

INTERPRETERS NEWSLETTER

JULY 2005

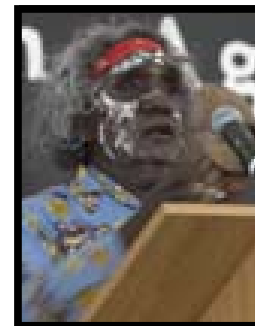


ARGYLE CELEBRATION

Wednesday June 8th was the big celebration of the Participation Agreement at Argyle. It was a really big event, full of speeches, dancing, smoke and water mantha, bush tucker and art.



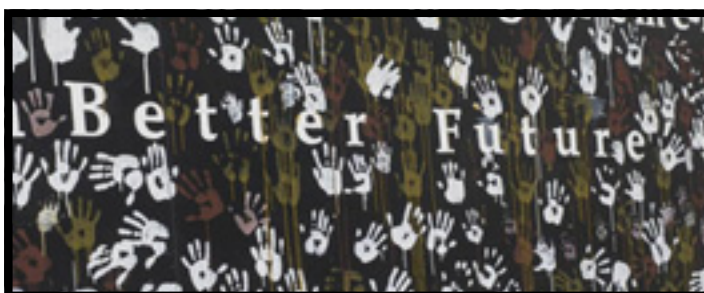
Bonnie Edwards and David Newry with KIS Coordinator Lesley Baxter attended the event. Bonnie and David interpreted for The Governor General of Australia Sir Michael Jeffery, Sir William Dean, the Premier Geoff Gallop, Carol Martin, Brendan Hammond and others.



The Aboriginal participants were given the speeches in Kriol before the speeches were made in English.

This was very good for the Traditional Owners and other Aboriginal people at the gathering and also a strong statement about interpreting.

The interpreters played a very important role in the days celebration.



Heather Umbagai, Anne Leonard, Ronnie Jimbidie, Kim Aldus and Margaret Ford graduated with their Diploma of Interpreting and gained NATTI accreditation in June. The students all worked really hard over the past 12 months to learn the skills of interpreting. Their workshops were held in Broome and Fitzroy Crossing with lecturer Sumati Chakravarti. Well done to the newly accredited interpreters!



The Board of Directors had a big meeting in Broome last week. The meeting was to talk about KIS becoming a Pty. Ltd. Company. The Board is planning for this to happen by the middle of next year.

Interpreters Conference at Batchelor
Last month, Lenka Vanderboom, May Melpi, Kim Aldus and Ronnie Jimbidie went to the AIS interpreters conference at Batchelor in the NT. Ronnie said it was a very good and important meeting. "Government people were actually there listening to the interpreters trying to see how the two cultures can work together and how they can make it better. We also learnt about how other interpreters do their job and how their organisations operate. Alice Springs mob invited us to go and see how they work in the courthouse over there."

PUBLICISING KIS
After travelling to the interpreters conference at Batchelor, Lenka Vanderboom visited police stations and hospitals in Kununurra, Halls Creek and Fitzroy Crossing to spread the word about KIS. She gave them language maps and KIS pamphlets and encouraged them to use interpreters in the future.

Training in the Kimberley
Kimberley College of TAFE and Batchelor Institute have signed an agreement to say they'll work together to have Interpreter training in the Kimberley. TAFE will pay Batchelor to send a lecturer over from the Northern Territory. Training will then be at the TAFE campuses in Broome, Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek and Kununurra. We are hoping the training will begin before the end of this year.

Desert Community Trip
In June, interpreter Bonnie Edwards and KIS coordinator Lesley Baxter travelled to desert communities. They visited Ringers Soak, Billiluna and Balgo to talk to people about interpreting and the work of KIS. There was a really good response from community people, and many said they would like to do training and work as interpreters. At least twenty people were put forward by community members to become interpreters in either Walmajarri, Kukaja or Jaru. They all thought it was really important that interpreters get used all the time to make the communication and understanding clearer between communities as the government departments.

....JOBS....
Its that time of the year when we are very busy . Since May there have been jobs in Ngarinyin, Kriol, Kukatja, Jaru, Kija, Walmajarri, Nyikina and Bunuba. Assignments were done for Royal Perth Hospital, The Rosewood Project, Kimberley Aged and Community Services, Mangkaja Arts, Broome Courthouse, Argyle Diamonds, District Court, Kimberley Older Indigenous Health Project , Office of the Public Advocate , Kimberley Land Council, KIS and Department of Transport. Two Kriol translation assignments were done through KIS by the KLRC.



Thankyou to Lenka Vanderboom who did a deadly job while Dee was away on maternity leave.. Dee had a healthy baby boy, Harrison Dean Mathews.

NEW INTERPRETER REPRESENTATIVE

INTERPRETERS WE NEED YOU TO NOMINATE A NEW INTERPRETER REPRESENTATIVE

KIS has a Board of Directors who make all the big decisions about KIS business and directions.

It is made up of two people from KLRC and Mirima the Chairperson, one staff member and two interpreter representatives.

The current Board of Directors is made up of

- David Newry - Chairperson of Mirima Dawang Woorlab-Gerring Language and Culture Centre
- June Oscar - Chair person Kimberley Language Resource Centre
- Keeley Palmer / Knut Olwasky - Mirima Linguists
- A staff member from KLRC
- Annette Chunama - East Kimberley interpreter representative
- Olive Knight - (retired) West Kimberley interpreter representative

Olive Knight is resigning as an interpreter representative. We thank her for all the work she has done for KIS. She is too busy with work. We need to find someone else to do her job.

We need you interpreters to say who you want to represent you. If you like you can even nominate yourself.

The new interpreter representative should be from the Fitzroy Valley or the West Kimberley and preferably male to keep a balance of men and women.

The roles and responsibilities of the new interpreter representative will be to meet every 3 months to talk about KIS business and make decisions.

They will also need to have some of the following skills:

- Knowledge of Aboriginal language in the Kimberley
- Experience in marketing and promotions
- Experience in financial management
- Good networks of contacts within the industry and region
- Good communication skills
- Knowledge of government, business and philanthropic funding programs and their requirements
- Experience of training in an Aboriginal adult context
- Commitment and enthusiasm

If you think this might be you or an Interpreter you know ring up to us at KIS in Broome. The free phone number is [1800 330 331](tel:1800330331)