



Link-Up (Qld)

ABORIGINAL CORPORATION®

Volume 33 July - August 2013



Still Bringing Them Home

Chairperson - Sam Watson



Sam Watson

A new report that has just been released by the Healing Foundation shows that our people are still experiencing major impacts in their daily lives from past government policies. Every Australian should read this report. It is a chilling document and it shows emphatically that

Aboriginal people are still suffering deep pain and trauma from those decades of forced removals. This powerful report blows away the lies and falsehoods of those conservative politicians who stand on their high horses in the parliament and demand that we all "should just get over it and move on."

Here are some of the statistics revealed in the report -
67% of our cross generational survivors of the Stolen Generations live with a disability or a long term condition;

70% have to rely on government payments as their main source of income;

66% live within households within the three lowest percentages;

40% have been homeless within the past ten years;

91% never completed year 12 at school;

62% are unemployed;

39% have very poor health.

I read the report and I thought back to the Rudd apology in 2008. The incoming Prime Minister may have achieved a great media moment with Aboriginal people painted up and conducting a formal, cultural smoking ceremony in the actual chamber. But he failed the Stolen Generation survivors when he announced that there would be no reparations paid to the victims. It has always been my belief that those

children who were forcibly removed and their families, were bona fide victims of criminal acts and fully deserved to be paid appropriate compensation.

Those children suffered terrible pain and trauma and they are still living with that pain and trauma. They were denied growing up within their families. They were denied access to a vast treasury of knowledge and wisdom that had been held within their families over many thousands of years.

Those children would have been taught who they were, where their country is, they would have been taught their true language – not the tongue of the foreign invader. They would have been taught the stories, the songs, the dances. They would have been taught proper sense of self and where they fit into this world. They would be able to walk into any gathering of Aboriginal people and they would have been able to announce who they were and where they came from.

Stolen away and bought up in cold, prison like institutions. They were given the very basic education. They were fed on scraps and raised like dumb cattle to serve the white system and then when they were on the verge of adulthood they were cast out onto the street with a few coins in their pockets. They had been subjected to years of abuse, years of criminal torture. They were never shown any love. They had no rights, no defenders. They were black kids who had no idea of who they were and where they came from.

The Healing Foundation has reminded white Australia that this nation is still a crime scene and the tragedy of the Stolen Generations is still very much a reality to thousands of our people.

To view this report please go to:

<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/indigenous-australians/stolen-generations-descendants/contents/table-of-contents>

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Front Cover:
Link-Up (Qld) Regional Manager
Kathleen Bobongie and Caseworker
Joshua Thompson on a recent trip to
Burketown.

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 Link-Up (Qld) magazine. Here we are at the beginning of another financial year and it has been an extremely busy start. Staff have attended NAIDOC activities across the state as well as the National Awards held in Sydney this year. The National NAIDOC

Theme – Because of Her We Can resonated right across the country at every level in our communities.

It was wonderful to hear the stories of our grandmothers, our mothers, our aunties, our sisters, our daughters – the tributes, particularly from our men about our strong women, the impact our women have had on our lives, in our communities at local, state and national levels.

Congratulations to our amazing women who were recognised at the National NAIDOC Awards for being trailblazers in their own right, the significant contributions they have all made at all levels in our society, they truly deserved the accolades they received. There are so many more women in our communities, in our homes and in our workplace, in the corporate world, all making a difference.

Some staff had the opportunity to attend the National NAIDOC Awards in Sydney, so it was an opportunity, particularly for our research staff whilst in Sydney to visit two key record holding agencies with which Link-Up (Qld) have consistent engagement for records access relating to Stolen Generations clients, particularly those who families trace from New South Wales. The first visit was meeting with Anne Wright, Senior Archivist at the Family records Service, Aboriginal Affairs which administers access to archival records relating to Aboriginal people created by the former New South Wales Aborigines Welfare Board (formerly known as the Aborigines Protection Board) which operated from 1883 to 1969.

