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NAIDOC Week

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The art of  
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The beauty of  
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# Norman 'on track' through cycling

Salvos support Aboriginal teen's sporting dream



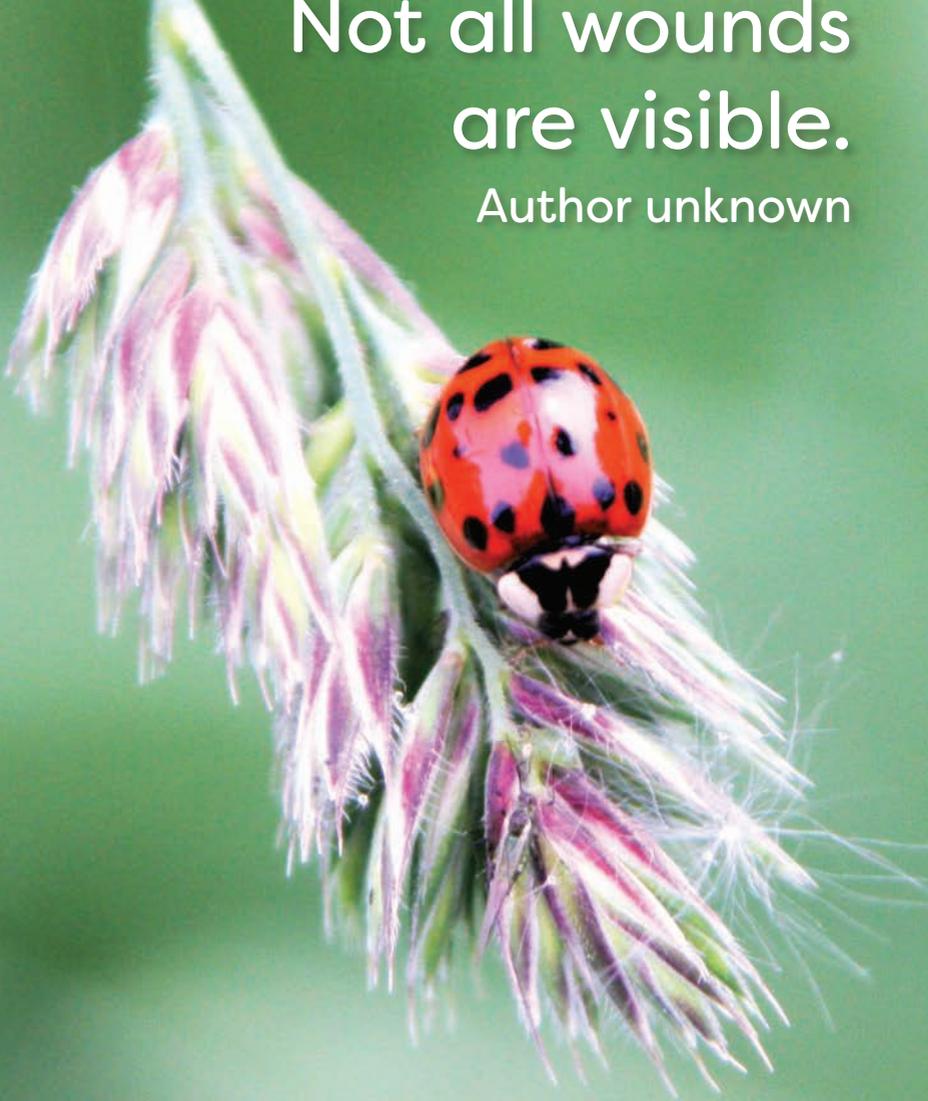
# SALVOS

MAGAZINE



Walk gently in the  
lives of others.  
Not all wounds  
are visible.

Author unknown





## The Salvation Army is about giving hope where it's needed most.

### What is The Salvation Army?

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church.

### Vision Statement

Wherever there is hardship or injustice, Salvos will live, love and fight alongside others to transform Australia one life at a time with the love of Jesus.

