



Koorie Heritage Trust Inc
'Gnokan Danna Murra Kor-ki'

Annual Report
2013-2014



Koorie Heritage Trust Inc

295 King Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000

(03) 8622 2600

www.koorieheritagetrust.com

ABN 23 407 505 528

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation, the traditional owners of the land on which we are located.

Warning: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are advised that this document may contain the names and/or images of people who have passed away.

Cover image: Sandra Aitken, Gunditjmara

Healing Walk Eel Trap 2013

Plastic hay bale twine AH 3913

Photo: James Henry

Design: Darren Sylvester

Editor: Chris Keeler

Text: Koorie Heritage Trust Staff

Publication Co-ordination: Giacomina Pradolin

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Wominjeka/Welcome: Vision and Purpose

Our Vision

To live in a society where Aboriginal culture and history are a fundamental part of Victorian life.

Our Purpose

To promote, support and celebrate the continuing journey of the Aboriginal people of south-eastern Australia.

Our Motto

Gnokan Danna Murra Kor-ki –
Give me your hand my friend.

Our Values

Respect, Honesty, Reciprocity, Curiosity

Our Centre

Provides a unique environment rich in culture, heritage and history which welcomes and encourages Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to come together in the spirit of learning and reconciliation.

Our Governance

We are a not-for-profit Incorporated Association governed by the Trust's Rules of Association and by a Board of Management.



Peter-Shane Rotumah, Thomas Marks and Adrian Rigney, three of the Pitcha Makin Fellaz at the opening of *New Era: 2nd Time Lucky* (Photo: Fotoholics, University of Melbourne)

Chairperson's Report

Annette Vickery

Wominjeka - Welcome

I take great pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2014.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Trust in February 2014, I was honoured to be elected to the role of Chair of the Trust's Board of Management, a role which had been vacated by Angela Clarke. I acknowledge Angela for her enormous contribution as Chair and am also honoured to have served under her as Deputy Chair. Angela's guidance and leadership, her considered stewardship of the Trust during a time of significant change, her genuine warmth and understanding and her community centred focus, were of great benefit to the Trust. I am proud, privileged and humbled to be given the opportunity to continue her legacy. Angela will continue to be a member of the Trust Board.

At the AGM, the following members were nominated to the Trust Board, and I look forward to working with them in the coming year.

Ian Hamm (Deputy Chair)
John Norman (Treasurer)
Tom Mosby (CEO and Secretary - non voting member)
Justice David Parsons (Ordinary Member)

Peter Nash (Ordinary Member)
Terrie Stewart (Ordinary Member)
Angela Clarke (Ordinary Member)

We bid a fond farewell to Jan Muir who resigned from her role on the Board due to work commitments. Jan has a very long association with the Trust. Her name appears in the Minutes of the very first meeting of The Victorian Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Trust (as we were originally known) on 16 October 1985, when she was nominated to the position of Secretary. Although Jan has resigned from the Board, she remains a member of the Trust family.

During 2013-2014, we continued work on our governance structure and on the restructuring of our operations. Having sold our building at 295 King Street, our particular priority over the last twelve months has been to find new premises. I am pleased to say that we are in the process of negotiating new accommodation in a more central CBD location. This is particularly exciting, as we will be celebrating our 30th birthday in 2015.

Another Board priority during the year was the preparation and confirmation of new strategic goals. Our goals for 2014-16 are to ENGAGE with the Victorian Aboriginal communities, GROW our Collections, REACH new audiences, ENRICH

our visitors' experience, and DEVELOP our people and capabilities. We aim to continually monitor and measure our success against our strategic goals to become an organisation that is valued by the Aboriginal and broader community, operates confidently with a clear and sustainable business model, secures a safe environment that protects our collections, property and assets, improves our profile with our key stakeholders, establishes meaningful and relevant partnerships, and enhances the visibility and accessibility of our Collections. Much work has gone into capturing the energy and vitality of our vision for the Trust and our new strategic goals will guide the exciting process of innovation we have planned for our future.

Our activities this year would not have been possible without the support of the Victorian Government, including the Hon Heidi Victoria MP, Minister for the Arts, the Hon Jeanette Powell MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs until March 2014 and the Hon Tim Bull MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs from March 2014, the Director and Staff of Arts Victoria, and the Executive Director and staff of the Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. I also wish to acknowledge the support we received from the Federal Government through the Ministry for the Arts.

I would like to thank our many donors and sponsors for their generous support and commitment. I especially thank Lend Lease, our principal Corporate Supporter, and recognise its commitment to reconciliation.

The Koorie Heritage Trust is the product of the vision, commitment and generosity of Koorie communities in Victoria. The cumulative legacy of our predecessors is a source of great inspiration to us at the Trust. As a new chapter in the life of the Trust begins, the challenge for me and my fellow Board members, as well as our staff, is to ensure that we build on the achievements of the past. I would like to acknowledge and pay particular tribute and thanks to my fellow Board members, to Tom Mosby, our CEO, and to our staff for their commitment, dedication and hard work. I look forward to leading the Trust into the future and providing it with the stewardship to enable it to go from strength to strength.

So, *Gnokan Danna Murra Kor-ki*, and let us celebrate together the history of Koories in Victoria. You are always welcome at the Trust.



Annette Vickery, Chairperson Koorie Heritage Trust and Tom Mosby CEO at the Victorian Government NAIDOC Week Reception 2014, Parliament House.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Tom Mosby

Wominjeka - Welcome

I am pleased to report on the operations of the Koorie Heritage Trust Inc for the 2013-14 financial year.

During this year, we put time and energy into consolidating the operational and governance changes that we started in the last financial year. I have worked closely with the Board, my senior managers and staff to update our strategic goals and develop our business plan in line with those goals. We have in particular invested considerable energy in developing best practice processes and procedures around the management of our programs and services, facilities, assets and resources.

Some of the key activities that we have started to roll out this year include providing opportunities for Aboriginal people from across Victoria through our Exhibition Program; continuing to provide a confidential, culturally sensitive and respectful genealogy and research service through our Koorie Family History Service; maintaining and building our unique collection of Oral Histories; providing support to community members to access our collections as part of our Collections Programs; and ensuring our retail business maintains a strong focus on Koorie arts and crafts.

We are proud that we launched the inaugural Koorie Art Show during this financial year, in partnership with Arts Victoria and with Lend Lease as principal sponsor. The Koorie Art Show highlighted and showcased the diverse talent of Victoria's Indigenous visual artists in one inclusive space. The show fulfilled one of our key activities, using our exhibition program as a platform for Koorie artists. The show was well received and captured the diversity of Koorie visual art. Thirty artists from metropolitan and regional centres were accepted into the show and over 69 works of art were created, 56 of which were exhibited. We look forward to continuing the Koorie Art Show as our annual end of calendar year show.

As a direct result of the Koorie Art Show, we also presented an exhibition by the Pitcha Makin Fellaz titled *New Era: 2nd Time Lucky*. The Pitcha Makin Fellaz are an all Koorie male collective from Ballarat who first started painting as a group in June 2013. The Fellaz had submitted an entry to the Koorie Art Show and, although they were not awarded a prize, we were particularly impressed by their history and invited them to submit a proposal for a solo show. *New Era: 2nd Time Lucky* was launched on 1 May 2014. The show was well received and paintings were bought by private collectors and by the National Gallery of Victoria.

