

Patrick White Indigenous Writers Award

My Community

by Clare Olive, 8 years old

I go to Wollongong Community Centre

My brother, Jack is first to enter

He likes to muck around and be naughty

My mum says he'll drive her nuts before she's forty

Our culture is our pride, our nation

It's the *Dreamtime* our strength, our creation

We thread our beads, we paint and draw

We share a communal lunch and talk about our day

We always have a lot to say

My community is everything you see

My *Koori* heritage means the world to me.