



BOAB BULLETIN

No. 96

February 2010

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

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

Wednesday, 3 February 2010

**Four short, illustrated presentations by Society members
“Bushwalking in the Kimberley, 2009”**

Wednesday, 3 March 2010

(to be advised – possibly on development of natural resources)

Wednesday, 7 April 2010

Quentin Hall (IT specialist)

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

Wednesday, 5 May 2010

Corioli Souter (Dept. of Maritime Archaeology, WA Museum)

“Shipwrecks of the Kimberley”

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

Saturday, 27 March 2010

**KIMBERLEY HISTORY
PEOPLE, EARLY EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

(see brochure included with this newsletter)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I usually try to avoid seeing plays or films with Aboriginal themes or written by or from an Aboriginal point of view. I expect it to be an experience in masochism and that I am in for a guilt trip which I will neither enjoy nor feel that I deserve from my personal point of view. However, I have been hooked by the TV series *The Magistrate*, which screened on SBS recently. I was pleased to see that TV critics rated it as the best drama series on TV. Aboriginal and Broome it certainly was, but observation and emotion with objectivity and not blame. I would not be surprised if many of the situations were based on actual court cases and courtroom drama is always compelling. We may have the prototype for the Broome magistrate coming to talk to us later this year. I have yet to see the film of Bran Nue Day, but look forward to a happy evening of entertainment.

You will see elsewhere in this *Boab Bulletin*, the notice of the AGM and annual election of council office bearers which is to be held at our March meeting. Please let us know if you would be interested in standing for the council; proposers and seconders should not be a problem! I am now reaching the end of the maximum term as President so this will be my last Presidential epistle.

We are now in the lead up to the all-day Kimberley History Seminar in March. It promises to be interesting; both educational and entertaining and with a stellar cast. A registration pamphlet is included with this newsletter and it is available on our web site (www.kimberleysociety.org), on the membership page, which is part of the About Us section. Please tell your friends and get hold of plenty of registration pamphlets.

Hamish McGlashan

BRAN NUE DAE

The feature film adaption of Jimmy Chi's famous musical Bran Nue Dae, released in Australia on 14 January, took \$2.6 million in its first week. At its national debut at the Melbourne International Film Festival on 8 August, it won the audience award for Best Feature. At its international debut at the Toronto International Film Festival on 12 September, it won the People's Choice Award. Then came its official premiere at Sun Pictures in Broome on 8 December, with Kuckles band (from the musical) performing for that Chinatown event. Further continuity with the musical exists in the casting of Ernie Dingo (Uncle Tadpole), Ningali Lawford (Theresa, Willie's mother), and Stephen "Baamba" Albert (Pastor Flakkon). Broome teenager Rocky McKenzie brings a fresh face to the central character (Willie), playing alongside Geoffrey Rush (Father Benedictus), Tom Budge (Slippery), Magda Szubanski (Roadhouse Betty), Dan Sultan (Lester) and Deborah Mailman (Roxanne, a new character). In addition, the film introduces Jessica Mauboy (Rosie) and Missy Higgins (Annie).

With publicity occurring in newspapers and elsewhere virtually every day, the film is being hailed as a major success. Tourism Western Australia is doing its bit to help with promotion, and that includes flying journalists to Broome to see the film. One such guest, Megan Anderson, couldn't praise it, or its setting, highly enough. In Brisbane's *Courier Mail* and the *Sydney Morning Herald* she wrote:

Move over Baz Luhrmann. With a fraction of the budget, less digital wizardry and even more unbridled joy, Bran Nue Dae does for the Kimberley what Australia the movie couldn't: shows off its famous turquoise bits and calls its star town by its own name.

KIMBERLEY HISTORY SEMINAR – THE SPEAKERS

Mark Bin Bakar, also known in his guise of Mary G, is an Indigenous Australian, a musician, comedian and radio announcer from Broome. In May 2009, he was appointed Chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board.

Geoffrey Bolton AO is one of Western Australia's best known historians. His early research involved the exploring expeditions and life of Alexander Forrest. Professor Bolton has written extensively about Australian places and people.

Bill Bunbury is a broadcaster/documentary maker of 40 years experience. He is the author of 11 books based on his oral history work in Australian social history.

