



TRANBY
SINCE 1957

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS ADULT
EDUCATION & TRAINING

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Educate

Achieve

Empower



CELEBRATING

60

STRONG
YEARS

Acknowledgement

Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education & Training would like to Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, water and Community.

We pay our respects to the Custodians and their cultures, to Elders past and present, and to our future generations of leaders.

We also acknowledge the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora Nation as the Traditional Educators and Knowledge Keepers of the land on which our Glebe campus stands. We pay our respects to these Elders and recognise their legacy as important Carers of Country and Community, through their continuing wisdom and teachings.

Throughout its history, Tranby has learnt and grown from the wisdom of Elders past and present. Our legacy of Aboriginal-controlled education continues this tradition, incorporating Aboriginal ways of teaching and learning in all that we do.

WARNING

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are warned that this publication contains images of deceased persons.

Celebrating
60 Strong
Years

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2018

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A YARN WITH TRANBY...

Standing within the Tranby campus, you can hear the sounds of ancestors ... the Eucalypt leaves rustling, the Kookaburras yarning, and the lizards too, as they slip through the grass. Even when standing alone, it is impossible to feel lonely here because once within these walls, you are connected to our Community and feel the warmth, power and love of this land (our Country).

This campus holds the energy of our students; the thousands who have walked through these doors, ready to build their pathways to success. In these hallways, you follow in the footsteps of leaders, tracing their learning journeys from Tranby back to their communities, and bringing with them new knowledge, confidence, and lifelong friends.

And these walls remember you. Once you have walked the Tranby way, you are family and part of you will always stay here. These imprints are painted throughout our halls, memories of students past and present, who give strength and guidance to our students of the future.

Tranby is a special place. It is a place of learning and sharing in traditional ways. A place where students have grown and evolved with us. For 60 years it has been a place of learning, knowledge sharing, inspiring future leaders, and making change happen.


Tranby's story began in Glebe in 1957, but the learning we share began a long time before that. This place is like no other in Australia. Here, our mob started a revolution – a place where black minds could meet and sow the seeds of real change through educational power and social justice dreams. A place where identity and culture led the way to connect, even amidst a growing city.

In our 60 strong years, there is not only one moment that stands out. Every day has been important and interconnected in the struggle for self-determination and empowerment.

We must remember that at the time Tranby opened its doors, Aboriginal kids all around Australia could still be excluded from schools. Our first students were not even considered legal citizens of the land to which they belonged.

For 60 years we have challenged the colonial mould, teaching great minds to be great leaders in their community by being strong in their identity, and walking proudly in their skin. But this legacy is not ours alone. It cannot be owned by any one person or student group, because paving the way for Aboriginal excellence needed many hearts and hands.

As Tranby's classes grew, our confidence expanded. The brilliant ideas for change danced from our buildings, inspiring conversations that contributed to iconic moments like the creation of BlackBooks, the Aboriginal Legal Service, Operation Aborigine in Martin Place, and the 1967 Referendum, to name a few. These growing movements bonded and reminded our community that together, we could not be broken.



Generations of resilience have forged our foundations and yarning is our way. So, the message flew around Australia, from Darug to Anangu country, and mob knew that something deadly was happening at Tranby. It was a place for Blackfellas to be strong, smart, proud, and together – writing and reading, but not in the Whitefella's way.

Tranby is a place that holds knowledge. If these round walls could yarn, they would share our history with pride – a story of Whitefellas and Blackfellas working together, sharing wild ideas for change in our Australia. These walls would speak of the joy and meals shared around the Tranby kitchen. A meeting place for our community. A safe place, where racism had no seat, ignorance was always challenged, and Community was the leader.

Thousands of deadly students have walked with us and taught us how to grow.

Our team today continues to strive forward, working passionately to keep alive the legacy and love of our first Aboriginal leader Kevin 'Cookie' Cook and his team. As we pause to celebrate our 60th year, we thank all of you for your endless energy, your courageous spirits, and your love of Community. Without it, Tranby would not still be standing here, 60 years on.

CEO Report

HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY TO OUR EXTENDED TRANBY FAMILY!

For Tranby, 2018 has been a year of reflection as well as a year of celebrating an impressive 60 years of operation. This milestone is a momentous achievement and an opportunity to celebrate our commitment to education, social action, self-determination, and the empowerment of our community.

This year we have consolidated our commitment to education and to the community we serve. We remember Kevin 'Cookie' Cook and the extraordinary legacy that he left as the first Aboriginal CEO of Tranby. We thank the countless staff, volunteers, and community members who have played such a vital role in developing Tranby into the impactful and strong organisation it is today.

Tranby's mission has always been to broaden access to quality adult education for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders, as a pathway to self-reliance, economic participation, and individual and community empowerment.

In this wonderful year, I would like to reminisce about some of Tranby's key accomplishments and successes over the years:

- Kevin 'Cookie' Cook's appointment as the first Aboriginal CEO of the Cooperative for Aborigines.
- The instrumental role that Tranby played in the 1988 Bicentennial protest movement including the Bicentennial Long March.
- The establishment of BlackBooks as an Aboriginal supplier and distributor of authentic Indigenous books that have been vetted by Tranby staff and the community.
- Tranby's long association and proactivity in the land rights movement.
- Tranby's grassroots political activism in the 1980s in response to Black Deaths in Custody, which eventually led to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody in the 1980s.
- Receiving an Australian Research Council Linkage grant to collaborate with Professor Heather Goodall to explore the experiences of Tranby alumni.
- Collaboration with Dr Tyson Yunkaporta to adapt his '8 Indigenous Ways of Learning' method to a Tranby Learning Circle pedagogy.

