

From Little Things Big Things Grow Published by One Day Hill and Affirm Press RRP: \$19.95

Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody's song, *From Little Things, Big Things Grow*, is the anthem of the land rights movement in Australia, telling the story of the Gurindji people and their stand against the might of cattle baron, Lord Vestey.

It is the story of the 1966 walk-off by the Gurindji from Vestey's Wave Hill cattle station in the Northern Territory.

What began as a strike over wages and conditions ended as a battle for land rights that predated Mabo.

In the first months following the beginning of the strike, the Gurindji moved camp to Wattie Creek, in the heart of their traditional land and waited.

They knew they had right on their side and would win out.

In August 1975, Prime Minister Gough Whitlam arrived and poured sand into Gurindji strike leader Vincent Lingiari's hand, symbolising the return of Gurindji land to traditional owners.

The book is available at bookshops nationally.

Ngukurr celebrates 100 years

Remote Aboriginal community Ngukurr celebrated its 100th anniversary in September.

400 people attended celebrations included bush raft racing, sporting competitions and a battle of the bands.

Ngukurr in southern Arnhem Land, started as the first mission in the area after three Indigenous and three non-Indigenous missionaries sailed up the Roper River 100 years ago.

The celebrations began with a re-enactment of the landing of the missionaries and this was followed by a series of prayers, and a number of people telling stories of what life was like at the old mission.

'We Are Aboriginal: Our 100 Years', a book and DVD set has been produced by the com-



munity to mark the celebrations and is an historical account of the Roper River region.

All profits from sales go toward supporting literacy at Ngukurr School.

Natasha's road to success



Above: Natasha Abbott

Territorians prove too deadly

Aboriginal Territorians in the fields of music, sport and education have made a splash in Sydney with this year's Deadly Awards.

Territorians recognised in the 2008 Deadlies included: Singer Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu: Singer of the Year, Album of the Year, and Artist of the Year; Paul Djolpa McKenzie from Maningrida: Outstanding Achievement in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education; Michael Long: Ella Lifetime Achievement Award for Contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sport; Auriel Andrews: Jimmy Little Lifetime Achievement Award for Contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Music;

Jodie Cockatoo-Creed shared an APRA Song of the Year award.

A Central Australian who was runner-up in a national Indigenous training award has said the honour shows that hard work does pay off.

Natasha Abbott is a community relations officer with Newmont's Jundee Operations in Western Australia but previously worked for the company at its Tanami operations in Central Australia.

Originally from Alice Springs, Ms Abbott now lives in Perth.

She said finishing second in the Australian Government's National Training Awards - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the

Year 2008 - is a great thrill.

"The award is something I am most proud of," she said. "It highlights to me that by putting in the hard work and showing commitment through work and enjoying life at the same time can really pay off by opening the doors to endless training and employment opportunities for you."

She got her start with Newmont with help from the Central Land Council's Mining Employment Unit in an entry level administration job.

"The reason I enjoy my work is that I've found an employer that

has invested their time and money into me by providing me with all my training and employment needs over the years to get me to where I am today - being a community relations officer for an international company that has mine operations around the world," Ms Abbott said.

"I get to travel, meet new people and see places and be involved in something I really enjoy the most by supporting Aboriginal people through an employment and training system at the mine site where I want them to succeed through the system the way I did."