

# TOWNSVILLE 2012

## September WED 26 - FRI 28

OPEN FOR ANY PERSON, ANY AGE

DAY WORKSHOPS: Youth (12-18 years)  
Young Adults (18-25 years) & Over 25yrs

REGISTRATION: \$20 for the whole event & meals.

Financial sponsorship is available on arrival for those who can't afford entry.



# INDIGENOUS YOUTH CONFERENCE



### SCHEDULE

**WEDNESDAY 26**  
Outdoor 3:00pm Entertainment, BBQ, Sports, Live DJ & Various Stalls  
Indoor 6:00pm-9:30pm Community Awards, Conference & Dinner

**THURSDAY 27**  
6:00am Breakfast Groups (Men's & Women's)  
10:00am - 3:00pm Workshop for age groups & Lunch  
6:00pm Conference & Dinner

**FRIDAY 28**  
10:00 - 11:30am Networking Morning Tea  
11:30am - 3:00pm Workshop for age groups & Lunch  
6:00 - 9:30pm Conference & Dinner

### SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS DYNAMIC & FUNNY



PETER BLASE



KEVIN KROPINYERI

New DVD  
NOW  
AVAILABLE:

GOD'S FIRE  
A Pocket of Fire  
A Nation on Fire?

available from Khesed  
\$20 posted within  
Australia  
or ask at your bookshop

PLEASE NOTE:  
Deliveries from Khesed  
may take two weeks  
during September &  
October

**CONTACTS:** WES STUBBINGS 0421 647 906 | wesley\_stubbings@yahoo.com.au  
ADA BOLAND 0499 117 346 | ada.boland@yahoo.com

SUPPORTED BY: R.U.N. Reconciliation Unity Network | BLACK YOUTH VOICES Inc. Lead by Inspiration | iblaze | iety

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#87 September 2012

# Khesed News

## NGAANYATJARRA CHURCH

Report earlier this year from Ameer Glass: Special Easter services with visiting speakers were held at Warburton, Wanarn and Blackstone communities. Do pray that those who attended will keep the Word in their hearts.

Sunday meetings are held regularly at Blackstone, Jameson and Wanarn. Pray that these will extend to other centres as well. Pray too for people to take up the challenge to learn the language and become full time mentors for the Christian leaders.

At the beginning of August this year, Khesed Directors, John & June Blasket took a small film crew to the Ngaanyatjarra area to ask for some of the stories of what God has done among them over the years. A full report is in the insert, with photos on the centre pages of this newsletter.

Reports from Jan Chick at Warburton Ranges, since the film crew's visit:

Sunday services have re-commenced. They have had communion together, after people publicly repented to each other.

Some have talked about starting Sunday School and have been given permission to start scripture for the children in the school. Men's and women's groups are starting up.

**"FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW" - or "DO NOT DESPISE THE DAY OF SMALL BEGINNINGS".**

Eh! Lots of love, Jan

## Rev Rronang Garrawurra

Congress leader seeks to unite theology studies

- Nigel Tapp, in Crosslight, August 5, 2012

Rronang Garrawurra strokes his luxuriant beard thoughtfully. It is not that he needs time to ponder his answer but he first must filter his words through his native Liyakawmirr Aboriginal language before responding in English.



The short pause, in and of itself, says much about the new chair of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress. You sense that Reverend Garrawurra is not a man to be rushed, but a man who walks with God in a measured and deeply thoughtful way, seeking always to be in tune with the Holy Spirit and ready to hear and act when the Lord speaks.

I had asked him if he felt any fear or concern when standing in front of the media to speak at a Prayer Vigil called by the Uniting Church's 13th triennial Assembly in Adelaide last month. The vigil was organised to voice opposition to the Federal Government's Stronger Futures legislation.

A quick shake of his head and his dark eyes

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If you would like to sow into the GOD'S FIRE 2 project financially:

• our bank account is Westpac BSB 036 061  
A/c 54 1008

• or go to Khesed website <Khesed.org.au>  
and use your credit card via PayPal

• or phone us with your credit card details  
0409 209 023





**East Coast Christian Indigenous Youth Network - 2012 Camp Edén, 2-5 October**

The ECCIYN was established in 2005 by Mark and Alexandra Naden. It was an opportunity, they believed, to bring Indigenous Christian youth groups together to encourage one another and learn more about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Since the ECCIYN has begun, there have been many different activities and events organised and run through the network. These include youth camps, sporting events, and overseas trips to the Promised Land.

So if you're looking for a time of encouragement with other young Indigenous Christian youth come along and join in the fun. Great fellowship is only just a camp away.

The next ECCIYN Camp is in Edén October this year.

