
**TASMANIAN
ABORIGINAL
CENTRE**

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

CHAIR AND CEO REPORT

We remember the many Aboriginal community members who died this year and express again our condolences to their families. Too many, too young, too soon.

We applaud the continuing dedication of our community and elected Board to work without reward to achieve community goals and to ensure the smooth functioning of our organisation.

As usual, our staff went above and beyond in doing their jobs, especially the many health-related staff looking after community safety during the COVID pandemic. We were especially proud that we were able to adjust our way of delivering services that kept community safe, and we thank all those staff who adjusted to the 'new normal'.

Highlights of the year include:

- The highest ever participation in our annual Invasion Day protest with over 10,000 online participants;
- Continuing commitment by government to establishing a Treaty for Tasmanian Aborigines and to working under new partnerships with our community to close the gap in life outcomes;
- The start of many Aboriginal community meetings about Tasmanian Treaty;
- Increased understanding of the need for Aboriginal cultural heritage protection as shown by institutional support (including Hobart City Council) for keeping cable cars away from Kunanyi cable;

cont.



- Confirmation of Takayna coast Aboriginal heritage protection from the damage of off-road vehicles by a courageous decision of Minister Jacqui Petrusma and the Gutwein State Government after years of work and expense by our organisation, community and supporters;
- Continuing and increasing number of health and community services provided to our community throughout Lutruwita;
- The purchase of cultural land at Diana's Basin near St Helens with ILSC funding support;
- Increased ability to care for country with significant new federal funding for a Land and Sea Country Indigenous Protected Area program in Tayaritja/Furneaux Islands;
- Many Aboriginal community events and activities;
- Significant support for training and employment of community members;
- Numerous events showcasing our native food through Palawa Kipli;
- New events and resources to tackle our biggest health challenge: smoking;
- Direct action through snap protests highlighting some of our major issues like treaty and harsh anti-protest laws;
- Significant work towards new business ventures such as tourism and aquaculture;
- Highlighting our community aspiration to restore our Aboriginal Legal Service and promote diverse discussion about the major legal and social issues confronting us;

- Expanding the coverage of our online palawa kani placenames map and increased uptake in the use of original place names;
- Expanded use and expertise in digital media.

The achievements of individual programs are reported throughout this Annual Report.

From the 2021 TAC Board elections, the incoming Board members were:

Graeme Gardner – Chair
Annette Peardon
Michael Beeton
Leah Cameron
Michelle Purdy
Lucas Maynard

