

**KIMBERLEY  
FOUNDATION  
AUSTRALIA**

Researching, preserving and promoting Kimberley rock art.

# Annual Research and Activities Report 2018

This report relates to KFA funded  
research and activities from  
1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

**Telling Australia's story –  
unravelling 60,000 years  
of tradition and habitation**  
[www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au](http://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au)



FACE-TO-FACE PAIR OF TASSEL BRADSHAW/GWION FIGURES, BARTON RIVER PHOTO: PAULINE HEANEY

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*"How we protect, conserve and research the Kimberley region and its rock art will say much about us as a nation"*

The Ian Potter Foundation



MARIA MYERS WITH TRADITIONAL OWNERS ADRIAN UNGHANGO AND IAN WAINA, BARTON RIVER PHOTO: PAULINE HEANEY

# CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

Our 20th Anniversary year brought some achievements to remember as well as being a year for remembering and acknowledging the accomplishments of the Kimberley Foundation Australia and of Grahame Walsh.

Significant for the Foundation in the 2017-2018 year was its success in bringing together the means to establish a Chair in Archaeological Science at the University of Melbourne. The Minderoo Foundation, based in Western Australia, inspired by the gift of the Ian Potter Foundation that enabled the Chair in Kimberley rock art research to be established at the University of Western Australia in 2012 contributed the \$1.5 needed to complete the endowment of a Chair at the University of Melbourne. The KFA is deeply appreciative of the generosity of Andrew and Nicola Forrest and all those who contributed to the Chair at University of Melbourne.

The successful application to the Australian Research Council by the team led by Andrew Gleadow and Melbourne University for a new Dating Project, to continue the work begun in the first Dating Project was another significant achievement.

It was also a year for remembering and for acknowledging. Three KFA-related anniversaries occurred. For twenty years this organisation, in its earliest incarnations and as the KFA, has brought to the notice of Australians and the world, the archaeological treasures of the Kimberley and their significance in understanding Australia's history. It was with deep satisfaction that we noted the gigantic steps in the understanding of the community at large about Kimberley rock art and the enthusiastic growth in the interest and ownership of KFA initiated research projects by local Indigenous groups.

It is ten years since the first fully supported extensive research project was mounted. Making known the story hidden in the rocks of the Kimberley required archaeology, science and related disciplines to be applied to Kimberley rock art. Supported by the KFA and the Australian Research Council, the *'Change and Continuity - archaeology and art in the North Kimberley, Northwest Australia'* project became the first of what has now grown to six similarly funded and similarly significant projects. The amount KFA has now leveraged from the ARC for KFA-funded projects is an additional \$4 million.

An overdue acknowledgment also fell due with the tenth anniversary of the death of Grahame Walsh. It was pleasing to take part of the KFA's 2017 Annual Lecture to present his role not only in the development of the KFA but in the awareness and knowledge about Kimberley rock art that prevails today and the extent to which his work is enabling today's scientific research to be undertaken.

We continue to feel very grateful to our steady and longstanding supporters and to those who have more recently discovered KFA and the significance of its work.

It has been a year of intense activity which has, in addition to the major undertakings outlined above, included answering a growing number of enquiries about Kimberley rock art, its age and significance from around Australia and increasingly from abroad.

As Chairman I am acutely conscious of and grateful for the contribution of my fellow board members and the organisation's three, none of whom are full time, employees – CEO Cas Bennetto, her assistant Gwen Allen and rock art archivist Pauline Heaney.



*Maria Myers*

**Maria Myers AC**  
Chairman

# LETTER FROM THE CEO

The depth and breadth of the work of the Kimberley Foundation Australia continues to grow yet we remain lean and focused on our mission: telling Australia's story through rock art research.

The addition of a rock art archivist/project resource manager increased KFA staff this year by 50% which means that we now have the equivalent of two full time staff. The new role, admirably administered part time by Brisbane-based Pauline Heaney, has reduced the huge number of hours researchers previously had to spend locating suitable rock art sites and has enabled access to a library of digital material as well as enhanced website information.

Although lean, we respond to an increasing number of approaches from those wanting to visit the Kimberley, see rock art and who seek explanations about it, and myriad requests for images and informed commentary as well as providing administrative and logistical support to international film crews in the Kimberley. We're able to run large-scale research projects due to the support of Dunkeld Pastoral Company, especially through the assistance provided by Kimberley-based KFA Director Susan Bradley and Science Advisory Councillor Cecilia Myers, as well as the support of our Aboriginal partners. Our engagement with Indigenous communities grows and this year KFA hosted a 'Bush Gathering' in the Kimberley, attended the 3-day Kimberley Ranger Forum as well as the Kimberley Land Council and Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre AGMs at Kooljaman on Bardi country. The Foundation held a collaborative Kimberley Ranger Rock Art Tour Workshop in Melbourne with the Kimberley Land Council and Woodside earlier in the year. This project will deepen our engagement with Rangers and Traditional Owners.

We presented 10 other events including a 20th Anniversary Fundraising Dinner, our 12th Annual Science Workshop and the 10th Annual public lecture in four cities.

Six years ago when we announced The Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art at the University of Western Australia no-one could have foreseen a Chair in Archaeological Science established at the University of Melbourne. The Chair was announced at a special 20th Anniversary dinner in Melbourne sponsored by Westpac and supported by Paspaley Pearls and True North Adventure cruises.

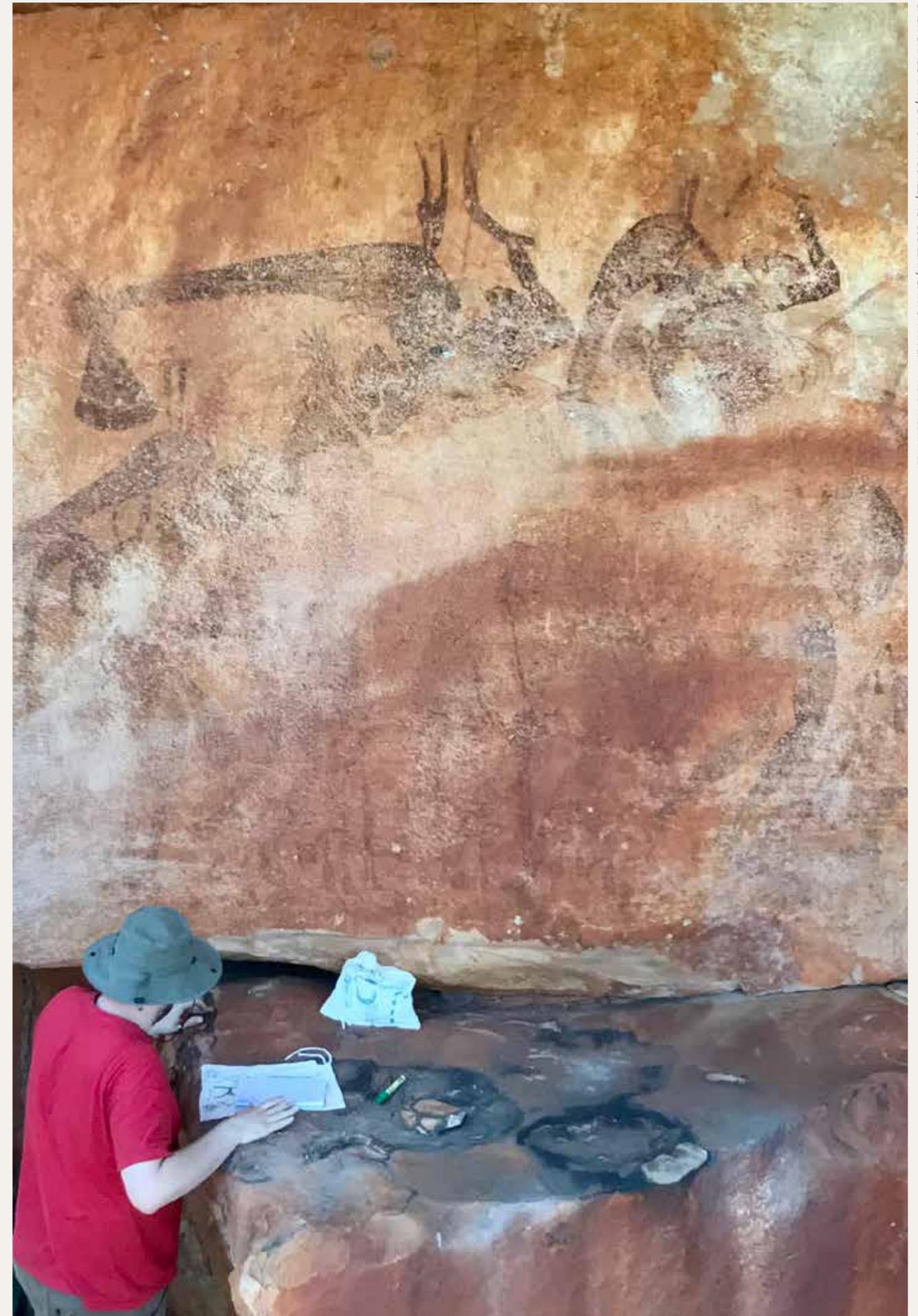
All funds raised went to the new Chair. The benefit of this gift will be long-lasting and will be reflected in the outstanding opportunities it presents for Australia to lead in the field of Archaeological Science. As well as the gift from Andrew and Nicola Forrest we received a \$600,000 grant from The Ian Potter Foundation to enable Dr Helen Green to continue her outstanding research on the multi-disciplinary Rock Art Dating project.

The funds we raise enable the scientists to undertake the research. The impact they are making is evident in their contribution to our increasing knowledge about the rock art, the environment and our cultural understanding. The generosity from our donors gives us great encouragement. It is their commitment that enables us to unravel the story of the earliest occupation from northern Australia which now dates from 50 to 65,000 years. It is their support and enthusiasm - and that of the Chairman and board - that drives us.



*Cas Bennetto*

**Cas Bennetto**  
CEO



SASH BRADSHAW/GWION FIGURES, TIBI CODILEAN, BARTON RIVER PHOTO: PAUL HARTLEY

# VISION

## Researching, preserving and promoting Kimberley rock art

Rock art research is central to answering some of the big questions about global human migration. Through its research KFA is unravelling a history of tradition and habitation spanning 60,000+ years. Aboriginal rock art of Australia and the story it tells traces the history of global human migration. Revealing this story is the basis of the research we fund. **It is Australia's story.**



TASSEL BRAOSAHW/GWION FIGURE, BARTON RIVER PHOTO: PAULINE HEANEY

# MISSION

## Mission Statement

KFA's undertaking is to research, preserve and promote the rock art of the Kimberley for three key reasons: It has not been well understood; it contains evidence of Australia's earliest story and it is a remarkable and neglected historical resource for the world.

The Foundation supports a broad range of scientists from the fields of archaeology, geology, geochemistry, palynology and related areas who work with Aboriginal communities to uncover Australia's earliest settlement history.

