

2003

On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, homeless Aboriginal people (long grassers) and their friends, with people from Knuckeyes Lagoon and Railway Dam communities, protested outside Parliament House in Darwin and inside the Darwin City Council building. Now you are invited to see the full 90 minute video of this historic protest and hear why Johnny Balayia and other Aboriginal people in Darwin are protesting...

## **Video Night (on a big screen)**

**AT**

### **RAILWAY DAM ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 9<sup>th</sup>**

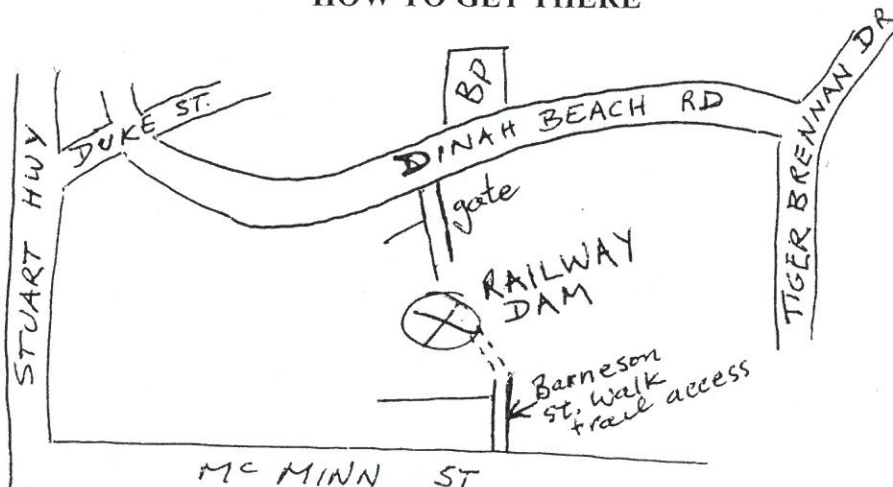
**6.30pm**

**All Welcome**

Inquiries - phone 89419115

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#### **HOW TO GET THERE**



# **One Mile Dam Community under siege!**

**The Kumbutjil Association invites all supporters to**

**One Mile Dam**

**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1979 – 2009**

**26<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**12 noon - 2 pm**

**Dinah Beach Road, Darwin**

On 26<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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  
Bill Day 0408 946 942

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 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the One Mile Dam Aboriginal town camp, Darwin.

Last year on March 26<sup>th</sup> between 12 noon and 2 pm we held a celebration commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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



Nicolas Rothwell GPO Box 1936 Darwin NT 0801

2- B:cc Dy,

D- 19-10-09

Many thanks for your letter and enclosures on One Mile Dam, which I have only just received after an absence in Central Europe, where I have had some family affairs to deal with.

Sadly those issues will take me back to Prague pretty directly, and I may not in fact be in the NT on the day of the commemoration you mention. I will certainly advise my colleagues to pay attention to the story.

Do you ever come up to Darwin? I would be keen to write more about the plight of One Mile Dam. I am quite often in WA and we could also meet up there some time if that would interest you.

With Best Thoughts,

Nicolas Rothwell

Nicolas Rothwell,

Northern correspondent for The Australian newspaper

**Re: funeral**

From: **Penny Campton** (rapidcreekpenny@yahoo.com.au)  
Sent: Thursday, 5 February 2009 9:15:59 AM  
To: William Day (bartlettday@hotmail.com)

Hi Bill,

There was a funeral notice in yesterdays paper with the time and place so Ive got that information now and will be there tomorrow. Col's death will leave a big hole. The NT is fast slipping back into the old CLP style days. I will miss Col's fearless voice. The Larrakia Development Corporation is becoming a monster, and it seems to be development at any cost. The next few years will be shockers, and I am seriously thinking of heading back down south to my own country. My cousins have reconnected with their Koorie heritage and are living on country in western Victoria. I visited them over the holidays and spent two wonderful days talking till late in the night, hunting for bush tucker and feeling very strong. The older generation are not too happy about it, they are in denial, such is the deeply racist legacy of this nation of ours. There is a real danger the CLP will get back in in the next elections, I dont want to be here for that. Will you be up this way this year? hope to catch up before the end of the year.

best wishes

Penny

--- On **Wed, 4/2/09, William Day <bartlettday@hotmail.com>** wrote:

From: William Day <bartlettday@hotmail.com>  
Subject: funeral  
To: "penny campton" <rapidcreekpenny@yahoo.com.au>  
Received: Wednesday, 4 February, 2009, 5:08 PM

R Wesley-Smith has been asked to be the MC at the funeral. You could email him.  
Bill

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Date: Mon, 2 Feb 2009 03:56:38 -0800  
From: rapidcreekpenny@yahoo.com.au  
Subject: Re: FW: omd  
To: bartlettday@hotmail.com

Thanks Bill for the info. Really sad to loose Col, a very inspirational bloke who will be missed by all of us. Do you know where Cols funeral is being held? No notice in the paper yet, (but I could have missed it) I would like to be there.

