



Link-Up (Qld)

ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Volume 49 | July - September 2021



In loving Memory
of
Mick Lucy

Born : c1909-1915
Herberton
Died : 21.02.1964
Townsville

Still Bringing Them Home

Chairperson - Ken Murphy



Ken Murphy

I want to start by saying a big thank you to all of my friends, family and community who contacted me and sent messages during my recent stay in hospital. This ageing just doesn't agree with me, I can tell you. I was really moved though by your well wishes and kind thoughts.

I received a call from an old friend in NSW who saw the last magazine and he made contact with me through the office of Link-Up (Qld). Our magazine is distributed widely and is a great source of information and stories which links people up.

As Chairman of Link-Up (Qld) it just never ceases to amaze me what a great job our staff do. As I read the draft magazine before it goes off to print, the reunion stories, our connections to community through NAIDOC celebrations, the collaboration with other agencies like the State Library of Queensland kuril dhargun space hosting a morning tea and tour for our clients showcasing the Deadly Threads exhibit, the teamwork –

making masks with Indigenous prints and donating them to clients and other stakeholders demonstrates to me the dedication and commitment our staff have to our clients.

The professionalism and expertise of our staff is always on show. Research Manager Ms Ruth Loli was invited to interview on the Adopt Perspective podcast, a Jigsaw Queensland production for anyone interested in or affected by adoption. Ruth discusses our nation's adoption story in the second part episode as it relates to Stolen Generations members. Included too is Link-Up (Qld)

Family History Research Factsheet a useful resource of where to start when searching your family history research.

I have to also mention our CEO, Pat Thompson whose priority is always about staff wellbeing, ensuring that staff have available to them professional development opportunities, supervision, self care leave and introducing weekly yoga sessions for staff to help with taking care of themselves.

So a job well done Link-Up (Qld) staff on behalf of the Board of Directors.



It was great to attend the 30 Year Celebration dinner for Murri Watch. Congratulations to Ken Georgetown for his long service and leadership, pictured here with his son Liam behind myself and my partner Samantha Conlon.



This issue's Cover Story

Debbie Costello at her grandfather's grave in Townsville. The full story of Debbie's graveside reunion is on pages 4-5.

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

We are fast approaching the end of the year, it seems like not too long ago we had our Xmas break. It is that time of year for audits and AGM's. Link-Up (Qld) had its Quality audit in June conducted by Institute for Healthy Communities Australia. I am pleased we have been issued with recertification up to September 2024. Our financial audit has also been finalised and Link-Up (Qld) continues to receive unqualified audits. I want to acknowledge Mirko Soto, our Finance Manager for his meticulous work in managing our finances. Mirko has been with Link-Up (Qld) for 9 years after commencing work as a volunteer with the organisation in 2012, he is a qualified Chartered Practising Accountant and holds other relevant degrees in accounting and business management. Rebecca Oberle manages our Quality Management Systems and does an excellent job keeping us compliant as well as providing secretariat support to our Board of Directors. It is a pleasure to work with both Mirko and Rebecca, their commitment to their work and support of our Stolen Generations is unwavering.

COVID continues to have some impact on our work, particularly

in terms of facilitating reunions which involves travel, however it is a worldwide pandemic and something we have to live with. It is important to consider how we as individuals manage this issue and to inform ourselves of the pros and cons of vaccinating against the deadly virus. Each of us has our own opinion about vaccinations, there is much said in the media highlighting debates and protests, some turning very nasty. However we need to carefully consider how this virus might affect us, our families and community and the decisions we should make to keep us all safe. The virus is deadly, it has taken many lives. A reminder to remain vigilant and follow health directions.

Our Board and staff celebrated Murri Watch's 30 Year celebration recently. It was a great night, congratulations to Murri Watch staff who coordinated the Black Tie event. Great food, entertainment and catch up with old friends, a reflection of 30 years of hard work and the significant contribution many of our families have made to the success of the organisation. A publication – "The first 30 years" is available for sale, a great read and acknowledgement of the dedication of many people over many years supporting our people, providing a safe haven for our vulnerable people. Keep up the great work Murri Watch.



Congratulations to Murri Watch on 30 years of service



This beautiful book celebrating the success of Murri Watch in their first 30 years is available to purchase from Murri Watch phone 1300 692 824

Debbie Costello Reunion - Townsville

I would like to thank Link-Up (Qld) for supporting me throughout my journey. Thank you for keeping in contact with me all throughout, and to the staff from Bur-del Community and Home Support. for helping me. I am so amazed that Link-Up (Qld) put me in contact with my family. I was really hungry for my family, and Link-Up (Qld) went to great extremes when looking for them. I thank them for supporting me through my trials of finding my great grandfather and my family. My granddad Mick Lucy, Michael Lucy. I would like to thank the families, wherever they are and my Aunties up in Atherton. I am glad I come from Atherton on this beautiful great big continent of Australia. I would like to thank

Link-Up (Qld) for finding my families background and everything like that.

My reunion was TERRIFIC! Terrific in capital letters! I got in contact with all my Aunties and my great Aunties. I had two beautiful Aunties that looked after me and one of my Auntie's has passed on and another is alive. It's marvellous, now I've got a lot of Aunties that I didn't know I had. I keep in contact with them. It was lovely to meet and be reunited with family members over facebook and then to meet them in person, they took photos with me and my brother. My brother was also happy with Link-Up (Qld). Link-Up (Qld) found where my Grandad Mick Lucy was buried.

I was amazed, gobsmacked to see a loved one laying in the cemetery and I went home feeling that I don't have to leave Townsville, I've got family right here.

