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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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July 2018

FROM THE CO-CHAIR

NAIDOC Week 8-15 July

This year's theme *Because of Her, We Can!* celebrates the invaluable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made - and continue to make - to our communities, families, rich history and to our nation. The City of Port Phillip has organised a NAIDOC Week celebration on the front lawn, St Kilda Town Hall, on **Monday 9 July**, 11.00 am for 11.30 am start, featuring a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony by the Boon Wurrung Foundation, Mayoral speech by Cr Bernadene Voss, raising of the Aboriginal flag and the Torres Strait Islander flag, and a special performance by The Merindas, originally from WA. For information, contact Todd Condie, 9209 6818; tcondie@portphillip.vic.gov.au. Read below about Todd's Wik film involvement, and more event details.

Guest Speaker

It was such a pleasure to meet Yorta Yorta man bryan Andy at our June meeting and learn about his family and interesting employment history. He talked about his six-year involvement with the Victorian Sorry Day



Todd Condie (left) with bryan Andy, our Guest Speaker and one of our Reconciliation Writing Competition judges.

Committee, work with ANTaR, the City of Melbourne's Yirramboi Arts Festival (now as a Blak Critic) and Banyule City Council, and his passion for broadcasting. bryan can be heard on Joy FM and 3CR Community Radio, where during NAIDOC Week he'll present the *Beyond the Bars* prison program each day. He also mentioned his involvement with theatre and love of writing. Guests stayed on afterwards to help bryan celebrate his birthday with cake and other refreshments.

Treaty News

Victoria made history when the *Advancing the Treaty Process with Aboriginal Victorians Bill 2018* was passed through the Lower House of Parliament last month. Details inside.

Reconciliation Writing Competition

I urge our members and friends to help promote the competition – and submit an entry. Details via www.ppcf.org.

Events

It was good to be part of the crowd of bububs and adults on the St Kilda Town Hall lawn for COPP's Mabo Day commemoration on 4 June, and to learn about culture from the Gerib Sik Torres Strait Islanders Dance Troupe who performed. PPCfR donated to, and members attended, The Homeless Memorial on 20 June to reflect on those who have passed, and for the survivors of homelessness. Marbee Williams, Vossanova Community Choir, Winja Ulupna Women, Ivan Davis and Voices from the Community were among the performers.

Facebook

Check out, like and share our new, very own FB page and help spread the word about this group. My thanks to Will Gorton and Brigid Knight-Braniff for setting it up.

Rosemary Rule

Next meeting: **Tuesday 17 July**, 2018, 6.30 pm, South Melbourne Community Hub, Fishley Street, South Melbourne. All welcome.



BECAUSE OF HER, WE CAN!

8-15 JULY 2018

Under the *Because of Her, We Can!* theme, NAIDOC Week 2018 will be held nationally from **Sunday 8 July** through to **Sunday 15 July**. Local events include: *Yingabul (Singing to People)*, a series of live performances at the Recital Centre curated by award-winning singer/songwriter Jessie Lloyd, beginning on **Thursday 5 July** with *Wawu: Spirit* with Deline Briscoe, **Friday 6 July** - *Gubberdee* with Professor Marcia Langton and *Marloo's Blues* with Marleen Cummins; and **Saturday 7 July** - *Mission Songs Project Sing-Along*, *Gubberdee* with Olympian and politician Nova Peris as well as Ngalak Warangka, and *Songs in Noongar Language* with Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse. Details: melbournerecitalcentre.com.au; 9699 3333.

The winners of the National NAIDOC Awards Ceremony will be announced in Sydney on **Friday 13 July**. Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre at Melbourne Museum are presenting guided tours through Milarri Gardens and through the First Peoples Exhibition, and Bark Canoes Activities between **30 June-15 July**, 11.00 am-3.00 pm. The Victorian NAIDOC Committee is hosting a flag-raising ceremony at Federation Square, **Monday 2 July**, 9.30 am-11.00 am. Free.