## Mission Aims

The Foundation raises and allocates funds with the following aims:

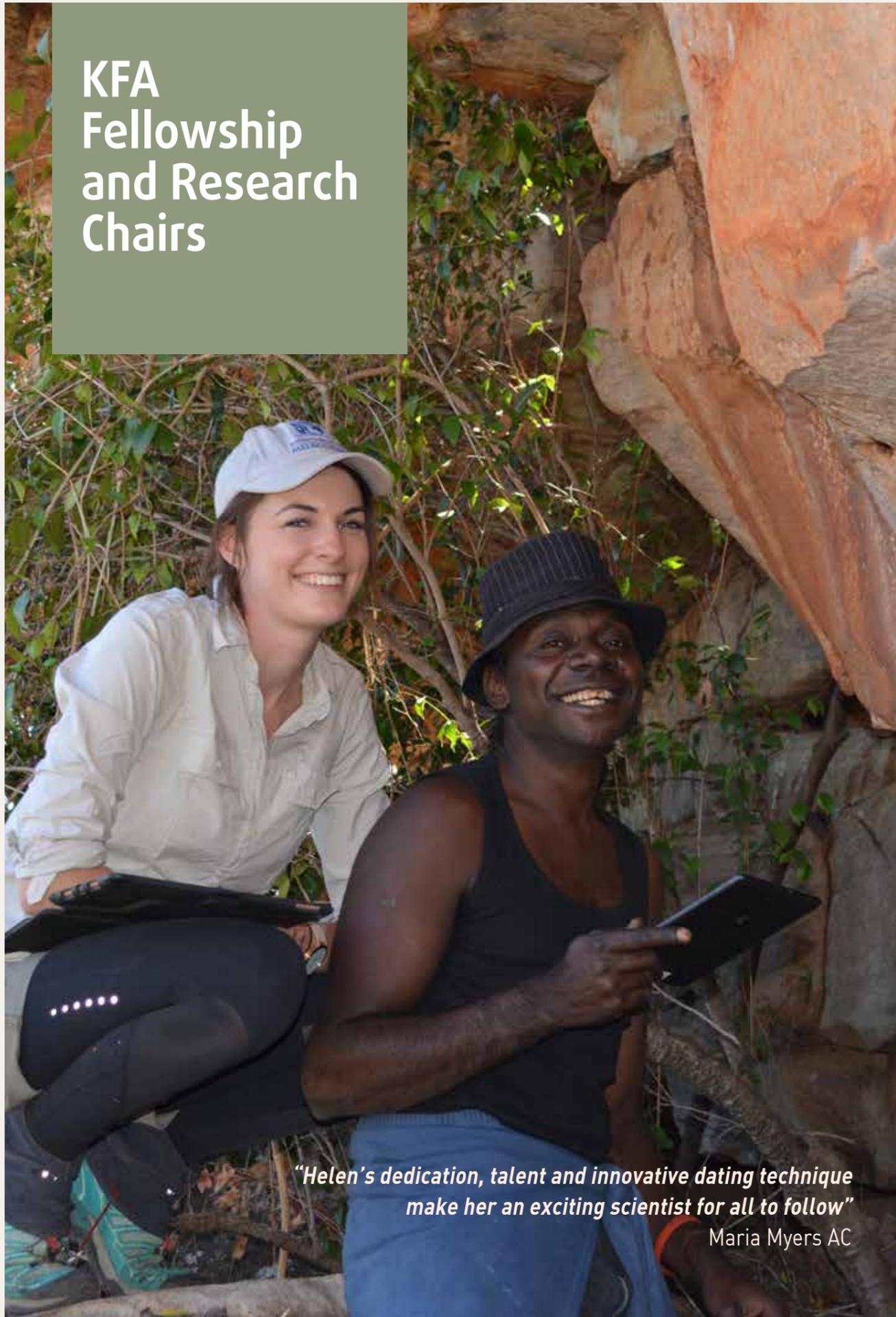
- To foster scientific research into the rock art and its chronological, cultural, ecological and climatic contexts
- To promote research outcomes to ensure the broadest possible appreciation of the national and international significance of Kimberley rock art
- To collaborate and share knowledge with Aboriginal groups, the public, academic institutions and museums
- To closely involve local Aboriginal people in field research and training
- To encourage new young scientists into these fields of research
- To encourage protection and preservation of Kimberley rock art

## Mission Progress

For the past decade the Kimberley Foundation Australia has been driving public appreciation of rock art and its significance while ensuring the scientific research that will show us how to preserve the art is undertaken. The KFA has:

- Established the Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Kimberley Rock Art at the University of Western Australia
  - This Chair is now part of a world-leading rock art research hub – *the Centre for Rock Art Research+Management*
- Established the Kimberley Foundation Munderoo Chair in Archaeological Science at the University of Melbourne (2018)
- Underwritten 6 Australian Research Council linkage projects
  - Leveraged \$4 million in government funding for Australian rock art research
- Influenced Australian universities to focus on Australian archaeology
- Collaborated on projects with 5 Aboriginal communities
- Developed a nationally accredited Rock Art Recording course
- Trained 33 Aboriginal participants in the scientific method of rock art recording
- Presented an annual multi-disciplined Science Workshop on Kimberley research
  - Supported and fostered the work of more than 40 researchers across 16 Australian and international universities
- Presented an annual public lecture at UWA since 2009 and a KFA multiple city lecture series since 2012
- Celebrated our 20th anniversary in FY2018

# KFA Fellowship and Research Chairs



HELEN GREEN AND TO IAN WAINA, BARTON RIVER, 2018 PHOTO: PAULINE HEANEY

*"Helen's dedication, talent and innovative dating technique make her an exciting scientist for all to follow"*  
 Maria Myers AC

## Kimberley Foundation Australia Fellowship in Rock Art Dating 2018 -2022 Awarded to Dr Helen Green, PhD

A career scientist of exceptional merit, 29 year old Dr Helen Green is the recipient of a major 5-year Research Fellowship. Helen is a post-doctoral scientist at the University of Melbourne and a member of the KFA's *Rock Art Dating* project research team.

The new \$700,000 **Kimberley Foundation Australia Fellowship in Rock Art Dating** is funded \$600k by The Ian Potter Foundation and \$100k by KFA over a 5-year period which commenced in March this year. The Fellowship was awarded to Dr Green to enable her to contribute to the multi-disciplinary project investigating the history of human origins in Australia and Indigenous cultures in the Kimberley known as the *Rock Art Dating* project. *Rock Art Dating 2* is funded separately by KFA and the Australian Research Council for a cash total of \$1.3 million over a four year period.

Helen's breakthrough work on uranium series dating attracted the support of the KFA and The Ian Potter Foundation. Helen was examining the characteristics of complex mineral systems present in Kimberley rock art shelters which make them conducive to radiogenic dating.

Her research focuses on characterising and dating the mineral accretions or 'crusts' that fringe or are inter-layered with the rock art panels. Using an advanced mass spectrometer, she can measure amounts of Thorium accumulated from the decay of Uranium in the samples collected and uses this to calculate the age of the mineral deposit. Occasionally, these crusts are found under and/or over pigment allowing her to provide maximum and minimum bracketing ages for the associated paintings.

Helen is using new state of the art facilities available at the University of Melbourne's Earth Science laboratories including laser ablation dating on targeted, uranium bearing mineral layers. A new mass spectrometer just installed provides the increased sensitivity required to measure much smaller samples, ultimately allowing for increased efficiency and reliability in the uranium-series dating application.

With each subsequent visit to the Kimberley Helen fine-tunes the processes both on site and back in the laboratory and she has also developed an eye for the mineral accretions that might yield the best results. Working in a team of three, an archaeologist/recorder, Indigenous representative/ Traditional Owner and a scientist, the sites are carefully recorded and documented. Each sample taken is recorded with meticulous care into the project database with a detailed set of photos and information regarding the motifs. With up to 20 sites and 100 to 150 samples collected each field trip the accurate recording of data is essential.

Helen works closely with the Traditional Land Owners, the Balangarra Aboriginal Corporation and the Rock Art Dating team at the University of Melbourne, led by Prof Andrew Gleadow, and other colleagues including ARC Laureate Prof Jon Woodhead and Prof Janet Hergt as well as Drs John Hellstrom and John Moreau. The team is also closely supported in their research by the rock art archaeology team from UWA led by Prof Peter Veth.



TO SCOTTY UNGHANGO, HELEN GREEN AND TO AUGIE UNGHANGO, MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY LAB

## Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art at the University of Western Australia

**Prof Peter Veth** took up the position of the newly created Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art in February 2013. The Chair sits within the University of Western Australia's Centre for Rock Art Research + Management (CRAR+M; [www.uwa.edu.au/rock-art](http://www.uwa.edu.au/rock-art)). At present there are two Kimberley Foundation Australia Directors on the CRAR+M Advisory board.

The Chair is funded in perpetuity by the Kimberley Foundation Australia through gifts from The Ian Potter Foundation (\$1.5 million) and INPEX (\$500k) with matched funding of \$2 million from the University of Western Australia.

Thanks to the vision and generosity of the above organisations Prof Veth is able to provide national and international leadership to the study and teaching of Kimberley rock art. Since taking up the position he has contributed significantly to research, teaching and public outreach initiatives. He has established collaborative partnerships between industry, Aboriginal communities and academia including the successful securing of a major ARC Linkage project.

2016-2017 was an intensive and productive period. Fieldwork was completed in the Drysdale River and King George River catchments of the north Kimberley as part of the *Kimberley Visions Project* with ongoing contributions to the *Dating Project* as a Chief Investigator. Artefacts within fluvial sediments on the Drysdale River have been dated to c. 50,000 years old with a return expedition involving the Centre for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage planned for 2019. The Visions team also hosted the KFA-funded La Trobe University based *Plants and Residue Project* as well as KFA awardee Dr Ben Gunn on *Clarifying Kimberley Rock Art Sequences Project*. In collaboration with Professors Jane Balme (UWA) and Sue O'Connor (ANU) a pilot project on the archaeology and rock art of the Ningbing Ranges limestone province of the northern Kimberley will begin in 2019 with Miruwung-Gajerrong Traditional Owners and the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

The current Kimberley PhD cohort, a Research Fellow and Research Assistant from UWA are progressing dating and spatial analysis from the Visions database with supervision of a new PhD at UWA (Mariangela Lanza) and at Monash (Madeleine Kelly). Forrest Scholarship recipient Ana Motta has completed her fieldwork and data acquisition and is fully engaged with analyses of the earlier rock art phases.



JENNY LINDSAY AND PETER VETH, KFA LUNCH EVENT HOSTED BY SANDY HONEY IN PERTH, APRIL 2018

### Public engagement, media and promoting outcomes

In his role as Chair, Professor Veth has delivered lectures and contributed to seminars supported by the Getty Conservation Institute, Wenner Gren, cultural collections and university hubs located in the Kimberley, Cairns, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney, as well as in Austria and Namibia. Workshops have been delivered to government planners and regulators, industry, and professional heritage bodies, especially around the amendments to the *WA Aboriginal Heritage Act*. Outreach has included schools, public interest groups and academic forums with an active interest in the cultures, environment and landscapes of the Kimberley.

The Chair has been instrumental in convening three sessions/themes on Kimberley rock art and archaeological science for the International Federation of Rock Art Organisations (Valcamonica), The European Association of Archaeologists (Barcelona) and the World Heritage Summit (Murujuga) and Southern Deserts Conference (Karratha).

Participation in a session on World Heritage at Woodford Folk Festival in January 2018 received strong support.

Fieldwork and research is contained in the Research section of this report.



*"Kimberley research will be driven by the powerful complementary twin pillars of the UWA Chair in Archaeology and the UoM Chair in Archaeological Science"*  
Maria Myers AC

ANDREW FORREST, MARIA MYERS NICOLA FORREST AND ALLAN MYERS

## Kimberley Foundation Minderoo Chair in Archaeological Science

**A new Chair in Archaeological Science** was announced at an event in Melbourne on 26 October to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Kimberley Foundation Australia. The Chair at the University of Melbourne has been made possible thanks to donations from the Kimberley Foundation Australia, Allan Myers AC QC and the Minderoo Foundation through KFA Patrons Andrew and Nicola Forrest.

KFA is already sponsoring a large number of researchers who are collaborating with traditional owners to date the rock art, but there are challenges to this work that only cutting edge science can solve. The need for the Chair originated from the work the Kimberley Foundation and scientists at Melbourne University are undertaking with the Aboriginal communities.

The new Chair will drive applied science in rock art research and complement the humanities-based archaeology at the University of Western Australia and already supported by the KFA. It will help establish the importance of Australia's archaeological record in the global narrative of human origins and migrations and the deep history of Australia's Indigenous past to life.

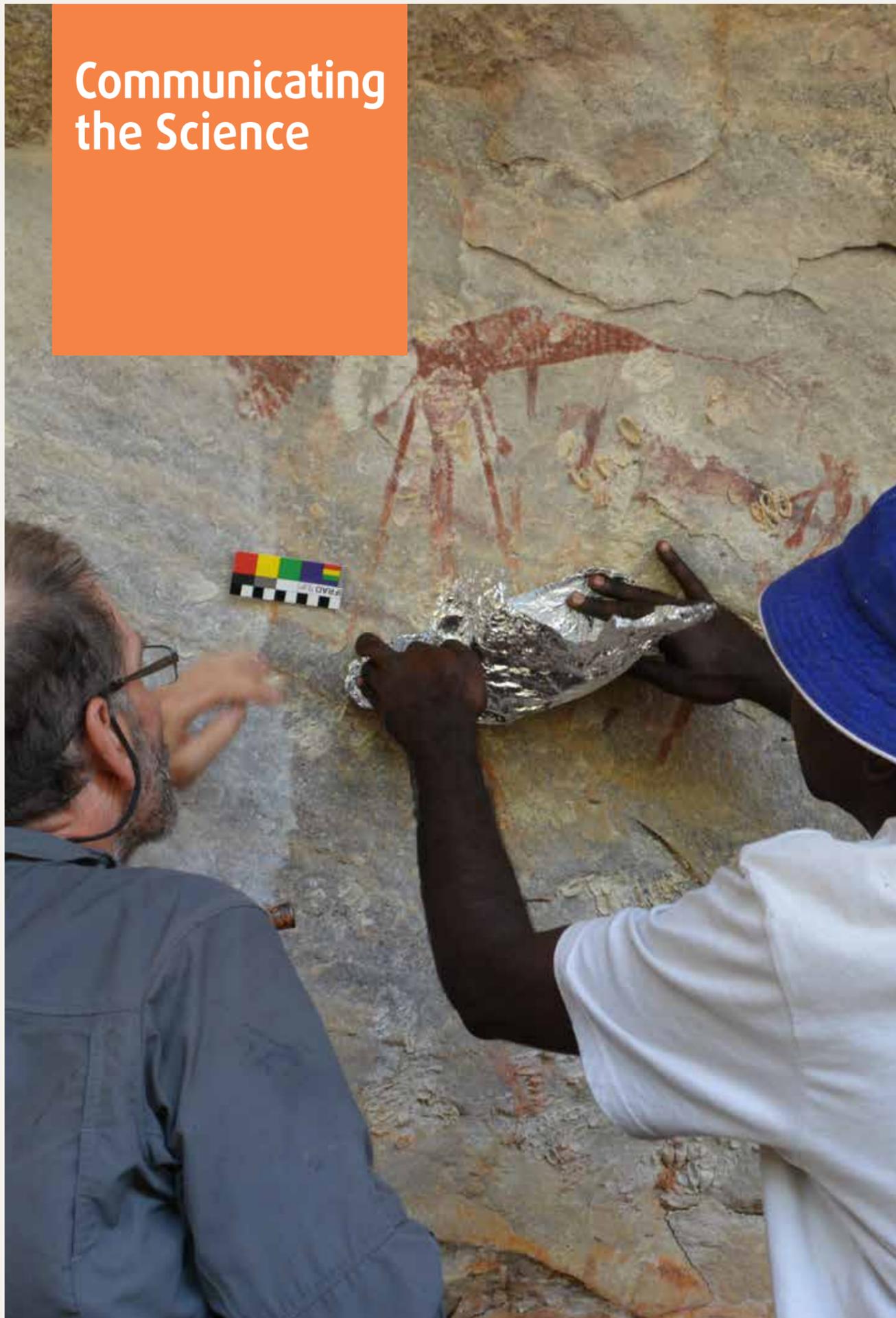
It's an Aboriginal story and the Chair will assist Aboriginal people in the Kimberley get to the science behind their story.