Now I can go out there to the gravesite anytime and meet a person there.



Debbie with a picture given to her by LUQ staff



At Mick Lucy's graveside in Belgian Gardens Cemetery, Townsville



Debbie was a guest of honour at a recent LUQ Board meeting, pictured here with LUQ Board Directors, LUQ staff and staff from Bur-del Community and Home Support.

Link-Up (Qld) helped me to open up and helped me to say hello. I feel more rested and at peace. Josh from Link-Up (Qld) was so really helpful and Aunty Sylvia, and Michelle too for taking photos. It was really beautiful.

The graveside reunion was very moving and I often look at the yellow, red and black flower arrangement they done up, and a little Aboriginal ornament I have. I am thankful I was fostered out to a lovely South Sea Islander young lady. She raised me up and bought me up in the church, and I am so privileged to have known her. But I feel like I don't know my own culture very well and learning about it with Link-Up (Qld) and my family members has been amazing. It has been so nice to ask my family questions and learn about my ancestors, it's a new beginning.

I would like the Lucy's now to come forward and let me know more about our family. So, if there are any Lucy's out there know that Deb Costello is your cousin, your family, your niece or great niece. Come forward Lucy's and Costellos.

Love you all.



Debbie with support staff from Bur-del Community and Home Support at the site of her grandfather's grave in Townsville

Penny Derksen Reunion - Gloucester, NSW

My name is Penny Derksen, I have been married for 34yrs and I have a son and daughter and 2 gorgeous granddaughters. I work for Education Queensland, and live in Emerald, Central Queensland.

I grew up in a small town, Miles, west of Brisbane. I was adopted as a baby; I have a sister and 2 brothers. I grew up knowing I was adopted, there was no big surprise or specific day I was told, there was never a big deal made of it.

This may be hard to believe but I never knew I was Aboriginal, when I was growing up I cannot recall a single time I was referred to as having any specific cultural background, let alone Aboriginal. I did however know that I wanted to find my birth mother, it was sheer curiosity of wondering who I looked like more than anything. After a long and difficult search, I found my biological mother and met her in 1992, I also met other family members that day and was shown photos of aunts from way back (who were obviously Aboriginal) but again at the time, I was just trying to piece everything together for my own little biological family. Sometime after that I started to connect the dots and the cogs started to turn towards my Indigenous heritage, and all the information that was sitting in my brain for future reference. Hence the search many years later.

I tried many avenues to search for my Aboriginal background myself, however my biological mother had very little information.



First stop was Grants Head Reserve near Bonny Hills where John welcomed everyone to his Country, and welcomed Penny home.



Penny outside the historical Stroud Court House



River crossing near the junction of Buggs Creek and Gloucester River

She did forward the names of a couple of family members that got me on the right track. It was still too hard to find information myself and eventually I found Link-Up (Qld) online, so I contacted them and my search began. My search took approximately 3 years, but when it was done the information collected was massive and very detailed. I went from virtually knowing nothing to having so much information I found it hard to process and I am still processing it today.

It turns out I am very lucky, Link-Up (Qld) was able to trace my Indigenous heritage back six

generations to the Birpai Nation NSW. James and Charlotte Bugg on my Great Grandmothers' side and to James Yarnold and Maria (Birpai) on my Great Grandfathers side.

My reunion consisted of travelling with my husband as my support to Port Macquarie, NSW and surrounding areas, to Birpai Country. We met up with Dr John Heath who has spent many years researching the Bugg family and wrote his thesis on the family, he is also family which was immensely helpful as he was more than willing to take us around many important properties, towns, cemeteries,

and burial sites of significance. John did a Welcome to Country ceremony at beautiful Grants Head Reserve (Bonny Hills) overlooking the ocean.

I was completely in awe of the country and overwhelmed with all the information I was given, I soaked it all in and I'm sure I will be returning at some point to further visit places we didn't have time to visit on this trip.

I returned home with a complete sense of belonging that I have never experienced before and I am still extremely curious for more knowledge of my heritage.

No doubt having connected with Dr John Heath will prove to be an extraordinary help with future information.

I would like to extend my appreciation to Link-Up (Qld) staff members, Alison Bell and Anne Garrett for their tireless efforts contributing to the incredibly large amount of research required for the vast amount of information involved with my family research. Thank you for being always available along the way and for the compassion and respect shown with my reunion process.

A special thanks to Dr John Heath for his valuable participation and for helping to organise the itinerary for my reunion.



Penny with Dr John Heath at Buggs Creek, which was named after Penny and John's ancestor James Bugg.

NAIDOC - Wild Foods & Cultural Celebration Beenleigh



After been postponed due to Covid restrictions, the NAIDOC Wild Foods and Cultural Festival organised by the Spirits of the Red Sand finally went ahead at the Beenleigh Historical Village on 31st July 2021.

It was a beautiful warm winters day with a wonderful, inclusive atmosphere in the air.

Everyone enjoyed the talented singers, dancing, cooking demonstrations, workshops, bush tucker walks and stalls and it was great to run into a few people in our Link-Up (Qld) family who were there on the day.

Our Communications Manager Michelle Resuggan, Caseworker Melissa Dunn, and Counsellor Anne Garrett were kept busy handing out our popular promotional merchandise and magazines and answering questions about Link-Up (Qld)'s role in reuniting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families affected by past government

removal policies. It was a great opportunity to highlight to the public what an amazing service we provide to our clients, supporting them to connect to family, Country and community in their healing journey. We also shared information about the National Redress Scheme that assists people who suffered from institutional sexual abuse when under the age of 18.