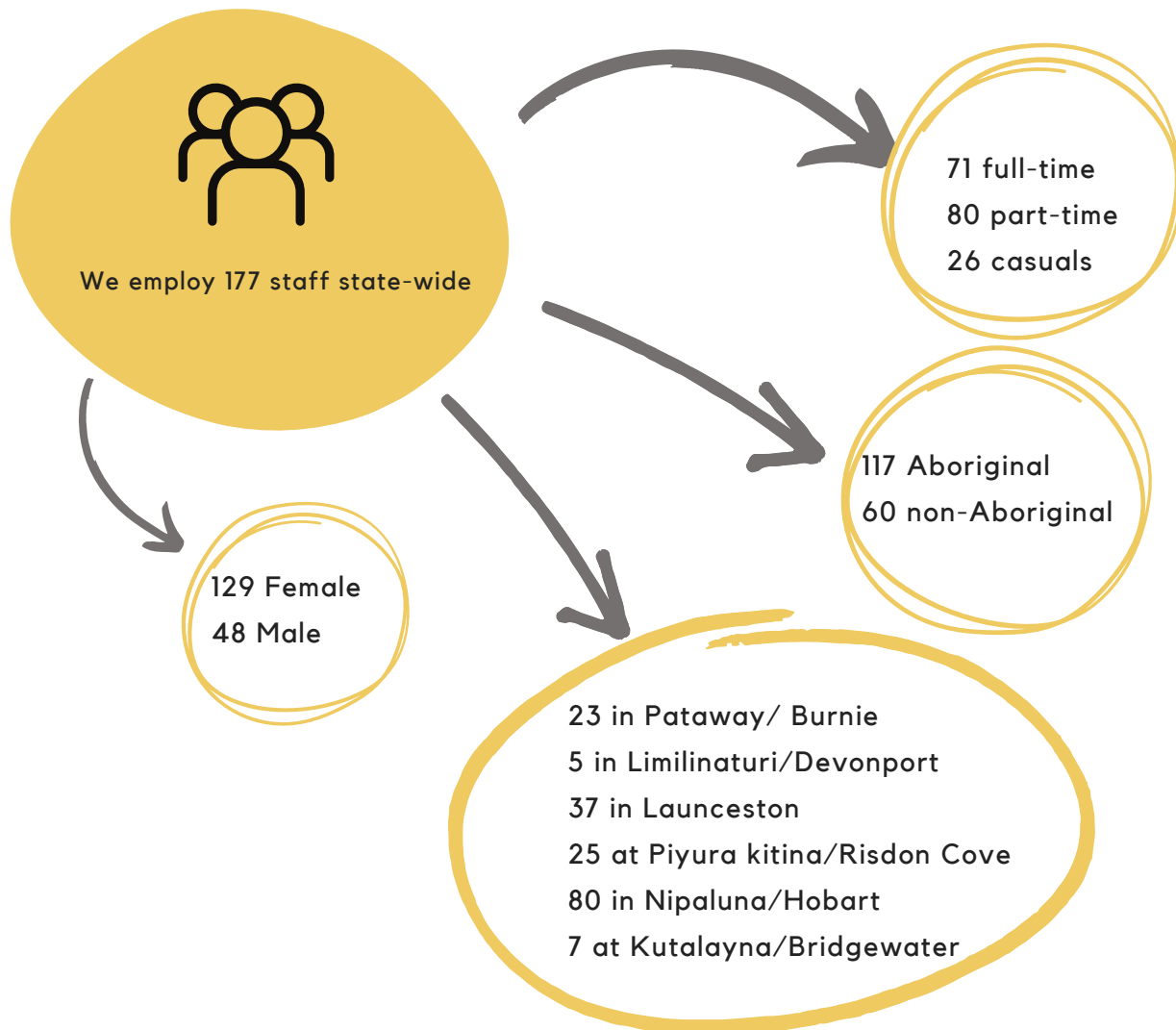
And Branch delegates:
Jillian Mundy (Nipaluna)
Darlene Mansell (Launceston)
Brendan Murray (Pataway).

***Graeme Gardner & Heather Sculthorpe
December 2022***



Diana's Basin

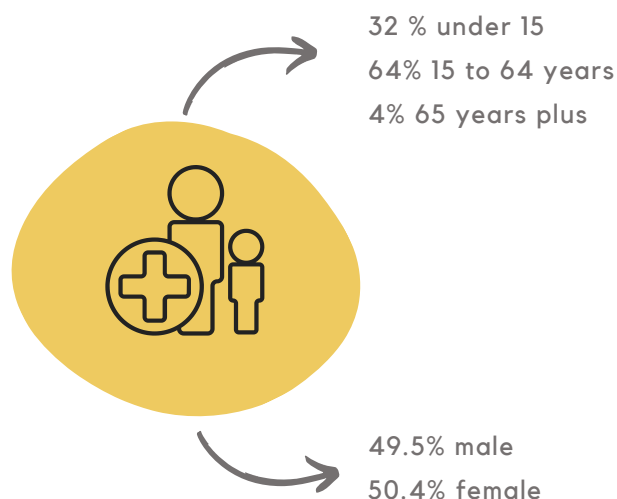
OUR ORGANISATION



ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICES

Our Aboriginal Health Service (AHS) provides a comprehensive suite of primary health care services to Aboriginal people and their families throughout the state. Our knowledge of health conditions affecting Tasmanian Aboriginal people is deepened by what we have learnt through CPHC services across Tasmania over the last 30 years. We provide direct care to individuals, families and community groups, and promote all aspects of social, emotional, cultural and physical wellbeing. We aim to improve antenatal and child and maternal health, provide preventative health education and to manage chronic diseases for Aboriginal people.