All the best

Penny

--- On **Mon, 2/2/09, William Day <bartlettday@hotmail.com>** wrote:

From: William Day <bartlettday@hotmail.com>  
Subject: FW: omd  
To: "cassandra goldie" <cassandra\_goldie@fcl.fl.asn.au>, "Catherine Holmes" <catherine.holmes1970@bigpond.com>, "Christine Pas" <pasloizoupressdarwin@bigpond.com>, "emma king"

<emma.king4@gmail.com>, "Ilana Eldridge" <coordinator@larrakia.com>, "john tomlinson" <j.tomlinson@qut.edu.au>, "Jude Conway" <judithaconway@gmail.com>, "Lyndon Robinson" <lrobinson@sudpnt.org.au>, "matt peacock" <matthewjpeacock@hotmail.com>, "Mick Lambe" <pariahnt@yahoo.com>, "penny campton" <rapidcreekpenny@yahoo.com.au>, "peter mcvean" <pvpsiriusboy@yahoo.com>, "rob wesley-smith" <rwesley@ozemail.com.au>, "SMITH tony" <tony.smith@deewr.gov.au>, "Stuart Courtenay" <birdwave@hotmail.com>, "Tibby Quall" <dangalabadreaming@gmail.com>, "Brian Manning" <btmanning@bigpond...com>

Received: Monday, 2 February, 2009, 7:26 PM

This is one of the last messages I received from Col Friel who passed away this week. His funeral is this friday in Darwin. Perhaps we should put Col's suggestion into action for the 30th anniversary of the handing over of the land to the OMD community on March 26th 1979 (actually the lease is held by the Aboriginal Development Foundation)!

Watch this space.

Bill Day

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From: bartlettday@hotmail.com  
To: bartlettday@hotmail.com  
Subject: Fw: omd  
Date: Mon, 2 Feb 2009 17:15:31 +0900

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Bill Day  
**To:** col  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 25, 2008 9:46 PM  
**Subject:** Re: omd

I hope to be in Darwin soon and maybe we can put this into action .  
Bill

----- Original Message -----

**From:** col  
**To:** bartlettday@hotmail.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 25, 2008 8:07 PM  
**Subject:** omd

Mr C M Friel,

38 Stobo Cres.,

ALAWA, NT 0810

Ph. 08 89854020

25 September, 2008



Hi Bill,

It appears that the attempts to save One mile dam have not shown a lot of success. I don't like advising on courses of action that I can't or won't do myself but my health has deteriorated to such an extent that I am not likely to play an active part in any demo or course of action that requires my presence so all I can do is offer advice.

I suggest that you, that is the residents and their supporters, escalate the level of your actions by, for instance, establishing a picket line outside the office of the responsible minister or by the establishment of a vigil wherever it may be effective. Politicians are acting from a position of strength so their comfort zone needs to be disturbed. These things raise the level of public awareness (hopefully!) The media has to be attracted for that to take place.

I see that it has already shown some interest but not of direct action. There is always the risk of police action, arrest and jail so back-up and follow-up would need to be organised beforehand.

But if I can help in any way let me know - I am always full of advice.  
Col Friel

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Make Yahoo!7 your homepage and win a trip to the Quiksilver Pro. [Find out more.](#)

**William B Day**

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**From:** "Bill Day" <bill.day@bigpond.com>  
**To:** "Robert Wesley-Smith" <rwesley@ozemail.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 4 February 2009 3:04 PM  
**Subject:** Re: re Col Friel, his funeral this Friday

What an honour for you to be asked to be the MC! And what a responsibility! I am sure you will say the right things, as you did for Ken Fry. There may be something in Stella's film 'Letters to the Editor' (a film which should have included you).

Although Col Friel requested no prayers or similar religious observance, I am sure that Col's 'Karma' will be reflected in the stories about his life, revealing a social conscience close to the teaching of the great religions and a Higher Power, whatever you may call it. As such, Col's spirit will remain with us as a guiding light towards justice for the oppressed and his concern for all of the earth's creation.

When I asked Col for advice on saving the One Mile Dam Community from eviction, he wrote the following email:

QUOTE HIS EMAIL HERE.