- Impactful community projects and community education to empower our community.
- Most importantly, the graduation of thousands of students from our courses who have gone on to improve their lives and those of their families and communities.

Our 60 years of operation provide a solid foundation to continue to build our strong legacy. As the world changes and we broaden our digital presence to ensure our courses are accessible to mob, we also aim to enhance our corporate engagement and build genuine and effective collaborative partnerships for the future.

At the heart of our campus, there is a unique connection to our much-loved students who are living and working in their communities and achieving great things. It is this ongoing connection and commitment to our students, long after they leave our campus, which has ensured Tranby's strength. Tranby's solid history has seen us build a dynamic and responsive organisation that is ready for another 60 years, embracing opportunities for growth and change to meet the needs of our community. As a National Indigenous Education Provider, we are inquisitive, tenacious, and determined to ensure that Tranby's work counts, has widespread benefits, and promotes ongoing positive change.

Beyond our name and the circular logo that brings us together, Tranby has a commitment to education and social justice.

We feel well positioned for the future to successfully meet the growing vocational, educational, and training needs of Community moving forward, and to mobilise our people to achieve their goals and chase their dreams.

Happy Birthday Tranby - may there be many, many more!

Dr Belinda Russon
Chief Executive Officer



“This milestone is a momentous achievement and an opportunity to celebrate our commitment to education, social action, self-determination, and the empowerment of our community.”

Chairperson's Report

HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY TO OUR EXTENDED TRANBY FAMILY!

It is so exciting that Tranby continues another year, another decade, another legacy. Our foundations are strong. They were built by some of Australia's greatest leaders, visionaries, and change agents. Our foundations have put us in good stead to survive the many challenges we have faced. Our foundations have also put us in a strong position to continue to build on the great legacy that Tranby and its community have created together. Here's to another 60 years of Tranby excellence!

This year we celebrated NAIDOC Week and its theme 'Because of Her, We Can!', by honouring Aboriginal women; our sisters, Aunties, Nans, and daughters. There is a long list of women, both black and white, who have been instrumental in ensuring the success of Tranby. In my time as Chairperson, I have had the privilege of working alongside many great women — supporters, leaders, and advisors — who have all been so important for Tranby. I would like to individually acknowledge Aunty Isabel Flick, Aunty Sylvia Scott, Professor Heather Goodall, Jan Tamba, Aunty Patty Parnell, Jenny Symonds and our phenomenal CEO, Belinda Russon. Because of all of you, we can.


Reflecting on the last 60 years, I am so humbled that Tranby's impact has extended beyond education and training for Indigenous people. Tranby is a meeting place for our people to celebrate, to connect, to remember and to yarn. It remains a place of great social and political significance.

Over the years, students of all ages have come to study at Tranby, from every corner of Australia - from the Torres Strait, the central desert, to Western Australia and Tasmania. Their mob's spirits are now part of Tranby and I believe it is those family spirits that keep us strong today. And without a doubt, Cookie is standing in front of them leading the way! We often say at Tranby that 'someone is looking after us'! Things always seem to fall into place.

The pressure to change and operate in line with government priorities is difficult, but we are embracing this challenge. By aligning some of our work to these priorities we can continue to secure funding, but also stay true to Tranby's mission and philosophies.

Thank you to our much-loved Board members for giving up your time, energy, wisdom, love, and passion to support Tranby. We truly value you. Thank you to Belinda Russon, CEO, for leading Tranby through a challenging time of change, into a new era of technological advancement, partnerships, and innovation. We appreciate the love you invest in Tranby. Thank you to our extended family for your continued connection with our precious old-girl, Tranby. She remains a big part of my life and is one of my great loves! I am privileged to care for her and maintain her legacy.

Kristy Masella
Chairperson



“Our foundations are strong. They were built by some of Australia’s greatest leaders, visionaries, and change agents. Our foundations have put us in good stead to survive the many challenges we have faced. Our foundations have also put us in a strong position to continue to build on the great legacy that Tranby and its community have created together.”

1. 1958

The Reverend Alf Clint, founder and first director of Tranby, was an Anglican Bush Brother and human rights activist. In 1957 he was looking for somewhere to establish a training centre for the development of co-operative practices for Aboriginal people. The Reverend John Hope of Christchurch St Laurence in Glebe said, 'Tell Alf he can have Tranby' (a house nearby). The Co-operative for Aborigines was then established, and the following year, the first students were enrolled.

2. 1967

Tranby distributed 'Vote Yes' leaflets for the 1967 referendum in which over 90 per cent of Australians voted to amend the Constitution to allow the Commonwealth to make laws for Aboriginal people and include them in the census.

5. 1982

Centre for Blackbooks, the first specialist bookshop and reference library for Indigenous-related literature opens.

6. 1991

On 2 September 1991, the Rona Tranby Trust was launched. The Trust supports the recording and preservation of Indigenous Australian oral histories and established the Rona Tranby Award and Collection. Each award plants a seed that continues to grow, strengthens identity and Community, and helps to preserve stories that are important to all Australians.

9. 2007

Tranby celebrated fifty years of Adult Indigenous Education, now with 100 students enrolled in an expanded number of courses.

