Let’s Listen, Let’s Yarn Speakers Forums
Day Two - Saturday 12 September 2015
The Learning Centre, Cnr Mitchell Crescent and Welsby Street, Dunwich

Forum notes
These discussions are held in the spirit of goodwill and community reconciliation. To ensure free and open discussion, filming and photography at the forums is not permitted without previous Redland City Council consent. Limited seating is available. General community admittance will be on a first come, first seated basis and will close if the venue reaches capacity. Please note: forum panelists and dates are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, including cultural observances. Please check Council’s ‘What’s On’ calendar at www.redland.qld.gov.au for panel details and updates.

“...as original as it is Aboriginal, taking a light-hearted but surprisingly deep and personal look at Murri culture... if you’re in desperate need of a really good belly-laugh, this will just about do it.”
Baz McAlister, Time Off Magazine, 2010

Cover artwork: Yunggulba (Minjerribah) 2014 Giclée Military Map & Synthetic Polymer paint on canvas 1500x3500mm. Artist: Megan Cope. Photograph by Dominique Elliot

Saturday 12 September 2015
11am Sport: The great Australian equaliser?
A discussion about the role sport plays in reconciliation, the challenges of being an elite Aboriginal athlete and how we celebrate that success.

1pm United and divided: the challenges of Aboriginal business in politics
An overview of current Aboriginal issues and the role politics can play to move things forward.

3pm “So, what’s this then.....uuhh?”
A discussion about tackling big issues through performing arts and the role theatre plays in breaking down barriers.

Redland City Council acknowledges the clans of Quandamoona – the Nunukul, Nguphi and Goenpul.

Redland Performing Arts Centre presents
Chasing the Lollyman
debase productions’
Saturday 7 July, 7.30pm
Redland Performing Arts Centre – Concert Hall
Tickets: Adults $26, Seniors/Pensioners $22, Students $15 (17yrs & under)
To book: Phone RPAC Box Office 3829 8131 or visit www.rpac.com.au*
*A $2 booking fee applies to online purchases


By Mark Sheppard
Co-devised with Liz Skitch
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OODGEROO OF THE TRIBE NOOUCAL (KATH WALKER)

“I have been told many times that when I win I make my people proud to be Australian. I am Aboriginal. I am one of them and every time I win or am honoured like this it should be an example to Aboriginal people who may think they have nowhere to go but down. But more importantly I am an Australian and I would like to make all Australians feel proud to be Australian. Ours is a truly multicultural society and should be united as such, I would like to believe that my successes are celebrated by all Australians, bringing our nation together.”
CATHERINE FREEMAN
1950-2010 Australian of the Year, Wendy Lewis

“Traditionally, the storyteller was born to the role and it was through them that stories were passed on. Aboriginal playwrights continue that tradition today.”
CATHY CRAIGIE

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Welcome to Country, Aunty Lyn Shipway
Aunty Lyn is a Traditional Owner and Elder, 5th generation of Neli/Ngapuji and a descendant of the Thompson family of the Jangala clan. Her many roles include South-East Queensland Director of the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council and Chairperson of the Yulu Bunra Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health. Lyn is a founding member of the North Stradbroke Island Aboriginal and Islander Housing Cooperative Inc, she was also an Indigenous teacher aide / counsellor at the University of Queensland for over 20 years. An avid golfer and competitive softball player for the Redlands Mariners and Rayside Bears, Aunty Lyn is passionate about projects such as Deadly Sports.

Marcia Laurie, Anchor
Marcia Laurie is a Quandamuk woman currently working as an Indigenous employment mentor for AFL SportsReady. She has a background in employment opportunities for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the sport and recreation industry. Marcia is the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Aboriginal Development Commission, Department of Employment Education and Training, Legal Aid in Queensland and Queensland South Native Title Service.

Dorinda Stone, Guest Speaker
Dorinda Stone is a Quandamuk woman of the Nunukul clan who was born in Brisbane and began playing softball at the age of 4 with the Mariners at Redlands Softball Association. This year, after being named MVP of the Queensland U19 Women’s Softball Team, she was selected in the U19 Australian Women’s Softball Team, CT-AusPride, to represent Australia at the WBSC XI Junior Women’s World Championships. An enthusiastic and passionate Aunt, Dorinda is now at the University of Queensland studying a dual degree of Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Social Science.

Welcome to Country, Aunty Evelyn Parkin
Aunty Evelyn Parkin is a Quandamuk woman born and raised at One Mile Community near Dunwich. Evelyn is youngest of eight children to Barney Delaney (Enoch/Junobin family) and Bethel nee Martin (Martin/Brown family), who were both born on the island. Evelyn and her husband are still living at Dunwich in a beautiful spot where she can come and go to wherever her interest takes her, such as the North Stradbroke Island Museum, QYAC and other community gatherings.

Nance Haxton, Anchor
Nance Haxton is a performer for ABC Radio based in Brisbane who has performed on excellent programs including programs that have included winning two Walkley Awards. Her other awards include South Australia’s Radio Journalist of the Year in 2006, a United Nations Media Peace Award in 2003, the Yorrool Media Award for Excellence at the National Disability Awards and Australian Human Rights Award. Nance was 12 Best Radio Personality of the Year. Nance sees her greatest journalistic skill as empathy – one of the many things she learned from her intellectually disabled older brother Ashley, who she thanked in her daily bulletin.

