

# Mungo...



Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation Inc.

ABN: 444 16 152 998  
P.O. Box 1446, St Kilda South, Vic 3182  
Phone: (03) 9699 8804  
Mobile: 0418 675 734  
Email: [rosemary.rule@gmail.com](mailto:rosemary.rule@gmail.com)  
[www.ppcfr.org](http://www.ppcfr.org)

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 thank them for their ongoing support.

November 2024

## FROM THE CO-CHAIR

### AGM Report

Thirty-five people enjoyed a powerful meeting on 15 October. Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation's Uncle Mark Brown gave an engaging Welcome to Country and spoke of the importance of looking after the land of the Kulin Nation where we live, work and meet. Professor Andrew Gunstone, Inaugural Associate Deputy Vice-Chancellor Reconciliation at Federation University and Co-Chair of Reconciliation Victoria, talked about his book *Reflections on the Voice: During and After the Campaign* and signed copies. Keynote speaker Uncle Charles Pakana, a proud Aboriginal man of Tasmanian descent, journalist, founder of Victorian Aboriginal News, founder of Connection Matters Radio, host of 3KnD programs, Treaty correspondent and popular MC, invited us to "become collaborators, not allies, and walk with us as all Australians". In spite the referendum results, Uncle Charles reckons we have a bright future in this state, encouraging us to support Treaty "for the benefit of every Victorian." Uncle Charles, Andrew, Judith 'Jacko' Jackson and Dennis Fisher stayed for refreshments. The following were re-elected to the PPCfR Committee: Dennis Fisher and I as Co-Chairs; Deb Stewart – Secretary; Fiona Olney-Fraser – Treasurer; Committee



Members - Jo Bond, Joy Bandy and Fiona Darroch. These wonderful people are the backbone of this 27-year-old group, one of the oldest Reconciliation groups in Victoria.

**Bunurong Land Council and Aboriginal Corporation Senior Cultural Officer Uncle Mark Brown Welcomed us to Country at our AGM.**



AGM guests included Deb Stewart, Rosemary Rule, Elder Dennis Fisher, Andrew Gunstone, Elder Judith 'Jacko' Jackson and Elder Uncle Charles Pakana.



AGM Guest Speaker Uncle Charles Pakana (right) and author Andrew Gunstone, who spoke about his new book *Reflections on the Voice: During and After the Campaign*.

### Forum

*Early Yarning: Come Yarn, Listen, Make and Connect* is the theme of our first forum for Early Learning Educators on **Wednesday 27 November**; details inside.

### Congratulations

To Leila Gurruwiwi, broadcasting on Broad Radio App *Yapas Yamin*, featuring First Nations women's stories and knowledge. Fridays, 3.30-4.00 pm.

### Rosemary Rule

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 19 November, 6.30 pm**  
South Melbourne Community Centre, Hall 3  
Ferrars Place, (off Park Street) South Melbourne  
All Welcome! Enquiries: 0418 675 734

## EARLY YARNING - COME YARN, LISTEN, MAKE AND CONNECT

Early Learning Educators are invited to a forum hosted by Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation, designed to help increase awareness of First Nations' protocols and culture. It will be facilitated by Fiona Darroch, an Early Childhood Educator and PPCfR member, and feature a Welcome to Country by an Elder from the Bunurong Land Council and a workshop run by Taylah Eid, First Nations textile designer and artist based in Naarm. As well as facilitating traditional weaving workshops for children, Taylah has participated in the National Gallery and Koorie Heritage Trust's creative programs. Local Elder, Aunty Judith 'Jacko' Jackson, will talk about possum-skin cloaks. **Wednesday 27 November, 6.00-7.15 pm, South Melbourne Community Centre,**



cnr Ferrars Place & Park Street, South Melbourne. Free; Refreshments provided. Enquiries: 0401 801 866.