### Mission Statement

The Salvation Army is a Christian movement dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus by:

- Caring for people
- Creating faith pathways
- Building healthy communities
- Working for justice

# Salvos Magazine

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**Commissioners** Janine and Robert Donaldson

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Lieut.-Colonel Neil Venables

**Publications Manager** Cheryl Tinker

**Assistant Editor** Simone Worthing

**Designer** Ryan Harrison

**Cover Photo** Danni MacCue Photography – [www.danni-maccue.com.au](http://www.danni-maccue.com.au)

**Editorial ph.** (03) 8541 4562

**Enquiry email** [salvosmagazine@salvationarmy.org.au](mailto:salvosmagazine@salvationarmy.org.au)

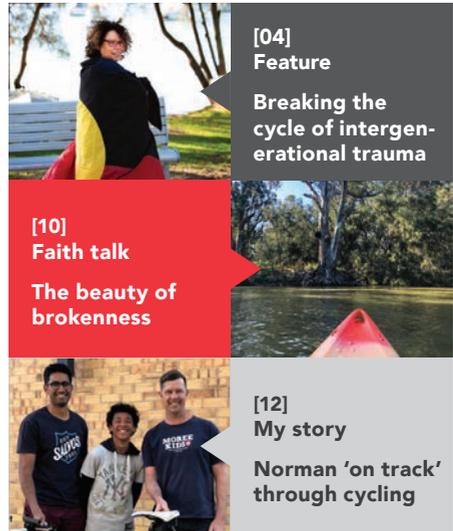
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## NAIDOC Week 2020

Australia is about to celebrate NAIDOC Week and the rich history, diverse cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The theme for the week is 'Always Was, Always Will Be'.

In this issue, Sue Hodges, from the Wiradjuri people of NSW, shares her story, including her journey through intergenerational trauma, and how God is helping her to break this cycle in the lives of those around her.

In 'Faith talk', Major Dean Clarke shares his reflections on trauma and tragedies in life and how, despite the pain and brokenness they can cause, our lives can still be beautiful.

In 'My story', we hear about Norman, a teenager from Moree who is on track to achieve his goal of becoming the nation's first Indigenous professional cyclist. We also celebrate Indigenous painters in Katherine, Northern Territory, and their culturally inspired artwork.

For more information, go to [naidoc.org.au](http://naidoc.org.au) and enjoy this special week!

Simone Worthing  
**Assistant Editor**

# Breaking the cycle of intergenerational trauma

Spiritual healing leads Sue to reach out to others

*National NAIDOC Week 2020 is an opportunity for all Australians to celebrate the rich history, diverse cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the oldest continuing cultures on the planet.*

*This year, NAIDOC Week celebrations will take place from 8-15 November.*

*The original July dates were changed due to the impacts and uncertainty from the escalating COVID-19 pandemic across our communities and cities.*

**WORDS** SIMONE WORTHING

Sue Hodges, from the Wiradjuri people of NSW, is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement coordinator for the Salvos in NSW and the ACT.

Sue is proud to be a Wiradjuri woman. "I grew up learning about the history and culture of my people and I feel sad for those who were robbed of this," she says. "This is part of the intergenerational trauma so many of us have lived with and still experience today."

It doesn't take long for Sue to speak about trauma, although she is equally quick to share about her happy childhood on the Nanima Mission in Wellington, on the Great Western Plains of NSW, and the many good memories she has.

"We were part of a mission environment – our family, my aunties, uncles and cousins," she says. "I would play with cousins, though, who would be there one day and gone the next. I later learned that 'welfare' came and took them away. Despite knowing some of what was going on, I was able to live in a fantasy land, skipping through pumpkin



PHOTO BY CAZÉIL CREATIVE

Sue Hodges is from the Wiradjuri people of NSW.

PHOTO BY GAZEL CREATIVE



Sue and her husband Michael. The couple started their journey with The Salvation Army in Bonnells Bay, NSW.

patches and chasing beetles. Maybe that's how I became so resilient."

“

**It's amazing what God can do in your life. I'm a different person, a new person, and I love being the person God has made me.**

”

What she didn't know, until just two years ago, was that her mum, who died when Sue was only 20, had been part of the Stolen Generations. "I always wondered why we couldn't find Mum's history for our family tree," says Sue. "As a young teenager, she just seemed to suddenly be working as a nanny for white property owners. I just

thought this was a legitimate job.