The Minderoo Foundation was particularly keen to support the aim to strengthen the opportunities for academic research between the east and west coast and drive engagement and collaboration between the University of WA, where KFA has already established a Chair in Rock Art, and the University of Melbourne.

*"The Chair will provide research leadership in the scientific methods of analysis and interpretation to problems related to archaeology, prehistory and human origins. It will also help develop and train a new generation of early career researchers and post graduate students in the field of archaeological science, with a focus on rock art dating and conservation. And it will further put Australian scientists onto the world stage."*

Professor Glyn Davis AC  
Former Vice-Chancellor, the University of Melbourne

## Communicating the Science



TO IAN WAINA AND DAMIEN FINCH COLLECTING WASP NEST SAMPLES, DRYSDALE RIVER NATIONAL PARK PHOTO: PAULINE HEANEY

## Science Advisory Council

The Foundation established a Science Advisory Council (SAC) in 2006. KFA's relationship with tertiary and cultural institutions is dynamic as the Foundation continues to fund and initiate research centred on Kimberley rock art. The SAC is made up of a diverse group of eminent scientists from tertiary institutions across Australia who advise the Board on KFA's long term research program.

Chaired by Professor Andrew Gleadow AO, FAA, Professor of Geology and former Head of the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Melbourne, the SAC plays a critical role in the selection, development and implementation of significant research projects. This is an important governance process for funding priority research projects.

The SAC comprises ten members plus three ex-officio member organisations.

### Members

- Chairman, Prof. Andrew Gleadow AO, University of Melbourne
- Deputy Chairman, Prof. John Dodson, previously ANSTO and currently at the Institute of Earth Environments of The Chinese Academy of Sciences (Xi'an)
- Mr. Kim Akerman, Adjunct Professor of Archaeology and member of the CRAR+M Advisory Board at the University of Western Australia (UWA)
- Prof. Jane Balme, University of Western Australia
- Assoc. Prof. Bruno David, Monash University
- Prof. Janet Hergt, University of Melbourne
- Prof. Simon Haberle, Australian National University
- Prof. Hamish McGowan, University of Queensland
- Ms Cecilia Myers, Dunkeld Pastoral Co
- Prof Robert (Bert) Roberts, CABAH, University of Wollongong
- Professor Peter Veth, Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art, University of Western Australia

### Ex Officio members

- West Australian Museum represented by Dr Moya Smith
- Kimberley Society represented by Dr Mike Donaldson
- UWA Centre for Rock Art Research+Management represented by Prof Jo McDonald

### Alternate members

- Mr Jeff Gresham, Kimberley Society, alternate for Mike Donaldson
- Assoc Prof Sven Ouzman, CRAR+M alternate for Professors McDonald and Veth
- Annie Carson, Western Australian Museum, alternate for Moya Smith

Members and alternates do not receive fees. During the current financial year the SAC participated in the annual workshop and in two teleconferences. Formal agendas and minutes were recorded and kept.

## KFA Annual Science Workshop

The twelfth annual KFA Science Workshop was held on 15 November 2017 at the University of Melbourne. The conference is hosted each year by KFA's Science Advisory Council (SAC). *Kimberley Research at the KFA's 20th Anniversary* was attended by 12 KFA directors and staff, 25 scientists and researchers, two representatives from the Australian Academy of Science, two filmmakers working on a Kimberley rock art documentary and two academics from the Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation.

The scientists come together at the multi-disciplinary workshop to report on progress and present and share their research findings with each other and with members of the KFA Board.

The meeting began with an outline of the level of KFA's financial commitments to research and the news of the new Chair in Archaeological Science at the University of Melbourne and the 5-year *KFA Fellowship in Rock Art Dating* awarded to Dr Helen Green. The meeting concluded with an overview of new developments including the continuing Linkage Grant success, a proposal for a new Linkage Grant and the work of the new ARC Centre for Excellence hosted at the University of Wollongong. These three initiatives continue to offer the opportunity to enhance the scientific work of the KFA.



RICHARD COSGROVE, JUDITH FIELD AND CAS BENNETTO, SAC WORKSHOP 2017

## Annual Public Lecture Series and KFA Talks

KFA's annual public lecture series is an important component of the Foundation's commitment to the dissemination of research information and public engagement.

This year the Foundation used the occasion of its 20th Anniversary and the 10th anniversary of the death of pioneering rock art enthusiast and researcher Grahame Walsh to tell the story of how the relatively unknown historic treasure that is Kimberley rock art has become the focus of major research by Australia's leading archaeologists and scientists. The lecture *Setting the record down. Setting the record straight; which way the future?* was delivered by KFA Chairman Maria Myers AC on 26 September 2017 at UWA Auditorium with 250 people in attendance. INPEX sponsored the lecture which was followed by light refreshments.

Maria Myers delivered the same lecture in Melbourne at the National Gallery of Victoria on 22 February 2018 and in Sydney at the Art Gallery NSW on 10 March. The Foundation partnered with the Art Gallery Society for the second consecutive year.

Cas Bennetto, KFA CEO, delivered a presentation on Kimberley rock art and sharing what we know of Australia's earliest settlement story to more than 100 Year 9 students at Melbourne Girls Grammar School on 8 June.

## Communications

Seven digital newsletters were produced and distributed in the period. The Foundation distributed four quarterly E-newsletters to 2550 email subscribers which is a 25% increase on last year's subscribers. An additional two E-newsletters promoting public lectures were targeted to state-specific subscribers and the End of Financial Year digital appeal was sent to 2542 subscribers.

The Foundation's *Who We Are, What We Do and Why* brochure was updated with a reprint of 2,000 for distribution at KFA events. This brochure has had 8 reprints with a total print run of 13,500 since 2013.

*The Rock Art Styles of the North and Central Kimberley* entered its 4th reprint (3,000 copies). Originally produced in 2013, this flyer is a sought-after document by Kimberley tour operators. The cumulative print run is now 12,150.

KFA's annual winter newsletter, an 8-pp full colour document was printed (3,000) and distributed to 2,349 supporters and friends in May 2018.

## Media

The Foundation works hard to raise the profile of rock art and promote the work it is supporting. It is a fine balance between sharing the findings and the impact of the research, with the scientists' need to publish their own findings prior to media pronouncements.

Media following the 2017 'dry' season:

**Doctoral Medal awarded to KFA researcher for best doctoral thesis (April 2018)** <https://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au/media-release-doctoral-medal-awarded-kfa-researcher-best-doctoral-thesis/>

**How to get to Australia more than 50,000 years ago (May 2018)** <https://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au/how-to-get-to-australia-more-than-50000-years-ago/>

**Career scientist awarded KFA Fellowship in Rock Art Dating (May 2018)** <https://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au/a-career-scientist-of-exceptional-merit-29-year-old-dr-helen-green-is-the-recipient-of-a-major-5-year-research-fellowship/>

**Q and A with Prof. Peter Veth (May 2018)** <https://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au/qa-with-prof-peter-veth/>

**When archaeology and geology combine (June 2018):** <https://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au/when-archaeology-and-geology-combine/>

**Deep time climate reconstruction awarded ARC and KFA funding (June 2018)** <https://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au/deep-time-climate-reconstruction-awarded-arc-funding-and-kfa-support/>



MUD WASP NEST BUILT OVER THE TOP OF HAND STENCIL PHOTO: PAULINE HEANEY

## Research Publications resulting from KFA-sponsored research

### Lifeways of the First Australians Project

Balme, J., S. O'Connor and Michelle Langley 2018.

**Marine shell ornaments in north western Australian archaeological sites: different meanings over time and space.** In Michelle C. Langley, Duncan Wright, Mirani Litster and Sally K. May (eds) *The Archaeology of Portable Art: Southeast Asian, Pacific and Australian Perspectives*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 258-273.

Balme, J. and S. O'Connor 2018. **Traditions and change in scaphopod shell beads in northern Australia from the Pleistocene to the recent past.** In D. Bar-Yosef, A. Choyke and C. Bonsall (eds) *Not Just for Show: The archaeology of beads, beadwork and personal ornaments*. Oxford: Oxbow books. pp. 7-18.

Balme, J. 2018. **Communal hunting by Aboriginal Australians: archaeological and ethnographic evidence.** In K. Carlson and L. Bemmet (eds) *Manipulating Prey: Development of Large-Scale Kill Events Around the Globe*. University of Colorado Press: Boulder, Colorado, pp.42-62.

Maloney, T., S. O'Connor, R. Wood, K. Aplin & J. Balme 2018 **Carpenters Gap 1: A 47,000 year old record of Indigenous adaption and innovation.** *Quaternary Science Reviews* 191:204-228.

Whitau, R., I. Dilkes-Hall, D. Vannieuwenhuysse, S. O'Connor & J. Balme 2018 **The curious case of Proteacea: macrobotanical investigations at Mount Behn rockshelterm Bunuba country, Western Australia.** *Australian Archaeology*, DOI: 10.1080/03122417.2018.1454656

Whitau, R., D. Vannieuwenhuysse, E. Dotte-Sarout, J. Balme and S. O'Connor 2018 **Home is where the hearth is: anthracological and microstratigraphic analyses of Plesitocene and Holocene combustion features, Riwi Cave (Kimberley, Western Australia).** *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10816-017-9354-y>

Whitau, R., J. Balme, S. O'Connor & R. Wood 2017 **Wood charcoal analysis at Riwi cave, Gooniyandi country, Western Australia.** *Quaternary International* 457:140-154.

Maloney, T., S. O'Connor & J. Balme 2017 **The effect of retouch intensity on mid to late Holocene unifacial and bifacial points from the Kimberley.** *Australian Archaeology* 83:42-55.

[www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au/research/research-publications/](http://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au/research/research-publications/)

### Kimberley Visions Project

Michael Bird, Rob Beaman, Scott Condie, Alan Cooper, Sean Ulm, Peter Veth, 2018. **Palaeogeography and voyage modelling indicates early human colonisation of Australia was likely from Timor-Roti.** *Quaternary Science Review*

In Gjerde, Jan Magne and Mari Strifeldt Arntzen (eds). **Kimberley Visions: a model for change in Kimberley rock art.** *Perspectives on Differences in Rock Art*. Equinox Publishing, Sheffield

Jo McDonald, Peter Veth and Sarah de Koning, 2018. **Australie: Historiographie de la recherche sur l'art rupestre australien.** In C. Fritz (ed.) *L'art de la Préhistoire*, pp. 275-309. Citadelle and Mazenod, Paris.

Sven Ouzman, Peter Veth, Kevin Kenneally, Pauline Heaney and Cecilia Myers, 2017. **Plants before animals? Aboriginal rock art as evidence of ecoscaping in Australia's Kimberley.** In David, B. and I. McNiven (eds) *The Oxford Handbook of the Archaeology and Anthropology of Rock Art*. Oxford Handbooks Online. DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190607357.013.31

Peter Veth, 2017. **Breaking through the radiocarbon barrier: Madjedbebe and the new chronology for Aboriginal occupation of Australia.** *Australian Archaeology*.