10. 2013

Tranby embarked on its first overseas student trip — an unforgettable journey for students. With funding from the Federal Government's AsiaBound fund, ten students from Tranby spent one week on a cultural and research tour of China and Vietnam.

11. 2017

Descendants of Indigenous members of the Australian Light Horse were funded by the Rona Tranby Trust to travel to Israel to take part in the Australian National Service to commemorate the Centenary of the Battle of Beersheba and the Sinai-Palestine Campaign. For the first time in 100 years, a wreath was laid by an Indigenous representative at the ceremony, in the presence of the Prime Ministers of Australia and Israel, other dignitaries, international visitors and the local community.

3. 1976

Kevin 'Cookie' Cook, a Wandandian and Yuin man, Tranby board member, and former student, represented Tranby in discussions on the Northern Territory Aboriginal Land Rights Bill and the Aboriginal and Associations Bill. Tranby was becoming more and more involved in Indigenous affairs.

4. 1980

When Alf Clint died, Cookie became the first Indigenous Secretary. Since then, all have been Indigenous. Cookie built Tranby into a centre for adult learning and cultural revival, a base for land rights activists, and a hub where visitors from around the country and the world could connect with Indigenous communities.

7. 1998

Construction of 'The Buildings out the Back' — a collaboration between architects Cracknell & Loneragan and Tranby. The design is sympathetic to the character of Tranby's heritage-listed Victorian buildings and the surrounding architecture in Glebe, with the round classrooms reflecting Indigenous learning circle practices.

8. 1999

Kevin Cook was honoured by the Human Rights Commission list of 50 Eminent Australians.

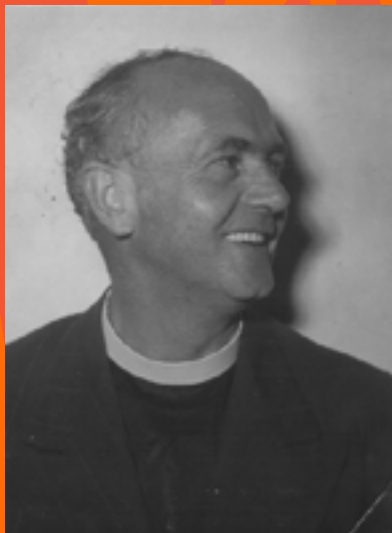
10. 2015

Kevin Cook died and Australia farewellled a tireless advocate for Indigenous rights. Also in 2015, Tranby changed its name to reflect its role in providing quality education and training to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults around Australia. We became Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education & Training.

12. 2018

Tranby celebrated its first 60 years with dance, music, story sharing, good food, and friendship. Since its inception, Tranby has worked for the right to pursue independence and self-determination on our terms, according to communities' needs and aspirations. We have paved the way for courses to be developed by Elders, according to Aboriginal cultural and educational criteria. We will continue in the same vein.

Tranby All Stars



Alf Clint

William Alfred (Alf) Clint, founder of Tranby, was an Anglican priest whose lifelong work was the establishment of co-operatives.

While working in Papua, his passion for co-operatives grew. He believed they were a non-exploitative and culturally meaningful way of engaging Indigenous peoples with the dominant society's political and economic system, while maintaining community authority.

After setting up several co-operatives around Australia, he founded Tranby Co-operative College in 1957, which was his greatest legacy.

Alf Clint was generous, humorous, hard-working, and idealistic. He supported Aboriginal self-reliance, cultural self-determination, and land rights at a time when these ideas were not endorsed by most white Australians.

In 1959 the Australian author Kylie Tennant wrote an account of his work, calling him 'the only remaining link between the Church of England and the working class'.

He died on 21 April 1980 at Glebe and was cremated after a service at Christ Church St Laurence, attended by almost 500 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal admirers.



Faith Bandler

Novelist and activist Faith Bandler was born to an Indian-Scottish mother and Pacific Islander father from Ambrym, Vanuatu. She is perhaps best-known for her leadership in achieving the constitutional amendments brought about by the successful referendum vote of 1967.

She was also an important figure in the founding of Tranby.

Alf Clint recruited her to the Tranby cause over a dinner at her home in 1950. Later, in an interview, she recalled '... chops and two veg. And Alf came with a bottle of wine – wine was rare in those days'.

Faith and her husband Hans went to the Tranby founding ceremony, which was held in the St Andrew's church hall. They later helped organise fundraising events and remained involved, even standing in for the manager when needed and cooking in the kitchen when there was no one else to do so.



Kevin Cook tribute

Kevin 'Cookie' Cook, a Wandandian and Yuin man, was born in Wollongong in September 1939. After working in the steel mills, he headed to Sydney, hoping to find work on the new high-rise city buildings.

This was the time of the Green Bans, which highlighted the power of collective action against environmental degradation.

Cookie was a student when he first became involved with Tranby Aboriginal Adult Education Cooperative College in 1975. After becoming General Secretary of Tranby in 1980, he built it into a centre for adult learning and cultural revival. Young Aboriginal men and women travelled from across the country to undertake courses in basic literacy, community studies, business training and preparation for tertiary education.

Through the courses running at the college, and those in communities, he built links with campaigners on issues such as Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and the Stolen Generations.

Kevin Cook was a builder, not a destroyer. He had a vision of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians working together to develop a nation where all lived freely and with dignity.