Christine Choo is a historian whose works include *Mission Girls: Aboriginal Women on Catholic Missions in the Kimberley, Western Australia, 1900-1950*.

Cathie Clement OAM is a historian and heritage consultant who focuses on the Kimberley, ranging from early maritime exploration to recent entrepreneurial activity.

Michael Cusack has ancestral links to the former Lillimilura Station in the Kimberley. His extensive research on the 1891 Kimberley expedition led by Joseph Bradshaw led to the rediscovery of the cave where Bradshaw documented the so-called Bradshaw (Gwion Gwion) rock art paintings.

Mike Donaldson, a geologist with a keen interest in Aboriginal rock art, has been bush walking in the Kimberley for more than 20 years. He was involved with **Ian Elliot** in compiling and editing Frank Hann's diaries for their publication as the book *Do Not Yield to Despair: Frank Hugh Hann's Exploration Diaries*.

Ian Elliot is a historian who has spent many years researching exploration diaries for cartographic purposes. He is now involved in modern desert exploration.

Jeff Gresham is a geologist who has been visiting and walking extensively in the Kimberley for the past 15 years. He has a keen interest in the history of the region.

Kevin Kenneally AM is a botanist who has conducted research on the vegetation and flora of the Kimberley for more than 30 years. He was involved in the first biological survey of the Prince Regent Reserve in 1974. He has written numerous scientific papers and was co-author with **Tim Willing** of *Under a Regent Moon: A historical account of pioneer pastoralists Joseph Bradshaw and Aeneas Gunn at Marigui Settlement, Prince Regent River, Kimberley, Western Australia, 1891–1892*.

Hamish McGlashan has carried out Kimberley expeditions on foot for more than 25 years, retracing the tracks and findings of early European explorers.

Michael Morwood, known popularly as a discoverer of the "Flores Hobbit", is one of Australia's leading archaeologists. He is Professor of Archaeology at the University of Wollongong and has carried out extensive research in the Kimberley and on the Indonesian archipelago.

Phillip Playford AO is one of Australia's leading geologists with much of his work being in the Kimberley region. He has written significant scientific publications and is also known for his historical work, particularly on the wreck of the Dutch *Zuydorp*.

Antony Quinlan is a retired civil engineer whose great grandfather perished at Camden Harbour.

Tim Willing has made numerous journeys along the Kimberley coast both for research and as a guide aboard charter vessels. He has also worked in the region as a horticulturalist and a conservation officer. See above for his work on Bradshaw.

HONOURS

Congratulations to Kimberley Society member Dr Jim Ross for his receipt of a Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia. The OAM was 'For service to geoscience through advocacy of mineral industry interests, leadership in developing research and education and the establishment of the University of Western Australia's Geoscience Foundation'. Also in the Australia Day Honours List was one of our former members, Susan Graham-Taylor. She was made a Member (AM) in the General Division 'For service to conservation and the environment through executive roles with a range of organisations, through the development of protection measures relating to air quality and the management of waste, and as an historian'. In the Kimberley, the contribution of Rodney Hill was recognised with an OAM 'For service to veterans and their families through the Returned and Services League of Australia, and to the community of Broome'.

BROOME HERITAGE

On 8 January, the Heritage Council of Western Australia gave notice that it proposed to place the former Sailmaker's Shed in Broome on the Register of Heritage Places. This single-storey, timber-framed building, once occupied by the sailmaker Charles Bagge, is adjacent to the foreshore of Roebuck Bay next to the Broome Historical Society Museum (another registered building). There are currently 22 Broome places listed on the Register.

WORM-LIKE PARASITES IN SPANGLED PERCH

Aboriginal people living near the desert waters of Paruku (Lake Gregory), Lake Stretch and Sturt Creek, about 200km south of Halls Creek, are having to deal with a massive infestation of worm-like parasites in the native spangled perch there. The presence of the parasites, which can burrow out of a human stomach, puts out the fish of bounds for five remote communities. Their loss is more than dietary, however. Because Paruku is a place of high cultural significance, both it and the fish are central to the Tjurabalan people's culture and traditional practices.

