

Keynote Address at Opening Ceremony
Friday, 12 November 2010

Kutcha Edwards

Kutcha Edwards ~ Mutti Mutti Man

Kutcha has spent his life forging a bridge between teetering potential and positive outcomes. The foundation of this bridge reflects his personal strengths, the strength of his culture and supports his ultimate goal which is the continuum of his Songline.

It is an understatement to say that Kutcha's pathway through life has not been without its challenges. The wrench from being the adored baby of a large, loving family, to an institutionalised childhood shook the foundations of this life. He entered adolescence fraught with confusion as he was returned to a family he barely knew and to his mother who he grew to know better and love implicitly and unconditionally.

Kutcha became a successful young footballer, he qualified as a Health Worker, has experienced the joy of fatherhood, is a renowned singer/songwriter, actor, entertainer, and educator as well as being an icon within both the Aboriginal and wider communities. But it hasn't been an easy life as he personally experienced and witnessed first hand the disenfranchisement of his people through unjust policies that reaped havoc on every aspect of the well being of the Aboriginal people. And yet so much has been achieved by Kutcha despite all.

Kutcha has an inspiring and poignant tale to tell that encompasses experiences both unique to him and common to many. His life's work includes educating others to work on the transition that will lead to a transformation of the dreams and prospects for his people.