



ISSUE 19 • DECEMBER 2023

NNTAC DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

The 2023 AGM was held on 29 November 2023 in Norseman and for the first time the AGM was broadcast to hubs in Geraldton and Perth. More than 255 members attended the AGM, with another 50 lodging proxies, making the 2023 AGM the largest NNTAC AGM ever.

Congratulations to the newly elected member directors who join the board for two years:

- Christine Donaldson (Donaldson)
- Thelma Dimer (Wilson/Nine)
- Natalia Harder (Dalgety/Ray/Munroe)

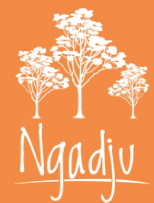
The new directors join the continuing member directors:

- Harold Graham (Graham)
- Pearl Scott (Belang)

The directors met after the AGM and Pamela Kaye was re-appointed as an independent director and Harry Graham was appointed as the NNTAC chair until the end of February 2024.

Members would be aware that NNTAC was distracted by some governance issues in October and November 2023. These were discussed and resolved at the AGM and the corporation is operating as usual.

It takes a lot of people to make an AGM successful, and NNTAC would like to thank Alwyn Graham for chairing the AGM, and Bronwyn Thompson and Helen Rule for assisting Alwyn. Also, thank you to the NNTAC staff for organising the AGM in three locations and Abbott Native Title Trustees for providing travel assistance for members to travel to Norsemen for the AGM.



Native Title
Aboriginal
Corporation

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE 2023

Norseman office:
from 23 Dec 2023 to
14 Jan 2024.

Perth office:
from 23 Dec 2023 to
7 Jan 2024.

The email reception@nntac.org.au will be monitored during the office closure for urgent matters.

On behalf of the directors and staff we wish all members a safe and festive season.



FROM THE CHAIR: HAROLD GRAHAM

As we head into the festive season it is a time to be with family and friends and think about those came before us and our elders. Our elders are there to guide us and keep us on the right path. This year I had to make a difficult decision when I became concerned about some of the decisions being made by the other directors. I called upon my elders for guidance, and they asked me to go court to protect NNTAC until the members could have their say at the AGM on 29 November 2023. I used my own money to go to court and I am pleased that the Federal Court on 14 November 2023 granted injunctions to protect NNTAC's IT systems and bank accounts.

At the AGM I explained why I went to court and asked the members to elect new directors. I would like to thank the members that elected Christine Donaldson, Thelma Dimer and Natalia Harder and welcome them to the board. I am looking forward to working with them. We got down to business straight after the AGM and held our first directors' meeting at the Norseman Hall to address a number of urgent matters. At the meeting I had the honour of being appointed as the chair of NNTAC for three months and I thank the directors for the faith they have shown in me. It is now business as usual at NNTAC and we are looking forward to getting back on track quickly.

The repeal by the WA Government of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 in November 2023 was disappointing, and particularly as there was absolutely no consultation with NNTAC.

Unfortunately, our heritage now relies on 1972 legislation that was responsible for the destruction of Juukan Gorge. But it is pleasing to see we have a strong heritage team led by Dayboy Graham that are looking after country and we finished off 2023 with a record number of heritage surveys and heritage workers employed.

Next year is going to be an even bigger year for NNTAC and the Ngadju people, with the historic determination of the native title claim over the Norseman township, finalisation of major negotiations with mining companies, consultations about a new rule book and the appointment of a new CEO. Your directors will be working hard for you and listening to the members and the elders about the way forward for NNTAC.

I would like to thank the NNTAC staff, who have had a difficult year but stuck with NNTAC and never stopped working for Ngadju people. I also thank the members for supporting NNTAC and wish everyone a blessed and safe Christmas with your families and loved ones and a happy new year. Please stay safe and I look forward to seeing everyone at the next NNTAC meeting, if not before.

