



GUNDITJ MIRRORING

Traditional Owners
Aboriginal Corporation
RNTBC

Annual General Report

2017 / 2018



Front Cover:

Gunditjmara Elder Aunty June Gill with the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape World Heritage Nomination document. The World Heritage Nomination was official accepted by the United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in February 2018.

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A Challenging Year and a Fresh Start ...

After an extremely challenging year for GMTOAC, the corporation has completed the 2017 / 2018 reporting period very successfully with the maintenance of ongoing programs, the confirmation of funds for several new major activities and a strong financial position that has placed the corporation back in the black with its annual budget.

The Office of the Registrar for Indigenous Corporations authorized an independent examinations of GMTOAC books in April 2017. The examinations revealed irregularities in director appointments and corporation meetings, largely arising from disputes amongst the corporation's directors and members. On 12 June 2017, the Office of the Registrar for Indigenous Corporation ordered GMTOAC to be placed under Special Administration.

On 14 June 2017, two former directors, Sandra Onus and Christine Cooktown applied to the Federal Court for a judicial review of the decision by the Registrar to place GMTOAC under special administration. The application was made under the Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977. On 10 July 2017 the Registrar agreed to set aside the decision and to pay the legal costs of the applicants. On 17 July 2017 Justice O'Callaghan set aside the decision to place GMTOAC under special administration with effect from 25 August 2017.

The special administration provided undertakings to the Federal Court to appoint Sandra Onus, Christine Cooktown and Denise Lovett as directors of the corporation and to revert the corporation's rule book back to the position it was in prior to his appointment on 13 June 2017.

On the 13 September 2017, the Registrar appointed the Special Administration for GMTOAC until January 2018.

During the first half of the 2017/2018 reporting period, the Special Administration held several information meetings to inform GMTOAC members, Gunditjmara native title holders and the broader public of the activities of the Special Administration. The major activity was to consult with GMTOAC members on new governance structures for the GMTOAC Rule Book.

The consultation with GMTOAC members identified the need for clarity around the governance and management of the corporation alongside the roles of GMTOAC in being a Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) under the Native Title Act 1993 and a Registered Aboriginal Party under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

The new GMTOAC Rule Book was confirmed by the Special Administration in January 2018. The new GMTOAC Rule Book replaced the former monthly general meetings of GMTOAC members and the elected office bearer positions with a new eight member Board of Directors along with a minimum of two general meetings of GMTOAC members each year including an Annual General Meeting.

First Nations Legal and Research Services (formerly Native Title Services Victoria Ltd) would continue to convene Gunditjmara native title holders group meetings in line with the Native Title Act 1993 requirements e.g. future act notifications, indigenous land use agreements and the negotiations with the Victorian Government under the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010.

The Special Administration called for Expression of Interests from GMTOAC members to establish a new Board of Directors under the new GMTOAC Rule Book. The new Rule Book and the new Board of Directors official commenced in January 2018 when ORIC official ceased the Special Administration.

A new GMTOAC Business Plan (January 2018) was prepared by the Special Administration and confirmed by the Board of Directors.

From a time of frustration and great challenge for the Gunditjmara community and the corporation and alongside maintaining our programs and the inclusion of new projects, the completion of the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape World Heritage Nomination and its submission to UNESCO during the 2017/2018 period is an outstanding achievement for everyone involved.

Gaining World Heritage Listing for the traditional engineered aquaculture structures will not only provide the best heritage protection in the world, the listing will universally recognize the knowledge, science and technology of Gunditjmara ancestors as part of First Peoples across Australia and throughout the world.

Moving forward, GMTOAC must continue its high priority of communicating with GMTOAC members and Gunditjmara native title holders to share news and information on its activities that promote and support the continuing connection to Gunditjmara country by the Gunditjmara community and the objectives of the GMTOAC Rule Book.

GMTOAC Board of Directors

In January 2018, the ORIC Special Administration appointed the following GMTOAC members to the new Board of Directors:

Eileen Alberts	Narelle Carter
Alfred Bamblett Snr	Denise Lovett
John Bell	Angela North
Shane Bell	Donna Wright

The Board of Directors are responsible for the governance of the Rule Book, the strategic directions of the corporation and the employment of the GMTOAC CEO.

The new Board of Directors convened and attended the following Board meetings for the 2017/2018:

Date	Eileen Alberts	Alfred Bamblett	John Bell	Shane Bell	Narelle Carter	Denise Lovett	Angela North	Donna Wright
12/1/18								
16/2/18								
23/3/18								
27/4/18								
18/5/18								
29/6/18								

Attendance	
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Chief Executive Officer

Following the commencement of the new Rule Book in January 2018 and the transition of responsibility the GMTOAC from the Special Administration to the new Board of Directors, the Board confirmed the continuing employment contract of the GMTOAC CEO.

