

# BABBINYUWI WANDA

Father & Son Climbing



## Help prepare your son for adulthood.

This life-changing experience is focussed on bringing out the best in your boy.

It addresses the physical, emotional and psychological changes happening in your boy's teenage life in a safe and structured way. It is an ancient tradition called a Rite of Passage.

*Initiated By:*



THE  
RITES OF  
PASSAGE  
INSTITUTE

*Proudly Supported By:*



## About Us

Butchulla Men's Business Aboriginal Association Inc. is a Not for Profit, Aboriginal organisation, incorporated on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

The Association is an initiative of male descendants of the Butchulla Aboriginal people of the Fraser Coast of Queensland, formed to assist in the strengthening of their cultural, social, economic and political position within their traditional lands.

Since incorporation, a major concern highlighted by the Association has been the loss of the traditional initiation ceremonies. These ceremonies were the traditional responsibility of Butchulla men. It was subsequently realised that the loss of ceremony has had a negative affect on both the boys who should have been initiated, and the men who should have been initiated and performed those ceremonies.



In August, 2018 a group of 34 Men and 16 local high school students were involved in a pilot camp at Raven's Hill on the Great Sandy Straights. This camp was lead by Butchulla Elder Uncle Glen Miller in partnership with Brad Crosbie from WYLD Projects and the Rites of Passage institutes CEO Arne Rubinstein. The pilot camp was assisted by members from Education QLD, QLD Police & Ambulance Service and the Bunya Peoples Aboriginal Corporation, to create the first Rites of Passage for Indigenous Boys on Butchulla Country in 200 years.

 **YouTube** search: [BRINGING BACK THE BUTCHULLA](#) for more information.



## About The Camp

The Babbinyuwi Wanda (*Father and Son Climbing*) Camp involves a 4 night and 5 day bush camp for boys aged 14-18 with their fathers and/or a mentor.



### Father/Mentor and Son

The men and the boys spend time together in a fun and safe environment. Learning, sharing stories and overcoming challenges. All men are involved in supporting the boys to transition into young men. These processes have been developed by the Rites of Passage Institute for more than 25 years, and have applied their extensive knowledge and core values from around the world to create a modern day Rites of Passage, developing a program that allows it to be delivered in today's society. Only the Father, mentors and boys will fully experience the process.

### Mothers and Carers

We encourage the schools and community to hold yarnning circles whilst your boys are away. Catch up for a cuppa or even start a weaving group. We will have a special Facebook page setup for you to see a daily update of some of these life changing moments.

 Search Babbinyuwi and WYLD Projects Indigenous Corporation



### Camp Returns and Celebrations

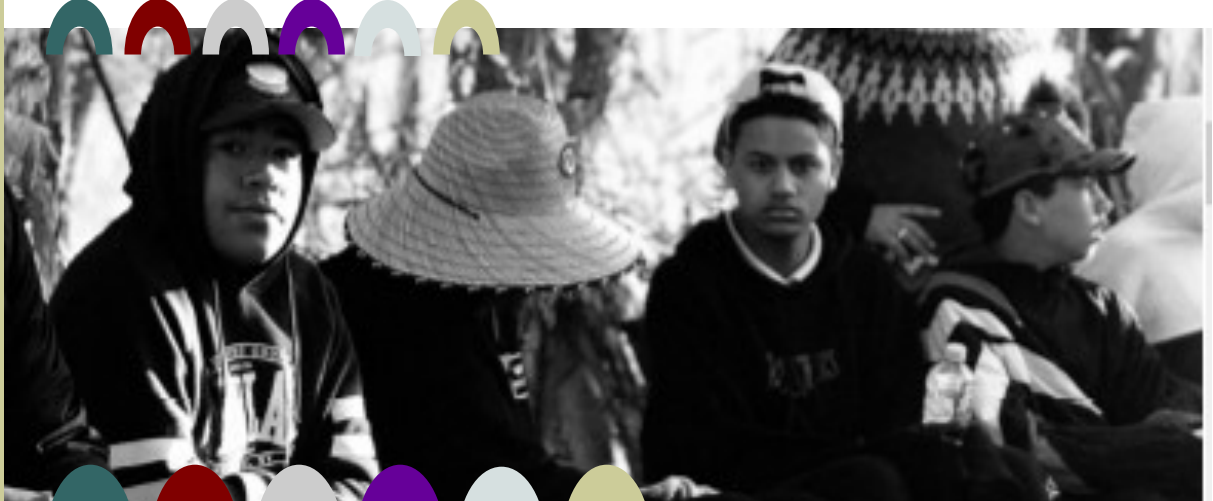
Nan and Pop, Mums and Carer's Aunty and Uncle, Cuzzies and extended family members are invited to the camp return celebration. This marks the official return of the now young men.



## FAQ

### What is a coming of age Rite of Passage?

A coming of age Rite of Passage is a process that recognises things are changing in a young boys life. We already have many Rites of Passage as a normal part of our lives including birthdays, wedding and graduations. This is a chance to acknowledge and celebrate transformation as he moves from being a boy to a young man. *More information search <https://ritesofpassageinstitute.org/>*



### Who is attending?

- Invited students from the Fraser Coast, and Bundaberg regions, between the ages of 14 and 18, referred through community for WYLD Projects and Butchulla Men to assess.
- Butchulla Men's Business Members, WYLD Project Staff, Rites of Passage facilitators, QLD Ambulance Service, QLD Police, Education QLD Staff, Butchulla Cultural Expert,
- Any support staff will have Working with Children checks and all adults will have completed Mandatory working with children training.
- Approved Schools and Community organisation's staff.

### Will my son be safe?

YES. A fully equipped Ambulance is on site for the duration of the camp manned with an ambulance officer. Occupational Health and Safety guidelines, Child Protection policies and procedures, qualified First Aid officers and evacuation procedures in place on all camps.

### My son's father can't or won't come – who can come on the camp with him?

Dads are encouraged to attend, but we are aware that this is not always an available option. A grandfather, uncle or close family friend actively involved in your boy's life might attend in their absence. If this is not available, we will pair a mentor to accompany your boy through the process where possible. Give us a call.

### Is there any follow up after the camp?

Yes. WYLD Projects and the (Babbinyuwi) working team can maintain contact in school or outside the school gate, organising social gatherings, camps, and if requested home visit. Fathers/Mentors are encouraged to be involved with Butchulla Men's Business, WYLD Projects, and the (Babbinyuwi) working team, see contact below.

### Contact:

Glen Miller 0417 845 354 Butchulla Men's Business Association  
Brad Crosbie 0405 382 981 WYLD Projects

