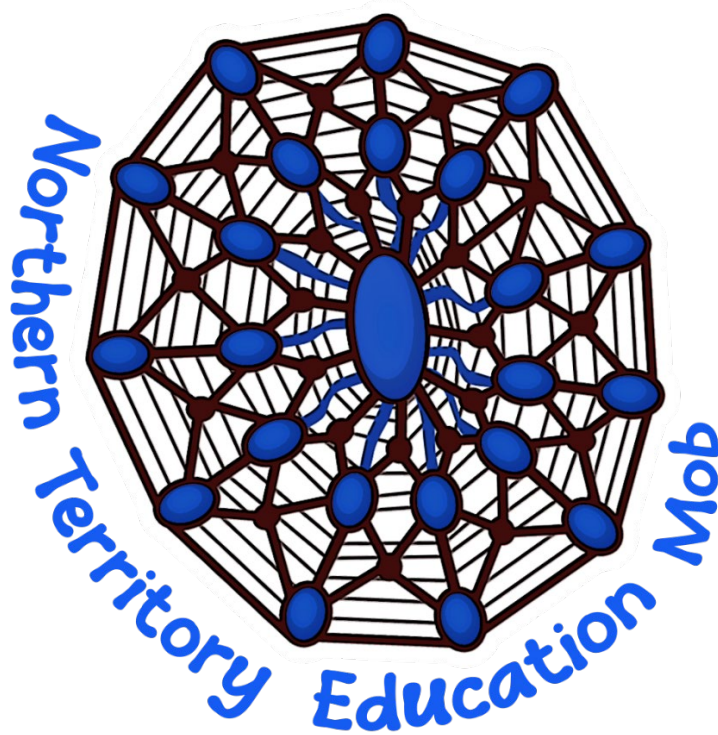


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NEWSLETTER

FROM THE CHAIR

It has been a busy quarter for our team. Alongside preparing the end-of-year financials for our first AGM (scheduled for Wednesday, 22 October at 5pm), we have progressed two major projects and made significant improvements to the NTEM Digital Keeping Place. These upgrades are already helping both users and administrators access material more effectively.

Our projects have helped us expand our network and formalise partnerships. Through collaboration, we continue to build social capital. By maximizing resources for mutual benefit we are part of the long-term preservation of material, important to our aims as an organisation.

NEW COLLECTIONS

We have received several new collections. One is from former educator and photographer extraordinaire Ludo Kuipers for generously providing digital copies of over 7 500 images from his time living and working in various education roles in many remote communities in the NT.

Not all the images are yet loaded to the NTEM Digital Keeping Place. We are following our standard procedure to ensure that a copy is first provided to the communities from which the images originate. Many of his images are on his website [Ozoutback](#).



Ludo sorting slides in his 'silver bullet', Walungurru, 1993
Source: Ludo Kuipers

Sandra and Derek Carter and Meryl Rowe have also provided photos and documents to assist with the 100-year anniversary of Gunbalanya. Both collections were sent to us sorted and organised with a lot of information to accompany the photographs. This preparation work makes easier the work of providing context for each image.



Gunbalanya from the air, May 1987
Source: Sharon and Derek Carter

PROJECT UPDATES

Tiwi Talking Books

The audio recordings and movies of the 71 interactive Tiwi books are now available in the NTEM Digital Keeping Place. Ebooks are also available on Trove, and Library & Archives NT's Territory Stories.

Each recording/movie:

- plays in NTEM Digital Keeping Place
- has a transcript (thank you LANT for the text files) and where available a translation
- has links to Trove to download the interactive ebook
- has links to Territory Stories to access the original pdf of the book.

We are in the process of producing set of the instructions to find the audio and video recordings and access the downloads, and also a video tutorial.

There will be another 30 or so books added later in the year.

Truth Telling Project

The Truth Telling Project continues to gain momentum. Interestingly, approximately two thirds of the materials contributed (mostly images) are not relevant to the project! This is due to the images being part of larger collections.

However, the collections themselves are very valuable and as we work on the metadata (the who, when, where, what), they are being returned to the communities in which images were taken. This enables them to both have a copy and provide cultural advice on suitability for publication.

We are loading all the material to the [NTEM Digital Keeping Place](#) (initially as unpublished – admin access only) as it will enable us to improve the information about each item in the various collections and, in time, provide the enhanced information back to the institutions which provided them for the project.