**First Nations textile designer and artist Taylah Eid.**

## VACCHO'S NEW HOLISTIC MODEL

In October, VACCHO (Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation), the peak representative body for the health and wellbeing of Victoria's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, launched a new model for Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations (ACCOs). Hosted by Sheena Watt MLC, VACCHO celebrated the groundbreaking work undertaken by Victorian ACCOs for over 50 years. The holistic ACCO model has been developed to support Aboriginal communities and offers culturally safe healthcare - combined with wrap-around social services - to best address the disparities in health and wellbeing experienced by Aboriginal Victorians. ACCOs are an Indigenous-led response to the long-term, intergenerational impacts brought on from colonisation as well as the policies of assimilation and dispossession and provide a wide range of essential services.

## RECVIC AND ANTAR NEWS

Reconciliation Victoria's (RV) Local Reconciliation Groups (LRG) Forum was held on 5 October. On behalf of Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation, Rosemary Rule mentioned some of the key projects our group is working on and was interested to hear about activities from other LRG groups. On 26 October, RV and ANTAR Victoria held their joint Annual Forum and AGMs at the Djerring Flemington Hub, Flemington, hosted by MC Uncle Charles Pakana, Founder and Editor of Victorian Aboriginal News. After the formal AGM proceedings, a forum discussion focussed on Treaty negotiations and how Truth-telling and the path to Treaties in Victoria are intrinsically linked with the journey towards Reconciliation. Special guest speakers

were Rubeen Berg, Co-Chair of the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria; Sue-Anne Hunter, Commissioner of the Yoorrook Justice Commission and Duean White, Inaugural Member of the Treaty Authority. In other news, Clare Corbet and Kelly Ziccone have joined the RV team. Clare is the Volunteers Program Coordinator and Kelly is a volunteer intern in administration and project support.

## ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE AFFIRMS FIRST NATIONS' VOICE

In October, the Anglican Synod reaffirmed its commitment to Reconciliation with First Nations people, passing a motion that supports ongoing efforts towards Truth-telling, Treaty, and justice. The Synod acknowledged the courage and resilience of First Peoples in the Anglican diocese of Melbourne and the broader province of Victoria, affirming the Reconciliation process outlined in the Statement from the Heart through Voice and Treaty. The Venerable Uncle Glenn Loughrey has been appointed Provincial Archdeacon for Reconciliation, First Peoples' Recognition and Treaty. Uncle Glenn established the Murnong First Peoples' Gathering Place in Glen Iris, the Murnong Art Gallery and the Wominjeka Garden at St Oswald's Anglican Church.

## INDIGENOUS TOURISM BOOM

More than 800,000 people spent \$3.2 billion on Indigenous cultural tourism in New South Wales last financial year. The NSW government aims to increase visitor expenditure across the state to \$91 billion per year by 2035. Aboriginal cultural tourism operators are keen to share their knowledge with the rest of the world. In Victorian news, traditionally this is the season when poorneet/tadpoles emerge in the Eastern Kulin calendar.



As the weather warms up, we will hear the currawongs call loudly and the murnong daisy will flower.

**Murnong Daisy - ready to eat!**

## LAKE MUNGO APP FOR VISITORS

A new app has been developed to give visitors to Mungo National Park – home to Mungo Lady and Mungo Man - as well as the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area a more immersive experience. The not-for-profit team have worked with First Nations custodians around Australia to record language, stories and cultural knowledge using various art forms and digital media, then have used the material produced for education and the app.

## EVENTS

*Regather Turruk* is an intimate yarnning circle gathering with heart-centred and solutions-focused leaders in First Nations wisdom and regenerative sustainability. Participants include Stephen Thorpe and Abe Sharman, Caroline Sanz-Veitch, Regen Lan Diep and Sarah Naarden. Venue: Initiatives of Change Australia. **Thursday 21 November**, 5.00-7.30pm, Armagh, 226 Kooyong Road, Toorak.

Swinburne University and the Moondani Toombadool Centre's 2024 Swinburne Annual Barak|Wonga Oration Guest Speaker is Dr Terri Janke - a Wuthathi, Yadhaigana and Meriam woman, international authority on Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) and creator of the True Tracks framework for best-practice Indigenous engagement. She is the owner and solicitor director of 100% Indigenous-owned legal and consulting firm Terri Janke and Company and a leading expert on the intersections between AI and ICIP.



