



**McARTHUR RIVER MINE  
COMMUNITY BENEFITS TRUST**



# ANNUAL REVIEW 2017

31 December 2017

## Executive Summary

In 2017 the MRM Community Benefits Trust marked its tenth year of operation with its most active within the community. Programs supported by the Trust have generated high profile and impact through the continuation of 12 grants approved in previous years with \$1.6 million in funding to be expended and 13 new grants valued at \$2.8 million approved. Collectively, it represented a commitment to invest \$4.4 million (excluding GST) in the region.

The grant programs have supported five of the six focus areas of the Trust with two major grants in the categories of Enterprise and Job Creation, and Social and Community Development accounting for almost 60% of the total investment. These included:

- Almost \$1 million (ex GST) in support for the construction of a new child care centre in Borroloola by Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association Inc
- A new \$1.5 million (ex GST) grant to the Roper Gulf Regional Council for the construction of a multi-purpose, all weather sport and recreation facility for youth.

Significantly, there were also important advances in the Arts and Culture category with the completion of two long term projects which will inform future work with Traditional Owners and a cultural and eco-tourism strategy for the region. These were:

- The publication of the two volume Yanyuwa Dictionary and cultural encyclopaedia which is the culmination of 30 years' work by Monash University in collaboration with Yanyuwa Traditional Owners and is considered one of the largest documentations of any Indigenous language in Australia.
- The conclusion of a two-year archaeological study of rock art in the Limmen National Park to help ensure the conservation, management and celebration of remarkable cultural assets of the Garrawa and Marra people.

The largest number of programs was undertaken in the Education area with 4 new grants representing 18.5% of committed funds during the year supporting early learning playgroups, improved Borroloola School infrastructure and the nutrition of students at both Borroloola and Kiana Schools.

These results from 2017 echo the cumulative impact of the Trust since its establishment in July 2007. A comprehensive review of the Trust's performance after 10 years found that significant investments in the regional community have led to many good outcomes, particularly in the areas of Arts and Culture, Environment and Education.

In the 10 years to 30 June 2017, the Trust had committed \$13.4 million (ex GST) to 83 projects.

Activities supported by the Trust have reached across the entire gulf region targeted. While the majority has centered around the town of Borroloola, programs have also supported the communities of the Sir Edward Pellew Islands, King Ash Bay, Robinson River and Kiana. Significantly, the benefits of these programs have also been shared among the four local Indigenous language groups that are represented on the Trust board - Gurdanji, Marra, Yanyuwa and Garrawa - and their representative organisations.

The Trust Board met for four times during the year plus the Annual General Meeting for the previous financial year held in November 2016. In addition, local Indigenous Board Members participated in the Allocations and Investments Committee which has an important role in reviewing submissions received and making recommendations to the Board.

This Annual Review provides a summary of the Trust's activities throughout 2017 and its financial position. A summary of reports from grant recipients is provided in Appendix 1 and outlines how the Trust continues to deliver tangible and substantial benefits to the Gulf regional community.

The Special Purpose Financial Report prepared by Trust accountant, Deloitte, and audited by Ernst & Young is also provided. This demonstrates the Trust is in a strong financial position with:

- a substantial increase in its surplus during the year to \$1.6 million
- low operating costs at less than 2% of total revenue
- cash and bank balances of \$8.3 million enabling the Trust to consider supporting major projects, honour commitments already approved and continue to allocate a high percentage of annual revenue to grant funding.

## Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
1. MRM Community Benefits Trust Overview	5
2. Trustee Board	7
- Directors	7
- Board Meetings	8
3. Trust Activities	9
- Management Services	9
- Strategic Planning	11
- Community Infrastructure Budget	12
- Grants - Ongoing Programs	12
- Grants - New Programs	14
- Grants - Allocation Against Focus Areas	17
4. Financial Report	19
- Financial Indicators	19
- Financial and Non-Financial Contributions	20
- Distributions	21
5. Impact on the Community	22
- Key Performance Measures	22
- Action Against Priorities	23
Appendix 1. Grant Reports	26
Appendix 2. Special Purpose Financial Report	47

**MRM Community Benefits Trust**  
**ABN 32 726 745 226**

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### **Cover Images**

Participants of the John Moriarty Football program, the fifth annual Malandari Festival and the Borroloola Community Pool all supported by grant funding committed by the Trust.

## 1. MRM Community Benefits Trust Overview

On 4 July 2007, McArthur River Mining (MRM) and the Northern Territory Government (NTG) entered into an agreement to establish the MRM Community Benefits Trust (the Trust) as a vehicle for delivering social and economic benefits to the Borroloola regional community.

### Objectives

The Trust aims to:

- Facilitate ongoing sustainable development of the community and the region including community capacity building and local business enterprise development
- Build infrastructure within the community to a level that will facilitate the creation of local jobs, diversity of new enterprise, beneficial social activity and improved health outcomes
- Enhance the positive social and economic impact of MRM's mining operations on the community and the region as far as is reasonably practical
- Create jobs and training opportunities.

### Commitments

The Trust is committed to supporting:

1. Employment, training and enterprise development generated both through MRM's mining operations and in the wider Borroloola economy including:
  - a. Fulfilling MRM's target to achieve 20% workforce participation by Indigenous people
  - b. The commitment to generate and support the establishment of one new local business per annum to supply a product or service to the mine
2. A community-based package of social and economic programs benefiting: enterprise and job creation; environment; education; social and community development; health; culture and art.

### Charitable Purpose

The charitable purpose of the Trust is to provide:

- Grants, scholarships, bursaries and other assistance for education, vocational training and enterprise development
- Grants and other assistance for community infrastructure and community development, including the promotion of initiatives in the areas of health, law, arts, sport and culture.

## **This Report**

This report covers the operations of the Trust for the financial year ending 30 June 2017.

As required under the Trust Deed, this Annual Review includes:

- A summary of the Trust's activities
- The financial position of the Trust
- Details of the distributions made by the Trustee during the financial year and the projects to which the distributions relate
- Impact on regional development, new jobs and community infrastructure.

Please note:

- All dollar values for grants committed are quoted excluding GST.
- All reporting is on a financial year basis with this report and its financials relevant to the year ending 30 June 2017.

## 2. Trustee Board

### Directors

The Trustee Board comprises nine Directors whose roles are to manage the Trustee Company's business and affairs, authorise payments and appoint and oversee the supporting officers. The Board members during the 2017 financial year were as follows.

#### *Trustee Directors, 2017*

Constitutional requirement	Director	Changes
Two Directors nominated by MRM, including one independent	<b>Greg Ashe</b> Chief Operating Officer, Glencore Zinc Assets in Australia	Sam Strohmayr, General Manager MRM appointed as a proxy for Greg Ashe
	<b>Paul Henderson</b> Independent Director	
Two Directors nominated by the Northern Territory Government, including one independent	<b>John de Koning</b> Executive Director Department of Housing and Local Government	Retired June 2017
	<b>Mike Reed</b> Independent Director	
	<b>Jake Quinlivan</b> Regional Executive Director, Big Rivers Region, Department of Chief Minister	Appointed July 2017
One Director elected by Community Members	<b>Stan Allen</b>	
Four Directors representing Indigenous Members	<b>Tony Jack</b> Mayor, Roper Gulf Shire Council, Garrawa Traditional Owner	
	<b>Samuel Evans</b> Marra Traditional Owner	Warren Timothy appointed a proxy for Samuel Evans
	<b>David Harvey</b> Yanyuwa Traditional Owner	Graham Friday appointed as a proxy for David Harvey
	<b>Allan Baker</b> Gurdanji representative	

We would like to acknowledge the tremendous contribution of Director, John de Koning. John joined the Trustee Board in December 2011 and retired from the Board and his public service career in June 2017. He was instrumental in the evolution of the Trust Secretariat function as a highly professional service provided by the Northern Territory Government as a Foundation Member. John was also influential in assisting the Trust to coordinate effectively with Northern Territory and Australian Government resources and activities. He has been succeeded by Jake Quinlivan, Regional Executive Director, Big Rivers Region for the Department of Chief Minister.