"I do remember my mother, though, saying that she was a ward of the state and couldn't go home until she was 21, but only recently did I learn what that really meant. Mum and her siblings were taken and put into care after Mum's mum, Nan, was hit by a car. I was in shock when I discovered this, but it explained a lot, too. Putting the pieces of this family puzzle together helped me to see what our people had been through and why they were struggling."

At the age of seven, Sue and her extended family and community, were part of the Aboriginal Inland Mission. She remembers being segregated from the rest of the town unless they had exemption certificates. "Certificates meant you could move off the mission and live in the mainstream, send your kids to mainstream schools and gain employment in mainstream work," she explains.

"I remember the racism that came with this, ▶

too. My brothers and I were enrolled in the local public school but weren't allowed to speak Wiradjuri, hunt traditional food, attend cultural performances or corroborees. Our families told us not to talk about our culture at school – they were worried we would be taken away. We lived in a white world at school, just to survive, but an Aboriginal world at home."

### TURNING POINT

Sue's dad and mum passed away in 1981 and 1983, respectively. She also lost her three brothers, each in tragic circumstances, between 1989 and 2009. By then, she had married Michael and they had two sons and two daughters. Sue was also active in Kairos Prison outreach as a volunteer, a passion which continues today.

“

**Like Jesus gave me, I want to help bring happiness and new life to others through him and show them how to live a full life the way God intended.**

”

"I was a lost soul after my last brother died," says Sue. "Alcohol took over for a while. I felt like I'd let my parents down."

In 2009, Sue went to a Kairos weekend and committed her life to Jesus. Soon after, she began attending a local Uniting Church. In 2015, Sue and Michael started going to The Salvation Army at nearby Bonnells Bay on the

Central Coast of NSW. Sue attended Bible studies there and helped with the cafe, kids church and Indigenous outreach. She has been working for the Salvos since 2017.

"It's amazing what God can do you in your life," she says. "I'm a different person, a new person, and I love being the person God has made me. God gives us free will to do what we want to do, but gives us the strength to follow him. I am prone to depression, loneliness and negativity, but having a friend in Jesus means I don't have to resort to getting a bottle of plonk. If I'm feeling down or want to cry, I can go to the Scriptures, pray about what's troubling me, and get out of that space."

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Sue is passionate about reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and seeing healing for her people, particularly those in prison, where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples make up 28 per cent of those incarcerated, despite being only three per cent of the general population.

"Like Jesus gave me, I want to help bring happiness and new life to others through him and show them how to live a full life the way God intended," she says.

"I believe the 'plans and hope for a future' that the Bible talks about in Jeremiah chapter 29, verse 11 are for me. God has led me to love serving others. I have been healed and saved for a purpose. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for Jesus."



Scan here for more  
on finding meaning.

## Taking steps towards reconciliation



Hikers take in a spectacular view during the 'A Step Towards Reconciliation' two-day trek along Western Australia's Bibbulman Track.

The Salvation Army in Western Australia has partnered with other agencies to run a two-day hike aimed at starting conversations and activism around reconciliation.

The Bibbulman Track journey – A Step Towards Reconciliation – has been run for several years by another agency, but this year the Salvos took a lead role.

Marenda and Steve Freind, Salvos Urban Missions Movement leaders, based in Perth, led the venture to hike, listen and yarn with Aboriginal elders.

"The whole point was to walk the land alongside them [the Aboriginal elders] for a whole weekend, to share the journey of pain and healing and forgiveness moving towards reconciliation," said Marenda. "And we reflected on our own journeys of pain and forgiveness and what has our part been in white privilege and prejudice, and, moving forward, what kind of commitment we can make for the future."

The Bibbulman Track is one of Western Australia's great long-distance walking trails, stretching 1000 kilometres from Kalamunda in the Perth Hills, to Albany on the state's south coast. The 'A Step Towards Reconciliation' walk took in just a fraction of the track, with 11 members of Marenda and Steve's Urban Missions Movement taking part, as well as five young people from a youth housing service supported by Anglicare WA, which provides stable housing and education for young people at risk of, or experiencing homelessness.

