



# BOAB BULLETIN

No. 92

June 2009

## **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

commencing 7.15 for 7.30 p.m. at  
Shenton Park Community Centre, corner Onslow and Herbert Roads

**Wednesday, 3 June 2009**

**Stephen Scourfield (author and travel editor)**  
**“Fact and fiction in the other country”**

**Wednesday, 1 July 2009**

**Quentin Hall (IT specialist)**  
**“Adventures of Computer Support in the Kimberley  
(or I’ll go anywhere, any time in any conditions)”**

**Wednesday, 5 August 2009**

**Josh Coates (Kimberley Campaigner, The Wilderness Society)**  
**“Crunch time for the Kimberley”**

**Wednesday, 2 September 2009**

**Peter Knight (Engineer)**  
**“Construction of the Ord River diversion dam – An  
illustrated history”**

**Wednesday, 7 October 2009**

**Wendy Carter (Kununurra Historical Society)**  
**“Border markers exhibition and other news”**

Members and visitors are invited to stay for supper after the meeting.  
The Society asks a \$2.00 hospitality fee from non-members.

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

At last we have had a decision (almost?) about the development of an on-shore hub for the gas of the Browse Basin. One of the hoped for benefits will be for the improved economic and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people whose social problems hit the headlines so regularly.

On a quieter and smaller scale there are several organisations which are using new initiatives "to make a difference". We shall hear about one of them from Fred Chaney later this year at our December meeting. We heard about another at our meeting in July last year, the Clontarf Foundation, which has had a huge success throughout Australia in retaining teenagers at school and finding employment for them afterwards. (I was delighted to see that our speaker Ross Kelly is a finalist in the West Australian Citizen of the Year awards.) The foundation now has academies throughout the Kimberley and I hope to visit some of them in July to see if the Kimberley Society can assist their educational endeavours in some way.

Along the same lines, I received an invitation to a fund raising concert featuring Madjtil Moorna - "Singers of Aboriginal Songs", a multiracial choir meeting in the Kalamunda area. They were about to travel to Halls Creek to join with the children to train, learn and then to participate with them in the Barramundi Festival, part of the Ord Valley Muster in Kununurra.

What impresses me is that these schemes encourage active participation, engender self confidence, self esteem and teamwork. Moreover they do not depend on government subsidies.

The Madjtil Moorna visit was the initiative of Doreen Green, Aboriginal elder and schoolteacher at Halls Creek who also spoke at their concert. You may have seen her photograph and article in *The West Australian* as she was also advocating the movement to restrict the sale of alcohol in Halls Creek, which has now been implemented. Most authorities, and indeed most people who I speak to (and do not live there) support the move but approval is not universal. Understandably publicans and retailers protest but there are others without vested interests and deeply concerned for Aboriginal welfare that have misgivings about the ban and its consequences because it does not address the root causes of the problem.

As with so many topics in this life there are diverse views as to the best road to travel to what is agreed as a desirable destination.

*Hamish McGlashan*

## **CANE TOAD STRATEGY AND SETBACKS**

On 12 May, the WA Environment Minister Donna Faragher released a 69-page draft cane toad strategy with a six-week public comment period (closing on 25 June). Under the strategy, the Kimberley Toad Busters will receive a \$1.2 million four-year grant. Cutting across that, the WA Department of Environment and Conservation advises that one of the KTB's principal weapons, the humble antiseptic Dettol, can harm the environment. Its key ingredient, chloroxylenol, kills baby cane toads as well as bacteria and fungi but it also can affect fish. Pouring Dettol into water bodies therefore constitutes a federal offence. Add to that the recent DEC finding that using carbon dioxide to kill toads might be inhumane and one has to wonder what chance the KTB and other groups have of maintaining their incredible success rate. The draft strategy is available online (<http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/canetoads>) or from DEC; phone 9334 0333 (Perth) or 9168 4200 (Kununurra).

## **THE KIMBERLEY SERIES BOOK AND PHOTOGRAPHS**

On 6 May 2009, Joel Smoker spoke to the Kimberley Society about his book and photographs titled *The Kimberley Series*. The photographer Richard Woldendorp wrote the foreword to the book, describing it as a 'publication of photographs that does justice to the landscape and to Joel, the artist with a camera'. High praise but richly deserved. In his presentation, Joel used a projector to display the 40 images from the series, and he left each one in place long enough to comment on its location or content and on factors considered when he took the photograph. The audience was captivated by the clarity and vividness of the images and, for the many who are not skilled photographers, there were practical tips on how to get great shots. Joel's introduction to the book, reproduced below, explains how the series came into being.