Staff were excited to see the In Living Memory photographic folders – an exhibition of State Records New South Wales showcasing around 1000 collection photographs from the office records of the former Protection and Welfare Boards – a valuable resource for Stolen Generation peoples and their families.

The team also visited Melissa Jackson, Librarian at Indigenous Engagement at the State Library of New South Wales. Melissa facilitated an engaging presentation 'Connecting Culture: Tracing Ancestors and provided an insight to Indigenous Engagement's services and programs and highlighted useful collection resources for family history research in New South Wales. Research Manager, Ruth Loli was pleased to meet both Anne and Melissa for the first time face to face, all three women have been in their roles over long periods of time and have fostered strong linkages achieving efficient and effective outcomes for our clients.

Link-Up (Qld) Multi Media Unit staff have developed a promotional video of the important work we do reuniting families. The video highlights our services, the history of Link-Up (Qld) and our client's journeys. The video has been presented to staff at PM&C offices, Centrelink offices and mainstream community organisations. The majority of people in attendance have been greatly impacted by the client's stories in their own words presented on the video. Most have been left speechless at the end of the video, intimating they did not know about this part of Australia's history or the effects that flow on through generations, including intergenerational trauma.

Some comments from people who have seen the video: *"How could I not know that this has happened in my country"; "Instead of looking at Aboriginal clients as angry people, I will totally change how I see Aboriginal people now after watching this DVD. There is more to their story and behind their behaviours"; "After watching this DVD and listening to the stories, I have a new respect for workers at Link-Up".*

We are pleased that the promotional video produced by our staff has had an impact on agencies and workers who provide service to our people. Feedback has been that they now have a different view of their Aboriginal clients, and they stated their interactions would change from one of judgemental attitude to more of understanding and empathy.



2018 NAIDOC winners

Naraja Clay Reunion - Palm Island



Naraja and Taz meet with their siblings, nephews and nieces at The Strand in Townsville

My name is Naraja Clay and I am a 20 year old Kalkadoon (Mt Isa) and Bwgcolman (Palm Island) woman. This isn't something I always identified with until recently.

I grew up in a white foster home with my twin brother up until the age of 13. Our carers weren't equipped with any knowledge nor sought out any knowledge about our culture. We were always told all the negative media portrayals of Aboriginals, especially after the death in custody on Palm Island (my home community). This shaped a lot of my identity and views of other Aboriginal people.

My brother cottoned onto this situation long before I did and so he was kicked out of the foster home and sent to live with my aunties, uncles, brothers, sisters and mum. He lived up in Townsville for nearly 10 months before he came back down to Brisbane and we lived together for a little bit, however I was just about to move to Port Stephens with my carers as I had been offered a position in a selective school in Newcastle. My brother ultimately didn't end up moving down with us and stayed in Brisbane, eventually moving back up to Townsville.



Taz, Uncle Alfie and Naraja on Palm Island

In February 2013 I got a call from my brother saying mum had passed away in a car accident. I had a very long drawn out process of mourning because at the time I didn't even know if I deserved to mourn her death because I had never seen her as a child or teenager.

In early 2017 I moved back to Brisbane after realising that I needed to be closer to my brother and to finally figure out my cultural identity as I was starting to do some work in the community sector around Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues but soon realised that I didn't even know anything about my family and the history.

Things had also gotten a bit complicated with my family as Child Safety and my carers wouldn't allow me to travel up to Palm Island for her funeral.

A friend of mine suggested that maybe I give Link-Up (Qld) a call. I did some research into what they did and if I would even be eligible. I was eligible and before I knew it my family history was starting to get collated into a document and we started talking about a reunion back to Palm Island, so I could see my mums grave.

As the history was being collected, we talked about what the reunion would look like. Sharron Jackson (my caseworker) contacted my Auntie Liz and my brothers and sisters to plan the reunion. When we started talking about available dates, the first one we could agree on happened to be the day before our 20th birthday. So, by the time all the planning was done and my family history, including a copy of my mum's death certificate was delivered, it was organised that my reunion was to take place on our birthday!