Campus Life

COURSES TAILORED FOR THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS

All Tranby courses are tailored to meet the specific needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and organisations and offer a unique learning experience distinct from other educational providers. We support our students with a culturally rich and conducive learning environment. Our holistic approach to Indigenous learning includes the employment of Indigenous teachers and staff, and those who have worked with Indigenous communities.

We congratulate our successful students

In 2018, our students graduated or achieved a Statement of Attainment from the following Tranby courses:

- 10408NAT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Advocacy
- 10578NAT Diploma of Allied Aboriginal Studies
- Short course in Community Development
- Short course in Business Governance

A brighter future after Tranby

All our students leave Tranby better equipped for their own future, and equipped to be positive influences on the futures of others with whom they live, work and belong. Their families, communities and workplaces will benefit from their new knowledge.

Learning Journeys

Tranby is always buzzing during block weeks when our students are in town. Two of our 2018 graduates, Emma Griggs and Kate Wood-Pahuru, and our valued volunteer David Tobias, share highlights from their learning and helping journeys.



Emma Griggs

I am a proud Wiradjuri woman who resides in Dharawal Country (Sydney's Sutherland Shire). I studied the 10578NAT Diploma of Applied Aboriginal Studies to enhance my skill set for my current professional role.

Rich with history and friendship

The surrounds and premises of Tranby are beautiful and welcoming, and the campus is rich with history. It is an adult Aboriginal training college and I felt it was best placed to provide the course that I wanted to study. I also felt more comfortable studying in a college environment rather than at university. I loved meeting people from different parts of NSW and learning about their families and communities. I made lasting friendships.

Designed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

My diploma program is designed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who seek to work in the space of cultural awareness. It aims to enhance and complement skills and knowledge for graduates to work more effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait people, their organisations, and communities.

Enhancing my knowledge about my culture

The content of my course was particularly good. It enhanced my knowledge about my own culture. I felt comfortable asking for help and support. My teacher Dion's input was exceptional, particularly coming from an Elder's perspective on the content and topics covered. I felt that studying an Aboriginal-designed course led by Aboriginal teachers made it more significant and the learning, content, and discussions more relevant and valuable.

Amazing overseas scholarship

I had the amazing opportunity to go overseas on the Endeavour Leaders overseas scholarship. This was an unforgettable experience which enabled me to learn about colonisation in other countries and other cultures and cultural practices. Now I can share the information I brought back with our community.

Tranby gave me new career opportunities

Since completing the course, I have taken up a secondment in a different area of my department, to deliver Cultural Competency training. I would not have had the necessary knowledge or confidence to have moved into this new professional role without my studies at Tranby.



Kate Wood-Pahuru

I am a proud Wanaruah (people of the hills and plains) woman born in Muswellbrook. I grew up on Mt Arthur before it became a coal mine and hold the stories and some of the mysteries of this mountain.

We want to know and understand who we are

My family history was shaped by the behaviours of the past, when to be Aboriginal was unacceptable. This was enabled by the misdirection of documents and suppressed ancestry, to protect family members and stop them from being ostracised. The younger generations are now embracing this knowledge and want to know and understand who they are.

Tranby gave me the confidence to start a corporation

I studied the BSB50715 Diploma of Business as I have a keen interest in Aboriginal business and sat on the board of a local Aboriginal community organisation. This assisted in ensuring good governance for the organisation and gave me the confidence to start a corporation based on my expertise and knowledge of natural and Indigenous medicine.

I am now a more confident, stronger person

I also studied the 10578NAT Diploma of Applied Aboriginal Studies. With a family history shrouded in secrecy, I do not have the knowledge of my culture. Through the course knowledge and interaction with the other students, I have become a stronger and better person for gaining fresh insight into the problems that are faced by our people.

Learning without prejudice or fear of ridicule

The concept, design and delivery of courses focused on Aboriginal students and their needs. It allows us to study according to our own learning style and be with Aboriginal students who can express their knowledge and experience, without prejudice or fear of ridicule. I love my brothers and sisters and still hold them dear to my heart for being my teachers, my friends, my inspiration, and my catalysts at times.

Using my new knowledge

I constantly use my new knowledge to understand situations within a business or a community. It allows me to work to resolve problems and to put in place possible solutions, both short and long-term. From a personal perspective, each day I understand myself more and have grown enormously due to the teachings and interactions with Tranby staff, teachers, and other students. Tranby empowers and supports the students of today who will become the Aboriginal leaders of tomorrow.

Volunteer Journey



David Tobias

I have had a great time volunteering at Tranby for over eighteen months. I am a copywriter with over 25 years' experience working in advertising, marketing, and research. I wanted to give something back to the community and I jumped at this opportunity.

Always something to do

There is a wide variety of fulfilling roles and tasks as a volunteer here, from IT and admin to gardening and maintenance. My main role is writing various communications, including annual reports, newsletters, catalogues, and advertising. However, my favourite role is helping at Tranby functions, including graduations.

A real place

I have met some amazing people at Tranby, ranging from students, their families and friends, to teachers, guest speakers and artists. I have heard so many fascinating, and often moving, personal stories and learnt so much about Indigenous history, culture, and Community. I understand contemporary Indigenous issues so much better after volunteering here.

Everyone pitches in

One of my first assignments was helping at a student graduation. The ceremony and opportunity to meet people make it worthwhile. It is great to see the look of pride and achievement on the faces of the graduates when they receive their Diplomas and Certificates. There is no hierarchy at Tranby – at the first function I attended I was cleaning up afterwards and turned to find Tranby's CEO Dr Belinda Russon clearing plates next to me.

