

For immediate release
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Isolated indigenous kids capture the Coast

Eight indigenous children and two elders from the remote Haasts Bluff community in Central Australia will spend ten days on the Central Coast and Sydney learning photography and other creative skills, courtesy of Ken Duncan and friends.

The workshops will include traveling across our diverse region, capturing beaches, forests and suburban areas and providing participants with practical and creative skills.

"It's great seeing the kids so excited. It's difficult for most people to imagine what a big deal this is for them," said Ken. "There aren't many opportunities for them to travel away from their remote community. Very few have traveled in a plane before, none have ever been to Sydney."

The special opportunity is part of the *Walk a While* project, run by Ken, which sees indigenous children from Haasts Bluff equipped with creative skills for future work opportunities. Ken regularly travels to the remote region to 'walk a while' with the children and run photography workshops.

Walk a While has attracted the attention of the right people. *Vogue Australia* is in discussions with Ken to arrange for a fashion photo shoot for the illustrious magazine, with the children actually taking the photos.

We have had interest from both Quicksilver and Billabong in supporting the project and *Walk a While's* participants. Taronga Zoo is providing a guide and special access to the animals for interactive wildlife experiences and photographs exclusively for the kids to be able to shoot the animals, with their cameras, of course.

"It's about building a cultural connection and offering the kids skills and experiences they wouldn't normally be exposed to in their community," said Ken.

In return, our indigenous guests, will be helping Quest Keogh, Executive Chef of *The Sanctuary Café* at Ken's Erina Heights gallery, prepare a gourmet meal using native flavours and ingredients for a special fundraising dinner for *Walk a While*. The dinner is at 6pm on Saturday 2nd February and features entertainment from Aboriginal musicians. Tickets cost \$100 and are available by calling 1800 807 737.

- Ends -

For more information, interviews or photo opportunities:

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