



**23 June 2009**

## **2010 BOOIN GARI FESTIVAL RECEIVES BOOST**

**Member for Noosa and Shadow Minister for Climate Change & Sustainability, Glen Elmes,** said he was very pleased to be able announce that funding for the successful Booin Gari Festival, organised by local community Association, United Synergies, will be continued in 2010.

Booin Gari means *Come This Way* in the local Gubbi Gubbi language and the Festival provides an opportunity to celebrate local Aboriginal history and traditions of the Gubbi Gubbi in the Noosa region.

"I thank Desley Boyle, Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, for approving the submission for additional funding. This is a true partnership comprising both sides of Government, an excellent community organization United Synergies, and our local indigenous people" said Glen Elmes.

"An important facet in the responsibilities of my portfolio is that of Historical Cultural Heritage and I am delighted that here, in my own electorate, we are able to demonstrate the value of cultural diversity with an event which has proven to be very popular with the broader community and across all age groups.

"Cultural heritage can be seen as the significant objects, values and memories from the past that we want to preserve and hand on to future generations. An event such as Booin Gari demonstrates how Indigenous communities keep their cultural heritage alive through their sharing of knowledge, arts, rituals and performances.

"We all know Australia to be one of the more culturally diverse nations and it is wonderful to see our region showcase a day of fun and learning. The Festival is generally held within a week or two of Australia Day and over time I would like to see, in Noosa, the two events merge into one. It is the entire Australian culture and spirit that should be celebrated and I think this is a worthwhile aim for Noosa and, hopefully, we can show the way to the rest of the state

"United Synergies must also be congratulated for their ongoing contribution and coordination in the original inception and development of the Booin Gari Festival." Mr Elmes said. **ENDS**

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