Informed Consent & Governance Program.

The GMTOAC Informed Consent and Governance Program supports and funds the GMTOAC Board of Directors and the GMTOAC CEO. The program also supports and funds the Gunditjmara native title holders group meetings through a service agreement with First Nations Legal and Research Services (FNLRS).

In line with PBC requirements under the NTA, GMTOAC is required to respond to and/or implement the decisions and outcomes determined by the Gunditjmara native title holders group at their meetings convened by FNLRS.

As negotiations between the Gunditjmara native title holders group and the Victorian Government continued throughout the 2017/2018 period, GMTOAC was preparing new policies to implement the proposed role of a Traditional Owner Group Entity (TOGE) role if the negotiations were to be settled by agreement by both parties.

Towards the end of the 2017/2018, funding from the Department of Justice and Regulation was confirmed by GMTOAC to resource activities for the 2017/2018 period.

Future Act Notifications under the Native Title Act 1993.

During the 2017/2018 period, GMTOAC responded to the following future act notices under the right to comment issued by DELWP under the Native Title Act 1993:

- Construction of a new hard suction pipe at Darlots Creek.
- Construction of a new water gauge hut on the Glenelg River.
- Construction of a new Nelson boat and bait hire building.
- Reconstruction of an existing rock ramp, Glenelg River, Sandford.

The responses made to the future act notices include references to the:

- The Gunditjmara Non-extinguishment ILUA.
- The public works not extinguishing Gunditjmara native title.
- The public works are conducted in line with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.
- The public works are in line with the principles contained in the Ngootyoong Gunditj Ngootyoong Mara South West Management Plan 2015.

Indigenous Land Use Agreements under the Native Title Act 1993.

During the 2017/2018 period, the Gunditjmara native title group conducted negotiations on the following Indigenous Land Use Agreements under the Native Title Act 1993:

- Portland Foreshore Redevelopment Project with Glenelg Shire Council.
- Gunditjmara Recognition under the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 with Victorian Government through the Department of Justice and Regulation.

Corporate Services Program.

The Corporate Services program continues to provide operational support to GMTOAC through delivery of core services such as administration, reception, finance and human resource management including occupational health and safety.

Finance

GMTOAC have continued our professional partnerships with Allwood and Ryan (Accountants) and Galpins (Auditors) during the 2017/2018 financial year. Allwood and Ryan continue to oversee all aspects of the corporation's finance and reporting along with processing weekly payroll.

The professional partnership between GMTOAC, Allwood and Ryan and Galpins continues to provide consistency and stability to support the GMTOAC policies and practices that govern and manage the annual budget, finances, expenditure and reporting processes.

GMTOAC have achieved a solid result for the 2017-2018 period and have continued to meet all compliance and reporting obligations.

GMTOAC People & Human Resources 2017/2018

Employee	Position & Title	Status
Damein Bell	CEO	Full Time
Micko Bell	Knowledge & Estate Officer/IT	Full Time
Bill Bell	Cultural Heritage Officer	Full Time
Shelley Bourke	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human Resources Officer• Corporate Services Coordinator – HR	Part Time up to June 2017 Part Time from July 2017
Lesley Day	Cleaner	Part Time
Bethany Hudson	Business (12-month contract)	Traineeship from June 2018

Jackson Kanoa	Land & Conservation (12 month contract)	Traineeship from June 2018
Tyson Lovett Murray	Knowledge & Estate Officer	Full Time
Natasha Moore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate Services Coordinator – Finance Finance Officer 	Part Time up to July 2017 Part Time from July 2018
Roger Morris	Caretaker Lake Condah Mission site	Full Time
Denis Rose	Knowledge & Estate Manager	Full Time
Mike Weise	Board Secretary	Part Time since June 2018

GMTOAC Cultural Heritage Workers 2017/2018

Name	# Days	Name	# Days
Andrew Alberts	5	Allan Bamblett	4.5
John King	.5	Bethany Hudson	2.5
Nicole Hudson	43	Leroy Malseed	5.5
Jarrold Montalto	1	Brad Rose	2
Elouise Saunders	2.5	Walter Saunders	1
Adam Walker	4	Leon Walker	7
Bradley Williams	20		

The GMTOAC Board of Directors endorsed two new 12 month traineeships during the 2017/2018 period with the intention of new trainees commencing each year.

Annual performance and development appraisals of GMTOAC full and part time staff were undertaken during May and June 2018.

