



Gelganyem

NEWSLETTER

Gooring Jimbila



Maryanne Kelly (Rio Tinto), Neil Yararnguli (Gelganyem) and Tony Noonan (Doorn-Djil Yoordaning)

Gelganyem is very excited to announce its first contract at the mine since the Argyle Diamond Mine Agreement (Management Plan) was signed in 2004. Gooring Jimbila Contracting is a new joint venture between Gelganyem Investments and Doorn-Djil Yoordaning Mining and Construction (a subsidiary of Macmahon). Gooring Jimbila has won a five year, \$12.5 million dollar contract to manage the mine site's general maintenance services such as roads, grounds, waste and bio-remediation management.

Gooring Jimbila's contract at the mine needs to make sure it targets 100 per cent locally sourced employment, of which must be at least 80 per cent Indigenous in the first year and 90 per cent every year after that. This is the first contract for the Miriwoong and Gija Traditional Owners at the mine and Gelganyem looks forward to improving future business and employment opportunities that will develop for Aboriginal people in the East Kimberley.



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Oral History Project

The Directors decided that it was very important to try to record the old people's stories about their country so they can be saved and shared with the younger generation in the future.

Gelganyem is using local linguist Frances Kofod to help capture the stories. Frances speaks fluent Miriwoong and Gija and will be talking to Traditional Owners from different communities like Glen Hill, Bow River, Warmun, Doon Doon and Kununurra. The aim is to combine stories, photos and songs to make a DVD and a book for each Dawang/Daam.

Gelganyem has been working hard to find partners to help fund the project over the next year to pay for things like the bush trips, staff and media costs. Gelganyem staff and Frances will be working very closely with Traditional Owners during the project to make sure everyone can record, save and share their stories.

So far, Gelganyem Trust and Argyle have made a financial contribution towards the project.



NAIDOC Week

This year, Gelganyem staff participated in the NAIDOC March in Kununurra and also volunteered at NAIDOC Youth Day at Whitegum Park. The event was organised by Save the Children and on the day Gelganyem staff helped out by making jewelry and juggling balls with the kids.

Change in Gelganyem Directors

Gelganyem would like to thank David, Kaitlin and Tony Jack wishes them all the best for the future.



David Ward (Bilbildjing)



Kaitlin Quinn (Mandangala)



Tony Jack (Independent)

Photos of Gelganyem's directors will be included in the next newsletter.



Holiday Program for Youth

In the April school holidays, Gelganyem worked with Bow River community to run a Holiday Program camp. Elders, adults and kids visited Flying Fox near Argyle and Clifton Hole. The kids enjoyed lots of swimming, fishing, games and an easter egg hunt. Gelganyem also gave some money and provided a volunteering assistant to Gija Total Health to help run their holiday program in Warmun. Over the holidays the kids enjoyed lots of activities like bush trips, a disco, a talent show, movie nights, swimming, basketball and arts and craft.



Bow River kids dig in for some tucker

Gelganyem has bought some camping gear like sleeping bags, tents and cooking gear which can be used for the Holiday Program in the future. Gelganyem is looking for different partners to help fund the Holiday Program so that it can keep running next year.

Gelganyem Directors

This year, Gelganyem is sad to farewell several directors. At the May board meeting Gelganyem said farewell to Independent director Tony Jack and welcomed Tony Usher. Bilbildjing director David Ward left the board in May and the Bilbildjing Dawang are now in the process of electing a new representative. In August Mandangala director Kaitlin Quinn stepped down and Megan Gerrard has come on board as the new Mandangala Director. Gelganyem sincerely thanks Kaitlin, David and Tony Jack for all their hard work and contribution to Gelganyem and wishes them all the best for the future.



Board of Directors

Neil Yararnguli - Chairperson (Tiltuwum)
Dennis Ward - Vice-chairperson (Balaburr)
Helen Pinday - Director (Tiltuwum)
Gordon Hall - Director (Mandangala)
Megan Gerard - Director (Mandangala)
Maria Morgan - Director (Dun Dun)
Ronnie Macale - Director (Yunurr)
Joan Simon - Director (Neminuwarlin)
Vacant - Director (Bilbildjing)
Thea Mendelsohn - Independent Director
Tony Usher - Independent Director



Parents as Learners

After a few years of planning and hard work, Gelganyem and Argyle were very excited when the Parents as Learners (PaL) program officially started in Warmun in May. The PaL program helps parents and carers in local communities to get involved with the education of their young kids at home. Danielle and Kia Dowell worked closely with PaL coordinators from Napranum Community (in Northern Queensland) where the project is very successful. So far, about five families are involved in the project and they meet four times a week for one hour.



PaL - Corrine (Napranum Coordinator) and Danielle Dowell

MG Corp & Gelganyem Joint Office Building

The State and Federal Government have made a \$4.5m commitment to Gelganyem and MG Corp to build a joint office as part of the East Kimberley Development Package. Gelganyem and MG Corp engaged CODA which is a Perth based architect who have been consulting with both Boards, staff, the Gelganyem Relationship Committee and the MG Dawang Council to finalise a design for the building. Both the MG Corp and Gelganyem Boards and management are working hard on this project to deliver a building suitable for the community. There will be another community consultation meeting arranged soon to finalise the site and building design. You will be notified and we encourage you to attend.

Employment Opportunities

GELGANYEM PROJECT OFFICER

Gelganyem is looking for an enthusiastic and reliable Project Officer to help develop and run projects and field trips. This is a casual position (2 days per week) based in Kununurra. For more information please call the Gelganyem Office on (08) 9169 3504.

GOORING JIMBILA CONTRACTING

There are ongoing vacancies with Gooring Jimbila at Argyle Diamond Mine. For more information please call Rowie at the Gelganyem Office on (08) 9169 3504.

TEAM LEADER PRODUCTION PROCESSING - ARGYLE DIAMOND MINE

This role involves leading and developing a team of Production Operators in the processing plant and is a 2 week on / 2 week off roster. Applications close September 26. For more information please call the Gelganyem Office on (08) 9169 3504.