### Unlocking Environmental Archives Project

Field, E., Tyler, J., Gadd, P., Moss, P., McGowan, H. and Marx, S. 2018: **Coherent patterns of environmental change at multiple organic spring sites in northwest Australia: Evidence of Indonesian-Australian summer monsoon variability over the last 14,500 years.** *Quaternary Science Reviews*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quascirev.2018.07.018>

Field, E., Marx, S., Haig, J., May, J.-H., Jacobsen, G., Zawadzki, A., Child, D., Heijnis, H., Hotchkis, M., McGowan, H., Moss, P. 2018: **Untangling geochronological complexity in organic spring deposits using multiple dating methods.** *Quaternary Geochronology*, 43, 50-71.

Field, E., McGowan, H., Moss, P. and Marx, S. 2017: **A late Quaternary record of monsoon variability in the northwest Kimberley, Australia.** *Quaternary International*, 449, 119-135.

# Raising the Funds for Rock Art Research and Education

## 20th Anniversary Fundraising Dinner

The Foundation held a major fundraising dinner in Melbourne on 26 October to celebrate its 20th anniversary. The evening, sponsored by Westpac, was held on the top floor of Westpac's corporate headquarters and attended by 96 guests. The fundraising focus was the new Chair in Archaeological Science at the University of Melbourne which was announced on the night by the University's Chancellor, Allan Myers AC QC. Mr Myers was the keynote speaker. Other speakers included KFA Chairman Maria Myers AC, KFA Deputy Chairman The Hon. Laurie Brereton, KFA patron Andrew Forrest AO, Westpac's Head of Private Wealth Ashley Stewart and KFA Director Brenda Shanahan.

Fundraising revenue came from ticket sales and three auction items: Broome-based True North Adventure Cruises donated a True North Adventures 7-night Ocean Class Twin Cabin Kimberley Snapshot Cruise valued at \$27k and Paspaley Pearls donated a Paspaley Australia South Sea pearl in 750 yellow gold valued at \$7k. A sterling silver double figure Gwion panel on bevelled glass and framed in 22ct gold leaf, crafted by silversmith Dan Flynn of Flynn Silver, valued at \$7,400 was auctioned for \$25k. The evening was a great success with a profit on the night of \$154,131.



ASHLEY STEWART, BRENDA SHANAHAN, NOLAN HUNTER - KFA 20TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING DINNER

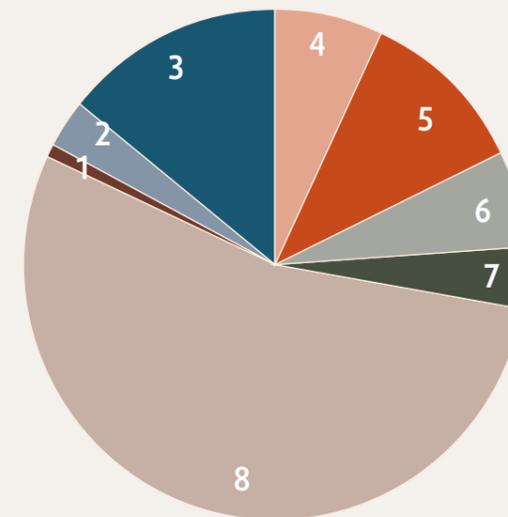
## Donations and Grants

The Company was incorporated on 24 September 1998.

The Company did not conduct any fundraising appeals during 2017. A number of sponsored fundraising lunches, public lectures and private donor events were held.

Donations and grants relating to these events total \$2,474,802 (2017: \$741,002). The Foundation continues to advocate for Kimberley rock art to be researched, preserved and promoted for its national and international significance.

## KFA Revenue Sources FY 2018



1	1%	Corporate Contribution
2	3%	In Kind
3	14%	Other (Investments, Interest)
4	7%	Individuals > \$100k
5	11%	Individuals \$10k-100k
6	6%	Individuals < \$10k
7	4%	Ian Potter Foundations
8	54%	Other Trusts and Foundations

Donations are only classified as Trusts and Foundations where specific grants have been requested.

Individuals Contributing > \$100k (or \$10k-\$100k) refers to sum of those individuals who have given more than \$100k (or \$10k-\$100k) in past 10 years.

Investment Income includes revaluations.

## Generous gifts pave the way for new Chair

Generous gifts from long term supporters enabled a new Chair to be established in perpetuity at the University of Melbourne. The new Chair will sit within the School of Earth Sciences in the Faculty of Science. The Chair was announced at a formal dinner in Melbourne in October by the University's Chancellor Allan Myers AC QC.

Funding of \$2 million towards the \$5 million Chair was donated by KFA to the University of Melbourne in June 2018. This comprised a gift of \$500,000 from KFA and a gift of \$1.5 million from KFA Patrons Andrew Forrest AO and Nicola Forrest.

Their understanding and enthusiasm for Kimberley rock art research led to the contribution from the Minderoo Foundation. The remaining funds were donated directly to the University. The benefit of this gift will be long-lasting and will be reflected in the outstanding opportunities it presents for Australia to lead in the field of Archaeological Science, particularly in relation to the Kimberley region of Australia. The collaboration that will take place with the University of Western Australia and with other universities and institutions across Australia and the world, coupled with the growing global interest in the deep history of Australia's Indigenous past, ensures the long-term consequences of this project.

Applications for the inaugural Chair Professor closed on 22 July 2018. It is envisaged the role will commence in 2019.

## The Ian Potter Foundation funds new KFA Fellowship in Rock Art Dating

The new \$700,000 *Kimberley Foundation Australia Fellowship in Rock Art Dating* is funded \$600k by The Ian Potter Foundation and \$100k by KFA over a 5-year period which commenced in March this year. The Fellowship was awarded to Dr Green to enable her to contribute to the multi-disciplinary project investigating the history of human origins in Australia and Indigenous cultures in the Kimberley known as the *Rock Art Dating* project. *Rock Art Dating 2* is funded separately by KFA and the Australian Research Council for a cash total of \$1.3 million over a four year period.

## Event Sponsorship and In-Kind Contributions

During the financial year the Foundation received \$86,427 of in-kind contributions. These relate to Allens for pro bono legal fees; KPMG for pro bono audit fees; Voyager Estate for the provision of wine at KFA events, and True North and Paspaley Pearls providing auction items at the KFA 20th Anniversary dinner in Melbourne. Westpac sponsored the 20th Anniversary KFA dinner (\$8,000) and INPEX sponsored the KFA Annual Lecture in Perth (\$5000).

## Events

An additional column 'Indigenous Engagement' has been added to the table below compared to previous reporting in Annual Reports. Inevitably KFA does much of its business in the Kimberley engaging with Indigenous stakeholders and organisations.

Financial Year	2016	2017	2018
Public engagement & dissemination of research information	3	5	5
Fundraising events	5	3	2
Stakeholder engagement/public profile event	2	2	2
Indigenous Engagement	2	2	5

During the year KFA presented 14 events. Five of these were talks and public lectures. Professor Andy Gleadow's guest lecture at ANSTO is a continuation of KFA's 2017 public lecture series and is included in the above chart under public engagement.

Two of the events relate to 'stakeholder engagement' and two are classified as fundraising events. In addition to these, KFA initiated and/or was involved in five significant 'Indigenous Engagement' events:

In July 2017 the Foundation hosted a 'Bush Gathering' at Doongan Station in the Kimberley. It was an opportunity to share the status of current research projects KFA is sponsoring and to talk about future research. Aboriginal people from remote Kimberley communities were invited. Traditional Owner Ian Waina was the spokesperson on behalf of the aboriginal participants on the *Rock Art Dating* project. 30 guests participated in the day-long workshop.

From 1-3 August 2017 KFA attended the **Kimberley Ranger Forum** held at Gurrbalgun (Pender Bay), Dampier Peninsula on Bardi country. The three-day forum was hosted by the **Kimberley Land Council** in partnership with



ARI GORRINGTON, KIMBERLEY LAND COUNCIL AND KFA'S LAURIE BRERETON AT THE KLC RANGER FORUM

the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. Sixty different Indigenous ranger groups and a total of 400 people attended. KFA Deputy Chairman The Hon Laurie Brereton and CEO Cas Bennetto participated.

On the 19 September 2017 the Chairman Maria Myers and Deputy Chairman Laurie Brereton attended the Kimberley Land Council (KLC) and **Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre** AGM at Kooljaman on Bardi country.

On 24 January 2018 KFA hosted a **Kimberley Ranger Rock Art Tour Workshop** attended by the KLC's CEO Nolan Hunter and Ari Gorrington, Business Development Manager. Three participants from Woodside attended: John Litchfield, Business Indigenous Affairs Manager, John Prowse, Senior Corporate Affairs Manager and Jarrod Pittson, General Manager Environment. The Chairman of The Nature Conservancy, Rob McLean and CEO Rich Gilmore attended as well as KFA's Chairman Maria Myers, Deputy Chairman Laurie Brereton and CEO Cas Bennetto. The outcome of the workshop will be a Ranger rock art tourism pilot. The development phase of this pilot is due to start late 2018.

On 24 April 2018 the CEO attended a Winun Ngari meeting in Derby along with KFA directors Sam Lovell and Rona Charles. The meeting was hosted by the **Winun Ngari Aboriginal Prescribed Body Corporate** CEO Susan Murphy. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss opportunities for communities represented by Winun Ngari to participate in the above-mentioned pilot, to strengthen KFA's engagement with Indigenous communities with whom we are involved and explore ways to promote rock art education in schools.

## How and What we Fund

Rock art research is central to answering some of the big questions about human migration. Through its research the Kimberley Foundation Australia is unravelling a cultural tradition spanning 60,000+ years. Aboriginal rock art of Australia and the story it tells traces the history of global human migration. Revealing this story is the basis of the Foundation's research. It is Australia's story.

Kimberley rock art is a complex archaeological subject and KFA has responded by developing a research program that spans key scientific disciplines. By unlocking the archives of the paleo environment and researching and dating the rock art we are learning how to conserve and protect this precious heritage and environment.

Our research projects require close collaboration with the scientific community and the support of the institutions involved with Kimberley research. KFA funds priority projects addressing the key research themes listed below.

### Project selection

The KFA's Science Advisory Council assesses each project proposal in the context of KFA's long-term research interests and with consideration of the interests and participation of Indigenous communities, sustainable research outcomes and the wider academic discourse.

KFA provides seed funding for approved 'first stage' research particularly if the research has potential to become an Australian Research Council (ARC) linkage project with academic partners. KFA will then consider funding 'stage two' to support an ARC grant application. Selected projects are anticipated to produce research results that will inform both policies and practical measures, leading to better protection and preservation of Kimberley rock art.

Research findings are communicated via professional journals, numerous media channels, a series of public lectures and talks as well as gatherings to share the information with Aboriginal partner organisations.

### Research themes

The priority research themes reflect leading questions in Kimberley rock art research and guide KFA in identifying and funding research projects:

1. Reconstructing past climate and environments
2. The production, composition and conservation of Kimberley art.
3. The antiquity of engraved and pigment art in the Kimberley and how we understand its variability across space and time.
4. The chronology of human occupation of the Kimberley in the context of archaeological and genetic data from Sunda (southeast extension of the continental shelf of Southeast Asia) and Sahul (mainland Australia, Tasmania, New Guinea and neighbouring islands).

## New funding

In FY2018 KFA approved \$605,000 of new funding:

- *Rock Art Dating Project Bridging Funds*: An additional **\$45,000** was awarded to cover the period between the end of the 3-year funding commitment for RAD-1 (June 2017) until the commencement of RAD-2.
- *Kimberley Foundation Australia Fellowship in Rock Art Dating*: In October 2017 the Kimberley Foundation Australia was awarded a grant of **\$600,000** over 5 years from The Ian Potter Foundation to support Dr Helen Green, a Research Fellow, at the School of Earth Sciences, University of Melbourne to undertake the *KFA Fellowship in Rock Art Dating*.

