

# Inspire

SPRING 2016 EDITION



“Never see a need without doing something about it”



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE

When I arrived at university in 1974, there was just one Aboriginal student enrolled on campus. This reflected the **vast inequality between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians** and, sadly, huge disadvantage remains.

And yet, despite the negative news headlines, progress is being made. A growing number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are attending university and excelling. People like Tara Liddy (pictured right).

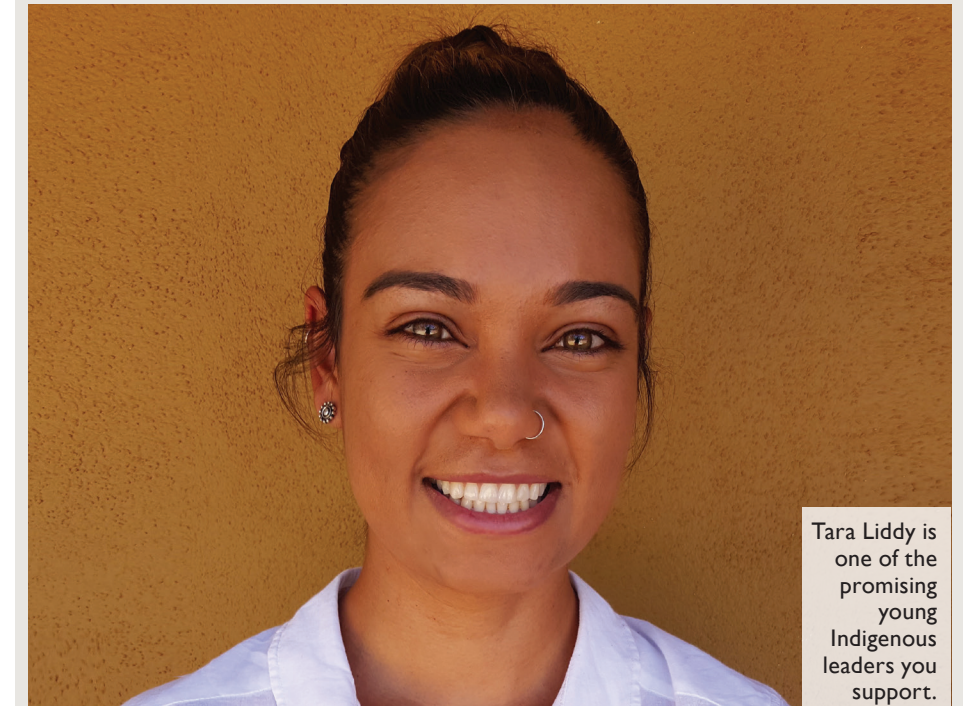
**Tara is one of 86 Indigenous people you have helped to pursue their studies in law, medicine, health sciences and the arts** through our scholarship program. I can't wait to see what Tara goes on to achieve!

Your commitment to continuing Mary MacKillop's work tells me **our 'fair go' culture is alive and well** – but it can only continue while you are dedicated to making a difference.

Thank you.



Maree Whybourne  
CEO, Mary MacKillop Foundation



Tara Liddy is one of the promising young Indigenous leaders you support.

## INDIGENOUS STUDENT HELPS CLOSE THE GENDER GAP

**With grit, determination and your support, one high-achieving Aboriginal woman is helping others take up the fight for equality.**

**Tara Liddy, 29, is the recipient of one of the Mary MacKillop Tertiary Scholarships you help fund.** She is completing a Bachelor of Applied Social Science (majoring in Indigenous Resource Management and Indigenous Social Policy) at Charles Darwin University in the NT.

And now this proud Southern Arrernte/Luritja woman has the ultimate opportunity to advocate for women in her community – **as a delegate to the UN Council for Women.**

Next year in New York, Tara will attend the 61st United Nations Commission on the Status of Women as a Global Voices delegate. As part of the delegation, Tara will be preparing a policy paper on economic empowerment for Aboriginal women in the workforce

and the steps needed to help them enter and remain in jobs.

Tara grew up in Alice Springs and **understands first-hand the huge barriers Aboriginal women face to gain education and employment.**

And because of you, Tara can overcome these challenges. Her scholarship funds her university course and travel to communities and conferences in preparation for the UN - while also giving her the time and resources to be a devoted mum to six-year-old Levi.

**"This scholarship has enabled me to be a better mum and member of my community," says Liddy.** "I can give back more. I don't need to constantly work and stress about money. **I'd like to thank donors for helping me to advocate on behalf of my community and to pursue equality for Indigenous Australians.**"

## KENNETH'S GIFT WILL KEEP ON GIVING

For Kenneth of Shepparton in country Victoria, near where Mary MacKillop opened a school, **leaving a bequest to the Foundation was the ideal way to have a lasting legacy** and give others the university education he would have appreciated.

After a long illness, 74-year-old Kenneth passed away in March. Margaret, 85, one of his dearest and longest friends, remembers him for his gentle, quiet demeanour and commitment to lifelong learning.

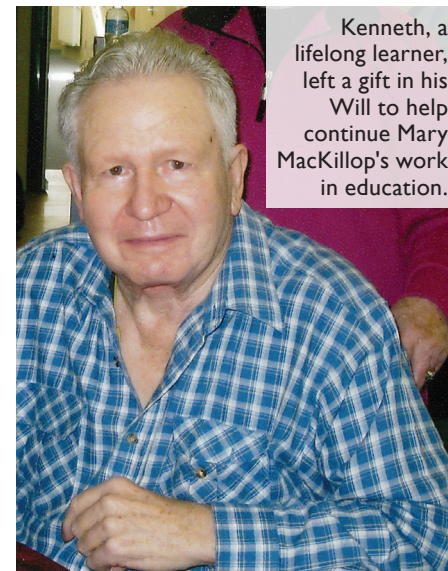
**"He was a quiet achiever with a love of books, who could talk on any subject," she says.**

"When Kenneth made a gift in his Will to the Mary MacKillop Foundation, he would have been thinking about education."