Local Aboriginal elders Tom Little and Mary Yarran accompanied the group, sharing stories and promoting a discussion.

"The whole point of the walk was to walk together, to listen and journey and ... start the conversation," said Steve. "It wasn't a weekend to start and finish, it was a weekend to start and then activate that moving forward."

– **Lauren Martin**

# Sharing essential stories through art

**WORDS** NAOMI SINGLEHURST

Encouraging creativity and the sharing of stories around country, community and culture is the focus of a dedicated creative art space at The Salvation Army Doorways Hub\* in Katherine, 270km south of Darwin.

The hub itself is located on the traditional lands of the Jawoyn, Wardaman and Dagoman people. The art program provides a studio space, canvases and paints, giving anyone interested the opportunity to paint and to share stories.

Earlier this year, a group of artists who use the art space had the opportunity to exhibit their work at Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre in Katherine East.

Peter Daniels contributed two pieces to the exhibition, including a large piece of a skeleton snake and goanna.

Peter, whose language group is Warlpiri, was born in Yuendumu. His painting style has been passed down from his father. "When I paint, I don't really plan too much, I just begin and let the image come together in my head," he said.

"Going down to the hub to paint is a chance for me to have what I need to do my art."

Fellow artist Janet Dreamer said she has been painting since she was in her teens, but it is only through the access to supplies the hub offers that she has been able to start again.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KATHERINE TIMES



Peter Daniels with one his displayed works, inspired by bush and country.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KATHERINE TIMES



Janet Dreamer with her three works, all of which sold on the night.

Her parents were both Jaru people, and Janet learned to paint watching her father and other family members.

Her subject matter includes stories, country and culture that she learnt from her elders. Her ideas come from time she spent in the bush.

"I love to paint birds and kangaroos, anything from the bush, and especially if it's good tucker," she said.

Godinymayin curator and retail manager Brendan Penzer said of the exhibition: "Art from the hub artists have connections to country and family in the greater Big Rivers and Central Desert regions, and their art styles reflect this.

"Through art-making processes, the artists share knowledge about subjects such as dreaming and creation stories, bush tucker, country and landscape, plants and animals."

Dean Jones, senior case manager at the hub, says the art exhibition was designed to encourage artists emotionally, economically

and to help them realise the worth and the quality of their art.

"I actually cried when I first walked in and saw the art on the wall," he said. "It was beautiful, and I knew the artists would be so proud."

\*The Salvos Doorways Hub daily welcomes between 50 and 100 people. They come to access the art space, showers, washing machines and dryers, meals, and drop-in community space. There is also an opportunity for people to connect with a range of local agencies such as legal and medical services, financial counselling and crisis support.

*Naomi Singlehurst is a content specialist for the Salvos. Sections of this article and photographs kindly reprinted with permission of the Katherine Times.*



Scan here for more on finding meaning.

# The beauty of brokenness

Our life experiences make us unique

**WORDS** DEAN CLARKE



After months of social distancing with family, friends and community, my wife Vicki and I escaped it all with a week by ourselves on a Murray River houseboat.

Slowing down to 'river speed' helps you to see what is around you – the birds that fly alongside the boat and sing through the day, the fish jumping for joy with the sunrise and the changing colours of the landscape as the sun sets.

As we cruised, or I kayaked, along the river, I was caught by the beauty of the trees. From the depths of my memory came an episode of *The Muppets*, which included the recitation: "I think that I will never see, a poem as lovely as a tree\*." After which the tree fell.

Out of respect to *The Muppets*, I kept my distance and, with time on my hands and no internet connection, I pondered their beauty.

Every tree was different, and their differences made them beautiful, perfect even. The colouring of the bark, although similar, was never the same. The root system told its own story. Some roots were in the air where the bank used to be, others went down into the water, while others still grew firmly away from the water's edge.

However, what truly gave each tree its beauty was the life it had lived as evidenced by the formation of its branches. What would once have been strong branches have gone and splintered wood remains. Knots where the tree had closed and healed from the loss, remain. Each tree has its personal shape and design, looking lovely because of its brokenness.

