

Mungo...



Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation Inc.

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The Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we meet, and we pay our respects to their Elders; past, present and emerging.

This newsletter is supported by a Community Grant from the City of Port Phillip, and we acknowledge Nina Taylor MP, State Labor Member for Albert Park, for their ongoing support.

JUNE 2023

FROM THE CO-CHAIR

Sorry Day Lunch

Feedback from over 120 people from diverse sectors who attended the lunch on 25 May included: *"Thank you for the wonderful event today - it really touched my heart"*; *"Thank you for putting on a marvelous event"* and *"The community feedback has been sensational"*.

Highlights: Bunurong Elder Josh West's passionate Welcome to Country and acknowledgement of the Stolen Generations; the rich voice of John Wayne Parsons, singing his own compositions and cajoling guests and students from St Michaels' and Mac.Rob Girls' High School to follow his jiggly arm movements; MC Den the Fish's banter and poetry; Elder Judith Jackson and Ned Valent's drawing of the raffle ticket winners; 'Yes' cookies and a giveaway of native plants from Bili Indigenous Nursery in Port Melbourne. Special thanks to all the group members who ensured everything went smoothly.



Above: Guests listening to John Wayne Parsons. More photos last page.
Below: A full house with over 120 attending our Sorry Day Lunch.

Reconciliation Week

Elder Judith 'Jacko' Jackson was the special guest at Port Melbourne Primary's school-wide assembly for students on 29 May. Paisley Blank, school parent/PPCfR member, says PMPS has a strong commitment to Reconciliation and is in the process of creating a RAP. Later that day, Jacko and I were invited to give a talk to residents at Australian Unity's The Grace Albert Park.

Mabo Day

Saturday 3 June commemorates Mer Island man Eddie Koiki Mabo successfully overturning the legal fiction of *'terra nullius'*. City of Port Phillip event details below.

The Voice

It was painful hearing of Stan Grant's decision to step down from his role as Q&A host, citing exhaustion from persistent racist abuse; I hope it won't be too long before we hear from this respected journalist, commentator, author and proud Wiradjuri man.

Office Update

I'm grateful to Helen Hoffman who arranged storage at the St Kilda Baptist Church for our memorabilia - amassed over 25 years - and thanks to Jo and Joy for helping sort through masses of documents to keep those relating to significant events, history, awards, etc.

Social Event

PPCfR friends are encouraged to come along to *Audrey Napananka*, the story of a First Nations woman, Audrey, and her Sicilian partner, Santo. Classic Cinema, Elsternwick, **Wednesday 21 June**, 6.30 pm. Details: Fiona Darroch, fdarroch@outlook.com; 0401801866.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 20 June, 6.30 pm

South Melbourne Community Centre, Hall 3, Ferrars Place, (off Park Street) South Melbourne.

All Welcome. Enquiries: 0418 685 734

TREATY DAY OUT

The First Peoples Assembly are organising a fabulous Treaty Day Out concert at Burnley Circus Park, 2.00-10.30 pm, **Friday 2 June**. Artists include Jessica Mauboy, Yothu Yindi, Electric Fields, Thelma Plum and Dan Sultan. www.firstpeoples.vic.org for ticket info.



Thelma Plum

MABO DAY

The City of Port Phillip, in partnership with the Esplanade Markets, St Kilda, is presenting a range of First Nations performances from **3-19 June**. Music from Amos Roach; Indigenous Outreach Projects IOP Hip Hop and Bandook Tati; Small Ant Brothers (**Sunday 4 June**, 11.00 am-3.00 pm at The Esplanade Market, St Kilda) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dancers.

As part of the St Kilda Film Festival, there are screenings of First Nations films, including *Bangay Lore*, *Gravel Road*, *Helicopter Tjungurrayi* and *The Eel Farm*; www.stkildafilmfestival.com.au.