**It is because of the commitment of Kenneth and people like him** that we can continue to provide life-changing community grants and Indigenous university scholarships.

**Thank you Kenneth. We simply couldn't do it without you.**

If you would like details on making a gift to the Foundation in your Will, please **call us for a confidential discussion on 02 8912 2720.**



Kenneth, a lifelong learner, left a gift in his Will to help continue Mary MacKillop's work in education.

## FLASHBACK

### 1883: Memories of Mary

A large group of students at an unknown school in a poor, regional community is pictured with Mary's Order, the Sisters of St. Joseph. Mary and her Order were quick to see a need and spring into action. This big heartedness was noticed by those they came in contact with, like Mother Rose Columba Adams, superior of the English Dominican sisters who met Mary after arriving in Adelaide in 1883:

**"The Sisters of St. Joseph have all the poor schools. They are of native growth, very hardworking and live much like the Sisters of the Poor. I like their Mother General very much. She is a large hearted woman. They do much good here in Adelaide and 'up country' where they go in twos and threes."**

Quoted in a speech by Josephite Sister Katrina Brill from a letter in the Dominican Sisters' Archives.





People with disabilities in Bendigo are gaining enormous practical and social benefits caring for a new community garden you helped fund.



Learning recipes and cooking together.



Planting seeds and watching plants spring to life.

## NOURISHING BODY AND SOUL

This year you have helped 14 people with intellectual disabilities learn a fundamental life skill – to grow food and prepare their own meals.

Volunteers from the new Bendigo chapter of the charity L'Arche have been using one of the community grants you funded to help program participants care for a fruit and vegetable garden, harvest crops and create nutritious meals to enjoy together.

Participants also go on grocery shopping expeditions and learn to follow recipes.

This hands-on program is one of many you support that enrich participants' social lives and equip them with skills to improve their day-to-day health and wellbeing. But the program has also proved fruitful for the wider community, with 150 people from local schools, businesses and not-for-profit groups volunteering to help and benefiting from connecting with marginalised and vulnerable people.

People like Sarah, who had never planted a lettuce and was delighted to harvest a crop and make her first egg and lettuce sandwich. She had also developed an appreciation for vegetables she has never tasted before.

And of course, participants are embracing the joy of leftovers; taking food home to get a break from cooking the next night!

Students listen intently to a talk from a successful drug rehabilitation client.



## PREVENTION BEATS CURE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AND DRUGS

Because of you, over 600 teenagers have been given vital information on the dangers of drug and alcohol addiction. They have attended talks by people who were treated at The Glen alcohol and drug rehab centre on the NSW Central Coast, and don't want to see others make the same mistakes as them.

Many of the speakers were high achievers in sport and other fields

before drugs and alcohol destroyed their prospects, sometimes landing them in prison. Funded by a Foundation grant, the program visits schools, sporting clubs and juvenile detention centres to warn young people of how quickly addiction can destroy family, a marriage and a promising career.

"Rather than give a lecture, they sit around the campfire and discuss how they lost everything and had to rebuild their lives. We also invite parents so they can start that conversation. It's all about prevention and proving very powerful", says The Glen Development Manager Alex Lee.

## SPECIAL THANKS

**ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Mary MacKillop Foundation would like to thank St Aidan's Catholic Primary School, Maroubra, for your amazing fundraising and generous support this year.



Children enjoy book time with a volunteer after their weekly Carevan meal.

## VAN IS DRIVING KIDS TO BOOKS

A van that gives hot weekly dinners to disadvantaged families in south-western NSW is now spreading the joy of reading to children.

In the past year, with your support, Operation Bookworm has been launched by Griffith Neighbourhood

House Community Centre. It has unlocked the potential of 115 disadvantaged children through the joy of books.

Every week, the Centre's mobile meal 'Carevan' provides a nourishing meal for families. Afterwards, volunteers sit with the children and read to them, improving their social skills, reading, writing and comprehension. Children are also given extra meals to take to

school, reducing the economic burden on their families.

The program is helping children flourish says Jude Hayman, Principal of Griffith Public School. "The greatest thing is the relationships being built – adults taking the time to read to the children, play games and sit and chat. Community caring for community and modelling the values we wish to instil in our children."

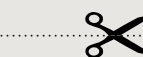
## THREE WAYS TO GIVE QUICKLY AND EASILY

1. MAIL this completed form

2. PHONE call 02 8912 2720

3. DONATE ONLINE  
[www.mackillopfoundation.org.au](http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au)

**DONATE TODAY**



**YES, I WILL MAKE A DONATION TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY AND END POVERTY.**

Please accept my single donation of:

☐ \$30 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Or my choice: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Or

I would like to make a regular monthly donation of:

☐ \$30 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Or my choice: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Select date for monthly processing:

☐ 1st ☐ 15th

### Payment Method

Please find enclosed a: ☐ Cheque / Money order (payable to Mary MacKillop Foundation)

Or Please debit this card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex (\$10 minimum)

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would consider leaving a gift in my will to the Mark MacKillop Foundation.

Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible in Australia. A tax receipt will be sent out to the address above.

If you wish to opt out of, or change the frequency of updates you receive from us, or receive your receipt via email,

please phone us on: 02 8912 2720, fax: 02 8912 2798 email: [info@mackillopfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@mackillopfoundation.org.au) or write to us at PO Box 855, North Sydney NSW 2059 ABN 53 838 436 582