Current AHS patients



5
CLINICS



Pataway/ Burnie
Limilnaturi/Devonport
Launceston
Nipaluna/Hobart
Kutalayna/Bridgewater

57,247
episodes of care state-wide

An episode of care is a contact between an individual client and service, with one or more staff, to provide health care within one calendar day. All contacts on the day are treated as one episode of care.

Integrated Care Team

The Integrated Team Care (ITC team) provides care coordination to help community members who have chronic health conditions. We support patients with better access to health specialists as well as providing access to resources that normally would be inaccessible due to cost or wait-list times.

244
patients

106 males
138 females
75 clients assisted with transport

CLOSING THE GAP

The TAC is the Tasmanian Closing the Gap Peak body and is a member of the Closing the Gap National Coalition of Peaks. The Coalition of Peaks was established in 2018 and is made up of over 70 national, state and Territory Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled Peak bodies who regularly come together to provide community-controlled representation about how to change the way Australian governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and to negotiate and agree with governments on Closing the Gap approaches.

The closing the Gap National Agreement identifies four (4) Priority reform areas and seventeen (17) associated Closing the Gap Target Outcomes. To progress this work TAC and the government have established five policy partnerships.

Policy partnerships

1. Early Childhood Care and Development
2. Justice (Adult and youth incarceration)
3. Social and Emotional Wellbeing
4. Aboriginal Housing
5. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages

TAC employs a Closing the Gap (CtG) Policy Officer to co-ordinate this work. Regional CtG Community workshops have been held at piyura kitina, pataway and Launceston TAC and include:

Six (6) regional Community workshops to seek input in relation to Aboriginal Early Childhood Care and Development with a particular focus on the return of Aboriginal child welfare/child safety back to Aboriginal Community control. The CtG regional workshop in Launceston also included Community input into the establishment of an Aboriginal Community based Treaty Group.



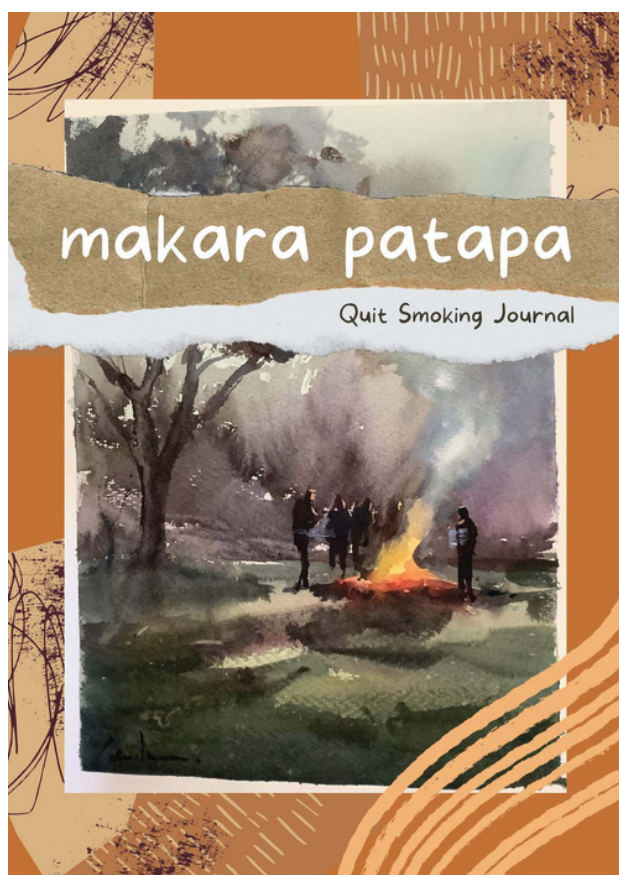
Three (3) regional Community workshops to seek Community input into how to prevent Aboriginal youth detention and Aboriginal adult and youth incarceration. CtG Community workshop participants overwhelmingly supported the establishment of a revised state-wide Aboriginal Youth Diversionary Program, keeping in mind the lesson we have learnt and acknowledging that adequate and appropriate resourcing is fundamental to the success of such a program.

