

From Taumarunui to the Tropics

“Discovering the Dreamtime”



Acknowledgements



Some background

- Current Popn 25 million
- Six states with six state parliaments
- Each with different constitutions
- 10 territories outside each state
- ATSI Popn 800,000
- Australian Aboriginal languages consist of around 290–363 languages

**So to the tropics this
kiwi ventured**





Whats up Weipa?

- History?
- Set up as a mining town in 1968
- Bauxite rich land
- Popn 4600+ in area







Weipa and Napranum



The role of the RAN/RNP

- **Ante/Post Natal**
- **Child Health**
- **Primary Health**
- **Emergency**
- **Community**
- **Pharmacy**
- **Laboratory**
- **Radiology**
- **Ambulance**
- **Mortuary**



Navigating the Pathway to NP Practice??

- **2 pathways NMBA**
- **Masters of NP Pathway One vs**
- **Pathway Two-**
- **demonstrating competence
against NPS**
- **Then there's the
....Credentialling Process**



Remote Nurse Practitioner Warmun



Whats Up Warmun??

- History?

Set up in 1901 as a ration station to stop the poisoning of food of Aboriginal locals

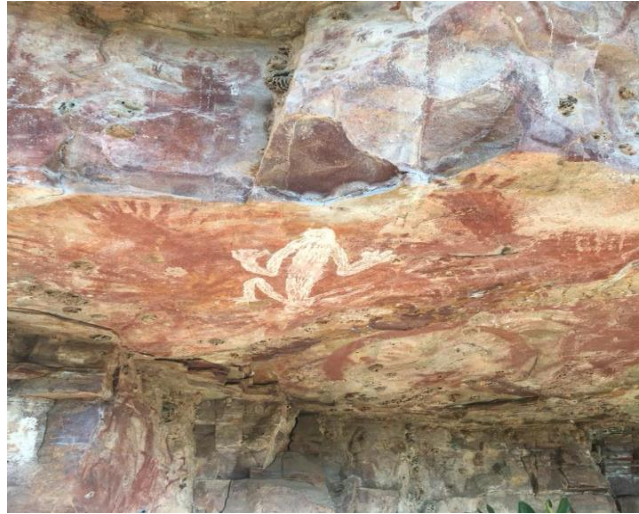
- Popn 400



The Warmun Mob



Is the Outback for YOU ????



**Unique Issues affecting
remote area nurses?**

The Remote NP Role?

- **Isolating**
- **Unpredictable**
- **Frightening**
- **Challenging**
- **Life changing**
- **Rewarding** (experiences, friendships formed & remuneration)



Remuneration??

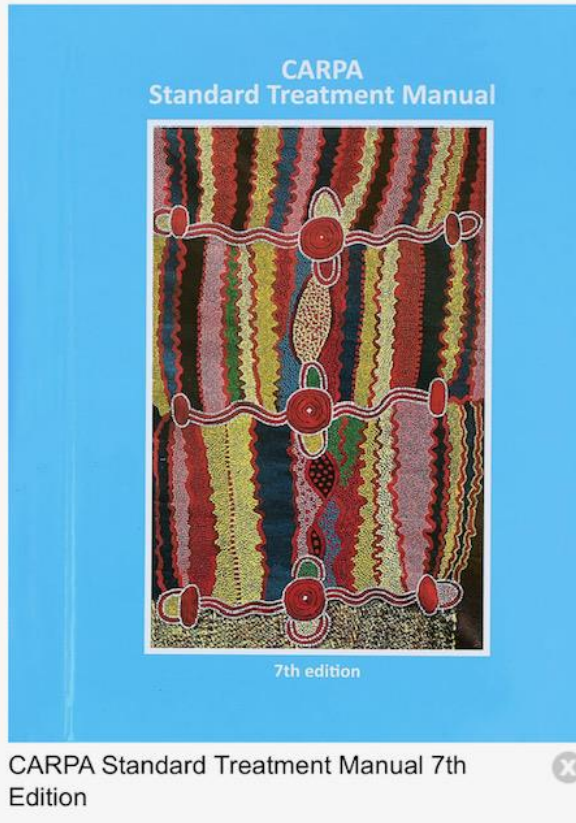
- **Accommodation/AC/Internet/Travel in & out**
 - **\$139,000 Permanent/Fixed term contract**
 - **\$35,000 25% call loading**
 - **\$20,000 On call availability**
 - **\$13,000 District Allowance**
 - **4 weeks leave**
 - **Every 12 weeks 1 extra weeks leave**
 - **\$5000 Annual retention bonus**
- \$200,000 + BUT.....**