HISTORY-MAKING TREATY

History was made as the *Advancing the Treaty Process with Aboriginal Victorians Bill 2018* was passed through the Lower House of Victorian Parliament on 7 June. *'We're feeling absolutely elated that we got our Advancing Treaty Bill with Aboriginal Victorians through the first stage of the Parliament.'* Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Natalie Hutchins said. *'It has been a very big achievement for the Aboriginal community here in Victoria to be able to get a piece of legislation through the Parliament that says we recognise you, we want to hear from you, and we want you at the table to negotiate Treaty.'* In order for the Treaty process to start, a Bill currently being debated in parliament must get Greens' support. *'We have a historic opportunity to take a very big step towards self-determination, justice and fairness for Aboriginal Victorians, and I would hope nobody in the Victorian parliament would stand in the way of that.'* Premier Daniel Andrews said on Wednesday. *'I'm very much focused on this Bill passing.'* A \$700,000 grant scheme has been established to support Traditional Owner groups, Aboriginal organisations and businesses in Treaty negotiations. *'It's important the Treaty process continues to be led by the Aboriginal community.'* Aboriginal Affairs Minister Natalie Hutchins said in a statement. Payments of up to \$10,000 will fund small consultations or *Treaty circles*, while grants of up to \$100,000 can be used for more intense and ongoing consultation, as well as research and planning.

It comes after the government agreed to amendments to its Bill following objections from some Indigenous Victorians.

In further developments, an Aboriginal body is set to be elected in the next year in Victoria to help bring the government closer to a Treaty or Treaties with the state's First People. It follows the passage of Australia's first Treaty Bill in Victoria's Upper House on 21 June, setting up a path so agreements can one day be ratified with Aboriginal people. Victoria's Treaty Advancement Commissioner Jill Gallagher says the road won't be without difficulty but she's confident no one will be left out. *'It's about that true recognition. It's about truth-telling. It is about reparation, it has to be about reparation.'*

The Treaty process has been years in the making, involving consultations with more than 7,500 Aboriginal Victorians. It allows for the creation of a representative body elected by Aboriginal Victorians by mid-2019 which will help design the framework for negotiations.

ELECTORAL CHANGES

The federal seat of Batman in Melbourne's inner-north has been renamed Cooper to honour Indigenous rights activist William Cooper. The electorate is held by new Labor MP Ged Kearney. (Melbourne Ports was also renamed to Macnamara.)

REC VIC NEWS

Kamilaroi man Trevor Pearce has joined Rec Vic's Council. Trevor has over 30 years of experience working for and within the Aboriginal community at local, state and national levels. He is currently at the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) as the Tackling Indigenous Smoking Coordinator.

RECONCILIATION STONNINGTON (RS)

We have launched our Facebook page. If you would like to support us and receive regular updates of Reconciliation matters, please find us on your favourite Facebook searcher and follow us. We are keen to promote/share information about Reconciliation and Aboriginal culture in Stonnington, so we encourage you to post such matters on our site. This might be things your organisation/business/school is doing, an upcoming event, something you learnt, somebody who did something good, etc. You know the drill. We are excited about this and know there is strong support in Stonnington to create a fairer community. We hope to build a vibrant network to share experiences and information.

There is a great opportunity for artists to contribute to Council's Cato Square with the City of Stonnington seeking expressions of interest for a significant new public artwork commission specifically intended to integrate with the new and to-be-constructed Cato Square, Prahran. A few artists will be shortlisted and receive an honorarium of \$2,000 to develop their ideas.

The final commission budget is \$160,000.
<http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Discover/Arts-and-Culture/Art-in-Stonnington>. *Ro Bailey*

WIK VS QUEENSLAND

This documentary earned a standing ovation at the Sydney Film Festival and now heads to NITV as a flagship program during NAIDOC Week. Todd Condie, the City of Port Phillip's Indigenous Policy Officer, former Koori Mail editor and long-time supporter of PPCfR, is among an eminent group of people featured in the doco, along with the likes of Senator Pat Dodson, Marcia Langton, Noel Pearson and Kerry O'Brien. *Wik vs Queensland* tells the story of the Wik Peoples of Cape York and their native title claim in the High Court of Australia. It forensically tracks the lead-up to the historic High Court decision in December 1996 and the dramatic cultural and political fallout that followed. Screening **Sunday 8 July**, 8:30 pm on NITV and via SBS On Demand from **Monday 9 July**.