CLOSING THE GAP

Three regional Community workshops are scheduled for late November/early December to provide opportunities for Community members to voice their concerns, views and hopes in relation to Aboriginal housing in Tasmania, and how we can better identify and support Aboriginal Community members with disabilities.

Further CtG regional Community workshops will be held early in 2023 and will focus on language and data sharing.

MAKARA PATAPA



Artist: Rod Gardner

The makara patapa program reduces smoking rates in the Tasmanian Aboriginal community by providing intensive smoking cessation support and education to people who use the Aboriginal Health Services across lutruwita/Tasmania.

The number of ex-smokers increased from 873 to 957.

The makara patapa worker made contact 562 times with clients.

In 2021-22 makara patapa had an additional project called Makara patapa storytelling which produced a range of resources around the theme Good smoke/bad smoke. These resources included 12 podcasts, three promotional films, two visual art commissions, and a quit smoking journal. More information here: www.tacinc.com.au/makara-patapa



Rob Braslin's artwork for makara patapa

ABORIGINAL NDIS COMMUNITY CONNECTOR PROGRAM

The Aboriginal Disability Liaison Officer is a role that supports those living in the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community with a permanent and significant disability that affects their daily living.

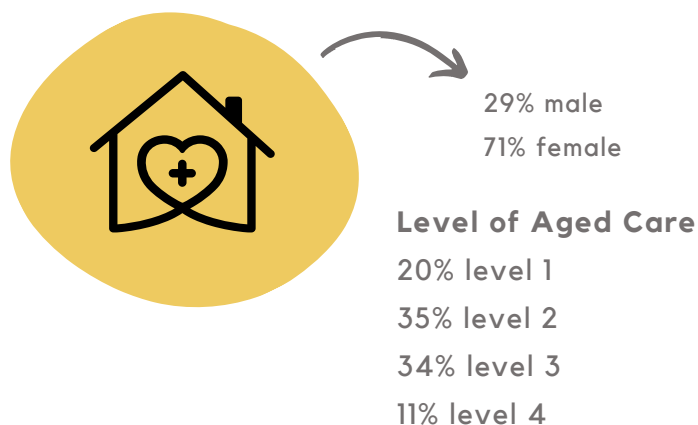
The role has been designed to support Community members who wish to access a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) package to support their daily living.

The new Aboriginal Disability Liaison Officer (ADLO) started in April 2022, and has traveled statewide, having 157 contact episodes with people in the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community including assisting 47 successful applicants who now have a NDIS package to support their daily living with a disability.

AGED CARE PROGRAM

The Aged Care Program is a provider of the Commonwealth Government’s My Aged Care Program. This year all clients have moved to individualised care under the Home Care Package Program with benefits ranging from level 1 to level 4 depending on need.

The Aged Care Program supported 65 members of our community to live independently, through shopping, cleaning and transport support and social outings to engage with family, friends and community.



Community feed in Pataway

73 average age of our Aged Care clients

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic Elders group activities were limited, with 6 group activities being held, an average of 11 Elders attended each group activity

TRAINING SERVICES

Members of our staff were able to take 358 training places to further their development over the year. This was across 86 training events covering different subject areas with 19 of these being accredited training courses.

Overall numbers were slightly down on last year, however the overall training hours increased, with more staff undertaking accredited training. The accredited training consumed as much as 15 hours per week over a 2-year period. This is a considerable commitment by the TAC to staff development and career development.

Despite the disruption of the pandemic the TAC maintained a diverse training program in 2022.

Highlights include:

94% of staff who undertook training successfully completed

39 TAC staff across the state trained routinely (weekly or fortnightly) in *palawa kani*. training delivered in mix of face to face, small group and online sessions.

33 staff undertook Developmental Trauma training with the Australian Childhood Foundation.

23 staff undertook COVID vaccination courses

18 staff attended our Aged Care Skills Update Day – which had not run for two years

17 people gained their Certificate IV in Training and Assessment – a great achievement as this is the required qualification to deliver nationally accredited training and assessment.

