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# *Murlpirrmarra Connection Limited*

ABN 53160539195

## Malaysian Cultural Experience 2013

### Trip Summary

Date: Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> 2013–Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> 2013 Inclusive

Destination: Malaysia

Attendees: Duran Patch, Braden Riley, Ada Ashwin, Darren Patten (CEO), Mick Wilson (Director)

#### **Organisation Introduction:**

The MURLPIRRMARRA CONNECTION assists and supports in the areas of education, educational options, sporting pathways, health, rehabilitation, discipline, self-confidence and employment prospects for young Wiluna and Murchison based Aboriginal men and women, and by supporting in these areas allowing the regional youth to contribute constructively in the Wiluna community and wider society.

This is achieved by a variety of activities performed between the students, parents, educational facilities, partnered organisations and government departments.

This interaction creates a smooth and comfortable transition for the students into educational facilities, development programs and maintains a high level of engagement.

Maintaining the wellbeing and engagement of participating students is a primary focus for the Murlpirrmarra Connection and this is accompanied by implementing school holiday programs in the Wiluna and Murchison areas to help with the important aspect of student re-engagement.

MURLPIRRMARRA = To Make Strong, To Make Confident, To Empower (Martu Language)



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## **Malaysian Cultural Experience Trip: Overview**

Three of Murlpirrmarra Connections supported students Duran Patch, Braden Riley and Ada Ashwin graduated year 12 in November and early December 2013.

After four years of Murlpirrmarra Connections support and mentoring of all three students, Mick Wilson (Murlpirrmarra Connection Director) came up the idea of a trip to Malaysia to further educate and reward all three students for their sustained efforts and graduation.

With the support of Murlpirrmarra Connections partner GWR Group Limited (GWR) and their major shareholder TS Law Holdings, a trip was organised and co-ordinated for an eight day trip around Malaysia departing December 11<sup>th</sup> the day after Braden Riley's graduation ceremony in Esperance WA.

The organisational process began some three months before the departure date with the first task acquiring passports for Duran, Braden and Ada.

This seemingly straight forward task became very difficult, due to the fact that all three students family dynamics are quite complex.

After numerous visits to the WA Passport Office, Birth Deaths and Marriages Office and several trips to Wiluna (1000km North East of Perth), all three passports where obtained with Braden's finally arriving the day before departure thanks to Ruth Poole from the WA Passport Office who worked a Sunday to get it over the line.

Duran and Ada had graduated mid and late November from Clontarf Aboriginal College in Perth and North Albany Senior High School respectively and had returned to Wiluna.

Braden's graduation was Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of December at Wongutha CAPS in Esperance, so Duran and Ada flew to Perth on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of December to meet Braden who was driven back to Perth by Darren Patten, Murlpirrmarra's CEO and Mick Wilson, Director.

All three students stayed at Darren's home Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> before everyone rose at 4am on Wednesday to pick up Mick and start the Murlpirrmarra Connection's Malaysian Cultural Experience.

- Student Flights: Wiluna - Perth supplied by Danny Sweeny and Shaun Clark (SMS Rentals) and Gary Lyons (GWR Chairman and managing Director Heiniger Australia)
- Malaysian airline tickets: (Supplied by Mr Mick Wilson).
- Whilst in Malaysia we were the guests of Malaysian Businessman and GWR Deputy Chairman Tan Sri Dato David Law





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### Day 1:

Departing at 6.40am from Perth International Airport we arrived in Kuala Lumpur 12.10pm and we were greeted at the airport by TS Law Holdings Teck Wong and Michael Low. On arrival in Kuala Lumpur city we were honoured to have a very special luncheon at Tan Sri Dato' David Law's personal restaurant before a special private meeting with Tan Sri Dato' David Law in his magnificent board room.

Day 1 continued with Duran, Ada, Braden, Darren and Mick checking into the fabulous PARKROYAL Hotel in down town Kuala Lumpur before a traditional Malaysian evening meal at the hotel, followed by a walk through central Kuala Lumpur which capped of a very memorable day.

### Day 2:

Day 2 consisted of a very thorough tour of Kuala Lumpur with our personal driver/ guide for the duration of our time, Mr Koh.