The four Directors representing Indigenous Members are nominated annually by the Board of MAWA as the representative body for the four language groups within the region. Darrin Hepworth of MAWA, attends and participates in the Board meetings as an ex-officio member and adviser to the Indigenous Directors.

## Board Meetings

A quorum for a meeting of Directors is 5 with at least two of the Directors present forming the quorum having been nominated by each of the Foundation Members.

### *Attendance at Board Meetings, 2017*

<i>Director</i>	<i>6 October 2016</i>	<i>30 November 2016 (AGM)</i>	<i>1 December 2016</i>	<i>29 March 2017</i>	<i>25 May 2017</i>	<i>Total meetings</i>
Greg Ashe		✓	✓	✓P	✓P	4
Paul Henderson	✓					1
John De Koning	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Mike Reed	✓	✓	✓	✓		4
Stan Allen		✓	✓	✓		3
Allan Baker		✓	✓			2
Tony Jack		✓				1
Sam Evans	✓	✓	✓		✓	4
David Harvey	✓P	✓P	✓P		✓	4
<i>Total attending</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>

Term of engagement as Director

✓ In attendance

✓P Proxy in attendance

There were three meetings during the year when a quorum was not present: October 2016, March and May 2017. No decisions were made in relation to new grant applications at these meetings. Any resolutions made were circulated to the absent directors for approval and ratified at the subsequent meetings. The August 2017 was attended by 7 Directors and decisions ratified at this meeting will form part of the 2018 financial year Annual Review.



### 3. Trust Activities

#### Management Services

##### Marketing

Since the Trust began operations, all information relating to its activities has been available online through the MRM website. During 2017, the Board decided that it was timely to start creating an independent identity for the Trust. As a result, a dedicated website was launched during the year. This site is at: [www.mrmcommunitytrust.com](http://www.mrmcommunitytrust.com). It provides information about the work of the Trust, case studies of successful programs, publications released including Annual Plans and Reviews, and all the forms and reference documentation required by organisations interested in submitting grant applications.

The new online presence followed a refresh of the Trust logo.

Local artist, Trust Director, and Gurdanji/Garrawa man, Allan Baker, painted the original artwork which has symbolised the Trust since its establishment.

McArthur River Mine  
**Community  
Benefits Trust**



*The original logo and painting by Allan Baker which formed the visual identity of the Trust*

This major work currently hangs in the passenger lounge of the McArthur River Airport. According to Allan, it is a self-expression about growing up on country and learning about bush tucker and features natural foods available on country in the Gulf region.

Allan has agreed to the redevelopment of the logo based on his original painting. The new design by a Darwin-based graphic designer and approved by Allan, draws out one element of the painting - the moth of the witchetty grub - which is a well-known bush tucker.



*Refreshed logo drawing on images from the original artwork*

In other marketing developments:

- A new dedicated noticeboard was commissioned for the front of the Malandari Store and Mabunji office in Borroloola to provide community information about Trust activities.
- New shirts displaying the Trust logo have been commissioned for the Trust Directors and officers as a way of visibly demonstrating the Trust's presence in the region.

### Project Visits

Board Members discussed the need and interest to visit projects and communities to talk about what the Trust does and opportunities for the future. A visit schedule to be aligned with Board meetings is being developed for the 2018 financial year.

### Constitutional Review

Board Members have considered the need for a review of the Trust Constitution in light of the evolution of the entity and its practical experience to date. It is considered good governance to ensure the Constitution remains a living, relevant document. Key questions have been raised regarding options for clarifying Director appointment, length and attendance, the potential for additional members and the roles and functions of committees. A Board Paper into the proposed Constitutional Review will be tabled with the Board for further discussion during 2018.

### Financial Reporting

After a competitive tender involving three consultancies, Deloitte was selected as accountants to the Trust and commenced their contract on 8 October 2016.

Subsequently, Deloitte recommended the adoption of QuickBooks as the preferred accounting software to support the Trust and this was accepted by the Board. This was an important initiative to improve financial reporting and better capture both grant expenditure and commitments in one report. It also enabled more informative summaries of income and expenditure reports. New methods of reporting to the Board have since been adopted to more clearly delineate grants approved, account for unexpended committed funds taking into consideration the milestone dates of grants approved and support better budgeting.

Significant work was also progressed on an Investment Policy to guide the Trust's future principles for funds management. This remained in progress at the date of this report and will be tabled with the Board for approval during the 2018 financial year.

### Reimbursement for Travel

A paper was tabled with the Board recognising that while travel reimbursement arrangements for local Board Members had previously been approved, the process for making these payments had not been formalised.

From October 2016, the confirmed process is:

- Community Directors will receive \$100 out-of-pocket expenses when attending a Board or Allocations and Investments Committee meeting unless:
  - o A Director is using their own vehicle to attend in which case the fee is replaced by a rate per kilometre travelled for local meetings or the equivalent return airfare for Darwin meetings
- The NT Government and MRM as the Foundation members, are responsible for the travel and associated costs for their respective representatives' and their nominated independent Directors and incurred while carrying out their duties as Directors of the Trust.

The payment process will be managed by Trust accountant, Deloitte.

## Strategic Planning

A workshop held with the Board on 22 June 2016 reviewed priorities under the three-year plan for 2016 - 2019. This plan was finalised in August 2016. The priorities identified for each focus area are summarised in the table below.

*Strategic Plan Priorities, 2016-2019*

Focus areas	Priorities
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved literacy</li> <li>- Teaching of traditional languages and cultural respect</li> <li>- Enabling greater school attendance</li> <li>- Promote individual educational bursaries</li> </ul>
Enterprise and job creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Undertake a local jobs mapping exercise to link school pathways to real work</li> <li>- Establish new small businesses: repairs and maintenance, tourism</li> </ul>
Arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a cultural centre in Borroloola as part of a tourism strategy</li> </ul>
Social and community development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish a local Indigenous Housing Company</li> <li>- Family support programs</li> <li>- Men's Group support: programs such as prison rehabilitation, counselling on country</li> <li>- Out of school hours program for youth</li> <li>- Young Leaders Program</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mental health facilities and counsellors</li> <li>- Train, develop and employ Aboriginal Health Workers</li> <li>- Capacity development for self-administered dialysis treatment</li> <li>- Chronic disease management initiatives</li> </ul>
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved regional coordination</li> </ul>

Other outcomes of the strategic planning session encouraged the Trust to consider the appointment of young people to roles which can add value to activities including:

- Youth Engagement Program
- Trust Secretariat Intern Program

In addition to informing the immediate, three-year plan for the Trust, the workshop outcomes have also been taken into consideration in a revision of the 20-Year Plan guiding the Trust. A consultant has been appointed by MRM to both undertake a review of the first 10 years of the Trust's performance and to revise the initial 20-Year Plan which was prepared in 2008 in consultation with the community. The analysis and revised plan will be tabled for the Board's consideration during the 2018 financial year.

### **Community Infrastructure Budget**

Between 2013 and 2015, significant work was progressed on the planned development of a Multipurpose Community Centre in Borroloola. While the Trust was intended to remain the owner of the land and buildings comprising the community centre, the search for an appropriately qualified operator which shared the vision of the Trust for the facility was not successful and accordingly, there were concerns regarding the facility's financial sustainability long term.

