

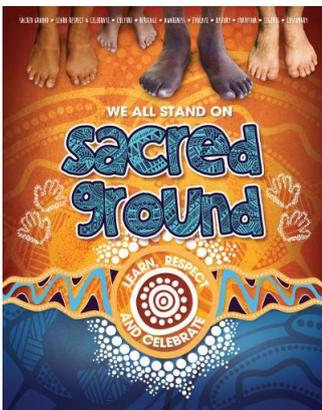
# Madjital Moorna Newsletter June 2015



**Madjital Moorna, Singers of Aboriginal songs Singing ~ learning ~ healing - Bringing cultures together**

Pictured above - choir members+ in photo 3\*\* Mr Cedric Nannup with Lee Peters Co Chairperson + Jo Randell MM Coordinator.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**NAIDOC WEEK 05 – 12 JULY** Theme – *Serving Country: Centenary and Beyond.*  
**Opening Ceremony 05 July 12 Noon Wellington Square, East Perth.**

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920's which sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians. NAIDOC Week is held in the first full week of July. It's a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions by Indigenous Australians to the country and our society. There are many opportunities to participate in the celebrations across the nation during NAIDOC Week. Madjital Moorna is pleased to be participating in the **Sun 05 July St George's Cathedral 5.00pm : NAIDOC Service.**

This service will honour the Aboriginal Soldiers of WA who served in WWII. Madjital Moorna will sing in Noongar and in English. We encourage all Newsletter readers to join us with family and friends at this special service after attending the opening NAIDOC Week activities at Wellington Square. [NAIDOC Week Evensong](#) / [NAIDOC Perth 2015](#)



**LIVE AT THE ASTOR THEATRE 17 JULY** *Aboriginal Singers of Soul - Beijing Tour Fundraiser*

The Astor Theatre is proud to present 'Merindas in Motown' live in concert featuring Randa & The Soul Kingdom & special guest Phil Walleystack 17 July. Doors open 7:30pm. 659 Beaufort Street, Mt Lawley.



- Tickets [www.astortheatreperth.com](http://www.astortheatreperth.com). Group booking / VIP tickets available. The Merindas are raising funds to get to China where they will perform seven shows in some of Beijing's best local music venues late this year. The girls will get the chance to meet with the head of Sony China. Come and support them! They're rhythmic, lively & have a sound that will take you back to another time. ☺

### Newsletter Update includes the following and more

- The year begins!
- Yaburgurt commemoration 28 March
- Bibbulmun cultural walk with Trevor Walley
- Kanyana Open Day May
- Gidgegannup Small Field Day
- Sorry Day Wellington Square
- Sorry Day event Helena College
- Denmark Festival of Voice
- Fremantle Reconciliation Event with BTHC
- Amnesty International event
- Central Institute of Technology event
- What's next?
- News of current and past Music Directors and supporting musicians.
- Board Members and interesting MM folk

## FEBRUARY

**12 FEB Madjtil Moorna is turning 10!**

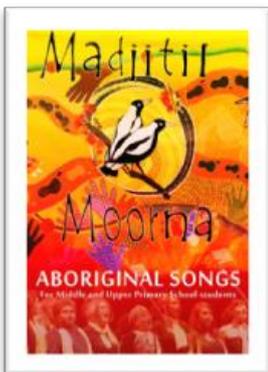


Candice Lorrae

The term begins! We have been delighted to have Candice Lorrae as our lead Musical Director supported by Kobi Morrison and to welcome newcomers to the group.



Kobi Morrison



During the long break Jo Randell Choir Coordinator and Candice Lorrae worked hard developing music resources for the choir as well as a Song Booklet for Schools. Want a Copy? E mail Jo at the address below.

[ContactUs@madjtilmoorna.org.au](mailto:ContactUs@madjtilmoorna.org.au)



Choir's 1st practice at Anderson Rd with Candice Feb 2015

## MARCH



Smoking ceremony with George Walley

**Saturday 28 March 100 year Yaburgurt Winjan Commemoration (c. 1824-1915).** Madjtil Moorna was delighted to be involved in this commemoration event at Christ Church Anglican Church, Mandurah with George Walley and key local Aboriginal Elders. The Yaburgurt project celebrates the life of Yaburgurt throughout 2015 and highlights his importance to the history and heritage of the Bindareb people in Mandurah. For this special performance shared practices with the Koolbardie singers in Mandurah led to a moving performance.