Here's a link to the ECCIYN website: <http://www.ecciyn.com/eden-camp-2012.php>

Further information from Nick at SURRENDER  
PO Box 477 Footscray VIC 3011  
m: 0414 695 295 e: [nick@surrender.org.au](mailto:nick@surrender.org.au)

*Details on Townsville Youth Conference in September are on the back page.*

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**Indigenous Ministry Links Australia**

**- IMLA Report & Prayer**

have been travelling to Cape York communities. Tony has been using his God given talent to paint to raise funds to be able to continue to travel. The women meeting at the Gorge are growing as Kim faithfully ministers, encouraging the ladies to grow in the Lord.

Carl, Gail, Hope and Joy Musch – Recently we have really undergone a lot of attacks on our emotional and physical health.

Emitai and Bonita Ratlatala and family - from Fiji have finally joined us in North Queensland after a long journey in gaining a visa. They need to learn much in a very short time, adjust to new cultures and need to continue to raise support for their ability to stay in Australia.

Leon and Noeline Guymala – Continue to minister in Bagot community in Darwin and the wider regions out to and around Oenpelli. Funerals which are an unfortunate and too regular occurrence can be a great opportunity for Christians to show the love of God to hurting people however they can also become a series of overwhelming disruptions to life including family feuds

Short Term teams from PNG and Australia – that they would quickly adapt to the conditions which are very different to their normal life, and go out in the love, power and strength of Jesus Christ. That they would have the provision to go and for Holy Spirit lead opportunities in the communities they go to.

Yours in Christ, Carl and Gail Musch  
IMLA Co Ordinators  
Indigenous Ministry Links Australia

**Monthly Inter-Denominational Aglow International Conference honours First Nations Christians**

**Ps Tim Edwards was a guest speaker at the Aglow International Conference in Canberra in August, and spoke on the Issachar anointing in 1 Chronicles 12:32.**

**The message was seen as a watershed for the church right around the world, especially with Aglow's commitment to honour and partner with indigenous, First Nations Christians.**

*- for further information contact Aglow International*

**Aboriginal Gathering**

**- from Gloria Dyer**

**It is our desire to continue to build unity and harmony, and we have decided to move our monthly meetings into each other's churches each month.**

**Pray for this new venture, meeting on the last Saturday each month in Perth.**

*- further information from Gloria Dyer, phone 0439 851 561*

**'Broadcaster of the Year' 2012 Deadly Awards**

Cairns Community Radio Station 4CCR, 89.1fm, along with Christian broadcaster, Auntie Evelyn Lowah, have been shortlisted for 'Broadcaster of the Year' 2012, Deadly Awards. These awards are by popular vote on the web. Voting closes 5pm AEST Fri 9 September.

Auntie Evie is a Torres Strait Islander, who was the interviewer on our film crew for the Pinnacle Pocket DVD, GOD's FIRE. She is well worth your vote!!!



There are 5 other Presenters (1 from NT, 1 from SA, 2 from NSW) shortlisted for the award. The winner will be presented Tuesday 25 Sept, Sydney Opera House.

Please vote and get all your friends to vote.

**• How to Vote:**

go to [www.vibe.com.au/vote-deadlys-2012.php](http://www.vibe.com.au/vote-deadlys-2012.php)

3. Enter your name, email, postcode (mandatory)

There are 26 categories, eg 'Most Promising New Talent in Music, Single of the Year, etc...

You can VOTE for other categories, besides 'Community - Broadcaster of the Year'.

When you click on Cairns Community Radio Station 4CCR, 89.1fm, the bio speaks of Christian Programs, taken from [www.abc.net.au/compass/s/2800397.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/compass/s/2800397.htm)

*Eso au esoau! Proper big thank you, for your support ,and share with as many people as possible to lift our VOTING numbers. We know it is the work of God Almighty putting our name before Award's Committee, for His Glory and the Kingdom of God. Blessings xoxox Auntie Evie*

## Indigenous Ministry Links Australia Report

IMLA Prayer letter for August and September 2012

The months of July, August, September and October are some of the busiest for the IMLA team around Australia as it is the “dry” season in North Australia and therefore roads to remote Aboriginal communities are accessible (rough though). This is also the time of “ceremony” and this can prove to be a tumultuous time with road closures, tremendous pressure placed on people trying to follow the Lord and trying to live in community, and a spiritually challenging time.

Carl Musch is currently leading a couple of teams in Arnhemland and will be doing so throughout September. They need your prayers please. They will be travelling great distances and visiting communities that have not had encouragement for months. Carl’s desire is that as many communities get visited during this time and that the teams may have to split up to achieve this goal. Please pray for bravery for the teams going so they can push back the darkness and bring the love of the Lord.

Please pray for favour as they travel into these communities.

