



epwa.

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Kalumburu

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## *Bush Enterprise Workshop with Pat Torres from Mayi Harvests*

### WELCOME TO KWINI COUNTY



The workshop started with a welcome to country.

Bernadette Waina and Margaret Peumora arranged a welcome for Pat Torres onto Kwini country and to Kalumburu. The women then met over a cuppa at the Strong Women's Centre, shared different stories and made plans for the week.



Esther Waina and Pat Torres shared ideas about what might be in season in the bush and planned an on country trip.

Pat had last visited Kalumburu over 40 years ago. She really enjoyed re-connecting with relatives and working out new family connections as well.



## BUSH TRIP FOR BUSH TUCKER



Esther arranged a car to borrow to go out on a bush trip to Marragarra. Justina brought along a camera and documented the trip as part of the Kalumburu Photography Collective.

Bernadette, Justina, Pat, Esther and Mavis all went to explore what was fruiting in the bush.



The women compared uses of different bush plants across different countries and Pat shared her knowledge and about plants and different ways they could be cooked or used in teas. It was a great start to the week and the women were really enthusiastic to learn from Pat and also hear about her business journey with Mayi Harvests in Broome.



Pat shared the scientific name and Indigenous name for plants and the women compared these names to the names used locally for bush tucker and in the Kwini language

## ECO-DYEING WITH PAT TORRES



Pat led an eco-dyeing workshop at the Strong Women's Centre. The day before Pat and the women had collected different leaves and seeds from the bush to experiment making bush-dyes for silk scarves. Esther also brought along different plants she had collected and dried out.



The women experimented using the 'Kalumburu Almond' nut to see what colour it would make when the silk scarf was boiled in water.

Pat shared different methods of eco-dyeing and how to make the colour stronger by adding some 'surf'.



The Kalumburu almond nut, when cooked, made beautiful yellow tones. Pat also shared how to make patterns on the silk scarf with the nut being wrapped in the silk or placing leaves on the scarf. All the women were really proud of what they had learnt and created.

# COOKING WITH MAYI HARVEST BUSH SPICES



Pat hosted a cooking workshop at the Strong Womens Centre and shared more of the challenges and successes of her business Mayi Harvests. Pat brought along some of her products and discussed how she harvested the bush food and packaged it. Sharing her design journey for her logo and her involvement with the Northern Australia Kakadu Plum Alliance and other Indigenous slow food movements.

Pat shared the idea of providence and the need for First Nations women to be involved in the bush foods industry.



Pat and the women experimented with adding bush tucker to damper and delicious cakes. The women used ingredients such as Native wattle seed and salt bush flakes.

Pat and the women also picked some leaves to make a native tea to help people to feel relaxed and to help with sleep. The Kalumburu Local Drug Action Group then also joined at the Womens' Centre for a delicious lunch.



Later that afternoon, Esther, Margaret and some other women took Pat to the beach for sunset fishing and the chance to share stories.

# BUSINESS MENTORING AND COACHING



Throughout the workshop Pat was also able to provide 1;1 or group mentoring sessions on business. Pat will continue to work with Enterprise Partnerships WA in 2022 to continue to mentor women in business in Kalumburu. Mentoring session will be available with Pat on the phone or via zoom.

Margaret Peumora and Esther Waina were able to map out their business plans with Pat and also explore ways they can look after and nurture their families and keep culture strong.



Esther Waina along with some other women from Kalumburu will be able to visit Pat in Broome next year and see the operations of Mayi Harvests and also experience her tourism ventures.

Pat also met with the Tramulla Strong Women's Group and visited the Tramulla Op Shop and was impressed by the volunteerism and what women in Kalumburu are doing for their community.



## NEXT STEPS 2022

This workshop was funded by Lotterywest Innovative Service Models grant. The workshop enabled a new partnership to be formed between the Kalumburu community, EPWA, Tramulla Strong Womens Group and Pat Torres. This partnership will continue to grow in 2022 with Pat being available to support women in business with mentoring and networks.

Esther Waina is part of EPWA 'train the trainer' program and is interested in facilitating local enterprise workshops for the women to enable the exploration of business ideas and aspirations. Esther plans to host additional workshops in 2022. If you have a business idea or are interested in a workshop please contact Esther. Esther is also planning the launch of her new business, 'Yuulwaay'.

Thank you to the Strong Women's Centre for loan of the troopy and use of the centre to host the workshop. Also thanks to Brandon who loaned us his car for the bush trips.



Clare Wood  
Director EPWA



Esther Waina  
Local enterprise Facilitator  
EPWA and Entrepreneur  
'Yuulwaay'



Pat Torres  
Mayi Harvests  
Business mentor