

Mungo...



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The Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation respectfully acknowledges the Yalukit Wilum clan of the Boon Wurrung Nation who are the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land.

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April 2017

FROM THE CO-CHAIR

HART Awards

Encouraged by Todd Condie, Daniel Carter and others, we are entering this year's Community HART (Helping Achieve Reconciliation Together) Awards, presented by the Victorian Local Governance Association and RecVic, supported by Bank Australia. Fiona Olney-Fraser, helped by Deb Stewart, is submitting PPCfR's nomination focusing on the public events we have held for more than 15 years to commemorate National Sorry Day. Fiona feels these meet the judging criteria that 'demonstrate Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people working together, and initiatives that have contributed to relationships, respect and understanding.' Finalists announced 13 April; winners 2 June, so stay tuned!

National Sorry Day Lunch

Please keep **Friday 26 May** free and join us for our commemorative Sorry Day Lunch at the South Melbourne Community Centre. The event will include a Welcome to Country, entertainment by James Henry, the multi-talented singer/songwriter, producer and musical director - and much more. Full details next issue.

Bunjilaka Tour

Ro Bailey, Secretary of Reconciliation Stonnington and a Museum Victoria guide, is offering to host a guided tour of Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Museum on Sunday 23 April at 10.30 am. If you're interested in this special opportunity, please contact Ro:
ro.celebrant@ozemail.com.au

Help Needed

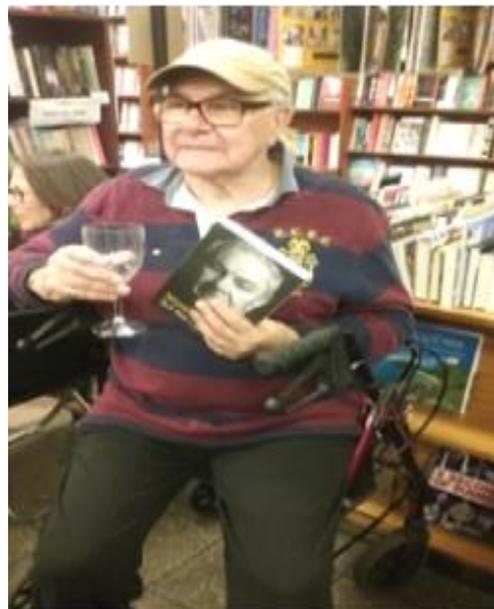
This year marks the 20th anniversary of the formation of the group. We are keen to hear from members who may have attended the first meetings in 1997, or have photos or press clippings from those early days, so if you do, please get in touch with the office and I'll keep you posted on news about a special commemorative event being planned for later in the year.

Also, do you currently receive *Mungo* via the post, aka snail mail? Would you be interested in receiving it instead via email, thus saving us time and money? If so, please forward your details to me and I'll make the arrangements.

Book Launch

I attended the launch of Noel Tovey's new book ***And Then I Found Me*** at Readings, Carlton, last month. Rachel Bin Salley, Publisher of Magabala Books, flew in from Broome for the occasion. Rachel Maza, Artistic Director of Ilbjerri Theatre and Director of the movie *Jasper Jones*, gave an impassioned launch speech acknowledging many aspects of Noel's extraordinary life. I recommend this book.

Noel Tovey at the launch of his latest book, *And Then I Found Me*



Rosemary Rule

Next Meeting: Tuesday 18 April, 6.30 pm
South Melbourne Community Hub,
Fishley Street, South Melbourne. **All Welcome.**

VICTORIAN RECONCILIATION NETWORK FORUM

The annual regional Victorian Reconciliation Network Forum, held 31 March to 2 April, was based at the Derby Hill Blue Light Youth Camp in historic Maldon (near Castlemaine). It included a Welcome to Country, presentation by a member of the Dja Dja Wurrung Corporation on the ground-breaking Recognition and Settlement Act, cultural site tour around the Castlemaine area with local Elder Uncle Rick Nelson, regular Local Groups Forum and dinner, and, on the final day, a tour of significant cultural sites in the Boort area with Jida Murray Gulpilil. PPCfR's Sylvia Edgar and Helen Bennett were among those who attended and they will report on the forum in May's *Mungo*.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

A range of activities will take place from **27 May-3 June** in a year that marks the 50th anniversary of the historic '67 Referendum and the 25th anniversary of the Mabo Ruling. The 2017 Rec Week theme is *Let's Take the Next Step*. More details of events, including those being held in the City of Port Phillip, will be highlighted next month. National Rec Week small grants are available for event organisers based on applications received by 14 April. Visit www.reconciliationvic.org.au for how to participate and/or obtain grant details.

YINGADI IMMERSION 2017

You are invited to experience and explore Aboriginal spirituality and connection to land by walking with Mutthi Mutthi woman Vicki Clark in the footsteps of her ancestors at Lake Mungo and Balranald from **3-7 April or 14-18 August**. Cost: \$1200 all inclusive (transport, accommodation, meals). Send expressions of interest to Karen Mahoney, Yingadi Immersion Coordinator: yingadi@edmundrice.org Phone: 9439 8282. *Note:* Yingadi is an immersion offered through the Christian Brothers Oceania Province, in partnership with Vicki Clark and the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry.