Singers from the joint Koolbardies/MM Choir

Photo courtesy of City of Mandurah

*“The service on Sat was really really good. George was the main presenter (wonderful words) with other speakers including Uncle Harry Nannup, Rev Sealin Garlett, Bishop of Bunbury, Paddy Creavy and the parish priest Rev Cotton. Church was packed. We felt it was highly appropriate for MM to be there and local people were really grateful for the support. After the grave-side part and very generous afternoon tea back in the church, George led some upbeat songs. It felt great! Kobi and I had to leave after ‘Noongar Man’. Rochelle did a beautiful job out front and the Koolbardi Singers blended in smoothly with one lady, Iris Woods ( a Noongar LOTE teacher) joining in after just one practice of the 3 songs! Brilliant!” Jo Randell.*

~~~~~

# APRIL

**19 April** : Recess and an opportunity for a Bibbulmun track cultural walk with Cultural guide Trevor Walley. It was a perfect day and great fun. Aunty Karl taught us a little about the Season of **Djeran** and Trevor taught us a lot about the bush. Feel like you’ve missed out? Stay on the Newsletter list and we’ll keep you informed of similar events ☺



Cultural guide Trevor Walley (R) with MM & friends

~~~~~

# MAY

**SUNDAY 03 MAY: Discover Kanyana Open Day**  
<http://www.kanyanawildlife.org.au/>



Madjiti-Moorna singers with visitors at Kanyana

## Our gig at Kanyana

A gaggle of MMs arrived at Kanyana and waited for our guitarist who got lost somewhere along the way. Once we ascertained there was no accompaniment, Jo borrowed a guitar but the owner had just bought it and it had a string missing! She then tried a ukulele but that was new and her efforts to tune it were thwarted. Were we thrown by all of this? Not a bit of it. It was all a bit of a laugh. We had a small but enthusiastic audience and the children joined in – t’was a shame they all seemed too young to read so therefore pretty much mimed their parts but they loved being part of it. It was deemed a success by us and our audience and I assume Kanyana as well! Thanks Kanyana for a fascinating insight into what goes on at your wildlife rehabilitation centre!



Photo courtesy of David Nicolson

Guess who won the ‘Guess the Echidna’s Weight’ competition? Jo Randell - lucky lady! She guessed 4.55kg and he/she is 4.54kg! Jo received an echidna adoption certificate and a nocturnal tour for a family of 4. More photos (with thanks to David Nicolson) found in Dropbox.  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ixdm30rgyv7jo0c/AABpo3G-hHUXWS1FsMqyPZ4Ga>

**21 MAY - Life Without Barriers** event in Mirrabooka. We sang Wanjoo, We are One and The Sorry Song at this lovely networking event. *Many thanks to the team of organisers and to Aunty Karl Cultural Advisor and Tricia Flynn Scrutton who wanted us there!"*

**Sun 24 May GIDGEGANNUP SMALL FIELD DAY**

This gig was led by George Walley & supported by Kobi Morrison. The highlight for MMs, apart from the great exhibits and stalls was singing the 'Halls Creek Rodeo Song' with audience members Ryan and Matt from Parkerville School. They are learning this song at school, ready to be part of the Noongar-infused Zig Zag Festival Finale concert in October. Hope we can recognise the boys in uniform!



MJ, Lee, Nanna Chris, Dawn, Aunty Karl with Ryan and Matt (Thanks to mum for granting permission for photo release !)

The choir was pleased to sing Kerry Fletcher's Sorry Song <http://www.sorrysong.com.au/> at Sorry Day. To find out why we sing this song read more [here](#). We were pleased to have a stall on the day where we crafted Sorry Day Flowers with many visitors which we enjoyed giving away to the Elders. We are grateful to the Kimberley Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation for giving us permission to craft these flowers aiming to remind people of their reason and meaning.



Sorry Day Flower being made by a choir member

*"Let Sorry start healing our land"..... the last line of Kerry Fletcher's "Sorry Song"*



School children making Sorry Day flowers with MM

**26 May Sorry Day Wellington Square**

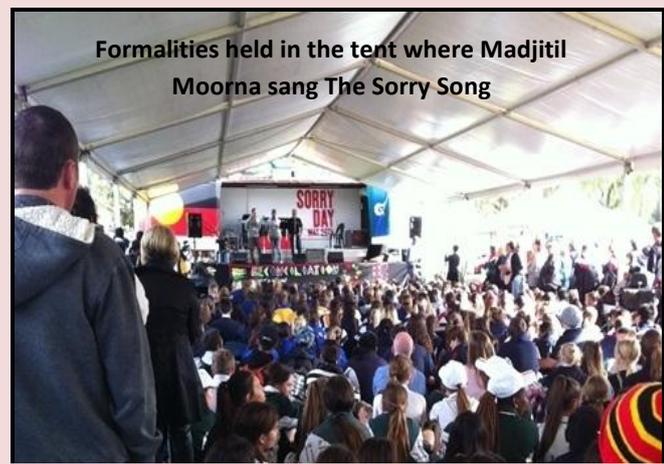
**Reconciliation Week 2015 27 May - 03 June**

