

Text 1

H: Good morning! And welcome again to 'Your City'. With me today is Graham Campbell, a counselor from the city council. He'll be telling us about the plan to improve the fast-growing suburb of Red Hill. Good morning, Graham., and welcome to the show!

G: Good morning, Carol.

H: Now, Graham, I understand there has been a lot of community consultation for the new plan.

G: Yes, we've tried to address some of the concerns that the local groups told us about. People we've heard from are mainly worried about traffic in the area and, in particular, the increasing speed of cars near schools. They feel it's only a matter of time before an accident happens, because a lot of children walk to the school. So we're trying to do something about that. Another area of concern is the overhead power lines. These are very old. A lot of people we spoke to ask if something could be done about them. Well, I'm happy to report that the power company have agreed to move the power lines underground at the cost of \$800,000. I think it will really improve the look of the area as well as being safer.

H: that's good to know. But will that increase the rates for the local businesses in that area?

G: Well, the power company has agreed to bear the cost of this themselves after lot of discussion with the council the council. This is wonderful news. The council now has some extra funds for us to put into other things like tree planting and art work. Now, we've also put up a map to send it out to all the residents in the area. And on the map we marked all the changes. First, we'll plant mature pine trees to provide shelter and she just the right of the supermarket in Days Road. In order to address the traffic problems the pavements on the corner of Carberry and Thomas Street will be widened. This will help reduce the speed of vehicles entering Thomas Street. We think it's very important to separate the local residential streets from the main road. So the roadway at the entrance to Thomas Street from Days Road will be painted red. This should mark it more clearly and act as a signal for traffic to slow down. One way to make sure that the pedestrians are safe is to increase signage at the intersections. And a big clear sign will be erected at the junction of Evelyn Street and Hill Street to enable traffic to exit at all times. Something we're planning to do to help control the flow of traffic in the area is to install traffic laws traffic lights halfway down Hill Street where it crosses Days Road. Now, we haven't thought only about cars and traffic of course. There's also something for the children. We are going to get school children from the area to research a local story, the life of a local sports hero perhaps. And an artist will incorporate that story in the paintings on the wall of the building on the other side of Hill Street from the supermarket. And, finally, we've agreed to build a new children's playground which will be at the other end of Hill Street close to the intersection with Carberry Street.

H: Wonderful! Now, what's the next stage?

G: Well, the final plan...

Key:

1A 2B 3B 4C 5D 6G 7B 8F 9A 10E

Text 2

Good morning everyone I've been invited to talk about my research project into Australian Aboriginal Rock paintings.

The Australian Aborigines have recorded both real and symbolic images of their time on rock walls for many thousands of years. Throughout the long history of this tradition new images have appeared and new painting styles have developed. And these characteristics can be used to categorize the different artistic styles. Among these are what we call the Dynamic, Yam and Modern styles of painting.

One of the most significant characteristics of the different styles is the way that humans are depicted in the paintings. The more recent paintings show people in static poses. But the first human images to dominate rock art paintings over 8,000 years ago were full of movement. These paintings showed people hunting and cooking food and so they were given the name Dynamic to reflect this energy. It's quite amazing considering they were painted in such a simple stick like form.

In the Yam period there was a movement away from stick figures to a more naturalistic shape. However they didn't go as far as the modern-style which is known as X-ray because it actually makes a feature of the internal skeleton as well as the organs of animals and humans. The Yam style of painting got its name because it featured much curvier figures which actually resemble the vegetable called yam which is similar to the sweet potato.

The modern paintings are interesting because they include paintings at the time of the first contact with European settlers. Aborigines managed to convey the idea of the settlers clothing by simply painting the Europeans without any hand indicating their habit of standing with their hands in their pockets.

Size is another characteristic. The more recent images tend to be the life size or even larger but the Dynamic figures are painted in miniature.

Aboriginal rock art also record the environmental changes that occurred over thousands of years. For example, we know from the Dynamic paintings that over 8,000 years ago Aborigines would have rarely eaten fish. And sea levels were much lower at this time. In fact, fish didn't start to appear in paintings until the Yam period along with shells and other marine images. The paintings of the yam tradition also suggest that during this time the Aborigines moved away from animals as their main food source and began including vegetables in their diet as these feature prominently. Fresh water creatures didn't appear in the paintings until the Modern period from 4,000 years ago.

So these paintings have already taught us a lot, but one image that has always intrigued us is known as the Rainbow Serpent. The Rainbow Serpent which is the focus of my most recent project gets its name from its snake or serpent-like body and it first appeared in the Yam period 4 to 6 thousand years ago. Many believe that it's a curious mixture of kangaroo, snake and crocodile. But we decided to study the rainbow serpent paintings to see if we could locate the animal that the very first painters based their image on. The Yam period coincided with the end of the last ice age. This brought about tremendous change in the environment with the sea levels rising and creeping steadily inland. This flooded many familiar land features and also caused a great deal of disruption to traditional patterns of life, hunting in particular. New shores were formed and totally different creatures would have washed up onto the shores. We studied 107 paintings of the Rainbow Serpent and found that the one creature that matches it most closely is the ribbon pipe fish which is a type of seahorse. This sea creature would have been a totally unfamiliar sight in the inland regions where the image is found. And may have been the inspiration behind the early painting. So at the end of the Ice Age they would have been enormous changes in animal and plant life. It's not surprising then that the Aborigines linked this abundance to the new creatures they witnessed. Even today Aborigines see the Rainbow Serpent as a symbol of creation which is understandable given the increasing vegetation and the new life-forms that featured when the image first appeared.

Key

11C 12B 13C 14A 15B 16B 17 animal/creature 18 sea/water level 19 hunting 20 creation.