With the support of the Board of Management, we put a lot of time and energy into negotiating new premises for the Trust and I am pleased to say that we are close to confirming our new location. We are particularly excited about the opportunity to move the Trust to a central CBD location. The move will set the foundations for the next 30 years enabling us to innovate and transition the development and delivery of our services working with the Koorie and wider communities to deliver outstanding opportunities on a state, national and international level.

We also continued to deliver our unique programs and services. We added 23 new objects and artworks, including a contemporary eel trap, to our collections. We also continued much needed collections management work as well as upgrading our Koorie Art and Artefacts stories on the Culture Victoria webpage.

Our Koorie Family History Service continued its invaluable work in assisting members of the Stolen Generations and the Victorian Koorie Community to trace their family trees and family history. During the year, we received 299 new requests for family trees and family history information. We also

provided a service to 872 clients, a significant increase from the previous year. We are proud to say that, although we are continuing to receive more requests than ever before, we are also completing and closing more requests.

We had over 7,000 primary, secondary and tertiary students participate in our Education programs including our Introduction to Koorie Culture walk in the Flagstaff Gardens and our River Walk along the Birrarung (Yarra River). We delivered 386 sessions to schools and tertiary institutions as well as nine professional development workshops to educators and pre service teachers. As a Registered Training Organisation, we also delivered another highly successful Kooriez in da Hood program in partnership with GoTAFE Shepparton. The resulting hoodiez were featured in the Australian Indigenous Fashion Week parade in Sydney in April 2014. As part of our suite of education programs, we also continued to deliver our highly successful and significant Indigenous Cross Cultural Awareness Training programs to public sector and corporate clients.

Our profit from our retail sales activities improved considerably over the course of the year. We remain the only place in Melbourne that stocks an all-Indigenous product range. With a policy of only selling authentic Indigenous items, we are the one-stop-shop for visitors wishing to purchase that special Koorie gift. All profits from the shop are used to support the Trust, particularly our core programs and services.

I would like to acknowledge the invaluable support we receive from the Victorian Government. I am pleased to advise that our submission for triennial funding to the State Government's Organisations Investment Program, through Arts Victoria, was successful. Similarly, I am pleased that our application for triennial funding to the Federal Ministry for the Arts Indigenous Visuals Arts Industry Support and Indigenous Culture Support programs was also successful. I wish to thank my staff for their invaluable contribution and support in the preparation of these applications. The funding that we received will enable us to deliver on our core business. I am also grateful for the funding that we continue to receive from the State Government's Community Support Fund, through the Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. This supports our Koorie Family History Service, our Oral History Program and parts of our operational activities. I acknowledge and pay particular thanks to the support received from Lend Lease as our Corporate Supporter and for its sponsorship of the Lend Lease Reconciliation Award that was one of the prizes awarded as part of the Koorie Art Show.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all of our individual donors who have supported us this year. We continue to maintain our registration as a tax-deductible gift recipient. As a not-for-profit organisation, we rely on the wide network and generosity of our many friends. Your support enables us to continue the important work we do to bridge the gap between Koories

and the wider community and contribute to the reconciliation agenda.

I would like to acknowledge the generous support that we receive from the Pratt Foundation for our Oral History program. I also acknowledge the bequest made to the Trust on behalf of the late Norma Gleeson. Her legacy is a lasting testament to her advocacy of Aboriginal rights and her work to assist organisations in achieving their aims. This year, the interest from the bequest enabled us to carry out much needed registration and digitization work on the Lisa Belleair photographic collection facilitating the future development of an exhibition of Lisa's community albums.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our Moogji Club Members for their patience, generosity and ongoing support, and look forward to welcoming and celebrating our 30th birthday with you in our new premises in 2015.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Board of Management who have supported me during this time and I welcome and look forward to working with the new Board of Management. I would like to particularly thank the staff of the Trust for their patience, dedication and support during this period of ongoing change.

Our Strategic Plan 2014-2016

The Koorie Heritage Trust is an Aboriginal owned and managed not-for-profit organisation. We celebrated our 25th anniversary in 2010 and we look forward to celebrating our 30th anniversary in 2015. We are justifiably proud to have been operating for over 25 years.

We offer a unique range of programs and services to promote, support and celebrate the Aboriginal culture of South-Eastern Australia. As a not-for-profit, we source funding from the State and Federal Governments as well as from private, philanthropic and corporate sponsorship and support. We have also diversified our programs to include revenue generation business areas to support our operational and core programs. We have a wealth of skills and expertise including cultural knowledge, community and corporate networks, collection management, curatorial, education and research experience.

We are keen to move forward as a bold and adventurous 21st century organisation offering an inclusive and welcoming place for all. We will continue to innovate and transition the development and delivery of our services.

Over the next three years, we will raise our revenue base in order to build on our successes and deliver outstanding opportunities to Koorie and non-Koorie communities. Anticipating and embracing advances in digital technology, we will provide best practice client service delivery and meaningful engagement with Koorie young people who are active users of digital technology. At the same time, we will embrace technology to record the memories of our Elders for the benefit of present and future Koorie and non-Koorie generations.

We see ourselves as a place for everyone; a unique space in which Koorie and non-Koorie people can experience, learn, connect and reconnect with the rich, living Aboriginal culture, heritage and histories of Victoria in a safe environment.

We see ourselves as a knowledge bank and vital community resource, as much a physical as well as a virtual place for sharing, learning, collaborating and creating. We will continually monitor and measure our success against our strategic goals.

Within the next three years we will:

- Become an organisation that is valued by the Aboriginal and broader community.
- Be operating confidently with a clear and sustainable business model.
- Secure a safe environment that protects our collections, property and assets.
- Improve our profile with our key stakeholders and in the tourism space generally.
- Establish meaningful and relevant partnerships.
- Enhance the visibility and accessibility of our collections.

Strategic Goals 2014-2016

Engage with Victorian Aboriginal Communities

- Conduct community conversations to ensure the Trust is relevant and engaged.
- Deliver culturally strong programs, services and projects.
- Improve community access to our exhibitions and collections.
- Provide an outlet for the creative expression of Aboriginal Victorians.

Grow the Collections

- Ensure the existing collections are maintained in accordance with Trust guidelines and priorities.
- Develop and implement a Collections Acquisition Strategy.

Reach new audiences

- Promote and market the Trust's programs, services and projects to the broader community.
- Increase accessibility through developing innovative modes of delivery.
- Make our diverse and unique collections more visible.

Enrich our Visitors' experience

- Develop new programs, services and projects.
- Ensure visitor interactions are culturally strong, vibrant, secure and welcoming.
- Ensure our visitors leave with a lasting impression of their experiences.

Develop our people and capabilities

- Foster a flexible, diverse, skilled and cohesive workforce.
- Ensure the Board maintains a culture of excellence.
- Optimise our business model.
- Collaborate with other organisations to deliver on our strategic goals and priorities.
- Establish a location that is appropriate for us to achieve our long-term goals.
- Ensure best practice management of our services, facilities, assets and resources.



Glenda Andrew's *Ochre Net*, the inspiration for the *Ganagan (Deep Water)* exhibition. (Photo: Lauren Marc)

Our Activities





Len Tregonning, *Gunnai/Kurnai Gunnai/Kurnai Shields* 2010, acrylic and gold leaf on canvas. AH 3912. Acquired 2013

Our Activities

Collections

Collection Management

The Koorie Heritage Trust's collections of cultural material continue to develop, with the 23 new objects and artworks acquired during 2013-14 catalogued and housed according to industry standards. Acquisition highlights include *Healing Walk Eel Trap* made from bright blue hay bale twine by Sandra Aitken, *Gunnai/Kurnai Shields* by Uncle Len Tregonning, scrapbooks and audiotapes featuring the Aboriginal Community Elders Service Choir, a 1950s boomerang from Lake Tyers, and a woven fibre stingray by Bronwyn Razem.