BROOK ANDREW EXHIBITION

Brook Andrew is an artist of considerable daring and flair whose work often confronts dangerous ideas, and questions conventional readings of the world. His constantly shifting, interdisciplinary practice challenges stereotypical notions of history, identity and race without apportioning blame or guilt. *Brook Andrew: The Right to Offend is Sacred* includes many of Andrew's most memorable works, contextualised in new ways. The solo exhibition will also include a new sculptural work, enabling viewers to intuit future directions in the artist's ever changing practice. At the NGV Australia, Fed Square, Lv 3, 10.00 am–5.00 pm, until June.

DEADLY FUNNY

Cheeky and loud, black and proud! This national comedy competition unearths the freshest, fiercest and funniest new Indigenous performers from around the country performing alongside the deadliest professional comedians for the big \$2000 prize. Hosted by Sean Choolburra, Shiralee Hood, Kevin Kropinyeri, and Andy Saunders, and featuring a performance by 2016 winner, Jalen Sutcliffe. Arts Centre Melbourne, 4.30 pm, **Saturday 8 April**. Bookings: 1300 182 183

KEEPING CULTURE ALIVE

Raymond Young's newest exhibition *Keeping Culture Alive* runs until 12 April at the Metro Gallery, Armadale Street, Armadale. Living and working locally in Melbourne, Young's practice first began when he took part in the Torch Project's Indigenous Arts in Prisons and Community Program. He has now established himself as an innovative newcomer within the Indigenous Arts scene. In 2015, he was awarded the Victorian Indigenous Art Award for 3-D works.

PITCHA MAKING FELLAS KIDS' WORKSHOP

The Pitcha Making Fellas alongside Myles Walsh recently launched their new book *What's in a Name?* They will talk about how they made the book and work with children to create pictures to take home. At the Koorie Heritage Trust, Federation Square, **Wednesday 5 April**, 11.30 am-12.30 pm. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Free, but bookings recommended through the Trust. Phone 8662 6336

MUSIC NEWS

Eurovision and Isaiah Firebrace

Isaiah, a 17 year old Aboriginal singer from Moama, has been chosen to represent Australia at this year's Eurovision Song Contest to be held in Kiev, Ukraine, in May. Rising to prominence after winning last year's X-Factor competition on Channel 7, Isaiah said he is 'so proud' to be chosen for the event. *'Even though it has been a dream of mine, never did I think for one minute it would be a possibility.'*

Australian Music Award

A.B. Original is a Hip Hop duo combining the talents of Yorta Yorta man Briggs and Ngarrindjeri man Trials. They will share the \$30,000 Australian Music Prize for their album *Reclaim Australia*, an angry, funny, plain-spoken take on racism, police behaviour, political double speak and what it means to be something other than white, safe and in power. Although proud to have won the Award, Briggs and Trials say they hope that *Reclaim Australia* is 'severely dated by 2027.'

Mission Songs

Curated by Jessie Lloyd, the Mission Songs Project is an initiative to revive and perform a collection of contemporary Indigenous songs that were performed from 1900-1999, focusing on missions, settlements and native camps where Indigenous people were relocated. These songs consist of rare and almost forgotten stories that shed light on the history of our Indigenous people, families and communities, and are performed by Jessie Lloyd, Leah Flanagan, Emma Donovan, Jessica Hitchcock and others. The Mission Songs album was released recently. Details: missionsongsproject.com

WORLD'S RICHEST PRIZE FOR LITERATURE

Aboriginal poet and visual artist Ali Cobby Eckermann has won the \$215,000 Windham-Campbell Prize, the world's richest prize for literature. 2017 is the first year that poetry has been included among the fields of fiction, non-fiction and drama. Eckerman's first book of poetry, *little bit long time*, was published in 2009, followed by *Inside My Mother*. The Adelaide writer founded Australia's first Aboriginal writers' retreat.

MARNGROOK FOOTY SHOW

NITV's Marngrook Footy Show is back on air every Thursday at 7.30 pm on Channel 34. Catch all the latest AFL news delivered by presenters including Leila Gurruwiwi who began as a reporter on the Marngrook Footy Show aged 19. Leila is celebrating ten years with the program alongside its creators, Grant Hansen and Gilbert McAdam.

The show has opened many doors for Leila. She has been MC at a number of high-profile events, has sat on expert panels, has



mentored young girls through the Wirrpanda Foundation's Deadly Sista Girlz program, and has tutored at the Pavilion School for young people who have been disengaged or excluded from mainstream education. Leila has also acted in theatre productions and the award-winning television series *Glitch*.

CLINTON'S WALK FOR JUSTICE

Clinton Walker is a Wajuk, Balardung, Kija and Yulparitja man from the west of Australia who is walking across the country from Matagarup (Heirison Island) in Perth to Parliament House in Canberra. Clinton is following songlines and visiting communities along the way. He will seek an audience with the Prime Minister and address the many injustices against First Nations people. Clinton says he is walking *'to give my people hope. To show my people not to give up and keep on fighting no matter what happens. I want the Prime Minister to give Elders full control over the community and live without the interference of government. I want people to know the truth about how my people are living and understand their different law and dreamtime.'* Clinton is concerned that the government is going to close community. *'As a younger Indigenous man along with our people it is our duty to look after the planet. Our Elders fought so hard to get this community built and it is very important to us. I do not want to see community close down and see my people lose their home because a government has decided not to fund services.'* For more details: clintonwalkforjustice.