The Lost Crystals of Jessica's Room is part of the Australian Comedy Showcase at South Melbourne Market, **Friday 2 June-8 June**. Tickets from the market and TryBooking: <https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/people-and-community/first-nations-community-information/reconciliation-week>

REFERENDUM NEWS

The Australian Government is partnering with the Museum of Australian Democracy and the Constitution Education Fund Australia to deliver a civics information program so that Australians can get the facts ahead of the 2023 Referendum to recognise the First Peoples of Australia in the Constitution by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice. They will provide \$475,000 to the Museum of Australian Democracy and \$1 million to the Constitution Education Fund Australia to jointly deliver a grassroots civics program, providing accessible, neutral, easy-to-understand information about the constitution and Referendum processes: <https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/burney/2023/get-facts-ahead-2023-referendum>.

Campaigns: Keep up to date with accurate campaign news via YES23 - <https://yes23.com> and @yes23au on Instagram. Elsewhere, the University of Melbourne's Centre for Constitutional Studies factual Info Sheets keep people informed with current developments, answer questions and promote public seminars. law.unimelb.edu.au/centres/cccs.

Media: NITV's *The Point* will feature First Nations perspectives informing all Australians, Tuesdays, 7.30 pm and SBS at 10.30 pm. Hosts John Paul Janke and Narelda Jacobs will visit every Australian state and territory with special outdoor broadcasts, live episodes and analysis from other correspondents.

FIRST NATIONS WOMEN FRAMEWORK DEVELOPED

A new National Framework for Action and a dedicated First Nations Gender Justice Institute is being set up at the Australian National University, led by the Human Rights Commission's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, June Oscar AO. "It's the first time in this country that we will have a dedicated, independent, autonomous First Nations gender justice institute that will include research conducted in Communities, driven by First Nations women and their partners on the issues that matter," she said. The new measures are the outcomes of the Wiyi Yani U Thangani National Summit - meaning 'women's voices' in the Bunuba language from the West Australian Kimberly region - held in Canberra, when over 900 First Nations women met for the first national gathering of its kind. The Wiyi Yani U Thangani program has been in development for five years after consultations with more than 2000 Indigenous women across the nation to identify their greatest needs and aspirations.

NAIDOC 2023

In the lead-up to NAIDOC Week, the Victorian NAIDOC Award will be announced on **Thursday 15 June**, celebrating the hard work of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their contributions to the Victorian community. More news next month. NAIDOC's T-shirt



competition winner is Nakia Cadd, a Gunditjmara, Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung and Bunitj woman. Her design represents the different songlines across Victoria, stories of country and stories of our old people, with colours reflecting those of our Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander Flags. <https://www.naidoc.org>

EDDIE BETTS FOUNDATION LAUNCHED

AFL great Eddie Betts has launched a new foundation to provide greater opportunities for First Nations youth in sport and education. The former Carlton Blues and Adelaide Crows star describes the venture as an extension of his family's "lifelong commitment" to creating pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Eddie Foundation will provide funding and resources, such as playing gear and travel expenses for selected applicants, introduce children to professional networks within sport and provide personal mentoring and career advice. eddiebetts.com.au.

RECONCILIATION STONNINGTON

Reconciliation Stonnington is not having much luck negotiating with City of Stonnington at the moment, being refused permission to hold information stalls at Prahran Market to promote a YES vote because 'it's too political'. We decided to have a handout of leaflets outside the market on Sunday 29 May as part of our Reconciliation Week activity, but the YES23 handouts didn't arrive in time. Permission is pending about holding an information stall in the foyer of Malvern Town Hall at a RecWeek function with Kutcha Edwards. Our president, Keith Gove, wrote a very convincing letter to council, asking them to come out on the YES side as other councils have, mentioning points that would align with their RAP. Guess what? Council decided instead to publicise both the YES and the NO sides to the community, which is very disappointing. We feel as though we are banging our heads against a brick wall right now! On a brighter note, we have been asked by Stonnington U3A and Prahran Community Learning Centre to do another talk on The Voice soon and also plan to handout information outside Prahran Market. In the meantime, our next meeting is **Wednesday 14 June**, 6.00 pm, Prahran Community Learning Centre, Grattan Gardens, Prahran. We will continue to discuss the Voice Referendum and how we will celebrate our 25th Anniversary this year. All Welcome.

Enquiries: Ro Bailey, 0438 285 588.