A crash course in Indigenous art

A part of our 60th birthday celebrations was the launch of 'Art for Heart', an Indigenous art exhibition at Tranby. My task was to meet and interview the artists and write descriptions of the artworks for our catalogue and our website. And so began an interesting and satisfying journey — meeting with artists, getting to understand and know their practices and the motifs and patterns they used from their tribes and Country. I will never forget that.

My favourite project

I had the honour of assisting with the Rona Tranby Trust Indigenous Light Horsemen Project. In October 2017, the Rona Tranby Trust sent 13 descendants of Indigenous soldiers to participate in the centenary celebrations of the famous Australian Light Horse charge at Beersheba in Israel. Writing the stories of each Indigenous horseman was fascinating, but the best thing was meeting many of their descendants at a function at Tranby before they left.

Champion of Tranby



Emeritus Professor Heather Goodall

Heather has been a long-term friend of Tranby, supporting its growth and change since the 1980s. Previously working as a teacher, course developer and now researcher, Heather's expertise and guidance has been remarkable.

In the 1980s, Heather bonded with 'Cookie' through their social and political activism, around issues like Land Rights and the Stop Black Deaths in Custody movement. When 'Cookie' became Tranby's first Aboriginal General Secretary (1980), Heather was employed as a part time history teacher delivering short courses and supporting Tranby's tertiary preparation course (1981-2).

'Students valued learning in an environment with Aboriginal students and being able to talk with teachers individually'

Later, working to establish the then Aboriginal Development Unit (ADU) Heather assisted the development of Tranby's first bespoke course in Aboriginal Studies (now known as 1057NAT Diploma of Applied Aboriginal studies).

'Cookie wanted to create a different and supportive learning network', Heather recalls. In building these relationships the Tranby kitchen played an important role — always buzzing with students, community members, teachers, and friends of Tranby, becoming a mix of people and ideas and igniting social and political movements like that of the Royal Commission into Black Deaths in Custody.

In 2018, Heather has been working on a research project, Networking Tranby, funded in partnership with the Australian Research Council (ARC), interviewing past students and creating a Tranby student map highlighting our extensive community reach throughout a 20-year period (1980–1999).

'Students valued learning in an environment with Aboriginal students and being able to talk with teachers individually', says Heather. This community learning approach highlights the true essence of Tranby as a place of empowerment for Aboriginal adults. Drawing from student memories and the Tranby archives, this project will be produced into a website and digital exhibition that will be published in 2020.

2018 Highlights

Kevin Cook Awards

Congratulations to Kate Wood-Pahuru for taking home the Kevin Cook Award during her studies. It is wonderful to see such a deserving student who was a supportive Aunty and source of encouragement to all those she studied with.

We also congratulate Asia Olsen who won the encouragement award. The team was so proud to walk with Asia along her learning journey to successfully receive her Aboriginal Studies Diploma.

Jawun Partnership

Thanks to our Jawun Community, the Tranby team had the pleasure of hosting Rina Rose Meyer as a secondee. During her research, Rina was a valuable contribution to the team, bringing expert research skills and public sector experience to her role.



CEO Dr Belinda Russon and Aunty Beryl at Community Day.

Yaama Catering

Throughout 2018, Tranby has proudly provided Aunty Beryl and her Yaama Catering team a place in our kitchen. Aunty Beryl knows Community and is a core part of the Tranby family. Whether she is in the kitchen, yarning with students, or having a laugh with some of the Tranby team, she always moves with love, culture, and when you are lucky, her famous wattle seed cheesecake too.

Having the Yaama team around campus ensures we are serving Community and serving our students a delicious home-cooked feed on campus, while they are studying away from home.



The Aurora Foundation

Tranby was happy to host Anna Tomlin as an Aurora intern in 2018. Anna assisted our team with research and document creation in scoping new possible business ventures that would financially support our organisation. Thank you for your generous contribution.



Students Kathryn Robinson and Madalanne Taylor in India.

Scholarship trip to India

Under the Federal Government's Asia VET Education Studies program, Tranby was able to send two adventurous students on a scholarship trip to India. Kathryn Robinson and Madalanne Taylor had the opportunity to visit several non-profit community organisations in Kerala to learn how education influences change and is valorised in diverse societies with strong Indigenous populations.

Bodhini, an anti-violence social education program in Kochi, inspired them to see how NGOs around the world are innovatively engaging vulnerable people to value and participate in education and create sustainable community change.



Cross-cultural learning for Community

Since 2013, Tranby has supported more than 60 students with the opportunity to travel overseas with mob. These international travel scholarships have enabled our students to engage in cross-cultural learning experiences that complement their studies, expand their world views and inspire learning from other communities facing similar challenges to their own.

These unique opportunities, made possible thanks to the Australian Federal Government's International Student Mobility program, empowers students through cross-cultural learning experiences that strengthen their leadership capacities. Our Indigenous students have represented Tranby and Australia, building networks in countries such as China, India, Indonesia, Austria, Cambodia, Canada, Vietnam, and the Cook Islands – to name a few!

Overseas scholarships have enabled Tranby staff to be innovative in learning approaches, translating course theory into practical applications in diverse global settings. Each scholarship trip is distinct, designed to complement students' accredited training by supporting cross-cultural learning in a variety of areas including, not-for-profit community-building, global Indigenous and education conferences, social enterprises, and sustainable tourism.

