

## Welcome



The training group at Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring Language and Culture Centre

Welcome to the Winter edition of the RNLD newsletter. It has been a busy couple of months at RNLD with four new Advisory Panel members, a new office, and DRIL training workshops being held in several locations around the country. We've also had the opportunity to show off our new office to some local and international visitors. Enjoy the latest RNLD news!

## New office

RNLD is excited to announce that we have moved into a new office. It is both larger and warmer than the last one, which is great! This move provides us with in-house training space and will allow us to develop a volunteer program, which we expect to announce in the near future. Our new contact details can be seen in the footer.



## DRIL training activities

### Tennant Creek

In May, RNLD ran our first Documenting and Revitalising Indigenous Languages training workshop at Papulu Apparr-Kari Language Centre in Tennant Creek. Ten language workers from the Mudburra, Wambaya, Warlmanpa and Warumungu language communities took part in the workshop. Penny Phillips shared her skills from the Master-Apprentice Language Learning workshop and participants also learned to use some of the “Where are your keys?” methods <[www.whereareyourkeys.org](http://www.whereareyourkeys.org)>.



Bessie Graham and daughter Selina Grant using a wordless book



Raelene Bill and new RNLD Advisory Panel member Penny Phillips playing a WAYK game with a stone, stick and leaf



Judy Nixon uses nonverbal communication to get Brenda Crafter to put her chair up on the table



Selina Grant takes a turn in the Shopping Cart game, watched by Raelene Bill and Betty Davey

## Woorabinda

Twenty-one people ranging from teenagers through to elders joined in the third DRIL workshop at Woorabinda from June 4-6. Over the three days, participants took part in Master-Apprentice exercises and learnt to pronounce sounds in Aboriginal languages, make language recordings with the Zoom H1 digital recorder, and edit recordings with Audacity. Several of the elders began using linguistic materials to learn and teach their languages.



Milton Lawton talking to young trainees about using their languages in their daily lives



Some young trainees listening to Milton Lawton



Trainer Gadj Maymuru working with Uncle Wally Saunders on pronouncing Buluguyban sounds



John Waterton and Anthony Henry discuss their training activities and goals



John Waterton editing his Gungabula recordings with Sue Maclean from the Woorabinda Daycare Centre



Trainer Margaret Florey presents "Big Uncle" Anthony Henry with his DRIL participation certificate

## Kununurra

A DRIL workshop held in late June at Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring Language and Culture Centre brought Miriwoong language workers together with Yinhawangka and Nyangumarta participants from Wangka Maya language centre in Port Hedland and new RNLD Advisory Panel member Leonie Boddington from Irra Wangga language centre in Geraldton. Michael Jarrett from the Muurrbay Aboriginal Language and Culture Co-operative shared his experience of the Accelerated Second Language Acquisition method, using many Gumbaynggir examples. Margaret Florey ran follow-up training sessions in the Master-Apprentice method.



Michael Jarrett introduces the Accelerated Second Language Acquisition method



Julie Walker tries out the ASLA method in Yinhawangka



Leonie Boddington using a wordless book to teach Wajarri



Dennis Thomas (Nyangumarta) during a Master-Apprentice alien drawing session



Glennis Galbat-Newry teaches intern Hannah LaPalombara how to make stew in Miriwoong

## Lockhart River

In late July, we ran our first training workshop in Lockhart River on the eastern Cape York Peninsula. Two teams began learning to use Master-Apprentice methods to strengthen the Kuuku Ya'u and Umpila languages. Participants also learned to make language recordings with the Zoom H1 digital recorder and to use the Jackal Recordable Reader to make language resources.



Lucy Hobson and Krystal Dean work with a wordless book as Simon Butcher observes



Josiah Omeenyo gets up and dancing as part of the 'Get someone to do something' exercise

## Western NSW

Regional Community Trainer Brad Steadman is continuing to hold regular Ngiyampaa language revitalisation workshops with both adults and young people in Brewarrina, Dubbo, Narromine and Nyngan.