Recommended resource: *Demonstrating Inclusiveness and Respectful Language* - Information sheet prepared by Reconciliation Australia: www.reconciliation.org.au

FIVE DEADLY NAARM BUSINESSES NAMED

Big Esso by Mabu Mabu, Federation Square, Melbourne; The Torch; 146 Elgin Street, Carlton; Ngali at 24 Aurora Lane, Docklands; Pawa Café and Bar, Southbank Promenade; The Koorie Heritage Trust, Federation Square. Learn more at: <https://news.melbourne.vic.gov.au/five-deadly-first-nations-businesses-to-discover/>

ARTS NEWS

Films: PPCfR friends are encouraged to come along to *Audrey Napananka*, the story of a First Nations woman, Audrey, and her Sicilian partner, Santo. Classic Cinema, Elsternwick, **Wednesday 21 June**, 6.30 pm. Details: Fiona Darroch, fdarroch@outlook.com; 0401801866.

The Lost Daughter - special screening/fundraiser for SNAICC with Q&A and book signing with Brenda Matthews and Gretchen Young; **Thursday 22 June**, 6.45 pm, Sun Theatre Yarraville. Tickets/information: <https://events.humanitix.com/the-last-daughter-q-and-a-fundraiser> or jam@justiceactionmaribryong.com

Exhibitions: *Everything That Came Before Makes The Present* solo exhibition by Tiwi artist Johnathon World Peace Bush brings together 15 major works through three key themes: Religion, Colonial Crimes and Indigenous Culture. Linden New Art, Acland Street, St

Kilda. Opens **Friday 16 June**, 6.30 pm, and runs until September.

Shadow Spirit - works by Indigenous artists including Warwick Thornton and Kimberley Moulton in the fenced off rooms above Flinders Street Station.

Books: *Loving Country: A Guide to Sacred Australia* by Bruce Pascoe and Vicky Shukuroglou is a powerful and essential guidebook, offering a new way to travel and discover Australia through an Indigenous narrative; beautifully designed and photographed.

Praiseworthy by Alexis Wright is an epic story set in the north of Australia in a small town, dominated by a haze cloud, which heralds both an ecological catastrophe and a gathering of the ancestors.



Alexis Wright, author of *Praiseworthy*.

We are Matildas by Shelley Ware and Serena Geddes is an energetic picture book, celebrating football and the team spirit of the CommBank Matildas.

PUBLIC SECTOR SCHOLARSHIP

An Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or Māori public servant will receive a fully-funded place in one of the Australian and New Zealand School of Government's (ANZSOG) 2024 foundation programs, including the Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA), through the 2024 ANZSOG First Nations scholarship. It is part of their commitment to building capability in First Nations administration and lifting the number of potential First Nations leaders in all levels of the public sector. Applications close Friday 6 October. <https://anzsog.edu.au/first-nations/first-nations-scholarship/>

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

The federal government will spend more than \$10 million on boosting mental health support for First Nations people during the Voice campaign. The funding is part of a \$364 million package to deliver the Referendum on whether to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the constitution through a Voice to Parliament. Most of the money is for the Australian Electoral Commission to facilitate the Referendum process, including \$10 million to deliver Yes and No information pamphlets to every Australian household. The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation will receive \$10 million to support the mental health of First Nations people during the campaign, which is expected to run between October and December.

SORRY DAY AND RECONCILIATION WEEK PHOTOS



Top: Bunurong Elder Josh West performs the Welcome to Country at our Sorry Day Lunch.

Below left: Elder Judith 'Jacko' Jackson with Chris Carroll, Port Phillip CEO, and his raffle prize.

Below right, from left to right: Elder Judith Jackson, Suzane Peart, PPCFR Co-Chair Rosemary Rule, Fiona Darroch, Fiona O-F and MC Dennis 'Den the Fish' Fisher.

Bottom left: Elder Judith Jackson meets the 2023 School Captains from Port Melbourne Primary, following her Reconciliation Week talk for the school assembly on 29 May.

Bottom right: Hand-crafted cookies for every Sorry Day guest.



Mungo Newsletter

If undeliverable, please return to:

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