



APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER



EMPOWER // CONNECT // NETWORK

KIMBERLEY JIYIGAS (BIRDS) IS 'A MOVEMENT OF KIMBERLEY INDIGENOUS WOMEN INFLUENCING SOCIAL CHANGE.'

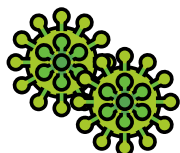
WE EXIST TO:

- 1 Amplify Indigenous Women's voices
- 2 Promote Australian Indigenous Culture
- 3 Empower First Nation women around the world by enabling micro business opportunities



Agnes Armstrong

Agnes Armstrong is a Miriwoong Queen. She is known in our Kimberley community as a woman of many talents. She is a dancer, an artist and a language teacher. She sits on many committees to share her knowledge and often performs the Welcome to Country ceremonies in Kununurra. Thankyou Agnes for all your contribution to our community.



COVID 19

There have been so many rapid changes as a result of a world-wide Pandemic virus outbreak. This has caused significant disruption to many local business owners and has cast doubt over the future for business owners.

Many of our projects are now on hold, so like many others, we are using the current season as an opportunity to review some of our projects, and consider how we can be more creative in our business.

For Government agencies and other entities located and servicing the Kimberley region, perhaps your considerations during this time could be about how to be more efficient and effective in producing stronger outcomes for local Aboriginal people. How can this be done in new and innovative ways?

We are able to offer a wide range of valuable services at this time by offering insights on cultural protocols and engagement using LOCAL ABORIGINAL PEOPLE! Kimberley Birds is a 'Collective of Kimberley Indigenous women influencing Social Change' and we are able to tap into local women who have a wealth of knowledge and lived experience that can be used to contribute to local solutions.

Contact us today for an obligation free discussion on how we could use our local knowledge and networks to get the job done.



Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service and Empowered Communities East Kimberley have done a wonderful job of putting some resources together for community, organisations and clinicians. Have a look on their website and social media pages for more information.



Some of the services during COVID 19 include:

- One on one mentoring/coaching for females
- Policy engagement and support
- Reconciliation Plans & Aboriginal Engagement
- Community Engagement and Communication Strategies including research and surveys
- Project Management Initiatives
- Resource creation for increasing Aboriginal outcomes
- Review systems and processes with cultural lens
- Co-designing models suitable for Aboriginal people



Kimberley Birds has enjoyed assisting the Social Compass team to conduct program evaluation work over the past few months, and although the approach to this research work has changed significantly due to the impacts of the coronavirus, it has been a great opportunity to contribute to the findings of this project and getting to meet great people on the frontline of program service delivery.



Podcast Series



For some time now, Kimberley Birds has had the vision of recording the personal stories of Aboriginal women of our region and capturing their recollections on podcast as a record of our Kimberley history for future generations. This project has taken longer than anticipated but we are diligent in our aspirations and continue to work on finalising our recordings. We hope to share them with you soon!

Safe Haven Project



In February, Kimberley Birds were engaged by the team at 'Well-Rounded' to Co-facilitate two sessions on the Safe Haven project, expected to be implemented in Kununurra in the near future. 'Safe Havens' are an alternative to Emergency Departments and target people who may need a quiet and safe place to yarn to trusted people about their problems if they are feeling distressed.



COMMUNITY MESSAGE FROM COLES

Coles Express would like to ensure the people of Halls Creek, that we have NO intention to close or cease operations. Our intention is to strengthen our relationship with the community, develop strategic partnerships and to invest sustainably. For our part, we have engaged the Indigenous business, 'Kimberley Jiyigas', to facilitate community consultation meetings. We appreciate the feedback that has been provided; a number of these ideas have been approved for implementation, which you'll see in the next couple of months. Coles Express would like to thank the Jaru and Gidja people for your support, we pay our respects to your elders' past & present, we acknowledge you as First Australians and recognise your strength and resilience. Coles extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the local community and recognises your rich cultures and your continuing connection to land and waters. For your information, Coles is now officially recognised as the largest corporate sector employer of Indigenous Australians, with over 4,500 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander team members across Australia.



Through KIVA, Kimberley Jiyiga's supports women internationally into micro business opportunities for individual and community empowerment. We believe that women will reinvest profits back into their communities for positive change and we champion women in business for that reason.



Thank You

We would like to acknowledge Ronda Crerar and friends in providing permission to use their wonderful bird photos. Visit East Kimberley & Northern Territory birds Facebook page to see more.



Merch

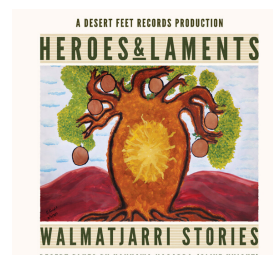
From the beginning, Kimberley Birds has been a 'Services Based' business but we are now also branching into producing merchandise. We look forward to showcasing our 'Kimberley vibes' with the world and hope you love our new work! Watch this space and our next newsletter for further information.

Kankawa Nagarra (Olive Knight)

Performing to small crowds in Kununurra and Halls Creek, audiences were treated to a very special night of music and storytelling delivered by the talented Kankawa Nagarra (Olive Knight) early this year hosted by Kimberley Birds.

Auntie Olive sang the Blues and told personal stories of growing up in the Kimberley, and how those experiences have woven into a fascinating and unique life story of an amazing Aboriginal woman, originally from the desert.

You can enjoy more of Kankawa Nagarras story through her music, and her album 'Hero's and Laments' which can be purchased on iTunes.



www.facebook.com/kimberleybirds



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Kimberley Jiyigas is 100% Kimberley Indigenous Owned

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