The Lisa Belleair Collection Photographic project resulted in 406 photographs of the Koorie Community being registered and digitised during the first half of 2014. This project was made possible through the Norma Gleeson Bequest.

An Oral History collection registration project was completed at the end of June 2014. Achievements include the enhancement of 625 records, the matching of 89 transcripts to recordings, and the standardisation of all 1,951 registration numbers. 740 individuals represented in the oral history collection have been identified, mostly Koorie community members featured in recorded interviews or filmed at events.

Additional cataloguing of the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service audio-visual collection has been

completed with 38 VHS tapes now added to the catalogue. All items in this collection have now been counted and a rudimentary catalogue entry for each one created. The total item count comes to 243.

The collections have been well cared for, with regular preventive conservation cleaning and pest monitoring taking place. The Disaster Plan has been updated, the air-conditioning system in the collection stores has been repaired and the VESDA smoke detection system upgraded. Collection Policies and Procedures were reviewed and an application for Re-accreditation with the Museum Accreditation Program was submitted to Museums Australia (Victorian Branch).

Planning for the relocation of the collection has been a major project for the year and detailed plans have been developed covering staffing requirements, materials needed and timelines.

A valuation of the Collections was completed in late 2013. A detailed report in two parts was produced as part of the valuation process. This report provides an in-depth analysis of the current financial value of the Collections with reference to recent art and artefact auction results.

We currently have the following total items catalogued on our MIMSY XG collections database:

3,938 artefacts and paintings; 1,951 oral history recordings; 4,794 library items; and 3,824 photographs. In addition to this database we manage access to the remainder of our collection items through the use of Finding Aids. These Finding Aids cover 860 folders of paper records in the Jim Berg Archive and approximately 15,000 stone tools and 85,000 photographs.

Collection Access

The Collections exhibition *Ganagan (Deep Water): Waterways in Koorie Life and Art* was Highly Commended at the 2013 Victorian Museum Awards. The Collections Unit produced popular public programs related to the exhibition, including Curators Talks and a Kids Storytelling and craft activity presented by Taungurung artist Annette Sax.

The Collections team was supported by Culture Victoria to upgrade our *Koorie Art and Artefacts* digital story. This project has been successfully completed with an extra 29 Koorie Heritage Trust collection images and two new videos accessible online through the Culture Victoria website www.cv.vic.gov.au. A small display was developed to highlight some of the items from the new digital story, with QR codes linking visitors to the various online exhibitions of Koorie Heritage Trust material.

The Collections Unit worked with Brown Trout, a commercial publisher, to create a 2015 printed calendar called *Aboriginal Art From The Koorie Heritage Trust*. The calendar has been selling well in the Koorie Heritage Trust shop and artworks featured in the calendar will feature in a Collections exhibition at the Trust in October 2014.

Two collection items were loaned to museums to support exhibitions by Aboriginal artists. A shield by William Barak was loaned to Tarrawarra Museum of Art as part of an exhibition curated by Jonathon Jones, and a cloak was loaned to support an exhibition of artworks by Kelly Koumalatsos at Museum Victoria.

The Collections unit provided an image licensing service for ten organisations. Twenty images from the Koorie Heritage Trust Collection were used for publications about Koorie culture, such as walking tours and textbooks.

The Koorie Heritage Archive community access database of photographs and videos continues to be very popular with the Koorie community and provides an important service to Koorie people connecting with family and culture. A further 300 photographs have been added to the database and the number of people's names that can be searched by Koorie friends and family has been increased from around 1100 to around 1600.

There are now 3,300 images available on this community resource. This project to upgrade and expand the Archive was funded through a grant from the Telematics Trust.

The Koorie Elders project is currently underway with a range of Indigenous film-makers creating 20 new Oral History recordings and editing five existing recordings. The completed footage will go live during the next financial year.

The Collections team also offers a personalised service to Koorie Community members wishing to access the collections including behind-the-scenes tours, special presentations, advice, assistance with searching, and free access to the Trust's research library.

OVER THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS WE HAVE

ENHANCED **625** ORAL HISTORY RECORDS

REGISTERED, SCANNED AND RE-HOUSED **406** IMAGES

MATCHED **89** TRANSCRIPTS TO ORAL HISTORY RECORDINGS

PROVIDED **161** PEOPLE WITH A BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR OR COLLECTIONS PRESENTATION

GIVEN **36** INDIGENOUS PARTICIPANTS A BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS OR COLLECTIONS PRESENTATIONS

ACQUIRED **23** NEW ARTEFACTS INTO THE COLLECTION

CREATED AND SHARED ONLINE **5** MINI-DOCUMENTARIES

LOANED **2** WORKS FROM THE COLLECTION

PRESENTED **1** NEW MAJOR EXHIBITION FROM THE COLLECTION (*GANAGAM*)



Our Activities

Exhibitions & Public Programs

Exhibitions

Ganagan (Deep Water): Waterways in Koorie Life and Art

6 June – 3 September 2013

This was our annual exhibition drawn from our extensive and unique Collections. Items included woven eel and fish traps, an ochred fish net, paintings, prints, ceramics and a video installation. The exhibition reflected the myriad ways in which Koories connect to Victorian waterways. An online version of the exhibition was developed as part of this project and can be viewed at www.cv.vic.gov.au/stories/ganagan.

The Ballarat Four

16 September – 3 December 2013

Four Ballarat-based Koorie artists, Deanne Gilson, Marlene Gilson, Bronwyn Razem and Josh Muir, highlighted the diversity of Victorian Aboriginal visual arts by exploring their relationship to Ballarat and the surrounding areas. The exhibition brought together sculpture, street art, paintings and drawings.

Weetaboona Dreaming

1 December 2013 – 27 February 2014

This exhibition comprised a selection of illustrative works from new children's books - *Once Upon A Time Past - Peter The Pterosaur* by Aunty Gloria Whalan and *Wurramatyena and the Magic Canoe* and *Wurramatyenna and the*

Nerissa Broben, Senior Curator of Collections (centre), shows The Hon Heide Victoria, Minister for the Arts (right), artworks in the *Ganagan (Deep Water)* exhibition. Aunty Joy Wandin Murphy used the gum-leaf branch on top of the showcase during her Welcome to Country at the opening of *Ganagan*. (Photo: Lauren Marc)

Call From The Sea by Lisa Kennedy. Aunty Gloria writes children's books based on her childhood. Her people are the Wiradjuri from around the Blue Mountains of New South Wales. Lisa Kennedy's people are the Trawlwoolway of north-east Tasmania.

The Koorie Art Show

13 December 2013 – 27 February 2014

In partnership with Arts Victoria, we presented the inaugural Koorie Art Show as our end of year show to showcase the diversity of Victorian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander contemporary visual artists. Artists submitted works to the show through a call-for-entry process and works were eligible for three awards.

The Arts Victoria Award for excellence in any media went to Gloria Whalan for her painting *Blue Tongue*; the Lend Lease Reconciliation Award went to Kathy Nicholls for her piece *Recycled from Mother Nature* and the Koorie Heritage Trust Moogji Club Encouragement Award went to Troy Firebrace for *Kangaroo Womb*, acrylic on skateboards.