The night before we flew out to Townsville was so full of anticipation and anxiety, I hardly slept. We got up early and made our way to the airport to meet Sharron and Sam Watson Jr. Sam's grandfather, Uncle Sam Sr grew up with my mum and aunties and uncles. It was so surreal and comforting knowing that we were also going up with another family member.

When we landed we met Link-Up (Qld) Regional Manager (and Counsellor) Kathy Bobongie, soon we were off to the hotel to set up for the first reunion, my sibling reunion.

The anxiety before seeing and meeting them all was unreal, however as soon as they started turning up, the anxiety disappeared and I was suddenly surrounded by my family. It was one of the most amazing experiences I have ever had in my life, talking to my sisters and brothers and spending quality time with them. I also got to meet some of my other nieces and nephews who I hadn't met before. It was such a beautiful afternoon down by The Strand.

We all had an early night as we had to be up early the next morning for our flight over to Palm Island. Waking up in Townsville on my birthday was such an awesome feeling and knowing that I was on the trip of a lifetime, finally getting to see my family just amplified the excitement. Most of the anxiety that I had

been having the day before had disappeared and I was keen to get over to the island.

I was welcomed home by my aunties and uncles, and they took me down to my mum's gravesite to finally sit down and be with her. We went back a bit later with the staff from Link-Up (Qld) and we decorated her grave with flowers and took a couple photos. My brother and I spent some time just sitting there talking to mum and appreciating the fact that we were both here with mum spending time together.

We had lunch in the park with some of my aunties and uncles and met more cousins and other family.

The next day we spent exploring a little bit of the island and driving with my brother showing me different places he lived and stayed and where mum had lived and stayed. We got to meet some more of my family that we hadn't met the day before.

Flying back into Townsville was tough because I felt like I still hadn't been home long enough. However, we have since made plans to go back home and spend some more quality time up there with family and we'll get to explore the island more.

Thank you Link-Up (Qld) for your support and encouragement through this journey, it was a tough but well rewarding and soul filling experience. Also thank you my brother Taz for your support and coming with me on my reunion.



Decorating their Mother's grave.



Meeting their Aunties.

Grace Stanley Reunion - Nebo, Grosvenor Downs Station Moranbah and Croydon Station Marlborough



Grace Stanley with her grand-daughter Janette and her son Waverly at Nebo

I am Grace Stanley (nee West) and I was born on Cherbourg in 1944 the daughter of Mary (nee Bradley) and George West. I am thankful to the Brisbane office Link Up (Qld) team of Rob and Christine for organising a family reunion for me, my son Waverley and my granddaughter Janette to find out where my Mum was born and raised with her parents, my grandparents Billy and Dolly Bradley.

Our family reunion took us all to visit the places that my mother spoke to me about all my life prior to her passing in 1966. Some 52 years later I am visiting Nebo, Grosvenor Downs outside of Moranbah and Croydon Station just outside of Marlborough in Central Queensland for the first time.

We flew into Mackay and drove out to Nebo which was about a two hour drive where my grandparents and my Mum lived prior to them being removed to Cherbourg. Nebo felt peaceful and homely for me as I had never visited Nebo before and being there I was starting to put together some of the family tree, significant places that I only dreamed of.

After walking and driving around Nebo for a little while, sitting in the park and imagining what life may have been like for "my people, my kin, and my family". We drove onto Moranbah to stay for the night. In the morning whilst having breakfast, we got an excited call from Rob and Christine explaining that they had been out to "Grosvenor Downs Station" just on the outskirts of Moranbah, the place where my grandparents were born and we were allowed on by the manager to visit.

Driving onto Grosvenor Downs Station, my emotions, my enthusiasm and some of my questions were going to be answered, as my Mum always talked about this country, this land. As I got out of the car and walked away to be on my own I called out to the spirits of this land, telling them it was me "Gracey", I have found you, I have found my Mum's parents and the area where they were born.

