



Mantiyupwi Gambling Management Project Ground Up Research

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Aims of the Research

1. To help the Mantiyupwi Family Trust better understand what Tiwi people in Wurrumiyanga think about gambling management
2. To suggest to the Mantiyupwi Board some strategies for management
3. To build up local Tiwi research capacity





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Tiwi Research Team



What we did...

- Spoke to 55 Tiwi people over 4 visits
- Starting with senior ladies
- Asked for stories and ideas about gambling
- Asked permission to share their stories and have pictures taken
- Each visit we reviewed ideas and recommendations
- Worked at CDU to develop a management strategy for Mantiyupwi
- We are presenting to the Board
- We will finalise a report for the Board

Tiwi voices



“When we’re playing card games, we’re speaking in Tiwi. Come together speaking one Tiwi language, understand each other. Is a Tiwi way of life, what we are doing today.”



“Parents aren’t being strong. Young boys need to learn about songs. Have to learn how to sing – culture way. Instead of break and enter, need culture for young boys. Come and learn to pronounce Tiwi words in song.”



“Before the Dutch and the Macassans came, we were here, didn’t know about cards. Then cards came to the Tiwi people – doesn’t belong to us, it belongs to them, but it is our favourite hobby.”



“Sometimes gambling helps you get money to buy yourself feed. Sometimes get money, sometimes lose it all. Should play in the bush, on the side. Should build playground for little kids. They like swings. Should be where parents can see them.”



“We help each other, this is how we live – teabag, sugar, power card, trip, funeral. When people are struggling, they get stressed, and this is when trouble happens. If shop prices go down, then gambling will go down, maybe.”



What people told us...

- “Everything has a reason. Gambling has a reason” – Senior Ladies
- Tiwi gambling has a long history
- Gambling is a part of everyday life for many Tiwi
- Sometimes gambling can support family connections, the authority of old people and ways of being together as Tiwi
- But sometimes gambling makes Tiwi unhappy and frustrated. This is when we all need help.



Gambling Management Strategy

A two-part gambling management strategy for Mantiyupwi Family Trust

1. Good safe gambling spaces

What we need

Where?

2. Keeping Tiwi culture strong

Strong community

Strong service providers

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Part 1: Good safe gambling spaces