- Visits to the Twin Towers
- Kuala Lumpur's Space Needle,
- The Court Gardens,
- The Malaysian Kings Palace,
- The World's biggest Bird Garden Avery
- Shopping
- Traditional Malaysian meal with TS Law Holding staff and sampling the king of fruits (Durrian). A fruit you either love or hate.

### Day 3:

#### Activities:

- Taman Rama-Rama & Reptile Park visit (Butterfly & Reptile Park),
- Malacca visit (200km South East of Kuala Lumpur),
- Christ Church: Historical Church
- Cheng Ho Cultural Museum,
- Maritime Museum Malacca,
- Lunch at Hard Rock Café, Malacca
- Beach visit
- Return to Kuala Lumpur
- Basket Ball three on three pick-up match at Kuala Lumpur's Golf and Country Club with TS Law Holding's staff and , the Wiluna team put up a good show and despite the TS





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Law team having a home country and home ground advantage the game was a draw at 35 points each

- Hotel & Dinner

### Day 4:

Activities:

Departed Kuala Lumpur for the town of Dungun, which is situated 400 km north east of Kuala Lumpur in the Islamic state of Terengganu Darul Iman.

Dungun is the nearest town to Bukit Besi, an historical Iron Ore Mining town where TS Law Holdings has an exploration project.

On the way to Dungun we visited,

- Malaysia's Elephant Conservation Park,
- Malaysia's Deer Park,
- Lunch in the town of Temerloh,
- Dinner at a restaurant called "Double Happiness" in Dungun
- Accommodation at Dungun University Hotel, (Training hotel for local students)

### Day 5:

Departed Dungun for a tour of the Bukit Besi mine site and then toured the construction site of a massive \$1.5 billion Steel Mill 15 km away.

Another 5hr drive to the famous Genting Highlands 60km north of KL and situated 1740 metres amongst the clouds. Spectacular

- Shopping
- Theme Parks

### Days 6:

Departed midday from the Mountain topped "Genting Highlands Resort" and made our way down to

- Chinese Temple built by Tan Sri Dato Seri (Dr.) Lim Goh Tong, (The founder of the Genting Empire).

On our way back to KL we stopped off to take in the

- Batu Cave Murugan (Spectacular) before heading to Kuala Lumpur central.





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### Days 7:

- Shopping at the Pavilion Mall in Kuala Lumpur
- Afternoon swim and gym workout
- VIP treatment at Restoran Chuai Heng.  
A fabulous meal hosted by Teck Wong at which three Aboriginal dot paintings by artists from Wiluna were presented as a gift for Tan Sri Dato David Law. One painting was by Ada's mother Yvonne Ashwin.
- One last visit to Kuala Lumpur's China town.

### Day 8:

- Return travel to Perth

A big thankyou to the trips supporters Tan Sri Dato David Law, Teck Wong, Michael Low, Anson, Mick Wilson, Mr Koh, David McCutcheon, Peter Dawson, Shaun Clark, Gary Lyons, GWR and all who supported this wonderful life changing cultural experience.

A wonderful and fulfilling trip was had by all with Ada, Duran and Braden having captured some life long memories and some very special life experiences thanks to you all.

Duran, Braden and Ada headed home to Wiluna the 20<sup>th</sup> of December after their great 8 day "Malaysian Cultural Experience". Well done guys you've made Murlpirrmarra Connection, your family, yourselves and the Wiluna community very proud.