Congratulations to Spirits of the Red Sands for hosting such a great day, and we look forward to attending again next year.

Jigsaw Podcast - with guest interviewee Ruth Loli

Link-Up (Qld) was recently invited to interview on the Adopt Perspective podcast, a Jigsaw Queensland production for anyone interested in or affected by adoption. The podcast attracts over 5000 listeners worldwide, discussing the adoption story of mothers, fathers, adopted people and their loved ones to enhance society's learning and growth from the perspective of others.

Link-Up (Qld) collaborated in a two part episode series featuring Robert (Jo) Stuurman, a past Link-Up (Qld) client and Aboriginal man forcibly adopted as part of Australia's Stolen Generations practices and Ruth Loli, Link-Up (Qld) Research Manager, for a service perspective regarding the adoption experience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

In the first part episode, Jo Stuurman shares his personal narrative of being an Aboriginal child dispossessed of his natural family and cultural identity. Jo was taken from his Noongar family in Western Australia and adopted into a Dutch immigrant family and spent

a childhood between Australia, the Netherlands and Bougainville Island.

Jo expresses immense strength and resilience in his interview. He also discusses his journey towards rediscovery and healing following his Link-Up (Qld) facilitated reunion with his birth mother and relatives in the 1990's.

Ruth Loli discusses our nation's adoption story in the second part episode as it relates to Stolen Generations members. She explores the harrowing practice

of forced separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, the historical backdrop and legislation behind the actions of past governments and the events leading to the establishment of Link-Up services. Ruth's interview covers the unique issues affecting Indigenous adoptees and their loved ones, current healing support initiatives and offers an outlook for the future in redressing the harm and transgenerational trauma inflicted on our people. The Adopt Perspective podcast is a poignant listen for all Australians.

You can listen to the Adopt Perspective Link-Up (Qld) series on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify or at the following website: www.jigsawqueensland.com/podcast

Adopt Perspective is hosted by Dr Jo-Ann Sparrow and Jane Sliwka and is produced by Jigsaw Queensland. The podcast discusses adult themes and listener discretion is advised.



Murri Watch - 30 Year Dinner

A few words from Ken Georgetown, CEO of Murri Watch

Murri Watch celebrated 30 years of service to the community at a wonderful Black Tie dinner event at the Victoria Park Golf Complex on Friday, 17th September 2021. It was wonderful for us all to dress up, enjoy the evening meeting up with old friends and dancing the night away to the deadly music provided by the Hunstmen.

Murri Watch was established in 1991 in response to Aboriginal deaths in custody and the unacceptably high incarceration rates of our people. There were many people involved in the establishment of the organisation, people like Aunty Janey Arnold and Aunty Jessie Budby, who used to walk to the streets, looking for people who needed help and would bring them back to the safe space of Murri Watch.

Sadly many of our Leaders from those early days have passed on but we pay our respects to them for taking up the fight for



Murri Watch CEO Ken Georgetown with Link-Up (Qld) CEO Patricia Thompson



Murri Watch staff Samantha Bond, Cindy Fisher, Kylie Hill, Pandy Bond and Kristy-Lee Costello



Jesse Williams, Kylie Hill, David Hill and Ken Georgetown



Murri Watch staff Gordon Clarke, Janice Christensen and Cliff Weatherall



Loris Gorham with Patricia Thompson

Aboriginal rights in those difficult times. Uncle Norm Brown was the first Chairperson of Murri Watch, Aunty Janey Arnold, Aunty Jessie Budby, Uncle Herbie Bligh, Aunty Lorna Bligh, Uncle Steve Corporal, Aunty Lois Goulash, Uncle Sam Watson, Aunty Beryl Wharton and Uncle Noel Blair. I also acknowledge the late Uncle Ted Hopkins and his family whose vision was to create Murri Watch as a safe haven for our people.

Uncle Sam Watson was the longest serving Chairperson of Murri Watch, and to quote him, "Here in Brisbane, we have been able to establish solid working relationships with police on the street and with watchhouse staff, and those relationships and the reputation and standing of Murri Watch have saved countless lives and minimised suffering."

Right up to the untimely passing of Uncle Sam in 2019, he remained a Leader of our people, his insights and commitment have been fundamental to the success of Murri Watch.

Uncle Noel Blair was appointed as Manager in 1994 until he resigned in 1997, I was then appointed and have remained in the position right up to today as the CEO. It has been my absolute privilege to work for and with our people, growing the organisation from two programs with funding of \$200,000 to now operating across the whole of Queensland delivering a range of programs including diversion from custody, cell visitor services, youth cultural support programs, homeless support services including Bowman Johnson Hostel supported accommodation program and community patrol services.

I would like to acknowledge all the staff who have worked at Murri Watch over the past 30 years who made a difference in the lives of our people by showing respect and providing care and support to our people, usually at a time when they are most vulnerable. There are many people who have made significant contributions to Murri Watch over the past 30 years, I apologise I can't mention you all here however, our publication featured here is available and I hope we have mentioned you all. We look forward to the next chapter of growth.



Link-Up (Qld) family Virginia Clarke, Gloria Thomas, Uncle Victor Thomas, Aunty Faye Carr, Patricia Thompson and Aunty Sheryl Thompson



Mabuyag Torres Strait Islander dancers with Uncle Ken Murphy



Murri Watch staff Tracy Yow Yeh, Onslow Phillips, Pandy Bond & Liam Georgetown

Deadly Threads Exhibition - kuril dhagun

Staff at Link-Up (Qld) recently accompanied a group of special clients out to a beautiful exhibit of Indigenous artwork in the form of different types of T-shirts at khuril dhagun in the Brisbane State Library.