Gloria Whalan's image 'The blue tongue' stood out to me as a work of great integrity that comes from the artists close observation and respect for nature. Her painting shows a genuine love of her subject – the blue tongue lizard – and celebrates

the processes of birth and rejuvenation with this beautiful creature. Whalan has written of her belief that the spirit comes from her dreaming and the Australian bush, and her painting powerfully communicates this understanding.

Dr Isobel Crombie, Assistant Director, Curatorial and Collection Management National Gallery of Victoria, 2013 Judge, Koorie Art Show

Bad Aboriginal Photography: Brenda L Croft, Destiny Deacon and Tracey Moffatt.

A Monash Gallery of Art exhibition.

28 March – 30 June 2014

Bad Aboriginal Photography was curated by Stephen Zagala. The artists in this show explored the underbelly of public history and personal memories. As well as being bad or naughty in attitude, the artists also embraced the badness of low-quality photography. By using modest and popular forms of visual communication, like those found in snapshot photography and family albums, the artists aimed to engage the audience in active storytelling rather than passive contemplation.

New Era: 2nd Time Lucky

1 May – 18 July 2014

The Pitcha Makin Fellaz describe themselves as a deadly mob of handsome, easy going, passionate young men who paint and write together on a regular basis in Ballarat. Formed in 2013, artists in the group are William Blackall, Ted Laxton, Peter-Shane Rotumah, Myles Walsh, Adrian Rigney, Thomas Marks and Joe Lee. The group first met on Friday 28th June 2013 at a Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-operative shed in Delacombe, near Ballarat. The Trust is particularly proud of its association with the Pitcha Makin Fellaz. This exhibition was their first solo exhibition in Melbourne and, as a result of this show, the National Gallery of Victoria purchased one of their artworks.

Public Programs

As part of our public programs and events, we held a number of Yarning Circles with exhibiting artists, including Destiny Deacon while *Bad Aboriginal Photography* was on show, and the Pitcha Makin Fellaz during the run of their show, *New Era: 2nd Time Lucky*.

A range of activities was presented with our *Ganagan* exhibition including Elders' storytelling, floor talks and a dedicated children's program. Special River Walks with

Elder Uncle Lenny Tregonning were also open to members of the public. The River Walks were enhanced by the research and stories uncovered during the development of *Ganagan*.

During NAIDOC week in July 2013, Taungurung artist Annette Sax facilitated a storytelling and craft activity for children within the *Ganagan* exhibition. Children could listen to Annette talk about the book *Bartja and Maylia* that she illustrated, hear her read the story, try on her possum skin cloak and make their own bush necklace. This event attracted 16 children and 10 adults. Two Curator floor talks were also held during NAIDOC week, where members of the public were able to experience the *Ganagan* exhibition through the eyes of the Curators.

Throughout the *Ganagan* exhibition children were also given the opportunity to do a special colouring-in activity sheet linked to one of the works. Wurundjeri artist Mandy Nicholson gave the Trust permission to adapt the platypus design for the activity sheet from her painting *Dulai Wurrang*.

Our Reading Nook in the *Ganagan* exhibition provided visitors with an opportunity to sit down and read one of three Koorie publications relating to Koorie waterways in Victoria.

The online element of the *Ganagan* exhibition is a sustainable resource that continues to be available to all, providing opportunities for broader access to *Ganagan* particularly for

regional communities and groups who were unable to visit the Koorie Heritage Trust in person. In the space of two months we had over 4,000 hits on the online exhibition: www.cv.vic.gov.au/stories/ganagan.

Tanderrum

In October 2013, the five Kulin nations opened the Melbourne Festival with a contemporary re-envisioning of a *Tanderrum*, or welcoming, ceremony. Led by community-nominated Elders from the five nations, dancers and musicians performed on Country in a shared celebration of our rich cultural traditions.

The event was held in Federation Square before an audience of approximately 5,000 people. It marked the beginning of a three-year partnership between Ilbijerri Theatre, Koorie Heritage Trust, Melbourne Festival and the five Kulin nations – the Wurundjeri, Wathaurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurong and Boon Wurrung.

The Koorie Heritage Trust was primarily involved in the creation of the five possum skin cloaks prepared for the event and provided important cultural guidance across the performance and workshop process. The cloaks were handmade by Kulin community members through a four-week workshop process led by visual artist, Maree Clarke. This project was supported by the Felton Bequest.

Our Activities

Koorie Family History Service

The Trust's Koorie Family History Service (KFHS) was established in 2001 to assist members of the Stolen Generations and the Victorian Koorie Community to trace their family trees and family history.

The Victorian Government, through the Community Support Fund, supports the KFHS to provide a confidential, client-based, genealogical research service. The KFHS supports clients in accessing personal adoption and ward files, historical documents and cultural information. By assisting clients to piece together their family tree and their family history and to strengthen connection with Culture, the KFHS supports survivors of the Stolen Generations and their families with their healing journey.

The KFHS has a confidential family tree database, with 16,590 entries to date. It generally relies on clients to provide birth, death and marriage information for relatives born after 1920, but can also use the Births, Deaths and Marriages index and other resources to research people born before 1920. This process can take months or years to complete for each individual entry on the family tree database.

Prior to the 2008 Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples, the KFHS received between one and three requests for family trees and family

history information each week. After the Apology, this number increased to between one and three requests each day, averaging 15 to 20 new requests each month from 2009 to 2012.

Demand increased again significantly this year. In 2013-2014 the KFHS received 299 new requests for family trees and family history information, averaging 25 new requests per month.

In 2013-2014 the KFHS provided a Service to 872 clients, an increase of 100 clients compared to the previous year. At the end of the 2013-14 financial year, the Family History team was actively researching 542 client requests and had completed research on a further 169 requests. The remaining 161 requests were pending, awaiting activation when the client application forms are completed and returned to KFHS.

Of the 542 requests being actively researched, 125 were members of the Stolen Generations, 135 were family tree requests from Koorie Community members, 260 were family history requests from individuals wanting to trace possible Aboriginal heritage and 22 requests were from clients in custody.

Although the KFHS is continuing to receive more requests than ever before, the unit is also completing and closing more requests than ever. The KFHS held its inaugural NAIDOC Family History Workshop on 10th July 2013, as part of NAIDOC Week celebrations. The workshop was initially aimed at providing advice and

assistance to beginners and novices regarding genealogy. However, the KFHS team had to quickly adapt to the high skill level of the participants who attended. Most participants were keen genealogists, with years of research experience, who wanted advice on accessing rare documents or solving difficult family mysteries. All of the participants had a Stolen Generations connection. The workshop became an opportunity for the KFHS staff and participants to share their combined knowledge and experience and learn from each other. The KFHS held a second workshop in December 2013 and aims to hold two workshops per year.

The KFHS is continuing to offer outreach support to Community groups and individuals and conducts Community visits or participates in events at least once a month. The KFHS also hosts Community groups and school groups who visit the Trust as part of a 'behind the scenes' tour, regularly providing family history information sessions as part of these tours.

Family history information sessions were provided by the KFHS to the Percy Green Centre Men's Group (Mooroopna/Shepparton), Winja Ulupna Women's Recovery Centre (Statewide), Galiamble Men's Recovery Centre (Statewide), Stolen Generations Support Group (Footscray), MatchWorks Support Group, Dandenong Elders Group and the Wathaurong Stolen Generations group (Geelong). Similar sessions were run for Bringing Them Home

Workers from Echuca and Heywood, Link-up Caseworkers and Connecting Home Caseworkers.