Occupational Health and Safety Committee

The OHS Committee met six times during 2017/2018 to manage the OHS requirements of the corporation. Ongoing OHS activities and focus areas during the 2017/2018 period included:

- OHS Inspections – Lake Condah Mission, Kurtonitj and GMTOAC office.
- Test & tagging of GMTOAC equipment.
- First Aid Kits audit.
- Emergency Property Markers.
- MSDS folders.
- Fire extinguisher.
- New replacement furniture and equipment for Lake Condah Mission & Kurtonitj.
- Tree removal.
- Ongoing risk assessments.

GMTOAC Policies and Procedures

During the 2017/2018 period and in line with ongoing schedule of policy revisions, the following policies were reviewed and updated:

- Code of Conduct Policy
- Training and Development Policy
- Employee Assistance Program Policy
- Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Policy
- Exit Interview Policy
- Higher Duties Policy
- Recruitment Policy
- Child Safe Policy for employees, volunteers and contactors working with children & young people.
- Confidentiality & Privacy Policy
- OHS Incident Report

New GMTOAC policies to cover probationary employment period and the funeral assistance fund were confirmed during the 2017/2018 period.

Cultural Heritage Program: Registered Aboriginal Party

GMTOAC maintained its obligations and operations under its role as a Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 except for when the corporation was under the ORIC appointed Special Administration.

During July 2017 to January 2018 while GMTOAC was under Special Administration all *Notice of Intents to Prepare a CHMP* (NOIs) were managed by the Department of Premier and Cabinet: Aboriginal Victoria.

Following the end of the Special Administration in January 2018, the following NOIs were received by GMTOAC:

CHMP #	TITLE
# 15485	Telstra Cable Bridgewater Rd-Nicholson Rd, Cape Bridgewater. Sponsor Service Stream Mobile Communications
# 15578	Wannon Water Utility Installation and Cathodic Protection, McCutheons Rd Cavendish

# 14339	GMTOAC received an NOI to amend already existing CHMP # 14339 Cashmore Rd Portland. Glenelg Shire council is the sponsor
# 15689	Portland renewable energy project. Sponsor Wannon Water at Wannon Water Treatment Plant Portland.
# 15810	Telstra Care of Service Stream Overhead Power Line, Blowholes Rd, Cape Bridgewater.

During the 2018/2019 reporting period, GMTOAC attended regular committee meetings and actions groups including all inception meetings for each CHMP that were accepted for evaluation. Inception meetings provides the sponsor with our expectations and explains our consultation and evaluation processes including the provision for an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Induction process.

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Induction process is when GMTOAC meets with sponsors and contractors to explain the conditions of the CHMP to protect and management cultural heritage at the development site. The process also includes information on how Gunditjmara people used and valued the site and broader landscape.

GMTOAC attended each Moyjil (Point Richie) committee meetings during the reporting period alongside Warrnambool City Council, Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation, Kuuyang Maar Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP and other stakeholders to oversee the management of the site.

GMTOAC have attended Rock Art meeting in Gariwerd (Grampians) with our Native Title claim in Gariwerd we were invited to a damaged Rock Art site. To express our views on how best to protect the site. Traditional Owners Groups that were invited to attend this meeting were Eastern Maar, Barengi Gadjin Land Council and Martang Ltd.

In partnership with Glenelg Hopkins CMA, GMTOAC have conducted due diligence training. This training has been provided for contractors for undertaking Civil Construction Activities for GHCMAs flood recovery works.

Period	Field Work
July 2017	Bamstone Quarry Port Fairy.
	Koroit Optic fibre Cable CHMP # 15072
August 2017	Willatook Wind Farm CHMP # 11090
	Koroit Optic Fibre Project CHMP # 15072
September 2017	Grampians Peaks Trail CHMP # 14980. This project is shared between Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation, Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation and Martang Ltd.
October 2017	Grampians Peaks Trail CHMP # 14980.
	Tower Hill CHMP # 15187
	Dunkeld CHMP # 15271
November 2017	Willatook Wind Farm CHMP # 11090
	Dunkeld CHMP # 15271

December 2017	Willatook Wind Farm CHMP # 11090
	Dutton Way proposed Abalone Farm CHMP # 15400. Field work has started for this major project.
	Telstra Cable Bridgewater Rd-Nicholson Rd Cape Bridgewater CHMP # 15485
April 2018	Dutton Way proposed Abalone Farm CHMP # 15400.
May 2018	Dutton Way proposed Abalone Farm CHMP # 15400.

GMTOAC Knowledge and Estate Program.

Budj Bim Cultural Landscape World Heritage Listing Nomination Process.