'Deadly Threads' is all about showcasing the artistic skills of many different Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and the shirts all told different stories.

There were shirts from Eddie Mabo's campaign that told of a triumphant journey, shirts that depicted great struggles and shirts so bright and colourful that your eyes were instantly drawn to them as you enter the room.



We then got together in a yarnning circle to talk all things mob and community before starting on our Deep Listening experience. We were told to either close our eyes and imagine or look up at the big screen which was portraying images of country with soothing earthy sounds. There was the didgeridoo playing in the background with language as well from talented Indigenous musicians. It is a beautiful piece of work, with full credit to the following:

Speaker: Aunty Melinda Holden
 Language: Taribelang with the assistance of Gadarjil
 Music created and produced by: Craig Weribone-Wright, Sah Ghee and Sunjay.

It is available for everyone to experience at
<https://vimeo.com/516943549>

This was particularly powerful for some of the participants who were flooded with images in their mind about their own country and their own story. We also celebrated with birthday cake for our clients who had birthdays that week. We would strongly recommend anyone who may be interested to go check out 'Deadly Threads' at kuril dhagun, which is on display until Sunday 10 October. Thank you very much to the wonderful team at kuril dhagun for hosting this special morning tea and tour for Link-Up (Qld).



Mask Making - LUQ Staff Philanthropy

With mask wearing looking like its going to be with us for a while, the ever-creative staff at Link-Up (Qld) decided to get together over the last few weeks and create some beautiful reusable masks with Indigenous designed fabric.

It was a real team effort, with staff demonstrating their varying levels of crafty skills with cutting, gluing, ironing and sewing the masks together. Now none of us are professional seamstresses of course, but each mask is made with love and care and they will help us keep each other safe.

We initially made 200 masks but they were so popular and the demand was so high that we are in the process of making another 200 right now to be given away to clients and visitors. Everywhere we go people make kind comments and ask about how they might be able to get their hands on one of our stunning masks.

This is gently raising awareness of Link-Up (Qld) and all the valuable work that we do.

There are many different mask designs, we used a simple one that involved a lot of ironing and folding, but minimal sewing. Full instructions on how to make your own are on the inside back cover of this magazine.





Some masks were given to our clients at the last morning tea



National Redress Scheme - Meet the Team

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**

Karen

I was born in rural Tasmania doing lots of camping and fishing with my family. When I was 18 I joined the Air Force doing training at Edinburgh in SA, then working at Williamstown and Richmond RAAF Bases in NSW. I got married very young and had twin sons and a couple of years later I had my daughter. I left the RAAF as child care was non-existent then and was a stay at home mum until they all started primary school. Once the kids were at school I wondered what I would do with myself now and despite having not finished Year 11 I went to the University of Tasmania and completed my Bachelor of Social Work with Honours degree – that was a hard four years!

I worked as a Social Worker in Tasmania for a few years in a number of different areas – child protection, family violence, community development programs, health, and aged and disability care. In 2004 I went to Darwin for a holiday and by 2005 I had moved to Darwin and spent the next 11 years working with people having dialysis as the Social Work and Aboriginal Liaison Officer Team's Senior Social Worker and Team Leader. An amazing time in my career, meeting incredibly strong people from very remote communities who were farewelling their families and communities to

The Scheme, which started on 1 July 2018 and will run for 10 years,

- acknowledges that many children were sexually abused in Australian institutions.
- holds institutions accountable for this abuse, and
- helps people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse gain access to

counselling, a direct personal response, and a Redress payment

Meet Virginia and Karen our Redress Counsellors, as you will see they have experience working with our people, they will treat you with respect, maintain your confidentiality and support you through your Redress application process.



access treatment in Darwin. I got to spend a lot of time visiting the Tiwi Islands, Milikapiti, Borroloola, Groote Eylandt and Katherine areas to name a few. The travel was always tricky, especially in the wet season and travelling in tiny planes! In 2016 I went back to Tasmania, reconnecting with family and worked at a rural hospital to set up social work services. After a couple of years I missed the tropical lifestyle and the vastly different work opportunities offered. I went back to Darwin in 2018 working in child protection but I struggled with this work and mid 2021 decided I would move on from Darwin and travel to Brisbane as my daughter (and hers), and my sister live here. What a great move – so excited about the shopping, the food, and having lots to do.

I have played state level netball – NSW and Tasmania, and was in the Tasmanian Women's Clay Target Shooting team. One of my best memories is shooting at the Nationals with my dad. I would love to be able to paint (my sister got all the creative talents) but I am a good cook and sewer. I'm and either "all on" or "all off" person, happy to Netflix binge for an entire day if I feel like it or be out and about for hours being active. It's taken a lot of years for me to be comfortable being my own boss of myself, but I am now. My dream is to spend six months travelling Europe – when we can travel again! I am loving my new position – thank you so much to the wonderful staff at Link-Up (Qld) for the great welcome and all the help and support given.

Virginia

I am pleased and excited to be working at Link-Up (Qld) in my role as a Redress Counsellor. Although it is a brief time that I have worked here, I feel that I have travelled on a significant journey through our history.

I grew up in Inala the eldest of six children. My brothers all played at St Marks in junior football and then later with Souths, the mighty Magpies. Inala has always been a place of connections and welcome. I was told when I was young that it meant meeting place, now it more accurately has been translated as peaceful place. But for many communities that arrived there from all over the world it was a place to call home. In my high school there were over sixty languages spoken. There has always been a tolerance and acceptance in Inala that many other communities should emulate.

