



Outdoor Education

Nungatta lives in the hearts of all who have been there. For more than thirty years our class 9's have been going to Nungatta in the wintertime. We spend more than two weeks living as a community on this remote pastoral property immersed in ecology – social, deep and natural ecology. Our class 9's learn about ideals of community, sustainability and relationships with place. It is a truly transformative place that the children yearn to experience, and the staff always look forward to sharing with each class.



In early January this year Nungatta was burnt by the East Coast bushfires and all of the 1000 acres was burnt. We also lost some of the buildings and would have lost all of them if not for the extraordinary courage and work of Pete Sands who lives there and his son-in-law Nic.

Having spent over a month at Nungatta every year for nearly thirty years, I was deeply affected by the fires and by concern for my dear friend Pete. It was

April before I was able to get to Nungatta to see Pete and the place I love so much. I was, at the same time, both saddened and elated by returning. The loss of the buildings and the severity of the fire in some areas was confronting, but seeing Pete and also the majority of the bush that had had a really healthy burn was joyous. Our school had done an enormous amount to prepare for the possibility of fire and all that we had done allowed Pete to remain safe and to protect the remainder of the infrastructure. Like most stories, Nungatta's story through the fires was complex and conflicting.

Following the fires, I launched a GoFundMe campaign to raise some money for the rebuilding and the generosity of our community was wonderful. We raised over \$8000 to contribute to the building of new sheds and other buildings and the planning for this work is well underway. Thank you!



I'm delighted that we are now able to plan for this year's class 9's to go to Nungatta next term and begin the rebuilding. It is a great honour to be able to contribute our work to this incredible place and to weave our stories and Nungatta's together. We're planning on completing most of the rebuilding during the camps using the materials we've been able to purchase with the generosity of our community. This represents a connection and a possibility of which we should all be proud.

Arthur Curl, for the Outdoor Ed. Staff