Brian Manning would be more knowledgeable of Col's past deeds. There is a brief mention on page 252 of Bernie Brian's PhD thesis (CDU) with the reference 'Col Friel, interview with author, Darwin, 10 September 1999. Bernie also gives the reference on page 296 to 'National Archives Series a6119/90 Item 2511 Colin McCallum Friel'.

Bernie Brian writes that in 1955 ASIO were keeping an eye on Col Friel. Bernie states that in 1955 Col was a 27 year-old who had been working at an abattoir in NSW and decided to move to Darwin 'where it never gets cold.' He arrived in mid-1950 and soon after joined the Communist Party. In 1955 Col and others were active in trying to prevent the deportation of the pearl diver Yap Ah Chee. For an account of the anti-deportation campaigns see Lyn Riddett's 'The Gateway and the Gatekeepers' in Journal of Australian Studies 46, September 1995: 56-70.

Bernie's thesis is entitled 'The Northern Territory's One Big Union: the Rise and Fall of the North Australian Workers' Union, 1911-1972.

I was lucky to leave Darwin when I did as the rivers came up a few days later. I had a pleasant drive home, arriving on January 24th.

Bill

----- Original Message -----

**From:** "Robert Wesley-Smith" <rwesley@ozemail.com.au>  
**To:** "Bill Day" <bill.day@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 04, 2009 9:35 AM  
**Subject:** re Col Friel, his funeral this Friday

> Bill

>

> thanks for the Col Friel letter

>

> His funeral is on Friday, and Meg Friel has asked me to be the MC

>

> As I didn't really know him when he worked on the wharf etc, or at that



> time, is there anything you would like to write about Col that I could  
> read at the funeral?  
>  
> Meg is coming here shortly to discuss things.  
> There was a good article in NT News early this week I think.  
>  
> Hope your long drive home went OK  
>  
> Wes  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> E-mail message checked by Spyware Doctor (6.0.0.386)  
> Database version: 5.11680  
> <http://www.pctools.com/en/spyware-doctor-antivirus/>



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**Date:** Monday, December 3, 2007 2:11 PM  
**From:** FLEMING, Fergal <Fergal.Fleming@dewr.gov.au>  
**To:** Brian Manning <btmanning@bigpond.com.au>, William Bartlett Day <bill.day@bigpond.com>  
**cc:** John Tomlinson <j.tomlinson@qut.edu.au>  
**Subject:** RE: One Mile Dam

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The more things change, the more they stay the same. Another shame job.

Fergal

Fergal Fleming  
RAE Team  
DEWR  
Darwin  
08 8936 5027  
0434 560 235

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**From:** Brian Manning [mailto:btmanning@bigpond.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 30 November 2007 16:59  
**To:** William Bartlett Day  
**Cc:** John Tomlinson  
**Subject:** One Mile Dam

Debates - Tenth Assembly, First Session - 11/27/2007 - Parliamentary Record No: 18

Hi Bill,  
I spent a few hours yesterday at the Legislative Assembly.  
ciao, Brian

This is an uncorrected proof of the daily report. It is made available under the condition that it is recognised as such.

**Topic Date:** 11/29/2007  
**Question No:**  
**Question:** One Mile Dam - Relocation of Residents  
**Question Date:** 11/29/2007  
**Member:** Mr WOOD  
**To:** MINISTER for PLANNING and LANDS  
**Other Speakers:**  
**Status:** Questions

In the *Northern Territory News* on 28 October it was stated that the people of One Mile Dam had vowed to stand their ground in the face of the Territory government to redevelop the site. The *Northern Territory News* went on to say the Chief Minister Clare Martin refused to say whether the residents would be moved against their wishes. Are you going to move these people against their wishes? Why cannot Aboriginal people live on their own land near the CBD or is this the case that the One Mile Dam will not look good amongst the new up market development proposed next door?

#### ANSWER

Madam Speaker, I thank the member for Nelson for his question. The area in which One Mile Dam is located is around the tank farms. As members can appreciate, those tank farms have been relocated out of the Stuart Park area. As part of creating Darwin's future, the Northern Territory government through the Chief Minister went out on a very extensive public consultation asking people did they want to see vast park land there in what we refer to as the old Stuart Park tank farm area.

I can report the overwhelming feed back from the public was that they think having a parkland in the old Stuart Park tank farm area is fantastic. The information that went out to the public and that was in

shopping centres, that was very broadly consulted and discussed always had the area of One Mile Dam highlighted as proposed future park land. Now the government is currently considering the information that came back, we will be sitting down and talking to the residents of One Mile Dam. We are at the start of the next transit of consultation and it is very important to sit down with the people who live in that area and find out exactly what their housing needs are if they were to move. It is very early days at the start of a consultation with the residents of One Mile Dam to find out what their personal circumstances are and what they would require if they were to move.

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