

Mungo...



Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation Inc.

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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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September 2017

FROM THE CO-CHAIR

Our 20th Birthday Celebrations

Please join me, friends and special guests including our Co-Chair Dennis Fisher, Arweet Carolyn Briggs, Leila Gurruwiwi, Richard Frankland, Auntie Jacko, Todd Condie, COPP Mayor, Martin Foley MP and a host of others to celebrate our group's amazing twenty deadly years. We'll showcase our achievements, reflect on the past and look to the future. The flyer on the last page has the details. I'll see you there on **Monday 23 October!**

Guest Speaker

Books Illustrated co-founders Ann James and Ann Haddon gave a fascinating insight into their work particularly with Aboriginal authors and illustrators often in remote communities at the August meeting. *'There are many Indigenous writers but not so many illustrators,'* Ann James told the crowd, *'but that is slowly changing and is something we're helping encourage, especially in the children's sector.'* They showed us a fabulous range of children's books. View their art and books at 74 Mills Street, Albert Park or via booksillustrated.com.au.



Guest speakers Ann James (left) and Ann Haddon from Books Illustrated.

Skills and Language

A group of PPCfR members joined others who took the opportunity to attend a Boon Wurrung language revitalisation workshop with Fay Stewart-Muir at the Emerald Hill Library and Heritage Centre on 8 August. A Boon Wurrung Elder and senior linguist at the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages (VACL) Fay suggested we need to *'think in language way, not English way'* when learning Boon Wurrung. The Council also hosted two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day storytime sessions and a Telling your Story with Confidence workshop. There I learned some useful information and tips about engaging with your audience, getting messages across and presentation styles.

RecVic Forum

I attended the RecVic groups' forum on 26 August and will report next month on discussions about developments in treaty and constitutional reform in Victoria and on news of some of our local council's decisions regarding 26 January. See inside for updates about these significant matters. They deserve our attention and action.

Snail Mail or Email?

Dear *Mungo* readers: Do you receive the newsletter via snail mail but would be happy to receive it via email? Let me know and I'll update the database, but if you prefer to still get *Mungo* by mail, that's quite OK.



Yes, I'd like to switch from  to 

Rosemary Rule

Next meeting: Tuesday 19 September, 6.30 pm
South Melbourne Community Hub, Fishley Street,
South Melbourne. **All Welcome**

VALE DR G YUNUPINGU

Australia's most prominent Indigenous music artist, Dr G Yunupingu, died on 25 July, aged 46, having suffered years of ill health after contracting Hepatitis B as a child, leaving him with liver and kidney disease. The singer was from the remote community of Galiwin'ku on Elcho Island, 500 km east of Darwin. He shot to stardom in 2008, winning an ARIA Award for his namesake album. The album hit triple platinum in Australia, silver in the UK and charted in multiple countries worldwide. Dr Yunupingu's record label Skinnyfish described him as *'one of the most important figures in Australian music history.'* Blind from birth and emerging from the remote Galiwin'ku community, Dr Yunupingu, a Yolngu man from the Gumatj clan, had his first guitar by the age of six which he learned to play upside-down because he was left handed. In his mid-teens, he joined the band Yothu Yindi under the guidance of lead singer Mr Yunupingu. He later went on to play with the Saltwater Band before being persuaded by friend Michael Hohnen to go solo. In 2009 he was made the Northern Territory's Australian of the Year. He received five ARIA awards, was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Music by the University of Sydney in 2012, and last year was named Artist of the Year at the NAIDOC awards.

RESPECTING COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROTOCOLS

In light of the enormous amount of media coverage following the death of Dr Yunupingu, which was by and large respectful of the wishes of his family, it is worth noting that the Australian Government agencies have adopted protocols and guidelines when working in Indigenous communities to respect and honour the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, unique to Australia. The Indigenous cultural protocols guide processes involving Indigenous affairs, from avoiding exposure of sacred sites to speaking to an appropriate representative of a community. It also guides the conduct of reporting on deceased persons in their respective communities. These guidelines were the result of the sector building better respect and relationships with the Indigenous communities across Australia and reflect the diversity within the country. *'Respecting Indigenous protocols is such an important process for us as an Indigenous channel and in our role as the leading voice of Indigenous media,'* says NITV Channel Manager Tanya Denning. As outlined in the NITV/SBS Greater Perspective Guidelines, in the case of the deceased members in the Indigenous community, protocols for mourning may vary for different clan groups and different individuals. However, it's common practice that when there is a member of the community that is deceased, the person's name is changed due to cultural beliefs, and the images of that person are suppressed. This may be just for a period of time, some cases could vary between six to twelve months, but liaising with the community is paramount. Protocols include specific ones for journalists. For more information, email: nitvnews@sbs.com.au