Chantae and Xanthe Eyre

## Upcoming DRIL workshops

27-30 August - Far West Language Centre, Ceduna SA

1-2 September - Adnyamathanha workshop, Adelaide SA

8-10 October - Woorabinda Qld

3-7 November - Wangka Maya Language Centre, Port Hedland WA

## Resource development

Andrea Berez (University of Hawai'i) spent several days at RNLD in July, creating a series of training videos on ELAN <<http://tla.mpi.nl/tools/tla-tools/elan/>> for the DRIL online Resource Room.



## VACL Morning Tea

Fay Stewart-Muir, Paul Paton and Christina Eira from the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages visited the new RNLD office for morning tea. Also shown is RNLD's Education Officer Alison Soutar (left) and Senior Linguist Margaret Florey (right).



## Advisory Panel

RNLD would like to welcome four new members to our Advisory Panel: Gary Williams, Clair Hill, Leonie Boddington and Penny Phillips.

The Advisory Panel is now as follows:

### Australian representatives

Rob Amery (South Australia) works at the University of Adelaide and has been involved with the Indigenous languages of Adelaide and surrounds, especially Kaurna, for the last two decades.

Leonie Boddington (Western Australia) is a language worker at Irra Wangga Language Centre in Geraldton, Western Australia. She also teaches Wajarri and helped to produce the 2012 Wajarri Language Dictionary.

Phillip Brown (Queensland) is Language Coordinator at the Central Queensland Language Centre in Bundaberg, Queensland. He is currently studying linguistics at Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education.

Margaret Carew (Northern Territory) works at Batchelor Institute for Indigenous Tertiary Education in Alice Springs, and is currently project manager for the Arandic Endangered Languages Project. She has worked with a range of language speakers in the Maningrida region, Tennant Creek and Central Australia since 1993.

Paul Paton (Victoria) is the Executive Officer for the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages. He is from the Gunnai and Monaro tribes of south eastern Australia.

Penelope Phillips Nappangarti (Northern Territory) works at the Papulu Apparr-Kari Aboriginal Corporation in Tennant Creek as the Language Liaison Officer. She is a Warlmanpa woman who speaks the Warumungu and Warlmanpa languages.

Gary Williams (New South Wales) works with the Murrumbidgee Aboriginal Language and Culture Co-op in Nambucca Heads. He currently works with the Gumbaynggirr, Banyjalang, Dhanggati and Gathang languages.

### International representatives

Clair Hill is currently a PhD candidate at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics and the University of Leuven. She has worked on north-eastern Cape York Peninsula languages for ten years, in particular the Umpila-Kuuku Ya'u-Kaanju language group.

Yusuf Sawaki is Director of the Center for Endangered Languages Documentation at the State University of Papua, Indonesia and is a current PhD candidate at the Australian National University in Canberra.

Mark Turin is an Associate Research Scientist at the South Asian Studies Council at Yale, and a Research Associate at the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Cambridge. He directs the World Oral Literature Project as well as the Digital Himalaya Project.

## Advisory Panel Focus - Paul Paton

Paul has been an advisory panel member since 2010. He became involved with RNLD after meeting Margaret several years ago while giving a talk at Monash University.

### How did you first become involved with language work?

After working at a government department I went for the job at the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages in 2003 and that was my introduction. Working as the Program Manager, and then Executive Officer fitted my ideologies about cultural revival and supporting communities. I liked that it had an influence in a broad base so you can work with a range of communities.



### What is your background with language work?

It was always a part of growing up. Culture is really strong in our family and it has always been important to practice cultural customs. Growing up like that instilled a huge respect for family and culture and recognising the importance of that in community and an individual's identity. It's our ultimate aim at VACL to support these ideas.

## RNLD AGM

The RNLD AGM will be held at 4pm on Friday 14 September in the Exchange Tower, 530 Little Collins St, Melbourne. Further details along with the agenda and meeting materials will be circulated in the coming weeks.

## Upcoming events

July-August - Our Voices on the Air: Reaching New Audiences through Indigenous Radio, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., USA

12-15 September - 2012 Foundation for Endangered Languages Annual Conference, Te Ipukarea, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland, New Zealand

## Participate

If you or your organisation would like to join RNLD's training program please contact us.

Join our email discussion list to ask questions and share information and your expertise.

Join our Facebook group for recent articles and links to sites supporting endangered languages.

Follow us on Twitter for news items, conference calls, updates on our activities and an online dialogue.

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**Australian Government**  
**Indigenous Languages Support**