In late 1982 I'd had enough of living in the Perth hills so I packed up my kiln and ceramics gear and put it all in storage in my father's garage and moved to Fremantle, where I rented a bedroom at Ken and Anne Kelso's house in Suffolk Street in the heart of the city. I had plans of setting up a ceramics studio in Fremantle, which was then still a sleepy village full of artists and musicians. I was teaching art at Gosnells Senior High School so the distance between Kalamunda and Gosnells and Fremantle and Gosnells wasn't all that different. I figured that to find a suitable place in Fremantle to set up I needed to be there with my ear to the ground.

All this was to change when I got a call from John Read, the Superintendent of Education at the Kimberley District Education Office based in Kununurra. His call was an offer for me to take up a position as an Arts Advisory teacher in the Priority Country Areas Programme, a federally funded programme servicing government and non-government schools in the Kimberley from the District Office at Kununurra. It was totally unexpected. I asked for a day to think about it. The Kimberley is my spirit home. It was where I was born and raised so the prospect of going back there for a period was very attractive, but I had an exhibition of my ceramics booked at the Undercroft Gallery at the University of W.A. for the following year and I wasn't sure how I could reconcile the two options.

The next day I got a call from Ray Sampson, the Superintendent for Art with the Education Department of W.A., urging me to take up the offer. I had been on a weekend trip to Kununurra earlier in the year to take a ceramics workshop, which was attended by Nancy Read, John's wife, and she had suggested that I would be a good person for the job. Nancy is a lovely person, so her recommendation was important. Ray suggested that it would be too good an opportunity for me to pass up. By the time I got back to Fremantle in the late afternoon I was of the same opinion and rang John to confirm. He sounded pleased and I had a good feeling about it. Our family had left the Kimberley in the early seventies and I was excited about reconnecting with the people that I had grown up with, particularly the Aboriginal people.

The problem of the Undercroft Gallery exhibition needed addressing so I asked Phillip Douglas whether I could rent his studio space at the Bannister Street Workshops in downtown Fremantle for the summer holiday to make all the pieces for the show. He kindly agreed and when school finished I brought all my moulds and my slab roller and set up in his ceramics studio. It was a pleasure to walk from Ken and Anne's house in Suffolk Street to Bannister Street every day that summer, stopping off for a coffee at Papa's on the way back at the end of the day. I worked flat out and with Phillip's help I was able to make, glaze and fire all the pieces that I wanted for the exhibition. I packed the work in cardboard cartons and left it all in the garage of my long suffering parents to be collected by a courier in the middle of the year and delivered to the Undercroft Gallery. Ray Sampson graciously agreed to give the opening address at the exhibition.

Working so furiously on the large ceramics pieces had strained my back and I was advised to visit Andre Gajek, an Osteopath based in Burswood. While waiting in the reception area I met up with Hal Missingham, an artist who I knew from Darlington, so I told him about my plans to go back to the Kimberley. Hal was also an accomplished photographer so I asked him if he had any old cameras that I could buy from him, as I knew that I would be visiting a lot of pretty country. He said that he had an old Nikon F, which I could have, but it needed repair. I arranged a time to visit and took along one of my ceramic platters as a gift. I managed to get the camera repaired in time and took it with me on my flight to Kununurra. It was a heavy camera with a 50 mm lens, but I was so pleased to have it that the weight was only a minor concern. I've still got it and it still works.