Staff members from the KFHS were also presenters at a State-wide Gathering of Koori Court Officers, the *Family Footprints* information afternoon at the Knox Community Health Service and the Social and Emotional Well-Being State-wide Gathering for Bringing Them Home Workers.

KFHS staff would like to thank the following individuals and organisations for all of the support and assistance provided to our research staff and our clients - Bringing Them Home Counsellors; Caseworkers at Link-up and Connecting Home; the Department of Human Services – Family Information Networks and Discovery; the Koorie Records Unit at the Public Record Office of Victoria; the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies; Open Place; Child and Family Services in Ballarat; the Family Records Unit at the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in New South Wales; the Community and Personal Histories Unit at the Department of Communities in Queensland; the State Library of Victoria; and the Genealogical Society of Victoria.

We would also like to thank those staff at the Trust who support our work, in particular the Collections team and the Trust's volunteer Librarian Judy Williams, all of whom have

provided invaluable support for our clients and visiting Community groups.

All members of the Family History team feel privileged to work in service of the Stolen Generations and the Victorian Koorie community and acknowledge the trust clients place in us to treat their family information with respect.

MELANIE'S STORY

It is many years ago that I decided to search for my family. Growing up we always knew we were Aboriginal but we had very limited information about our ancestry. My grandfather would not discuss his mother (who had left when he was quite young). He was raised by another Aboriginal woman, (his step mother – Olive Grace Harrison nee Galway), who was always known to us as “Nanna Olly”. The main information we had was that my grandfather’s biological Mum’s name was Lena Gertrude McGee.

One day I decided to contact the Koorie Heritage Trust and see if they [the Koorie Family History Service] would be able to assist me to complete our family tree which I figured would help me and my whole family better understand our identity and where we come from but also may one day lead me to meeting our family members. I come from a family of three; I have 41 first cousins (on my Mum’s side) and seven aunts and uncles (with one deceased). With such a big family I was definitely more than happy to meet more.

Jenny Bates [from the Koorie Family History

Service] and I would keep in contact over the next four or so years. We would contact each other with further information, photos, birth/death certificates; sometimes Jenny would suggest certificates I could purchase if I wanted to. We would speak to each other every few months and slowly but surely the family tree started coming together.

My Pop’s family was as big and sometimes confusing as any black fulla family – with lots of leads and branches and at times I think both Jenny, the [KFHS] team and I were confused about where everyone fit.

I began passing any additional family tree information I could put together or find out from my family onto Jenny Bates and the [KFHS] team at KHT who then began doing further research into these new leads.

It was in mid June I’d had a message from my cousin who had found “Harold Harrison/Little” who had a testimonial that we could all watch on the stolen generations website! I remembered waking up for my usual working day and sitting at the computer at 6.30am, watching the 13/14 minute video and crying! I couldn’t believe how upset I was. This was a long lost relative, who had much sadness in his eyes, his face and with his personal story and journey. It broke my heart. I could immediately see he was a relation ... I had always heard about features in families and how you could tell who was related to who. I could see some

similarities to my Poppy but so much more so with my Uncle Stephen Harrison AKA Uncle Duck. This was amazing; I wanted to watch it over and over again. I could not wait to maybe one day have the opportunity to meet such a strong/amazing man who had yearned for family and had been through so much in his life – it broke my heart but at the same time I felt great – knowing that we one day might get to met!!

Strangely enough my in-laws had grown up with Uncle Harold at Wallaga Lake and speak very highly of a man who always wanted to know who his family were and what a lovely man he was. I could not believe this! My in-laws had known my great-uncle well before me and Uncle Harold had seen many of them grow up. We also later worked out that I had attended two funerals (one being my father in-law’s) and Uncle Harold was at both. Unfortunately we had no idea who one another were and in hindsight could have begun our reunion from 10 years prior!

Our Family Reunion

With the help of Koorie Heritage Trust [KFHS] and Link Up Victoria and [Link Up] NSW we were having our family reunion and we couldn’t wait! It was decided that although most of our family live in Melbourne, we would have our reunion closest to the eldest living sibling of Uncle Harold and Uncle Ian. Our reunion took place in Cohuna. The family reunion was beautiful! And seeing

Uncle Harold and Uncle Ian for the very first time was amazing! He knew who I was and vice versa ... Prior to the reunion I had sent both uncles photo albums I had specifically made up with as many pictures of their siblings and information about each. I am pretty sure Uncle Harold had the same beautiful smile on his face the entire three days and nights. He got plenty of hugs and his partner Aunty Noelene promised us we were spoiling him and he'd never want to leave Cohuna. Each year we go up to Barham (between 20 and 30 family members) for a week in January. Uncle Harold and Uncle Ian couldn't make it in 2014 and neither could I as I'm pregnant with twins. Hopefully we'll all get up there in 2015.

Below are some pictures from the days of our reunion – one of the most memorable times of my life! Thankfully the siblings have had at least the one opportunity to meet.

I just want to say the biggest thankyou to the [KFHS] team at KHT for all of your support, enthusiasm, ongoing contact and endeavours to find our Mob! We have since become part of a number of McGee Family sites on Facebook and are slowly but surely reconnecting with many different family members. We also continue our regular phone calls to Uncle Harold and Uncle Ian and vice versa – however without the assistance of the KFHS team and Link Up this would not have been possible.

Much thanks to each and every one of you for all your hard work and please continue to assist people to find their family and reunite people as it is such an important part of each person's journey.

To you all, we say THANKYOU!

My advice to others:

“Ask, ask, ask away! Speak to Elders in your community/family who may have little bits of information that provide further leads in completing your family tree”. Don't be shame to ask as unfortunately we are not here forever and often Elders are more than happy to share information to help you out! Unfortunately much of our history/records are not available and we can only go so far back with our family tree ... it is so important to ask the questions from those people who are still living and really are a wealth of knowledge. I was too shy to ask about my family because I felt embarrassed that I didn't really know where our family come from and who and how we were connected. Often though you are not alone in this search – there are lots of people in the same boat and you really don't want to wait until it's too late. I can think of two people who have passed that I now know would have been a wealth of knowledge for me in completing my family tree many, many years ago and maybe meeting up with more family members before it was too late.

Written by Melanie



top: Melanie and Uncle Harold
above: Aunty Dubbs and Uncle Harold (siblings meeting for the first time)
below: Aunty Lena and Uncle Ian (siblings meeting for the first time)



Our Activities

Cultural Education

Over 7,000 primary, secondary and tertiary students participated in the Trust's Cultural Education programs in 2013-2014. Our Cultural Education programs include an Introduction to Koorie Culture, a cultural walk in the Flagstaff Gardens, and a cultural and historical walk along the Birrarung (Yarra River) including an exploration of the installations at Birrarung Marr (Common Ground). The Cultural Education Unit also provided professional development sessions for pre-service and in-service teachers and Indigenous Cross-Cultural Awareness Training (ICCAT) programs.

The Cultural Education Unit delivered 386 student sessions during the year together with professional development sessions for the University of Melbourne's post-graduate pre-service teachers, St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox teachers, Whorouly Regional Arts teachers, La Trobe University pre-service teachers, the Australian Psychologists Association, the Victorian Law Council, and Koorie Engagement Support Officers from the Moe region. Conference presentations were provided for the Early Childhood Management Services International Conference and the History Teachers Association of Victoria.