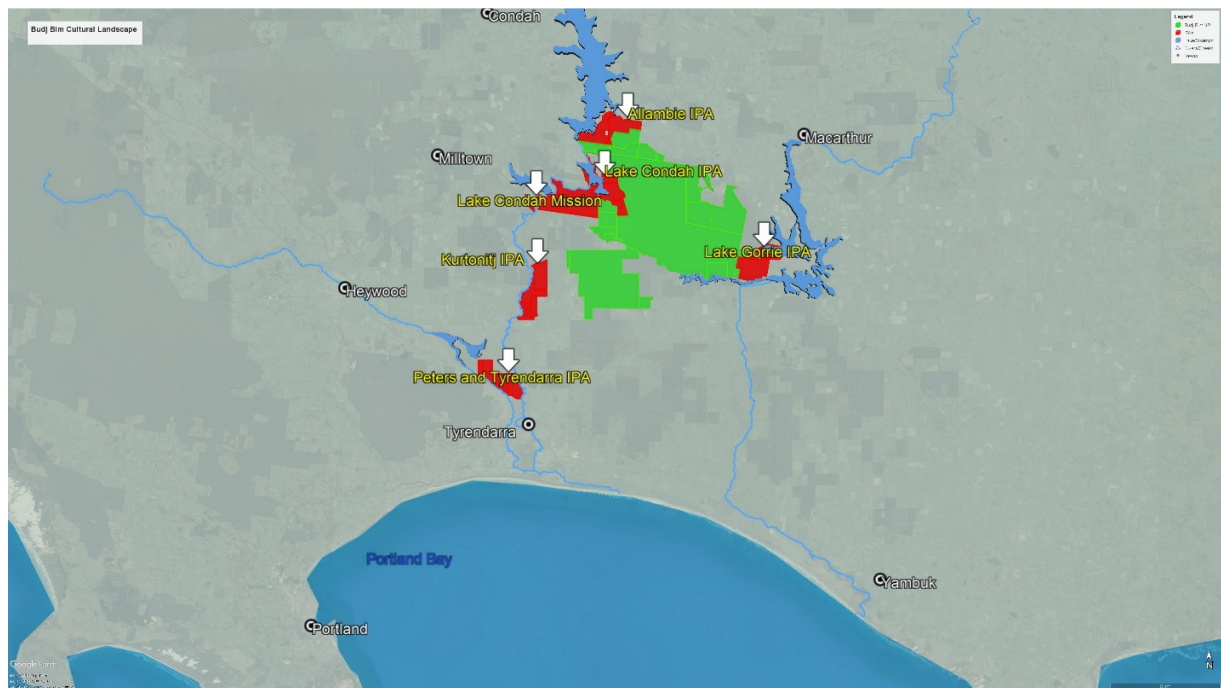
The Budj Bim Cultural Landscape World Heritage Listing Nomination was accepted by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in March 2018.



The development of the world heritage nomination document was funded by the Victorian Government \$8m Budj Bim Investment announced in January 2016.

The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) representative is scheduled to visit the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape to evaluate the integrity of the cultural values along the landscape as well as the nominated boundaries.

Budj Bim Indigenous Project Area (Allambie, Lake Condah, Muldoons, Vaughans, Lake Condah Aboriginal Mission, Kurtonitj, Lake Gorrie and Peters)



Management activities are carried out by the Budj Bim Rangers in accordance with the Budj Bim IPA Plan of Management. GMTOAC worked closely with the Budj Bim Rangers to plan and implement on ground activities including maintenance, cultural burning, revegetation and pest management.

Revegetation – Aerial Seeding.

The Peters property was severely affected by an extremely hot wildfire in 2008 which resulted in many dead trees that did not recover. The Peters property is very inaccessible to management vehicles.

GMTOAC and Greening Australia trialed a new method to revegate manna gums and other trees at the property through aerial seeding. The seeds were inserted into clay balls and dropped from the air. The balls are made up of clay and a special potting mix to promote seed germination.



Dropping the aerial seed balls over the Peters property.

New Biodiversity Projects for Gunditjmara Country.

GMTOAC has received funding from the DELWP Biodiversity Fund to carry out two projects in the 2018/2019 financial year. The projects are:

- Develop a fish monitoring program for both native and non-native species at Tae Rak (Lake Condah) and Killara (Darlots Creek). GMTOAC will hold a workshop and camp for Elders to talk about traditional practices along our culturally important wetlands.
- Working with the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research and new technology to track migratory kooyang with pop-up satellite tags as the adult kooyang leave the Budj Bim system, travel up the east coast of Australia to the Coral Sea.