My brother Paul, and his mate, Howard, met me at the Kununurra airport. They had jointly purchased a red Holden Statesman sedan so I was delivered to my new place of lodging in style. The house was a Government Employees Housing Association house, a bit different to standard G.E.H.A. houses, as it had been purchased from a private owner. There was supposed to be a key in the letterbox but it wasn't there. Paul and Howard drove me around to Eddy Flint's house to see if he knew where the key might be. Eddy was the principal of Kununurra High School and we thought that he might know about the missing keys. He didn't, but offered to go around to the house to see what could be sorted out. He had a quick look around but to no avail. He then went to the back of his four-wheel drive, pulled out a tomahawk and said, "I'll fix this". Then he went back to the front door, smashed a small hole in the adjoining window, put his hand through it and opened the door, saying, "There you go. We'll find the keys tomorrow at school"

Kununurra was still something of a frontier town, even in 1983, but it didn't take me long to settle in. I was sharing the house with Lane Schooland and Adrian Porter, the art teacher and manual arts teacher respectively, at Kununurra High School. My job involved travel to schools around the Kimberley, including state schools, Catholic schools and independent Aboriginal schools, so I was away a lot. I had access to a four-wheel drive Nissan for much of my travel. At times I chartered small aeroplanes to get to some of the communities when the roads became impassable. I took my camera with me wherever I went and began to build a collection of photographic slides of the places that I visited. My trips would often last a couple of weeks so I made sure my weekends were in places that would offer good opportunities for photography.

Some of the places were fairly remote. Balgo Hills springs to mind. This is an Aboriginal community off the Tanami Road in the south-east Kimberley that had been established as a Catholic Mission in the 1940's and was making the painful transition to an independent community during the time of my visits. I remember staying at the monks quarters and playing poker with them over bottles of wine to all hours on Saturday nights. In fact it was on one such Saturday night that my Ceramics exhibition was opened at the Undercroft Gallery and to all reports, Ray Sampson gave a rousing address at the opening, making reference to the fact that I was a long way away from Perth on that night.

Other mission communities that I visited in the east Kimberley included Oombulgurri on the Forrest River, a plane ride from Wyndham, and Kalumburu, located on the Edward River near the northern tip of the coast. To get there involved a long drive up the Gibb River Road or a plane flight across country from Kununurra. The plane trips gave me ample opportunity for aerial photography. Oombulgurri had been an Anglican mission and Kalumburu a Catholic mission. Both communities were making their best efforts to take over governance of their affairs but it was a difficult and

complex process and the teachers that I encountered on my visits had to tread a fine line between assisting with this process and not getting caught up in the politics of the moment.

The same was also true of the communities on the Dampier Peninsular, including the mission communities of Beagle Bay and Lombadina and the independent Aboriginal community of One Arm Point. In the Catholic mission communities the nuns and monks made me welcome and provided me with basic but good accommodation and meals. I do remember camping in my swag on the classroom floor at Lombadina School at a time when it was a state school. At One Arm Point I stayed with Ron and Margaret Pearson, the principal of the school, whom I had known for many years. I remember him as the teacher at Sunday Island School, just off One Arm Point, when the community left the island to move into Derby in the early 1960's. My father was the Superintendent of the United Aborigines Mission at the time who had to make the difficult decision to close the Sunday Island Mission down due to lack of water and financial resources. On one of my trips to One Arm Point, Ron took me and a couple of other teachers on a weekend sail through the Buccaneer Archipelago on his catamaran. It was a wonderful trip and I took lots of photographs, taking good care not to get my camera too wet.



Boabs, Kununurra. This photograph, which appears in colour on the cover of Joel's book, *The Kimberley Series*, provides some idea of the high standard of the images in the book.

There were other advisory teachers based at the District Education Office and one of these, Wendy Archer, sold me her two Pentax K1000 cameras complete with four lenses; a 50 mm lens, a 35mm lens, a 28 mm lens and a telephoto lens. I bought another K100 body and placed them in a silver, metal Field Test Unit case that my brother, Paul, had given me. I cut foam rubber to fit in the box so that the cameras could be transported safely and used these to augment the photos that I was taking

with the Nikon F. The range of lenses gave me greater flexibility as I tramped around the Kimberley, but it was a fairly heavy case to lug about. With this combination of cameras I built up a substantial collection of pictures and made the decision to select forty images that could become my definitive collection of Kimberley images – the Kimberley Series. I commissioned Churchill Colour Laboratories to print cibachrome prints of the forty images and first exhibited the prints with an exhibition of Aboriginal Art from the East Kimberley at the Birukmarri Gallery in Fremantle in 1987.

