



Dear friends,

As you know one of the Congregational Projects which we support is the Pacific Calling Partnership. Due to Covid restrictions travel to the Pacific Island nations a training program was held in Cairns, Qld. The participants were Elders and leaders of the Torres Strait Islander communities who gathered for the workshop conducted by Corrine Fagueret, Coordinator and Maria Tiimon, Pacific Outreach Officer for Pacific Calling Partnership.

The focus of the workshop was to increase the use of media by community members and leaders to inform those in Australia and the wider international community of the significant impact of climate change and in this particular case the absence of formal land rights agreements for the Torres Strait Islander communities.

The attached link is for the article '**Dire Straits**', story by Miki Perkins and photography by Justin McManus who interviewed the Elders during the workshop.

Do the similarities of the situation faced by the Torres Strait communities in this article give us pause to remember the presentation by Maina Talia at the Brigidine Congregational Forum in Baulkham Hills in March this year?

With best wishes to you all,

Margaret Fyfe

Link: Dire Straits

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/the-torres-strait-islander-elders-lawyering-up-to-stop-their-homes-from-sinking-20220609-p5asfd.html?collection=p5b33k&fbclid=IwAR0S4pXa82TE1ZfSozHfGe5gNC-t7xr854v0VzEFhTN5p39xyz9jpGs7l1Y>