I went to university in 1975 and during my time there I was privileged to meet many well-known activists and leaders in the Aboriginal community. I was proud to meet and stay friends with Bob Anderson, who was prominent in Union circles then, as he was in his own Aboriginal community. Bob has always been, an inspiring figure and he certainly moved me to do more and march with my feet. Many of us as young students were inspired by the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in Canberra, and we marched with others on Invasion Day and on the land rights marches during the seventy's, eighties, and nineties. It was there, Sam Watson became prominent in the Tent Embassy, and he brought his keen intellect and passion back to Brisbane to further the cause.



In the eighties I moved to Ipswich, and during my time there with my family also became friends with many in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. I was inspired by the leadership of the Ipswich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in that time to do more. The divisive politics of the late nineties should never be forgotten. Organisations like the Ipswich Aboriginal Legal Service and Kambu Housing and ANTAR worked tirelessly to speak to a bigger audience, the whole of Australia. In Ipswich we had film nights, reconciliation reading groups and regular rallies. It was a time in which White Australia confronted a deeply shameful history, it was a time of learning and coming together. In 1997 the *Bringing Them Home* report suddenly told the tragic story of the Stolen Generations. Again, we had to confront a dishonourable history. I was a convener of the Ipswich Anti-Racism Committee and in that long exciting campaign I made friendships with the memorable people on that campaign, that have lasted to this day. It was campaign filled with love laughter and hope.

The Report also led to the Apology to the Stolen Generation by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd. A moment for the history books when I know that many from Brisbane attended. And every year they come to the anniversary of that occasion.

During the first decade of the new century, I was privileged to work at Federal Parliament during the inquiry into children in Institutional care, brought down in August 2004. The aftermath of that inquiry was shocking. A stream of people seeking help came through our office doors, I have met many of the people who testified where I worked and my admiration for their bravery has only increased over the years as I have learnt more of their stories.

Happily, my journey has bought me to a place like Link-Up (Qld) with a proud history in Queensland and where I can continue my personal journey for Reconciliation and a better future for our children.



Staff Training and Wellbeing

Staff training is an ongoing commitment at Link-Up (Qld). We currently have four staff members studying for their Diploma of Counselling through Gallang Place in block mode. All Brisbane staff recently completed a workshop on Emotional Intelligence with a wonderful facilitator, Sally Foley-Lewis. Sally's warmth and energy could be felt as she helped us all

to explore the ways that we can grow emotionally and intellectually by learning emotional intelligence skills that help us to recognize, understand and choose how we think, feel and act.

Fire training for all staff was also recently completed and CPR Refresher Training for those that were due.

Link-Up (Qld) are also trialling an investment in staff wellbeing with a half hour yoga session weekly, leaving staff stretched, refreshed and clear headed for the day ahead.



Gallang Place students on their recent study block



Chair yoga!



Link-Up (Qld) staff with Emotional Intelligence facilitator Sally Foley-Lewis

Staff Spotlight - Kerry Sandow

In our latest employee spotlight interview, we meet Kerry from the Brisbane office.

Position: Administration Officer

Team: Administration, Brisbane

Tell us about your role at LUQ?

I have been working at LUQ for 3 and half years. I am responsible for greeting clients and visitors when they visit our Woolloongabba Office. My role is to provide administrative assistance to LUQ staff members and reception duties that involve directing enquiries to appropriate staff members or referring to another organisation.

I love my role, it allows me to engage with our clients and the wider community.

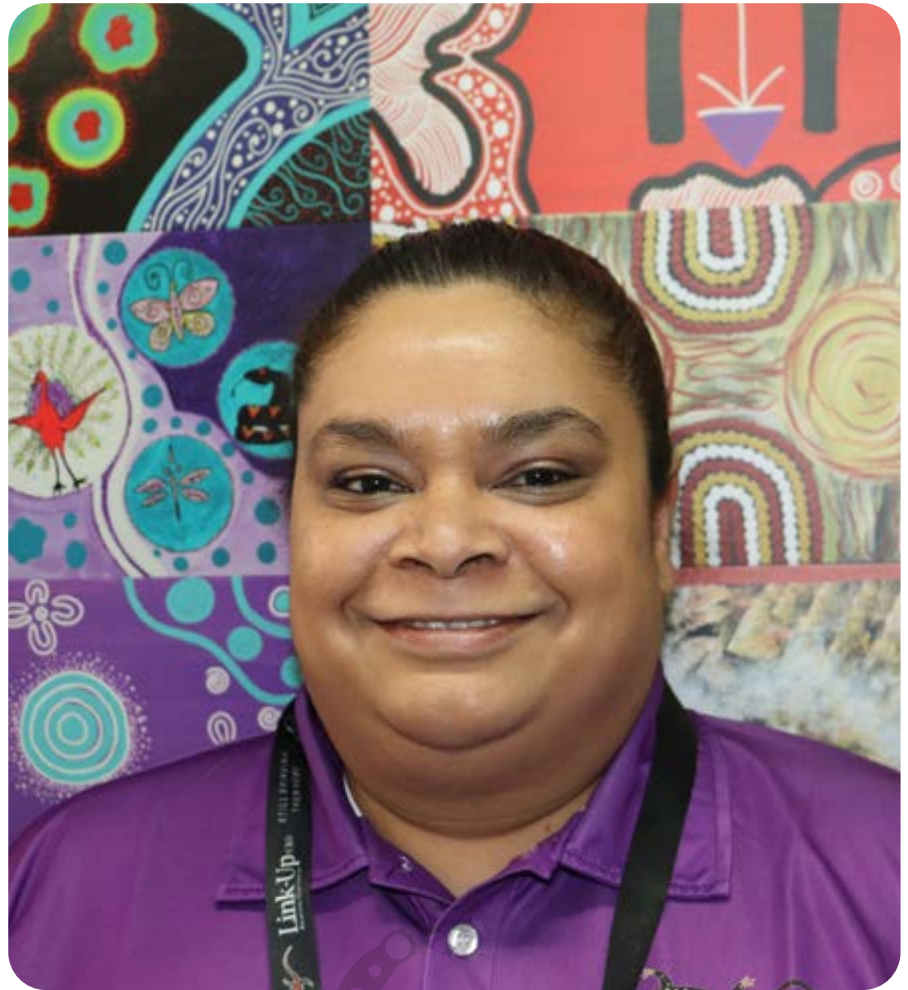
What do you enjoy most about your job?

