



Woomera Aboriginal Corporation

Community Newsletter ~ June '24 edition

Woomera Aboriginal Corporation holds a deep value, respect and connection to the Wiradjuri, Wamba Wamba and Perrepa Perrepa lands and their Elders and leaders past, present and those who are emerging. Woomera's organisational values are:

Respect - We demonstrate respect through our actions and behaviours for ourselves, our organisation, our community, and our culture.

Leadership - We lead the way in our community through positive collaboration and broad inclusion.

Accountability - We do what we say we will do. We have a responsibility towards clients, staff, communities, partnerships with other service providers and our funding bodies.

Transparency - We practice honesty and openness with all clients, staff and stakeholders and in all our service delivery, management and governance.

Community Involvement - We work for and with our community to achieve their goals.



The team at Woomera



Important Days and Dates in June

27 May – 3 June

Reconciliation Week

3 June

Mabo Day

5 June

World Environment Day

10 June

King's Birthday – *public holiday*

16-22 June

Refugee Week – *Finding Freedom*



RECONCILIATION
AUSTRALIA

NOW MORE THAN EVER: NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

The National Reconciliation Week 2024 theme, *Now More Than Ever*, is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will – and must – continue.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) – 27 May to 3 June – is a time for all Australians to consider the personal contribution they can make to creating a better, more reconciled country.

There have been many moments in Australia's reconciliation journey that make us want to turn away. But when things are divisive, the worst thing we can do is disengage or disconnect.

The NRW 2024 theme, *Now More Than Ever*, urges our supporters to tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation. This NRW and beyond, we need to stand up to defend and uphold the rights of First Nations peoples. To call out racism wherever we encounter it, and to actively reinforce the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across this continent.

Now more than ever, the work continues. In treaty making, in truth-telling, in understanding our history, in education, and in tackling racism. We need connection. We need respect. We need action. And we need change. Now more than ever, we need reconciliation.

The NRW 2024 design and artwork represent the momentum of the theme, with the chevron, a universal symbol for pointing the way, signifying advancing as one; and the vibrant artwork of Gubbi Gubbi artist Maggie Douglas encouraging connecting with one another.

Read more: *It's time to stand up for reconciliation* on page 20.



The R U OK? National Student Art Competition

Art has the power to start conversations that count. That's why we're calling on year 7 and 8 students across Australia to [create an artwork](#) that responds to the question:

What does an R U OK? conversation mean to you?

Entries are limited to two per school and close at 5pm AEST on 5 July 2024.

www.ruok.org.au



WARNING: This story contains images of Indigenous people who have died.

MABO DAY June 3

Who was Eddie Mabo?

Eddie Koiki Mabo was born on June 29, 1936, on the Torres Strait Island of Mer, also known as Murray Island.

His mother died during childbirth, and he was raised by his mother's brother, Benny Mabo, whose surname he adopted.

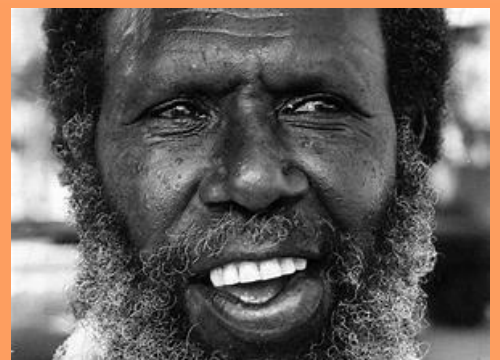
Mabo settled in the Queensland city of Townsville in 1959 with his wife, Bonita.

Why is Mabo Day important?

Mabo Day commemorates Eddie Mabo's fight for recognition of the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of their land.

The Mabo decision was made by the High Court on 3 June 1992.

The Mabo decision helped establish a legal framework for native title claims.



Woomera Aboriginal Corporation

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"My journey"

Sent in by a community member

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

Sandra Collins

I recently performed 'Hidden in Plain Sight' at the Borders Project event in Mildura on the sandy banks of Millewa/Murray River, at the end of April.

