



Uluru from a secret place behind our Yulara campsite...shhhh! don't tell anyone.

Photo by Paul Hoogendyk ©

Welcome to our June Newsletter.

When we crept out of our warm bed this morning the temperature was 2 degrees c, if not for our wood fire, which we had ticking over through the night, our home would have been freezing. It was then that we once more, really appreciated and were grateful for all we have.

Also thought about our desert journeys next year and realised that it would be the end of winter that our July/August journey would occur. Had one return member from this year who cannot decide which one to go on, May or July and so I said "Well it could be flys versus cold." During the day it would be cool but the sun would soon warm the desert day up. When we said to Brett from SEIT Outback Australia, the company we use to travel with, that it would be cold at night and in the mornings he said he had something for that. Ok, I'll ask..."What is that?".....a spray can of toughen up, was his reply! He is right we have become soft in our warm homes and clothes, with bellys full of warm food and it reminded me of the people we came across in the countries we traveled through on our sacred greenstone journeys, who had no clothes, no homes and no food to eat in the middle of any season, let alone winter. So I for one am looking forward to being out in the crisp evening and morning air, warming myself by the campfire and snuggled into a gloriously warm swag at night watching the endless display of stars in the clear night skies.

We had a couple of people who would really like to come say that paying the full amount of the deposit right now is not possible. So Paul and I thought about it and came up with a plan.

To hold your space all you have to do is fill in a [registration form](#) and put down a \$500 deposit. The rest of the deposit for both journeys is due the end of December 2014. The full payment for the May 2015 journey is due 30th February 2015 and for the July/August journey, March 30th 2015.....so you have plenty of time to put the payments aside between due dates. You can always do a payment plan as well and you can do that by just contacting us and we will work one out together.

The journeys are life changing and you can read what some of the group from last May had to say on our [workshops web page](#) From there you can also access all the information you need to be able to join us on our next journeys into the beautiful Central Australian desert to spend time with the last Elders of the Anangu.....such a special time and it is running out.

Last week Paul was invited to give a talk to a group of people who all had talents and skills to share at an evening where they are able to perform and get positive feedback and assistance from like minded people. Asked to share our experiences with our journeys and our lives, Paul expressed a concern for the lack of "community" in our lives today and that gatherings and sharing such as these were really important. Peter Nyangu, literally the last elder from one of the countries we visited sat with us around the camp fire and it sadden him that his people didn't gather anymore around the fires to sing and dance, to pass on sacred lore/law and to teach the young ones how to be with others, the land and the animals. He spends some of his time in a retirement village built specifically for indigenous people where they have fires they can sit around whenever they want, outside their rooms. Brett 1 was telling us about a time he visited Peter there and he began to play his clapping sticks and sing the old songs as they sat outside around his fire. Within minutes whoever could walk and the rest on their motorised wheelchairs, joined Peter in telling the stories and singing the songs they had learnt as young children....they shared their parts of the songlines and that was when it hit home to Brett that most of these precious stories and songs now reside in retirement homes. These journeys we go on out into the desert really are a very small window of opportunity.



FINALLY....!! Yeah after lots of work book 2 is ready for printing. We thought long and hard about whether to just ebook, print on demand or offset print. We came to the conclusion that if we wanted to keep the quality and energy in our books then we would have to opt for offset. We are also putting out an ebook, just as [book 1](#) is and that will follow soon.

So what we are asking is for you to get behind us to help us get it printed and if you would like a copy of Book 2 "Set By The Ancients..The Greenstone Journeys continue" it is now available for pre-purchase. We have put together a few really special specials just for you, your friends and family and our FB friends and family. One in particular is not on our website as yet....with every Book 2 you purchase you can get Book 1 @ cost for 9.95.....great for a gift or two if you already have a copy. So we have created a page just for you to say thank you for all the support you have given us over the years...[Here is the link](#)

If you read and enjoyed Book 1 then you will love Book 2. We also listened to your feedback and it has bigger font, more images and larger, plus of course, those amazing stories! 312 pages all up.

We know our first book inspired people to go out and do things they may never have had the courage to do before and we hope the same will happen with our new one....so for now and always,

REMEMBER to Follow YOUR Heart and Live YOUR dreams!

Phoebe and Paul Hoogendyk.