NAMATJIRA PROJECT ON TV

The Namatjira Project *Big hART* documentary will be screened nationally on ABC TV on **Sunday 8 July**, 9.30 pm, during NAIDOC week, and for a month after on iView. The doco has been screened in New York and London and in Paris for the Festival of Australian Aboriginal Cinema. The work of the Namatjira Legacy Trust on the ground continues, as does their copyright campaign in efforts to redress decades of injustice - including negotiations with the NT Government for compensation and lobbying for perpetual copyright. The Trust is beginning to establish a program of activity to secure the future of the Hermannsburg Watercolour Art Movement, to get out on country, teach younger generations, share story and culture and language, to travel the country and keep culture strong. Refer www.namatjiratrust.org.

FCAC AND MOONDANI BALLUK

Footscray Community Arts Centre (FCAC) and Moondani Balluk are presenting a Black Screen film program curated by John Harvey from Brown Cabs, an FCAC Company-in-Residence event. *After the Apology* (2017) is written and directed by Larissa Behrendt and produced by Michaela Perske. In 2008, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said sorry to the Stolen Generations. Since the apology, the number of Indigenous children forcibly removed from their families has almost doubled. Through the story of four grandmothers, Behrendt chronicles the rise of a new national movement fighting to convince the government that *'sorry means you don't do it'*. **Tuesday 24 July**, 6.00 pm for 6:30 pm start, FCAC Performance Space, 45 Moreland Street, Footscray. Free. Book via FCAC, 9362 888; footscrayarts.com

ANDY GRIFFITHS AND BRUCE PASCOE

Bruce Pascoe, the award-winning Australian Indigenous writer from the Bunurong clan of the Kulin nation, has worked as a teacher, farmer, fisherman and an

Aboriginal language researcher. He will talk about his life, his fears and his hopes for a future of equality and recognition in conversation with Andy Griffiths, children's author extraordinaire and a lifetime ambassador for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF). **Monday 30 July**, 6:30 pm, Church of All Nations, 180 Palmerston Street, Carlton. Tickets \$35, \$25 via ILF or Try Booking. All funds go directly to the good work of the ILF.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Port Melbourne: On Friday 1 June, the Port Melbourne Primary School in Graham Street held their usual end of week assembly with a series of acknowledgements for Reconciliation Week. Senior students conducted the assembly and talked about Mabo Day, the Stolen Generation and the '67 Referendum among other things. Department of Education Koori Engagement Support Officer, John Murray, spoke to the children and Grade 6 student, Ethan P., played the didgeridoo he'd made. The school's music teacher led the children in singing Paul Kelly's *From Little Things Big Things Grow*. Rosemary Rule and I attended the assembly and were delighted to see the spirit of Reconciliation appreciated and present within the school community.



Didgeridoo player Ethan P. with special guest John Murray.

St Mary's Parish: This Primary School in East St Kilda has always expressed an interest in our Reconciliation group. I met recently with the Principal, Gerard Lewis, who is pleased to direct staff at the school to encourage and assist students to enter our Writing Competition. The school has three families identifying as Indigenous and Gerard said that there will be liaison with the families in planning activities for NAIDOC Week. Gerard acknowledges the Traditional Owners on his correspondence from the school.

Reports from PPCfR member Gael Wilson

RECONCILIATION AUSTRALIA RESOURCES

A selection of Reconciliation-themed videos, including a fascinating clip about family kinship networks and how they differ to Western concepts, are available as YouTube clips on RA's website. Worth checking out at www.reconciliation.org.au.

