

# Incorporating Indigenous Perspectives

Incorporating the cross-curriculum priority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures throughout the school curriculums engages all students in reconciliation, respect and recognition of the world's oldest continuous living cultures (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, [ACARA], 2019). Furthermore, when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are able to see themselves, their identities and their cultures within the learning areas (ACARA, 2019) this fosters a sense of belonging, self-esteem and motivation to learn (Department of Education & Training [DET], 2019). It is essential however that educators contextualise the resources they are integrating so that they are relevant to the students and community they are teaching. This document provides a selection of contacts and resources that are specific to the Cooktown area.

## Larissa Hale

Larissa Hale is a Yuku Baja Muliku (YBM) woman, Traditional Owner of the Annan River area and the founding director of Yuku Baja Muliku Landowners & Reserves (Parks Australia, 2108). She runs a land and sea ranger and junior ranger program, as well as the Archer Point Sea Turtle Hospital and is a Cook Shire Councillor (Yuku Baja Muliku Land Trust, 2018). Based in Cooktown, she is passionate about caring for the land and sea and educating people about conservation and protection of country (Country Needs People, 2018). Read more about Larissa in *Strong Women on Country* at [https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/thecountryneedsitspeople/pages/3135/attachments/original/1526264838/Strong\\_Women\\_on\\_Country\\_report.pdf?1526264838](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/thecountryneedsitspeople/pages/3135/attachments/original/1526264838/Strong_Women_on_Country_report.pdf?1526264838)

## Alberta Hornsby

A Guugu Yimithirr Traditional Owner and historian, Alberta Hornsby works closely with the Cooktown Re-enactment Society to share the story of the local bama (people) during the time of Captain James Cook (Walker, 2017). She has researched using the journals of the *Endeavour* and pieced together the Cook's first meeting with the Guugu Yimithirr people from the bama perspective, a story that she is passionate about sharing with the world (State Library of Queensland, 2014).

Alberta is a valuable local resource in her own right but has also created videos such as "Digital Classroom: Alberta Hornsby" with the National Library of Australia which can be viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=teOrjoS9A2g>

Kuril Dhagun Deadly Stories Cooktown video (State Library Queensland, 2014, December 17) features several significant Indigenous members of the Cooktown community sharing their stories, including Alberta, and can be viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1wLrntcR74&feature=youtu.be>

## Yuku Baja Muliku Rangers

Based at Archer Point, the Yuku Baja Muliku (YBM) Landowner Reserves and Land Trust are lead by Traditional Owner Larissa Hale, Micheal Hale and Traditional Owner and Elder Irene Bowyer. The YBM Rangers operate a turtle hospital and rehabilitation, local art gallery, junior ranger program and cultural management. They proactively and sustainably manage land and sea through supporting return to country, local pest and weed control and fire management programs (Yuku Baja Muliku, 2018). For more information and contact details see their website:

<http://www.archerpoint.com.au>

## Willie Gordon

Born in Hopevale, Willie Gordon is Nugal-Warra Elder, passionate about storytelling. He established Guurrbi Tours to take visitors to ancestral rock art sites, showcasing his traditional land to share his people's culture and stories (Cook Shire Council, 2015). He is also a published author of *Guurrbi: My Special Place*, a booklet of photographs and stories of the rock art and Willie's country as well as illustrations of bush tucker, stone implements, plants and animals (Ward, 2007).

A biography of Willie can be found online at <http://ia.anu.edu.au/biography/gordon-willie-17791>

For more information about Guurrbi Tours go to: <http://www.cooktownandcapeyork.com/tours/local-tours/guurrbitours>