Cultural Burning.

GMTOAC staff and the Budj Bim Rangers worked with the Country Fire Authority and DELWP to begin planning for some cultural and fuel reduction burning during this Spring if weather conditions are suitable.



Cultural burning at the Kurtonitj property.

Gunditjmara community members Aaron Morgan, Leroy Malseed and Roger Morris travelled to Buandon Reserve in NSW to attend and participate in the National Fire Workshop. The workshop was hosted by the Mudjingaalbaraga Firesticks Team and the Buandon Trust. The workshop facilitated traditional learning of traditional fire knowledge from across Australia.

Feral Pigs.

The emergence of feral pigs along the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape has become an increasing problem due to the deliberate release of feral pigs by hunters alongside domestic escapes.

Since 2016, GMTOAC staff and the Budj Bim Rangers have been working with DELWP to undertake an intensive trapping program on public land properties and Indigenous Protected Areas. Around 160 feral pigs have been trapped from around the district as well as 15 feral pigs been trapped at the Kurtonitj property and then destroyed.

The most damage caused by the feral pigs is confined to more open spaces that have less surface stone with the traditional aquaculture systems not be impacted by the feral pigs. DELWP will continue working with GMTOAC and the Rangers with regular monitoring and trapping at the Kurtonitj property.

Tiger Quolls and Bandicoots.

In preparation of a future return of tiger quolls and bandicoots to the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape, GMTOAC visited the Tivington property north of Darlington (Vic) to view the specialized fencing which is designed to keep predators out of the property to support tiger quolls and bandicoots. Although a few years away from a dedicated space on GMTOAC properties, planning for the return of tiger quolls and bandicoots are always included in our caring for country activities.

Removal of trees from Lake Condah Aquaculture Systems.

GMTOAC completed the Tree Removal Project at the Muldoons Trap Complex. The work team included Gunditjmara people alongside tree arborists and worked under the cultural heritage management plan commissioned for the activity.

Around 60 large manna gum trees were removed from the trap complex that had grown up through the traditional aquaculture over the past 100 years. The tree trunks were left in the ground as the trunks now support the stone structures. The very tall trees were lopped into logs and individually removed from the area by the work team, the Budj Bim Rangers and DELWP.

Cultural Awareness Programs.

Throughout the 2017/2018 period, GMTOAC hosted many cultural awareness programs for government agencies and tertiary institutions including:

- Parks Victoria.
- Great South Coast Leadership Group.
- Arts Victoria.
- LaTrobe University.
- Dhauwurd Wurrung Community Health Service.
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- Department of Justice.
- Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

Partnership with Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority.

The formal partnership between GMTOAC and the GHCMA entered its third year and built upon several successful initiatives including Towards Cultural Flows Project, Junior Rangers Program and Yarns on Farms program.

- *Junior Rangers Program at Baimbridge College.*

In partnership with the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, the Junior Rangers program was delivered to year 7 and 8 students at Baimbridge College in Hamilton during the 2017/2018 period.

The Junior Rangers program engages with students to learn about Gunditjmara culture and practices in class including stone knapping and traditional games. The students visit the Budj Bim IPAs to look at the traditional aquaculture and stone houses alongside handling live kooyang and bush tucker tasting.

- *Yarns on Farms Program.*

The Yarns on Farms Program promotes Gunditjmara cultural landscapes and knowledge to farmers and land holders across Gunditjmara country. The six yarns during the 2017/2018 period shared knowledge about Gunditjmara country and the farming practices on the properties visited during the period. An important outcome as part of the program is 20 stone house sites being recorded on private property.



The annual program ends with a reciprocal visit by the farmers and land holders to the Budj Bim IPA properties.

- *Towards Cultural Flows Project.*

The Towards Cultural Flows Project commenced early in 2017 in collaboration with the Barenji Gadjin Land Council, the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority and DELWP. The project engaged with Gunditjmara people to travel along the Glenelg and Wannon Rivers to describe their continuing connection to Gunditjmara country through Aboriginal Waterway Assessments.



Traditional Owners from Gunditjmara and Wimmera Country along Bochara (Glenelg River)
during the Aboriginal Waterway Assessments

The project also completed a case study at Harrow on the Glenelg River that provided advice which informed the GHCMA Environmental Watering Plan for the river from the Rocklands Reservoir. Along with Traditional Owners from the Wimmera, Gunditjmara traditional owners identified priority locations along the river in regards to their cultural and environmental significance and healing of such sites and documented future aspirations for the rivers.

Budj Bim Connections Project.