It was moving being on and walking on the land and feeling the cultural, spiritual and family connection after all of these years. We looked around the property



Grace, Janette and Waverly leaving Brisbane



LUQ Counsellor Christine Reeves with Grace, Janette and Waverly



Grace on her Grandfather's country at Grosvenor Downs Station even though it is now an earth moving business, with heavy machinery everywhere, I can imagine looking around at the creeks, trees, the earth and the scenery what was life like. Standing there I felt a sense of serenity and this journey so far, was answering my long held questions and it has been emotional.

Thanks to the manager for allowing us to be on this country, and later on we drove down to Croydon Station, just outside of Marlborough. A working cattle station today, the site of where my Mum was born. After being emotionally moved at Nebo and Grosvenor Downs, being here topped it off now that I found the area where my Mum was born, raised and cared for.

Even though driving around the property, the old buildings intact, the homestead, the cattle yards, the ground, the trees, the creek. I asked the questions where was the camp that my Mum grew up in? How far? I found where she was born, but where exactly? I can only imagine seeing that Mum was born here in 1910, some 108 years ago!! Even though the years have passed along, my first visit, I know that I am at peace within my heart that I have found out my connection to the Birri Gubba tribe.



Mum told me this when I was a young girl. I now made my connection. I was 21 when she passed. I have found my family connection, I have found my family history and I can now pass this onto my children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of my side of the family and it will not be lost. We now know part of our history.

Thanks very much to Rob and Christine from Link-Up (Qld), for organising this family reunion. It was much more special having my eldest son Waverley and my oldest grandchild Janette with me on this family reconnection to our family history journey.

I know my heart is at peace now, I know where my Mum and grandparents were born, where they lived, where Mum was raised and their final resting places.



Croydon Station which is on Grace's Mother's country

Cecilia Cannon Reunion - Cairns



Irwin Ambrym, Cecilia Cannon, Karyn Costello, Natalie Harrison, Caroline Doyle and Elizabeth Talbot

My name is Cecilia Cannon and I was born at Palm Island and I live in Townsville. I went to Link-Up (Qld) because I wanted to find out more information about my maternal grandmother Philomena Mero's sister Violet Mero and her descendants.

The family history research that was provided from the Link-Up (Qld) Research Officer, Rebecca Lockyer in Brisbane gave me hope that I might get the opportunity to meet my grandmother's sister's child and her daughter and other family members for the first time. I was very happy that my Caseworker Shane Wallace was able to make all the arrangements for the reunion in Cairns to meet my family who I had never met before.

Travelling from Townsville to Cairns (and surprisingly having to travel on the same plane as my Aunty Caroline Doyle who was part of the reunion) made the

plane trip more than exciting. My partner and support person Irwin Ambrym as well as Aunty Caroline were greeted warmly by Shane at Cairns Airport.

We all travelled to the hotel and I felt nervous about meeting my Aunty Elizabeth Talbot and her daughter Natalie Harrison for the first time. My Aunty Elizabeth is the daughter of my Nan's sister Nana Violet. I also had the opportunity of meeting another relative, Aunty Karen Costello who joined us at the reunion.

The reunion took place at the hotel while we had lunch together. It was a very emotional meeting. It was a happy and good atmosphere during the entire reunion and I enjoyed getting to know them all and sharing information about our family.

LUQ staff members Shane Wallace and Daniel Houtman (Counsellor) arranged to take some photos



Karyn Costello, Cecilia Cannon, Natalie Harrison, Caroline Doyle and Elizabeth Talbot



with all my relatives at the reunion and in the gardens of the hotel which was very nice.

I want to thank Irwin Ambrym for being my support person on this journey. I am very appreciative that he was with me to meet some of my family members. So now I can visit my Aunties when I travel to Cairns and take my kids to meet them as well.

Throughout the journey I experienced mixed emotions of nervousness, happiness and gladness. I also felt a strong sense of connection and belonging to my Auntie Elizabeth Talbot, Auntie Caroline Doyle, Auntie Karen Costello and my cousin Natalie Harrison.

I especially want to thank Link-Up (Qld) as an organisation as well as staff members Shane Wallace and Daniel Houtman for organising my trip and for helping me prepare for a special journey in meeting my relatives for the first time. Thank you Link-Up (Qld).