GARMA FESTIVAL AND REFERENDUM UPDATE

Aboriginal leaders said they are more optimistic than ever that Australians will embrace the idea to hold a

referendum to establish an Indigenous voice to parliament following a special Q&A panel at the Garma Festival in north-east Arnhem Land that addressed issues of constitutional reform, social inequality and language preservation. Cape York Partnership founder Noel Pearson said he believed decisions concerning a referendum and a treaty would be made within the next three to five years. Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion said fear of the unknown was driving resistance to the idea, proposed at the Uluru constitutional convention in May. *'We need to, in a careful way, consider this,'* Senator Scullion said. University of Melbourne academic and anthropologist Professor Marcia Langton said she expected some politicians would prefer to make other amendments to the constitution before they dealt with Indigenous recognition. She referenced the handful of politicians caught up recently in dual citizenship scandals. *'You watch ... they will put up an amendment to section 44 to clarify their status as Australians before they deal with ours,'* Professor Langton said. Opposition Leader Bill Shorten said that Labor would support a referendum on a voice to parliament, while Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said the question needed more consideration. Meanwhile, Garma Festival director Denise Bowden said the issue should not be used as a political football.

ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

The Uluru Statement from the Heart by Galarrwuy Yunupingu is the foreword to ***A Rightful Place*** edited by Noel Pearson and Shireen Morris (published by Black Inc and La Trobe University). The book is a collection of essays by several writers and thinkers providing 'a road map to recognition' and explores if, and how, Indigenous Australians will be recognised in the constitution. It was created in the process of the Uluru discussions. Source for review: dailyreview.com.au.

TREATY NEWS

The Aboriginal Treaty Interim Working Group will soon be setting up an Aboriginal Community Assembly to provide recommendations on the remaining design elements of the representative body. This is currently in development - more information will be provided once it is finalised. Visit AV's website for more information: vic.gov.au/aboriginalvictoria/treaty/results-of-consultations.html

PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY MADE

Taungurung Traditional Owner Mick Harding has become the first Aboriginal person in history to address the Victorian Cabinet. Mr Harding presented an update to Cabinet on the work towards a treaty with Victoria's Traditional Owners, first in Dagungwurrung (commonly known as Taungurung) language and then in English. The Co-Chair of the Aboriginal Interim Treaty Working group, Mick Harding says Australians need to work together collectively. *'It was a great honour to be the first Aboriginal person to address the Victorian Cabinet and provide an update on the Victorian treaty process and what it means to my people,'* he said. ***'Aa Aa Yuwang-ngal-in marram nganjin budambun-djerring,*** which means in Taungurung language that Aboriginal Victorians and

the Government need an agreement together that is reciprocal.' Following 18 months of consultation, the Aboriginal Treaty Interim Working Group will now facilitate an assembly to design the representative body for Aboriginal Victorians. Once it is formed, constituted and then recognised by the Victorian Government, negotiation of a treaty can commence.

RECVIC UPDATE

RecVic's latest newsletter was once again an informative, interesting and excellent source of news and information that in part urged the community to take action. *'While we should celebrate the spirit of Reconciliation that Dr Yunupingu embodied and the undeniable achievements of the movement these past few decades, we also cannot ignore the continuing injustices (e.g. escalating child removals and incarceration rates, disparities in life expectancy, health, educational and employment outcomes, etc.) entrenched institutional and casual racism and the misinformed perspectives framework still endemic in Australian life. We encourage everyone in a position of privilege to join us in using that privilege to inform ourselves, to have those difficult conversations with family, friends and colleagues, to engage with those people who don't see the world through the same prism, to call out injustice and racism, to march in solidarity, to lobby all levels of government, to support Aboriginal voices and Aboriginal-led decision-making, and to donate to and volunteer with Aboriginal-controlled organisations.'* One of RecVic's strategic focus areas is to support such activities and processes, and to build the capacity of the Victorian Reconciliation network.

In other news, RecVic commends and strongly supports the City of Yarra and the City of Darebin in their decisions related to their 26 January recommendations, a result of engagement with the local Aboriginal communities. Yarra Council voted unanimously to change the way it marks 26 January from 2018 onwards. Darebin voted to follow the Yarra Council's lead in moving its Australia Day events from 26 January. Details: info@reconciliationvic.org.au or www.reconciliationvic.org.au

CELEBRATING CULTURE: WALKING IN TWO WORLDS

The 2 Worlds Festival from the Marrma' Rom Two Worlds Foundation brings our cultures together in a fun, entertaining and interactive festival atmosphere, and will be held on **Saturday 2 September**, 1.00 pm-10.00 pm, Fyansford Paper Mills, Lower Paper Mills Road, Fyansford, Geelong. It showcases a variety of Indigenous and western performers, art, traditional and not-so-traditional activities, and multicultural food. Headline acts include Archie Roach, Jeff Lang, Neil Murray, Shane Howard Trio, Chris Wilson, and Yirmal and the Miliyawutj, with another fifteen local and national musicians performing across four stages. Tickets \$44 for this fundraising event, via Try Booking.