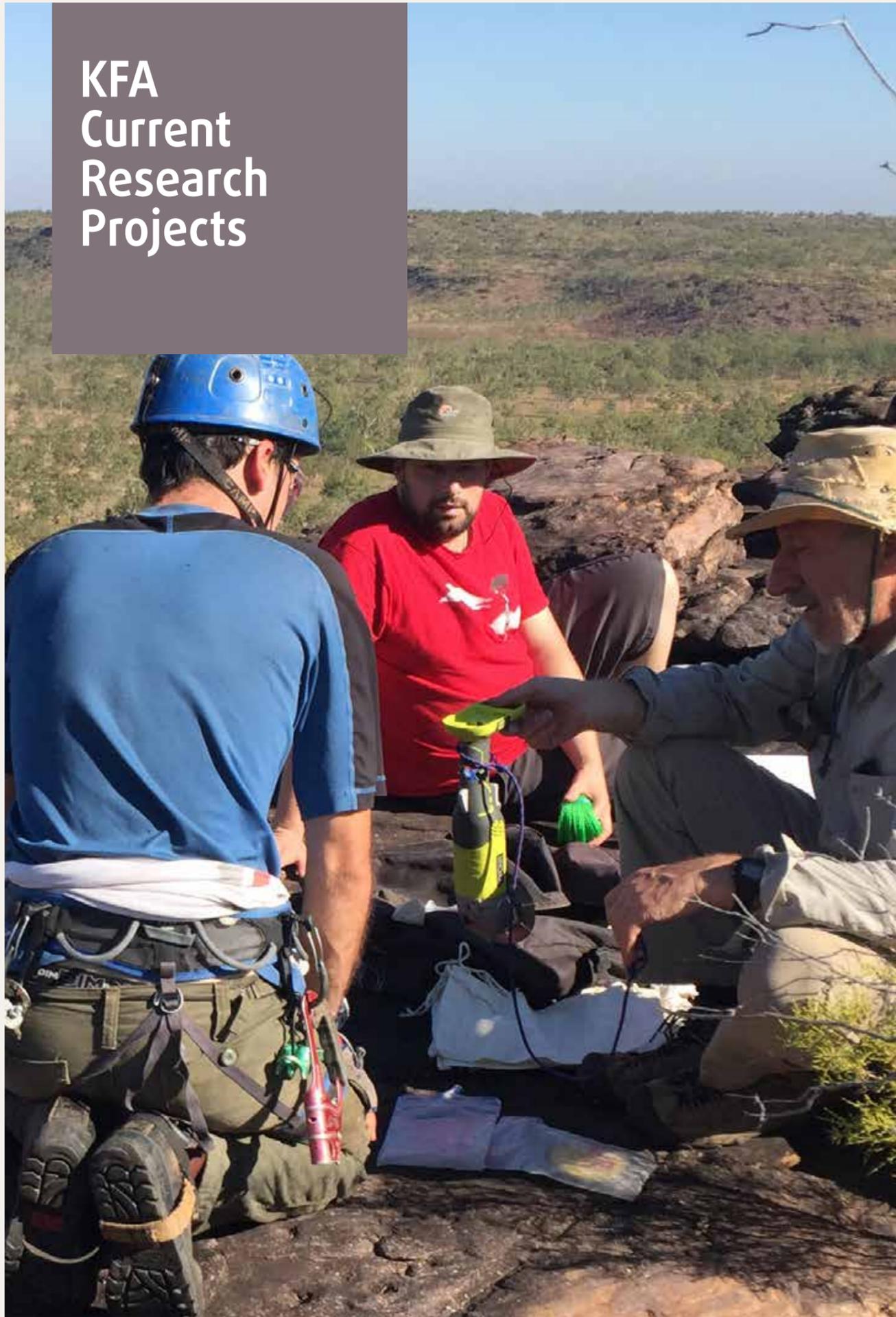
KFA awarded an additional **\$100k** to Dr Green's Fellowship bringing **total recompense for the Fellowship to \$700,000 over 5 years**. Funding commenced at the start of 2018. The University of Melbourne has contributed an additional \$40k.

- *Unlocking the environmental archives of the Kimberley's past*: New funding of **\$400,000** over four years was approved for a multi-disciplinary research program led by Professor Hamish McGowan at the University of Queensland. Research will commence in 2019 to establish a series of long-duration paleo-environmental and paleo-climate reconstructions for the Kimberley region spanning the last 60,000 years.

The project was seed funded by the Kimberley Foundation Australia and awarded an Australia Research Council grant of \$460,429 earlier this year. The cash total of \$860,429 over four years is supported with in-kind funding from both Dunkeld Pastoral Company and the KFA, leveraging the project a further \$78k.

- *Clarifying Kimberley Rock Art Sequences*: New funding of **\$40k** for one year was approved to support a pilot Stage 1 project led by Ben Gunn. Dr Gunn is the recipient of a medal for best doctoral thesis completed in the Faculty of Arts at Monash University. KFA is the fortunate beneficiary of the method developed in his award-winning thesis.
- *Plants and pictures: geophyte exploration and Kimberley rock art*: New funding of **\$18,000** was approved for this project led by Professor Richard Cosgrove at Latrobe University, Dr Judith Field and Assoc. Prof Adelle Coster at the University of NSW. This is in addition to the \$20k funding awarded in FY2017 for stage one of this project Past Indigenous Subsistence Practices in the Kimberley.
- *Grinding stones & starch in Arnhem Land*: New funding of **\$2,000** was approved for a supplementary project in Arnhem Land conducted by Dr Judith Field.

# KFA Current Research Projects



GAIL CAZES, TIBI CODILEAN AND DAVID FINK, BARTON RIVER 2018 PHOTO: PAUL HARTLEY

## Rock Art Dating

The KFA-supported ARC Linkage Project *Dating the Aboriginal rock art of the Kimberley region, WA - landscape geochemistry, surface processes and complementary dating techniques* led by Professor Andy Gleadow, School of Earth Sciences, the University of Melbourne was originally funded for three years from 1 July 2014. An amount of \$65,000 remained unspent at the end of June 2017, the formal end date of the project, and the Australian Research Council (ARC) approved extending the project for an additional six months until the end of December 2017. This left a shortfall of \$45,000 to continue the project at the same level. KFA agreed to provide this funding.

### Outcomes

#### Bridging Funds

Provision of bridging funding of \$45,000 during the last half of 2017 permitted the Kimberley *Rock Art Dating* project to continue without loss of momentum until the end of 2017. The additional time allowed for substantial new funding to be secured from the ARC for a further four years of research in the new and larger *Rock Art Dating* Project that will operate from 2018 until 2021. The new project will build on the substantial foundation built by the research team during the first phase of this exciting and world-leading research.

The bridging funds also permitted Dr Helen Green's Postdoctoral Fellowship under RAD-1 to continue until her new *KFA Fellowship in Rock Art Dating* started at the beginning of 2018. All funds were expended by 31 December 2017. A nil balance remains.

#### Linkage Project

An application for the follow-up Linkage Project was submitted in April 2017 entitled *Dating the aboriginal rock art sequence of the Kimberley in NW Australia*. The success of this application was announced on 2 October 2017 providing new funding of \$220,000 per annum from the ARC matched by \$100,000 per annum from the KFA for a period of four years – a total of \$1.28 million.

The new project formally began with the signing of the Linkage Partner Agreement on 26 April 2018, and includes a team of researchers from the Universities of Melbourne, Western Australia, Wollongong, and Manchester, ANSTO and Dunkeld Pastoral Company, with the KFA, Balangarra Aboriginal Corporation and the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions as supporting Partner Organisations.

### Research Papers and Lectures

Two research papers were published in 2017 and a substantial number of conference presentations including a series of four papers at the Australian Archaeological Association meeting in Melbourne in December 2017. A series of 12 research papers are currently in preparation arising from RAD-1. Of these, an additional three papers are expected to be submitted for publication in September-October 2018 and a series of four papers are being presented by project participants at the International Federation of Rock Art Organisations (IFRAO 2018) conference in Valcamonica, Italy in September 2018.

This research continues to attract significant public interest and has been the basis of a series of public lectures by various project participants, including the *2017 Annual KFA Public Lecture series* by project leader Prof Gleadow. The research was also the subject of a Distinguished Lecture delivered by Prof Gleadow at ANSTO in early June 2018 which substantially raised the profile of KFA within that organisation. Prof Gleadow has also been invited to present a keynote lecture about the project at the 16th International Thermochronology Conference in Quedlinburg, Germany in September 2018.



CECILIA MYERS, HELEN GREEN AND TO IAN WAINA, ROCK ART DATING PROJECT 2018 PHOTO: PAULINE HEANEY

## Kimberley Visions

**Kimberley Visions: Rock Art Style Provinces of North Australia Led by Professor Peter Veth, Centre for Rock Art Research + Management, University of Western Australia**

*Kimberley Visions* is a ground breaking 5-year Australian Research Council Linkage Project, with a total of \$1.3 million in direct funding garnering \$2.4 million of in-kind support. Project partners include Balanggarra Aboriginal Corporation, Balanggarra Rangers and Kimberley Land Council, the Kimberley Foundation Australia (principal funder), the Western Australian Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction (Parks and Wildlife Department) and Dunkeld Pastoral Corporation. Academic partners are Monash University, University of Melbourne and France's Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the Université de Savoie.

*Kimberley Visions* is a collaborative scientific push to map out the nature and role of art in managing social and environmental change over the past 50,000 years across Northern Australia. It focuses on the emergence of rock art across the Kimberley and Arnhem Land rock art, unpacking their similarities and differences through time, in order to better understand the movement of people and culture. It aims to address how and when regionalisms occurs in art.

2018 marks the third season of collaborative fieldwork for the project, building on three-month field seasons in 2016 and 2017 conducted in the Drysdale River, King George River and Forrest River catchments, which have used foot, 4WD, boat and helicopter surveys. Researchers came from the University of Western Australia, Monash University, La Trobe, University of New South Wales, the Australian National University, WA's Parks and Wildlife with volunteers from Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia.



**"The scale, preservation and complexity of the art and archaeology of this huge portion of the north Kimberley is near-unprecedented"**

Prof Peter Veth

## Outcomes

The 2016 and 2017 fieldwork programs involved known rock art 'hot-spots', with the team building upon large legacy data-sets. In 2018 surveying was undertaken in lesser known territory. This included identifying new base camps with sufficient water for three-week periods, space for 20-odd researchers, and access to survey areas on foot as well as a launch pad for the helicopter work. The purpose of this survey strategy is to extend coverage of rock art recording across Balanggarra country and the northern Kimberley, and link up different art production locales in order to understand how people have negotiated different landscapes. For example, what art they have made and what stone tool technologies they have used? This permits the team to examine stylistic variability of the art within known style provinces, and to map differences in space and time.

Previous 'hot-spots' focused on the major Kimberley river systems, whereas this year a large rock art complex located away from any major rivers, on a low elevation sandstone plateau crisscrossed by rock shelters and smaller water bodies was uncovered. This area was rich in complex rock art, including large Wanjina sites, and other archaeological material including flaked and ground stone artefacts, stone quarries, grinding stones and patches. Large potential archaeological deposits will help to further contextualise what people were doing in these art and living sites, off the rivers.

Detailed and systematic rock art recording was undertaken by PhD candidate Ana Motta in the Planigale Creek area, addressing specific research goals of the project including the interaction of human and animal figures within early Kimberley rock art styles. Dr Ben Gunn assessed complex superimposition research for his project *Clarifying Kimberley Rock Art Sequences* in collaboration with the broader *Visions* team.



Archaeological excavation of a 12,000 year old open site – the first to be excavated in the East Kimberley – was continued (from initial *Visions* work in 2016), led by PhD candidate Marine Benoit with students from the University of Western Australia and Flinders University. This site had already provided a rich, multi-phase lithic record with an *in situ* hearth 1.5 metres below the surface and continued to reward the archaeologists with intact occupation floors, and hearths rich in dateable charcoal with excellent preservation upon which anthracological studies can be undertaken.

The team has also continued collaborative work with the *Rock Art Dating* Project, and a KFA-funded plant residue research team led by researchers Richard Cosgrove (La Trobe University) and Judith Field (University of New South Wales).

*Visions* members have presented at numerous national conferences as well as primary and senior school classes – in line with the CSIRO in Schools and Junior Rangers programs in Kalumburu (2017) and Wyndham (2018), working particularly with the 'chemistry' of rock art pigment making.

Traditional Owners Ian Waina, William Maraltadj Jnr. and Rowan Waina assisted the team with all aspects of fieldwork during June, and Ambrose Chalarimeri and William Maraltadj Snr. throughout July. The Balanggarra Rangers provided invaluable logistical support and involvement in fieldwork,

transporting camping gear and helicopter fuel into the remote field camps, checking camera traps installed at art sites to document illegal visitation, and collaborating with team members to survey new areas of Balanggarra country in association with a proposed Remote Ranger Base.

The *Visions* team has now recorded 1,032 rock art and other archaeological sites and excavated twelve archaeological sites. The project has three active PhD candidates, one affiliated PhD candidate, and two Honours students. The team looks forward to the 2019 field season, with planned excavation of Minjiwarra, a kilometre long deposit which has returned dates from the present to 50,000 years ago, associated with lithic material – providing a full record in stone of human occupation in the Kimberley.

Analyses of earlier Gwion and dynamic action figures is now underway with a corpus of comparable dynamic art from Arnhem Land identified and being worked on by Dr Tristen Jones from the ANU. Aspects of this work will be presented at the 2018 IFRAO and EAA Conferences in Valcamonica and Barcelona in August and September of 2018.

