

# Noongar Language Resource



## Noongar Boodjar Waangkaniny News Letter



Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation  
Keeping Noongar Language Alive

### Noongar Sounds Chart

#### Vowels

<b>a</b>  kar	<b>aa</b>  kaa-kaa	<b>e</b>  djena	<b>i</b>  bidit	<b>o</b>  kwondong	<b>oo</b>  koolbardi
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#### Consonants

<b>b</b>  bindi-bindi	<b>bw</b>  bwoka	<b>d</b>  darp	<b>dj</b>  djoambar	<b>dw</b>  dwangk	<b>k</b>  kotj
<b>kw</b>  kwilena	<b>l</b>  kaal	<b>ly</b>  mooly	<b>m</b>  maar	<b>n</b>  nop	<b>ng</b>  ngorlak
<b>ny</b>  nyininy	<b>p</b>  kep	<b>r</b>  noorook	<b>rd</b>  noordoo	<b>rl</b>  kabarji	<b>rn</b>  yoorn
<b>rt</b>  moort	<b>t</b>  kaat	<b>tj</b>  boornitj	<b>w</b>  waalitj	<b>y</b>  yok	

Bathcheleer Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education  
Bathcheleer  
Northern Territory 0845  
Ph: (08) 8939 7352 Fax: (08) 8939 7354  
Email: bathcheleer@bathcheleer.edu.au

#### What's in this issue?

##### Manager-Staff profiles

**Historical profiles**  
\*Captain Matthew Flinders

**Latest Projects**  
\* Fitzgerald National Park – Wudjari Ancestral Ecological Knowledge

**Partnerships**  
\*Department of Justice, Corrective Services Aboriginal Languages in Custody Program 2021

\*Department of Education – Noongar Language Picture Dictionary

##### Aboriginal Languages Resources

- \*Aboriginal Language Map
- \*Noongar Sound Chart

### “We have moved to our new office”

Unit 1-2 24 Burton Street Cannington



**WE ARE HERE**  
*ngala nidja nyininy*



#### International Decade of Indigenous Languages

The United Nations has agreed that more work is needed to protect, revitalise, preserve and promote Indigenous languages. It has designated the period between 2022 and 2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages. In a resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly on 18 December last year, the UN calls upon the world to ‘take urgent steps at the national and international levels’. The resolution came at the close of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages over which the UN presided, and recognised that one year was not enough time to put in place the necessary programs and processes to ensure success.

‘The proclamation of a decade is strongly supported by a wide range of stakeholders. There is consensus that the decade would contribute to raise global awareness about the importance of indigenous languages for sustainable development, peace-building and reconciliation, and mobilize further resources for the support and promotion of indigenous languages worldwide.

The UN invites ‘indigenous peoples — as custodians — to initiate ideas for preserving this endangered facet of their cultural and social life’. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is the agency most likely to take responsibility for the decade.

Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation - Welcome opportunities to work in partnership with the community and organisations to record, preserve and revive Noongar Language. We provide services on a fee-for-service basis with translating and interpreting, cross cultural training, Noongar language learning, development of educational resources and training programs, cultural mapping and cultural heritage. Contact us to discuss the ways we can work together.

Noongar Language Centre  
Unit 1-2 24 Burton Street,  
Cannington 6107  
Phone 9350 5026  
Website:  
[www.noongarboodjar.com.au](http://www.noongarboodjar.com.au)

Manager - George Hayden  
[manager@nbalc.org.au](mailto:manager@nbalc.org.au)

Education Officer - Kaylene Bowes-Smith  
Noongar Language Teacher  
[education@nbalc.org.au](mailto:education@nbalc.org.au)

Senior Linguist - Denise Smith-Ali  
[linguist@nbalc.org.au](mailto:linguist@nbalc.org.au)

Receptionist - Penny Nguyen  
[admin@nbalc.org.au](mailto:admin@nbalc.org.au)

If you would like to share a story on what's happening in your Clan or community please send to newsletter editor Kaylene Bowes-Smith [education@nbalc.org.au](mailto:education@nbalc.org.au)







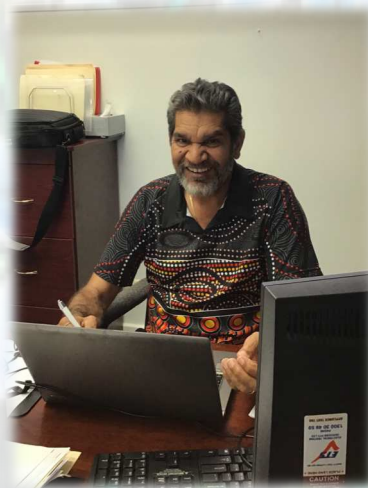
# Manager - Staff Profile



# Aboriginal Languages Map

## Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation

George is an Ngadji Ndadji Noongar man with ties to Balardong boodjar from his father's family and has cultural ties with Whadjuk boodja. George is currently the Manager at Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation, participating in Noongar Language project for several years and demonstrating his dedication and commitment to the strengthening and revival of Noongar language and culture.



