

## Brenda Kidd

Worimi mob, Wonnarua + Awabakal Country

**First Picture, Bottom Right,** Aboriginal Elder with all the knowledge about hunting, spearfishing, and much more. Our Elders passed down knowledge passed down to them through generations.

**Second Picture, One Above,** The Elder, as you can see, has standout markings. He is educating the others with his knowledge of tracking, showing the songlines, which are places travelled with the footprints through generations. Remembered by many things, e.g., mountains markings, animals, and wisdom from our elders.

**Third Picture, of the rainbow serpent and kangaroo.** The rainbow serpent is a protector of water, one of the great powerful forces of nature and spirit. It was the chosen animal to assist with forming the earth, creating rivers, gorges, and streams. Kangaroos were a food source. The circle represents a sacred symbol of the interdependence of all forms of life, structure, family, gatherings of people, meetings, song and dance etc. As you can see, leaving the kangaroo and the rainbow serpent, the markings/tracks are different. The lines with the dots mean long journey, and the markings inside are kangaroo tracks.

**Top right,** is a meeting place where they all come together and share food and stories of their hunt and catch.

**First Picture, Bottom Left.** Being a coastal environment, fishing was one of the most important methods to learn for Worimi in Port Stephens. Men (Guri) learned line fishing, shoreline and canoe spearing, while the women (Galbaan) made the nets. Worimi also watched nature - when hairy grubs joined together and formed a metre-long line, it was a sign that mullet were running. The handprints are the community coming together, overcoming obstacles, becoming one, and helping each other. Unity.

**Lizard.** The lizard is a totem. There are many types of totems. Families pass down their totems to be recognised amongst other clans. You cannot kill or harm your family totem. This is to ensure the same food source wouldn't run out, amongst other things.

**Rivers in centre.** Mindaribba LACL area includes Maitland Cessnock, Dungog, Singleton and Port Stephens. Relied upon by our peoples were the Allan, Hunter and Williams Rivers, and Patterson. Maitland and Morpeth were shipping ports, but before this, Maitland and its surrounds were rainforests and wetlands providing many food sources, fibre, and medicines for Worimi mob. The word Mindaribba means beautiful, big or plenty.











**Alec Squires** 

Worimi mob Wonnarua Country



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