



## TJILBRUKE'S JOURNEY

Although not a powerful man, Tjilbruke was a great man, a master of fire making and a skilled hunter. One day his much loved nephew, Kulultuwi, and Kulultuwi's two half-brothers decided to go hunting. Tjilbruke did not want to go with them; he decided to set up camp at Tulukutangga (now called Kingston Park by non-Kaurna people). Tjilbruke saw the old tracks of Kulultuwi's hunting party and found fresh tracks of an emu. Tjilbruke tracked this emu but lost the track.

Tjilbruke continued to walk in the direction he thought the emu would have taken. While he was walking, he came across Kulultuwi starting a fire to cook an emu that he had killed. Being new at hunting, Kulultuwi had accidentally killed the emu that Tjilbruke was hunting (it was against tribal law to kill an animal that was rightfully someone else's). Tjilbruke forgave Kulultuwi's mistake and returned to his camp. Kulultuwi placed green herbs on the bird, laid it on a bed of hot stones and poured water on it to make it steam. As Kulultuwi's leaned over the bird to see if it was nearly ready, a burst of steam blinded him. His two half-brothers, who were jealous of Kulultuwi's popularity, thought he should face tribal justice for killing the emu. They speared him to death, then took Kulultuwi's body to Warriparinga, where they started to smoke it.

Later, on looking for Kulultuwi, Tjilbruke discovered evidence of his nephew's death. He went to Warriparinga where he found Kulultuwi's partially smoked, dried body. He picked up the body and carried it to the freshwater spring at Tulukutangga (Kingston Park).

At Tulukutangga, Tjilbruke completed the smoking of Kulultuwi's body. An inquest was held and Tjilbruke discovered how his nephew had died. Tjilbruke carried Kulultuwi's body to Murrkangga (Hallett Cove) where he rested. As he thought about his nephew, he cried. His tears formed a fresh water spring. He continued along the coast to Witawali. (Sellicks Beach) crying as he carried Kulultuwi's body. He cried as he travelled along the coast and more fresh water springs were created by his tears. Springs were created at Tayinparingga (Port Noarlunga), Karrkungga (Red Ochre Cove), Wirruwarungga (Port Willunga) and Kungkaratingga (near Wirrina Cove).

Near Pariwarangga (Cape Jervis), Tjilbruke went into a cave, where he left Kulultuwi's body. He travelled further in and emerged covered in yellow ochre. Feeling old and saddened by the death of his nephew, Tjilbruke decided that he no longer wanted to live as a man. He found a swampy lagoon and killed a grey currawong. He plucked its feathers, rubbed its fat over his body and tied the feathers onto his arms. As he flapped his arms, he started to fly and became an ibis. Today you can see Tjilbruke's spirit in the ibis that live around springs and swamps.