All in a RNPs days work

- **7pm Calf degloving/avulsion-RFDS**
- **2.am Stab wound –Suturing**
- **4am Suicide –CPR-Grief Support-site security-troubleshooting-transportation to mortuary**
- **11am STEMI-stabilisation-road transfer**
- **6 pm-Prem Labour 23/40 twins APH-stabilisation-RFDS**

AND at the same time in the community an attempted suicide-hanging

So what guides your remote isolated practice?



Primary Clinical Care Manual 9th edition

The Primary Clinical Care Manual 9th edition (PCCM) is the principal clinical reference and policy document for health professionals working in diverse and rural and remote health service settings and contains clinical guidelines and Health Management Protocols. The PCCM supports best practice in rural and remote health care.



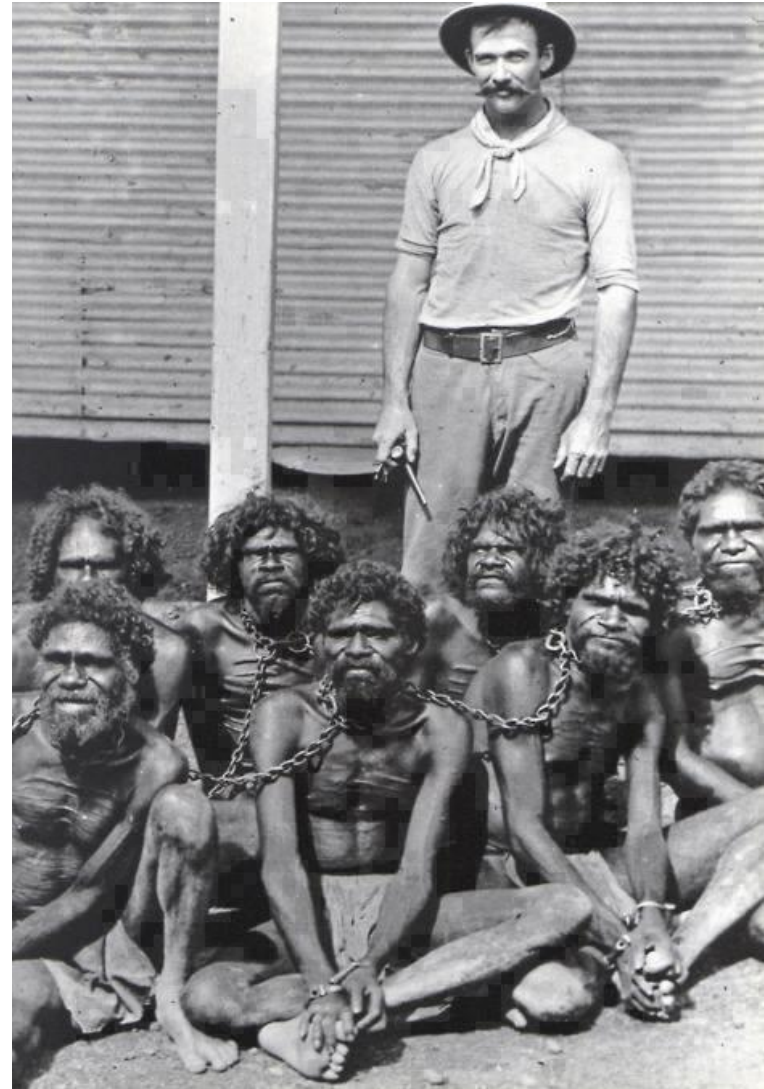
And don't leave home without....