By this time I had finished my three-year contract with the Priority Country Areas Programme and had taken up a job as the Art Co-ordinator of the Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Programme in Kununurra. This became a six-year project for me and, as with the Arts Advisory position, took me to many interesting places in the Kimberley. I took my cameras with me wherever I went and added to my collection of images of this region that was so special to me. The photographic exhibition at Birukmarri was designed to give a visual context to the new Aboriginal art that was then coming out of the East Kimberley, a renaissance that is still being experienced today.

I took the Kimberley Series exhibition to Hogarth Galleries in Sydney in 1992 to accompany an exhibition of recent works on bark from the Ramingining community in the Northern Territory, a community that I'd had the pleasure to visit. Putting the Kimberley Series images into a book has long been a dream of mine and I am pleased to have finally realized it.

*Joel Smoker 2009*

Editor's note: Joel Smoker's book retails at \$24.95 and can be purchased, with postage added, through his web site ([www.joelsmoker.com](http://www.joelsmoker.com)). The web site also offers other works that include poster prints from the "Kimberley Series" and sets of 10 postcards from the "West Kimberley Series".

## **KIMBERLEY MUSIC**

Perth and Fremantle saw plenty of Kimberley talent at this year's WAMi Festival.

In the music industry festival's 17th year the organisers decided to include a new event: the TOO SOLID WA indigenous music awards.

Hosted on Wednesday 6 May at Fremantle's Fly by Night musicians' club, the event included 14 awards for Indigenous Australian musicians living in Western Australia.

Kimberley winners were:

- Peter Brandy - male artist of the year
- Naomi Pigram - female vocalist of the year
- Lorrae Coffin - bass player of the year
- Fitzroy Express - Country album of the year (*for Little Bit of Country, Little Bit of Rock and Roll*)

Naomi, Peter and the Express all performed on the night, along with the Walkabout Boys, an exciting new band from Yiyili community in the Fitzroy Valley.

Mark bin Bakar, aka Mary G, broadcast the event live through the National Indigenous Radio Network (NIRS), which is picked up by Indigenous stations across northern Australia and some capital cities.

*Geoff Vivian*

Editor's note: Geoff Vivian is the editor of a new Kimberly news website ([www.kimberleypage.com.au](http://www.kimberleypage.com.au))

## REST IN PEACE

On 16 March, Mavis Bridge passed away after battling cancer for almost two years. Mavis arrived in the Kimberley in 1959 as one of two young double certified nurses who had volunteered to serve as Australian Inland Mission Sisters at Halls Creek. That 12-month posting changed the course of her life because, instead of taking another posting or returning to her family (the Grangers) in New South Wales, she married Ernie Bridge who was establishing a business in the town. Mavis and Ernie remained in the Halls Creek area until 1986, raising their children and running not only their businesses in town but also two cattle stations. They moved south so that Ernie, who had been the Shire President in Halls Creek, and, since 1980, the Member for Kimberley in the State Parliament, could better represent the interests of his constituents. Ernie retained his seat until he retired in 2001. In a life filled with family, friends and the many people who were associated with Ernie's public life, Mavis was loved and admired by people from all walks of life. She will be missed by Ernie, their children Beverley, Kimberley, Noel and Cheryl, and the partners and grandchildren who became part of Mavis and Ernie's family. *The West Australian* carried an obituary for Mavis, written by Charlie Wilson-Clark, on 13 April 2009.

On 28 April, Patricia (Trish) Crawford, wife and companion of Kimberley Society member Ian Crawford, passed away at their Perth home after a long battle with cancer. Trish was born in New South Wales but moved to Melbourne as a child. She and Ian met there while she was studying history. They married in 1962, moved to Perth, and travelled extensively, with their trips taking in the Kimberley. Their son Rupert was born in 1970, and Trish, with a strong feminist outlook, combined motherhood with half-time teaching of history at the University of Western Australia. Her interest in history, citizenship, social justice and women's lives led to publications in those areas and to working with others to establish women's studies at UWA. Appointment as a professor followed in 1995. Trish and Ian followed quite different career paths but they collaborated to produce the book *Contested Country: A History of the Northcliffe Area, Western Australia*, which UWA Press published in 2003. In 2005, Trish retired from UWA but she retained her connection with the university by working as a senior honorary research fellow. *The West Australian* carried an obituary for Trish, written by Jane Long and Philippa Maddern, on 26 May 2009.