The Budj Bim Connections project aims to improve the condition of native vegetation and increase connectivity of aquatic habitats over four years. The project fosters increased knowledge sharing between land holders and the Gunditjmara in order to improve the condition and connection along the Budj Bim waterways.

The project is a major statewide restoration initiative to build catchment health across Victoria. The project has delivered management agreements across 60 hectares with land holders including fencing and weed management. The works are targeted to benefit threatened species including the Australasian bittern, growling grass frog, yarra pygmy perch and the Glenelg spiny crayfish.

Gunditjmara / GMTOAC Members Tours.

Visits and tours to the GMTOAC properties along the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape continue to be available to Gunditjmara traditional owners, families and GMTOAC members.



Budj Bim Field Guide & Part-Parti Myring Apps.

The Budj Bim Field Guide and the Part-Parti Mirring-Yi phone apps became available online during the 2017/2018 period.

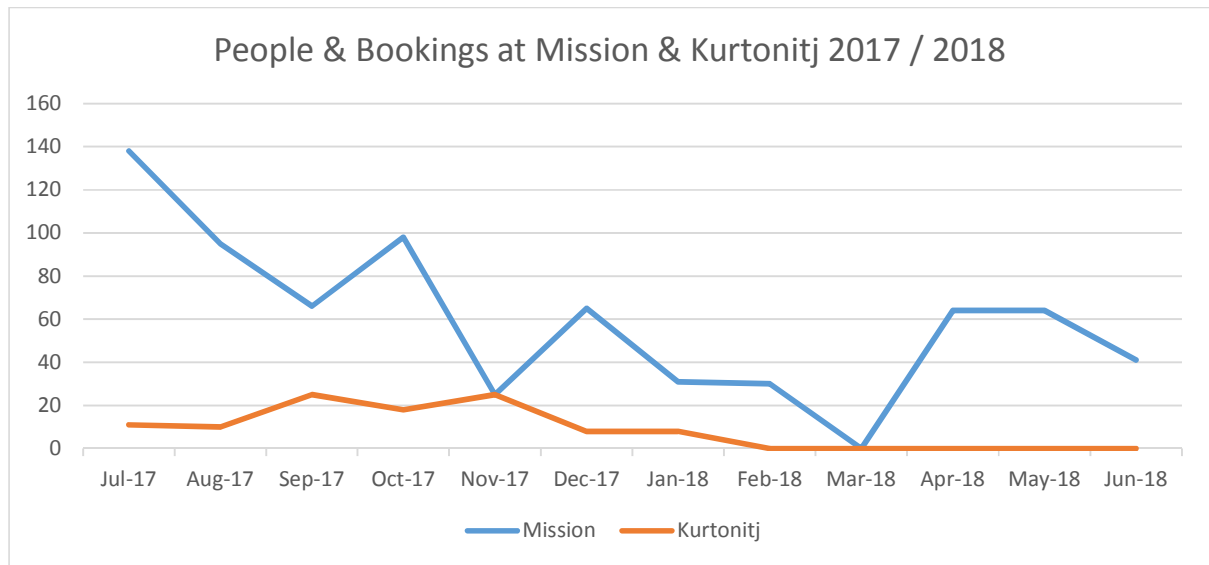


Accommodation at Lake Condah Mission and Kurtonitj.

The Lake Condah Mission had 717 people stay or attend meetings during the 2017/2018 period. The stays included Gunditjmarra family groups and organisations such as Melbourne University, Victorian Environmental Water, Parks Victoria, Winda-Mara, Police Victoria, Arts House Victoria, Glenelg Shire Council, RMIT University and First Nations Legal and Research Services.

Kurtonitj House had 105 people stay at the farmhouse including Gunditjmarra families and visiting tertiary institutions during the 2017/2018 period. Under the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement, Winda-Mara coordinated community members with correction orders and community hours to work at Kurtonitj. Community members worked on country, culture and arts projects that maintained the community facilities available at Kurtonitj as well as reducing their community hours.

New mattresses were installed at Lake Condah Mission and Kurtonitj as well as a new fridge and oven installed in the kitchen during the 2017/2018.