- **An open mind**
- **A sense of humour**
- **A generalist knowledge/clinical skill set**
- **ED skills are awesome but.....**
- **Primary health skills are a bonus!**

RESEARCH RESEARCH RESEARCH

Your contract location and its history

**Australia's
Indigenous
Peoples.....
Sad
Broken
Traumatised
Marginalised
WHY?**



The impact of history of the treatment of indigenous Australians

**This Kiwi NPs take on
things...**

History and Health Impacts on Weipa and Warmun

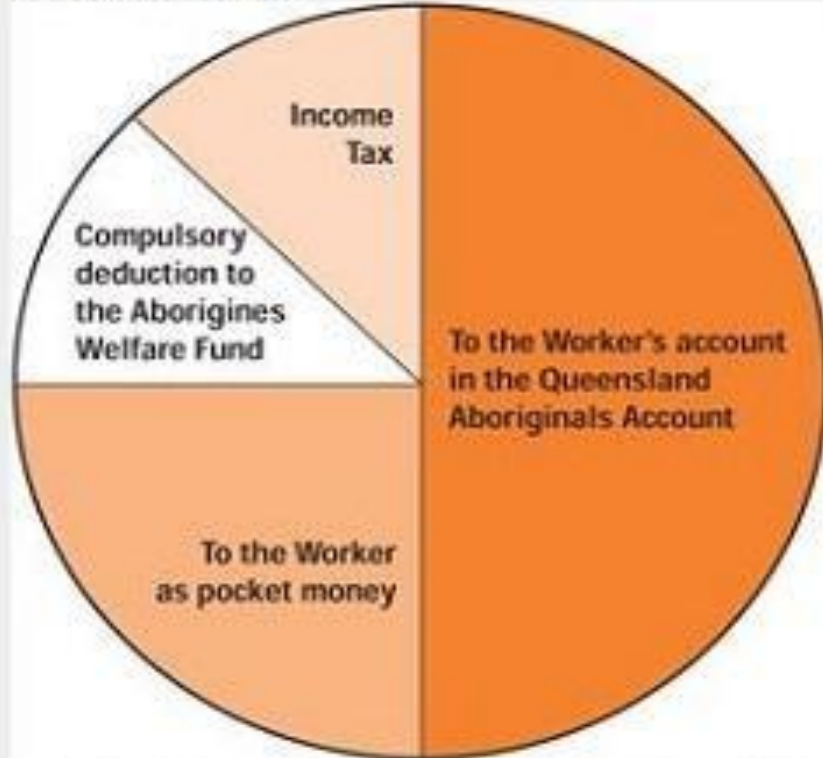
- **Stolen wages**
- **Forcible movement from lands**
- **Stolen generations**
- **Closure of stations/housing programmes**
- **Alcohol Management Plans**

Stolen Wages

From 1898 until the early 1970s, it was illegal to pay wages to Indigenous people in Queensland, under the Aborigines Protection

Act .

Where did the wages of Aboriginal workers go?



In Queensland, Jubilee Jackson worked as a stockman near Mt Garnet for 60 years from the age of ten. His pay was a small amount of pocket money at rodeo time. The rest was held in the QAA trust account.

When he died in 1967 there was only \$99 in his government controlled account.

Roy

The 'coloured boys' rarely got full meal breaks. When they did, they ate outside with the animals. They didn't get showers, but bathed in the horse troughs. While others were sleeping, they tended to the horses, often curling into their swags at midnight before the next day's 4am start.

"We were nothing more than animals".

During his 10 years as a stockman, Roy received no wages. He heard people talk about money, but had never seen it – let alone held it.

1970



Forcible “Relocation” “Beds are Burning”

www.firstnationstelegraph.com

Calls for the Queensland government to apologise for burning of Mapoon



Former resident Susie Madua at Old Mapoon. Image: Courier Mail

by Jack Andrew Wilkie-Jans
7 June 2014

There are calls upon the Queensland Government to apologise for the Burning of Mapoon fifty-one years on.

Mapoon Traditional Owner and Far North Queensland based Aboriginal Affairs advocate, Jack Wilkie-Jans, is asking for either the Minister or Assistant Minister of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs to make a motion in parliament to acknowledge and apologise for the Burning of Mapoon - an atrocity committed in 1963 under the Sir Frank Nicklin KCMG, MM government.

The Burning of Mapoon, an incident rumoured to have influenced the Beds are Burning hit song by Australian band Midnight Oil, is a shameful scar on the history of Queensland.

In 1963 the then Queensland Government sanctioned for the people of Mapoon to be forcibly moved from their homes, to be split up and sent to different locations such as Thursday Island and New Mapoon, while razing the homes and facilities of the residents.

This act was supposed to free up the land in order for bauxite mining by Comalco to ensue.