In 2015, the \$4.2 million allocated for this development was reserved in a separate financial account held by the Trust. The Board resolved to allocate this investment for other community infrastructure projects.

A concept for this investment identified a wide range of community-based infrastructure needing funding support and which were either defined by the Roper Gulf Regional Council strategic plan or proposed by community members. Integral to the success of the investment however, will be the potential to leverage these activities for vocational training and small business development.

As at the date of this report, consideration was still being undertaken of appropriate projects to be supported and options for their cost-effective implementation.

### **Grants - Ongoing Programs**

There were 12 programs approved and contracted in prior years that continued to be active during the 2017 financial year. The unexpended committed funds remaining on these substantial investments totalled \$1.6 million (ex GST). The most significant of these were:

- The completion of a long-term project to document the Yanyuwa language and culture which has been supported by the Trust during the past four years
- The commitment to support the construction of a new child care facility by Mabunji to which the Trust invested around \$1 million.

While the majority of these programs concluded in 2017, there remains a number of multi-year initiatives which are planned to end in 2018. This trend is indicative of the time lag which can occur between when a grant is approved and when the ultimate outcomes are achieved. Reports on each of these grants and provided in Appendix 1.

*Unexpended Committed Funds, as at 30 June 2016*

Financial Year approved	Program	Grant recipient	Focus area	Unexpended funds (ex GST)	Status
2013	Yanyuwa Dictionary	Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Assn Inc	Arts and Culture	\$3,000	Completed during 2017
2013	Barni Wardimantha Awara	Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Assn Inc	Enterprise and Job Creation	\$20,636	Project completed during 2017. Final payment of \$20,636 was rescinded due to consultancy ending early and the work not completed.
2014	Borroloola Community Pool	Roper Gulf Regional Council	Health	\$25,000	Completed November 2016
2015	4x4 Bus	Borroloola School	Education	\$106,909	Completed October 2017
2015	Wunala Creche	Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Assn Inc	Enterprise and Job Creation	\$966,319	Completed January 2017
2015	Breakfast Program	Borroloola School	Education	\$81,818	Three-year support from 2015 - 2018
2015	Kiana School Breakfast Program	Gulf Group Schools	Education	\$5,000	Three-year support from 2015 - 2018
2015	Gulf Health AFL Program	Gulf Health	Health	\$150,000	Program ended earlier than anticipated in 2017 and the final payment of \$90,000 was rescinded as the project was not completed in line with the grant.
2015	Borroloola Cultural Events and Arts Engagement Officer	Artback NT	Arts and Culture	\$41,300	This grant was fully expended in March 2017 and a new grant committed.
2015	Li-Ardubirri Playgroup	The Smith Family	Education	\$46,545	Two-year program ending January 2018
2016	Planning for better Health Outcomes	Menzies School of Health Research	Health	\$98,845	Final report delayed post June 2017. Final payment made in July 2017
2016	Robinson River Historical Project	MAWA	Arts and Culture	\$36,364	Completed February 2017
	<b>Total</b>			<b>\$1,581,736</b>	

## Grants - New Programs

### Allocations and Investment Committee

The Allocation and Investments Committee met during the year to discuss submissions received by the Trust. The Committee is comprised of the community-based Directors, the Project Officers and an MRM representative.

The role of the Allocations and Investment Committee is to review grant submissions, discuss their merits, assess them against community needs and provide a recommendation to the Board on whether to approve or decline the grant. The intent of the Committee is to provide a forum for debate and discussion, particularly among local Directors.

### Submission outcomes

A total of 9 submissions were reviewed by the Board during the financial year. Of these:

- 4 had been provisionally approved during 2016 Board Meetings however, due to a quorum not being present, they were ratified in 2017
- 4 were submitted during 2017 and approved for funding
- 1 was declined.

Interestingly, of the submissions received, eight were from organisations operating outside of the Gulf region illustrating the ability of the Trust to act as a catalyst in attracting the interest of Not-for-Profit Organisations to contribute to the community.

The following tables provide a summary of the submissions both approved and declined during 2017.

Appendix 1 contains reports on the activity undertaken by those grants which were completed during 2017.

**Grants - Approved Submissions 2017\***

<b>Financial Year approved</b>	<b>Project or Program</b>	<b>Grant recipient</b>	<b>Focus area</b>	<b>Value (ex GST)</b>	<b>Description</b>
2017	Limmen National Park - Protection of Rock Art	Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT	Arts and Culture	\$98,000	Second stage of a program to identify the rock art in the Limmen National Park in collaboration with Indigenous custodians of both the north and south regions of the park. Completed January 2017
2017	Upgrade of Old Police Station	National Trust	Arts and Culture	\$60,000	Renovations to a building which is home to a local museum and a venue for community events and exhibitions in conjunction with the Waralungku Arts Centre. Completed January 2017
2017	Shade structure	Borrooloola School	Education	\$118,181	A shade structure constructed adjacent to an existing undercover structure used for sports and school assemblies to provide overflow facilities. Completed December 2016
2017	Indi Kindi	Nangala Project	Education	\$90,000	An early literacy and numeracy program for children under six years of age.
2017	Remote Arts and Culture Program	Artback NT	Arts and Culture	\$300,681	Develop and grow ongoing programs that meet the Arts & Culture needs of the Borrooloola region. The grant provides for ongoing employment of Marlene Timothy to deliver a range of programs including the Malandari Festival.
2017	JMF Scholarship program	Nangala Project	Education	\$36,000	Grant to support 5 children from the region showing exceptional sporting ability and an aptitude and commitment towards schooling to remain in the JMF program until the end of the 2016 school year.
2017	Cancer Awareness out bush	Cancer Council Northern Territory Inc.	Health	\$3,270	An education program to be delivered in the region to inform on what is cancer; how to reduce the risks; how to detect cancer; what to do if diagnosed or supporting others.
2017	John Moriarty Football Program	Nangala Project	Health	\$90,000	Soccer Program with a focus on a positive impact for Indigenous children in the region through engaging in sport, education and healthy lifestyle.
	<b>Total</b>			<b>\$796,132</b>	

*\*Note: These are grants which have been approved by the Trust Board but may in some cases, still need to have Funding Agreements finalised. Once Funding Agreements are approved, tracking of unexpended committed funds by Deloitte is reported quarterly to the Trust Board.*