**Tuesday 26 November**, 5.15 pm – networking and refreshments; 6.15 pm - Oration. Hawthorn Hotel, 481 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn.

Dr Terri Janke is the keynote speaker at the 2024 Barak|Wonga Oration.

## CULTURE

### Art Exhibitions

*The Stars We Do Not See: Australian Indigenous Art*  
This exhibition features artists Richard Bell, Maree Clarke and Emily Kam Kngwarray in the largest-ever exhibition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, presented internationally in the USA in 2025. Curated by the National Gallery of Victoria, it includes over 200 works from the Gallery's collection by more than 130 artists from across Australia.

### Music

The legacy of Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu, one of Australia's most highly decorated artists, continues with the release of a new posthumous album *Banbirrngu - The Orchestral Sessions*, featuring re-workings of the singer-songwriter's music across his career, produced by Gurrumul's longtime friend and collaborator Michael Hohnen, co-director of Darwin label Skinnyfish Music.

### Exhibition

*Tenant Creek Brio: Juparnta Ngattu Minjinyapa Iconocrosis* The Tenant Creek Brio of Indigenous men paint on salvaged items such as car bonnets, oil barrels etc. ACCA, South Melbourne, **Saturday 21 September till Sunday 17 November**.

### Books

Clare Wright's *Näku Dhäruk: The Bark Petitions – How the People of Yirrkala Changed the Course of Australian Democracy* tells the story beginning in August 1963, when Yolngu living at the Yirrkala Methodist Mission in Arnhem Land submitted two petitions to the Australian Parliament, symbolising the petitioners' ownership under customary law of certain lands, close to the mission, which were threatened by the Menzies Government when it excised a portion, rich in bauxite, from the Arnhem Land Reserve. The petitions asked parliament to appoint a committee to "hear the views of the Yirrkala people before permitting the excision of the land". Some members had doubts whether the petition represented the community's views, so Yolngu sent a second petition. Parliament appointed a committee which confirmed the government had not consulted Yolngu. The committee did not challenge the legality or fairness of the excision; it recommended measures it considered protective of Yolngu interests while mining went ahead. What distinguishes Wright's account of the disorder among settler authorities is the length, detail and intimacy of her narration. Her 'intimate storytelling' takes the reader inside the heads of the missionaries, legislators and public servants. *Dirrayawadha* by Anita Heiss is the Ambassador for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation's latest fiction book. It follows a girl who remembers the day her traditional lands were renamed Bathurst by white settlers; Wiradjuri words are scattered throughout the story.



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Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation is a voluntary community group affiliated with Reconciliation Victoria and Australians for Native Title & Reconciliation Victoria (ANTar). We work closely with the City of Port Phillip from whom we receive a small grant, participate in Reconciliation and NAIDOC Week events, host a free lunch for Sorry Day each year, participate in local community festivals and publish an informative monthly newsletter, *Mungo*.

Meetings are held at 6.30 pm on the third Tuesday each month.

Please help us continue our work by joining the group – or renewing your existing membership. The rate is valid until 30 June 2024.

Date: .....

Membership Fee: \$20.00, \$10.00 concession:

Amount Enclosed: \$..... (Please tick Cash... Cheque... or Deposit...)

**EFT Details:**

Bendigo Bank  
Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation  
BSB 633 000  
Account Number 135518546

Please include your surname in the reference to identify the payment.

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....Postcode: .....

Mobile: ..... Home .....

Email: .....

Completed Membership Forms can be sent to: PO Box 1446, St Kilda South, VIC 3182 or emailed to [rosemary.rule@gmail.com](mailto:rosemary.rule@gmail.com).

Members automatically receive a free copy of *Mungo* each month. Would you prefer to receive it by email and help save postage – and trees? Yes..... No.....  
Are you able to help with events, stalls or mailouts? Yes..... No.....

Mungo Newsletter

If undeliverable, please return to:

PORT PHILLIP CITIZENS FOR RECONCILIATION

P O Box 1446

ST KILDA SOUTH 3182