



Media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lindt research available at your library

WHAT are probably the most historically significant photos of Aboriginals in the Clarence Valley are now available for viewing and printing at the Clarence Regional Library website.

In 1873 and 1874 German-born, Grafton-based photographer John William Lindt took a series of photos of some Aboriginal residents of the Clarence Valley. In 2004 an album of 37 photographs were bought at auction by Sydney philanthropists, Sam and Janet Cullen, and donated to the Clarence Valley community. They are now held at the Grafton Regional Gallery.

Recently, a seven-month research project set out to identify the Aboriginal people depicted in the famous photos. The Breimba – looking for you: Lindt Research Project, was supported by the University of New England (UNE), the Clarence Valley Council, Grafton Regional Gallery, The Gallery Foundation and Friends of the Gallery. The research was carried out with assisted direction of a committee of local Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members.

Three people were identified in the photos: Mary Ann Williams (nee Cowan), King Harry Neville, and Arthur Devlin, and in the process the project produced a large amount of interesting and revealing research materials.

Regional librarian, Kathryn Beward, said the digital files were locked to prevent alterations and the paper files could not be borrowed, but members of the public were now able to view, print or copy part or all of the research collection.

“This is an exciting outcome that allows the Clarence Valley community to benefit from a project that involved cooperation across local groups and organisations,” she said. “Individuals can delve into the history of local families and see the connections that have been made through this detailed research.

To view the materials, access the website at www.crl.nsw.gov.au and go to the Clarence Valley Council local studies link.

Release ends.

For media inquiries contact Clarence Valley Council communications coordinator, David Bancroft, on 6643 0230 or 0429 104 118.