Hidden in Plain Sight is a personal story piece based around identity, my experiences of intergenerational shame in my family of origin and breaking the silence.

My journey creating this deeply personal piece turned me inside out at times, but I knew deep down I needed to bring it forward. To give it life.

For whatever reasons many of us have skeletons in the cupboard, secrets, and distorted stories about who we are.

By allowing these truths to be buried alive and potentially forgotten we can never be fully present to ourselves and Life in general, because pieces of the jigsaw of our life are missing. Leaving gaps, dark holes, broken bits, confusion, and lost identity.

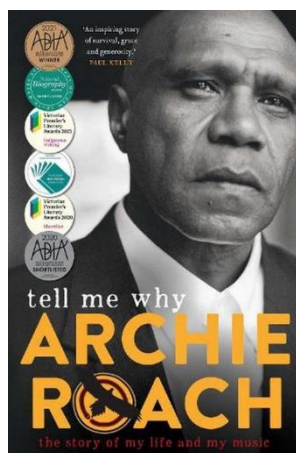
I believe actions speak louder than words. Hidden in Plain Sight is performed using movement to depict my story and is mostly silent.



TELL ME WHY

Archie Roach

Book review



Archie Roach has had an amazing musical career; he is an Australian icon. This autobiography blew me away. I thought it would be about him as a musician, but this was only a small part of his story. As he tells us the story of his life, people who love Archie's work will realise that his songs literally the actual events of his life. I kept thinking, 'Oh, this is this song.' This is the story of someone who was stolen and found his way back to family.

Archie was an alcoholic for many years. He speaks about this really honestly. His pain, the pain of his family. He opens himself totally up for the reader. His love for his family shines through this book.

As a kid of an alcoholic this book really affected me, healed me somehow. I've talked to other people who read this book, who also had family members who drank. There is something about this book that affects everyone who reads it. You come away really loving this very generous man and the woman who stuck by him. There are many laughs and tears in Archie's story.

You can borrow this book as an audio book, through the Albury Library. Archie himself reads out his story.



Woomera Aboriginal Corporation

If you'd like to share your thoughts about a book you've read, please email your review to reception@woomera.org.au

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ALBURY

What's on in the community this June



Albury LibraryMuseum | Lavington Library

World Environment Day Storytime

Monday 3 June - Thursday 6 June 2024,
10:30 am - 11:00 am

Join our interactive storytime sessions to learn about how we can improve our environment. Come along to have some fun, with stories, songs, science activities and learn something new along the way! Lavington Library - Monday 3 and Wednesday 5 June.



ANCIENT ROME OPENING PARTY
15 JUNE
6:00pm - 8:00pm
Albury
LibraryMuseum

Bookings essential, togas optional

World Environment Day Walk and Talk

To celebrate World Environment Day, join our environment team Wed 5th June for a walk & talk along the river to learn about the grey-headed flying-fox and other local wildlife that call Albury home.

Event Date: Wed June 5th

Start Time: 4:30 pm (please arrive from 4:15 pm)

Event Finish: 6 pm

Meeting Point: Kremur Street Boat Ramp (Google

Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/CkuV8zpx1LGoj7u47>)

What to Bring: Warm clothes/beanie and a headlamp or torch.

FAMILY AFTERNOON

Saturday
1 June
1-4pm

Bristol Court, Albury Airport

IN THE HANGAR

- Afternoon Tea - Cakes & Scones
- Kids activities
- Heritage Talk - 2pm

Entry donation: Adults \$5pp
Under 16 Free

EFTPOS Available, Cash Preferred



KOORI WOMENS GROUP

WHEN? Every Monday
WHERE? Burraja Cultural Centre
TIME: 10:30am - 2:30pm

CULTURAL ADVISOR
CONTACT: Aunty Edna - 02 6040 1200

TRANSPORT:
Please contact 02 6040 1200 if transport is required.



