



Welcome to the latest issue of Big hART News...we have managed to take a short break to give you an update ...

This issue includes information on RADIO HOLIDAY, NGAPARTJI, NGAPARTJI & the NORTHCOTT PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECT.

The Big hART website is currently under construction. We appreciate your patience while we make updates. Thank you...

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NGAPARTJI NGAPARTJI IN MELBOURNE FESTIVAL

Ngapartji Ngapartji is a multi-layered indigenous language and performance project working with at risk young people and elders from the Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara nations, aimed at national and international festival audiences.

The Ngapartji Ngapartji project is made up of 3 stages:

1. A language course - learning the language of this oldest of nations (**Nintini – teach**),
2. An international performance piece - based on their stories, performed entirely in language (**Kulini - listen**),
3. Economic and cultural legacy – building a relationship, through shared language, with one of the world's oldest cultures (**Wankanyi – talk**).

Big hART will be presenting a pilot preview version of the work in the Melbourne International Arts Festival this October. The 2005 Melbourne Festival has its public launch on 12th July which is when Big hART will launch the first version of the Ngapartji Ngapartji website:

<http://www.ngapartji.org>

The full version of the project will take place in 2006. Tickets for the shows in the 2006 Melbourne Festival and at the Playhouse Theatre at the Sydney Opera House will go on sale in March. A ticket is an enrolment in a six month online language course which the audience must undertake before coming to the show!

Big hART is establishing partnerships with language, community and welfare organisations in Alice Springs in the development of the project. (More info. Page 2)

Look/Listen out for:

- Details of **NGAPARTJI NGAPARTJI** in the upcoming Melbourne Festival programme
- **ARTS + MEDICINE** for a great story about the Sydney Northcott Project
- **Tasmanian Community Fund Newsletter**—for the front page on Radio Holiday
- **kNOT@Home**—the series is due to screen on SBS in 2006—look out for dates...
- **Radio Holiday** pieces by Robert Iolini to be broadcast on Radio National's The Night Air and Radio Eye

RADIO HOLIDAY STAGE 1—AT A GLANCE...

Radio Holiday is the work of 150 community members from 5 communities, 30 young people from the North West Coast of Tasmania, 6 guest visual artists, 2 guest composers, and the Big hART team of Bronwyn Purvis, Dawn Yates, Scott Rankin & Kylie Eastley.

Works from the first stage of the project toured in April, as part of Tasmania's premier arts festival, Ten Days on the Island. The response from communities, artists and young people has been very positive and has positioned the project well for the next stage that will include further work with young people and regional touring.

A big thank you to the workers, communities and young people who have participated in this first stage of Radio Holiday. There have been a number of exciting outcomes from the project. Check out page 3 to see some of these outcomes and watch this space for the next installment of Radio Holiday. Hundreds of images have recorded the project and tour. Some of these are available upon request.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT Big hART or the Big hART Trust?

If you are interested in further information, sending us your CV or supporting the trust, please forward details to:
keastley@bigpond.com or bighart@bigpond.com

PEOPLE PROFILE Q & A

WWW.BIGHART.ORG

Bronwyn Purvis—Director

How did you become involved with Big hART?

I was an assistant tutor for Chris Saunders at Australian Theatre for Young People. Chris introduced me to Phillip Crawford. I then went out as a volunteer on the first 2 weeks of [kNOT@HOME](#) in Armidale and Tamworth....and then it all continued from there

What has been your most recent project? What was your role? What were the highlights?

My most recent project was Radio Holiday, the shack project in Tasmania. I was associate director on the project. There were many highlights including the opportunity to work with a variety of talented artists, being moved by a shack owners story, and the 6 month journey with the young people.

What would you like to be doing in 5 years?

Working on projects that are multi layered with a beautiful community process and a stunning art outcome.....with millions of dollars and an international audience

Who are the artists, people, projects that inspire you?

I've always found Big hART's project and many of the artists, participants and community members inspiring, my family, Rolf de Heer, Peter Weir, Lars Von Triers, Ken Loach, Hal Hartley.....

What have been your career highlights?

Travelling to the UK on an ATYP scholarship..... and of course working with Big hART.

What are you working on at the moment?

Directing a short film called Pop's Dream as part a team which includes Big hART artists Vanessa Bates and Chris Saunders.

What is your favourite book and film?

Of Mice and Men and Strictly Ballroom

Bronwyn Purvis is a young director working across film, radio & theatre. She studied film at the University of Technology Sydney and theatre at the Australian Theatre for Young Peo-

NGAPARTJI NGAPARTJI CONTD.

Pitja, nyinakati munu kulila nganampa tjukurpa... Ngapartji Ngapartji..

Come ... sit down and listen to our stories ... I give you something ... you give me something back.

The story: At the close of WW2 Trevor Jamieson's father was born in the red desert sands, where his people had been born for 2000 generations. At that moment the most powerful nations on earth - USA, Great Britain, Russia, Japan, France, Australia and the Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara nations were swept up in a complex international crisis that changed global politics forever. Trevor's people, one of the oldest of nations, were banished from their land - becoming part of the great 20th century Diaspora - and told they couldn't return for 25000 years. To hear this master story-teller, Trevor Jamieson of the Spinifex people, weave this global narrative in his native tongue; Pitjantjatjara, is a rare opportunity. Rarer still is the chance to learn the language and understand a story not lost in the translation.

<http://www.ngapartji.org> (site in progress)

BOB RECOGNIZED FOR HIS BIG HEART

Bobs hard work with Big hART and other organizations was recognized when he was shortlisted for Tasmanian of the Year 2005.

Bob traveled to Government House in Hobart, to a ceremony where the recipient of this prestigious award was announced. The winner was Coles Bay anti-plastic bag campaigner, Ben Kearney.

Bob was nominated for his ongoing commitment to work with the Tasmanian community, especially young people.

Over the last nine years Bob has worked in a near voluntary capacity, doing the job of three people administering the not for profit charity, Big hART inc. This organisation would have been severely limited in its scope were it not for the selfless way Bob applies himself to the job in an unpaid capacity. His leadership, entrepreneurial skill, ability to listen and provide mentoring has meant that the organization has grown and exported its projects and models interstate.

Bob's commitment to sourcing, fostering and creating positive ideas for the benefit of Tasmania did not begin with Big hART, he has always been working hard for the Tasmanian community through service clubs and on the boards of various charitable organisations.



RADIO HOLIDAY OUTCOMES

OUTCOMES – Participation:

- 55 Multiply disadvantaged young people from North West Tasmania participated in Radio Holiday
- 31 core Young People maintained 6 months continuous involvement.
- 21 of the 55 young people identified as being Tasmanian Aboriginal
- 9 core young people live outside any town - in isolated rural areas
- 150 older community members from remote communities linked up with young people through skills based recording workshops.
- Young people were referred from 13 youth & community organizations, schools and colleges

OUTCOMES – Young people:

- All participants want to continue in the programme
- 2 young people made the link from High School to College (year 11 & 12)
- 2 young non-attendees in 2004 returned to College in 2005
- 12 young people considered at risk of leaving education remain at High School/College
- 2 young people enrolled in TAFE (tertiary) to start Mid Year
- 2 young people successfully gained apprenticeships - 1 boiler maker & 1 Fibreglasser on the North West
- 2 young people now doing mentorships through Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation
- 6 young people gained employment during the Radio Holiday project (5 casual jobs/1 permanent p/time)
- 3 young people have been offered Event Work by Events & Promotional Manager at local Council as a result of the project
- Young people back in school are making verbal presentations at their high schools

SNAPSHOT...

POP'S DREAM

Bronwyn Purvis (director), Vanessa Bates (writer) and Christopher Saunders (producer) are teaming up to produce short film "Pop's Dream". The film is being shot at the end of June in Sydney and Wollongong and was a recipient of the NSWFTO Young Filmmakers Fund. Part of the film is set in a caravan park in Bulli where Chris and Vanessa were living a few years ago while Chris worked on then BIG hART project "Pandora's Shed." On a walk through the park one day, Vanessa saw a "sad looking" caravan with a sign saying "Pop's Dream" hanging on the door which prompted the writing of her script. You might think Bronwyn would be well and truly jack of all mobile homes having recently come off the fabulously caravan-heavy "Radio Holiday". You would be wrong.

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NORTHCOTT IMAGES

Like a mutant sweet potato vine, the rhizomeous (is that a word? My spell check says 'no' but I argue that English is an ever evolving language) Northcott Narratives project in Surry Hills (Sydney) continues to bloom in surprising and fruitful ways. Six portraits that came out of the 'tenant by tenant' initiative recently won the Art Critics award for Walking The Streets art festival in Newtown. A selection of the portraits are currently exhibited at the Slott Gallery, Redfern. Mentored (or another word that means the same but isn't so tired and 2004ish) by photographer Keith Saunders and facilitated by Northcott tenant Sara Mitchell, the 'mini-exhibition' is a window into the lives and art of tenants. Literally so, since the portraits were mounted in the windows of a restaurant on King Street.

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More filmic excitement as the ABC/Northcott documentary rolls forward as smoothly as a smooth rolling... caravan shall we say? More about that later but suffice to say that Vanessa Bates is writer and Brendan Fletcher (Black Chicks Talking) will direct.

News in Brief:

After a number of years working with Big hART, Kim McConville and Phillip Crawford have established a new organization—Beyond Empathy. The organization uses art intervention to help disadvantaged young people. Kim and Phillip have worked extensively on the HURT and kNOT@Home projects and have contributed to a number of other projects in New South Wales. Good luck with the new endeavour and thanks so much for the positive contributions to communities across Australia.

The Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Chris Ellison, recently announced that 2 Big hART projects were successful in receiving funding through the Community Partnership Crime Prevention grants. The Northcott Public Housing Estate project in Surry Hills, NSW will receive \$404 700 and a 3 year project based in North West Tasmania will receive \$500 000. We will keep you updated on the progress of these exciting projects.