### Photo Gallery



*Murlpirrmarra Connection's supporting partners*



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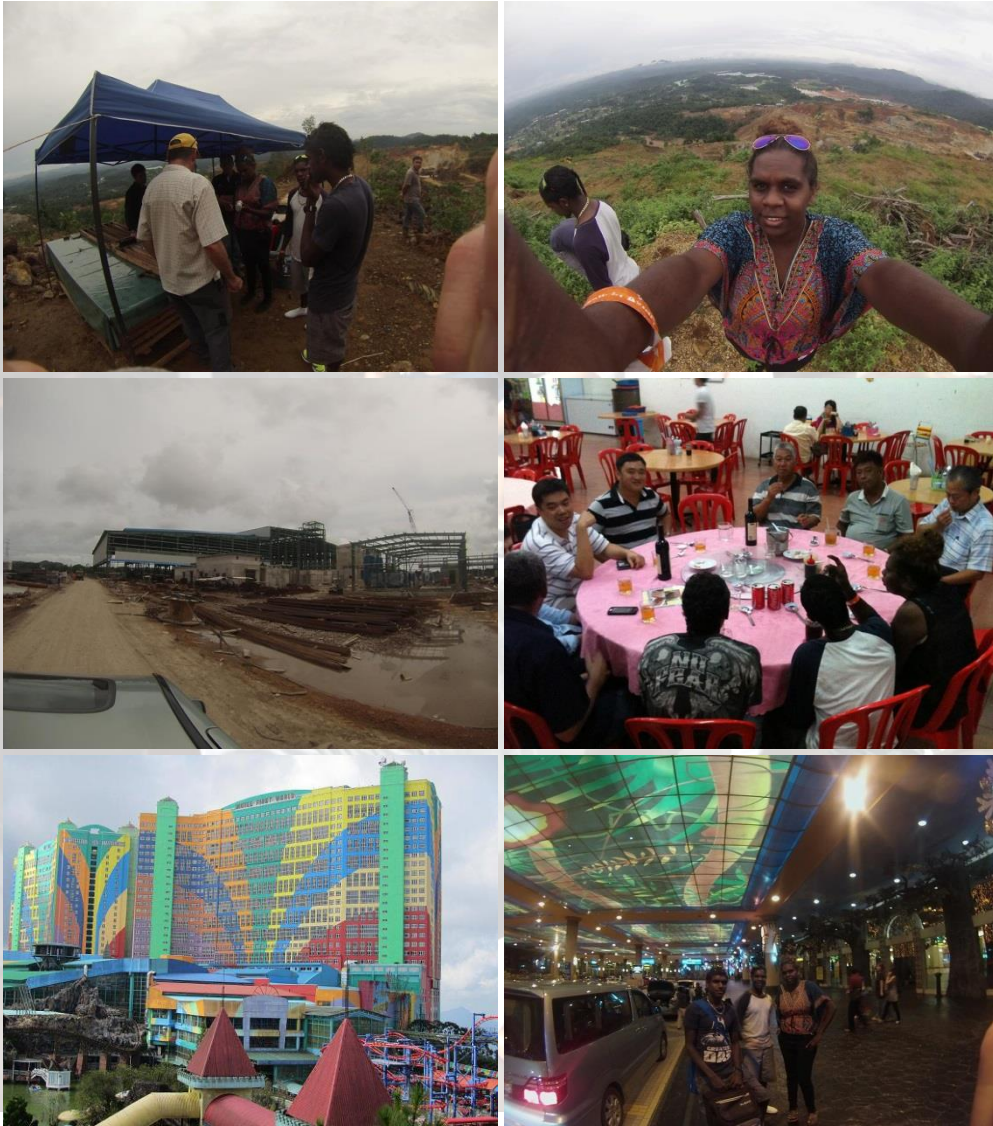


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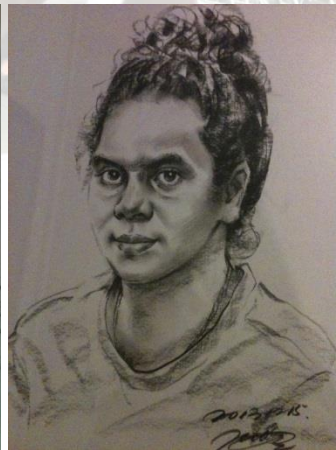
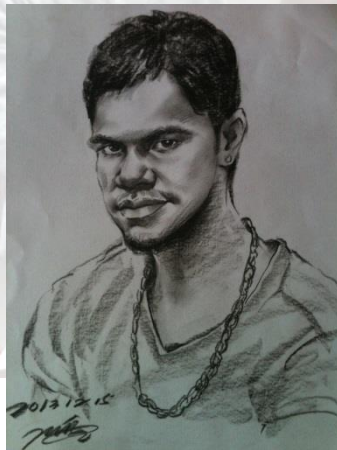
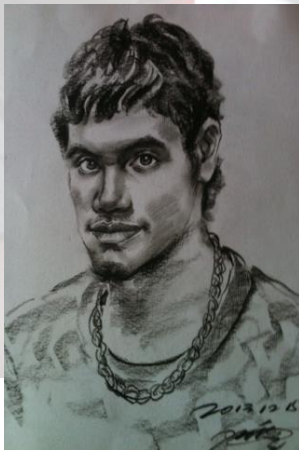