12 staff undertaking Assist Clients with Medication accredited training

12 Community Members undertook a pre-employment course in Health Assistants – funded by Skills Tasmania

7 staff undertaking Certificate III in Individual Support – improving our quality compliance in aged and disability services.

7 staff undertook Motivational Interviewing training

2 staff are undertaking Certificate IV in Aging Services

2 staff are undertaking Diploma of Nursing

2 staff are undertaking Certificate IV in Health Administration

1 staff member doing Certificate IV Leadership and Management

- 25% more staff received training this year
- 62% of training was online – double the percentage from last year
- 97% of training was delivered in Tasmania
- 37% of training was accredited/recognised – up 50% from last year

CULTURAL AWARENESS TRAINING

1,487

people took part in:

55

Cultural awareness training courses across Lutruwita

This significant increase in participation from last year is due to COVID restrictions lifting.



94 % of feedback received "good to very good" ratings



ABORIGINAL CHILDREN'S CENTRE, PIYURA KITINA

The Aboriginal Children’s Centre is an Early Education and Care Centre based on Aboriginal land at piyura kitina – Risdon Cove in Southern Tasmania.

The Aboriginal Children’s Centre supports Aboriginal children to meet their educational milestones and be confident Aboriginal community members through strong connections to country and culture.

The centre provides education and care for a total of 53 children.

The Aboriginal Children’s Centre is licensed for a total of 29 children per day:

- 4 Children in the Nursery
- 5 Children in the toddler rooms
- 20 Children in the 3 to 5 years room

There is a wait list for all rooms due to staff shortages, but the centre has been successful in recently employing new Qualified Educators and we hope the waitlist will be reduced soon.

EMPOWERING PALAWA PARENTS

Engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in Burnie, Launceston and Hobart in activities that build the capability and skills of children and parents or carers to improve educational outcomes. Includes: antenatal care services; child health services; child and adult immunisation; establishment of additional service capability.

From January - June 2022, the program experienced significant impact due to COVID restrictions. Playgroup moved to home visiting program only. Although this impacted on the collective learning environment, it provided the opportunity to support more children and their families in the home setting and increased the engagement of more children during this time. 40 children and 32 parents participated in the home visiting program and received learning packs each week.

Children and parents were provided with activities to stimulate sensory, fine motor and gross motor skills. The packs followed a different theme each week. In late May and July a couple of outdoor family activities were held and participation numbers were around 40 parents and children each time. The preparation for school program was also impacted by school restrictions, this found more families needing external assistance with their children.

28 female parents/carers receiving services under the activity.

4 male parents/carers receiving services under the activity.

0 indeterminate/intersex/unspecified parents/carers receiving services under the activity.

511 events held under the activity (relating to parents/carers).

90% of parents/carers/training recipients that feel more confident in their ability to provide a safe, nurturing and educational environment for their children.

37 unique female students participating in the funded activity (ies).

38 unique male students participating in the funded activity (ies).

0 unique indeterminate / intersex / unspecified students participating in the funded activity (ies).



Palawa parents in Pataway

CONNECTED BEGINNINGS

Kutalyana Health is a collective impact approach within the Bridgewater-Gagebrook and Brighton region.

The objective of the Program is the integration of early childhood, maternal and child health, and family support services within school settings within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, so that children are healthy and well prepared for school.

A 32% increase in clients accessing Kutalayna Health has been recorded in the reporting period.

164 clients were under the age of five, that equates to almost 20% of all presentations. Another 95 clients were between the age of 5 to 9. Overall, 30% of clients using Kutalayna Health are under the age of 9.

Contacts with the Aboriginal children under 5, averaged at 5.3 engagements per child, during the year.

The Connected Beginning program has now been extended to George Town, the northern suburbs of Launceston and Pataway – Burnie.

FAMILY SUPPORT

The Family Support Program provides support to over 150 families state-wide, with a range of support needs including family safety planning; supporting contact visits with parents and family members; reunification, Family Group Conferencing and mediation meetings; Alcohol and Drug support; family functioning, safety, wellbeing; and nutrition education.