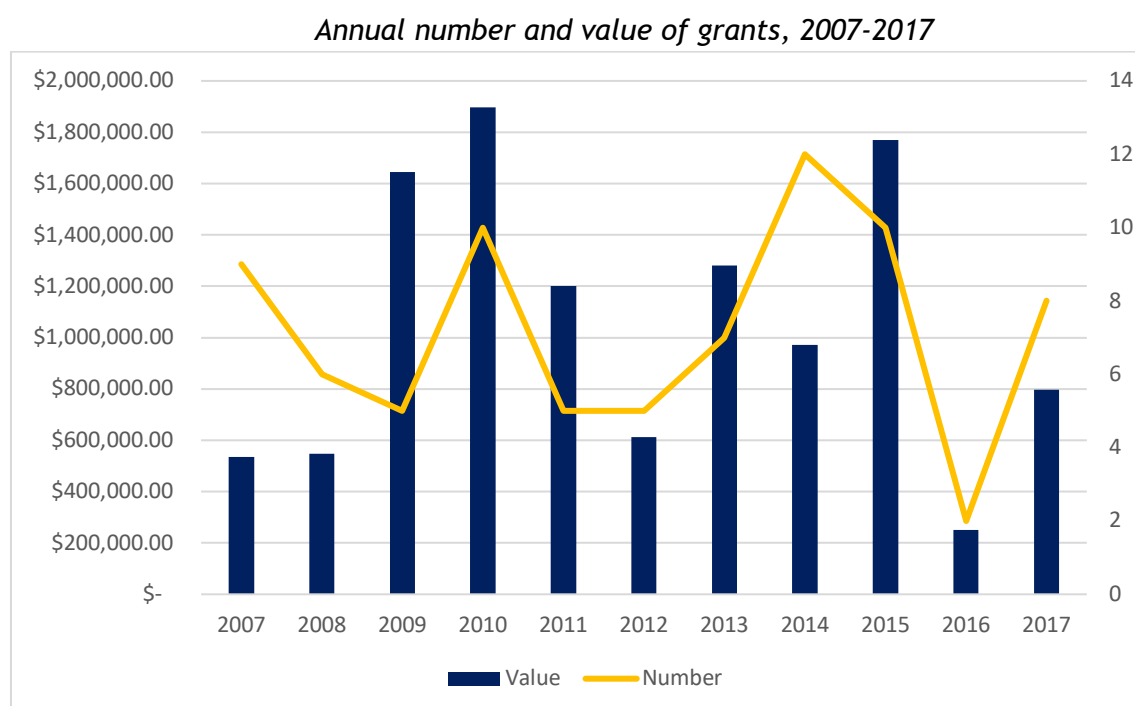
**Grants - Declined Submissions 2017**

Financial Year declined	Project or Program	Grant recipient	Focus area	Value (ex GST)	Description
2017	World Indigenous Peoples Conference, Canada	Artback NT	Arts and Culture	\$15,749	Grant to support a local representative to attend the World Indigenous Peoples conference on Education in Toronto Canada. Members did not support this application as the benefits to the community and budget were not clear and there was potential to use funding from the existing three-year grant already approved to subsidise travel.

## Grants - Allocation against Focus Areas

### Annual Investment

During the 2017 financial year, both the number and value of grants approved was greater than annual averages. As previously indicated, 13 grants were approved with a total commitment of \$2.8 million (ex GST). These included four grants initially presented in 2016 and ratified in 2017. The result compares to averages of 7.6 grants valued at \$1.2 million per annum. As shown in the graph below, there is typically wide variation from year to year due to variables such as the capacity of local organisations, time lags between project development, approval and delivery, and the influence of major projects.



The new grants approved in 2017 cover 3 of the 6 focus areas of the Trust and are divided as follows.

### *New Grants by Focus Area and Value, 2017*

Focus areas	No. grants	Total grant value (ex GST)	% of total
Enterprise and job creation	-	-	-
Education	3	\$244,181	30.7%
Environment	-	-	-
Health	2	\$93,270	11.7%
Art and culture	3	\$458,681	57.6%
Social and community development	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$796,132</b>	<b>100.0</b>

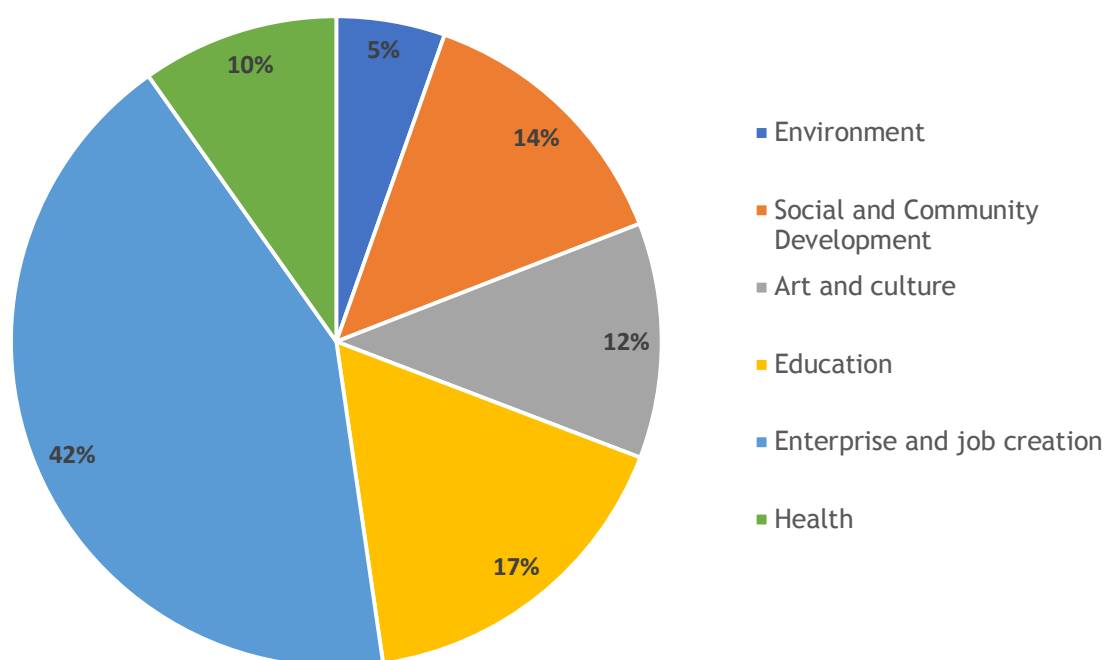
## Trust History

The 2017 results bring the total number of grants approved since the formation of the Trust to 83 and the total value committed to \$13.4 million (ex GST). The allocation of all grants since the establishment of the Trust is demonstrated below.

*Grants by Focus Area and Value, 2007-2017*

Focus area	No. of grants	Value of grants ( ex GST)	% of total value
Art and culture	17	\$1,568,522	11.7
Education	13	\$2,271,726	16.9
Enterprise and job creation	28	\$5,709,786	42.5
Health	13	\$1,311,156	9.8
Environment	4	\$723,558	5.4
Social and community development	8	\$1,844,644	13.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>\$13,429,392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Grants as a Percentage of Total Commitments, 2007 - 2017*



## 4. Financial Report

### Financial Indicators

The Special Purpose Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2017 was prepared by Deloitte, independently audited Ernst & Young and approved by the Trust Board at the Annual General Meeting in December 2017.

For completeness, Appendix 2 provides the Special Purpose Financial Report including all notes to the accounts. Commentary on the key financial indicators is summarised as follows.

#### *Key financial indicators, as at 30 June 2017*

Indicator	2017	2016	% change
Revenue	\$2,486,268	\$429,420	479%
Funding expenditure	\$875,407	\$301,523	190%
Operating expenses	\$50,443	\$70,767	(29%)
Surplus for the year	\$1,652,410	\$130,656	1165%
Cash and Bank Balances	\$8,338,366	\$7,728,608	8%
Accumulated surplus	\$3,654,535	\$2,002,125	82%

#### Revenue

The sole source on income for the Trust was the annual donation by McArthur River Mining Pty Ltd. During the year, this donation represented two years' contribution for 2016 and 2017. All contributions by MRM are in line with compliance requirements.

#### Surplus

The substantial increase in the surplus during the year by 1165% was a result of a number of factors:

- higher than budgeted revenue from MRM as noted above
- increased investment income which rose by 25% from \$73,526 in 2016 to \$91,992 in 2017 due to rising cash and bank balances
- the 29% reduction in operating expenses compared with 2016 and equivalent to less than 2% of total revenue.

Importantly, this surplus was achieved after the payment of funding expenditure of \$875,407 during the year. This was 190% greater than the value of payments made in 2016 of \$301,523 and reflected the final payments made for a number of multi-year programs completed in 2017.