SOCIAL HOUSING PLAN

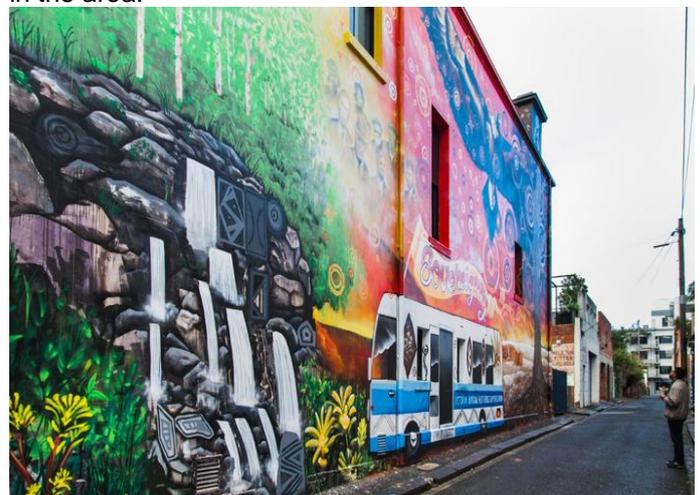
In a landmark move, the Victorian Government is handing over social housing assets worth \$500 million

to Aboriginal Housing Victoria to own, manage and develop on behalf of the state's fast-growing Indigenous community. The first tranche of 511 properties, located around Melbourne, was transferred to Aboriginal Housing last month. The transfer of titles to the organisation will allow the AHV to implement a strategic plan that includes:

- Developing pathways for Aboriginal people towards home ownership by giving them the option of buying the properties they rent;
- Initiating a jobs program for Indigenous youth in the maintenance and repair of the dwellings;
- Acquiring more culturally-appropriate accommodation for large and small families.

FITZROY MURAL

Located on Gertrude Street in Fitzroy, this large Indigenous mural, measuring 21 by 8 metres, embodies not only a beautiful representation of history, culture and stories but the true spirit of Aboriginal community. Gunnai Waradgerie man Robert Young has a long-reaching family history in the Fitzroy area. The iconic building that features his art used to be the Victorian Aboriginal Health Services. *'My great grandparents were one of the first families to live on Gertrude Street in 1930. My grandparents created one of the first Aboriginal legal services in Australia here in Fitzroy...my Mum worked as a dental nurse on the dental bus run by the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service originally based where Charcoal Lane is now,'* Robert explained. *'The Aboriginal health service wasn't the only Indigenous building on the street, in fact there were eight other Aboriginal-owned businesses running and the sense of community was strong. There was the old gym there, where my grandfather taught young fellas how to make boomerangs and how to box. There was a food kitchen where the aunties helped cook noodles for those who didn't have a meal,'* he said. *'There was that real proud sense of unity but also that spirit of taking care of your brothers and sisters from all mobs. Back then they knew the only people that understood our stories and our needs were each other.'* Designed by Robert Young and produced with help from artists Heesco and Mike Makatron, the mural was created in partnership with Charcoal Lane, Yarra City Council and funded by the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program targeting graffiti in the area.



Fitzroy's *Celebration Dreaming* mural by artist Robert Young.

INDIGENOUS LITERACY DAY

The 2017 Indigenous Literacy Day is on **Wednesday 6 September**. Join ILF ambassadors, supporters and schools to launch a wonderful series of books written and illustrated by children and Elders from remote communities. The stories are diverse; from the beautiful songs in the new *Yakanarra Song Book* to the very funny adventures of a water buffalo in *Shallow in the Deep End*. Special guests include Patron Hon. Quentin Bryce and ambassadors Josh Pyke, Justine Clarke, Alison Lester, Anita Heiss, Andy Griffiths, Gregg Dreise and Jared Thomas. The Foundation is introducing a new partnership with News Corp Australia who are chasing Great Book Swap stories. Schools or organisations who would like to share their Great Book Swap story can contact Indigenous Literacy Foundation, info@ilf.org.au; (02) 9280 0644.