Harry Graham
December 2023

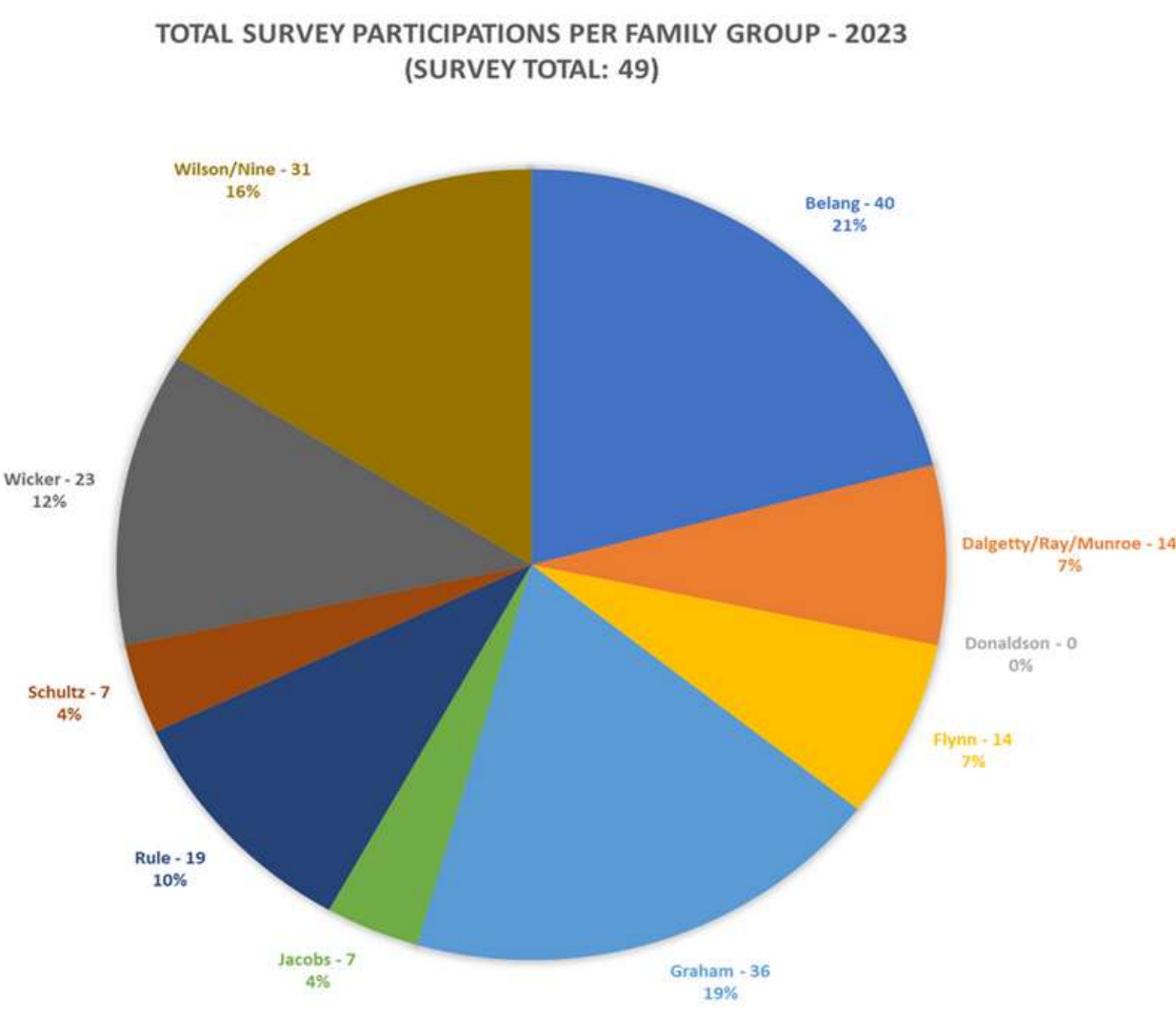


HERITAGE UPDATE 2023

One of the most important jobs that NNTAC has is to identify and protect Ngadju cultural heritage. The work that we do also employs many Ngadju people. In 2023, David ‘Dayboy’ Graham was appointed as the permanent on-ground manager of the cultural heritage program and NNTAC appointed a panel of new heritage consultants. The NNTAC heritage team had one of their busiest years in 2023, with a record number of Ngadju people employed in October and November on surveys.