## Cash and Bank Balances

The Cash and Bank Balances of \$8.3 million represents the benefit of both accumulated surpluses, which rose by 82% to \$3.6 million in 2017, and income received in advance for the Multipurpose Community Centre (\$4.2 million) which is now reserved for community infrastructure developments.

It places the Trust in a strong financial position to consider supporting major projects, honour investments already approved and continue to allocate a high percentage of annual revenue to grant funding.

## **Financial and Non-Financial Contributions**

The operating expenses of the Trust have been able to be sustained at a low percentage of revenue due to the contributions of MRM and the NT Government in providing management services for the Trust. The Project Officer role is performed by a consultancy appointed by MRM. The Secretariat function is provided by the NT Government.

### *Management services provided by MRM and NT Government*

<b>Project Officer</b>	<b>Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Grant management - submissions, contracts, reporting, monitoring</li><li>- Community consultation and engagement</li><li>- New program/project development</li><li>- Allocations and Investments Committee management</li><li>- Database management - grants, stakeholders</li><li>- Information management - submissions, reports, studies, photographs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Administrative support for all Board meetings</li><li>- Correspondence</li><li>- Tracking Board activities and clarifying issues on request</li><li>- Governance of the Trust - statutory returns and financial reports</li><li>- Financial and investment management</li><li>- Data and information management</li></ul>

As required under section 10.3(b) of the Agreement between MRM and the NT Government for the establishment of the Trust, the following tables provide details in relation to MRM's financial and non-financial contributions for the financial year. The total contribution by MRM during 2017 was valued at \$2.6 million.

### *MRM Financial and Non-Financial Contributions, 2017*

<b>Financial contribution</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
Annual commitment	MRM's annual contribution to the Trust	\$2,486,268
Board travel costs	Flights and Accommodation costs	\$6,825
<b>Non-financial contribution</b>		
Project Officer	Operational, travel and accommodation costs incurred by project staff (not including the consulting value)	\$139,661
Meeting Support	Catering, transport and meeting costs incurred by Trust activities at MRM and in Borroloola	\$16,700

## **Distributions**

As previously indicated, there were 12 grant programs continuing from previous years and many have now been completed. In addition, payments have begun to be made for 6 of the new grants approved in 2017 in line with their milestone schedules and project timelines. A summary of the distributions made to grant recipients during the year is provided in the following table.

*Distribution of grant funding, 1 July 2016 - 30 June 2017*

Financial Year approved	Program	Grant recipient	Focus area	2017 Distribution (ex GST)
2014	Borrooloola Community Pool	Roper Gulf Regional Council	Health	\$25,000
2015	4x4 Bus	Borrooloola School	Education	\$106,909
2015	Wunala Creche	Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Assn Inc	Enterprise and Job Creation	\$966,319
2015	Breakfast Program	Borrooloola School	Education	\$40,908
2015	Kiana School Breakfast Program	Gulf Group Schools	Education	\$4,091
2015	Gulf Health AFL Program	Gulf Health	Health	\$68,182
2015	Borrooloola Cultural Events and Arts Engagement Officer	Artback NT	Arts and Culture	\$30,000
2015	Li-Ardubirri Playgroup	The Smith Family	Education	\$40,910
2016	Shade structure	Borrooloola School	Education	\$118,182
2016	Planning for better Health Outcomes	Menzies School of Health Research	Health	\$98,845
2016	Robinson River Historical Project	MAWA	Arts and Culture	\$27,273
2017	Limmen National Park - Protection of Rock Art	Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT	Arts and Culture	\$98,000
2017	Upgrade of Old Police Station	National Trust	Arts and Culture	\$60,000
2017	Indi Kindi	Nangala Project	Education	\$70,000
2017	Remote Arts and Culture Program	Artback NT	Culture and Arts	\$45,455
2017	JMF Scholarship program	Nangala Project	Education	\$36,000
2017	John Moriarty Football Program	Nangala Project	Health	\$90,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$1,926,074</b>

## 5. Impact on the Community

### Key Performance Measures

Key performance measures were established under the 2013 Annual Plan to assess performance against commitments and priorities.

Area	Measures	Status
Governance	Compliance obligations met for MRM investment	✓
	Obligations for reporting met	✓
	Obligations for consultation met	✓
Investment	Percentage of available funds committed (ie MRM annual contribution) to grant programs >85%	✓ 224%
	Percentage of funding spent on administration costs <5%	✓ <2%
	Spread of grant funding across the region	✓
	Performance against priorities and needs	✓
Project outcomes	Outcomes of grant investments based on project reports	✓

#### Legend:

- ✓ Delivered
- X Not progressed
- Work continuing

## Action Against Priorities

The *Strategic Plan Priorities, 2016-2019* set out preferences arising from both community consultation and the Board's strategic workshop held in June 2016. In addition, the Trust Agreement sets out commitments for the life of the Trust.

Both sets of priorities are summarised in the following table along with a brief commentary on the status of action taken during 2017. Overall, it demonstrates that the Trust is continuing to act in line with the preferred needs of the community and its overarching objectives.

Focus areas and Commitments	Priorities	Status	Action taken
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved literacy</li> <li>- Teaching of traditional languages and cultural respect</li> <li>- Enabling greater school attendance</li> <li>- Promote individual educational bursaries</li> </ul>	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation to the Board by the new Principal of Borroloola School to discuss literacy and numeracy objectives and inform project planning</li> <li>- Continued liaison with Mabunji regarding the Keeping and Sharing Place which was intended to be a venue for cultural education</li> <li>- 3 grant programs to support school attendance with transport and nutrition</li> <li>- 5 scholarships awarded</li> </ul>
Enterprise and job creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Undertake a local jobs mapping exercise to link school pathways to real work</li> <li>- Establish new small businesses: repairs and maintenance, tourism</li> </ul>	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ongoing discussions with Borroloola School regarding trade training facilities and alignment to local jobs</li> <li>- Ongoing support for cultural and eco-tourism ventures</li> </ul>
Arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a cultural centre in Borroloola as part of a tourism strategy</li> </ul>	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Significant progress made with grant programs supporting the identification of cultural assets and preserving language, stories and dance</li> <li>- Previous investments in the proposed Keeping and Sharing Place to be considered with new knowledge as part of a tourism strategy in 2018</li> </ul>
Social and community development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish local Indigenous Housing Company</li> <li>- Family support programs</li> <li>- Men's Group support: programs such as prison rehabilitation, counselling on country</li> <li>- Out of school hours program for youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→</li> <li>✓</li> <li>✓</li> <li>✓</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NT Government commitment to local housing development announced during 2017 with work scheduled to commence in 2018</li> <li>- Family support programs offered in association with Indi Kindi and The Smith Family playgroups as well as Wanula Creche</li> <li>- Limmen National Park and Robinson River historical project will inform future programs to deliver counselling and men's health programs on country.</li> <li>- Services to be delivered through the major investment in the Sport and Recreation Centre will include an out of school hours program for youth.</li> </ul>



