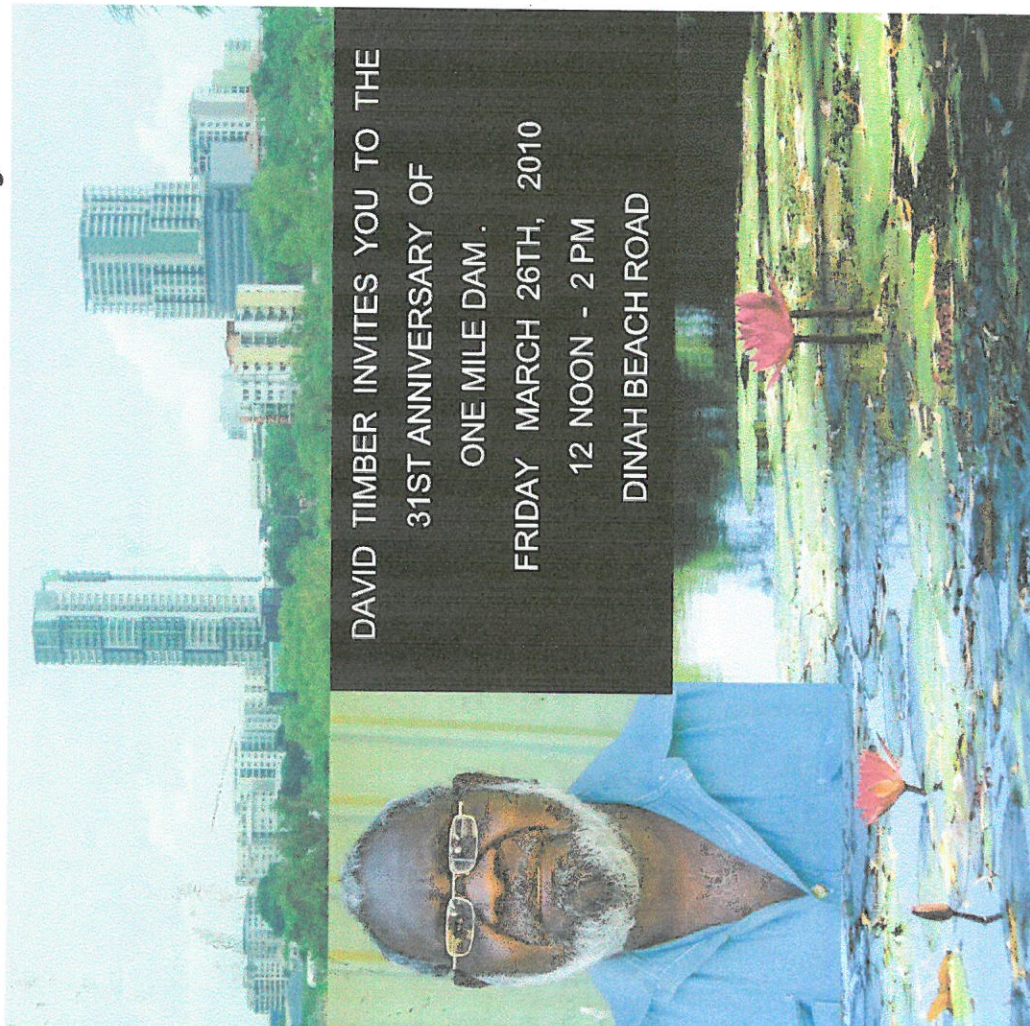


Save One Mile Dam community!



DAVID TIMBER INVITES YOU TO THE
31ST ANNIVERSARY OF
ONE MILE DAM.
FRIDAY MARCH 26TH, 2010
12 NOON - 2 PM
DINAH BEACH ROAD

- Free Barbecue
- Speakers (open microphone)
- Aboriginal Dancers, 'One mob, Different Country' Music

ALL WELCOME



One Mile Dam Community under siege!

The Kumbutjil Association invites all supporters to
One Mile Dam
31st Anniversary 1979 – 2010

Friday
26th March 2010
12 noon - 2 pm

Dinah Beach Road, Darwin

On 26th March 1979 after a long struggle Aboriginal campers at One Mile Dam won land rights to 3.12 hectares of inner-city land in Darwin. At the hand-over ceremony the NT Minister for Lands and Housing, Marshall Perron, stated: 'The people can now move to make improvements to their surroundings confident they have secure title to the area.' However, since 1996 the community has lived under threat of eviction by successive CLP and Labor NT Governments. In addition, One Mile Dam (OMD) is now subject to discriminatory federal government powers under the *Northern Territory National Emergency Response Act 2007* (the 'NT Intervention'). In January 2009 2 representatives of Darwin town camps, with 18 other NT Aboriginal People affected by the NT Intervention, presented the United Nations with a 'Request for Urgent Action under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination'.