*"It's time to change it up!"*

**27 May Helena College Senior School**



Excerpts below as published in the Darlington Review by Julie Carlton, Director of Community Relations [communityrelations@helena.wa.edu](mailto:communityrelations@helena.wa.edu)



Formalities held in the tent where Madjitil Moorna sang The Sorry Song

### Sorry Day Assembly Helena College

On National Sorry Day the Helena College community came together to share the steps towards healing for the Stolen Generations, their families and communities. In a very moving assembly for students, parents, staff and invited guests, we heard the story of Stolen Girl, by Trina Saffiotti, with illustrations by Norma MacDonald. Also performing at the Sorry Day assembly were members of the Madjtil Moorna choir, joined by the Junior School choir, who sang The Sorry Song. Senior School Principal, Ian Lyons, read an extract from ex-Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd's Sorry Day address to the nation.



Madjtil Moorna was moved to hear the statement of commitment of the Helena College Senior High School to commit to reconciliation between Indigenous and non Indigenous Australians and to working together towards justice for past and ongoing injustices against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

### 29 May – 31 May Denmark Festival of Voice

A group of Madjtil Moorna singers managed to get away and be nourished by a weekend of being together to enjoy singing workshops and concert performances at the [Denmark Festival of Voice](#)



Choir members performing at Denmark festival of Voice



Some of the MM crew having fun singing in Denmark

Said one of our new members Lucy Sullivan "DFOV was a great opportunity to get to know choir members in a beautiful, relaxing environment and to discover a new range of diverse musical acts learning about different cultures. I enjoyed singing George's (George Walley) songs, learning his story and learning about Noongar place names!" 😊

### 03 June Fremantle Town Hall

The close of Reconciliation Week at Fremantle Town Hall was a collaborative event between Reconciliation WA, Bringing Them Home Committee WA and the Cities of Fremantle, Cockburn and Melville. After the formalities, there was a showcase and celebration of Whadjuk culture including Elder storytelling, local Indigenous artwork, Indigenous inspired food and karaoke Noongar style! We were pleased to sing Noongar language songs during the evening led by Kobi Morrison.



Jim Morrison singing with the choir

Friends were invited to join us to sing "We are Australian" and we were pleased when Jim Morrison and friends sang the first verse with Kobi and Auntie Josie and Sharyn Egan before continuing to sing with the group. Thanks Jim!

## 11 June Amnesty International event



MM's Jula, Margaret, Chris, Tricia, Aunty Karl singing "We are One" with guests Lesley Radloff & Joseph Wallum.

11 June was the launch of Amnesty International's campaign for Western Australia 'Community is Everything' - A brighter tomorrow for Indigenous kids - to end the over-representation of Indigenous youth in the criminal justice system within a generation.



Held at Perth Town Hall speakers were impressive. They included the following with Tammy Solonec - Amnesty International Australia Indigenous Rights Manager, Ashlea Walley & Jarrad Oakley Nichols - Wirrpanda Foundation information from Eugene Eades - Founder of Nowanup Diversionary Program with a Welcome to Country by Doollan Leisha Eatts and Walter Eatts and Master of Ceremonies Bryte MC. The young Indigenous PLC dancers were wonderful!



17 JUNE - Central Institute of Technology, Koolark Centre supported by Kobi Morrison and TORI Oakley

CIT students organised every aspect of their very impressive **2-day NAIDOC event**. It began with a wonderful Welcome to Country from elder, **Robyn Collard**, introduced by Top ATSI student for 2015, **Jordan Morich**, who happens to be Aunty Karl's granny. He's studying for a Diploma of Photo Imaging. Big thanks to the people in Central's Koolark Centre who hosted a beautiful morning tea for invited guests. We'd love to welcome all of them to come and sing with us on Monday nights next term!

### What's next?

- **The Noongar Songs Primary Schools Project**

Kobi and Tori on violin, loved teaching children at Ellenbrook's Arbor Grove primary school. The whole school learnt two Noongar songs, to be sung at their NAIDOC assembly.

We're hoping the school choir will join us in the massed choir performance at this year's Kalamunda Zig Zag Community Arts Festival.

Aspiring young Noongar performers will visit schools to teach and inspire kids as they learn some of Madjitol Moorna's songs. More on this later!