The program also supports Aboriginal families in relation to children's engagement within the education system and access to early education and care. The TAC Family Support Program provides a range of referrals for children and families ranging from counselling and psychology, dietician, speech therapy, ear health checks, family violence programs such as Shark Cage. Referrals are either internally through TAC programs or to external services.

In a recent survey, 94.1% of the 170 respondents, stated they were making progress towards their goals and had improved awareness and knowledge in relation to parenting and family safety.



RANA, PAYNGANA, PALITI RRALA

Our rana, payngana, paliti rrala (Strong in body, mind and spirit) program is designed to meet the social, emotional, spiritual wellbeing needs of our community. Part of our team is made up of qualified Counsellors who provide culturally appropriate counselling services and mental health support. Also, we have community based social and emotional wellbeing workers who ensure that the community is connected and engaged in community and well-being activities.

467 people accessed support with either a psychologist, counsellor or social worker through the social and emotional wellbeing program.

30 activities and 28 events with one additional event – online Invasion Day rally which had 10,900 viewers.

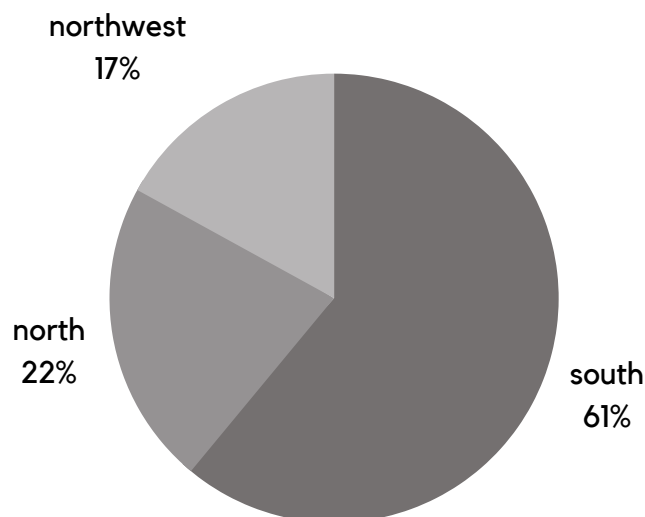
200 attendees
Jul to Dec 2021

547 attendees
Jan to Jun 2022

TAKAMUNA PAKANA

takamuna pakana (recreational and sporting assistance) enables Aboriginal community members to have equitable access to sports participation in club and representative sport through the financial assistance of memberships and equipment.

116 participants



73% of participants were under 18

16 elite athletes (softball, soccer, basketball, rugby union, athletics, volleyball, cricket, lawn bowls & netball)



RRALA MILAYTHINA-TI (STRONG IN COUNTRY) PROJECT

rrala milaythina-ti project assists Aboriginal community members to spend time on milaythina (country) around the state. Community is provided with opportunities to connect with milaythina to improve their social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

94 participants on six Strong in Country Camps

98 participants on six Strong in Country day trips

Several cultural days were also held at Risdon Cove.



rrala milaythina-ti social media

959 

Facebook Followers

8,458

People reached on Facebook

LAND MANAGEMENT

TAC has Land and Sea management crews across lutruwita/Tasmania including on the West Coast, the Furneaux Islands and in the south. Much of the work is weed eradication and fire management as well as fauna projects including feral species management and native wildlife restoration, with infrastructure maintenance and heritage protection the other important tasks.



17,000 hectares of land managed

4 Land management crews and a Sea Country crew

17 Aboriginal rangers

BABEL ISLAND

- 1 ha burned
- 5 ha cut and pasted
- 4 ha African Boxthorn cut, cleared and burnt

BADGER ISLAND

- 265 ha burned
- 12 ha African Boxthorn cut and pasted

BIG DOG

- 160 ha burned

LUNGTALANANA

- 343 ha burned
- 1 ha gorse cut and pasted
- Project plan for cat control developed
- Project plan for animal repatriation developed
- 1 community access trip and cultural workshop

**CHAPPELL ISLAND
/HUMMOCKY**

- 3 ha cleared and burnt
- 12 ha cleared and regenerated
- 113 ha monitored

PUTALINA

- Ongoing care and maintenance of cultural sites and community facilities
- 1 Ranger guided tour for Aboriginal kids