The infestation, which is thought to be unique in its intensity, is believed to date from 2005 and to stem from high numbers of migratory birds, reduced water quality, and changes in water temperatures and the lakes' long-term wetting and drying patterns.

A collaborative research project is investigating the cause of the infestation. It involves the Tjurabalan people working with Kimberley Land Council rangers and researchers from the World Wildlife Fund, the Department of Water, and University of Canberra. No resolution of the problem is in sight, and there are concerns that the parasite could spread to other Kimberley water systems, including the Fitzroy River.

ARGYLE DIAMONDS ORD VALLEY MUSTER

This year the Ord Valley Muster is celebrating its 10th anniversary. From its humble beginnings as a dinner for local businesses, the muster outstripped all expectations to become a two-week festival attracting visitors from throughout Australia and overseas. More than 50 events will be featured this year, with the highlight being the Airnorth Kimberley Moon Experience Concert on the shores of Lake Argyle on 29 May. The star of the concert will be John Farnham.

REST IN PEACE

Alison Margaret Lawrence (1954–2009)

teacher, librarian, community stalwart

There's a snapshot of Alison Lawrence, dated January 1992, parking a bicycle on the verandah of an old Broome house that's recently been converted to an art gallery. Alison, pad and pencil in hand, is about to walk inside and take notes on its exhibition of historic prints of the Kimberley for an article in the *Broome News*.

The picture reveals much about Alison's style and personality: she was energetic and resourceful, interested in history and art and, significantly, in a town where most move around in comfortable four-wheel drive vehicles, whenever possible Alison would walk or ride.

Other qualities included an innate discretion and lack of pretension; a certain – at times, insistent – obstinacy and dogmatism; a rare loyalty, courage and reliability. These attributes and more were recalled at the funeral service held for Alison in Broome's Anglican Church on a warm afternoon in late November 2009.

* * *

Some 28 years earlier, at the age of 27, Alison Lawrence had arrived in Broome to take up a teaching position at the District High School then located in Weld Street. Born and educated in the Perth suburb of Wembley, and a graduate of the University of WA, Alison had previously taught in Exmouth and Geraldton.

For reasons never entirely clear – since the Education Department routinely moves staff – Alison remained in Broome for the rest of her life. Over time she became a stalwart member of the community, one who played a significant role in shaping the town's social and cultural development.

Testament to the range of Alison's sphere of influence was the large cross-section of people attending her funeral. She had touched the lives of everyone present yet few would have realised how wide was her reach.

Friends and colleagues Kirsty Maley, Margaret Dawson, Brian Kane, Jon Ford MLC, the Rev Tim Mildenhall, Carol Martin MLA, Naida Darcy, Chris Nedkoff and Stella Jinman spoke of Alison's professional achievements and of her involvement in a remarkable number of demanding extra-curricula activities. A group of four, their voices arranged by Gwen Knox, sang the timeless hymn *Lead Kindly Light*.

Through the Senior High School Alison built connections with many local families – she taught three generations of some. In her spare time, she was 'hands on' with the Broome Historical Museum; Theatre Kimberley; the Broome Branch of the Australian Labor Party; the Anglican Church, and during local, state and federal elections she scrutineered.

Alison valued her independence yet was ever generous with her time. A good cook and natural host, she knew how to share and enjoy life. On long service leave during 2005 and 2008 she fulfilled ambitions to travel widely through Southeast Asia and China, the Middle East, Russia and Europe. Diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006 she appeared to be in remission until the last few months of her life.

* * *

In 1981, when Alison arrived in Broome, the town was no longer a well-kept secret but it was a backwater with few facilities. It celebrated its centenary in 1983 and soon

after this, sensing its potential, developers moved in. Alison was witness to and participant in the building and population boom that followed.

As a trained teacher-librarian Alison's primary goal was to encourage reading amongst school children. To this end she worked tirelessly and imaginatively despite having to operate for many years from makeshift libraries on temporary sites. Part of the time she worked within both the Catholic and Government systems.

Eventually, in 1996, the new library at Broome Senior High School opened. Alison had been instrumental in its establishment and design and, for its splendid working environment and the boundless opportunities it provided to students, this library was her crowning professional achievement. The new facility meant Alison herself needed training in the use of its new equipment. She adapted quickly and was ever ready to adjust to the constant technological advances that shape Library use.

