



# The Wild Bull

By Roxanne Retsas

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## FOREWORD

Mandangala Community is 140km south-west of Kununurra and not far from Lake Argyle. It is nestled in the Carr-Boyd Ranges, quite close to numerous gorges, typical of the rugged beauty of the Kimberley Region of Western Australia. As part of the Glen Hill Pastoral Lease, the growth of the cattle industry is important to the future of the students of Mandangala.

I would like to acknowledge Caroline McAdam, a senior Kija woman, for her contribution to the development of these stories.

Sue Smith  
Principal  
Jundranung Remote Community School



Us mob  
motorbike  
back home.

Dat yard  
over ere.

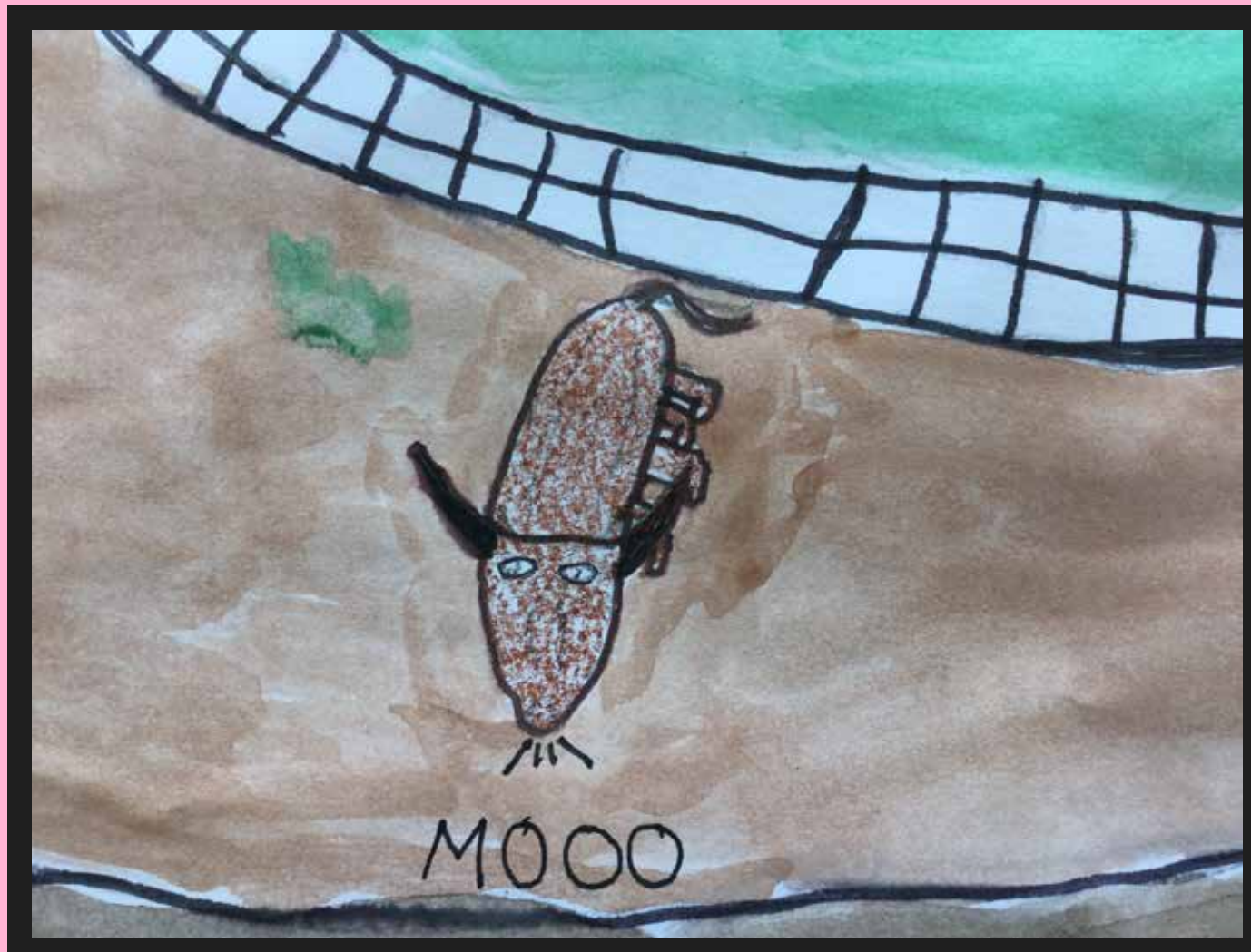


We bin go  
la yard  
and conk  
out gotta  
modarbik  
e. I think  
e bin hab  
me  
Shanay  
Nita and  
Anna.

And dat bullock bin run up and jump right over dat modarbike.

I'm duck down right la dat modarbike and everybody else bin run.

Look dat bullock bin frighden me!







And dat other bullock like right dere la dat yard and den dat modarbike bin suddenly conk out on us. Like the yard was right dere next to where we bin park.





I think Shanay bin run la yard  
an Nita bin run behind the  
tree

I don't know where Anna bin  
go but I'm duck down la dat  
modarbike





when dat wild bull bin run sraight up la us an jump  
right over da modarbike an dat nother bull bin run  
rightd around la us.

Dem two bullock bin run away.

Shanay bin come from de yard an Nita bin come back from dat tree.

We bin all laughin.

We bin try start up dat modarbike bike and it started then we bin go home.

In preparing this story for publication, every effort has been made to preserve as many of the spoken qualities of Aboriginal story-telling as possible. The spelling sometimes deviates from that of Standard Australian English to follow the sounds that are typical of Aboriginal English, and the sentence breaks and punctuation are based on the structure and rhythm of spoken language. The line length is also a device that is used to emphasise rhythm, and the line breaks sometimes serve as visual signals (punctuation marks) separating grammatical (and conceptual) units. Full stops and capital letters are used less often than in Standard Australian English because of the preference in Aboriginal discourses to link (often visual) details to build an uninterrupted composite image or impression. The spelling and punctuation conventions used in this book are derived from a set of principles for the spelling and punctuation of Aboriginal English writing developed as part of the Two-Way Tracks to Learning project for the Department of Education. (Tracks to Two-Way Learning, Focus Area 8, Module 8.6.2 pages 50-51, Department of Education, 2012).