PREMINGHANA

- 18 ha gorse burned
- 2 ha revegetated with E. Nitida and E. Viminalis
- 1 ha roadworks
- 17 ha gorse and sea spurge sprayed

PIYURA KITINA

- 30 ha fauna camera monitoring
- 5 ha fire management and cultural burning
- 70 ha rabbit control
- Periwinkle management plan enacted across five sites
- 30 ha grounds keeping and landscaping
- Construction of new carpark facility at old school offices
- One session of Rangers delivering Cultural burning interpretation for ACAT
- Facilitation of community activities over NAIDOC week
- Community support for cultural activities and events

TRAWTHA MAKUMINYA

- infrastructure and visitor accommodation maintenance

KINGS RUN

- burning
- solar power installed

DIANAS BASIN

- 20 km of track work
- 200 ha threatened flora and vegetation mapping

SEA COUNTRY CONSULTATIONS

- Cape Barren
- Launceston
- Burnie
- Flinders Island
- Hobart

SPRING BAY MILL

Rangers from truwana and pakana services hosted a community cultural camp, where 50 community members enjoyed a weekend of learning about cultural fire and other cultural activities.

FEE FOR SERVICE RANGER ACTIVITIES

Rangers carried out activities with the following organisations:

- Spring Bay Mill
- Hobart Airport
- NRM South



PALAWA KANI

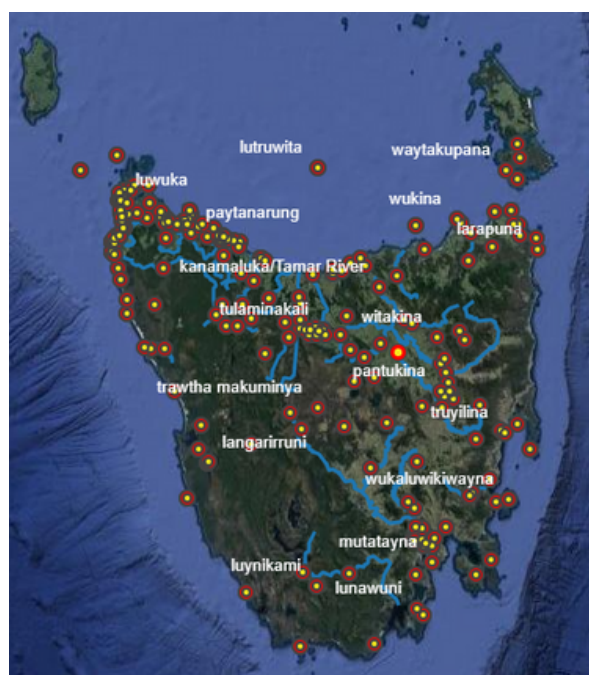
Our language team continued reviving our language and sharing their knowledge with community members. We also tried to educate politicians and the broader community about how we do our language work to promote the authenticity of our language.

3rd *palawa kani* episode of Little J & Big Cuz, lunangkatawn (Shelter) translated into *palawa kani* and produced for NITV with six adult and three youth community members as speech actors.

71 words retrieved and added to the *palawa kani* database.

227 *palawa kani* place names now live on the *pulingina* Lutruwita Tasmania place names map and increasingly used by public.

<https://tacinc.com.au/pulingina-to-lutruwita-tasmania-place-names-map/>



PARTNERSHIPS

We work closely with many other organisations to achieve our goals, some went above and beyond, and we thank them.

Our main partners included:

- Bob Brown Foundation
- Worldwide Fund for Nature
- Spring Bay Mill
- Hobart Airport
- University of Tasmania
- University of Adelaide
- Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Council
- Department of Education, Skills and Employment
- Tasmanian Department of Premier and Cabinet; Community Partnerships and Priorities Division
- Tasmanian Department of Health
- Alcohol and Drug Service
- Population Health
- Mental Health
- Therapeutic care for children
- Paediatric Care
- Primary Health Tasmania (PHT)
- UTAS Medical School
- General Practice Training Tasmania
- Department of Public Health
- Coalition of Peaks
- 26TEN
- NACCHO (National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation)

213 Aboriginal community members interact in and about *palawa kani* on designated takariliya kani Facebook page.

39 TAC staff across the state trained in *palawa kani*. Ten educators in other Aboriginal facilities also trained.

450 people from pre-school age children to elders took part in *palawa kani* activities across the state, including Truwana / Cape Barren Island.