Within a few years Alison had helped set up the Broome Library network between the Senior High School, St Mary's College, Jawa and the Public Library. In time she was appointed Library Support Officer for the entire Kimberley liaising with libraries in remote schools and with the towns of Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, Kununurra and Wyndham.

Like many quiet achievers – the most deserving of all – Alison received no formal recognition in her lifetime. But to date there have been two important posthumous awards: the Western Australian Labor Party's Outstanding Service Award; and the announcement that Broome Senior High School's library is to be named the Alison Lawrence Library.

Alison was the eldest of three daughters born to Eric and Joan Lawrence of Wembley. Her sisters, Treena and Claire, have busy careers based away from their home state.

Several charities are to benefit from Alison's substantial estate. It is an estate accumulated from prudent property investments in Perth and Broome – the town to which she devoted half her life and where, according to her wishes, she lies in its Anglican cemetery, just a short walk from her modest home of many years.

Perpetua Durack Clancy, January 2010

CLONTARF AND FOOTBALL

The Clontarf Academies, to which the Society made a Kimberley-specific donation last year, were included in a nation-wide tour of schools undertaken by the 2009 Australian of the Year, Professor Mick Dodson AM. In a reflective piece published in several eastern states newspapers on 17 January, he praised Clontarf's work and commented on the wisdom of basing their academies where the kids live, rather than setting them up in capital cities where those who attend would have to board and stay apart from their families.

West Coast Eagles recently took on two Clontarf graduates. Gerrick Weedon, who hails from Broome, attended the academy for three years before being selected to attend the AFL Draft Camp in Canberra in October 2009. From there, the Eagles picked him up in Round 2. Shortly afterwards, they recruited Lewis Broome, another 18-year-old, in their rookie draft. Lewis, from the Looma community near Liveringa Station (out of Derby), played for the Looma Eagles club in Broome before going to Clontarf in 2008 and Claremont in 2009.

BOOK NOTE

Narrative of an Expedition of Exploration in North Western Australia by Herbert Basedow. Hesperian Press, Carlisle (WA), 2009, 248 pp., plates, map (in back folder), ISBN 978-0-85905-453-9, hard cover with dust jacket, RRP \$80.00.

Published as part of The Western Australian Explorers' Diaries Project, this facsimile is a wonderful addition to the range of affordable early works on the Kimberley. It was originally published as *Transactions of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, South Australia Branch*, vol. XVIII, session 1916–1917, pp. 105–295, and reprinted in Adelaide in 1918. Copies of the 1918 volume are rare, fetching upwards of \$300 when they become available.

The book contains journal entries for a trip (March to June 1916) on which the author visited several Kimberley stations and missions while undertaking geological and ethnological investigations. Basedow and his offsider, Gilbert St John Sanders, operated mostly out of Derby, having sailed there via the west coast on the s.s. *N2*, a wartime prize once known as the *Prinz Sigismund*. In Derby, they 'soon adopted the local mode of dress, which meant discarding all but pants and singlet'.

Their first excursion was eastward to Meda, Kimberley Downs and Napier Downs Stations, then up the Lennard and Barker Rivers to examine a lead-zinc deposit at Narlarla. Basedow mentions people met en route, often by name, and he describes incidents that occurred. Of particular interest, at least to this historian, are his jottings about the stations and the Aboriginal names for those places and geographical features. Botanists, ornithologists and others will likewise find his natural history notes of interest, while a much broader group will seize on his anthropological notes. The same can be said of his coverage of the later trips, one of those being by cutter from Derby to Sunday Island Mission and Port George IV Mission. Basedow then went to Wyndham on the *N2*, and, from there, he accompanied the Reverend Ernest Gribble on a visit to Forrest River Mission.

In the introduction to the facsimile edition, David Kaus, Senior Curator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Programs, National Museum of Australia, provides a brief but interesting biography of Basedow. Further detail is available in works that include Kaus's book *A Different Time. The Expedition Photographs of Herbert Basedow 1903–1928*. Describing Basedow as an Adelaide-born scientist, physician and explorer, Kaus credits him with being 'one of Australia's most highly qualified scientists of the first decades of the 20th century'. His expertise was in the biological and geological sciences, and in ethnology, but it was anthropology that was his passion.