The Cultural Education Unit also delivered sessions to a wide range of community groups

including Galiamble Men's Recovery Centre, Rumbalara Women's Family Harmony group, Children's Ground, the Trust's Hoodiez and Blaktrax programs, YMCA youth services and a number of schools hosting students from remote communities. During NAIDOC Week 2013 the Cultural Education Unit successfully reintroduced two special walks, both of which were fully booked, and a weaving workshop was also organised.

Members of the Unit attended two professional development conferences. The Curriculum Development Coordinator continues to sit on the VAEAI consultative committee working on a Framework for Embedding Koorie Cultures, Histories and Perspectives in Victorian schools.

The Trust's Cultural Education Unit and Federation Square's Education Unit have been working on synchronizing the content of walks so that each complements the other. It is hoped that this collaboration will produce richer content for a more diverse client base.

During times of low demand, such as school holidays, the Unit has introduced open access programs such as walks, ICCAT courses and weaving workshops. This means that individuals who are not part of a programmed group can now book in for a cultural education experience.

We are one of the lead organisations in Victoria providing Aboriginal Cultural Competency/Indigenous Cultural Awareness Training programs to public sector and corporate organisations. Our facilitators are experts in the field of cross cultural awareness training, and we work with organisations to tailor a program that suits their particular requirements.

We offer three cultural competency programs:

Introductory Program – designed to provide participants who may not have had any previous training or exposure to Aboriginal people, with practical understanding for working with Aboriginal peoples and communities. We offer four types of Introductory Programs.

Policy and Partnership Program – designed for participants who have completed an introductory program in some form and are involved in formal and significant relationship management with the Aboriginal community controlled organisation sector.

Leadership Program – designed for participants who have completed an introductory program in some form and is intended to build Aboriginal cultural competence in organisational leadership.

Our most popular programs sit as part of our Introductory Program and include:

Our Half Day Introductory Gateway Program – which is a very brief introductory overview program and does not include specifics on working with the contemporary Aboriginal community.

Our Full Day Introductory Gateway Program – which blends our Half Day Introductory Gateway with a guided walking tour of Flagstaff Gardens.

Our Full Day General Foundation – which is suited for organisations that have identified the need for better Aboriginal cultural awareness in order for their employees to build stronger relationships and enhanced respect with Aboriginal peoples.

During the year, approximately 550 people participated in 32 separate programs. The participants came from a range of organisations including corporate, public sector and government. The programs were delivered primarily on-site at the Trust. However, there were also quite a few delivered in regional Victoria.

We are proud of our achievements during the year and look forward to building up our programs in the new year.



Lenny Tregonning with a group of school children on a cultural walk through Flagstaff Gardens. (Photo: Stephen Rhall)



L-R: Kooriez in da Hood students Isaac Handy, Riley Williams, Chris Bodsworth, Bobbie Ritchie, Madison Morgan and Rodney Bamblett pose in front of *Regalia* by Reko Rennie for The Drawing Wall #15 (courtesy of Reko Rennie and the Shepparton Art Museum, 2014). Students Tristan Harrison-Drake & Ben Wimnar are absent from the picture.

Our Activities

Registered Training Organisation

In 2013-2014 the Trust's Registered Training Organisation continued presenting the Kooriez in da Hood and Blaktraks programs for young Koories. GOTAFE's Shepparton campus was the venue for the Hoodiez program this year while the Blaktraks program was presented in Melbourne at the Trust's premises.

Kooriez in da Hood (Hoodiez)

The Kooriez in da Hood program involves young Koories designing and screen-printing their own unique Hoodie jackets with designs focusing on their culture, family and interests. In partnership with GOTAFE (the Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE), the Trust ran this community arts project in the Shepparton region during April to June 2014, with the aims of engaging 'at risk' Indigenous youth and promoting Koorie pride amongst students and teachers.

Eight Koorie youths from GOTAFE's Centre for Koorie Education launched their hooded jumper designs at GOTAFE's Auditorium in Shepparton during June 2014. The students showcased the hoodie designs to an audience of friends, family and other students. They explained how their designs were created and the research involved in the work they presented.

Blaktraks

Over 3 weeks in November to December 2013, participants in the third Blaktraks Arts Project worked with Storyscape, the program's consultants, to explore their identity through storytelling, dance, music, photography and video. The aim of Blaktraks is to re-engage young people with their own community and to encourage them to express their own stories as young urban Indigenous Australians in ways that are meaningful to them.

The result was a selection of deadly short films that were launched along with a performance at the Koorie Heritage Trust. The Blaktraks videos can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/user/blaktraks>

All Blaktraks students were funded through the Victorian Training Guarantee and the Blaktraks program also received ongoing program funding from VicHealth.

Our Activities Retail and Venue Hire

Koorie Pty Ltd, the Trust's retail outlet, served 6,000 customers in 2013-2014. About one-third of our customers are from Melbourne and one-sixth from overseas. All profits from the shop are paid to the Koorie Heritage Trust to support its programs.

Koorie Pty Ltd provides opportunities for Koorie artists to promote and sell their work and supports local Koorie artists and local products whenever possible. Stock currently includes woven baskets by Yorta Yorta weaver Donna Blackall, shields and boomerangs by Taungurung craftsman Mick Harding, and pottery by Bnym Aboriginal Corporation in west Gippsland. Products sold by Koorie Pty Ltd must be made by members of the Indigenous community or must benefit the community in some way, with all artwork royalties paid to the artist.

The Trust has four spaces available for venue hire including two boardrooms, the Moogji Lounge and the Gandel Family Foyer. The two boardrooms on the second floor of the Trust both have projectors and surround sound and are regularly booked. The Moogji Lounge, on the ground floor, is a smaller, less formal room and is ideal for small group meetings or for supervising tertiary exams and is also used as a room for community visitors and Trust Members to have a cuppa and a rest. The Gandel Family Foyer, also on the ground floor, is a beautiful open area for larger groups, often used for launching exhibitions, web sites or books and for opening international meetings.



Artist Mick Harding shows one of his boomerangs to customers in the Trust's shop. (Lynton Crabb Photography)

Our Activities

Partnerships, Advocacy and Research

Coranderrk – Minutes of Evidence ARC project 2010-2014

This project, supported through an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant, is based around the 1881 Coranderrk Inquiry and is in its final year in 2014. Its three parts include a theatrical component including a verbatim staged performance of *Coranderrk – We Will Show the Country*, extracted from the minutes from the Inquiry; an education component including developing a comprehensive range of teaching materials for use in the Victorian secondary schools curriculum and a redevelopment of the theatrical show for a schools tour; and a research component looking at structural injustice in Australian society in relation to Aboriginal people.

Along with the Koorie Heritage Trust, partners in the Coranderrk project include VicHealth, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD), Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc (VAEAI), Ilbijerri Theatre Company, Deakin University, La Mama Theatre, State Library of Victoria, Arts Victoria, Regional Arts Victoria, University of Melbourne and the Wurundjeri Elders Council.

Dr Jenny Bates, Manager of the Trust's Koorie Family History Service and Partner Investigator on the Coranderrk project, provides in-kind

support by facilitating engagement with Traditional Owners and other Koorie communities, facilitating engagement with descendants of the original Coranderrk residents, participating in meetings with partner organisations, providing research advice, facilitating information sessions, and promoting the Coranderrk performances to the Koorie community and descendants of Coranderrk residents.

In June 2014 the project's website went live at www.minutesofevidence.com.au. Details of the project's achievements and more information about the Trust's involvement can be found on the website.