As *Visions* now enters its 3rd year of survey and data collection, the shift will be more towards analyses of regional and local art style bodies and publication of these and the ongoing excavations.

DARRELL LEWIS, PETER VETH, IAN WAINA, JOC SCHEMICHEN, MARINE BENOIT, ANA MOTTA AND STAFFORD SMITH

BALANGGARRA TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND RANGERS - JOHN SCOTT, CON, JAMES (BRDY) AND ISAAC.



***“What we hope now is that our records of environmental change can be useful to all the other researchers ...”***

Emily Field

## Palynology

### *Unlocking Environmental Archives/Palynology*

The Foundation has funded a palynology /environmental change project which included an understanding of the Australian monsoon entitled ***Unlocking the archives of the Kimberley’s past: A pilot study of sediment cores from the North West Kimberley*** led by Prof. Hamish McGowan with PhD candidate Emily Field, University of Queensland.

Providing a palaeoenvironmental framework for the Kimberley region which gives context to the archaeological and rock art record is a research priority for KFA. The strategic funding of this research has led to the recently announced KFA-ARC Linkage Project (see new funding above) which will commence in 2019.

This project is now complete with a balance \$1,185 remaining. Below is the report from Emily Field.

Across much of tropical Australia the monsoonal climate affects sediments which we might typically use to investigate past environmental change. Monsoonal rains might scour away the sediment, and the wind may remove it during dry periods. Fossils within the sediments can also get affected by this seasonality as they can become weathered. However, in some locations across the Kimberley, springs containing deep peaty sediment deposits have been found which provide an exciting avenue for palaeoenvironmental research.

In 2005 Dr Andy Hammond and the late Grahame Walsh collected sediments from a number of sites, including Black Springs, which were donated to the University of Queensland. Initial analysis showed that these springs contained fossils and information for palaeoenvironmental research, including pollen and dust. As a result, a record of environmental change thought to be up to 15,000 years long could be developed from Black Springs. Based on this success, a team of researchers from the University of Queensland (UQ) and University of Wollongong (UoW) took samples from a number of springs across the Kimberley in the 2015 dry season.

Obtaining reliable dates for the sediments is essential. “We would normally expect older dates at the bottom of the spring sediments” Emily says. “As the sediment gets shallower the dates become younger, representing the process of deposition through time.”

However, the initial radiocarbon dates didn’t follow this pattern. A team of researchers from UQ, UoW, James Cook University, the University of Freiburg and ANSTO were called in to assist. They found that the application of standard radiocarbon dating methods to the springs was problematic due to groundwater fluctuations and biological processes such as root growth down through

the sediments. “We needed to isolate carbon from the sediments created at the time of past burning events” explains Emily.

Emily and the team found that a relatively new radiocarbon pre-treatment technique, called hydrogen pyrolysis (HyPy) allowed that process to take place and removed most other contaminants. Emily finally obtained a logical sequence of radiocarbon dates for the springs using this technique.

Next, the research team worked out whether the past environmental changes seen at Black Springs reflected broader scale climatic change across the Kimberley, or whether they were a response to local spring dynamics.

“We did this by analysing three springs spread across a distance of 100km, and by looking at the microfossils and geochemistry of their sediments. Interestingly, each of the springs started to accumulate sediment at roughly the same time – during the deglacial around 14,500 years ago. This suggested to us that we were seeing a response to a regional scale change in climate at this time” Emily says.

With the help of Dr Jon Tyler from the University of Adelaide, statistical techniques showed that there were indeed synchronous changes at the three springs in the geochemistry and non-pollen palynomorphs (ecological microfossils which are preserved alongside pollen but which are derived from other sources such as algae and fungi). “This showed us that these indicators were responding to regional scale changes, and that the springs were recording climatic changes across northwest Australia.

“What we now know from the palaeoenvironmental records developed from the three springs is that monsoonal precipitation increased in the deglacial from around 14,500 years and remained relatively high until about 7500 years ago. It seems to have been particularly wet across the region between 11,000 – 7500 years before present but the monsoon then appeared to weaken after 7,500 years. We see a short return to increased rainfall at about 4200 years ago.”

This coincides with the global ‘4.2 ka event’ which was one of the most severe climatic events of the last 12,000 years, although there are limited records for this event from Australia. “It’s intriguing that we’re picking this up in the northwest,” says Emily. The records also show that the monsoon weakened 2600 years ago, with a period of particularly low rainfall between 2000 and 1000 years, before becoming more active again in the last millennium.

“What we hope now is that our records of environmental change can be useful to all the other researchers working in the Kimberley and that our work will go on to help others interpret their records” Emily says.

## Kimberley Paleoclimates Project

***Kimberley Paleoclimates*** – led by Karl Heinz Wyrwoll, University Western Australia. **Supplementary funding of \$10k was approved in FY2017 for an extension of Palaeoclimate (Fitzroy Catchments Fluvial Systems) project.**

A five week fieldwork period was undertaken during July-August 2017 (FY18) during which time 35 samples were collected for luminescence dating. The samples were obtained from an extensive alluvial section upstream from Fitzroy Crossing and from the desert dune succession at the margins of King Sound. The potential significance of dunes was first noted by Fairbridge (1964), with an initial study undertaken by Jennings (1975). They were thought to date from the Last Glacial Maximum.

The OSL dating is being undertaken by Dr Xulong Wang (Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xian) and the results should be available by the end of 2018.

### Problems and findings

It is anticipated that the additional dates will resolve some of the issues posed by the luminescence dates presently available, especially questions such as: (i) what is the timing of dune formation and what is its paleoclimate significance?; (ii) the nature of the Last Glacial Maximum climate – how severe was the summer monsoon downturn?; and (iii) the Late Holocene paleo discharge regime – was there a significant downturn in large flood events during the Late Holocene – implying a weakening of summer monsoon activity?

The Last Glacial Maximum findings will be linked with the results of an ensemble global climate model study to ascertain the controlling climate dynamics (with Y. Shao, Institute of Meteorology, University of Koeln). Also, model experiments have been completed with the Centre for Climate Research, University of Wisconsin-Madison that focuses on questions of direct insolation forcing of the monsoon.

## Clarifying Kimberley Rock Art Sequences

**Clarifying Kimberley Rock Art Sequences: presenting the evidence – Dr Ben Gunn, Research Fellow, Monash University**

This project is funded through a \$40,000 grant from the Kimberley Foundation Australia with additional support from Monash University (Monash Indigenous Studies Centre) and the ARC Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage (CABAH). The grant was administered by Monash University, with invaluable fieldwork support provided by members of the *Kimberley Visions* ARC project. The study was undertaken with the full support of Augustine Unhangho, Traditional Owner of the project area.

Additional assistance was provided by Leigh Douglas, Joc Schmeichen, Ken Mulvaney, Maddy Kelly, Andrew and Susan Johnson, Sam Harper, Rowan Waina, William (Coco) Maraltidj, the Balanggarra Rangers, Tim and Helen Parsons (Theda Station), Bruno David, Pauline Heaney, Mike Donaldson and Cecilia Myers. Special thanks to helicopter pilot Nick Sundblom.

The aim of the pilot project is to systematically document, publish, and make available to research teams the patterns of superimposition for Kimberley rock art based on image enhancement and Harris Matrices at 3-4 key sites; and by doing so, demonstrate the value of the methods used in the analysis of current questions about existing style-sequences.

This evidence will allow all researchers to assess for themselves sequence trends in the Kimberley rock art record, and be especially useful to current and future dating teams aiming to obtain direct (e.g. radiocarbon, U-series, OSL) dates for specific rock art styles and conventions.

Prior to the fieldwork, sites with potentially suitable suites of superimposed motifs were nominated by the KFA's Rock Art Archivist Pauline Heaney (Takaracka), Mike Donaldson (KFA Science Advisory Council) and Joc Schmeichen, all rock art enthusiasts with detailed knowledge of sites in the project area, and Dr Bruno David (KFA Science Advisory Council) who had visited numerous sites.

Permissions for the project were given by the senior Traditional Owner, Augustine Unhangho and the Balanggarra Rangers under the umbrella permission granted to the *Kimberley Visions* project.

### Fieldwork

Fieldwork was undertaken over the period 3-24 June 2018, with on-site recording from 8-22 June. In order to fit in with the *Kimberley Visions* fieldwork program and the fieldwork of UWA PhD candidate Anna Motta (also looking at aspects

of the rock art), the fieldwork focused on the Planigale Creek / Drysdale River area of the Drysdale River National Park, northern Kimberley.

The research team led by Ben Gunn included Leigh Douglas (volunteer photographer), Dr Ken Mulvaney (rock art specialist and volunteer), and Madeleine Kelly (PhD candidate at Monash). They were assisted at all times by two local Balanggarra men, Rowan Waina and William Maraltidj.

It was proposed that 3-4 sites would be recorded in detail and their superimposition sequences analysed. A large art site now referred to as Pundawar Manbur (Pundawar = locality name; Manbur = kangaroo) was the primary investigation site because of its wide variety of styles (including a range of Gwions) and the number of superimpositions it contained. It took four people four days to record the shelter, its art, and to ensure its many superimpositions were properly recorded.

A further 30 nearby shelters were also examined and their major superimpositions noted. Initially, the Walsh/Donaldson rock art motif typologies were used for basic descriptions of the art (Donaldson 2012; Walsh 2000) however additional rock art types needed to be devised, for some motifs did not fit or were not included in the existing typologies.

In particular, a distinctive but previously unclassified form of stout, striped anthropomorph was newly identified; these were termed 'Yam figures' by Donaldson but, as this term could be confused with the well-known Yam style figures in the rock art of Arnhem Land (Chaloupka 1993), we have chosen to call them 'Stout' figures here until a more relevant term can be suggested by Traditional Owners. Other classes selected for highlighting included drawings, scratchings, complimentary defacements (primarily through pecking or pounding), poundings (of individual motifs), and a class of 'Other' for all other unclassified motif types. In addition Cupules and Abraded motifs, and Stencils and Prints (of hands and objects) were also separated at this stage rather than treating them as single categories as had Walsh/Donaldson.

### Outcomes

The field recording of Pundawar Manbur identified 297 individual motifs on the main panel, but this number is expected to increase when the photographic record is analysed with a greater range of digital enhancement tools. The main panel contained numerous identifiable superimpositions; these will be documented and tabulated in the final report.

Overall, the fieldwork resulted in 2901 photographs of the art sites, the people involved, and views of the country in which we worked. Plans and cross-sections were produced for six shelters.



*“... we have chosen to call them 'Stout' figures here until a more relevant term can be suggested by Traditional Owners.*

Ben Gunn



## Plants and Pictures

**Plants and Pictures: Geophyte exploration and Kimberley rock art** led by Associate Professor Richard Cosgrove, La Trobe University, and Dr Judith Field and Assoc. Prof Adelle Coster, University NSW

In 2017 Stage 1 of this project, *Past Indigenous Subsistence Practices in the Kimberley: a comparative approach*, initially examined plants in both subsistence and in artistic representations. The primary aim of this extended project (2018 field season) is to explore the social and economic significance of geophyte use, their antiquity and seasonal exploitation, in Aboriginal settlement in the Kimberley region. In many Kimberley plant motifs, their distinctive morphological characteristics have been incorporated as design elements that clearly make species identification possible.

The research team, accompanied by botanist Matt Barrett and a macrobotanical specialist from UWA, India Dilkes-Hall, joined the *Kimberley Visions* project to undertake survey, excavation and collections of reference material for the geophyte project. Two areas were targeted: the floodplain and escarpment near the Barton River, and the area around Oomarri on the King George River. One excavation was completed and over 40 starchy plant samples were identified and collected. Sediments and grinding stones from various rock shelters were also sampled in order to assay the survival of starch in these environments.