Luckily the people of Mapoon were strong and were determined to

move back to their home town and did so.

Now Mapoon has no mining and is a prime example of Australian coastal living, where blue waters meet white sands, which meets the red dust of Australian soil.

This incident is not something that is widely known or taught in schools, much like most of Australia's history relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

Last year the community of Mapoon celebrated the Pamja Festival, commemorating fifty years on from the burning and celebrating the survival of their home.

"Mapoon is a positive place now.

more give, less take

Closure of Stations





Remote Housing Programmes

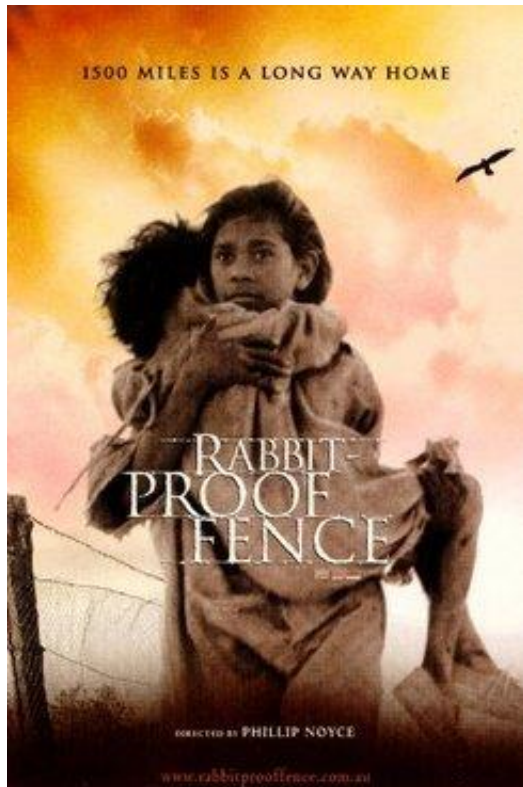
?Doomed to fail remote communities



The Stolen generations

1871-1970's

“Chief Protector” the legal guardian of all Aboriginal and half caste child until the age of 21years



Alcohol Management Plans

**Dry Communities
Restriction
Prohibition
Punishment**



In partnership with Kununurra Police, the Kununurra/Wyndham Liquor Accord has directed that the following conditions shall apply to all licensed take away outlets.

Take-away liquor shall be available between 12pm & 8pm:

- Only 3.5% beer and 3.5% RTD's.
- No bottled spirits or bottled wine.
- Beer – 3.5% maximum - 1 x block per person per day.