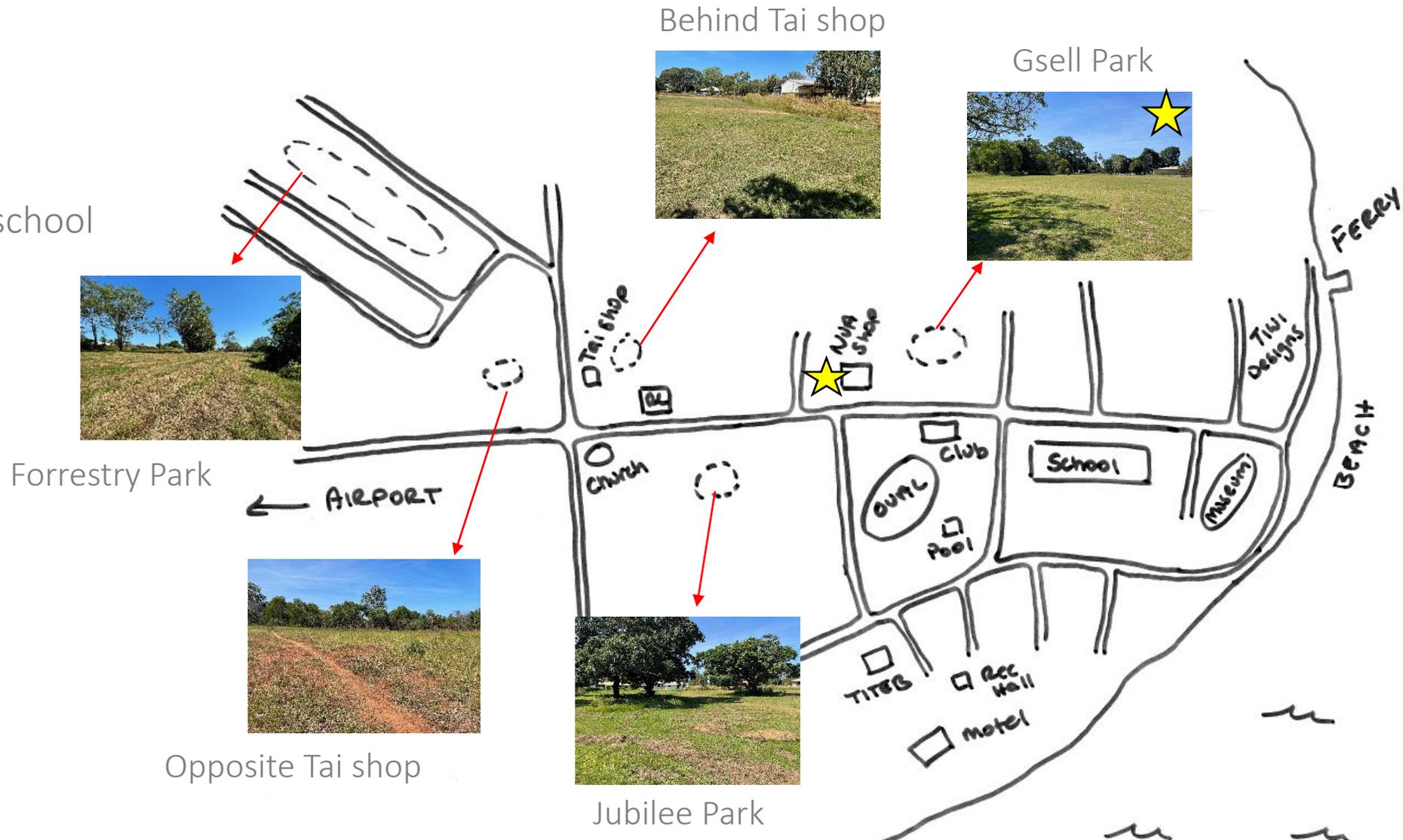
What we need

- ‘Family safe’ spaces where gambling is allowed
 - Shelter to protect from sun, rain and wind, and outdoor area
 - One shelter for women, one for men
 - Landscaping – trees for shade (not mahogany)
 - Lights and wi-fi at night
 - Playground with fencing
 - Toilets with wheelchair access, regular cleaning and privacy
 - Kiosk with cards, snacks, change
 - Shelters for services to use for outreach stalls, public meeting

Part 1: Good safe gambling spaces

Where?

- Away from road
- Close to childcare and school
- Not in view of tourists
- Not too far from shop



Forrestry Park



Behind Tai shop



Gsell Park



Opposite Tai shop



Jubilee Park

A two-part gambling management strategy for Mantiyupwi Family Trust

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graph TD; A["A two-part gambling management strategy for Mantiyupwi Family Trust"] --> B["1. Good safe gambling spaces"]; A --> C["2. Keeping Tiwi culture strong"]; B --> D["What we need"]; B --> E["Where?"]; C --> F["Strong community"]; C --> G["Strong service providers"];
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1. Good safe gambling spaces

What we need

Where?

2. Keeping Tiwi culture strong

Strong community

Strong service providers

Part 2: Keeping Tiwi culture strong

Strong community

- Community events/BBQ's
 - Coming together and eating together
 - Bringing back that feeling of the old days
 - Hosted by services providers
- Weekly trips out bush
 - Guided by senior elders, supported by younger Tiwi
 - Young boys and girls, instead of culture day at school (like old scout trips)
 - Weaving, bush tucker collecting
 - For disengaged family
 - Resourced by Mantiyupwi
- Activities and programs for young mothers and young fathers
 - Services providers
 - Child and Family Centre programs