I enjoy hearing stories from everyone that I speak to, I love hearing about their life stories, everyone has a story and even listening to each other can be very healing. I feel very privileged to be part of LUQ and the amazing work that each staff member contributes to the whole of this organisation, it is beyond any words to describe the work that we all do.

What is a common question you get from clients?

Common questions that clients ask me is when is the next Client morning tea?

LUQ clients enjoy catching up and spending time with each other and some occasions we may have guest speakers to talk to clients. Sometimes Auntie Bessie and her



husband will get up and sing at our morning teas and Greg will join in. It truly is a loving environment.

Do you have a favourite project, memory or highlight from work?

Just to name a few memories that I cherish, I enjoy our client morning teas that are held every Thursday at the end of the month, we only started up again recently due to covid restrictions. It is really nice seeing our clients happy it always brings a smile to my face.

There has been a few projects that LUQ has done in the past. The craftermornings which involved crocheted flower designs to wrap around the yarning tree, clients and staff came together and worked really hard to achieve something so beautiful and special for the National Sorry Day Breakfast that was held earlier in the year at

Orleigh Park, West End.

If you haven't had the chance to see the yarning tree it was featured on the front cover of Volume 48 of our LUQ magazine.

Three words to best describe you?

Caring, Understanding, Helpful.

What is a fun fact about you that people may not know?

I have travelled to Thailand - I love nature and animals I had the chance to go on elephant ride which was scary and amazing at the same time.

Favourite quote?

"Memories of our lives, of our works and our deeds will continue in others"
The beautiful, Rosa Parks.

Media Release - Archivists' Training Package

The Healing Foundation, in collaboration with the Australian Society of Archivists, has developed an online education package to highlight the vital importance of records access for Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants who have been affected by forced removal policies.

The *Better Access to Stolen Generations Records* learning module has been designed to assist archivists, information and support workers, new and existing professionals, and students seeking to build specialised skills to support survivors and their families.

The resources will help the sector describe the historical background of the Stolen Generations, including information relating to government policies around child removal and highlight the ongoing impacts of these policies on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today, including the recognition of intergenerational trauma.

The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth said the training module provides a range of resources on key historical and social matters relating to the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their communities.

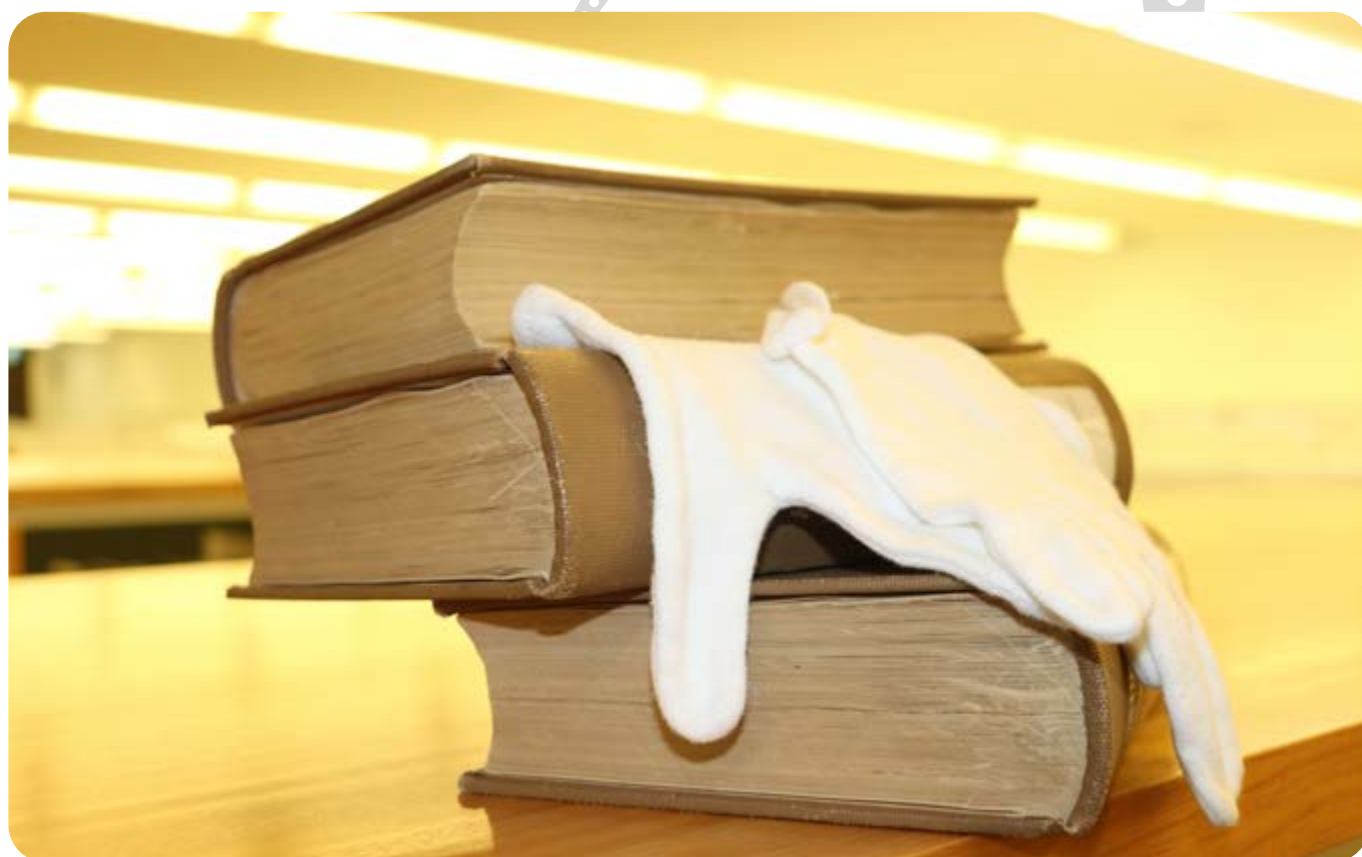
“The role of records in healing, redress and reparations for Stolen Generations survivors, particularly in relation to truth-telling and reconciliation, cannot be understated,” Ms Cornforth said.