In the book, the journal entries finish at page 239, followed by Special Reports written by Basedow and others on such topics as geology, fossils, molluscs, insects, fish, crustaceans, corals, and plants. Pages 196 to 234 present plates that include scenes in and near Derby, expedition campsites, flora and fauna, people, and carvings on boab trees. The quality of the plates, copied from the originals – many of them being glass negatives – is excellent. A detailed index completes the volume.

The volume is well summed up in the words of Kaus:

Basedow's journal is an important record of a trip to the Kimberley at a time when the area was undergoing rapid change. It not only constitutes a record of the people and places encountered by Basedow, nearly a century ago, it is also a reflection of the operation of Basedow's scientific work. Illustrated with 61 photographs taken during the expedition, it is of a different time long passed.

Cathie Clement

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 17th AGM of Kimberley Society (Inc.) will be held at Shenton Park Community Centre, corner of Onslow and Herbert Roads, Shenton Park, on Wednesday, 3 March 2010, at 7.30 p.m. The Agenda will comprise: the President's Welcome, Apologies, Minutes of the previous AGM, Business arising from the Minutes, Council Report, Treasurer's Report and presentation of Accounts for approval, Election of Office Bearers and other Councillors, and General Business. The AGM will be followed by a guest speaker and supper.

The draft Minutes of the 2009 AGM were published on pages 9 & 10 of the *Boab Bulletin* in June 2009. The associated Statement of Income and Expenditure was published on the following page.

Hamish McGlashan, President (Perth, 25 January 2009)

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS FOR 2010–2011

The Constitution of Kimberley Society Inc. requires that the Council shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Membership Secretary, a Treasurer, and not less than 3, or more than 7, other persons, all of whom shall be Members of the Society. In the interest of conservation, nomination forms will be available only at the February meeting or by request from Jeff Gresham (phone 08 9388 0780). Forms must reach the Society by 5.00 P.M. on Tuesday, 9 February 2010 and, while facsimiles will be accepted (08 9272 2087), the original form must reach the Society by 7.15 p.m. on Wednesday, 3 March 2010. If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the Council, further nominations will be received at the Annual General Meeting. Should any positions remain vacant at the conclusion of the AGM, such vacancies will be deemed casual vacancies and may be dealt with by the Council according to the Constitution.

A LASTING LEGACY

On 3 December 2009, Emeritus Professor Bert Main passed away at the age of 90. Widely recognised for his contributions to science, he held the chair of zoology at the University of Western Australia from 1967 until his retirement in 1983. Prior to that, he was particularly active on the WA sub-committee of the national parks committee. In 1962 the sub-committee produced a report recommending the reservation of key parts of the Kimberley and other regions. Ultimately, those recommendations led to the creation of national parks and nature reserves that include the Drysdale River, the Prince Regent River, Geikie Gorge, Windjana Gorge, and Tunnel Creek. That long-awaited outcome was achieved partly through Professor Main's membership of the Environmental Protection Authority. Appointed at the time of its creation in 1972, he served as deputy chairman in 1981 and as chairman from 1982 until he retired in 1985. The EPA set up the Conservation Through Reserves committee, which reported on the Kimberley (System 7) in 1977. Its report reiterated the sentiments of the 1962 report and the various parks and reserves were set apart in the years that followed. Many others contributed to their creation but, without the impressive knowledge and commitment of people such as Professor Main, much less is likely to have been achieved. More information about Professor Main's life, his wife Barbara, and their family appeared in *The West Australia* on 20 January in an obituary written by Andrew Burbidge who also contributed much to the creation of the reserves.

THE MONTARA OIL SPILL NORTH OF THE KIMBERLEY (PART 3)

The editor compiled this log to give members insight into the oil spill and its management. The first part of the log, for the period from 21 August, appeared in the October Boab Bulletin, the second part, from 29 September, appeared in the December Boab Bulletin. It is noted that, while all early reports gave 21 August as the date when oil began leaking into the Timor Sea from the H1 well on the Montara wellhead platform, it has since been revealed that, almost five months earlier, Coastwatch had reported a plume of murky water about seven kilometres long coming from the West Atlas rig in the vicinity of the well.