Tanderrum

In October 2013, the five Kulin nations opened the Melbourne Festival with a contemporary re-envisioning of a *Tanderrum*, or welcoming, ceremony. This event marked the beginning of a three-year partnership between Ilbijerri Theatre, Koorie Heritage Trust, Melbourne Festival and the five Kulin nations – the Wurundjeri, Wathaurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurong and Boon Wurrung.

GOTAFE Shepparton

In partnership with GOTAFE (the Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE), the Trust ran the Kooriez in da Hood community arts project in the Shepparton region during April to June 2014, with the aims

of engaging 'at risk' Indigenous youth and promoting Koorie pride amongst students and teachers.

Culture Victoria

The Collections Unit was supported by Culture Victoria to upgrade our *Koorie Art and Artefacts* digital story on the Culture Victoria website. Twenty-nine new images of collection items and two new videos are now accessible online at www.cv.vic.gov.au.

Federation Square Education Unit

The Trust's Cultural Education Unit and Federation Square's Education Unit are working in partnership to synchronize the content of walks so that our tours are complementary.

Koorie Family History Workshops

In July and December 2013, staff from the Koorie Family History Service ran two one-day workshops for Koorie Community members interested in extending their genealogical research skills and sharing their knowledge with others.

Koori Court Officers State-wide gathering

Jenny Bates, Manager of the Koorie Family History Service, was a presenter at an all-day gathering of Koori Court Officers from around Victoria in July 2013.

Family Footprints

Jenny Bates, Manager of the Koorie Family History Service, was a presenter at this family



Hannah Presley, Guest Curator, *Koorie Art Show 2013* and Elizabeth Liddle, Senior Arts Officer – Indigenous Art, Arts Victoria

Heritage Trust library collection during the year. The library also provides in-house resources for the Family History and Education teams.

Shepparton Art Museum

Nicholas Boseley, Exhibitions Curator, travelled to Shepparton to speak about the Carillo Gantner collection of Indigenous Art at the Shepparton Art Museum.

Committee Representation

Tom Mosby, Chief Executive Officer, was appointed to the Board of the Public Galleries Association of Victoria in May 2014.

Tom Mosby, Chief Executive Officer, continues to sit on the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Education and Research Advisory Group, RMIT.

history workshop for Koorie Community members in the Knox area in October 2013.

Social and Emotional Well-Being (SEWB) State-wide gathering

Jenny Bates, Manager of the Koorie Family History Service, was a presenter at two week-long workshops for Bringing Them Home workers, Drug and Alcohol workers and Stolen Generations stakeholders, at Phillip Island in November 2013 and Ballarat in May 2014.

Collections Loans

Two items from the collections were loaned to museums to support exhibitions by Aboriginal

artists. Tarrawarra Museum of Art borrowed a shield by William Barak as part of an exhibition curated by Jonathon Jones. Museum Victoria borrowed a cloak made by Kelly Koumalatsos to support an exhibition of her artworks in Bunjilaka.

Collections Research

The Collections team provided access to the Trust’s large collection of rare shields to an Indigenous researcher and a staff member from the National Museum of Australia for a research project on shield designs from south-eastern Australia.

Research Library

Multiple researchers have accessed the Koorie

Jenny Bates, Manager of the Koorie Family History Service, represented the Koorie Heritage Trust through her involvement with a number of organisations including the Koorie Records Taskforce, the National Archives of Australia Consultative Group and the Victorian Aboriginal Advisory Group. She was also appointed to the role of Chair of Victorian Aboriginal Advisory Group.

Pauline Sloane, our Curriculum Development Coordinator, continues to sit on the VAEAI consultative committee working on a Framework for Embedding Koorie Cultures, Histories and Perspectives in Victorian Schools.

Our Activities

Media and Publicity

During the year the Koorie Heritage Trust has focused on improving its social media profile, significantly increasing its reach through Facebook.

In March 2014 the Trust's CEO, Tom Mosby, spoke about the Trust and other Indigenous attractions for the Insiders Campaign, part of Tourism Victoria's international marketing strategy targeting tourism markets in the United Kingdom and Germany.

Tourism Victoria also invited the Trust to showcase some of its retail products at the Melbourne Visitor Centre during May 2014. This was a great opportunity given the central location of the Visitor Centre and the number of tourists that pass through it. Visitor numbers for the Trust increased by 30% compared to the previous month, indicating a strong visitor demand for authentic Indigenous experiences in Melbourne.

In July 2013 Tom Mosby co-hosted the Conversation hour with Jon Faine on Local ABC Radio 774 and in April 2014 he spoke about the Pitcha Makin Fellaz exhibition, *New Era: 2nd Time Lucky* on RRR's The Grapevine. This exhibition received good publicity with articles in *Art Guide Australia* and the *Ballarat Courier*, on the local ABC and numerous online articles.



left: Child's artwork from *Melbourne Now*
National Gallery of Victoria

right: Visitors in the 'Welcome' exhibition
of items from the Collections, including
Lee Darroch's and David Clark's *Tribe*
sculptures displayed on the wall.
(Photo: Lauren Marc)



Our Supporters

Commonwealth

Department of Industry, Innovation Science,
Research and Tertiary Education
Department of Regional Australia,
Local Government, Arts and Sport –
Office for the Arts
Australian National Maritime Museum,
Maritime Museums of Australia Project
Support Scheme

State Government

Arts Victoria, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Department of Planning and Community
Development
Community Support Fund
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, Department of Premier
and Cabinet
Department of Human Services
Department of Justice
Victorian Training Guarantee, Department of
Education and Early Childhood Development
GOTAFE Shepparton

Foundations

Pratt Foundation
VICHealth
Felton Bequest

Corporate Supporters

Lend Lease
Melbourne Water

Pro Bono Supporters

KPMG
Ashurst Lawyers
Lyons Architecture
Holding Redlich

MOOGJI CLUB

Moogji' is a Gunditjmara word meaning special friend. The Koorie Heritage Trust Inc introduced a new benefit to members during the year with a 10% discount at Charcoal Lane Restaurant, 136 Gertrude Street, Fitzroy. Membership numbers have increased over the last year and we now have 518 members registered.



(Photo: Stephen Rhall)

Our Donors

Bequests

The Koorie Heritage Trust gratefully acknowledges those who have chosen to remember us in their Will. Their gifts have been invaluable to the ongoing achievements of the organization.

Ms Norma Gleeson
Ms Lilian Renard
Ms Jessica Scott Wills

\$10,000 - \$24,999

John Norman Endowment
Bell Charitable Foundation
Carey Lyon & Joanne Crosby

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Rae & Peter Gunn Foundation
Anne Ross

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Andrew Clarke & Sarah Tiffin
Tony Ellwood
Brian Newman
Matthew Phillips
John F Stewart
Noel & Jenny Turnbull
Robyn Williams

\$500-\$999

Clarks Cleaners Pty Ltd
Leo Connelly
The Bardas Foundation
Justice Peter RA Gray
Lea Guillaume
Rachel Guillaume
Ann Jacobs
Penny Morrison
Ralph Renard
Felicity Teague

\$200-\$499

Ann Annand
Tony & Sandy Cahir
Anna Coveos
Barry Fradkin
John Haasz
Zoe Jones
Ainslie Lamb
J M Landy
Ted Lovegrove
Noel McKernan
Merle Mitchell
Dr Barrie & Diana Pittock
Giacomina Pradolini & Joel Becker
Cathy Scott
Clive Scott
Ruth Wexler
Susan Wood