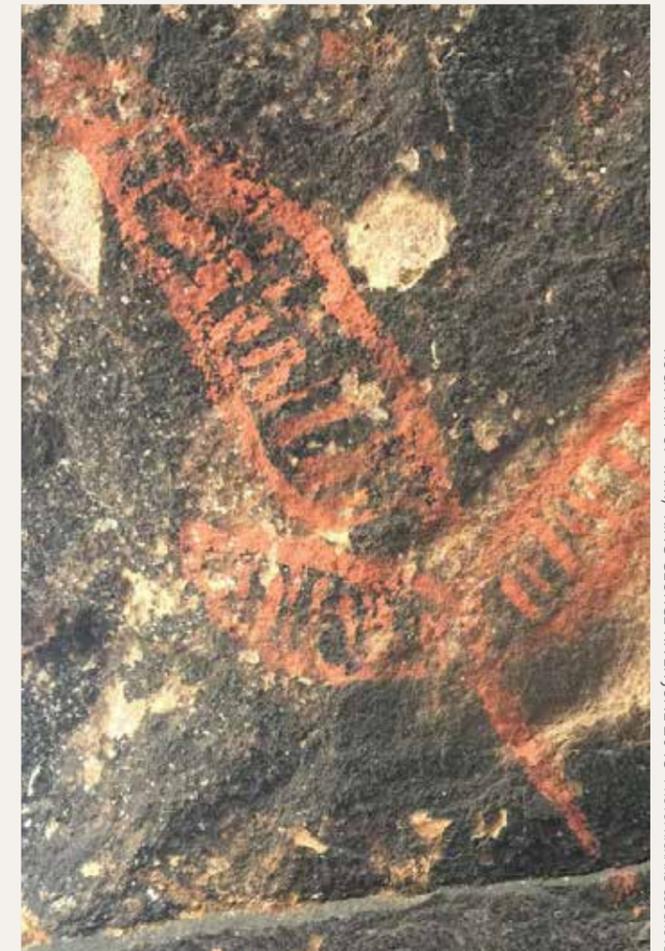
There were four components of the field work at Carson River: Rock Art survey, botanical survey, plant sample collection and where possible sample collection for starch analysis. Numerous rock shelters were identified with apparent representations of yams. These occurred alongside a range of other motifs including Wanjinias, animals such as turtles and kangaroos. The team's specific interests were the associated material culture, in particular grinding stones, grinding patches and other stone artefacts.

In addition to these surveys they spent time exploring a number of landscapes where starchy tubers may be located. Some starch plants are found in the vicinity of water bodies or places that are continuously damp. Both are known to be important economic plants in different parts of the continent, yet Nardoo does not feature in the recent ethnography of the Kimberley. Its consumption was implicated in the demise of Burke and Wills. Nardoo contains Thyminase which breaks down vitamin B1, and causes a condition known as 'beriberi'. Nardoo is found across most of the arid, semi-arid and savanna regions of the Australian continent. It requires complex processing to remove these toxins, and while documented in other regions of the continent as an important foodstuff, may not have been exploited here.

Numerous plant specimens likely to be traditionally collected and eaten were found on the Carson River track. In one location, on an isolated and recently burnt slope, there was a concentrated stand of *Cycas basaltica*. This species of Cycad produces numerous fruits which, in other locations, are subject to complex processing methods to render them safe for consumption. There are no confirmed records of them being eaten this far west. Close by were a number of small herbaceous plants (e.g. *Cartonema* sp.) which have small edible tubers. They are easily identified when re-spouting after fire.

The yam collectors ('yammers') spent considerable time combing different areas looking for tuberous plants. As the distributional ranges of many species are still largely unknown, it provided an opportunity to plot not only what species were present, but also to map those occurring together and their specific environmental contexts. The various forms were recorded to compare with presentations in the rock art.

Initial results have provided a range of new data to better understand the range of plants represented in the rock art, the morphologies of the associated starch as well seasonal availability; however there is still a considerable amount of consolidating work to do in the laboratory at UNSW and at La Trobe University.





## Radio Carbon Pre-treatment Lab Project

### Radio Carbon Pre-treatment lab at the University of Melbourne

The funding of \$17,000 approved in FY17 for a **Radio Carbon Pre-treatment lab** at the University of Melbourne was expended this year with the purchase of the equipment.

Prior to procuring this equipment Damien Finch, PhD candidate working with the Rock Art Dating team on radiocarbon dating of mud wasp nests, was obliged to go to Sydney to use equipment at the ANSTO laboratory. The ANSTO laboratory is still a vital partner in the analysis but the new radiocarbon pre-treatment equipment purchased by the Foundation has enabled Damien to undertake most of the pre-treatment in-house at the University of Melbourne. The outcome is that twice as many radiocarbon age estimates have been produced. The team now has enough evidence to make a strong argument that radiocarbon dating of mud wasp nests can produce reliable and useful results.

## Grinding stone use in Northern Australia

**Grinding stone use in Northern Australia: the case for Madjedbebe, NT** led by Dr Judith Field with Assoc Prof Adelle Coster, University of NSW.

Due to the considerable parallels with the project investigating plant use in the Kimberley (see previous page), KFA agreed to contribute \$2,000 to the cost of research assistance in the preparation of material to analyse grindstones recovered during excavations at Madjedbebe in Arnhem Land.

This small project, the sampling and preparation of archaeological and modern comparative material from the Madjedbebe site and Arnhem Land flora has provided an important reference point for the Kimberley project. With the ensuing quantitative analysis of this material the researchers will be able to investigate the antiquity of starchy plant use as well as building a robust reference set for any work examining the range of plants used by Indigenous people.

The exploitation in Sahul (the Pleistocene landmass comprising Australia-New Guinea), of a range of starch-producing plants is thought to have its origins in the Pleistocene (↑12,000 years ago). Few places on the continent are known to contain evidence of starchy plant use from this time. The exceptions are Cuddie Springs in NW NSW (see Fullagar et al., 2006) to around 30,000 years BP and Madjedbebe in Arnhem Land, with claims of over 60,000 years.

The Madjedbebe investigators provided access to a range of reference material, and these assemblages overlap with the kinds of plants seen in the Kimberley records. Over 10 grinding stones, mostly from the oldest level (c.55-65ka) horizons at Madjedbebe were sampled and these were processed by the KFA-funded research assistant.



JUDITH FIELD SAMPLING, JUNE 2018 PHOTO: RICHARD COSGROVE



BERNADETTE WAINA, BUSH GATHERING 2017 PHOTO: MARK JONES

## Film Projects

### Stories in Stone

The documentary film has been in pre-production during the past 24 months. The creative team has been consulting with Traditional Owners and Prescribed Body Corporates in the Kimberley and obtaining permission for the documentary to proceed. \$300,000 funding was approved in FY16.

### Bush Gathering

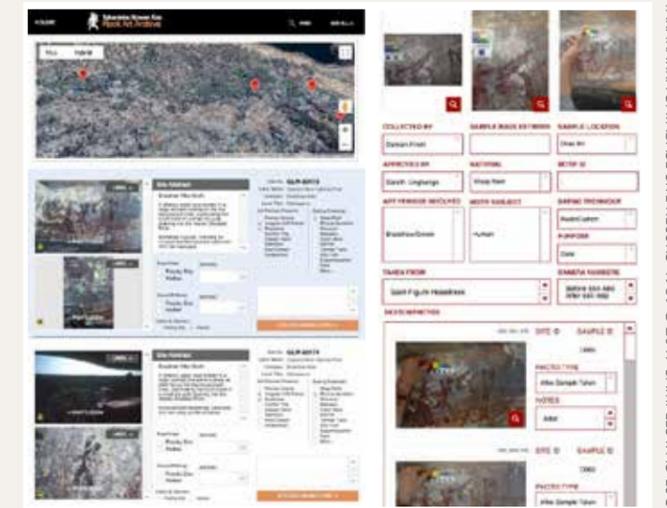
In July 2017 the Foundation hosted a Bush Gathering in the Kimberley (see Events) and contracted cameraman, Mark Jones, to film the workshop and presentations. A total of \$6,000 was spent on a Communicating Research project involving filming, editing and producing vignettes for digital distribution and the KFA website.

### 20th Anniversary

During FY18 the Foundation celebrated its 20th anniversary with numerous events and the annual public lecture series – already recounted in this report. Film footage which involved sourcing and re-imaging extensive archival material relating to the late Grahame Walsh was edited and produced. A budget of \$15,650 was agreed by the Board in FY17, of which \$7,825 was spent this year.

## Takaraka Archive Database

Funding of \$100k for the Takaraka Archive database was designated in September 2017 to digitise legacy data of rock art records, the scanning of slides, site notes and sketches and cataloguing digital images and notes. The project in FY 2018 has developed into a priceless resource for researchers on KFA-sponsored projects. Fees include payment to KFA Archivist and Project Resource Manager Pauline Heaney and software, license fees, hosting fees and database user access portal.



TAKARAKKA DATABASE SITE RECORD 1989-9 2017 SAMPLES IPAD LOG

# KFA Board of Directors



Researching, preserving and  
promoting Kimberley rock art  
[www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au](http://www.kimberleyfoundation.org.au)

## Board of Directors

### Chairman - Maria Myers AC

Maria Myers is Chairman of the Kimberley Foundation Australia. She is a director of the State Library of Victoria and Chairman of the State Library of Victoria Foundation. She is a director of Dunkeld Pastoral Company Pty Ltd and Loreto College Ballarat. She is a member of Council at St Mary's College at the University of Melbourne and The Nature Conservancy's Advisory Council. She is a supporter of and advocate for the Burnet Institute and Patron of the Australian String Quartet. Maria was awarded a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) in the 2016 Australia Day Honours for the advancement of the understanding of Indigenous rock art and for her service to the community through philanthropic leadership. Maria joined the KFA Board in 2001.

### Deputy Chairman - Laurie Brereton

The Hon Laurie Brereton is Chairman of Beelgara Estate (Australia) Pty Ltd, Wine Insights Pty Ltd & Cumulus Wines Pty Ltd and is Director of Airbus Group Australia Pacific Limited & John Curtin House Limited. In 2004 Laurie retired from public life after a distinguished parliamentary career spanning 34 years in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly and the Australian House of Representatives. Laurie joined the KFA Board in 2006.

### Director/Treasurer - Brenda Shanahan

Brenda Shanahan has served in senior executive and board roles in Australia and overseas primarily in stockbroking, funds management and investment consulting and is widely acknowledged for her expertise on boards and management. Brenda is a Director of Clinuvel Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Bell Financial Group Ltd., Phoslock Environment Technologies Ltd., DMP Asset Management Ltd., and a member of the Swinburne University Industry Advisory Board, and the Australian Advisory Board on Technology and Healthcare Competitiveness. Brenda is a recent past Chair of St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research and is currently a member of the SVI Foundation. She is a former Director of Challenger Limited, member of the Australian Stock Exchange, partner of May Mellor Laing & Cruikshank and principal of Investment Consulting and worldwide partner at WM Mercer. Brenda joined the KFA Board in 2009 and has been the Treasurer since 2011.

### Director – Susan Bradley

Susan Bradley has lived in the Kimberley for 49 years. In 1994/95, at the request of four Ngarinyin aboriginal elders, she established 'Bush University'. From this developed Friends of the Ngarinyin, and with former KFA Director Christina Kennedy she formed the Wandjina Foundation in 1997. In 2002 The Wandjina Foundation was renamed the Kimberley Foundation Australia. Susan has been a KFA Board member since. Susan has held many prominent public and private board positions, primarily relating to northern Australia. She lives on a pastoral property in the North

Kimberley and manages three cattle stations. She is involved with many Aboriginal communities and is a member of the Regional Development Australia Council Kimberley.

### Director – Julian Burt

Julian is director/owner of Metzke Pty Ltd and MJW Rail Pty Ltd. He is also a director of Margaret Court AO Community Outreach Foundation and West Australian Opera. Julian is Chairman, Finance Committee, Liberal Party of Australia (WA); Member of Chapter and Governor of St George's Cathedral in Perth; National Gallery Foundation Directorship and Patron; and West Australian Football Hall of Fame. Julian joined the KFA Board in 2014.

### Director – Bruce Cameron

Bruce Cameron is a graduate of Monash University and holds a Bachelor of Jurisprudence and Bachelor of Laws. He is a commercial lawyer with around 30 years' experience in the law and business. Bruce is a senior member of a boutique commercial law practice he established with others in Melbourne in 1986. Bruce assisted KFA for several years on a pro bono basis on matters concerning Aboriginal rock art and culture. He is a director and trustee of a number of private companies and trusts which are involved in matters of business and the care of others. Bruce joined the KFA Board in 2010.

### Director – Rona Charles

Rona Charles is a Nyikina/Ngarinyin woman belonging to the Nikina/Mangala and Wilinggin people of the North Kimberley in Western Australia. She is based in the Yumurlun (Pandanus Park) Community and Mowanjum Community of WA. Rona is a leader in teaching young people about learning and maintaining junba dance and stories, and how these practices relate to country, incorporating junba practice in her work as a ranger and anthropological and conservation consultant. Rona joined the KFA Board in October 2016

### Director – Professor Andrew Gleadow AO

Andrew Gleadow is an Emeritus Professor of Geology and former Head of the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Melbourne. In 2017 he was awarded an AO for distinguished service to the earth sciences and to education, as an academic and researcher in the field of thermo-chronology and landscape evolution, and to professional geological and scientific societies. Professor Gleadow has researched and published widely on the development and application of radiometric dating techniques, particularly in fission track analysis and thermochronology. His work has included dating of hominin fossil sites in East Africa. Andy is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Sciences and a former President of the Geological Society of Australia. He was appointed Chair of the Science Advisory Council in November 2013 and joined the KFA Board in 2014.