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### Duran Patch

- Date of Birth: 19/02/1996  
Meekatharra
- School Year: Year 12, 2013
- Educational Institution: North Albany Senior High  
Commencement: Term 4 2009
- Former School: Karalundi Aboriginal Education Community
- Achievements: Vocational Educational Training: Cert II Civil Construction, Albany Tafe  
Drivers Licence
- 2010, 2011, 2012 & 2013: Football Academy Fairest & Best
- 2011, 2012, 2013: NASHS Cross Country Champion & Interschool Champ, 2011& 2012
- Clontarf Football Carnival @ Patterson Stadium  
Fairest & best on ground
- Mt Barker Football Club League Player



### Ada Ashwin

- Date of Birth: 4/3/1996
  - School Year: Year 12, 2013
  - Educational Institution: Clontarf Aboriginal College, Manning, Perth  
Commencement: Term 3, 2011
  - Former School: Remote Wiluna Community School
  - Achievements: VET: Cert II Horticulture & Tourism  
Bronze Medallion  
Skippers Licence
  - Principle's Community Award 2012
  - Cross Country Champion: 2013
  - Year 11 Academic Art Award 2012
  - Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership Award, CGA Friendship Award,
  - Cert II in Horticulture, Urban Indigenous Tours Traineeship,
  - Learners Driving Permit
- Ada is the first female in her family to Graduate and possibly the first Indigenous female from Wiluna to graduate (TBC)



### Braden Riley

- Date of Birth: 5/10/1996
- School Year: Year 12, 2013
- Educational Institution: Wongutha Caps Esperance,
- Former Schools: Clontarf Aboriginal College, Perth & Remote Wiluna Community School
- Commencement: Term 4, 2010
- Achievements: Wongutha CAPS Highest Achiever Award English 1A
- Vocational educational Training: Cert II Retail @ Esperance Bunning's Store 2013
- Newtown Condungup Football Club Reserves & Colts player 2013
- Esperance State Basketball Championship representative: 2013



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### Moving Forward: 2014

Ada, Duran and Braden have all been enrolled in the Nyaarla Projects (IYMP) Indigenous Youth Mobility Program for 2014. This program has just recently changed hands and will be under the operation of the (CEA Group) Career Employment Australia.

Under this program all three students will return and reside in Perth in early to mid-February 2014 and will look to complete their chosen paths in the metropolitan area for the duration of their post-secondary school educations.

Duran is looking to partake in a diesel mechanics apprenticeship as well as continuing his promising football endeavours with the South Fremantle Football Club.

Duran is currently in Wiluna with family and conducts heritage surveys in the region through the (CDNT) Central Desert Native Title Organisation.

Braden will be undertaking a building traineeship / apprentice through the CEA Group whilst in Perth and will also maintain his football endeavours through South Fremantle Football Club.

Braden is also currently in Wiluna with family and has been working with Golden West Resources Group Limited at their Wiluna West Site on their road upgrades.

Ada is also in Wiluna with family and is currently working as the assistant to the Wiluna Shires Sport and Recreation Manager. Ada has maintained this position throughout the holiday periods in 2013.

Ada will continue to work in a Trainees position at Urban Indigenous Tours in Fremantle when arriving back in Perth. Ada has been with Urban Indigenous Tours for some 8 months through the Clontarf Aboriginal Colleges (VET) Vocational Educational Training program and Urban Indigenous Tours are very happy and excited about Ada's return.

*All three students and their families will have the Murlpirrmarra Connections utmost support and mentoring during this exciting period of their lives.*



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[WWW.MURLPIRRMARRA.COM.AU](http://WWW.MURLPIRRMARRA.COM.AU)



Murlpirmarra Connection can now be found on **Donate Planet**

<https://donateplanet.com/charities/read/murlpirmarra-connection-limited/>

Murlpirmarra Connection can now be found on **YouTube**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GUuIrAoLN5I>

Murlpirmarra Connection can now be found on **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Murlpirmarra-Connection-Limited/554751187872792>

Murlpirmarra Connection can now be found on **Google +**

<https://plus.google.com/105056947302403856330/posts>



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# Thank You for Your Support



*Report Author: Darren Patten; For and on behalf of Murupirramarra Connection Ltd*



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