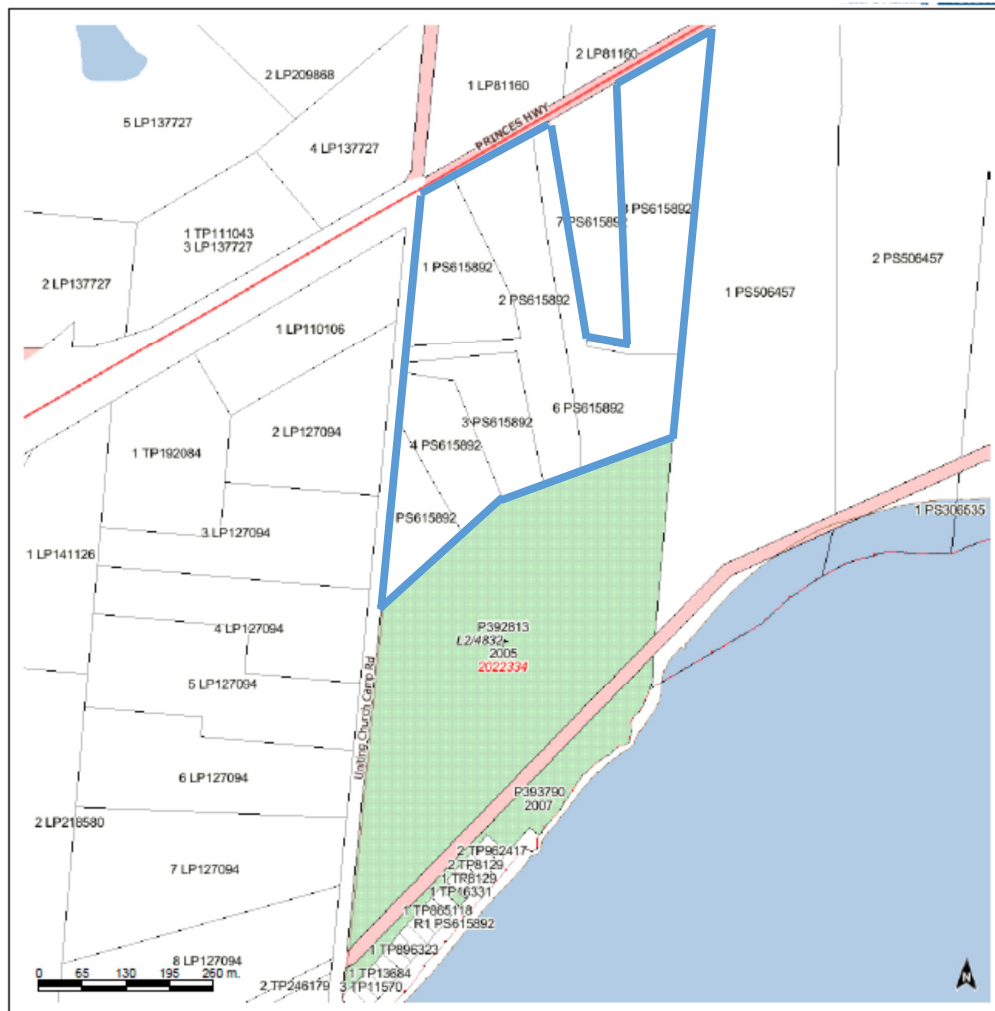


The cement water tank at Kurtonitj is awaiting to be replaced.

Convincing Ground

Following a foreclosure on seven blocks north the Convincing Ground public land, the Commonwealth Bank offered the titles to the seven blocks to GMTOAC. Following the payment of back rates to the titles, the Commonwealth Bank transferred the titles to GMTOAC in June 2018. The exemption of rates for the titles will be requested from the Glenelg Shire Council.

Alongside the public land, GMTOAC will facilitate a community planning process to ensure both the public and GMTOAC titles at the Convincing Ground are properly acknowledged as place of commemoration and respect for the massacre and murders that had taken place at the Convincing Ground as part of the Frontier Wars of Australia.





The proper naming of Budj Bim from Mount Eccles was finally achieved in December 2017 with the official gazette of the 'Budj Bim National Park' being entered under the National Parks Act 1975 (Vic). The achievement sits alongside the proper naming of the geological feature to Budj Bim from March 2017.



The Budj Bim Council continued its work during the 2017/2018 period with implementing the 2007 Cooperative Management Agreement for the Budj Bim National Park. Council membership for the period included:

Gunditj Mirring:	Eileen Alberts, Damein Bell, Micko Bell, Narelle Carter, Denise Lovett & Dale McDonald (Convener).
DELWP:	Jeremy Moloney until Feb 2017 then Ross Martin.
GHCMA:	Kellie Nilsson until Feb 2017 then Jane Walker.
Parks Victoria:	Don Tumney and Kathryn Campbell.