On 5 May, 37-year-old Troy Aaron Wareham of Yeeda Station and 39-year-old Matthew Warwick William Funnell of Wanganui, New Zealand, died when the mustering helicopters they were flying collided on Springvale Station. Both men were experienced pilots. The results from an official investigation of the cause of the crash have yet to be announced.

## SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES

In April it was reported that two new native frog species have been found in the Kimberley. One, discovered only because of its distinctive call, is called the tiny toadlet. It was found near Prince Regent River. The other, identified as the Kimberley froglet, lives on the Mitchell Plateau. It is said to be "distinguished by colourful dotted markings that are strikingly similar to some styles of Aboriginal artwork".

Altogether different was the discovery of a tiny fossilised embryo in a 380-million-year-old fossil fish dug up on Gogo Station in 2005. The find, announced a year ago and having changed what we know about evolution, made it onto an international list of the ten most remarkable species discoveries in the past 12 months.

## **THE PROPOSED GAS HUB IN THE KIMBERLEY**

In mid-April, the Kimberley Land Council, acting on behalf of the traditional owners of the country around James Price Point, struck an in-principle deal with the State Government and Woodside Energy to allow the hub to be built about 60 km north of Broome. The Australian Greens immediately attacked the deal, with Senator Rachel Siewert arguing that investigations and planning for the site were incomplete and that the joint Federal and State strategic environmental planning process was still underway. More recently, graffiti was spray-painted around Broome, accusing the KLC of "Killing Land and Culture".

The Federal Government was not party to the deal struck by the KLC, and that now appears to be proving a problem. Under the deal, the traditional owners are to receive about \$1.5 billion in compensation over thirty years. That money is linked to non-royalty payments. There was also an expectation that payment of royalties would be forthcoming, and that the additional money would be used to help to lift Aboriginal living standards. The prospect of sharing the royalties from the gas does not seem to appeal to the Federal Government. On hearing that news, the KLC expressed doubts about the proposed \$30 billion hub going ahead.

## **TO DAM OR BE DAMNED — THE MIGHTY FITZROY RIVER**

The Royal Western Australian Historical Society in Broadway, Nedlands has advised that copies of Jack Fletcher's book, which was the subject of a *Boab Bulletin* book note in April, are available from the bookshop.

## **CATTLE STATION IN THE NEWS**

The April *Boab Bulletin* mentioned that Moola Bulla was back on the market. Its listing was part of a program of asset sales aimed at reducing the debt hanging over the owners, Great Southern Plantations. On 16 May, the directors decided to place the company into voluntary administration. Moola Bulla will be offered at auction in Darwin on 16 June if no private bid is accepted prior to that date.

Several other Kimberley stations are the focus of tension in which the Indigenous Land Corporation is accused of paying too little heed to the interests of traditional owners. The ILC was a Keating government initiative, established to buy land for Aboriginal people. Roebuck Plains Station near Broome, purchased for \$8.1 million in May 1999, remains its biggest purchase. The ILC intends to transfer the station, now valued at about \$30 million, to the Yawuru people but it is adamant that it will continue to manage the station, at least until the Yawuru are self-sufficient in that capacity.

In reporting on that situation in *The Australian*, journalist Stuart Rintoul pointed out that indigenous leaders Peter Yu and Patrick Dodson have both criticised the ILC for its handling of Roebuck Plains. Part of the criticism relates to the ILC focusing on making money from the station, and a similar criticism is levelled at its handling of Home Valley Station near Kununurra. Rintoul quotes long-time Kimberley pastoralist Susan Bradley on that topic, reporting that she had "launched a stinging attack on the Indigenous Land Corporation, describing it as the Indigenous Lost Cause and saying it has become more concerned with profits than the aspirations of traditional owners". ILC Chairperson Shirley McPherson has defended the corporation's approach, arguing that it has "resulted in big improvements in the size and value of cattle herds in the Kimberley".



## **KIMBERLEY SOCIETY INC**

### **Draft Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

Held at the Shenton Park Community Centre on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2009

#### **Opening:**

The meeting, attended by 30 members and some visitors, was opened by the President, Hamish McGlashan, at 7.36 pm.

#### **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Jim and Norma Anderson and from Jeffrey and Elizabeth Gresham.

#### **Minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting:**

The minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, held 5 March 2008 were confirmed as circulated (in the *Boab Bulletin*) and the President was authorised to sign them as a correct record. Moved D Edinger; seconded B Hale; carried.