300 requests for use of *palawa kani* by the public approved under the Policy and Protocol for Use of *palawa kani* Language, including naming of new \$60 million kanamaluka Cultural Centre, Launceston.

Allowable categories of *palawa kani* shared with 40 schools, Universities and Early Learning Centres.

Public performances in *palawa kani* (speeches, songs, welcomes) presented at over 40 festival, conferences and other events, some televised, including the Special Olympics National Games, AFLW North Melbourne V Geelong, Launceston; AFL Hawthorn Indigenous Round, Launceston; AFL Anzac Day match North Melbourne V Geelong, Hobart; and MONA FOMA.

Six information sessions delivered to CSIRO, Australian Antarctic Division, local councils, private corporations, writer's festival.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**PAGE 18**

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Income			
Grants	2	13,894,095	12,776,431
Gain on the Disposal of Assets		34,447	0
Fees & Other Income		5,395,861	4,511,964
Interest		38,104	64,035
Total Income		19,362,507	17,352,430
Expenditure			
Salaries and Employment Costs		12,610,692	11,066,231
Travel		416,164	402,192
Vehicle Costs		509,524	476,264
Resources, Materials, Supplies		1,188,188	1,102,361
Professional & Consultancy Costs		1,220,727	1,294,466
Miscellaneous Program Expenses		77,020	52,710
Occupancy & Utilities		600,095	585,370
Repairs & Maintenance		235,279	202,985
Insurances		161,281	141,287
Depreciation for the Year	1 (b)	312,521	325,141
Loss on Revaluation of Assets		280,020	0
Interest Expense		26,269	27,681
Total Expenditure		<u>17,637,780</u>	<u>15,676,688</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) for the financial year		<u>1,724,727</u>	<u>1,675,742</u>
Asset Revaluation Reserve Movement			
Revaluation Increments		<u>4,629,656</u>	0
Total Asset Revaluation Reserve Movement		<u>4,629,656</u>	0
Total Comprehensive Income		<u>6,354,383</u>	<u>1,675,742</u>

To view the full Financial Report, visit www.tacinc.com.au/2021-2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

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As at 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank	3	20,074,802	17,953,252
Trade & Other Receivables	4	333,480	174,058
Prepayments	5	120,071	87,601
Total Current Assets		<u>20,528,353</u>	<u>18,214,911</u>
Non-current Assets			
Goodwill	6	56,650	56,650
Right of Use Asset	7	551,000	684,335
Property, plant and equipment	8	22,040,107	16,171,410
Total Non-current Assets		<u>22,647,757</u>	<u>16,912,395</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>43,176,110</u>	<u>35,127,306</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade & Other Payables	9	495,829	309,221
Grants in Advance	10	3,474,632	1,580,865
Service Income in Advance	11	128,764	584,740
Staff Leave Accruals & Provisions	12	2,598,346	2,370,641
Lease Liability - Current	14	168,180	163,112
Total Current Liabilities		<u>6,865,751</u>	<u>5,008,579</u>
Non-current Liabilities			
Staff Leave Provisions	13	418,676	443,024
Operating Lease Commitment	14	382,820	521,223
Total Non-current Liabilities		<u>801,496</u>	<u>964,247</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>7,667,247</u>	<u>5,972,826</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>35,508,863</u>	<u>29,154,480</u>
EQUITY			
Accumulated Funds		<u>35,508,863</u>	<u>29,154,480</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>35,508,863</u>	<u>29,154,480</u>



Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre
GPO Box 569
Hobart TAS 7001

LIKE, FOLLOW AND CONNECT WITH US



Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre



@TAClutruwita