### Director - Cissy Gore-Birch

Cissy Gore-Birch has Jaru heritage through her grandmother's country and is connected to Nyikina and Balangarra country. She grew up on Balangarra country in the East Kimberley region where she was the Chairperson of Balangarra Aboriginal Corporation for nearly 5 years.

Cissy sits on the Kimberley Land Council & NAILSMA Board, the Indigenous Advisory Committee to the Commonwealth Department of Environment and also on the TSR Indigenous Hub. Cissy is passionate about country, people and sustainable livelihoods. Cissy is the National Aboriginal Engagement Manager at the Bush Heritage Australia. Cissy joined the KFA Board in June 2018.

### Director - Steven Gregg

Steve is Chairman of Caltex, a director of Challenger Limited, Challenger Life Company Limited, Lorna Hodgkinson Foundation, Tabcorp Holdings Limited and William Inglis & Son Limited. He is the Chairman of Unisson Disability Limited and a trustee of the Australian Museum. He has previously served as Chairman of Goodman Fielder Limited and Austock Group Limited, and was a member of the Grant Samuel non-executive advisory board. Steve joined the KFA Board in June 2018.

### Director – Nolan Hunter

Nolan Hunter is CEO of the Kimberley Land Council, an organisation representing Traditional Owners in the Kimberley. Nolan is a Bardi man with strong links to his people and culture across saltwater country in northern Western Australia. He spent 14 years with various Commonwealth agencies specialising in Indigenous affairs, and has worked with Indigenous communities in Australia. Nolan is Chairman of the National Native Title Council as well as an Indigenous Leader representing the Kimberley in Empowered Communities, a group of Indigenous Leaders informing policy development to the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet, Indigenous Affairs. Nolan was appointed to the KFA Board in 2014.

### Director - Wal King AO

Wal King holds a Bachelor of Engineering, a Master of Engineering Science and an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the University of New South Wales. Wal has worked in the construction industry for over 40 years and was CEO of Leighton Holdings Limited from 1987 until December 2010. He is Chairman of Sundance Resources Ltd; Deputy Chairman of UNSW Foundation Ltd; a Director of Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd, and a Senior Advisor to CITIC Mining International Ltd. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia, a Foundation Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, the Australian Institute of Building and the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. Wal joined the KFA Board in 2008.

### Director – Sam Lovell AM

Sam Lovell lives in Derby in the Kimberley. He has been employed by Aboriginal Economic Development (AED), Department of Industry and Resources as an Aboriginal Tourism Project Officer since 1995 and works as an Indigenous consultant for Western Power. Sam has a background in tourism and established his own business 'Kimberley Safari Tours' in 1981. A tourism award in his name is presented annually by the Kimberley Tourism Association. Sam is regarded as the 'father' of Indigenous Tourism in WA and is affectionately known as 'Mr Kimberley'. Sam is also a musician and travels across the country to Queensland every year to play at the Tamworth Music Festival. Sam joined the KFA Board in 2009.

### Director – John Mullen

John Mullen is the Chairman of Telstra and Toll Holdings Ltd and until recently was the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Asciano Ltd. He has worked for more than two decades in a multitude of senior positions with different multinationals in the logistics industry. John is passionate about maritime exploration and the Kimberley WA. He spends his spare time diving for colonial shipwrecks and is an avid collector of historical material from early maritime voyages to the Pacific.

Directorships of listed companies (past three years) and other directorships/appointments: Director, Asciano Ltd (2011-2016), Brambles Limited (2009-2011). Other: Member, Australian Graduate School of Management (from 2005) and Councillor of the Australian National Maritime Museum (from 2016). John joined the KFA Board in 2016.

### Director – Deidre Willmott

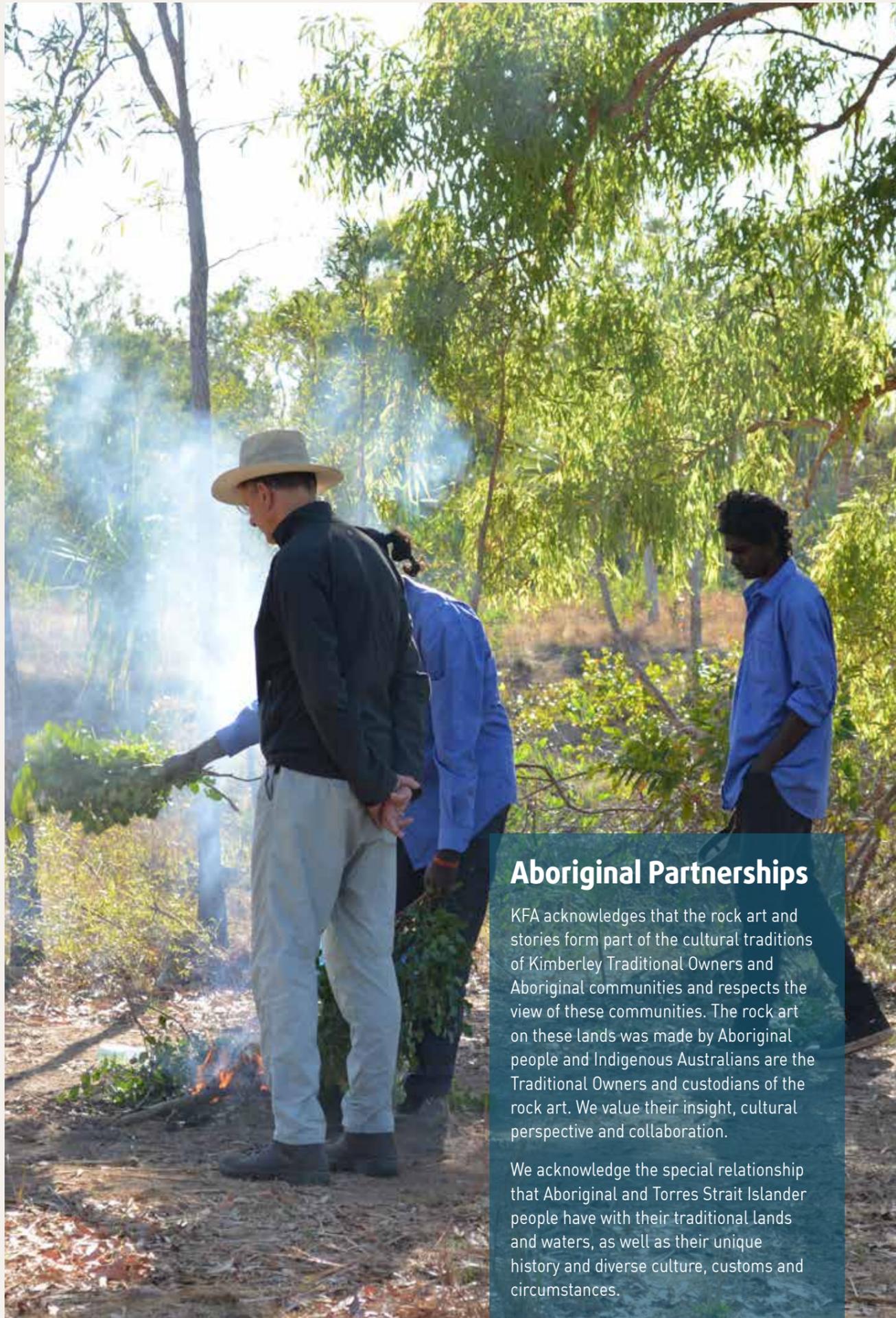
Deidre Willmott is currently a Non-Executive Director of Australia Post and former Chief Executive Officer of the Chamber of Commerce & Industry WA. Deidre holds law degrees from the University of Western Australia and a Master of Laws from the University of Melbourne. She has been a senior executive at Fortescue Metals Group Ltd and Chief of Staff to the Premier of Western Australia. Deidre joined the KFA Board in 2010.

### Changes to the Board during FY2018

Cissy Gore-Birch and Steve Gregg were appointed to the Board on 23 June 2018. Christina Kennedy resigned from the Board on 27 September 2017.

### Directors' Remuneration

No Director of the Company has received a fee or become entitled to receive any financial benefit.

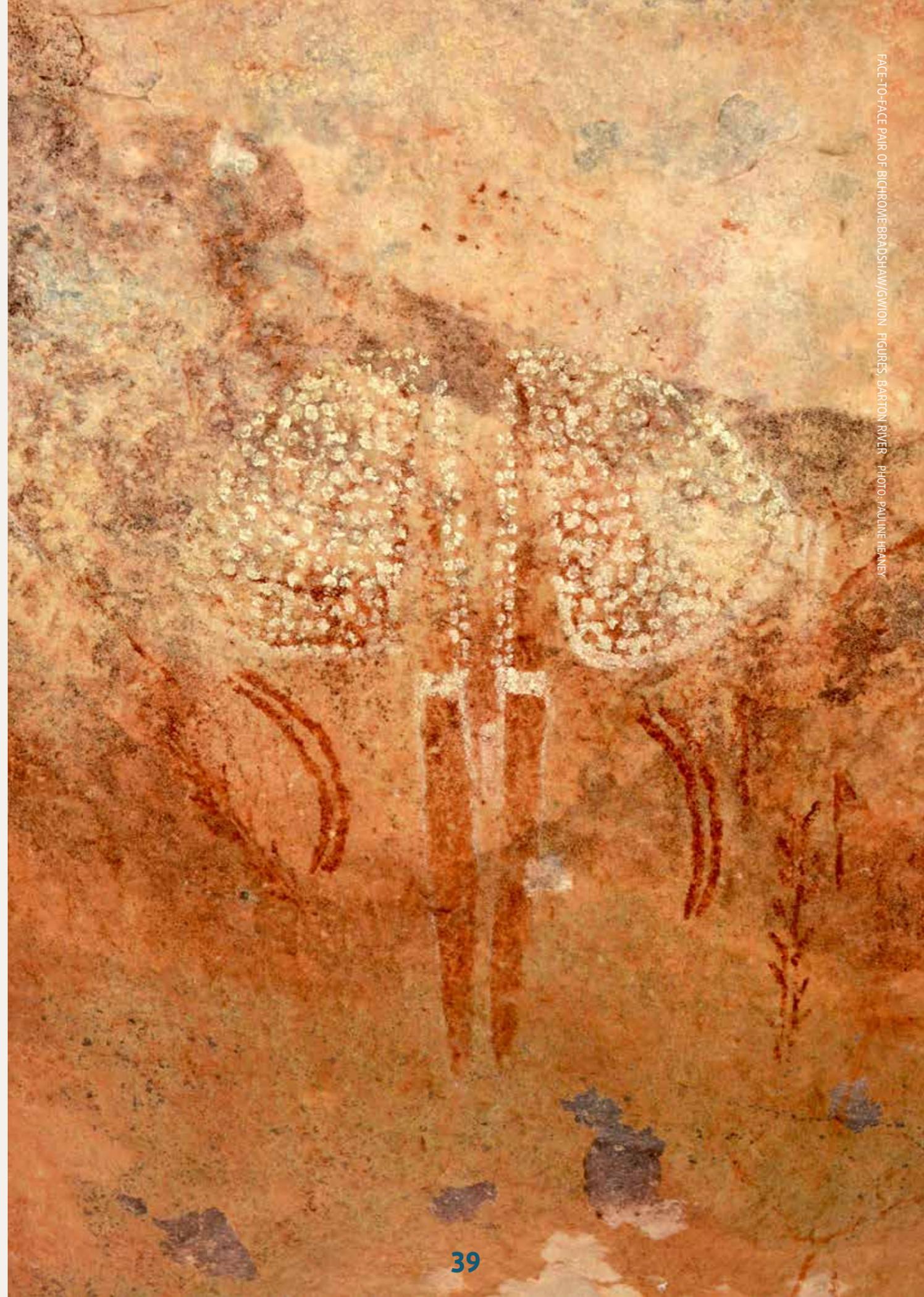


ANTONY GORMLEY, TRADITIONAL OWNERS IAN WAINA AND ADRIAN UNGHANGO, SMOKING CEREMONY

### Aboriginal Partnerships

KFA acknowledges that the rock art and stories form part of the cultural traditions of Kimberley Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities and respects the view of these communities. The rock art on these lands was made by Aboriginal people and Indigenous Australians are the Traditional Owners and custodians of the rock art. We value their insight, cultural perspective and collaboration.

We acknowledge the special relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have with their traditional lands and waters, as well as their unique history and diverse culture, customs and circumstances.



FACE-TO-FACE PAIR OF BICHROME BRADSHAW/GWION FIGURES, BARTON RIVER - PHOTO: PAULINE HEANEY



**KIMBERLEY  
FOUNDATION  
AUSTRALIA**

Researching, preserving and promoting Kimberley rock art.

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