“This module will ensure that specific training is available so that Stolen Generations records are accessible, usable and will benefit individuals, families and communities trying to trace their history and reconnect with lost family members.

“As a country we need to understand the context in how these records were created and the impact on individuals and families of not having access to these records now.

“It will address the contemporary needs of Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants who have been telling us for years that they need support accessing their records under the current system.

“This training package is designed around trauma-aware, healing-informed principles with a view to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on a healing journey, accessing family records.





information around family, identity and experience, in a respectful and safe way," Ms Laurent said.

The course will take around 3 – 4 hours to complete and is divided into six parts:

Part One: The historical background of the Stolen Generations.

Part Two: The ongoing impacts of laws, policies and practices on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people today.

Part Three: Broad context of the records created in relation to the Stolen Generations and the challenges of access to these records.

Part Four: Summary of government responses to the Stolen Generations, and the implications for archives and records.

Part Five: Providing trauma-aware, healing-informed and culturally safe access to records.

Part Six: The role of records in healing, redress and reparations for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The training module was developed by Kirsten Thorpe (Worimi, Port Stephens, NSW), Lauren Booker (Garigal clan, North-West Sydney), and Cassandra Willis (Ngemba/Yuwaalaraay, Brewarrina NSW) from the University of Technology Sydney's Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education & Research in collaboration with Kirsten Wright and Nicola Laurent from the Find and Connect team at University of Melbourne.

To view the training package visit the Australian Society of Archivists website: www.archivists.org.au/events/event/better-access-to-stolen-generations-records and follow the registration steps.



Improving access to and the preservation of records relating to stolen children and separated families is a key part of The Healing Foundation's *Make Healing Happen* initiative, which sets out a clear plan of action.

This includes the establishment of The Healing Foundation's Historical Records Taskforce to further the original recommendations of the 1997 *Bringing Them Home* report and provide advice to government on ensuring better access to historical records.

The *Better Access to Stolen Generations Records* learning module will help develop knowledge and understanding of key themes and provide practical guidance to people who work with Stolen Generations survivors, who themselves need access to historical records, as well as the staff of archival institutions who hold records that may be of assistance to survivors and their families.

The Australian Society of Archivists' President Nicola Laurent said the training provides best practice guidance to archivists providing access to Stolen Generations records, assisting in healing rather than perpetuating trauma.

"Better understanding both the history and ongoing impact of trauma on survivors means archivists can provide these vital records, including deeply important



Family History Research Factsheet

FACTSHEET

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family History Research (Queensland)



Getting started with your family history research

1 Use a family tree to record your information

A good way to structure your research and record your findings is in a family tree. There are several free family tree templates/programs available online. (For example: http://obituaryshelp.org/free_printable_blank_family_tree.html or <http://misbach.org/#/charts>)

2 Write down as much as you know about yourself and your family

Collate any information you have from documents and family stories/oral history with regards to names, dates, places (including missions or institutions) relating to yourself, your parents, your grandparents, and other relatives. You can record this information in your family tree.

3 Trace your family backwards, starting from yourself

The first person you record on your family tree should be you. You can then work outwards to your parents, then your grandparents and so forth.

4 Birth, death and marriage records are a good place to start

Birth, death and marriage records can provide you with important information about your family that can assist you in your searches. They may contain information about a person's full name, maiden name, date of birth, place of birth, parents' names, marriage details and/or occupation. They are often helpful in working out links between generations in your family. Please note that the births, deaths and marriages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were not consistently registered, and you may not always find the records that you seek.

5 Access documents created about yourself or your family by the Queensland Government

Personal records are held by the Queensland Government in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Many of these records were created when the Aboriginal Protection and Restriction of the Sale of Opium Act 1897 and subsequent 'protection' acts were in force which enabled the government to control all aspects of peoples' lives. These records often hold valuable family history information and can be accessed through Community and Personal Histories. Personal records are also held at the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs in relation to people who were adopted or in State care (foster care or institutions) in Queensland. You may seek copies of these records through Adoption and Permanent Care Services, Time in Care Information Access Service or Right to Information, Privacy, Records Management and Redress Branch.

