

# RECONCILIATION WEEK 2026 MOUNT ALEXANDER REGION



**MAY 27TH – JUNE 3RD**

We acknowledge and pay our deep respect to the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung people, their Elders and Ancestors and all First Nations Peoples who continue to care for this Country.



# ALL IN FOR RECONCILIATION #NRW2026

## ANTI-RACIST ACTIONS TOWARDS RECONCILIATION

It's the responsibility for all people who call this beautiful continent home to learn the shared histories of this land and contribute to building cultures that can celebrate the leadership of First Peoples and support their self-determination.

With the large increase of racism experienced by First Peoples since the referendum for the Voice, especially by First Nations youth in the playgrounds, we all have a role to address systemic racism and the ongoing impacts of colonisation - ALL IN!

## Reconciliation Week Exhibition and Stall

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> May to Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> June  
9.00am - 5.00pm

Info Centre - Market Building,  
44 Mostyn St, Castlemaine.

*\*Stall closed Sun 31<sup>st</sup> May - we will be at  
the Guildford Biyal Honouring Day*



Reconciliation Week events and Sorry Day in Mount Alexander region - at the foothills of Liyanganyuk Banyul - are coordinated by Friends of Nalderun in partnership with Nalderun Education Aboriginal Corporation, Mount Alexander Shire Council and a diverse range of local organisations.

Nalderun is an Aboriginal run and led organisation based within the Upper Loddon, running a broad range of Cultural educational programs and services under the guidance of Chair Uncle Rick Nelson. 'Nalderun' is a Dja Dja Wurrung word which means 'all together', because we believe by moving forward together we can make the change needed for our children, our mob and the wider community in the Mount Alexander region to thrive.

We invite you to support us in caring for Culture, Country and Community. Learn more about Nalderun and our programs, or to donate go to [www.nalderun.net.au](http://www.nalderun.net.au)

Artwork & Brochure Design by Tanisha Murray



Mount Alexander  
Shire Council

THEATRE  
ROYAL



Goldfields  
Libraries



Dhelkaya  
Health



B.A.M.S.  
BENDIGO & DISTRICT  
ABORIGINAL CO-OPERATIVE



BDAC  
BENDIGO & DISTRICT  
ABORIGINAL CO-OPERATIVE



Chewton  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSTEAD NATIVES



Connecting  
Country

**TUE 26TH MAY  
SORRY DAY COMMEMORATION**

10am - 12pm FREE PUBLIC EVENT  
Castlemaine Botanical Gardens  
2 Walker St Castlemaine (near playground)

The commemoration will include a Welcome to Country and Smoking ceremony conducted by Uncle Rick Nelson, Dja Dja Wurrung Elder. Mayor Toby Heydon and local school leaders will be offering their reflections on Sorry Day.



**WED 27TH MAY  
RECONCILIATION WEEK LAUNCH**

10am - 12pm FREE EVENT FOR PUBLIC  
Info Centre at Market Building, Castlemaine.

Join us for the official launch of the Reconciliation Week 2026 program and Exhibition. Uncle Rick Nelson will Welcome us to Country and Mount Alexander Shire Council CEO Darren Fuzzard will officially launch the week-long program. The annual Nalderun Awards will be presented and hear from Uncle Ron Murray about his recent publication 'The Little Platypus Teaching on kindness, cousins and protecting the river'.

*Light refreshments provided.*



**THU 28TH MAY  
UNCLE RICK'S RECONCILIATION WEEK WALK  
(FOR HEALTHCARE CARDS HOLDERS ONLY)**

10AM - 11:30AM TICKETED EVENT

On this tour you will learn about the significant sites within the Castlemaine CBD and gain insight into the two-worlds view as shared from Uncle Rick's perspective.

*This event is proudly supported by Dhelkaya Health.*  
Book tickets [here](#)



**THU 28TH MAY  
FILM SCREENING – CVIFF PRESENTS  
'MY SURVIVAL AS AN ABORIGINAL  
(1978)'**

7.30pm TICKETED EVENT - [BOOK HERE](#)  
The Theatre Royal, Castlemaine.

My Survival As An Aboriginal (1978) preceded by Moort Calling Dingo Back to Country (2026) screen as part of the Central Victorian Indigenous Film Festival. Co-presented with Castlemaine Documentary Film Festival.



**FRI 29TH MAY  
SCHOOLS SESSIONS WITH KATH COFF**

10 AM - 2:30 PM FREE EVENT FOR SCHOOLS ONLY  
Info Centre at Market Building, Castlemaine.

**SAT 30TH MAY  
PEACE CHOIR PERFORMANCE**

11am - 12pm FREE EVENT FOR PUBLIC  
Info Centre at Market Building, Castlemaine.

**SAT 30TH MAY  
BOOK BAG DAY IN SUPPORT OF THE  
INDIGENOUS LITERARY FOUNDATION**

10am - 2pm FREE EVENT FOR PUBLIC  
Castlemaine Library  
212 Barker St, entrance via Mechanics Lane

Come to the Library and pick up a bag of ex-library books and make a donation to the Indigenous Literary Foundation.

**SAT 30TH MAY  
FILM SCREENING:  
WASH MY SOUL IN THE RIVER'S FLOW**

11am - 12.30pm FREE / BOOKINGS PREFERRED - [BOOK HERE](#)  
Castlemaine Library

Celebrate the Central Victoria Indigenous Film Festival with this fantastic film featuring Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter. Go behind the scenes and onto the stage of a legendary concert to discover the story of Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter, told in song – a story that should be told to every Australian. Elegant, confident and intimate to its magnetic subjects.



**SUN 31ST MAY  
GUILDFORD BIYAL (RED GUM)  
HONOURING DAY**

11.00 - 2.00PM  
FREE EVENT, ALL WELCOME  
13 Fryers Street Guildford  
Lovingly known as 'The Guildford Big Tree'

The day will include a Welcome to Country, Djaara Women's dancers, launch of the Reconciliation Seat (crafted with timber from the fallen limb of the big Biyal), free BBQ, music, First Nations stalls and more!



**WED 3RD JUNE  
RECONCILIATION WALK**

11am - 12.30pm ALL AGES / FREE EVENT

Join us as we walk along the Leanganook Walking Track, to reflect on Reconciliation, anti-racism and the connection between past, present and future. There are video clips of teachings and storyboards with reflections on Reconciliation, Yoorook, Voice, Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have been a voice for change and the Uluru Statement from the Heart. Walkers finish at Me Mandook Galk where we ask you to make a commitment to be a voice for positive change in our local community. Hosted by Chewton Primary School.



**AFTER RECONCILIATION WEEK...  
SAT 6TH JUNE  
WAAMAN CULTURAL TOUR**

10:00- 12:00PM TICKETED EVENT

Join Jaara Elder Uncle Rick Nelson as we explore sacred sites, share ancestral stories, and celebrate the vibrant living culture of Jaara people.  
Book tickets [here](#)