Activities progressed by the Budj Bim Council during the period included:

- Ensure completion of the Ngootyoong Gunditj Ngootyoong Mara South West Management Plan for Tungett Mirring (Stone Country).
- Ensure implementation of a renaming program for all signs, programs, website information, etc following amendment to the National Parks Act.
- Ensure DELWP and Parks Victoria investigate the tree health rapid assessment of the tree health method to potentially adopt as standard practices.
- Investigate the option of the Budj Bim National Park being declared as an Indigenous Protected Area.
- Assist GMTOAC to implement the Budj Bim Master Plan Stages One and Two project.
- Ensure the incorporation of cultural burning into the DELWP fire management program.

With the current Budj Bim Council members coming to end of their tenure at 30 June 2018, nominations from the Gunditjmara community were called for by the GMTOAC Board of Directors for a new 3 year term during the reporting period. Following the endorsement of nominees by the GMTOAC Board of Directors, the following appointments were made by the Victorian Minister for Environment and Climate Change to the Budj Bim Council for a three year term commencing on 1 July 2018:

Gunditj Mirring:	Eileen Alberts, Damein Bell, Denise Lovett, Deb Malseed, Aaron Morgan and Denis Rose as primary members. Jessica Lovett-Murray, Dale McDonald and Tracey Onus as alternate members.
DELWP:	Ross Martin as primary member and Mark Mellington as alternate member.
GHCMA:	Jane Walker as primary member and Michael Rees as alternate member.
Parks Victoria:	Don Tumney and Sally Lewis as primary members and Peter Hill as alternate member.

Economic Development.

During the 2017/2018 reporting period, the Gunditjmara Native Title Group continued their negotiations with the Victorian Government under the Traditional Owners Settlement Act 2010 including several economic development priorities. Alongside these negotiations, GMTOAC progressed the Budj Bim Master Plan: Stages One and Two Projects and the Gunditj Mirring Commercial Tourism Program.

Budj Bim Master Plan: Stages One and Two Project.

Following the Victorian Government's Budj Bim \$8m Investment in January 2016, work commenced during the 2017/2018 reporting period to progress the governance of the investment projects including:

- Finalising the Budj Bim Cultural Heritage World Heritage Nomination document for submission to UNESCO.
- Appointment of Accuraco Pty Ltd as Independent Project Manager.
- Appointment of Cooper Scaife Design and LookHear Productions for the architectural and interpretation design.
- Progress of design and permits for the following projects:
 - Budj Bim National Park: new cantilevered lookout over Lake Surprise and upgrade of former rangers station with new multi-media interpretative devices.
 - Lake Condah: new bridge south of the Kerrup Jmara weir and new traditional aquaculture centre.
 - Kurtonitj: new raised walkways, a bird hide and a new cultural sundial with the six Gunditjmara seasons.
 - Tyrendarra Indigenous Protected Area: new carpark, raised walkways, new pedestrian bridge.
 - Tyrendarra Recreation Reserve: new arrival and orientation space.

With cultural heritage management planning and environmental impact statements scheduled for completion by December 2018, construction across all sites are scheduled for completion by January 2020.

Budj Bim Commercial Tourism Program.

The Budj Bim Commercial Tourism Program was endorsed by the Full Group in 2014. The program will seek expressions of interests from tour operators to deliver commercial tours on GMTOAC properties. As well as ensuring caring for country principles in the tour products, each tour operator will be required to engage a Gunditjmara cultural interpreter to deliver the cultural interpretation part of the tour.

In 2016, GMTOAC hosted the Gunditjmara Cultural Interpretation and Tour Guiding Workshop where Gunditjmara people participated in a 3 day workshop delivered by the Institute of Koorie Education: Deakin University and cultural interpreter Dean Stewart to develop Cultural Interpretation Plans. Upon completion and evaluation of their Cultural Interpretation Plans, the following Gunditjmara people were endorsed to work with licensed tour operators:

Stephen Lovett	Tracey Onus	Joshia Hazelton	Tony Rotumah
Aaron Morgan	Deb Malseed	Denise Lovett	Greg Shelton
Shane Saunders	Damein Bell	Sean Bell	Talara Harrison
Tina Wright	Micko Bell	Billy Bell	Tyson Lovett-Murray

Working continued on developing the Expression of Interest pro-forma during 2017/2018 period. With the Victorian Government \$8m Budj Bim Master Plan visitor infrastructure projects, the Budj Bim Commercial Tourism Program and the expression of interest process will be soon underway.

Glenelg Aboriginal Partnership 2011 – 2020.

The Glenelg Aboriginal Partnership 2011 – 2020 between GMTOAC, Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation, Dhaurwurd-Wurrung Elderly and Community Health Services Incorporated and the Glenelg Shire Council progressed its work throughout the 2017/2018 period.

Activities under the agreement include the annual Reconciliation Event at the Portland Civic Centre during Reconciliation Week in late May 2018.