6 Access other resources for information about your family

Other helpful resources for family history information include, but are not limited to, church records, police records, station records, Tindale genealogies, cemetery records, military records, electoral rolls, local newspapers and historical manuscripts. These can be accessed through archives, libraries and other record repositories. Some records are available online.

... Useful Websites ...

<https://aiatsis.gov.au/family-history>
<https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/research-collections/family-history/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-family-history>
<https://www.naa.gov.au/explore-collection/first-australians#0>
<http://trove.nla.gov.au/>
<http://www.findandconnect.gov.au/>
<http://www.cifhs.com/>
<https://www.qsq.org.au/>
<https://www.ancestry.com.au/>

... Helpful Hints ...

- Be mindful of name and spelling variations and use these in your searches.
- Assess the credibility of any information you find. Remember that information is only as reliable as the source.
- You may find the content of records upsetting or offensive. Seek social and emotional wellbeing support as required.
- Some records may not exist due to being lost, destroyed, or not created. Other records may be restricted and you must meet eligibility criteria to access them.
- Read Indigenous family history guidebooks or online information for further assistance.

Queensland family history contacts

Queensland Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Department of Justice and Attorney-General
Level 32, 180 Ann Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 18188, City East QLD 4002
P: 13 74 68 / 07 3328 4811
<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces>

Community and Personal Histories, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Level 9, 1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4002
PO Box 15397, City East QLD 4002
P: 1800 650 230 / 07 3003 6466
E: enquiries@dsdsatsip.qld.gov.au
<https://www.qld.gov.au/firstnations/cultural-awareness-heritage-arts/family-personal-history>

Time in Care Information Access Service / Right to Information, Privacy, Records Management and Redress, Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs
111 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
Locked Bag 3405, Brisbane QLD 4001
P: 1800 809 078 / 07 3097 5605
E: rti@cyjma.qld.gov.au
<https://www.cyjma.qld.gov.au/about-us/our-department/right-information>

Adoption and Permanent Care Services, Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs
Level 11, 127 Creek Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
Locked Bag 3405, Brisbane QLD 4001
P: 1800 647 983 / 07 3097 5100
E: ads@cyjma.qld.gov.au
<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/caring-child/adoption/post-adoption-support-services>

Queensland State Archives
435 Compton Road, Runcorn QLD 4113
PO Box 1397, Sunnybank Hills QLD 4109
P: (07) 3131 7777
E: info@archives.qld.gov.au
<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives>

State Library of Queensland
Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Brisbane QLD 4101
PO Box 3488, South Brisbane QLD 4101
P: (07) 3840 7666 (General enquiries)
(07) 3840 7880 (Heritage collections)
<http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/>

Mask Making- Instructions

We used the pattern freely available online at <https://gentlemancrafter.com/?s=masks>, with permission from the maker to share. This pattern says to use 17cm strips of elastic, but we found this on the small side so we also did some larger ones with 20cm and 23cm straps.

1. Cut a piece of fabric 20cm x 40cm. We mainly used heavy cotton or drill fabrics which seem to work well.

2. With the material right side down, fold over 1cm at each short end, iron and glue down.



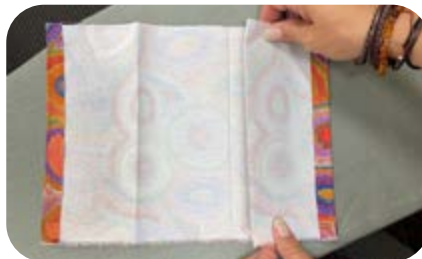
3. Fold in half, iron the crease.



4. Turn the material over so its right side up, then bring both ends into the middle and iron the new creases.



5. Open the material up, turn it over so it's right side down. Bring that new crease you just made into the middle, repeat for the other side, and iron your new creases again.



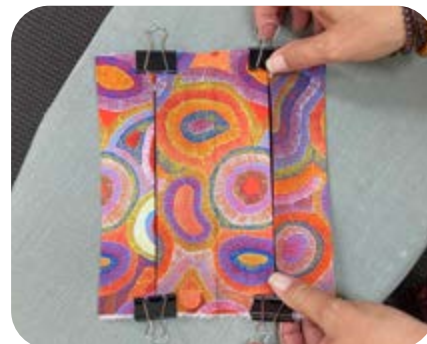
6. Bring each end into the middle, and iron.



7. Open your material back up, lay it down right side up. You will have seven creases in your material. From one end, take the first crease and fold it onto the second crease. Then take the third crease and bring that one back into the second crease too. So the first and third mountain folds are going into the first valley fold.



Iron, then attach bulldog clips to each side to keep it in place while you do the same at the other end.



8. Pin the elastic on each side, with pin heads facing out to the edge.



9. Fold in half, then change each end so that there is only two clips on it to make it easier to sew. You are going to sew down the red dotted lines in the picture below.



10. Sew, then zigzag as well on the edges if you want.

11. Turn it inside out, make sure all the corners are well pushed out and give a final iron.



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) Offices

BRISBANE:

5 Reid Street, Woolloongabba, Qld 4102
PO Box 3229, South Brisbane, Qld 4101
Tel: (07) 3638 0411
Email: contact@link-upqld.org.au

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

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/linkupqueensland
or visit our website at www.link-upqld.org.au

Toll Free: 1800 200 855 from landlines

National Redress Scheme: 1800 737 377

Link-Up (Qld) is funded by

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