#### **Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising.

#### **President's Report:**

There has been a higher profile, increased media coverage and public interest in the Kimberley region, due in the proposed industrial developments and increasing tourism. This has been reflected in the numbers of new members of our society and the greater numbers attending our meetings although our overall membership numbers seem stable. We have endeavoured to arrange informative entertaining speakers with a wide variety of subjects, both historical and topical, scientific and cultural. We are grateful to the excellent speakers we have had. Meetings are announced in the two local community newspapers.

Financially, as you will hear from the Treasurer, we remain well placed, with continuing revenue from the sale of the Rock Art book. Mike and Lyn Donaldson have continued their work in distribution and sales, for which we give our thanks. Your subscriptions remain unchanged from those set at the foundation of the society fifteen years ago, surely some kind of a record.

In committee we have discussed how to use these accumulated funds. Our intention is to concentrate on providing initial capital funding for further meetings and publications both by our own society and other individuals or organisations concerned with the Kimberley.

Other tasks undertaken in the past year include the design and production of new membership pamphlets and letterhead (tasks which may seem simple but require prolonged discussion to reach unanimity). We are currently working on reconstructing and updating our website. I am grateful for the efforts of the committee.

The *Boab Bulletin* is our other public face, so ably edited by Cathie Clement. Speakers summaries can sometimes cause difficulties and delays, but we are making efforts to prime the speakers before they come.

Over the next year we shall endeavour to fulfil the objectives of the society in promoting the study and the dissemination of information about the Kimberley. In particular we are arranging a major meeting in March next year on the historical aspects of the early explorers and the developments arising from their findings.

Cathie Clement moved that the report be received; seconded Lyn Donaldson; carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer, Gilbert Marsh, circulated financial statements for 2008 for member's perusal and summarised the position to the meeting. The Society remains in a strong financial position with total cash funds exceeding \$21,000. Our bank balances at the end of 2008 amounted to \$38,364. Income from the continuing sale of the rock art book yielded a profit of approximately \$17,500 in 2008. The members' subscriptions are meeting our regular expenditure and further income (profit) of some \$10,000 will be received from the unsold copies of the rock art book. So, even in this time of increasing costs, no thought is being given to increasing the price of subscriptions. The Treasurer moved that the report be received; seconded Cathie Clement; carried.

### **Election of Office Bearers:**

The President, in the absence of any additional nomination for his position, was re-elected and resumed the chair. The following nominations for Office Bearers had been received:

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Vice Presidents      | Jack Vercoe and Cathie Clement                                   |
| Treasurer            | Gilbert Marsh  |
| Secretary            | Jeffrey Gresham  |
| Membership Secretary | Mike Donaldson   |
| Councillors          | Susan Clarkson, Josh Coates, Daphne Edinger, and Kevin Kenneally |

There being no other nominations, all nominations were endorsed. The President thanked the continuing Council members, welcomed Josh Coates, and acknowledged the contribution of Adrienne Boulter who stood down after serving on the Council since 1995.

### **Other Business:**

There was no other business.

### **Closure:**

There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 7.45pm.

Signed as a true record.

This      day of                      2010

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Hamish McGlashan - President



**Don't forget that you can contribute to our newsletter.**



News or coverage of Kimberley events and other items of interest are most welcome.

Items can be sent to [clement@q-net.net.au](mailto:clement@q-net.net.au) or to the post box.