- **05 -12 July NAIDOC WEEK** Madjitol Moorna performs at the NAIDOC SERVICE at St George's Cathedral
- **20 SEPT** - Djilba Festival in Forrestfield
- **25 OCT** - **ZIGZAG FESTIVAL**, Stirk Park Kalamunda - the **BIG ONE** - MM's 10th/ZZ's 30th - *afternoon workshops, evening concert. The Finale Concert will include a massed children's choir, singing with Madjitol Moorna. Other musical collaborations with local bands and choirs will add to the Noongar-infused reflection on Kalamunda's history pre and post European*

*settlement. This will be a very special 10 year celebration for Madjital Moorna and we invite everyone to come along and be part of it.*

## Meet the Board elected March 2015

<b>Aunty Karl Mourach</b>	<b>Cultural Advisor</b>
<b>Lee Peters</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>
<b>Sharyn Egan</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>
<b>Jo Randell</b>	<b>Choir Coordinator</b>
<b>Pete Randell</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Therese Duirs</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Kobi Morrison</b>	<b>General member</b>
<b>Rochelle Brown</b>	<b>General member</b>
<b>Mary Jo Harris</b>	<b>General member</b>

*And did you know that behind the scenes we have Angela Highstead venue organiser supported by the wonderful Nanna Chris?*



Angela Highstead



Nanna Chris

*Thanks everyone for all your work behind the scenes!!!*

## News of current and past Music Directors and supporting musicians 😊

**Kobi Morrison** is increasingly taking a key musician role, leading us at Gigs and collaborating with our other Music Directors. Thank you Kobi!

**Candice Lorrae** continues to be extremely busy with her Abmusic role, as solo artist Ulla Shay and with The Merindas. Do come along and support The Merindas *Aboriginal Singers of Soul - Beijing Tour Fundraiser* at The Astor 17 July. See the flyer at the end of this Newsletter!



Madjital Moorna welcomes **Tori Oakley** as a regular accompanist on the violin! You may remember seeing Tori in an earlier photo playing violin at Ellenbrook Arbor Grove Primary School

Thank you for contributing your musical skills Tori at this and other recent events Tori. We look forward to many more!

**Della Rae Morrison** inaugural Music Director for MM has developed a new group, **Moombaki** (where the rivers meet the sky). Moombaki is an ensemble of Aboriginal artists who perform a mixture of their own songs and covers by various Aboriginal artists. The group's style is a mixture of contemporary & R&B, integrating spiritual influences and their own hauntingly beautiful and inspirational lyrics. MMs



**Aunty Josie Boyle** is an enchanting storyteller and singer/songwriter. It's always a highlight when she sings 'We Are One' with us, adding her strong voice in Wongi language. Frequently

mesmerising children and us with her stories, Josie's own story has now been told on film by Indigenous Community Stories. It will be shown on NITV in time. We'll keep you posted!

**George Walley** is as usual too busy with everyone wanting a bit of him, including Madjital Moorna! It has been very special to be involved in the Yaburgurt commemorations with George as well as the Gidgegannup Small Field Day and Denmark Festival of Voice. His next appearance with Madjital Moorna is at the St George's Cathedral NAIDOC service 5 July.



**Gina Williams** continues to perform widely with guitarist **Guy Ghouse** promoting the Noongar language through her own beautiful songs. Gina is currently working on a further album to follow 'Kalyakoor!' (which means forever)

<https://www.facebook.com/kalyakoor/>

**WINTER RECESS begins 29 June. Then we all look forward to second semester!**

- **MON 3 August – Cultural Awareness and Bush Tucker with Dale Tilbrook**
- **NEW START for MM practices: 10 AUG.**
- **20 SEPT – Djilba Festival Forrestfield**
- **25 OCT – ZIGZAG FESTIVAL, Stirk Park Kalamunda - the BIG ONE - MM's 10th/ZZ's 30th - afternoon workshops, evening concert.**

## A Reminder of who we are...

*Madjtil Moorna is a unique community choir singing Aboriginal songs, led by award-winning Aboriginal performers. We sing for better understanding, challenging old stereotypes as people from all backgrounds open their ears and hearts to explore Aboriginal culture, through song and story.*

*Now in its tenth year we have performed throughout the Perth Metro area and in the East Kimberley since 2006. Audience participation is encouraged. Songs include contemporary and traditional songs, many in Aboriginal languages, including the Noongar language of the South West of WA.*

*We practice on Monday nights in Forreestfield WA in an inclusive and safe space. All voices accepted. The learning of songs is helped by CDs and lots of encouragement. Everyone is welcome!*

*We always look forward to new members joining us and the beginning of each semester is certainly the best time to do this though any time is okay. Come and check us out at Anderson Road Community Centre, Anderson Rd, Forreestfield, WA. Next term begins **Mon 10 Aug** 6.30pm for a cuppa and 7pm to sing.*



For now, look forward to NAIDOC and plan to be involved perhaps by coming to Wellington Square at Noon for the Opening Ceremony and on to the NAIDOC Service at St George's 5pm 05July !

