

Paul Carmody

I'm First Australian through my father, our fellas on our maternal line are *Bunjalung*-southern Gold Coast, Northern rivers of NSW, Byron Bay, Lismore, Casino areas. Through Grandad our fellas are *Lama Lama* of Cape York and Mum was a Migaloo from the Toowoomba area. I grew up on the Condamine plains, Toowoomba and the Moonie River.

I joined the College of First Nations at the University of Southern Queensland in Toowoomba as a lecturer in December 2022 and have spent the last 11 years in Environmental Education and 10 years before that on class in the State, Catholic and Independent education systems.

Before that I've worked at a coal facility, been a transport driver, a Marina Maintenance Officer, been a courier and worked for state and federal government departments.



Synopsis:

First Australians have been on this continent for somewhere between 65,000-100,000 years. The plant knowledge gathered in this time period was extraordinary. Unfortunately, a lot of this knowledge has been lost since 1788.

In our Tavern Talk we'll explore some First Australian plant usages still known-medicines, foods, tools, weapons, clothing, shelters. All of the plants are in the local area, if not endemic certainly easily found.