Please join us on March 26th to show your support for
One Mile Dam and all Aboriginal People living in similarly
Prescribed Areas.

- ❖ **No dispossession of Aboriginal Land!**
- ❖ **Restore the Racial Discrimination Act!**
- ❖ **Consultation, engagement and partnership, not compulsory intervention!**
- ❖ **Defend the rights of the OMD Community!**

Contacts: David Timber, One Mile Dam, Dinah Beach Road, Darwin, NT

Mr David Timber
President
Kumbutjil Association
c/- GPO Darwin
NT 0800

27 January 2010

One Mob Different Country
c/- Superintendant
Darwin Correction Centre
GPO Box 1407
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Friends

Re Invitation to 31st Anniversary of the One Mile Dam Aboriginal town camp, Darwin.

Last year on March 26th between 12 noon and 2 pm we held a celebration commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the One Mile Dam Aboriginal Community. There was a good attendance of Darwin Aboriginal people and our supporters for the barbecue and speeches. You can view a slide show of last year's event on Youtube by searching 'David Gulpilil One Mile Dam' (David is an ex-resident and was a speaker last year). The event was so successful and our needs are still so great, that we are going to do it again for our 31st Anniversary on Friday 26th March 2010.

We are planning to have a main speaker and an open Microphone for people to express their support. We would like to open the event with some traditional dancing before the speakers, and close with the barbecue. Many people have recommended your dance team and I believe that they would be most appropriate for the occasion. Of course the dancers will be welcome to stay for the barbecue, too.

Could you please let us know as soon as possible if your team can dance at One Mile Dam at 12 noon on 26th March this year? Please copy your answer to Dr Bill Day who organised the event last year and will be helping again this year. You may contact me (David Timber) on my mobile 0416 146 004 anytime or Bill Day on 0408 946 942.

As soon as we confirm the details we can print off the flyers and send out invitations.

Yours sincerely

David Timber
President
Kumbutjil Association

Cc
Dr Bill Day
Consulting Anthropologist
PO Box 425
MAYLANDS,
WA 6931

Author returns to commemorate 31st Anniversary of One Mile Dam Community.

On Saturday March 20th Dr Bill Day arrives in Darwin to attend the 31st anniversary commemoration of the hand-over of the lease to Aboriginal people at One Mile Dam, to be held between 12 noon and 2pm on March 26th, 2010. The 5-hectare block in Dinah Beach Road was handed back to Aboriginal people in 1979 after an eight-year struggle for land rights in Darwin by a coalition of Aboriginal campers known as the 'Gwalwa Daraniki' (Our Land). Dr Day has recorded the story of the campaign in his book, *Bunji: a story of the Gwalwa Daraniki Movement*, published by Aboriginal Studies Press in 1994. 'The people in the town camps fought for their rights, which are now being taken away,' Dr Day said this week, 'Just like One Mile Dam, nothing seems to change in Aboriginal affairs under any government. Now the intervention without consultation and the threat of compulsory acquisition at One Mile Dam has left no option for the people but to continue the struggle of their forebears. So I guess on Friday 26th March we won't so much be celebrating as protesting as we did thirty years ago.'

After raising their flag on the flagpole outside the Darwin Supreme Court on November 7, 1971, to 'claim back Darwin', the group sat across Bagot Road on three occasions, blocking commuter traffic. Their threat to cut the telegraph line 'between Darwin and Katherine' aroused the interest of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) and the Northern Territory Police Special Branch. Other actions by the One Mile Dam campers and people at Knuckeyes Lagoon and Kulaluk included halting loading of iron ore at the Fort Hill wharf, protesting outside Fannie Bay Gaol and attempting to stop a Darwin-bound goods train by sitting across the railway tracks. Dr Day said that only a few non-Aboriginal supporters of the 1970s campaign survive today, while almost all the Aboriginal activists of the period have passed away.

Another survivor from the 1970s is Mr Bernie Valadian, the President of the Aboriginal Development Foundation since the 1970s who has held the lease to One Mile Dam for 30 years, as well as several other Town Camp leases.. Although the ADF holds the lease to One Mile Dam, the residents have not been consulted over the future of the lease At the 2009 anniversary a resolution was passed to request the NT Government to hold an inquiry into the ADF.

David Timber was on the committee of the ADF but resigned several years ago in protest at the lack of improvements to the housing at One Mile Dam. Since then there has been little change to the living conditions on the lease, which have been described by international visitors as 'worse than Third World.' While David's house has recently been renovated in recognition of his special needs as dialysis patient, he notes that the house still has no toilet or bathroom facilities.

Dr Day said that it was fortunate that David Timber and his family had been living on the OMD lease for over twenty years. David is an outspoken and determined man who has used the media to defend the rights of his community since the original occupants passed away. In defence of his community, he has refused offers by the NT Government to re-house him. Dr Day remembers David Timber in the 1970s as a youthful