George Hayden  
Manager



Kaylene Bowes-Smith  
Education Officer  
Noongar Language Teacher



Denise Smith-Ali  
Senior Linguist



Penny Nguyen  
Receptionist



Leah Councillor  
Part Time - Trainee Linguist



Alison Nannup  
Part Time - Trainee Linguist



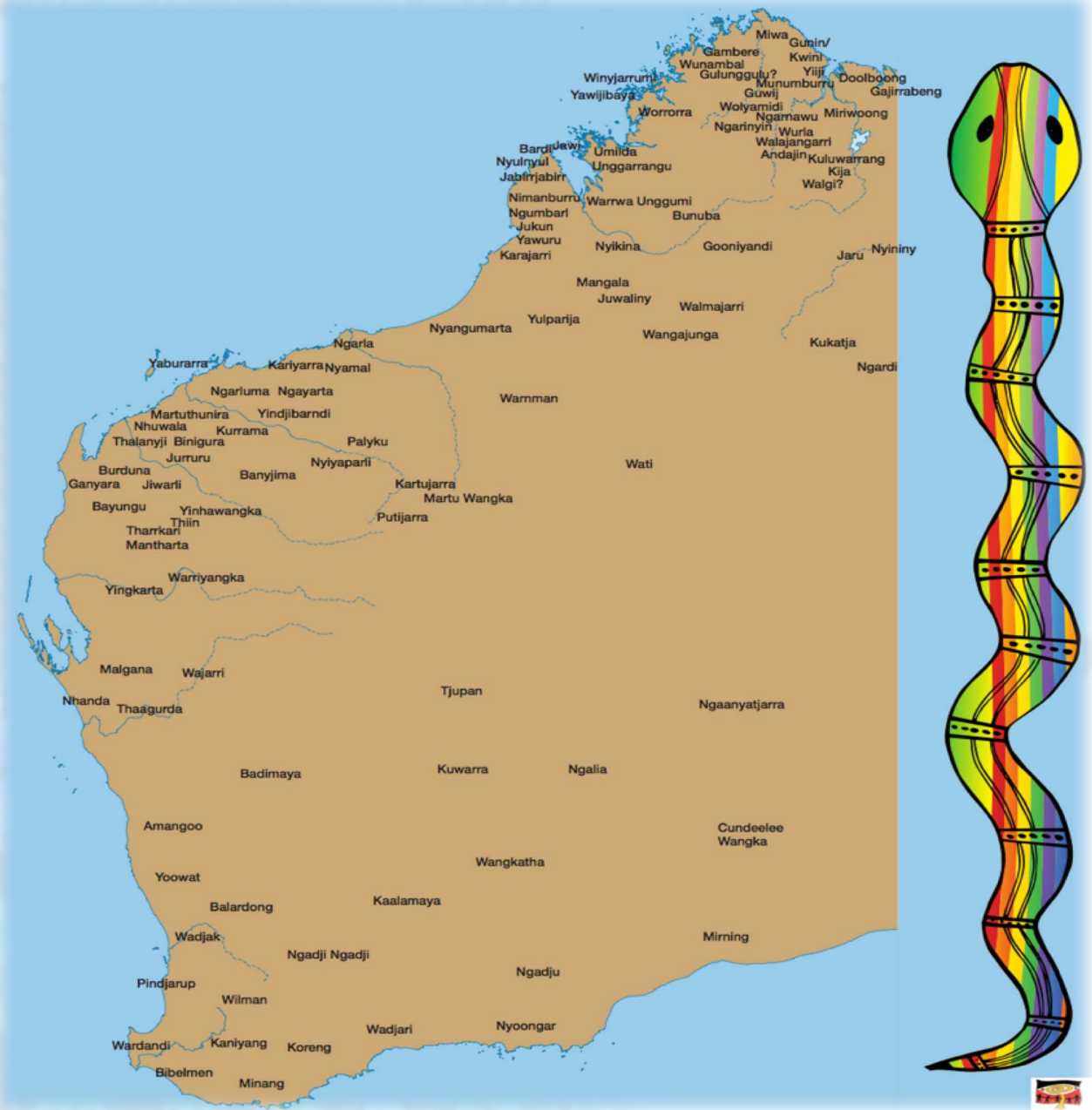
Annelise Jansen  
Linguist



Tessia Moulton  
Part Time - Linguist



Ilesha Wyatt  
Part Time - Graphic Designer



Language is more than just a means to communicate – our language is an essential characteristic, unique to people, communities and their sense of identity. Language illustrate the rich diversity of the culture, but at the same time, we all share a common tradition ancient to the land, which obeys the mythical laws of the Dreaming, through dance, storytelling, art and music - a philosophy that made us inseparable from our culture and land. We are the vehicles for reviving, storing and transferring much of our culture, language and knowledge along with song, bush food and traditional medicine.



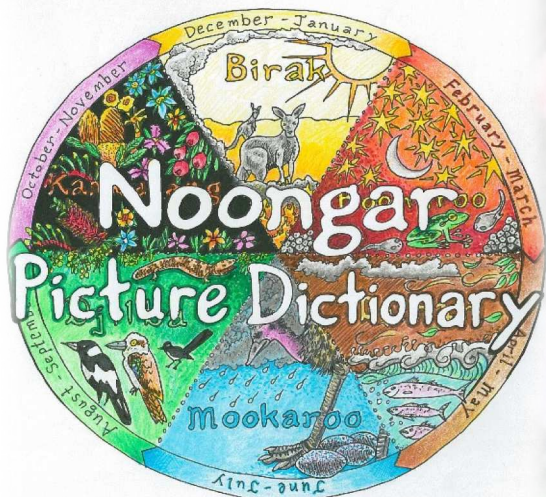


## Partnerships Cont'd

Department of Education  
And  
Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation

**“DUE TO BE RELEASED SOON”**

## Noongar Language Picture Dictionary



Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation in conjunction with the Department of Education, Noongar language speakers and specialists are developing a Noongar language picture dictionary.

The dictionary is aimed at addressing many requests from teachers and community language speakers to have access to a practical illustrated resource which considers all Noongar dialects. The dictionary is set out in themes/topics focusing on features of that topic.

A simple sentence is given on each page as an example of how to use the vocabulary. No English is used in the front of the book because the pictures provide very clear representations of each word.

## Historical Profiles in Noongar Country

### Captain Matthew Flinders

Bibelmen

Minang

Koreng

Wadjari

Nyoongar

South Eastern Dialect



Portrait by Antoine Toussaint de Chazal, Painted in Mauritius in 1806-1807