Caroline, Cecilia and Natalie

NAIDOC - Cairns



NAIDOC - Cherbourg



NAIDOC - Toowoomba



NAIDOC - Ipswich



NAIDOC - Taigum



NAIDOC - Murri School, Acacia Ridge



NAIDOC - Goompi, Stradbroke Island



LUQ Research Unit visits New South Wales Record Holding Agencies.



Anne Wright, Family Records Service meeting with Ruth and Lauren. Ruth Loli, Research Manager, Lauren Scheiwe, Research Officer and Rob Frescon, Executive Quality Officer celebrated NAIDOC week in Sydney this year.

Ruth organised to visit two key record holding agencies with which we have consistent engagement for records access relating to Stolen Generations clients, particularly those whose families trace from New South Wales.

We often rely on phone or email for interstate liaison and it was great to finally meet some of our long standing and valued stakeholders in person.

Staff visited Anne Wright, Senior Archivist at the Family Records Service, Aboriginal Affairs. The Family Records Service administer access to archival records relating to Aboriginal People created by the former New South Wales Aborigines Welfare Board (formerly known as the Aborigines Protection Board) which operated from 1883 to 1969.

Anne Wright facilitated a meet and greet around the Aboriginal Affairs office including introductions with the Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme and Healing Initiatives teams. Anne introduced staff to the office 'therapy chair' and some good laughs were had.



Meet and greet with staff at Aboriginal Affairs NSW



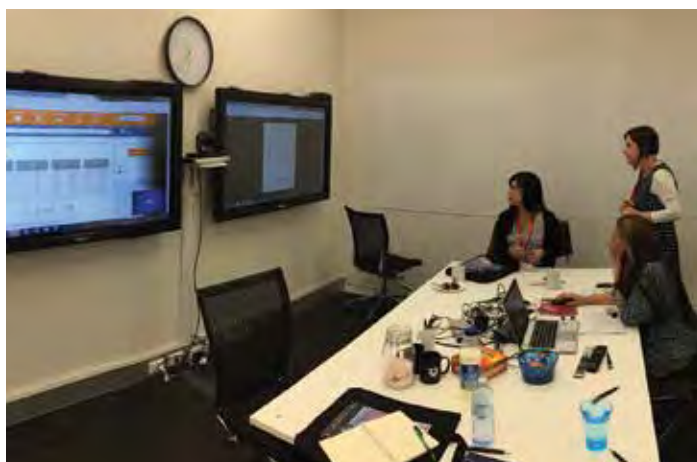
Rob and Ruth meet Melissa Jackson from State Library of NSW

The Family Records Service hold a full copy of the In Living Memory photographic folders. In Living Memory was an exhibition of State Records New South Wales showcasing around 1000 collection photographs from the official records of the former Protection and Welfare Boards.

Staff were excited to see the extent and detail of the image collection, including the high percentage of identified photographs; this is a valuable resource for Stolen Generations people and their families.

Ruth, Lauren and Rob later visited Melissa Jackson, Librarian at Indigenous Engagement, State Library of New South Wales. Melissa is a wealth of knowledge having worked at the State Library since 1991. Melissa facilitated an engaging presentation 'Connecting Culture: Tracing Ancestors' over a cuppa and discussion and spoke to Indigenous Engagement's services and programs and highlighted useful collection resources for family history research in New South Wales.

Connections are key, and the Research Unit continues to foster strong linkages with the record holding agencies enabling efficient and effective outcomes for our clients.



Melissa Jackson, State Library of NSW, showing their presentation.

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

***Information sourced from the Department of Social Services website.**

You can apply to the National Redress Scheme between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2027.

If someone legally applies on your behalf or acts on your behalf for the purposes of the Scheme they need to fill in a nominee form. This can be obtained along with the application form.

You can apply online or by paper. You won't be asked about your experience in front of a person or panel.