Like Us On **facebook** at [Madjtil Moorna Choir](https://www.facebook.com/madjtilmoorna) to keep upto date with general events. Boorda! (Goodbye!)

*For more information*      [www.madjtilmoorna.org.au](http://www.madjtilmoorna.org.au)

Jo Randell  
Pauline Vigus

Choir Coordinator  
Newsletter Content

[ContactUs@madjtilmoorna.org.au](mailto:ContactUs@madjtilmoorna.org.au)  
[news@madjtilmoorna.org.au](mailto:news@madjtilmoorna.org.au)

June 2015

## Resources

1. **Sorry Day**      <http://www.sorrysong.com.au/>
2. **Stolen Generation Commemorative Flowers** info at [Kimberley Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation](http://www.kimberleystolengenerations.com.au).
3. **Bringing Them Home Report 1997** (Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their Families April 1997      [Bringing Them Home Report 1997](http://www.bringingthemhome.gov.au)
4. **Amnesty International "Community is everything"**      "There is always a brighter future":  
WA full report      [http://www.amnesty.org.au/images/uploads/aus/CIE\\_WA-Report\\_low-res.pdf](http://www.amnesty.org.au/images/uploads/aus/CIE_WA-Report_low-res.pdf)  
WA summary report      [http://www.amnesty.org.au/images/uploads/aus/CIE\\_WA\\_summary\\_lr.pdf](http://www.amnesty.org.au/images/uploads/aus/CIE_WA_summary_lr.pdf)
5. **History of NAIDOC WEEK**      <http://www.naidoc.org.au/about/naidoc-history/>
6. **NAIDOC 05- 12 July 2015**      <http://www.naidoc.org.au/celebrating-naidoc-week>
7. **Celebrate NAIDOC with Yirra Yaakin**      [Celebrate NAIDOC with Yirra Yaakin](http://www.yirrayaakin.com.au)
8. **Research and general information**      <http://aiatsis.gov.au/>

Make sure to get to this FREE OPENING NAIDOC CEREMONY NOON SUN 05 JULY 12 NOON

**OPENING CEREMONY**  
SUNDAY 5TH JULY AT WELLINGTON SQUARE 12 NOON

**toxfree**

**NAIDOC PERTH**

**FITZROY EXPRESS**  
PATCH UPS • STELLA • DENNIS SIMMONS

**KIDS STAGE**  
KANGAROO CREEK GANG  
BALDJA MOORT DJ

**FOOD FROM.....**  
FRANCE  
THAILAND  
AMERICA  
AUSTRALIA  
JAMAICA  
NEW ZEALAND  
ITALY  
AFRICA

**DISPLAYS**  
LOW RIDAZ  
BIRDMAN  
BARN BABES ANIMAL FARM  
OUT OF THE BOX

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL DANCERS  
ARTS AND CRAFTS  
COMMUNITY STALLS

CITY of PERTH

Government of Western Australia  
Department of Health

Australian Government

BEIJING TOUR FUNDRAISER

**The Merindas**  
*The Sweet Sound of Motown!*

Featuring some of WA'S best Indigenous Songstress' singing soul  
Candice Lorrae, Kristel Kickett & Rhiannon Nicholls  
backed by the band Rhythm 22.  
Singing all your Motown Classics!

**LIVE AT THE ASTOR THEATRE**  
659 BEAUFORT ST, MOUNT LAWLEY (CORNER OF WALCOTT)  
**FEATURING RANDA AND THE SOUL KINGDOM**  
**SPECIAL GUEST PHIL WALLEYSTACK**  
FRIDAY 17TH JULY, 2015 / DOORS OPEN 7:30PM  
Tickets on sale at [www.astortheatreperth.com](http://www.astortheatreperth.com) or 08 9370 1777  
18+ Event unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Photo ID Required.

[WWW.MERINDAS.COM](http://WWW.MERINDAS.COM)

Wirrpanda ABMUSIC Madjtil Moorna diabeteswa ASTOR

Book your tickets now!!!

[www.astortheatreperth.com](http://www.astortheatreperth.com)

17 July 7.30pm  
Doors Open

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