We are grateful to the following for providing material: Library & Archives NT, State Library of South Australia, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Moore College, University of Sydney, Penrith Library, University of Cambridge and State Library of NSW.

A decision was made at the last Truth Telling Project Coordination Committee to publish those images which are already publicly available through the various institutional collections from which they were sourced. These are now located in the NTEM Digital Keeping Place as the 'Stolen Generation' Community Collection.

To manage the volume and complexity of the various tasks involved in the project, we have engaged another person part time to assist. We are grateful for the support from Nungalinga College in administering this project for us.

We have been advised there will not be a second round of funding to support the work and have asked for an extension of time to the grant. We will seek funding

elsewhere to enable this important work to continue.

Currently, because of the images available and the networks established, there is a concentration on the Church Missionary Society (CMS) work at Emerald River on Groote Eylandt.



Mr. Francis and a group of boys 1929

Source: [Library & Archives NT](#)

Posters

More Aboriginal Language Champion and Deadly Aboriginal Educator posters are in the various stages of production. Thanks to Warmbirrri, the Milngimbi Art Centre, editor David Morgan and Batchelor Press for their effort.

LANGUAGE CHAMPIONS

Birrinydjawuy Garawirtja

Language: Gupapuyuy Birrkil
Other languages spoken/known: various Yolpu dialects Mawing, Buarra, Malay (as a trading language)

Other names:
Order:
Place of birth:
Date of birth:
Community:
Skin group:
Clan:
Tribe:
Problems worked:
To what profession:
Languages spoken/known:

Further information:

The Lord's Prayer in Birrinydjawuy

Birrindjaway Garawitja, Language Champion, 2025

Celebrating 100 years of Schooling at Gunbalanya

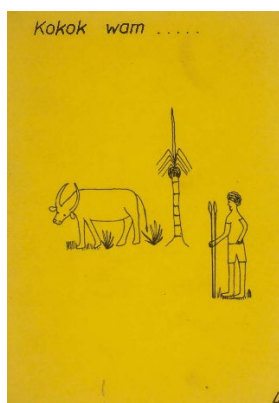
Our team is working closely with Gunbalanya Independent Public School for the next three years. As part of our commitment, we are developing pictorial timelines which identify significant people, events and activities in each of the last ten decades.

These posters are based on the research work being undertaken by NTEM member and former long-term Gunbalanya teacher and Adult Educator Wendy Kennedy. Wendy has made several trips to Gunbalanya to check photos and add metadata to the Gunbalanya Collection in the NTEM Digital Keeping Place.

In addition, we have a team working on creating 'talking books' generated from the former bilingual program which operated at the school during the 1970s and 1980s.

We are grateful to NTEM members Wendy Kennedy and Cameron Plastow for their effort enhancing the Gunbalanya collection and community history.

The team making the Tiwi Talking Books is also working on the Kunwinjku books created as part of the former bilingual program which ran at the school in the 1970s and early 1980s.



Kokok Wam, 1981

*Authors: Julie Narndal and Lois Namarnyilk
with illustrations by Olive Namarnyilk*

Like the Tiwi books, they were collected and digitised as part of the CDUs Living Archive of Aboriginal Languages (LAAL) project. The collection, donated to Library & Archives NT, is available on [Territory Stories](#). We are grateful for their collaboration with this important work.

The [Bininj Kunwok Regional Language Centre](#) will receive a copy of the talking books. The 20 readers they have recently revitalised will also be made into 'Talking Books'. All of them will be available in multiple places online when complete.

IMPROVEMENTS

NTEM Digital Keeping Place

One of our lead volunteers, Kerry Blinco has spent hundreds of hours improving the quality of the NTEM Digital Keeping Place. Thousands of duplicates and triplicates have been removed! This means a faster, cleaner, and more accessible resource for communities and researchers. In addition, Kerry has enhanced the information about each collection. This painstaking work was done without losing any of the information provided by the donors or added by volunteers. The result is a leaner, better quality set of images. Thanks Kerry!

The clean up on the NTEM Digital Keeping Place as well as improvements in the software design of Keeping Culture, has enabled us to seamlessly transfer thousands of images to the soon to be new Gunbalanya Digital Keeping Place currently being worked on in preparation for launch in September.

Documentation

A Volunteer Policy and associated documentation is now complete. Thankyou to the volunteers who provided feedback to the drafts.

We have also written a document which provides advice about captioning images and will continue to make more as the need arises and time permits.