• No walk in's

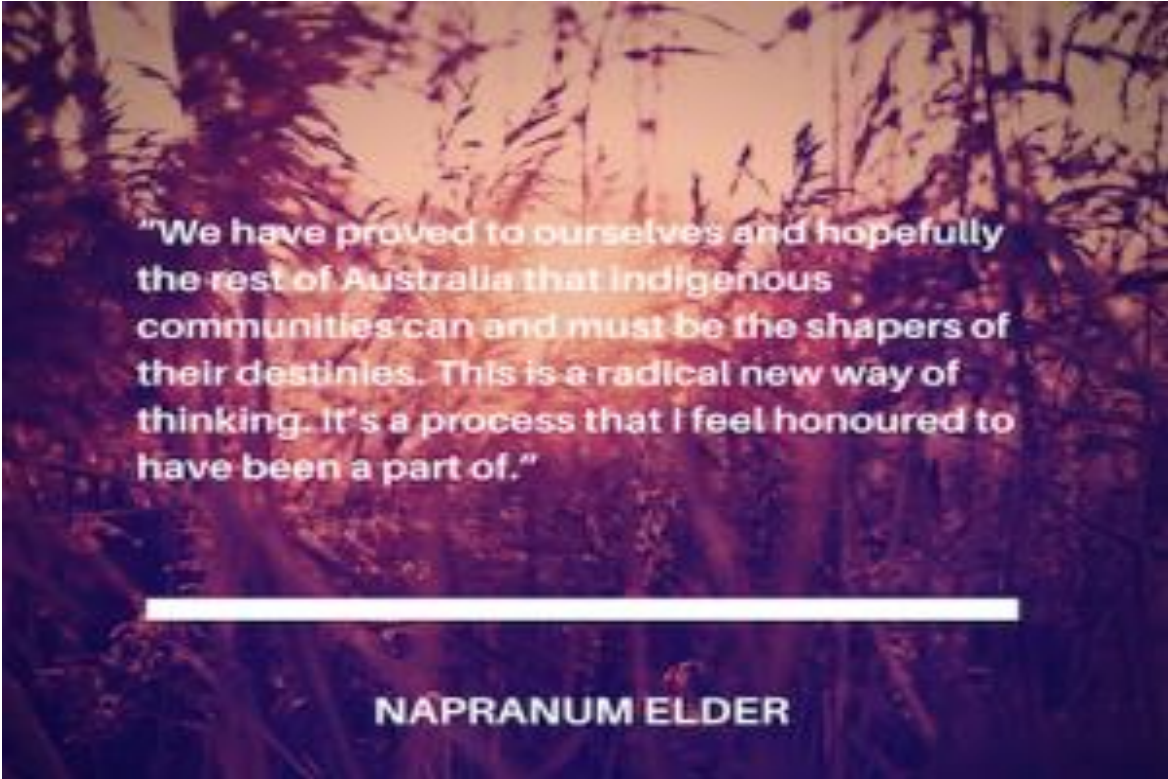
• No Service to Taxi's

• NOTE: NO FULL STRENGTH ALCOHOL WILL BE AVAILABLE TODAY.

Application may be made for purchases outside these restrictions to the approved manager of this outlet. Each application will then be assessed based on the individual request and the intended consumption circumstances, in line with policy pertaining to the responsible service of alcohol.

Indigenous Australians are moving ahead.

As proud, positive, empowered and strong people



"We have proved to ourselves and hopefully the rest of Australia that indigenous communities can and must be the shapers of their destinies. This is a radical new way of thinking. It's a process that I feel honoured to have been a part of."

NAPRANUM ELDER



NAPRANUM VENTURES



WARMUN ART



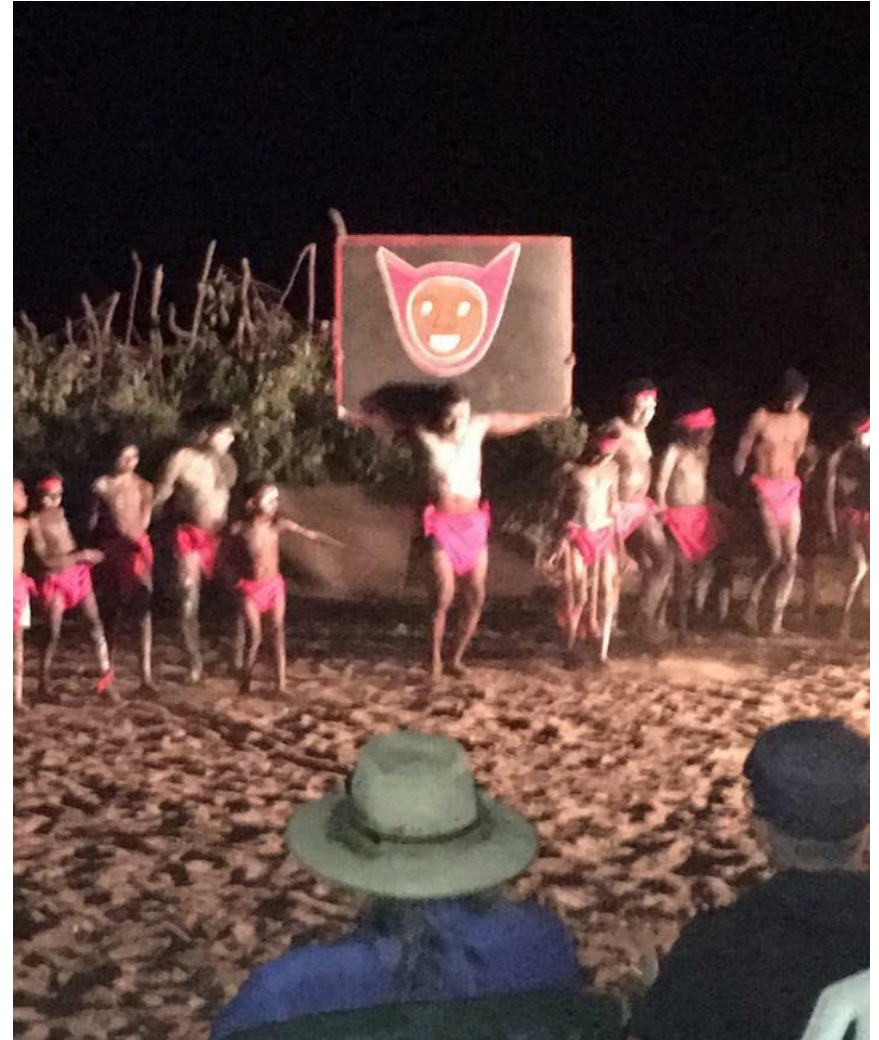
Highlights of our Tropics adventures ???