< \$200

Julia Bruce
S. M. Dammery
Shona Hawkes
Carmel Laragy
Mary Mahoney
Michael Nolan
Chris Patterson
Beverley Phillips
Shirley Ramsay
Naomi Saporta
Jane Sklovsky
Claire Stonier-Kipen
Colin & Cynthia Turner

>\$100

Janet Bachsinar
Lynn Bamford
Rick Barker
Helen Bennett
John Billings
Margaret Bullen
Ellen Burton
Margaret Campbell
Elspeth Chambers
Chris Christoforou
Leo Connelly
Dandenong & District
Aboriginal Co-op
Anne Davie

Meg Davoren-Honey
Barbara Dibbin
Michael Duke
Ken Edelstein
Rachel Ann Faggetter
Sabin Fernbacher
Bruce Fisher
Candida Franco
Jeremy Graham
Pat Grainger
Helena Grunfeld
David Godkin
Barbara Hadkinson
Judy Hampton
Margaret Judy Hogg
Faith Susan Irving
Keith Jenkins
Jacky Kefford
Jaime Keleher
K Laub
Helen Light
Jenny Macaffer

Frances Mackieson
Sue Mackinnon
Marian Maddern
Robert Maguire
Tom Mosby
Diane Nicholas
David Parsons
Beverley Phillips
Plenty Valley Christian College
Shirley Ramsay
Cathy Scott
Elizabeth Sevier
Pamela Sharp
Chris Sitka
Judy Slifirski
Moira Smith
E.R & S.M. Southcombe
Jim Weatherhill
Judith Anne Whitehead
Pam Whiteley
Barbara Brown & Dorothy Wood



Drop by conversation with the Pitcha Makin Fellaz
(Photo: Pip Chandler)



Our Governance

We are a not-for-profit Incorporated Association governed by the Trust's Rules of Association and by a Board of Management.

BOARD MEMBERS 2013-2014

Office Bearers

Annette Vickery (Chair)
Ian Hamm (Deputy Chair)
John Norman (Treasurer)
Tom Mosby (Secretary)

Ordinary Members

Angela Clarke
Terrie Stewart
Justice David Parsons
Peter Nash (from February 2014)
Jan Muir (until February 2014)
Jim Berg (from April 2014)

Artist Donna Blackall, at right, speaking with customers about one of her baskets.
(Lynton Crabb Photography)

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee assists the Chief Executive Officer with relevant operational issues and undertakes tasks as delegated by our Board of Management from time to time.

Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Audit and Risk Management committee ensures the integrity of our accounts and financial statements, monitors our internal and external audit functions, and establishes and maintains internal accounting controls and appropriate risk management systems.

Human Resources Committee

This Committee establishes and maintains appropriate Human Resource systems and procedures.

Development Committee

The Development Committee establishes and maintains appropriate systems and procedures in relation to all aspects of fundraising.

Our Staff

Office of the CEO

Tom Mosby	Chief Executive Officer
Giacomina Pradolin	Operations, Governance, Policy & Planning Manager (FTE 0.8) from January 2014
Lara Dykun	Operations Assistant (FTE 0.6) from February 2014
Gayle Henderson	Philanthropy Manager to November 2013

Collections and Exhibitions

Nerissa Broben	Snr Curator Collections (job share) (FTE 0.4)
Miriam Troon	Snr Curator Collections (job share) (FTE 0.6)
Nicholas Boseley	Snr Curator Exhibitions to November 2013
Kitty Owens	Curator Collections (FTE 0.4)
Chris Keeler	Collections Project Co-ordinator (FTE 0.6)
Jan Duffy	Exhibitions Co-ordinator from April 2014 (FTE 0.2)
Steaphan Paton	Oral History Co-ordinator (FTE 0.4)

Education and RTO

David Winslade	RTO Training Coordinator
Pauline Sloane	Curriculum Development Co-ordinator (FTE 0.6)
Len Tregonning	Education Officer/Indigenous Cultural Interpreter
Donna Blackall	Education Officer/Indigenous Cultural Interpreter (casual)

Finance & Accounting

Ian Scott	Business Development Manager to September 2013
Terry Costello	Assistant Accountant to October 2013

Front of House inc. Koorie Pty Ltd

Judy Allsop	Retail Manager
Kate Oates	Customer Services Officer until July 2013
Tim Stares	Customer Services Officer
Kieran Stewart	Assistant Customer Services Officer

Koorie Family History Service

Jenny Bates	Koorie Family History Service Manager
Lionel Bamblett	Researcher/ Genealogist (FTE 0.8)
Margaret Bates	Researcher/Genealogist (FTE 0.8)
Carol Yates	Researcher/Genealogist until April 2014 (FTE 0.4)
Kylie Clarke	Family History Trainee from April 2014 (FTE 0.6)
Kathrine Clarke	Intake and Administration Support Worker from February to March 2014 (FTE 0.6)

Financial services provided by Mary Mahoney and Jamie Keleher, Contract Book-keepers.

Volunteers

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who have volunteered at the Koorie Heritage Trust over the last 12 months, Your support has been invaluable.

Kylie Berg
Jim Berg
Chris Keeler
Grace Rugari
Judy Williams

Treasurer's Report

The audited accounts of Koorie Heritage Trust for the year ending 30th June 2014 show a deficit of \$221,751. As part of the planned move to new premises, the management, with the support of the Board, have been reviewing all aspects of the Trust operations to create a simpler corporate structure to strengthen governance processes. As part of this rigorous process it was decided to write down the value of fixed assets to reflect their useful life and current market values. This has resulted in additional depreciation expenses of \$152,600 and the writing off of an intercompany loan (\$53,000). Excluding these and other items arising from this review, after deducting expenses from regular operating activities of \$1,817,300 from total revenues of \$1,875,477, the Trust estimates it would have achieved a surplus of approximately \$58,000.

Copies of the full audited accounts can be obtained by contacting the Trust on 03 8622 2600.

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash assets	4,507,921	5,371,129
Receivables	212,071	1,038,810
Prepayments	118,907	
56,644		
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	4,838,899	6,466,583
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments	2,418,323	2,392,687
Property, plant & equipment	4,113,207	4,254,400
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	6,531,530	6,647,087
TOTAL ASSETS	11,370,429	13,113,670
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	231,235	1,010,495
Provisions	88,587	75,011
Income in advance	89,640	164,670
Future rental payments	600,000	1,200,000
GST Payable	110	80,886
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,009,572	2,531,062
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Mortgage held by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	2,115,000	2,115,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,115,000	2,115,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,124,572	4,646,062
NET ASSETS	8,245,857	8,467,608
EQUITY		
Retained surplus / (deficit)	7,123,296	7,370,683
Asset Revaluation Reserve	1,122,561	1,096,925
TOTAL EQUITY	8,245,857	8,467,608

“Amazing cultural centre, thanks for the information and opportunity to learn about the [Indigenous] people who are often invisible in this land.”

“I really loved it, thank you for such amazing displays! It will really help my school studies (Indigenous beliefs and values). I will be coming back, thanks!!!”

“Very beautiful and thought-provoking exhibit.”

“Thank you. Lovely art. Tragic history.”

“Excellent and it helps promote cultural understanding and facilitate collaboration.”

“Inspiring and healing.”

“Would like to see more art pieces and more about Lost Generation as well. Great place.”

“Beautiful – loved the walk through history and spotting photos of family passed. Bought a T-shirt from Gift Shop – thanks.”

Tanderrum, opening of the Melbourne Festival 2013
Photo by Bindi Cole Chocka, courtesy of Ilbijerri