In 1801, Commander Matthew Flinders became the next recorded visitor. His ship, the Investigator, was equipped in England for a voyage intended to make landfall at Cape Leeuwin from whence he was to sail to a point near Ceduna reached by Thyssen in 1626. Flinders was ordered to continue to chart the coast as far as the already mapped Bass Strait. On the evening of December 8th his vessel sailed into the then named King George Third's Sound, before entering the inner harbour and establishing a shore camp near the site of what was to become the city of Albany. Unlike Vancouver, Flinders' party made contact with a group of the Menang soon after arrival. This was possibly not the first meeting between European and Aboriginal people at Albany – it is likely that sealers or whalers had called at the Sound – but it is the first encounter of which a written record has survived. Law Text Culture, 4(1), 1998, pp. 256-279.

Born: 16 March 1774  
Donington, Lincolnshire, England

Died: 19<sup>th</sup> July 1814 (aged 40)  
London, England

Resting place: St James's burial ground, Camden (until 2019)

Occupation: Royal Navy officer

Spouse(s): Ann Chappelle (m. 1801)







# Latest Projects

Department of Justice, Corrective Services  
And Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural  
Aboriginal Corporation.

## Fitzgerald National Park - Wudjari Ancestral Ecological Knowledge with elders Lynette Knapp & Gail Yorkshire and Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation

This project links Noongar Wudjari ancestral ecological knowledge about plants, animals and places with western science knowledge to ensure this language and knowledge are preserved and can be used by Noongar and non-Noongar people in education and environmental management, now and in the future. It centres around intergenerational knowledge transfer and will be delivered via: training young people in language, ancestral and cultural data collection; fieldwork; community consultations; data management and presentation; plant and animal identification and cultural mapping.

The high-level outcomes include Noongar Wudjari ancestral ecological knowledge:

1. Collecting, documenting knowledge and methods for data management and inclusion in language and biodiversity databases, including linking to western science and for the creation of resources and publications
2. Archiving for safe keeping under Special Collections at WA State Library.
3. Publishing through Noongar Boodjar Language Centre and online through the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) – Australia’s national online biodiversity database. This includes print and online encyclopedia and educational resources suitable for K10 scope and sequence.

