia Team conducted a number of Oral History interviews with Mackay Elders and captured a wealth of important and captivating history.

The Mackay workshops were completed on Saturday afternoon when the ACPA Students performed a concert in front of local community members as well as staff from the centre.



Sustaining Connections Workshop - Mitchell



Mitchell proved to be one of the most successful workshops to date, with huge groups turning out on both days at the Country Women's Association Hall. Welcome to Country was performed by Auntie Lynnette Nixon, a Local Community Elder from Mitchell. Both Art and Music workshops were conducted, resulting in a large banner being made and 5 songs being written. The banner and songs were then used in the concert that was performed on Saturday afternoon.

The Link-Up (Qld) staff were also able to conduct "Oral History" recordings with some of the locals as well as getting a guided tour of the Yamba and original school by Auntie Lynnette.





Royal Commission Update

Indigenous survivors reminded registrations to close for private sessions.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders survivors of institutional child sexual abuse are reminded that they must register with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse by 30 September 2016 if they wish to have a private session.

This date is only for those who wish to tell of their experience with a Commissioner. For some people it is important for them to finally have a voice and are given an opportunity to express themselves in a safe environment with proper support. For people who don't want to discuss their experiences, the Commission will still receive statements from those who have been sexually abused in an institution and will provide ongoing support.

Link-Up (Qld) Staff Graduation



Congratulations to Wayne Ah-Wong, Robyn AH-Wong, Desley Ah Wing, Jessie Cobbo, Sam Watson Jnr and Vicki Darr on completing their Cert IV in Mental Health.

A graduation ceremony was held at Gallang Place to celebrate this achievement. Commitment to the study required regional staff to travel from Cairns, Townsville and Mt Isa for week long blocks over a 12 month period.

The training offered by Gallang Place is delivered by professional and qualified training facilitators in a supportive learning environment. Link-Up (Qld) is proud of your achievements and the partnership we have with Gallang Place.



National Sorry Day Commemorative Event - Parliament House Brisbane



The Queensland State Government held a Commemorative Event at Parliament House on National Sorry Day – 26th May 2016 where we witnessed Treasurer Curtis Pitt and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda sign the Aborigines Welfare Fund Closure document.

The Palaszczuk Government announced closure of the controversial Aborigines Welfare Fund, a part of the system of stolen wages and savings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders for more than 70 years. The decision to close the fund was just one of the key outcomes announced in the Queensland Government's response to the "Reconciling Past Injustice" report of the Stolen Wages Reparation Taskforce which Mick Gooda chairs.



Treasurer Curtis Pitt said "The decision to close the Aborigines Welfare Fund represents a significant milestone in Queensland's history and is an important act of reconciliation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders and their families whose wages or savings were stolen by past governments".

The Treasurer also confirmed the State Government's intention to publicly acknowledge the financial contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples toward the development of key Queensland infrastructure. Mr Pitt said "Historical records show the wages and savings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were regularly used by past governments to fund major infrastructure, including the building and expansion of some of Queensland's major hospitals.



Cairns Support Group Meetings

Held on the last Wednesday of every month at the Link-Up (Qld) Cairns office from 10.00am to 11.30am
Contact us on (07) 4041 7403 for more details

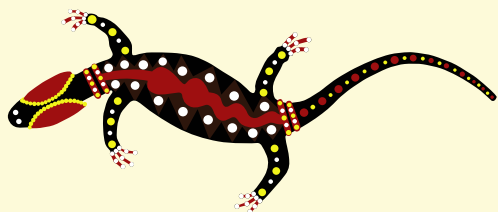
Next meeting will be on:

31st August
28th September
26th October
30th November

Brisbane Client Support Group 2016 Morning Teas

Held on the last Thursday of every month at the Link-Up (Qld) Brisbane office from 10.00am.
Contact Link-Up (Qld) on 07 3034 8444 for more information. Next meeting will be on:

25th August
29th September
27th October
24th November



About Link-Up (Qld) -Our Mission-

Link-Up (Qld) Aboriginal Corporation supports the healing journeys of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people who have been separated from their families and cultures through forced removal, fostering, adoption and/or institutionalisation. We deliver professional, culturally sensitive and confidential research, reunion and cultural wellbeing services.

Link-Up (Qld) Aboriginal Corporation Caseworkers and Counsellors are experienced individuals who can assist in reuniting Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander families.

We also provide a referral service to the appropriate organisation or Government Department.

Link-Up (Qld)

ABORIGINAL CORPORATION ®

Still Bringing Them Home



Quick Facts

- Link-Up (Qld) is a FREE service
- We offer support before, during and after your family reunion
- We respect your privacy and treat all information confidentially
- Link-Up (Qld) runs a range of healing activities; camps, support groups, art, craft and music workshops
- We offer cultural renewal activities and support return to country

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