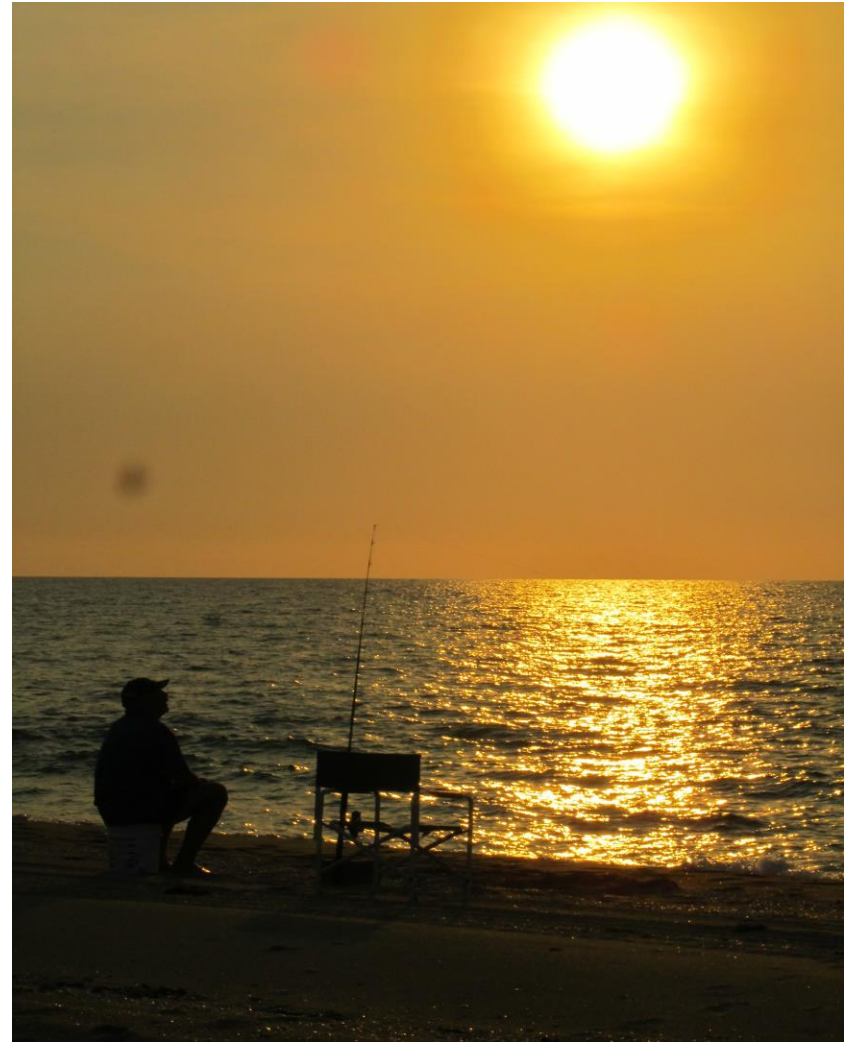
Company on my contracts!



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Culture



Best sunsets in the world



Site Seeing



Croc Free Swimming!



Trans-Tasman Rivalry and the making of lifelong friends!!



My learnings?



Hmmmm

- **Working remote is a lifechanging experience BUT**
- **There's is no place like home**
- **NZ is quite progressive in cultural and health reform BUT**
- **Australia funds rural and remote health well (we can learn from them!) BUT you just cant fund your way to health and wellbeing...**
- **Education, empowerment and self determination is the only way forward (they can learn a lot from us!)**

**Hope this might inspire a
Trans-Tasman adventure!!
Thanks for your time
Cheers!**