	- Young Leaders Program	X	
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mental health facilities and counsellors</li> <li>- Train, develop and employ Aboriginal Health Workers</li> <li>- Capacity development for self-administered dialysis treatment</li> <li>- Chronic disease management initiatives</li> </ul>	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Major study commissioned with Menzies Health to investigate priorities and recommend strategies for addressing health issues within the community including those identified previously as priorities. The final report from this study will inform future planning for health funding and is expected to be received in 2018.</li> </ul>
Environment	- Improved regional coordination	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two-year program in partnership with NT Parks and Wildlife Commission will inform future planning for regional coordination of an eco-tourism strategy and support new initiatives in relation to caring for country</li> <li>- Major program to support the Yanyuwa Indigenous Protected Area including a business plan identifying various resources available to support further investment was completed in 2017.</li> </ul>
MRM target of 20% workforce participation		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MRM has not submitted a funding proposal to request Trust support for Indigenous employment programs at the mine.</li> <li>- Importantly however, previous programs supported by the Trust have helped generate a culture, awareness, capability and interest in employment at MRM</li> <li>- As at 30 June 2017, 16.7% of MRM's permanent workforce identified as Indigenous.</li> </ul>
One new local business per annum to supply a product or service to the mine	Ongoing priority to provide support for the business planning and establishment of a new business to be identified based on mine procurement needs.	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuing discussions with the Gurdanji people regarding a potential Ranger Group as a business to provide cultural heritage services to MRM</li> <li>- Other opportunities identified in the Draft EIS Overburden Management Project and subject to further planning by MRM with the community</li> </ul>

**Legend:**

- ✓ Delivered
- X Not progressed
- Work continuing

## Appendix 1: Grant Reports

Grant Recipient	Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association Inc
Program	Yanyuwa Dictionary
Grant duration	2013 - 2016

*Wuka nya-nganunga li-Yanyuwa li-Anthawirriyarra - Language for Us, The Yanyuwa Saltwater People*, by Australian Scholarly Publishing, is a two volume compilation of the history and language of the Yanyuwa people of the Sir Edward Pellew Islands.

Written by anthropologist John Bradley of Monash University and in collaboration with Yanyuwa men and women, it is the culmination of three decades work to document and preserve this critically endangered language.

Volume 1 includes a general history of Yanyuwa people and language and a detailed survey of all people that have worked on the Yanyuwa language from 1888 to 2014. It includes a large number of bilingual interlinear texts covering a large array of subjects from the first white people in the area, historical events such as the Hong Kong flu epidemic, second world war and various cultural matters. These texts range from those collected by anthropologists, Kirton, Hale and Reay in the 1950s and 1960s to those collected by Monash ranging from 1980 to 2014. There is also a section on Yanyuwa song poetry with over 100 poems in language and English as well a section on Yanyuwa sign language.

The second volume contains the dictionary and grammar of the language from Yanyuwa to English. The two volumes can work together or as independent volumes. Volume 1 was printed in October 2016 with Volume 2 produced in 2017.

This is one of the largest documentations of any Indigenous language in Australia.

The dictionary was launched in Borroloola and has been distributed to Yanyuwa family members, community organisations and other groups involved in the publication. It is for sale either in Borroloola or online.

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association Inc and Li-Anthawirriyarra Sea Ranger Unit</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Barni Wardimantha Awara Yanyuwa Indigenous Protected Area Consultancy</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2013 - 2016</b>

After a land claim of over thirty years standing, Yanyuwa families have seen ownership of their country acknowledged under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act (1976). This country, the Yanyuwa ancestral domain, encompasses most of the Sir Edward Pellew archipelago as well as substantial delta, riverine and mainland areas in the south west Gulf of Carpentaria.



Since the successful prosecution of these claims, the families have sought some form of viable economic foundation from which to secure an employment future for their children whilst at the same time ensuring the maintenance of the region's abundant cultural and natural values. The result was the Yanyuwa Country Plan of Management, developed in 2011, to outline how the Yanyuwa would manage their land and sea country as an Indigenous Protected Area.

Since the successful prosecution of these claims, the families have sought some form of viable economic foundation from which to secure an employment future for their children whilst at the same time ensuring the maintenance of the region's abundant cultural and natural values. The result was the Yanyuwa Country Plan of Management, developed in 2011, to outline how the Yanyuwa would manage their land and sea country as an Indigenous Protected Area.

In July 2011, the Trust approved a grant of \$58,500 to support a consultant's help in actioning the Plan of Management. In September 2012, a further \$103,500 was provided to due to the large scope of the work required.

The work includes researching and trialling ecotourism opportunities, preparing submissions for funding proposals and developing partnerships for infrastructure such as Black Rock Landing. It also includes strategic land and sea management planning and the development of a business plan.

By December 2013, basic buildings and infrastructure were in place at Black Rock Landing and select island sites, and a small income stream from the levy of camping fees was being generated and held in trust on behalf of the Yanyuwa families for reinvestment over following years.

The Centre Island operational base/education centre was been established, eliminating the need for the Sea Rangers to commute between the mainland.

A further two-year grant of \$227,000 was made to Mabunji in August 2013 to extend this work into developing small scale, low impact economic enterprises to provide an income stream and employment opportunities to support appropriate environmental management and monitoring activities. This supported:

- Development of a prospectus to broker additional partnerships, funding and investment
- Reviewing and refining existing business models

- Additional research into business expansion possibilities and infrastructure refurbishment
- Construction of new accommodation and facilities at Jawuma
- A trial of cultural tours from Jawuma and Black Rock Landing and to Barranyi National Park on North Island.

A planned cultural tourism strategy and enterprise model around the proposed cultural interpretation centre did not proceed due to the early departure of the consultant on the contract.





Grant Recipient	Nangala Project
Program	Indi Kindi
Grant duration	2013 - 2016

The Nangala Project is a not-for-profit initiative with a vision to create an environment for sustainable change to benefit children and youth in remote Indigenous communities. The Nangala Project delivers two programs in Borroloola and Robinson River: Indi Kindi and John Moriarty Football. This report provides information on the outcomes of three-year programs completed in the calendar year of 2016 but funded in previous years.

Indi Kindi is an early literacy and numeracy program for children under six years of age which improves the global learning readiness of children entering pre-school and school. A best practice early literacy program is delivered to help break the cycle of Indigenous disadvantage.

The program has been delivered in Borroloola for the past 3 years with the support of the Trust and other funding contributors. Indi Kindi is delivered every weekday in school terms in both Borroloola and Robinson River. It is open to all children between 0 and 5 years, their parents and relatives. The program targets a number of key input areas to child development and school readiness including:

- Daily weekday sessions in school terms focussing on development of pre-literacy skills through reading, music, movement and culture
- Nutrition - nutritious food is provided at the sessions and help build knowledge and capability through staff training for daily food preparation and cooking activities
- Parental wellbeing - Indi Kindi seeks to improve parental wellbeing and therefore, child development, through regular culture and well-being days which offer healthy social connection and opportunities for relaxed parent and child interactions in a cultural context. Activities include cooking traditional recipes, cultural sharing with elders, exploring country and fishing.



Though Indi Kindi is an independent program, it has a long-term partnership with Borroloola and Robinson River Schools and James Cook University which is undertaking a longitudinal study of the program.

It is one of three mobile services in Borroloola and the only one in Robinson River. This gives children multiple days of services weekly and greater access to early childhood learning. A service operated by The Smith Family for the Borroloola School is coordinated with Indi Kindi to optimise schedules and joint activities where possible. Families as First Teachers focus on delivering services to outstations and therefore a different geographical area to the other two programs.

The outcomes targeted are:

1. Improved early literacy skills and school readiness
2. Increased community wellbeing and social participation
3. Improved access to education/training and employment in Indi Kindi.





<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Nangala Project</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>John Moriarty Football</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2013 - 2016</b>

JM Football has been delivered in Borrooloola for the past 3 years and with the support of the Trust and other funding contributors. The program is aimed at engaging Indigenous youth aged between 6 and 16 years in a sporting program which can be a vehicle for change. Gains in education, healthier lifestyles and participation in sport can be made through this program allowing children to aspire to a brighter future. The program aims to provide opportunity to children displaying talent which could lead them on an alternative pathway.