- Call 1800 737 377 and can get an application form sent to you or
- asking a Redress Support Service for one.
- You can apply online through myGov.
You can create a myGov account at any time if you don't already have one.
- <https://www.nationalredress.gov.au>

You can post your application back to the National Redress Scheme to the following address:

NRS
Reply Paid 7750
Canberra BC ACT 2610
Australia

The Application for Redress is made up of the following:

Part 1 asks personal information

- your name, date of birth and contact details
- your eligibility for the Scheme
- your identity

Part 2 asks about your experience of sexual abuse

This section asks questions about your experience of child sexual abuse and non-sexual abuse, please:

- write about the institution responsible for bringing you into contact with the person or people who abused you
- if you were abused in more than one institution, please include each one separately in this application
- answer with as much detail as you can

Part 3 asks about the impact sexual abuse has had across your life

You need to answer this question. You only need to write about the impact once.

Statutory declaration

When you make an application for redress under the Scheme you need to make a statement that the information you are providing is true, and any documents attached are true copies of the originals.

To do this, you will need to sign the statutory declaration, and have it witnessed. The witness only needs to see you sign, they do not need to read your application.

It is an offence to make a false statement in a statutory declaration.

Confirm your identity

Confirming your identity is one way your privacy and information is protected. There are options for confirming your identity for the National Redress Scheme.

Using your Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN)

If you choose to use your CRN, the National Redress Scheme team will call you to ask some questions about your identity and to discuss next steps.

I don't have a CRN

If you do not have a CRN or choose not to use it, you need to visit a Centrelink service centre. The National Redress Scheme team will let you know what documents you will need to take with you. At least one of these documents must have a photo of you. All documents must be original. This means that copies or certified copies or expired documents will not be accepted.

What if I don't have identity documents

It may be difficult for some people to confirm their identity, if you are finding it hard to find your identity documents or to visit a Centrelink service centre, please contact us on 1800 737 377. If you are calling from overseas please call +61 3 6222 3455 and ask to speak to someone from the National Redress Scheme. You can find your nearest Centrelink service centre on the Department of Human Services website.

Redress Support Services

You may want to think about talking to someone you know and trust to give you support. You can also get support through the Redress Support Services. These services can provide you with emotional support, support to apply, legal advice, or help with managing your financial situation.

Gulf of Carpentaria Network Visit



Link-Up (Qld) staff Kathleen Bobongie, Jason Ives and Joshua Thompson visited the Gulf of Carpentaria, where they delivered LUQ presentations and magazines, met clients and completed oral histories throughout Normanton, Burketown, Doomadgee,

Mornington Island and Croydon. Future visits to strengthen relationships with local organisations and residents in Mornington Island, Doomadgee and Mornington Island will take place this year.





Mungalla Healing Camp - A letter from Aunty Emily Collins



The 2018 Healing Camp held at Mungulla, in the Hinchinbrook Region of North Queensland was a beautiful, supportive and welcoming location for this Healing Camp. The Manager Jacob Cassady, his wife Joanne and their staff were all welcoming and supportive.

I live at Forrest Beach and attended the program every day.

This was my first ever Healing Camp and I hope it won't be my last.

Even though I enjoyed the 4 days of the program, I would like to share some little highlights that I will remember for a long time to come.

- (1) The 'Yarning Circles', where people shared their stories with other participants who have similar stories, in a supportive and comforting environment.

I'm glad I shared my story for the first time, and appreciate the supportive comments from people who spoke to me over a day or two, (one of which was a bit similar to mine).

On the final day, I linked up with a man who gave me information and the name and phone number of a woman who wrote a book which included information concerning my brother's father. It just goes to show, you may not be able to obtain information from people in your own home state, but it can happen (years later) at a Link-Up Healing Camp, on the other side of Australia.

- (2) Seeing the little groups of participants waiting for their turn for hair and beauty treatments.

Thank you to Link-Up (Qld) and the 3 lovely women who provided this beauty and pampering service. I never expected any of this, but appreciated it very much.

- (3) The gales of laughter coming from the little groups waiting for their turn, which included the Manager Jacob Cassady as he waited for his haircut.