- 30 November The first of more than 190 submissions to be posted online by The Montara Commission of Inquiry was written. Of those submissions, approximately 160 proposed constraints on the expansion of the petroleum industry on the North-West shelf of Australia's Kimberley region. That batch contained three points, the first of which called for a halt on expansion until a 'network of marine parks with large sanctuaries is established in the Kimberley region to serve as protection from events like the West Atlas oil spill'. All three points appeared in the joint submission lodged by Environs Kimberley and the Wilderness Society on 22 December. The Inquiry had asked for all submissions by that date, to enable it to report by 30 April 2010, but it was prepared to consider later submissions. Commissioner David Borthwick, the recently retired secretary of the Environment Department, had stated his preference for all submissions to be placed on the public record but he also allowed for information to be provided to him confidentially if a good reason existed for doing so. That allowance extended to 'individuals who may have been involved in the Montara Field Development' and reference was made to provisions that included 'protections for witnesses'. The submissions are being posted online (www.montarainquiry.gov.au) as they are processed and reviewed against the Inquiry's guidelines. They include facts and opinions submitted by industry groups, environmental groups, individuals, the Montara project owner PTT Exploration & Production Public Company Limited (PTTEP), the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, which was responsible for coordinating the emergency spill response, and Australia's National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority, which investigated the spill.
- 12 December PTTEP, which had stopped the leak from the H1 well on 3 November but was continuing its efforts to plug the well, advised that it was evacuating personnel from the Montara platform in case Cyclone Laurence crossed that area. By the 16th, the cyclone had moved westward along the coast and had been upgraded to a category 5 storm with winds of 285 kilometres per hour at its centre.
- 13 January PTTEP finally plugged and secured the H1 well with a series of cement and mechanical barriers. The company estimated that, from 21 August to 3 November, between 21,300 and 28,400 barrels of oil leaked into the Timor Sea. Estimates from other sources were higher. In its submission, the Thailand-based company said, "When the work on the wells recommenced in August 2009, PTTEP discovered that the 340 millimetre pressure-containing corrosion cap required by the drilling programme had not been installed during the suspension of the H1 Well in March 2009." It had understood from emails sent at that time that the pressure containing corrosion cap had been installed. PTTEP's Australian director Jose Martins said, "The situation at Montara continues to be challenging. There are many steps to be undertaken before we can make full assessments of the status of the platform and development work can be resumed in 2010 to safely bring the Montara field into production."

The inquiry is continuing, with public hearings expected to take place between 22 February and 31 March.

CANE TOADS

Cane toads have been enjoying the heavy rains in the Northern Territory, breeding copiously and moving westward. Kimberley Toad Busters (KTB) reported finding 60 toads at Newry Homestead near the WA border in the second week of January, compared to only three the previous week. This increase in numbers is bad news for WA, particularly with the WA Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) having refused, in December, to sanction DEC staff – or KTB on DEC-managed lands – killing toads with carbon dioxide. KTB has described that stance as ridiculous, arguing that, while the toads might, as DEC says, suffocate in the bags of CO₂, they are unconscious by then. Using the DEC-preferred forms of death by lethal injection or freezing are impractical, while the third option, death by blunt trauma, is unpalatable, especially for family groups involved in toad busting. With 500,000 toads having succumbed to CO₂ in five years, what happens next? Is this bureaucratic dictate the converse of one from a century ago when the WA government exceeded its neighbours' bounty on dingo scalps? Back then, doggers found it difficult to determine just where the line of longitude cut through the scrub to divide Western Australia from the Territory. Is the line more noticeable today?

This issue is getting international publicity, and there's more to come. Australia's first digital 3D feature film is none other than Cane Toads: The Conquest. Written and directed by Mark Lewis, who made a short documentary called Cane Toads: An Unnatural History, in 1988, it had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival on Australia Day. The new film is described as 'a comic yet provocative account of Australia's most notorious environmental blunder'. As it tracks the toad across northern Australia, it takes in the toad busting efforts of the KTB and the DEC staff from Kununurra. Viewing the film in high-resolution 3D is said to be 'like being immersed in the world of the toad'.

COUNCIL 2009-2010

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

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www.kimberleysociety.org