Denominational territorialism has proved to be a barrier to visiting communities that are crying out and hungry for the Lord. In the bush it is not uncommon for some denomination to come to a place that has a church doing the hard yards and totally disregard those who have been labouring faithfully for years and just explode onto the scene to start their own “superior brand” of church. And then when people don’t keep coming after the novelty has worn off and the

money has gone so are the “missionaries”. IMLA is not coming in complicating or undermining what someone else is doing. We come to support or equip people who are, or demonstrate a will to be doing something that has the potential of “fruit that remains”...eternal fruit. Just sometimes the people who are doing the real work of evangelism and disciple-making are not always those with the name or the education or the political clout, the ordination or the “traditional church” but sometimes they are. “Religion” is a horrible animal...if you ever doubted God’s commitment to miracles, signs and wonders you just have to look at the church as it carries on and remember that God has committed the job of world evangelism to His body.

Please pray for open safe roads and for the vehicles to work effectively.

Some of the communities to pray for are:

Oenpelli, Maningrida, Manmoyi, Gumaragowan, Ramingining, Beswick, Bulman, Weemol, Yirrakala

Please pray for IMLA team members:

Kevin Sigai – Praise the Lord he was able to find a replacement gearbox and motor for the Troopy but it is yet to be back on the road, he went to Darwin recently to get knee reconstruction surgery but was told that he had to have a complete knee replacement so is now back on the waiting list we hope! He and Bunimbirr need breakthroughs in the communities they are reaching out into near Yirrkala. The company for which Kevin worked part time has closed down and so this leaves Kevin without any regular income. Kevin is loath to register for unemployment benefits.

Tony and Kim Rodgers – Continue to minister to the peoples of Mossman and Mossman Gorge and

## Rronang Garrawurra - *continued from page 1*

open wider with a look of some surprise at the question.

“(Uniting Church in Australia) President Andrew (Dutney) said to me when we were walking down the street (for the vigil) that he was feeling nervous,” Mr Garrawurra said. “I said ‘Why are you nervous? It is not your business or my business that we are doing it is God’s business and if God says we have to walk then we walk. Because he has the power and strength to deal with the matter, not us.”

The sight of the new heads of the Church and Congress walking side-by-side was also a very symbolic act, given the deep desire of both men to progress the covenanting relationship between the two organisations...

Mr Garrawurra is adamant that the more Congress and the Uniting Church work on issues together the deeper will become the understanding between the two.

But, he also wants to see that depth of understanding grow within the multicultural elements of the Uniting Church. He interlocks his fingers to show the depth of the bond he envisions occurring as all who come under the Uniting Church banner live and pray together.

Mr Garrawurra – who grew up in a strong Methodist home in Arnhem Land before finding his own way to the Lord in his late ’20s thanks to a team from Rev Billy Graham’s ministry in outback Australia in 1972 – is greatly pleased by how he sees the Church responding to Congress and vice versa.

There is still much learning and understanding to be done as part of the covenanting process, but Mr Garrawurra is confident that will happen as the relationship progresses.

He said Congress would continue to work with UnitingJustice to ensure appropriate recognition of the First People is enshrined in the Federal constitution, just as it was in the revised preamble to the Church’s constitution three years ago.

Mr Garrawurra is pleased the Church is campaigning so strongly for the recognition of his brothers and sisters. Both leaders are determined that the covenanting relationship must be more than just words on a piece of paper.

“I was excited and pleased to have the opportunity to march alongside Andrew and it is a sign of the closeness which is being generated between Congress and the Church,” Mr Garrawurra said...

“It is not just about issues like the (Northern Territory) intervention (where there is already agreement) but on different issues we will need to walk through together...”

Mr Garrawurra will leave his Elcho Island home and base himself in... Darwin to make him more accessible during his chairmanship. He has been involved with Congress ever since it was first established...

*[Rronang studied for the ministry and then lectured at Nungalinga College in Darwin.]* The challenge in studying was that Mr Garrawurra had only completed two years of primary school – admitting he ‘ran away’ because he did not like school and preferred to learn about his culture at the feet of his parents.

Mr Garrawurra talks excitedly about feeling God’s guiding hand throughout his studying which led to him being appointed Minister of the Word on the Gove Peninsula.

He sees his first and primary role as the pastoral care of his Congress leaders Australia-wide.

*By Nigel Tapp - from Crosslight August 5, 2012*

*TASMANIAN born and bred Rev Tim Matton-Johnson is the new national deputy chair of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress.*

### VICTORIAN INDIGENOUS PRAYER NETWORK

*regular monthly prayer on Wednesday at Anne Green’s home in Burwood Ph.9888 9873 Wednesday 3.00pm - 4.00pm.*



water in the  
desert:  
a Holy Spirit spring



*Cameos from*  
**GOD'S FIRE 2**  
*Central Desert trip*