While travelling abroad, our students have been outstanding ambassadors for Tranby and Australia. For many of them, travelling for the first-time presents added challenges, but it is the important connections and support within the student networks that make these cultural immersions valuable experiences for all staff, students and communities involved. The students who attend these trips often form long-term bonds, experiencing adventures together that profoundly change them. This unique opportunity, supporting mob to experience other countries rich in culture and customs, has broadened the horizons of many Tranbystudents, and in turn, made them more confident and capable community leaders.

These enriching journeys of cultural connection are relatively new to our student experience but have been immensely beneficial for our Tranby community. It is our hope that we can continue offering these valuable learning experiences to our students.



Tranby students in Indonesia.



Tranby students in China with delegates, 2013.

“As this was the first time I travelled abroad, I can now say I am confident that this research and cultural experience has given me lessons and experiences that will help me have different views and perspectives throughout life.”

Luke Froome, Asla bound 2013



Grants

As a not-for-profit Aboriginal organisation, we rely heavily on grant funding to realise projects that benefit and connect our community. Our small team maximises Tranby's community engagement by designing, writing, and implementing grant projects in a variety of areas.

Throughout our 60 years of operations, funding has changed dramatically, placing new emphasis on the need for innovation and dynamic approaches to continue our vision of Indigenous educational empowerment. Although Tranby receives some core funding, it does not assist us with important needs like preserving and maintaining our heritage buildings, celebrating community achievements, collaborating with our local Elders, or empowering our students with new skills and experiences through overseas travel scholarships.

Grant funding opportunities help Tranby to continue to EDUCATE, ACHIEVE and EMPOWER our local community and national student network in engaging ways that build Community and promote awareness of Indigenous excellence.

Some important grant funded projects from 2017 and 2018 include

- **NAIDOC lunch 'Because of her, we can!'**
Funded by: Aboriginal Affairs NSW
- **Tranby's Community Day Celebration, Celebrating 60 years**
Funded by: City of Sydney
- **Armistice Day Centenary - Launch of the Rona Tranby Trust Light Horse Exhibition**
Funded by: Department of Veterans' Affairs, Australian Government
- **Library & Archives Project**
Funded by: University of Technology, Sydney

"These grants help us be innovative, forward-thinking and to give back to the Tranby community. We love creating projects that share Tranby's history and highlight the importance of Aboriginal-controlled education". *Jacinta Bailey, Tranby's Project Officer*

Case study



Thanks to the support of Aboriginal Affairs NSW, Tranby was able to celebrate and recognise Indigenous women from our community, who make a difference through their art, stories, and contribution. Celebrating the 2018 NAIDOC week theme 'Because of her, we can', this grant supported Tranby to host a Community Elders' NAIDOC lunch, inviting special guests and local Indigenous female artists like Cleonie Quayle to showcase their unique works and create space for dialogues of Aboriginal women's strength, resilience, and empowerment. The event also featured a screening of the documentary feature film, *Servant or Slave?* and guests engaged in a special yarn with Elder Aunty Adelaide Wenberg, who shared some of her experiences and stories of resilience from Cootamundra Girls' home. It was an important afternoon for all, yarning and learning from Aunty Adelaide as well as hearing her reflections on being a part of this documentary and the important truth-telling it shared of Australia's cruel history.

'Art for Heart' Exhibition

Tranby created the inspiring 'Art for Heart' exhibition as part of its 60th birthday celebrations. The campus came alive with unique, vibrant works by eight artists, ranging from wood carving and pyrography to seashells on canvas. The works showcased Country motifs, family totems and Dreamtime stories.

The 'Art for Heart' exhibition was created to give back to Community, providing a culturally safe space for talented artists to exhibit their work. It offered low-cost exposure of the artist's works that could be viewed by Tranby's corporate partners, local community, and students.

Noel Butler

Yuin Nation on the NSW South Coast
Traditional wood carving, engraving and pyrography

Cleonie Quayle

Maljangapa woman of the Baakantji nation
Aboriginal Gumnut and Quongdong jewellery

Thomas Brown

Walbunja Tribe of the Yuin Nation
Artworks from shells from the local area

Ondra Challinger

Yamitji and Wiradjuri Nations
Traditional and contemporary Aboriginal art

Myangah Pirate

Budawang man from the Yuin Nation
Traditional materials on a contemporary base and pyrography