AWAHS



EVERYONE WELCOME

Welcome to Supported Playgroup



FREE PROGRAM

Activities Include:

- Playdough making
- Painting
- Outside play
- Crafting

Wodonga - Koori First Steps Preschool (Fridays)
Wangaratta - To Be Advised (Wednesdays)

9:30am - 10:30am Unstructured Play
10:30am - 11:30am Group play
11:30am - 12pm Light Lunch

Starts term 2 and will run each school term

For More Information Contact:

Caz Roberts
0460870149
(02) 6024 7599



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

ZONTA
CLUB OF ALBURY-WODONGA INC
BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

We're inviting you to knit orange squares or scarves, symbolizing hope for a violence-free future, which will adorn selected trees, poles, or benches in Albury Wodonga.

Visit Zonta Albury Wodonga on Facebook for more information.

On Country Playgroup

IS AN INITIATIVE OF WOOMERA ABORIGINAL ORGANISATION - KOORI KINDERMANNNA PRESCHOOL TO OFFER A PLAYGROUP ON COUNTRY AT BURRAJA CULTURAL CENTRE ON DUDUROA DHARGAL COUNTRY.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN & FAMILIES TO BUILD CONNECTIONS WITH COMMUNITY THROUGH PLAY AND DEVELOP AND FOSTER RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE SUPPORT OF OUR SERVICES.

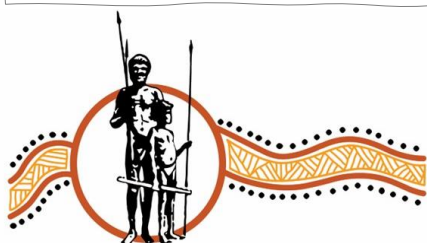
WE WILL BE FACILITATING THE PLAYGROUP OUTDOORS IN THE YARNING CIRCLE FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN 2-5YRS (INITIALLY)

WHEN: EVERY SECOND THURSDAY - COMMENCES 21ST MARCH 2024 (EXCLUDING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS)

WHERE: BURRAJA CULTURAL CENTRE (LINCOLN FREEWAY WODONGA)

TIME: 10:30AM - 12:00PM

ENQUIRIES: PLEASE CONTACT SUSAN PHUNG - DIRECTOR AT KOORI KINDERMANNNA PRESCHOOL FOR MORE DETAILS ON 02 6057 7450



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Deniliquin

What's on in the community this June

Reconciliation week Event



- When : Wednesday the 5th
Time : 10.30 am - 11.30 am
- Welcome to country
 - Presentation of art completed
 - Special guest speakers
 - The hand over of the message stick
 - Morning tea available for guests ,parents , teachers and students that have parents on site

We encourage all Deniliquin high school families to come along

Please RSVP by calling 035881 1211

NOW MORE THAN EVER

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2024
27 MAY - 3 JUNE #NRM2024 RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU

PICNIC IN THE PARK

You are warmly invited to an informal get-together to celebrate National Reconciliation Week.

Waring Gardens BBQ
Sunday 2nd June from 12pm
Sausage sizzle provided.

For more info contact Sonya Robinson
0447 812 837

LEGO CLUB

4pm - 5:30pm Tuesdays
Term 2 & 3

Ages: 5-12 years
Cost: \$2

Deni Baptist Church
33 Edwardes Street

What can you expect?
Begins with a snack, followed by an individual or group build challenge & then free play.
Parents are welcome to stay for a cuppa.

More info contact Penny Fowler 0400471831
Find us on facebook @DeniBaptistChurch



Why walk when you can dance

Fabulous Fitness for Every Body
call Delena 0413 485 479

nia australia.com.au

Anthony Breslin
MÉLANGE IN DENILIKUIN
June 6 to July 29



Spellbinding exhibition from renowned, international award-winning Australian artist, Anthony Breslin.

PEPPIN HERITAGE
CENTRE GALLERY
295 George Street Deniliquin 2710
1800 650 712 | info@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au

SPECIAL OPENING EVENT



Artist Talk
Thursday June 6
5PM - 6:30PM
Limited places - book now!