Over 2023, a total of 49 heritage surveys were completed successfully, which is five more than last year. The surveys included 191 Ngadju people with 65 different Ngadju people from most family groups doing a survey (this is more than 90% of the Ngadju people registered as survey participants). A breakdown of the families that worked on surveys in 2023 are shown in the following graph. Remember, that to be eligible to undertake a survey you must be registered with NNTAC and complete all employment documents, and also be approved by the Elders Advisory Group.

Surveys are now on hold during the summer and bushfire season and will resume in February 2024.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

In previous newsletters, we have spoken about the new membership system that we have been working on in 2023 to make it easier to apply for membership and for members to keep their details updated.

GOOD NEWS - NNTAC's ONLINE MEMBERSHIP IS NOW LIVE!

Applying for membership is now much simpler and you can apply online by going to the NNTAC website – www.nntac.org.au and clicking on 'NGADJU MEMBERS' on the right-hand, top corner of the site.

The screenshot shows the 'Apply for your Membership' page on the NNTAC website. The header includes the Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (NNTAC) logo and navigation links: Home, About Us, News, Contact Us, and a highlighted 'Ngadju Members' link. The main content area is titled 'Apply for your Membership' and explains the requirements for membership. It lists five criteria: being 18 years of age, identifying to one Family Group, abiding by the Rule Book, Code of Conduct, and Ngadju law. It also provides two options for applying: an online form or a print version form. A '3. Upload your application or support documents' section shows a form with fields for Name, Date of Birth, Address, Email, and Contact Number, and a 'SUBMIT' button.

Apply for your Membership

To be successful in your application for membership of the Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (NNTAC), you are required to:

- 1. Satisfy the membership criteria**
 - Be 18 years of age, show one form of identification.
 - Identify to one Family Group
 - Declare you will abide by the Rule Book, Code of Conduct and act in the best interest of the Corporation.
 - Confirm you are a Ngadju person and/or recognised as a Ngadju person.
 - Provide relevant details so that the Directors have reasonable satisfaction you have been on country.
 - Acknowledge and observe Ngadju law (lore) and customs.
- 2. Fill out your online application form here or select download for a print version.**

*You will be required to upload the print version form in the following step.

ONLINE FORM **PRINT VERSION FORM**
- 3. Upload your application or support documents through the following form.**

Form fields:

- Name*
- Upload your File here (Max file size 10MB)
- Upload your File here (Max file size 10MB)
- APPLY NOW**

You can download a membership form and send to NNTAC, or even better you can submit all your details on the website and submit online – see the screenshot below.

If you are already a member and your contact details change, you can also go to the website and let us know your new details so we can stay in touch with you. Please contact the NNTAC staff on (08) 9462 3500 if you need help with the new membership database.

The screenshot shows the 'Update your Membership details' page on the NNTAC website. The header is identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area is titled 'Update your Membership details' and asks if the user has changed any of their contact details. It provides a form with fields for Name, Date of Birth, Address, Email, and Contact Number, and a 'SUBMIT' button.

Update your Membership details

Have you change any of your contact details?
Let us know filling out the following form.

Form fields:

- Name*
- Date of Birth*
- Address
- Email
- Contact Number
- SUBMIT**

Esperance Tjaltkraak

wishes to support Ngadju members cross one of the barriers for employment opportunities by delivering the Driving Access and Equity Program, funded by the Department of Transport, in Norseman. The program helps people:

- improve access to vehicles, driving instructors and supervisors to help people learn to drive;
- help people overcome issues and costs that may prevent them from obtaining their licence;
- increasing access to Department of Transport services.
- Program benefits:
- helping people get their driver's licence will increase their access to training, education, and employment opportunities.
- the Program identifies some of the barriers people face that prevents them getting their driver's licence and provides targeted solutions through a range of initiatives.
- they work closely with local groups and stakeholders to determine which initiatives will most benefit that community.

Esperance Tjaltkraak NTAC are inviting members to send their expression of interest (EOI) for this program, which is planned from January 2024, by contacting NNTAC's Membership Officer, Davine Graham on 9462 3500 or emailing reception@nntac.org.au 2024. Date to be confirmed once EOI is received.



THANK YOU

From the NNTAC staff we thank the Ngadju members for their support in 2023 and look forward to a productive 2024 with some big announcements that are going to benefit all Ngadju people.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