Sal Lavallee

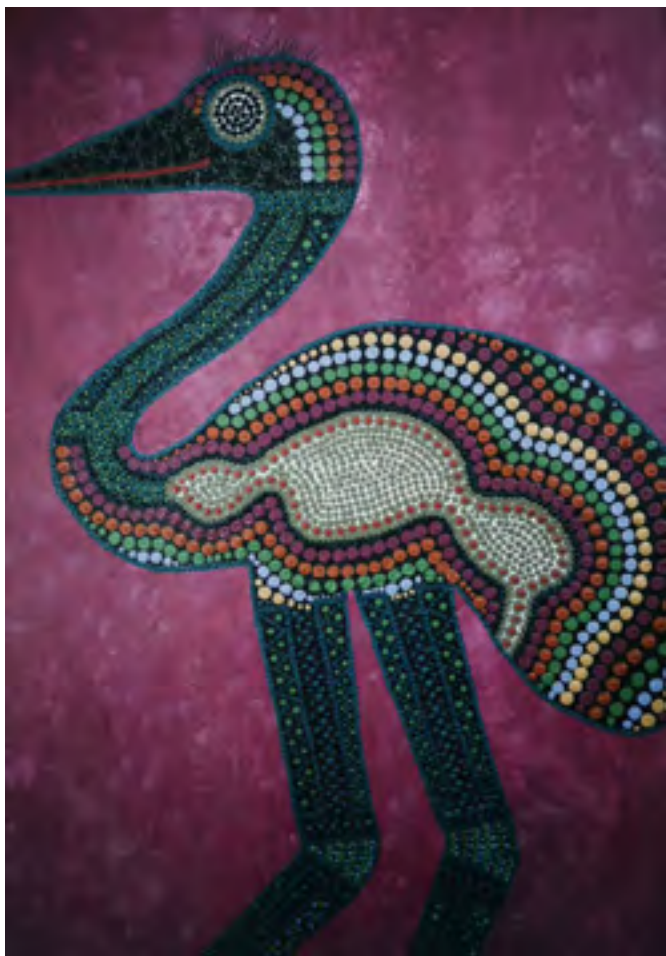
Ngarigo woman from the Ngarigo and Yuin Nations
Contemporary interpretation of traditional Ngarigo and Yuin art

Jodie Herden

Gomerioi woman from Tamworth,
NSW Contemporary Aboriginal Art

Sarah Challinger

Yamitji and Wiradjuri Nations
Traditional and contemporary Aboriginal art



"Love Who You Are", 2018 – Ondra Challinger



'Creation – New beginning: couple with moon and snake' – Noel Butler



"Turtle Cave", 2017 – Ondra Challinger

Armistice Day



On 11 November 1918, many brave servicemen held their breath and laid down their weapons during the armistice that would end World War I.

To commemorate their bravery and remember their service on the centenary of this event, Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members, all wearing poppies, gathered at Tranby. It was a moving ceremony which connected us all by reflecting on the lives of many brave soldiers.

Supported by the Department of Veterans Affairs, this gathering was also a moment to reflect on Indigenous soldiers' hardships, from the perspectives of their descendants. The launch of the Australian Light Horse Project enabled many of the participants to share their stories and research projects detailing their family members who had fought in the famous Charge of the 4th Australian Light Horse Brigade at Beersheba in 1917. This project, funded by the Rona Tranby Trust, was a powerful commemoration of the courage, hope and determination of these brave Indigenous servicemen and women.





Uncle Ray Minniecon at Tranby

Community Day

Honouring the 60-year legacy of Tranby was no small feat, but thanks to Tranby's dedicated team and volunteers, in November 2018 we celebrated our achievements and important history of social and political change.

Since its beginnings in the 1950s, Tranby has been a melting pot of community and culture, and our 60th birthday community celebration was no different. Our campus was full of story sharing, art, fun, music, and connection. Friends of Tranby, past students, current students, guests from around Australia and our local Glebe community joined us to celebrate and reflect on 60 years of Aboriginal-controlled education.

Thank you to everyone who came and helped make the day so special, and so filled with fun for the whole family. We enjoyed music, dance and art performances by incredible Aboriginal artists, delicious food by the talented team at Yaama

catering, art exhibitions, laughs, yarns and wonderful community spirit. It was a memorable day for the Tranby team and energised us to keep striving forward for another 60 years.

This Community Day celebration was possible thanks to the generous support from the City of Sydney Council, under the Cultural and Creative Grants programme.

Mural

To mark this significant milestone of community achievement, the Tranby team wanted to commemorate its 60 strong years through a new artistic work on campus. Fortunately, as a national place of knowledge sharing, finding the right artist to create the work was straightforward, since Tranby's alumni networks reach around the country, and include artists, academics, community leaders and sporting stars.



Ivy Minniecon performing at Community Day.



Jennifer Symonds (Rona Tranby Trust), Jacinta Bailey, Belinda Russon and volunteers Sam Martin and Alan Pringle.

Ivy Minnecon, a Kuku Yalanji woman created a beautiful mural for our campus, which represents the vast Tranby community that continues to grow, 60-years on. In Ivy's words:

The major circles in the middle represent Tranby itself being an Adult Indigenous learning centre where community members can come and gain knowledge and take that back out to their communities. The six lines are also journey tracks back into the community and the circles on either side represent the communities that the students come from.

The painting represents the ripple effect of the knowledge that is gained through Tranby by individual community members and then its ripple effect back into the communities. It's about empowering our mob."

Yaama Catering

Our community day celebrations would not have been possible without Aunty Beryl and the deadly team at Yaama Catering, who cooked up an incredible feed.



Face painting at Community Day.



Elsie Amamoo and our CEO Dr Belinda Russon.



Looking Ahead – 2019 priorities

1. Student engagement in Certificate IV in Hospitality

Tranby looks forward to launching a new training to employment program in partnership with the Federal Government. This program will feature online and face-to-face delivery through a flexible learning model. Building partnerships with travel operators and hospitality industry partners will enable our students to complete their study while undertaking employment training in the hospitality, travel, and tourism industries.

2. Improve the student Learning Journey

To ensure that we continue to meet the needs of students and community we will be undertaking a comprehensive review of our teaching and learning objectives. We will implement changes that improve the overall wellbeing of our students and cultivate an environment that continues to educate, achieve, and empower students.

3. Build corporate partnerships

Facing an unsteady funding future has severely impacted Tranby's ability to think innovatively and best meet the needs of our students and community. Engaging and strengthening our relationships with corporates will ensure that Tranby can be innovative and sustainable for the coming decade.