As I sat in my kayak looking at the trees and listening to the sounds of nature, I began to recall some of my broken branches. Employment in an area that sucked the joy from my life. Another work placement that

caused me to review all that I thought I knew about myself and how others saw me. The impact of death in my family and of others I've loved. The breaking up of friendships. My actions that have caused pain and suffering to others or myself.

As I looked at the tree, I realised that I was looking at my own life. It hasn't turned out as I planned. Some things have been broken or twisted or, like the bank, fallen away from underneath me. My life isn't perfect in the ways I planned it, but neither does the brokenness and trauma make it a failure or ugly.

My life experiences make me unique.

Paddling back, another thought came. Not from nature, but from my working with those in recovery [from addiction]. "God made you, and God don't make junk!"

Most of our lives don't go as expected. But that has never diminished God's interest, involvement or help. In the Bible, the 23rd Psalm speaks of God travelling with me in good and difficult times, while the book of Isaiah, chapter 49, verse 16, states: "See, I have written your name on my hand". Not a tattoo, but the scar from Jesus' nail-pierced hands that were fixed to a cross when he died to show his love for me."

\* Originally taken from the poem 'Trees' by Joyce Kilmer.

Major Dean Clarke is a Salvation Army officer (pastor) in South Australia.



Scan here for more on finding meaning.

# Norman 'on track' through cycling

Salvos support Aboriginal teen's sporting dream

WORDS LAUREN MARTIN

Norman is a proud Indigenous young man from Moree in north-west New South Wales with boundless energy for sport. He has been connected with the Salvos since he was a toddler. At the beginning of 2019, Norman attended a Salvation Army camp and, soon after, he joined the 'Deadly Diamonds', a Salvation Army leadership development program.

"He came home [from camp] with a spring in his step, with an element of Christian faith in his life," says Jason Poutawa, who leads the Salvos in Moree. "It was clear that there was a shift in his attitude, his attendance and willingness to serve. Norman became one of our head dance leaders and, through his leadership, boys that didn't usually participate began to get involved."

When he joined Deadly Diamonds, Norman was given the opportunity to pair with a mentor, which he readily accepted. He started meeting with Greg Bell, a local Christian and business owner, who took up Jason's challenge of giving "one hour, once a week (or fortnight) for one year", to mentor young people.

"This is what Jesus was all about – doing relationship with people," says Greg, who, despite working nearly 12 hours a day, five days a week in a small business, sets aside his mentoring time in his diary and makes sure he is always there for the young guys that he has committed to.

"I pick them up and take them out for

breakfast," he says. "We meet in pairs. For young boys, having other men in their life that they can look up to, it's really beneficial ... that was the big thing for me," Greg says, explaining that throughout his years in university he was mentored in much the same way. Now, "I can be a steady person [in the lives of young people like Norman]."

DANNI MACQUE PHOTOGRAPHY – WWW.DANNIMACQUE.COM.AU



Jason Poutawa (left) and Steele Sutton (right) helping Norman (centre) pursue his dreams.

Norman has also connected with Salvos youth worker Steele Sutton, who engages young people in cycling activities. He introduced Norman to cycling, inviting him to participate in the Moree Cycling Project, which offers young people the chance to connect, have fun and race road bikes. The Salvation Army supports the project through providing transport to racing events and accommodation at local Salvation Army centres.



DANNI MACQUE PHOTOGRAPHY - WWW.DANNIMACQUE.COM.AU

Norman hopes to one day be the first Indigenous professional cyclist in Australia and is training hard towards that goal.

Norman fell in love with cycling instantly. "I like the training, it motivates me and I'm good at it," Norman says.

He began training intensively and has competed in both NSW and Queensland.

"One day I want to be the first Aboriginal national champion cyclist," says Norman. "I want to compete against the best in the world."

It's a dream that is supported and encouraged by his peers, teachers, relatives, the local media and business owners, and, of course, his mentor, Greg. "He's a good kid with a lot of potential. He thrives on positive influence and guidance."

In addition to mentoring Norman, Greg and his wife Rachel, who herself mentors a number of teenage girls through the Salvos Mentoring program, have included him within their family sphere. He regularly shares dinner in their home, has met their extended

family and is embraced and celebrated.

