



Hello from the Goondeen team – Welcome to our first newsletter for 2023.

Hopefully everyone had a great break and you feel refreshed for the new year - despite the humid summer weather!

Goondeen tasks have continued since our last newsletter. We've been working on a resource for 'kindies' and fine-tuning other resources plus preparing for professional development sessions, etc.

In an exciting recent development, we were recently approached by a **group representing around 150 schools** and negotiations have started for their schools to use the Goondeen Educational Resources (GER). This is additional to **around 200 schools** who are already using some parts of the GER.

We are also negotiating with **QUT** to have some post-graduate students work on aspects of Goondeen, and are in discussions with additional resource writers.

News on the Goondeens

Everald Crompton

Everald will be conducting an open forum on the 'Voice Referendum' at New Farm Uniting Church, 52 Merthyr Road, New Farm on Friday, February 17th at 10.00 am for 10.30 am. All are welcome.

[READ MORE](#)

Uncle Albert Dr Holt

In our December newsletter we mentioned that Uncle Albert's community work was recognised when he became the recipient of a 'Queensland Great' award (2022). In Roma St Parkland, there is a plaque recognising his special status:



The Goondeen Educational Resources

Goondeen Institute's Professional Development and E-Resource Library provides the tools for teachers to feel safe and supported in teaching First Nations' perspectives in the classroom.



Based on findings from various focus groups (including teachers), it was recommended that we develop these resources, especially to support non-Indigenous teachers. So far, 15 resources have been developed:

1. Goondeen: understanding Australia
2. Goondeen: understanding Australia (Chinese translation)
3. Teacher's Manual (Prep & Primary)
4. Teacher's Manual (Secondary)
5. Teacher's Educational Kit
6. Three Goondeens (PowerPoint)
7. The Three Goondeens Educational Resource
8. Adaptability
9. Courage
10. Resilience
11. National Reconciliation Week
12. Becoming a Goondeen
13. Aboriginal Tent Embassy
14. NAIDOC Focus
15. International Indigenous Day

For more details visit our website: www.goondeen.com.au

Read what some teachers are saying about Goondeen

"...Goondeen gives educators the resources necessary to feel empowered to teach indigenous perspectives with confidence..."

"...When I found out what Goondeen meant, I was amazed that one word could explain such a deep, meaningful, sensitive and absolutely important message to me as a person and a teacher..."

"...Learning about Goondeen makes me even more determined to carry on attempting to spread clear messages about the importance of our ancient Aboriginal people, their knowledge and varied cultures. I now feel stronger from knowing that its ok to use Goondeen and other quality resources and knowledges to present to my culturally-broad class groups year by year even though I'm not Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander..."

"...I felt excited to be an educator in modern times and inspired to contribute towards changing how our Australian history is taught to future generations. Goondeen gives educators the resources necessary to feel empowered to teach indigenous perspectives with confidence..."

These resources were written by **Kiana Charlton** (a proud Goenpul/Yuggera Goorie teacher with a

Masters in Indigenous Education) and **Lyn Trill** (a globally-recognised author of educational books). Further resources are in development.



LYN TRILL



KIANA CHARLTON

Tertiary institutions, such as **QUT**, were actively involved in the development of these resources which have embedded links to the **National Education Curriculum**, i.e. hundreds of links are documented.

More and more schools are following a **Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)**, so these resources will be of valuable support to each school's RAP.

NB The Goondeen educational initiative is an adaptable program, as we aim to work with each school on what goals they wish to achieve. For example, one school has introduced the concept of Goondeen Guardians, a Goondeen garden, Goondeen gratitude postcards, Goondeen wagon wheel of success (see below), etc.



Professional Development

Several schools have had, or have booked, Professional Development sessions for their staff.

Professional developments are excellent opportunities to help deepen your understanding of First Nations peoples, histories and cultures. Goondeen Professional Development is tailored to invite and join schools on a journey to true healing and reconciliation, within the school, classroom and community environment. We invite you to take your seat in taking the next steps in building a brighter future.

[MAKE A BOOKING](#)

If you need any clarification, please contact me.
Best wishes for 2023 - I look forward to working with you,

Bill Synnot
Co-Founder, Goondeen Institute



www.goondeen.com.au

Goondeen is a First Nation's word that was used in Cherbourg to describe a "wise, inspirational, compassionate, community-focussed, respected leader".

Goondeen follows Indigenous LORE "share, care and respect the land, the environment and the people". The Goondeen Institute reflects this as we acknowledge all Traditional Custodians across Australia and recognise First Nations peoples' continued cultural and spiritual connection to the land, sky and waterways that surround us. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging; acknowledge the Yuggera people as the Traditional custodians of the land that we live and work on.

NB Goondeen is a **profit for purpose** organisation, where profits go straight back into creating more resources.