4. Expand our online and social media engagement

Our team will be working hard to incorporate social media engagement as part of our future core operations, which will expand our community engagement and attract new students.

5. Raise the Tranby Profile with big picture projects

We will be launching several educational projects that seek to regain Tranby's national reach and engage a variety of stakeholders. Online learning is a crucial priority which will assist Tranby to offer accredited units of competency nationally, as we have in the past.

6. Enhancing Indigenous Leadership

Our team is working on an exciting collaboration in 2019 that will highlight Tranby's innovation and commitment to empowering Indigenous adults around Australia. This project will provide new opportunities for Tranby students, and grow Tranby's partnerships with other leading education organisations.

Behind the Scenes

2018 TRANBY BOARD MEMBERS



KRISTY MASELLA
CHAIRPERSON

Kristy Masella is a Murri woman from Rockhampton, Dharumbal country in Central Queensland. She has been an active member of the Tranby Board of Directors since 2009, a former CEO of Tranby and is currently our chairperson. Kristy has worked in Aboriginal affairs at the local, regional, and state level for more than 25 years across many portfolios in NSW, Queensland, and the Northern Territory. She is the CEO of the national Indigenous recruitment and training company AES and is also the Chairperson of Wunanbiri Incorporated, one of the most successful independent Aboriginal community preschools in NSW.



KATRIINA HEIKKANEN
SECRETARY

Katriina Heikkanen is a descendant of the Worimi Nation on the mid-north coast of NSW. She is part of the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre Alumni and a member of the Sydney Swans Reconciliation Action Plan committee. Katriina was formerly a Senior Commonwealth Government Manager for Indigenous Employment and Economic Development and was previously Care Coordinator for the Make a Wish Foundation, Eastern Suburbs Branch. She currently works as Indigenous & Social Policy Manager at AFL. Katriina is passionate about children, community, education, and sports. A career highlight has been developing nutrition and health education programs for school age students.



JAIMES ADLINGTON
TREASURER

Jaimes Adlington is an Executive Manager of Westpac Banking Corporation with more than 25 years' experience and has held roles in both retail and commercial banking. For the past 12 years he has focused on Internal Audit and is currently overseeing the bank's Credit Risk portfolio. Jaimes completed a six-week volunteer work placement with Tranby in 2013 facilitated by the Jawun Indigenous Corporate Partnerships program. He contributed to the improvement of financial and risk management of our organisation's operations. Jaimes has developed a strong interest in the ongoing success of Tranby and its work in the Indigenous community.



HAGBARTH STROM

Hagbarth 'Haggy' Strom is a commercial lawyer currently working for Perpetual Limited. He was a lawyer at Clayton Utz and French bank Societe Generale and prior to this, he consulted for Wall Street banks. Haggy is originally from Norway and moved to Australia in 2003. Since then, Haggy has been keenly interested in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs and completed a Native Title legal internship in WA in 2006. In 2015, he spent several months in a remote Cape York community, working closely with traditional owners on a strategic plan for management of their lands as part of the Jawun programme.

**LARA TZAFARIS**

Lara Tzafaris is a descendent of the Yawuru from Broome, Western Australia, with Middle Eastern and Malaysian paternal roots. Born and raised in Queensland, she has worked in radio production and subsequently had various editorial and marketing roles with News Limited in Queensland and Sydney. Lara also worked as a marketing coordinator at the Art Gallery of NSW. She retrained and now works as a primary school teacher. Collaborating with colleagues and the local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, Lara developed a whole-school Aboriginal education committee and policy. This project educated teachers, parents, and students about what it truly means to be an Aboriginal Australian.

**JASON WHITTY**

Jason Whitty is a passionate advocate for diversity and inclusion – particularly in the Indigenous community. He has worked at the Commonwealth Bank for more than 13 years, and currently is Head of Diversity, Inclusion and Culture for Wealth Management and Risk Management. Jason has focused on creating a more inclusive culture for all employees and building an understanding of Indigenous culture across the bank. During a Jawun secondment at Tranby, Jason worked closely with our CEO on several key initiatives, including Tranby's rebrand in 2015, and is acting as a 'Yana Budjari' (Reconciliation) Champion for the Commonwealth Bank.

**KRISTA CHRISTENSEN**

Krista Christensen is a proud Aboriginal woman from Sydney and a descendant of the Worimi people of Forster and Dhunghatti people of Kempsey. She has many years' experience working with diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across NSW. Krista currently lives in Cairns, and her business National Capital Refunds works with Aboriginal organisations to reclaim lost money across Australia. Her work with committees has helped Indigenous people in the criminal justice system. Krista holds Tranby close to her heart since graduating with her Diploma in National Indigenous Legal Studies and then with the Organisational Leadership Excellence for Aboriginal Leaders and Managers Program.

CELEBRATING**60****STRONG
YEARS**





Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education & Training would like to thank its Board members, staff, volunteers, students and community friends for their continued energy, commitment, and support. Our Tranby community is strengthened by the dedication of our Westpac volunteers, the Rona Tranby Trust, Emeritus Professor Heather Goodall, and Aunty Glendra Stubbs.





“Tranby empowers students. And a lot of them have gone back and worked within their own community. And that’s the beauty of it. You mightn’t see their name in lights, but they are working in their local group playing an important role”

Kevin “Cookie” Cook, 1939 - 2015



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