The program has established partnerships with the Robinson River School, Roper Gulf Shire Sports and Recreation, Football Federation of Australia and Professional Footballers Australia.

As at January 2016 there were 197 children enrolled in the program across Borrooloola and Robinson River. They participate in:

- After school football training and games in Borrooloola
- In school programs at Robinson River
- Tournaments twice a term in Borrooloola
- Multi-sport school holiday programs.

Of these, 25 players participate in the Advanced Group identified to train more frequently based on a higher intensity of the FFA curriculum and are eligible for selection in FFNT and NT Schools representative teams.





During the year, there were concerns raised by the Borroloola School about how children are selected to participate in JM Soccer. The concerns are in potentially rewarding children who are not good attenders at school or have behavioural issues while penalising others whose behaviour and non-attendance may be caused through underlying issues and not the will of the child.

The program employs 2 local staff as coaches and has trained 8 senior school students and 30 high school students in the FFA Grassroots Training Certificate.



<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Roper Gulf Shire Council</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Borrooloola Pool Maintenance</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2014 - 2016</b>

Concluding in 2016, a three-year grant provided Roper Gulf Shire Council with the financial resources to cover the cost of consumables and utilities (power and water) for the more than 15,000 swimmers welcomed each year through the pool gates.

This supports the operation of the Borrooloola Swimming Pool Complex as it develops its sustainability as a business enterprise, providing employment and health objectives within the community.

In 2017, a further grant of \$60,000 was approved for the installation of new pool cleaners, shade structure and artificial turf and to purchase play equipment.



<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Borrooloola School Council</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>4x4 Bus</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2015 - 2016</b>

This grant supported the purchase of a four-wheel drive bus during the year to provide transport to students who are otherwise unable to come to school during the wet season. The bus will also be utilised by the Family as First Teachers program. Under a Memorandum of Understanding with Mabunji, the bus was transferred to the organisation to be shared for community use, specifically for transporting elderly ladies to the Waralungku Arts Centre.



Grant Recipient	Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association Inc
Program	Wanula Creche
Grant duration	2015 - 2017

The Wanula Creche has traditionally accommodated a maximum of 20 children in an old building which the Trust has previously supported by funding ablution facilities and fencing.

This grant approved in 2015, supported the construction of a new \$2.6 million (inc GST) child care centre to which the Trust contributed 42% or \$1.1 million. Other funding contributions were received from DEEWR (\$600,000) and Mabunji (\$600,000) and Aboriginal Benefits Account (\$275,000).

The new centre was opened in January 2017. It has the capacity to cater for more than 30 children and increases the opportunity for Borroloola residents to seek employment. The benefits are:

- Formal crèche education encouraging children to foster a love of learning prior to attending primary school
- Full and part time job opportunities for approximately 10 local people
- Contract employment in the construction, landscaping and fencing of the development.



Grant Recipient	Borroloola School Council
Program	Breakfast Program
Grant duration	2015 - 2018

The Trust has supported the School Breakfast Program in Borroloola since 2012. Children who are not hungry focus better and absorb more information when placed in a learning environment. While the program certainly addresses nutritional objectives, the longevity of the two staff employed in the program has also enabled relationships to be developed as that team members can observe behaviour, note absences and follow up families to encourage school attendance where necessary.



In the 2017 financial year, attendance ranged from 70 to 100 students and 15 to 20 adults daily. The peak day was in Term 2 when 112 students attended the breakfast program out of a total of 184 students who attended school that day.

This has achieved significant growth compared to the early years of the program. For example, in 2013, it was reported that an average of 50 students and 6 adults attended daily.

The Breakfast Club has become a hub for the school first thing in the morning with children gathered around laughing and enjoying breakfast and showing good behaviour and manners.

The program runs from 7.00am - 8.30am daily during the school week. The breakfast includes cereals, toasts, fresh fruit, cheese and hot egg muffins or scrambled eggs. Beef and chicken stews are also offered in the cooler months. In Term 2, an emergency lunch program was also supported for children with no food. This was carefully monitored and followed up by staff and was considered a successful trial which guaranteed children had something to eat.

Working with local suppliers to provide meat, fruit and vegetables ensures the Trust funding is spent within the local community where possible.



<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Gulf Group Schools</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Kiana School Breakfast Program</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2015 - 2018</b>

The Kiana School supports a small community of six houses which accommodate the employees of Kiana Pastoral Station and their families. The program offered at this school is similar to the one in Borroloola in that it helps ensure students start the day with a healthy breakfast and are ready to learn.

During 2017, the school reported an attendance rate of 50.5% amongst the 12 students enrolled. They receive breakfast daily of cereal or porridge in winter. They also participate in Friday lunch which is prepared and eaten by the students and can include Asian stir fry, fried rice, pasta, pizza, chicken drumsticks, pancakes or toasties. Student birthdays are celebrated with a cake sometimes also cooked by the children.



In addition to the Breakfast program, the grant also supports the school garden which generates fresh produce used in meal preparation. This was expanded during the year with the addition of fruit trees - mandarin, orange and mulberry (pictured below).



At the end of each semester a community barbeque for families and Kiana Pastoral Station workers is held providing an opportunity to share a meal. Students receive their school reports at the event which is followed by a disco. All food is prepared with fresh produce from the school's garden including lettuce, herbs, chillies and eggplant.

The key challenge for the school is its sustainability. Each of the local families has an average of three school aged children. If a family leaves the community, a large percentage of the school's students leaves too.

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Gulf Health</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Gulf Health AFL Program</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2015 - 2017</b>

In 2014, the Trust approved the first grant to support the establishment of an AFL program in Borroloola and Robinson River for senior and junior teams. In partnership with the NT AFL, the program would provide for up to 5 teams to compete locally as well as the establishment of a regional team to compete in the Katherine competition. The aim was to offer positive, social and sporting activities within the community and support the employment of two part-time casual assistance development officers.

The grant also provided funds to assist with the purchase of a four-wheel drive bus which would both transport competitors and be available for other community uses.

The Trust agreed to support the program in two stages: \$200,000 (ex GST) for the first year and a second grant of \$150,000 for the second year approved in 2015. Ultimately however, this second year did not commence until 2016 due to issues with the program and its funding.

Subsequently, the sponsoring local body, Gulf Health, experienced financial difficulties, losing its charity and tax status and being wound up in early 2017. One of its partners, Mungoorbada Aboriginal Corporation also experienced financial difficulties.

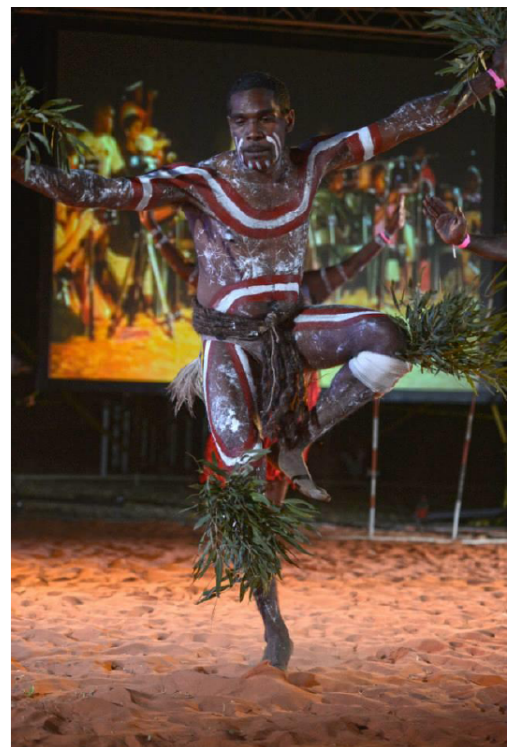
The AFL program will not be continuing and a final acquittal and report of deliverables has been requested for final payments to be made.