- (4) The wagon tour around Palm Creek and seeing a crocodile on the bank.

- (5) I had a great time creating things from the arts and craft materials provided.

- (6) The Kup Murri was delicious and the entertainment was excellent.

- (7) My thanks to Jason Ives for organising and photographing my 'Oral History' session.

Thank you Jason, it was nice meeting you.

In closing, thank you so much for the research done for me by Rebecca and delivered to me by Sylvia and Rebecca at the Healing Camp, which included the support of Counsellor Daniel.

Thank you to Kathleen Bobongie, Pat Conlon and all of the Link-Up (Qld) staff (nice meeting you all), for being so supportive throughout the 4 days and making the Healing Camp an unforgettable experience which helped to sooth and rejuvenate my 'worn-out spirit'.

Yours sincerely,
Emily Cecilia Collins.

Healing Foundation Knowledge Circle - Access to Historical Records



Link-Up (Qld) was recently invited to attend a two-day Knowledge Circle gathering in Canberra relating to improved access and preservation of historical records for Stolen Generations members.

The Knowledge Circle was facilitated by the Healing Foundation as part of an ongoing project to push for change and realise the recommendations arising out of the #BTH20 Bringing Them Home 20 years on: An Action Plan for Healing. Barbara Reed, of Recordkeeping Innovation, has a depth of experience in recordkeeping and records access issues and has been working with the Healing Foundation to assist in consultation on this issue.

The 1997 Bringing Them Home (BTH) report made 54 recommendations including recommendation around permissive records access and the establishment of joint records taskforces to advocate improved policies and practices. Two decades on, and like many of the BTH recommendations, there has never been a systematic or collaborative attempt to address these issues. Problems accessing records have persisted and there has been no lasting commitment to create real change.

Ruth Loli, Research Manager, attended the Knowl-

edge Circle on behalf of Link-Up (Qld) and spoke to best practice and the ongoing constraints experienced in accessing historical records for clients. Ruth Loli shared understanding from a Queensland perspective and contributed to the identification and prioritisation of actions to support the healing journey of, and deliver improved outcomes for, Stolen Generations members and their families. Potential strategies such as the development of best practice standards, increased MOUs with records holders and collective lobbying were discussed.

The gathering was attended by representatives from Link-Up and Stolen Generations organisations from around the country as well as the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS). Participation was opened more broadly on day two to include key stakeholders from the government and non-government records communities. Representatives worked well together to discuss prevailing issues and co-design pathways forward.

It is hoped the Knowledge Circle marks the beginnings of a network of advocates for change to meet the continuing needs and rights of those affected by the Stolen Generations.

Brisbane Client Support Group 2018 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 3638 0411 for more information.

Next meeting will be on:

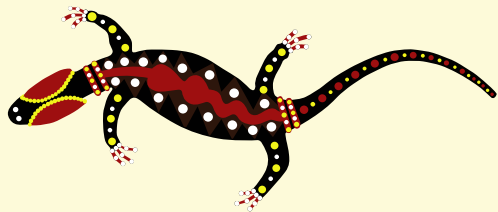
**27th September
25th October**

Cairns Client Support Group 2018 Morning Teas

Held on the last Thursday of every month at the Link-Up (Qld) Cairns office from 10.00am. Contact Link-Up (Qld) on 07 4041 7403 for more information.

Next meeting will be on:

**27th September
25th October**



Link-Up (Qld)

ABORIGINAL CORPORATION®

Still Bringing Them Home



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.

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

Link-Up (Qld) ABORIGINAL CORPORATION OFFICES

BRISBANE:

5 Reid Street WOOLLOONGABBA Q 4102
PO Box 3229 SOUTH BRISBANE Q 4101
Email: contact@link-upqld.org.au
Tel: (07) 3638 0411 Fax: (07) 3217 3458

CAIRNS:

2/128 Spence Street, CAIRNS 4870
PO Box 298 BUNGALOW Q 4870
Tel: (07) 4041 7403

**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

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Department of Communities, Child Safety and
Disability Services.