In the two years since Norman began mentoring, he has been supported by his peers, mentor, the Salvos and the Moree community to buy a race bike in order to follow his dreams. With the blessing of Norman's family, this Salvos support network of Greg, Steele and Jason also assists Norman with his health and wellbeing. They drive him to medical and other appointments and are there for him, even when things aren't going great on his journey.

For Greg, mentoring and the extended support offered is where the "rubber really hits the road" when it comes to being a Christian. "Jesus called us to be with others and be in relationship. For me, it's congruent with living a life of faith."



Scan here for more on finding meaning.

## Easy vanilla slice



### Ingredients

2 cups double thick custard  
 1 pkt Arnott's Lattice biscuits  
 2-3 tbsp passionfruit puree  
 1 cup icing sugar

### Method

With the 'lattice' side face up, spread about a tablespoon of custard across one biscuit.

Place another biscuit, 'lattice' side down, on top.

Continue with rest of your biscuits.

Place in the fridge (or freezer, depending how runny your custard is) for around 30 minutes.

Sift icing sugar into a bowl.

Add enough passionfruit pulp to make a thick icing.

Spread over the top of each slice.

Allow icing to set before serving.

## Have a laugh

**What is more impressive than a talking parrot?**

A spelling bee!



**Why was the broom running late?**

It over-swept!



**How does the moon cut his hair?**

Eclipse it!



## Bible byte

"... for God sees us all  
 without partiality."

Romans chapter 2, verse 11  
*The Passion Bible translation*

# Wordsearch

S D Y D P E Q E F E N T I S O  
 P T Y R L U C J V W O O T T E  
 Y P S D A H G I L T I O O R V  
 Q K D E I T T G A Z T T N E I  
 T A C D R C I T L A A H G S T  
 W S N I E O I L L E T L U E A  
 Y A N T T B F P O U E E E E D N  
 S Y O U A S I N O S G S H L P  
 E R V H F N W W I P E S M H O  
 P M I A E F V W N A V V R Q U  
 C A M O U F L A G E R I D V C  
 T U O N S E T I M R E T I J H  
 W O R R U B Y V N M A M M A L  
 K S P I N Y G G E G S K R Q G  
 C C C U V V I I Z R I D L P Q

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| ALPINE     | RAINFORESTS |
| BURROW     | SNOUT       |
| CAMOUFLAGE | SNUFFLING   |
| DESERTS    | SOLITARY    |
| ECHIDNAS   | SPINY       |
| HABITAT    | STICKY      |
| MAMMAL     | TERMITES    |
| NATIVE     | TONGUE      |
| POUCH      | TOOTHLESS   |
| PROTECTIVE | VEGETATION  |
| PUGGLE     | WADDLE      |

# Quick quiz



PHOTO BY EMMANUEL HIGGINS ON UNSPLASH

1. Which native mammal is most widespread across Australia?
2. What is a baby echidna called?
3. What is a group of echidnas called?
4. What is unique to echidnas and platypus?
5. Where are echidnas found?

# Tum-Tum



On which page of this week's *Salvos Magazine* is Tum-Tum hiding?

**Answers:** 1. The echidna 2. A puggle 3. A parade 4. They are mammals that lay eggs 5. Across Australia and New Guinea.  
**Tum-Tum:** is hiding behind the boat on page 5.

# Did you know?

- Over one quarter of the world's hazelnuts are used to make Nutella.
- Bees will sometimes fall asleep in flowers.
- A group of lemurs is called a conspiracy.



**Always Was,  
Always Will Be.**

# NAIDOC WEEK

8-15 NOV 2020

#NAIDOC2020  
#AlwaysWasAlwaysWillBe



[naidoc.org.au](http://naidoc.org.au)

*Artwork: Snake of Land by Tyrone Waigana*

The Rainbow Serpent came out of the Dreamtime to create this land. It is represented by the snake and it forms the shape of Australia, which symbolises how it created our lands. The colour from the Rainbow Serpent is reflected on to the figure to display our connection to the Rainbow Serpent, thus our connection to country. The overlapping colours on the outside is the Overtonna. The figure inside the shape of Australia is a representation of Indigenous Australians staying in their country - since the dawn of time - always was, and always will be Aboriginal land.

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