UNLOCKING THE PAST: THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF KINCHELA ABORIGINAL BOYS TRAINING HOME & THE MACLEAY VALLEY, MACLEAY VALLEY, MID NORTH COAST OF NSW

On this 3 day, 2 night tour, participants will encounter important stories and insight into hidden layers of history that connect to the heritage listed Stolen Generations site, the Kinchela Aboriginal Boys Training Home, and reveal the depth of its personal and social impacts on Survivors, communities and Australian society. Further exploration of the Macleay valley will place the events within past and ongoing cultural and historical context.

This is a nationally significant truth-telling project that places the Survivors at the centre and in-control of the process. The Survivors themselves – the KBH Uncles – will play the central role in guiding this tour – a unique and powerful experience. The tour will be facilitated in partnership by Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation and Design 5 – Architects.

See the following page for a summary of the tour itinerary:
Day One – Sunday 10 September 2023 (L,D)

Please make your own travel arrangements to arrive at Port Macquarie Airport by 12pm midday. Suggested flight: Qantas QF2162

Participants will be collected at the airport in a minibus. Participants, KBH Survivors and assisting staff will travel together in the minibus for duration of tour.

Welcome to Country along with introductory and welcoming yarn will be provided by KBH Survivors and local Aboriginal elders at the Birpai Local Aboriginal Land Council Office in Port Macquarie. A catered lunch will be provided.

Following lunch, visit Blackman’s Point north of Port Macquarie, site of a recorded massacre of Birpai people in the 1820s. Guidance will be provided by local Birpai and Dungnuty elder Rhonda Radley.

Travel by coach to Kempsey.

Kempsey Railway Station visit. Welcome to Dunghutti Country and the legacies of colonisation in the Macleay Valley. Interpret the mechanisms used in Stolen Generations, guided by a Kinchela Aboriginal Boys Training Home Survivor.

Visit the Kinchela Aboriginal Boys Training Home (KBH) site, guided by Kinchela Aboriginal Boys Training Home Survivors. Truth-telling and discussion including a screening of The Kinchela Boys animation with KBH Mobile Education Centre (MEC) bus.

Enjoy dinner with the KBH Uncles at the Dunghutti Elders Council, South Kempsey.

Accommodation: Fairway Lodge Motel (Australian-style roadside motel with bushland setting) x 2 nights
385 Macleay Valley Way, Kempsey New South Wales 2440
Phone: +61 (0)2 6562 7099

Day Two – Monday 11 Sep 2023 (B, L, D)

Barbecue breakfast at Fairway Lodge Motel.

Travel to South Kempsey Information Centre. In the MEC, view the Introduction to Dunghutti Country video, followed by the 1960’s ABC footage of racial discrimination in Kempsey.

Visit the Kempsey Museum, designed by Glen Murcutt AO. Discuss contrast between popular Australian historical themes and the relative invisibility of 60,000 years of Aboriginal history and culture.
Visit Burnt Bridge Aboriginal Reserve – a significant former Aboriginal Mission – from where a KBH Survivor was kidnapped. A panel of elders, comprising survivors, family members and those who escaped being kidnapped, will discuss the impact of Stolen Generation on individuals and communities.

Travel to KBH Site, with a bush food theme lunch provided upon arrival.

Second Truth telling and discussion session led by Kinchela Aboriginal Boys Training Home Survivors. Will include a visit out to the ‘KBH Farm Site’, the very significant KBH Fig Tree and discussion of the proposed Healing Centre development.

Travel to South West Rocks. Dinner at the South West Rocks Surf Club. Discover more footprints left by KBH survivors in the wider community, with photographs of KBH boys amongst surf lifesaving memorabilia.

Day Three – Tuesday 12 Sep 2023 (B, L)

Please settle any incidentals on your room account and check out of your hotel.

Breakfast at Old School Building, South West Rocks, a KBH-associated site with many Survivor stories.

Visit Smokey Cape, South West Rocks for a guided tour of Aboriginal cultural landscape with a local Aboriginal guide.

Visit Trial Bay Gaol in Arakoon National Park, South West Rocks for European Colonial history overlaid with further Aboriginal cultural landscape.

Enjoy fish and chips for lunch at South West Rocks, typical coastal fishing village. An opportunity for conversation and reflections and swim at the beach.

Transfer to Port Macquarie.

Departure Port Macquarie late afternoon/early evening.
Suggested flight: QF2169 4:35pm or REX ZL6375 5:15pm

End of arrangements

Further details over page:
Hosted by: Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation (KBHAC) in partnership with Design 5 – Architects

Tour Cost:
$1060.00 per person based on double occupancy
$1180.00 per person based on single occupancy

Tour Inclusions:
• Accommodation as specified (where possible)
• Sightseeing including coach transport and guided experiences, commencing from Port Macquarie airport as per the itinerary
• Yarning sessions with KBH Survivors and other First Nations elders
• English speaking commentary
• Breakfast daily and other meals as specified (Breakfast = B, Lunch = L, Dinner = D) including 1 x cultural dinner experience

Not Included
• Airfares to/from Port Macquarie
• Meals other than specified
• Personal expenses
• Beverages & anything not specifically mentioned

Airfares
Domestic airfares to pre and post tour destinations are not included in the ground / base cost of the tour. Please advise the ICOMOS GA2023 Managers of your flight details so that they can arrange your airport transfers. You may still register on the pre and post tours if you have not finalised your travel arrangements. On completion of the registration form, you will be issued with an access key, which you need to record as this key allows you to access and update your booking and registration details at a later date.

Restrictions/Accessibility:

Fitness level: Gentle

Minimum number of participants: 10

Maximum number of participants: 40

Is French speaking commentary available: NO