HOW TO BE A GOOD INDIGENOUS ALLY

How can non-Indigenous people be useful allies to Aboriginal people? It's something that Summer May Finlay, a Yorta Yorta woman, academic, writer and public health consultant who has worked in a number of different areas relating to Aboriginal health and social justice, is asked a lot – and her response: 'We need good allies. We are only three per cent of the Australian population. We can't raise the profile of issues affecting us without our allies.' But what does a good ally look like? She gives some tips that may help non-Aboriginal people stay on the right side of THAT line.

1. Preference our voices. 2. Be OK with not always being part of the conversation. 3. Be there for the easy and the hard times. 4. Say something when you hear someone say inappropriate things about Aboriginal people. 5. Don't take it personally when we don't agree with you. 6. Don't go it alone. 7. Understand that Aboriginal people are not all the same.

Read the article -

<https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/article/2018/05/28/how-be-good-indigenous-ally>

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE WALK

The Royal Botanic Gardens offers a tour and journey into the ancestral lands of the Kulin nation to explore their rich and thriving culture. The walk includes a traditional smoking ceremony with an Indigenous guide, and information about traditional uses of plants for food, tools and medicine.

Daily tours, except Saturdays, from the Visitor Centre. Bookings required; group bookings and private tours by arrangement (min 15 people); 9252 2429, rbg@rbg.vic.gov.au

Indigenous Gardens guide Ben Church (left) with Dennis Fisher who is also PPCFR's Co-Chair.



READING

Nganga - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Words and Languages is an informative, helpful and easy-to-read book of everyday vocabulary written by Boon Wurrung Elder and Traditional Owner Fay Stewart-Muir and Sue Lawson, children's and young adult's writer. Published by Black Dog Books. Highly recommended. *The Griffith Review 60: First Things First*, edited by Julianne Schultz and Sandra Phillips. This compelling collection of articles focuses on the background to the Uluru Statement of the Heart – summarily dismissed by Prime Minister Turnbull – and on the aftermath, the effect on those and others involved and their ongoing struggles. Text, \$27.99.

RECONCILIATION WRITING COMPETITION

Everyone is encouraged to enter our Writing Competition. Entries can be emailed to: writingcomp2018@gmail.com

Reconciliation Writing Competition 2018



Don't Keep History A Mystery

The Reconciliation Writing Competition organised by Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation is open to all Victorians to explore ideas about our past and our connection with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture, and to develop a deeper understanding of our national story

All styles of writing are encouraged including fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Work must be original. Open to all Victorians except PPCFR committee, judges and their families

Word Limits
Adults- 1500 words or 50 lines of poetry
Secondary Students- 600 words or 30 lines of poetry
Primary Students- 400 words or 20 lines of poetry

All winning entries will be published in a booklet presented to prize-winners at the Awards Ceremony

Judges include the renowned writer and academic
Professor Tony Birch and academic **Emeritus Professor Clare Bradford**

Prizes

Adults	1st \$500 <i>donated by Wilson Agents</i> 2nd \$300, 3rd \$200
Students	
Years 10–12	<i>The Andrew McCutcheon 1st prize \$500 donated by Future Leaders</i> 2nd \$300, 3rd \$200
Years 7–9	1st \$500 <i>donated by Benson Saulo and Dr Kate O'Brien</i> 2nd \$300, 3rd \$200
Grades 5 & 6	1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50
Grades 3 & 4	1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50
Grades Prep-2	1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50

Entries close Friday 24th August 2018

Winners will be notified on 1st October 2018 and invited to the

Awards Ceremony
to be held on 16th October 2018 at
Avenue Bookstore, Albert Park

Submit entries along with your name, school and year level to writingcomp2018@gmail.com or post to Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation, PO Box 1446, St Kilda 3182

For more information contact Rosemary Rule on 0418 675 734 or visit www.ppcfr.org

The BoonWurrung Corroboree Tree, or Ngargee Tree, one of Victoria's oldest living things is between 300 and 500 years old and is sacred to the Traditional Owners of the land where St Kilda sits today
(Photo courtesy of Todd Condie)

Froudly supported by the City of Port Phillip

Future Leaders **WILSON** **avenue BOOKSTORE**