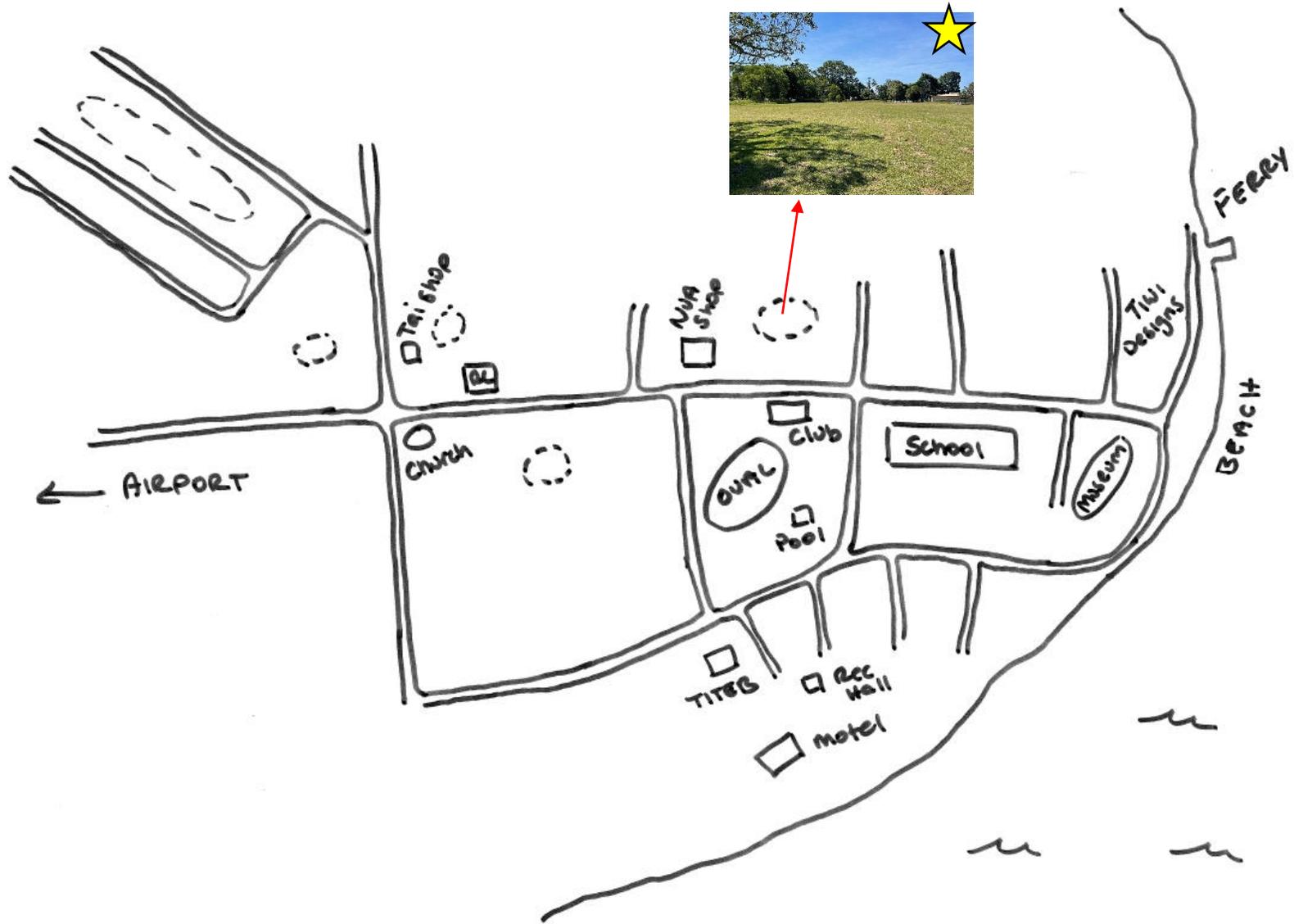


Part 2: Keeping Tiwi culture strong

Strong services

- *What can the Mantiyupwi board do to guide services in the right direction?*
 - BBQ lunch meeting where services are invited, and the ideas from the research are shared
 - Researcher presentation
 - Job opportunity discussions
 - 'Family safe space' as a one-stop-shop run by Mantiyupwi where organisations can do outreach (e.g. putting people into contact with housing, clinic, BIHA etc)
 - Create new partnerships through the new Child and Family Centre

- TITEB
- FAFT
- Shire Council
- Local Authority
- Territory Families
- Catholic Care
- Red Cross
- Tiwi Land Council
- Rangers (Land & Sea)
- Church Leaders
- Police
- Safe House



- Housing Association
- Shops
- Schools
- Clinic
- Families & Nursing
- Child Care
- BIHA
- Art Centre
- Keeping Place/
Ngarawanajirri
- Youth Service
- Night Patrol
- Nguiu Club

Next steps for Tiwi researchers...

- Talk to clan groups about the research
- Invite services providers to meeting to share the research (e.g. councillors in the Local Authority, TITEB board, others)
- Getting community opinions about plans for new spaces and the strategy
- Keep hearing stories from community about gambling, and sharing them with the board
- Keep developing their research profiles on the [Indigenous Researchers Initiative](#) website