ARTS NEWS

Music

- Dan Sultan has released his latest gospel-inspired *Killer* album. He's playing at the Wool Exchange, Geelong, on **Friday 1 September** and Forum Theatre, Melbourne, on **Saturday 2 September**. Tour details: frontiertouring.com/sultan.
- A.B. Original - Briggs and Trials - snatched nearly half of the Australian Independent Record Label Awards with their *Reclaim Australia* album and *26 January* track.
- Deborah Cheetham AO and Jessie Lloyd are among thirty performers presenting their favourite song by a Jewish composer in this year's Shir Madness Melbourne Jewish Festival, **Sunday 3 September**; Noon-10.00 pm, 76 Alma Road, St Kilda. Tickets \$24-\$88. Details: shirmadness.com
- Three Aboriginal song women from three different states: Jessie Lloyd, Emma Donovan and Deline Briscoe, will explore the cultural heritage of their ancestry. **Thursday 14 September**, 8.00 pm-9.15 pm Hawthorn Arts Centre, 360 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn. \$35 (\$30 Concession). Boroondara Arts, Phone: 9278 4770, hawthornartscentre@boroondara.vic.gov.au

NIMA Awards

Country singer Troy Cassar-Daley and hip hop duo A.B. Original were the big winners at the National Indigenous Music Awards. The crowd of thousands at the Darwin Amphitheatre stood for a minute's silence for the late Elcho Island singer and guitarist, Dr G Yunupingu, a five-time NIMA Artist of the Year award winner.

Art

- *What If?* by artist Marlene Gilson, Koorie Heritage Trust, Gallery 1, and *Murnong: Yam Daisies* by Deanne Gilson, Gallery 2, are highly recommended exhibitions. Linked by the culture of their Wadawurrung ancestors, mother and daughter artists Aunty Marlene Gilson and Deanne Gilson have developed two concurrent solo exhibitions exploring their differing styles and techniques. Aunty Marlene presents a

series of new works in her signature narrative style, telling iconic stories of her Country and community. Deanne presents an installation of ceramics and paintings as an investigation into the loss of women's traditional practices through colonisation. At KHT until **8 October**.

- The Wynne Prize of \$50,000 for best landscape painting or figure sculpture was awarded to Aboriginal artist Betty Kuntiwa Pumani from Antara in SA, an extremely important site for the artist and her family.

MAGABALA BOOKS TURNS 30

Australia's leading Indigenous publisher is celebrating 30 years of independent Indigenous publishing. Based in Broome, WA, Magabala Books is one of the most remote publishing houses in the world. Since its incorporation in 1990, it has been recognised as a producer of quality Indigenous Australian literature receiving accolades in prestigious literary and national achievement awards. As one of the most respected small publishing houses in Australia, Magabala Books works to celebrate the talent and diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices through the publication of quality literature. Magabala Books has released more than two hundred titles from a range of genres. Learn more at info@magabala.com

LATEST ROCK ART 'DISCOVERIES'

A group of Aboriginal rangers has discovered hundreds of works of rock art while conducting dry season burn-offs in the remote West Arnhem region. The local people estimate there could be more than 30,000 pieces in one area alone, and a group of female rangers are now working hard to preserve and document them. The works depict traditional ways, mythical creatures and ancient songlines, and one section portrays first contact with police officers, ships and guns. But they are at risk from damage by feral animals and large seasonal wildfires that tear through Arnhem Land. *'I don't want late fires going out on the rocks, because we've got a lot of important rock art that we don't want to destroy,'* said Warddeken ranger Lindsay Whitehurst. *'This part of the world ... is covered in the legacy and the history of Indigenous people's occupation of this land, and there are literally tens of thousands of these occupation sites, these rock art sites, right across the Warddeken [Indigenous protected area].'*

INDIGENOUS MODELS

São Paulo Fashion Week, the fifth biggest fashion week in the world, has long been seen as having a bias towards white models. But this year, thanks to Australian and Brazilian designer Vanessa Moe, twelve Indigenous Australian girls will have the chance to be seen on the world stage. The models will be wearing Vanessa's CIRCLES collection which is Australian-Indigenous inspired and supported by First Hand Solutions and Warlukurlangu Artists of Yuendumu. São Paulo Fashion Week is in September.



PORT PHILLIP CITIZENS FOR RECONCILIATION CELEBRATING 20 DEADLY YEARS!



MONDAY 23 OCTOBER 2017
6.30 – 8.30 PM ST KILDA TOWN HALL

Join with Marngrook Footy Show's **Leila Gurruwiwi**,
Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at
Victorian College of the Arts and all-round entertainer,
Richard Frankland,
Arweet **Carolyn Briggs**, **Den the Fish**,
Aunty **Judith 'Jacko' Jackson**, and a host of others to
celebrate **20 years of respecting Culture and Building Bridges**

LUCKY DOOR PRIZES

- Aboriginal Flag signed by Harold Thomas: Aboriginal Flag designer
- Boon Wurrung Womin Djeka plaque
- Koorie Heritage Trust merchandise

Come and hear special guest **Richard Frankland** discuss his views on **Treaty**, plus enjoy music and poetry, a feast of finger food and some surprises!

Everyone Welcome to this Free Event!

For catering purposes, please RSVP by **20 October** by clicking the Eventbrite link below.
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/celebrating-20-deadly-years-tickets-36738565037>
More details: 9699 8804 or 0418 675 734 or Email: rosemary.rule@gmail.com