Minister Leanne Enoch, Guest Speaker
Minister Leeanne Enoch is a Nunukul/Nughi woman who became the first Aboriginal female Member of the Queensland Parliament when elected as Member for Algester. She holds the positions in Cabinet for Minister for Housing and Public Works and Science and Innovation. Before being elected to Parliament, Leeanne trained as a high school teacher, working in a number of schools in South-East Queensland and in East London. She has held a number of positions in the Queensland Greens, and worked for the Australian Red Cross in leadership roles at the state and national level.

Welcome to Country, Aunty Donna Ruska
Aunty Donna Ruska is a traditional Owner and Elder. She has more than 30 years experience in human resources and project management and, as a past CEO of the Aboriginal Centre for Performing Arts, brings an administrative head to the creative arena. She is a member of the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts and has worked in productions such as Romeo and Juliet at the Anywhere Theatre Festival and Spirit of the Lore at the Cremorne Theatre for the Brisbane Festival.

Uncle Bob Anderson, Guest Speaker
Dr Robert Anderson OAM, or ‘Uncle Bob’, is a respected岭guyu Eldger from Mulgumpin, Morayton Island. Known for his reconciliation efforts and protecting the rights of workers, he has served as a union delegate and State Organiser for the Building Workers Industrial Union and is an Honorary Member of the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union. Uncle Bob was a member of the Queensland Council for Advancement for Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders in the 1960s. His many accolades include SEQ Indigenous Elder of the Year and the SEQ Indigenous Person of the Year in 1998, being named an inaugural Queensland Great and Brisbane Citizen of the Year in 2001 and receiving doctorates from the Queensland University of Technology and Griffith University and the Order of Australia Medal (OAM). A family representative on QYAC and director of Minjerribah (Straddie) Camping, Uncle Bob is a co-applicant for Mulgumpin Native Title claim.

Mayor Karen Williams, Guest Speaker
Councillor Karen Williams was elected as Mayor of Redland City in 2012, following eight years of service as Division 9 Councillor (Capalaba). Born and raised in the Redlands, Karen grew up working for her family’s flower business before forging successful careers as a performance artist and businesswoman. As the daughter of PolandKerman migrants, Karen’s vision for Redlands is a thriving, prosperous and inclusive City where diversity is celebrated.

With a strong focus on building partnerships, Karen lists being part of recognition events such as the unveiling of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Servicemen Men and Women ‘ Honour roll’ as one of her proudest moments serving her community.

3pm “So, what’s this then…..uhhh?”

Welcome to Country, Aunty Donna Ruska
Aunty Donna is an Elder of Nunukul and Goepil who has pursued justice and human rights causes throughout her life, including taking part in the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in Canberra in the early 1970s. She and her family continue to have an active role in campaigning for The First Nations Sovereignty Act. Donna brings her knowledge of tribal culture and heritage with many community groups, including universities and Dunwich State School. She has contributed to many projects on the island’s history, including the One Mile Stories Project.

Tammy Pope, Anchor
Tammy Pope lives in the Redlands, where her family has grown up. She has worked in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs and politics for most of her life. As a member of the First Nations Generation, she brings a bi-cultural perspective to the table.

Kaleenah Edwards, Guest Speaker
Kaleenah Edwards is a Quandamuk woman continuing her family’s history of storytelling. A performing artist, Kaleenah had a starring role in the Queensland Theatre Company production Stradbroke Dreamtime, based on the writings of her great grandmother Oodgeroo Nunukul. She is a member of the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts and has worked in productions such as Romeo and Juliet at the Anywhere Theatre Festival and Spirit of the Lore at the Cremorne Theatre for the Brisbane Festival.

Che Cockatoo-Collins, Guest Speaker
Che was the first female football player for the Essendon Bombers and Port Adelaide Power whose football career spanned from 1992 to 2015. In 1995, Che was part of the ANZAC Day draw that saw players across the competition take a stand against racism. He was one of four players (along with Michael McLean, Michael Long and Gilbert McAdam) who took part in the first ANZAC Day playing racial vilification policy. Che, who is of Yupanggai, Gnaraabala/Garawra, Gunngi and Gowa descent, has forged a career in sports, working at Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander affairs, including serving as an advisor to South Australian premiers Mike Rann and Jay Weatherill. He is currently an Advisor in Aboriginal Engagement for AFL and corporate sports.

Mark Sheppard, Guest Speaker
Mark is a multi-talented playwright, performer and comedian of the Muluridgi and Mbarbarum Peoples near Mareeba. His most recent performance is ‘Shaking the Loafman’, which Mark staged at the 2003 Sidney Myers Award for contributions to Indigenous arts in Queensland. Mark has long been hailed as one of the great Australian equalisers and has come to provide the great equaliser – entertainment to the day.

Kelly Mckellar-Nathan, Guest Speaker
Kelly is an elite athlete who’s sporting career began in 1989 when she was a centre half-back in the under 16 softball team. Kelly went on to represent her country, playing 95 softball games wearing the green and gold. Kelly’s career has held roles within the community in Cunnamulla and has been a leader in promoting sporting projects such as Deadly Sports and Sport Education Tours.

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