Proudly Supported by

FRIDAY & SATURDAY SPLAT

Get Creative
Friday Afternoons + Saturday Mornings

Edward River Council
library.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au

SOUTH WEST MUSIC REGIONAL CONSERVATORIUM

MINI MUSICIANS FINLEY

Wednesdays
11am - 11:45am

Term Two, 2024
Starts Wednesday 1 May

Aimed at children 0-5 getting together to socialise & explore music through sound, rhythm & listening.
Run by Loretta Walker.

Held at Finley APEX Sport & Community Centre - Old Girl Guide Building.

To register & for more information...
Email concerts@swmusic.org.au Ph: 03 5881 4736

SOUTH WEST MUSIC REGIONAL CONSERVATORIUM

MINI MUSICIANS DENILIKUIN

Wednesdays
9:15am - 10:00am
NEW TIME

Term One, 2024
Starts Wednesday 14 February

Aimed at children 0-5 getting together to socialise & explore music through sound, rhythm & listening.

Held at South West Music...
241-245 Cressy Street, Deniliquin.

To register & for more information...
Email concerts@swmusic.org.au Ph: 03 5881 4736



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SOCIAL GROUP FOR CARERS

Albury Libraries and Museum

A chance to connect with other carers in a casual environment through conversation and peer support.

All carers welcome

Mondays fortnightly 2pm - 3pm
Starting 27th May



Coffee & tea provided
Cost: free
Bookings: essential



What is Aboriginal Data Sovereignty?

Our right as Aboriginal peoples to own, access, control and make decisions about our data.

'Data' goes beyond just information and statistics – Aboriginal data can include our Lore, knowledges, stories, customs, art and ways of life.

**Aboriginal Data
Sovereignty is Important.**

Our vision is to empower Aboriginal communities toward exercising Data Sovereignty. This means understanding and establishing our rights over our knowledges to ultimately guide our futures as Aboriginal peoples.

**Aboriginal Data Sovereignty is a milestone for
SELF-DETERMINATION and
NATION RE-BUILDING.**



Our way.

NSW CAPO is the state-wide Coalition of
Aboriginal Peak Organisations.

NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations (NSW CAPO)





Artistic Opportunity

The Artist in Residence inside late Marr Grounds' shed is **now open for applications**. At "Narra Bukulla" in Tanja, NSW.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Narra Bukulla Artist in Residence (AIR). 20th Oct. -20th Dec. 2024. Tanja, NSW.

The AIR will be for three months at Narra Bukulla, a property adjacent to Mimosa Rocks National Park and located in a large studio (72sq.m.) on a private property. It is next to a forest of spotted gums, the habitat of fascinating flora and wildlife, and a walk or short drive to pristine beaches. The property has an established collection of site-specific artworks created by family, friends and by commission. The ethos of the hosting family (who reside on the property) has been four generations of passionate creativity and innovation in the arts, scientific research, and architecture, all fostering sustainability initiatives.

Accommodated in a large private shed, the studio is peaceful, with high ceilings, large, long walls, an open floor space with roller-door access. The living quarters are rudimentary, with semi-wheelchair access. The artist will be inducted to take full advantage of the facilities, will be taken on a tour of local environmental and historical sites, and any other points of interest related to their project.

The artist will be introduced to the community's local artists and cultural institutions. First Nation artists will be introduced to representatives of the Djiringanj Clan of the Yuin Nation.

During the AIR, an open studio presentation or workshop by the artist will be required. Following the AIR, the artist is invited to exhibit in Sculpture Bermagui 2025, with the understanding that the outcomes/artworks of the AIR may unfold organically during the residency, and the form this may take is flexible. Permission to document your AIR is required for use in the future promotion of the residency and Sculpture Bermagui event.

Narra Bukulla and Sculpture Bermagui acknowledge the Djiringanj traditional owners of the Country on which the Artist in Residency is held.

We appreciate your support, please feel free to contact Marina (AIR host): me2penders@gmail.com

Apply online:

<https://sculpturebermagui.org.au/residency/>



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NOW MORE THAN EVER

WE COMMIT TO...

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2024

27 MAY – 3 JUNE

#NRW2024

RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU



**RECONCILIATION
AUSTRALIA**