Grant Recipient	Artback NT
Program	Arts Development and Touring
Grant duration	2015 - 2017

The fifth annual Malandari Festival was held in 2017, building on the success of this traditional dance event for which 95% of the programming is managed locally in Borroloola. The Trust supported the establishment of this event through an initial grant in 2013 which brought the Indigenous Traditional Dance Project to Borroloola.

The Trust is continuing to support the initiative through a grant which enables:

- Development of the event program for 2017 and 2018
- Employment of one part time local Remote Arts and Culture Program Coordinator and administrative support as required
- Development of cultural and artistic content to be showcased at the festival through workshops and new works commissions
- Mentoring support and capacity building for local community members to deliver arts based programs.



The aims are to:

- Show how culture can be maintained through professional performing arts opportunities
- Develop sustainable business strategies for cultural tourism
- Preserve culture through dance and through learning opportunities between elders and youth.



*Chooky Dancers perform as the headlining act. Photo by Wayne Quilliam*



*Photo of Borroloola children dancers and family by Wayne Quilliam.*



Grant Recipient	The Smith Family
Program	Li-Ardubirri Playgroup
Grant duration	2015 - 2018

The Smith Family conducts a mobile playgroup which visits the town camps in Borrooloola and offers learning programs for babies to 4-year olds. The playgroup policy is that no child can attend without a responsible adult which ensures parents and carers are also supported.

In early 2017, damage to each of the playgrounds at the town camps caused by Cyclone Alfred meant that playgroup programs were rescheduled to a safe, shaded location provided by Mabunji. Extended sorry business within the community also affected family participation.

As a result, regular playgroup activities commenced in May 2017 so the numbers participating were impacted in the first half of the calendar year. While 64 children and 57 parents/carers participated in the playgroups in multiple visits during the first half of the year, these numbers rose to 139 children and 55 parents in the second half of the year. In comparison, 263 children and 153 parents regularly participated in playgroups during the 2016 calendar year.

The benefit of the Mabunji facility however, was that playgroup hours were increased from 4 to 5 hours daily creating benefits for working parents as well as playgroup carers. Feedback received from staff indicated the additional hour provides a financial incentive to be employed at the playgroup rather than receive government benefits.

The Smith Family also continued to offer a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care through Batchelor Institute in Borrooloola. Training was provided for 21 local staff of the three early childhood organisations in Borrooloola: Li-Ardubirri Playgroup, Indi Kindi and Wanula Creche. This allowed a larger group of local women all studying the same course to come together regularly, support and learn from each other and progress. Batchelor Institute provided a visiting lecturer on a monthly basis and also employs a local tutor (the Li-Ardubirri Playgroup Coordinator) to support the students.

The original intent was that students would complete this course in 2 years - the standard for students with well developed literacy in the English language. However, literacy difficulties and work demands have led The Smith Family to revise planning and plan for a 3 year completion period instead.

The playgroup has the support of the Borrooloola School, preschool and other government and support agencies in the community. During the year, other activities facilitated by the playgroup in conjunction with other partners were:

- A 'Learn to Swim' program introduced at the Borrooloola Community Pool in conjunction with the Roper Gulf Shire Sport and Recreation team. This successful program required playgroup staff to obtain additional qualifications in First Aid and Lifesaving.
- Partnering with the Roper Gulf Shire during school holiday breaks to provide vacation care for older and young children
- "Turtle Day" attended by babies, toddlers, preschool and Year 1 and 2 students from Borrooloola School at the river bank

- Activities with families in the lead up to the Malandari Festival, a dance festival within the community
- “Celebrate Kids”, an annual community event focussed on early childhood.

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Menzies School of Health Research</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Planning for Better Health Outcomes</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2016 - 2018</b>

This project was approved in the 2016 financial year and commenced in 2017. The aim is to assist the community to develop a long-term health action and investment plan.

The *Planning for Better Health Borroloola Action and Investment Plan* draws on international, national and Territory research, policy and evidence-based best practice as well as information provided by community respondents through stakeholder meetings and face-to-face interviews.

A draft report was received in April 2017 and is the subject of ongoing discussion with the Trust and NT Health regarding the implications for health planning. Specifically, it identifies five priority areas to assess future funding activity:

Priority area	Key health issues
1. Healthy start to life	Perinatal mortality, low-birthweight, alcohol and pregnancy, smoking and pregnancy, breastfeeding
2. Healthy childhood	Childhood anaemia and vaccinations, child obesity and nutrition, bush foods
3. Healthy transition to adulthood	Sexually transmissible infections, early intervention mental health, physical activity and bodyweight, tobacco use, alcohol use, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health KPIs
4. Social emotional wellbeing	Self-harm, suicide prevention, culturally and gender appropriate mental health services
5. Addressing chronic conditions	Kidney disease, diabetes and dialysis, cancer, cardiovascular including rheumatic heart disease, respiratory disease, communicable diseases
Social determinants of health findings	Environmental health, housing and overcrowding

The report is being updated with Census information and data from the NT Department of Health before being finalised in 2018.

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>MAWA</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Robinson River Historical Project</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2016 - 2018</b>

This project aims to collate ancestral knowledge and history passed onto the current Garrawa community to utilise for sharing of knowledge and history and potential tourism interest. It has involved:

- Collation and editing of digital material
- Consultation with the Robinson River community.

The project will be completed in 2018.

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Borroloola School Council</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Shade Structure</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2016</b>

A shade structure was constructed in late 2016 adjacent to an existing undercover structure used for sports and school assemblies. The structure provides shade to a new playground area and also provides overflow facility for large school gatherings.

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Limmen National Park Protection of Rock Art Sites</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2016 - 2017</b>

A two-year program to identify the rock art in the Limmen National Park was conducted by the parks managers in the Limmen Gulf region in collaboration with Indigenous custodians of both the north and south regions of the park.

This important project aimed to:

- Complete protection works and archaeological studies of rock art sites
- Employ and train local people in the management of the sites
- Transfer knowledge between Traditional Owners, National Parks staff and the consulting archaeologist
- Map the rock art sites to support future planning for opening tourism in the region.

The sense of partnership, trust and shared interest in conservation and management of the Park's remarkable cultural assets has grown considerably as a result.

The support of the Trust enabled custodians to rekindle connections to country and engage a new generation with the powerful and enduring Indigenous heritage of Limmen National Park - heritage expressed not just in rock art but in the continuing cultural frame within which the art is best understood and managed.

The sacred significance of a number of sites for the continuing ceremonial life of Gulf Indigenous people has been highlighted and a conversation begun to provide appropriate management and protection to preserve cultural integrity at those sites.

In all, 53 sites have been recorded through the survey. Field work in 2015 and early in 2016 was focused on site recording. The focus on the interpretation of the material occurred subsequently in 2016 and is captured in a detailed report including locations and images.

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>National Trust</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Upgrade of Old Police Station</b>
<b>Grant duration</b>	<b>2016 - 2017</b>

This grant supported further renovations to a building which is home to a local museum and was extensively damaged in Cyclone Kathy in 1985. Renovation works were completed in end of 2016 and the building is now a venue for community events and exhibitions in conjunction with the Waralungku Arts Centre.

Local contractor in Borroloola, Cairns Industries, undertook the renovation work which replaced walls, ceilings, floors and joinery, installed air conditioning, enabled pest control treatments, installed or upgraded electricals and lighting, and involved painting all exposed surfaces.



## APPENDIX 2. SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT