



epwa.

FEBRUARY VISIT

Balgo

FEBRUARY 2021 // PREPARED BY ALANA HUNT AND NATASHA SHORT



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Enterprise Partnerships WA (EPWA) visited Balgo community in February 2021, continuing our work to expand capacity for women's leadership, community-led enterprise, and well-being.

EPWA enterprise facilitator, Alana Hunt, and Natasha Short from Kimberley Jiyigas supported the visit to provide mentoring in leadership and business.

The visit was supported by EKJP at the Trade Training Centre, Anglicare and Warlayirti Arts.

This trip focused on:

- The Piriwa Op Shop;
- Workshops and individual mentoring in enterprise development and leadership;
- Nurturing transfer and respect for cultural knowledge;
- Product Development

Kathryn Njamme worked with EPWA to engage young women in the workshops, along with Trina from EKJP.

The Piriwa Op Shop

After substantial delays with freight, which affected the whole community, a new delivery of stock arrived for the Piriwa Op Shop.

This was sorted by Trina and Vanessa, and the Piriwa Op Shop opened on Monday 15 February. Trina and others are continuing to build skills in managing cash and credit card sales. We recorded a lovely video with Trina reflecting on her experiences with the Op Shop.

A significant amount of cash had amounted from sales over the previous months. This was banked via the local store by Trina and Alana, securing a good banking process in partnership with Wirrimanu Store.

Funds from the Piriwa Op Shop will be used to support more enterprise possibilities for women, including supplies for bush product development.

The Piriwa Op Shop needs to find a new physical home. A group of women visited the empty rooms adjoining the EKJP and Anglicare offices. This was deemed a potentially good space due to the outdoor balcony and it's visibility from the local store and community offices, compared to the less visible Trade Training Centre.



Workshops and Individual Mentoring

Supported by Alana, Natasha led a workshop with women at the Trade Training Centre covering key ideas central to women's leadership and business, including:

- Conflict resolution
- Doing good work so clients return
- Recognising your personal skills
- Dreams and hopes

Natasha also screened her 20 minute film from the 'Women in Business' camp to women in the Anglicare office. Alana and Natasha recorded videos with Kathryn and Allison

reflecting on their work with EPWA thus far, and one on one mentoring sessions about how to operate as a sole trader using existing skills and cultural navigation and translation.





Bush Trips

With the support of Prue from Anglicare and Warlayirti Arts staff we conducted a number of significant bush trips amidst the welcome rain that:

- brought together women across all age groups
- enabled access to sites many had not visited since they were young
- nurtured respect for and pride in Indigenous knowledge
- sourced ample supplies for bush products





Bush Products Part 1

Exposure: EPWA, with the support of Prue at Anglicare, conducted a lip gloss and hair oil workshop with at risk young women using supplies collected on the bush trips

They were thoroughly engaged in the process of making, through which we discussed the potential for generating income from such activities.

This also fostered discussions around self-care and confidence and ensured the women's continued engagement with our bush trips on the following days.



Bush Products Part 2

Trade: After collecting a good supply of bush plants, Kathryn and Allison took the lead on producing balm and soap, ensuring the products were sale ready, and on-selling them to the art centre as the day drew to an end.

Others contributed to the process of label making.

One of the highlights was the process of invoicing the art centre for the products and going home with cash in the hand after a long day's work.





Next Visit

Thank you to everyone who supported this workshop; Anglicare, EKJP and Warlayirti Arts.

Also thanks to the customers of Piriwa Op Shop! Let the women know what items you would like to buy and we can get them to the community.

Clare will be back in the community in April 19th to 26th 2021 and will bring Sarah Landro from Camera Story with her. Sarah will be teaching photography skills for business and how to use social media for business.



**Alana Hunt
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