The people involved include: Noongar Wudjari language informants/consultants (Gail Yorkshire & Lynette Knapp); Noongar Boodjar senior linguist; ALA scientist; ethno-biologists/zoologists to link ancestral ecological knowledge for plants and animals to western science; trainee linguist to learn methods to document, save and share language and ancestral knowledge about plants and animals and how to link this to western science.

There will be three community consultation workshops. Firstly, to introduce project and project team and seek consent for project, data collection and sharing methods. Secondly, present data collected during first field trip for discussion on knowledge gaps and data sharing methods. Finally, team presentation of collected data and project reflection report, and secure consent for which data can be released for publication.

There will be two week-long field trips to Noongar Wudjari country (Fitzgerald National Park) in spring and autumn to include Noongar seasonal calendar variations.

Two of these field trips has been completed in 2020 and 2021 with final community consultation workshop to follow in the near future.







# Partnerships

## Fitzgerald National Park Wudjari Ancestral Ecological Knowledge Community Consultation Workshops

Department of Justice, Corrective Services and the Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation.

### Aboriginal Languages in Custody Program 2021

Prisoners have graduated from the Aboriginal Languages in Custody program at Boronia Women's Pre-Release Prison and Hakea Prison. During the six-week course the men and women learnt basic words and phrases in Noongar Language, the official language of Aboriginal people from the south-west of Western Australia.

The program was delivered in partnership with the Department of Justice, Corrective Services and the Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation.

It's early in the morning at Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women in the south of Perth, and prisoners dressed in grey and black uniforms are filing into a classroom. Written on a whiteboard at the front of the classroom are the words *moort*, *ngangk* and *koorlangka*, from the Noongar language of Western Australia's southwest, meaning 'family', 'mother' and 'children'.

The centre, which prepares women for re-entry into the community, has been chosen as the trial site for the Western Australian government's new Aboriginal Languages in Custody program.

Department of Justice Director General Dr Adam Tomison said learning conversational phrases and basic words would play a role in helping the men to form important connections with their heritage.

"Language and the ability to communicate is what connects us to culture, and we know that most Indigenous people identify strongly with a traditional language identity," Dr Tomison said.

"We are hopeful that by participating in this course these men are able to form an important connection to their culture. "Participates have become more engaged and enthusiastic about learning, and were proudly sharing what they had learnt with their families.", as well as working towards an increased sense of pride and self-worth."

The Aboriginal Languages in Custody Program will continue to be rolled out in stage one and two for 2021, 2022, 2023 at Hakea Prison, Boronia Pre Release Centre for Women, Banksia Hill Youth Detention Centre, Casuarina Prison.



Jerry Turpin  
The first Aboriginal  
Ethnobotanist in Australia  
visiting from Queensland





# Fitzgerald River National Park

## Djet Biyoo - Flowers Awaken

Our Noongar plants in the Wadjari dialect and their scientific names



**Tadliny-boort**

*Hakea victoria*



**Qualup Bells**

*Pimelea physodes*



**Kara**

*Caladenia longicauda*



**Kara**

*Caladenia flava*



**Heavenly Stars**

*Calytrix leschenaultii*



**Djerp**

*Cymbopogon ambiguus*



**Djoonga Djoonga**

*Thysanotus patersonii*



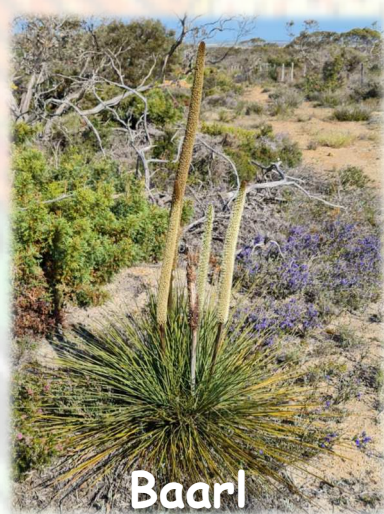
**Wilyaraak**

*Kennedia nigricans*



**Koorla**

*Hardenbergia comptoniana*



**Baarl**

*Xanthorrhoea platyphylla*



**Painy**

*Carpobrotus virescens*



**Milkwort**

*Comesperma vingatum*



**Tjidiyak**

*Lambertia inermis*



**Tjiyok**

*Exocarpos sparteus*



**Yoowak**

*Platysace deflexa*



**Bush Tomato**

*Solanum lancinatum*



**Bonnie's brush**

*Banksia repens*



**Tjaanak Koomp**

*Olax phyllanthi*