**KIMBERLEY SOCIETY INCORPORATED**  
**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE for 2008 & 2009**

|  |                    |                    |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
|  | <b>2008</b>        | <b>to 9 Mch 09</b> |
| Balance BF                                   | 21760.90           | 38364.07           |
| <b>Income</b>                                |                    |                    |
| Annual Subscriptions                         | 3301.50            | 3530.00            |
| Donations/Raffle                             | 1369.00            | 227.00             |
| GST Rebate                                   |                    |                    |
| Rock Art Book                                | 19859.35           | 1058.95            |
| RAB Postage Recovery                         | 119.00             |                    |
| Athol Farrant's Books                        | 15.00              |                    |
| Loan   |                    |                    |
| Donation to Rock Art Book                    | 2.10               |                    |
| Interest                                     | 2.55               |                    |
| Book Sales                                   | 257.00             |                    |
| Total Income                                 | 24925.50           | 4815.95            |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                           |                    |                    |
| Guest Speaker Costs                          | 1097.66            | 126.00             |
| GST  | 1737.00            | 268.00             |
| Postages and Petties                         | 1050.54            |                    |
| Publishing                                   | 2790.80            | 394.67             |
| Rock Art                                     |                    |                    |
| Hall Hire                                    |                    | 720.36             |
| PO Box                                       | 190.00             | 200.00             |
| Insurance                                    | 646.25             |                    |
| Raffle Expenses                              | 550.80             | 109.00             |
| Supper Expenses Refund                       | 250.28             |                    |
| Brochures                                    |                    | 451.00             |
| Total Expenditure                            | 8322.33            | 2269.03            |
| Surplus income over expenditure              | 16603.17           | 2546.92            |
| Balance of available funds                   | 38364.07           | 40910.99           |
| <b>Bank a/c Balance &amp; Reconciliation</b> | <b>Dec 31 2008</b> | <b>7 Mch 2009</b>  |
| Term Deposit                                 |                    | 30000.00           |
| No 1 a/c Bankwest                            | 27053.30           | 9477.22            |
| No 2 a/c Bankwest                            | 11260.77           | 1260.77            |
| Retained Cash                                | 50.00              | 173.00             |
| Total bank + cash                            | 38364.07           | 40910.99           |
| Less unrepresented cheque                    |                    |                    |
| Fund reconciliation                          | 38364.07           |                    |
| <b>Balance Sheet</b>                         |                    |                    |
| Balance BF                                   | 21760.90           | 38364.07           |
| Surplus                                      | 16603.17           | 2546.92            |
| Current Balance                              | 38364.07           | 40910.99           |
| <b>Assets</b>                                |                    |                    |
| Cheque a/cs & cash                           | 38364.07           | 40910.99           |
| Rock Art Books at cost                       | 12000.00           | 11628.00           |
| Unpaid RAB Invoices                          | ?                  |                    |
| Projector - residual value                   | 1925.00            | 1636.25            |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                           |                    |                    |
| Unrepresented cheque                         |                    |                    |
| GST  | 268.00             | 288.00             |
| Assets less liabilities                      | 52021.07           | 53887.24           |

## LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

The millions of dollars spent to promote the Kimberley through the film *Australia* is showing results, not least of all in Tourism Australia's 'Come Walkabout' television advertisement having recently received an internationally coveted silver Clio Award. Tourism Australia has 130 co-operative partners for its 'Come Walkabout' and movie campaign, more than for any past campaign. One of the partners, Emirates airlines, sees the joint campaign as having "played a significant role in their double digit increase in business to Australia in January". Numerous travel-focused web sites are carrying information about the Kimberley, some of it in the form of data released by Tourism Western Australia. They tell of the film being "set in the rugged area which is home to the spectacular Cockburn mountain range and the El Questro wilderness park". They also mention that the "beautiful and wild Kimberley region ... has seen a huge increase in tourists" since the film's release. The increase includes the tour operator Australian Pacific Touring enjoying a 42 per cent rise in bookings for its Kimberley wilderness adventures tour between January and April 2009, compared to the previous year. Home Valley Station, out of Kununurra, is said to have "seen a surge in reservations this year from customers who have seen the film". The station is currently enjoying good publicity due to an upgrade in its accommodation but a recent report stated that about 70 percent of guests there had heard about the place thanks to the film. Other local tourism operators are capitalising on the film's popularity too. Alligator Airways, for instance, is offering scenic flights on which passengers can fly along the now famous Cockburn Range and see the site where the "Faraway Downs" homestead was built for the film. In an unusual twist, local coverage tells of Kununurra Visitors Centre being "inundated with emails and phone calls from couples around the world trying to obtain samples of the local water". Their interest stems from publicity that links Nicole Kidman's surprise pregnancy and subsequent motherhood with swimming in a natural pool in the Kimberley.

### COUNCIL 2009-2010

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Grant Sellwood manages the Kimberley Society's Web site ([www.kimberleysociety.org](http://www.kimberleysociety.org)). It carries summaries of the Society's talks (as published in the *Boab Bulletin* but sometimes with additional images), FAQs, and information about the Society and how to join it. An upgrade is underway.

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