



BRMC Newsletter - June 2019

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council

Welcome to the June newsletter and we hope it finds you warm and well. Our services and events are promoted below. Thanks to all who are volunteering and working together on intercultural harmony in Ballarat.

BRMC invites you to Stand With Refugees from 15 to 22 June. The theme of 2019 Refugee Week is 'A World of Stories' and the program below includes many opportunities including free, ticketed and priced events. Tomorrow BRMC are holding our clearing sale with A Pot of Courage. All are welcome to the sale or to sample our chai and coffee, so come along and check us out. The regular Intercultural Lunch will also be held at the same venue for ticket holders. A great week of events follows at many venues. Next weekend the Welcome Film Festival and Nepalese Banquet will be great options for you.

Refugee Week 2019

15 - 22 June

Refugee Week is Australia's peak annual activity to raise awareness about the issues affecting refugees and celebrate the positive contributions made by refugees to Australian society.



2019 Theme - 'A World of Stories'

This year brings a fresh focus to celebrating the three-year theme #WithRefugees through 'a world of stories' from around the globe!

For more information visit www.refugeeweek.org.au

View the [Refugee Week 2019 Ballarat Program](#).

Ballarat Welcome Centre Fundraising Campaign

BRMC's fundraising campaign for purchase of a grand piano for the Ballarat Welcome Centre is steadily accumulating funds. You can be part of this campaign by purchasing a

piano key for \$250 or team up with a family or group of people to purchase a piano key. A piano meter is measuring donations made and donors will be acknowledged publicly at the Ballarat Welcome Centre.

Forthcoming Events

- **Refugee Week 2019** - [view full Ballarat Program](#)

Including:

- Ballarat Welcome Centre Clearing Sale and Market
- Intercultural Lunch
- Roman J. Israel, Esq.
- House of Welcome Luncheon
- Welcome Film Festival
- Nepalese Banquet
- Without a Roof: The Homeless - A Photo Exhibition by Neil Para
- David Nyuol Vincent Tells His Story

Events in Review

- National Reconciliation Week 2019
 - Morning Tea at Barkly Square
- Ballarat Welcome Centre Working Bee
- Gambling Harm Forum at Barkly Square

Quick Program Updates

- Migration and Settlement Services
- Migrant English Program
- Senior Services

Opportunities & Items of Interest

- Good Governance Program
 - Volunteering and Settlement in Australia: A Snapshot
 - Welcoming Australia Winter Appeal
 - Saver Plus
-

Forthcoming Events

Refugee Week: Ballarat Welcome Centre Clearing Sale and Market

Saturday 15th June, 8am - 2pm

The "no trash,
but plenty of treasures"

Garage Sale

Saturday June 15th,
8am to 2pm.

**Ballarat Welcome Centre
(aka Barkly Square)
25-39 Barkly St, Bakery Hill**
(Parking via
17 Princes St South,
Bakery Hill).

Women's clothing (mostly
size 12) , shoes and accessories.
Kitchen & homewares, linen, children's
clothing, , art and photography books,
DVDs, furniture, office supplies
and loads more!

Coffee, traditional Indian
Chai tea & home made sweets
also available.

Fundraising for
- **"A Pot of Courage Inc."** - Ballarat
enterprise employing and empowering
women from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- **the BRASSN** - Ballarat Refugee
and Asylum Seeker Support Network
- The development of the
Ballarat Welcome Centre



Enquiries: Ph 0438 871 503

Refugee Week: Intercultural Lunch

Saturday 15th June, 11am - 1pm

Ballarat Community Health, BRMC, City of Ballarat and Federation University are celebrating Refugee Week 2019 with this free event.

Refugee Week

Intercultural Lunch

Join us for a lived refugee exhibition and lunch

Saturday 15th June 2019

11am to 1pm

Free Tickets RSVP - 13 May 2019

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/refugee-week-intercultural-lunch-tickets-61618006115>

or call 0428 487 469

Barkly Square

25-39 Barkly St Ballarat



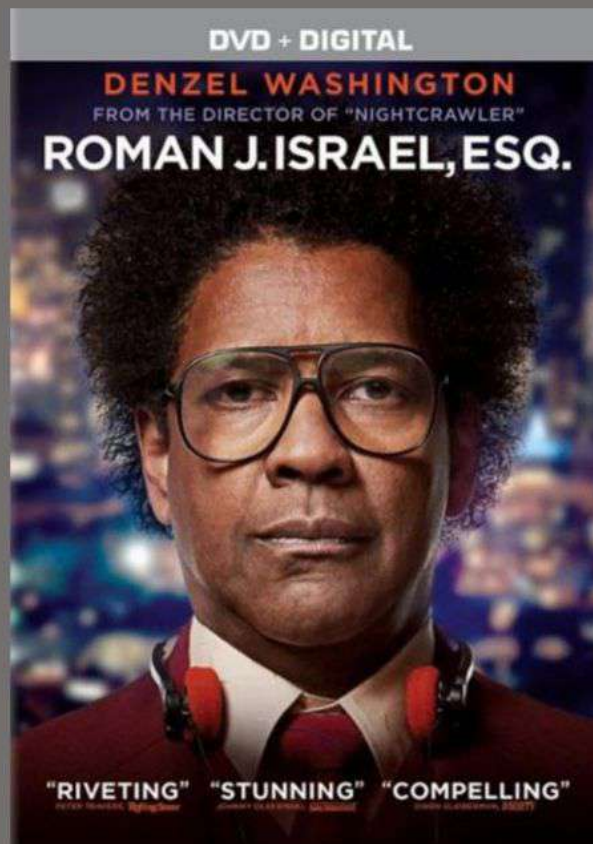
Ballarat Regional
Multicultural Council



Refugee Week: Spirituality in the Cinema - Roman J. Israel, Esq.

Sunday 16th June, 4.30pm

Spirituality in the Cinema



Roman J. Israel, Esq. is set in the underbelly of the overburdened Los Angeles criminal court system. Denzel Washington stars as a driven, idealistic defense attorney whose life is upended when his mentor, a civil rights icon, dies.

by Discussion & shared meal
All welcome.

4.30 pm Sunday 16th June
Ballarat Central Uniting Church

Refugee Week: House of Welcome Luncheon

Wednesday 19th June, 12.30pm

House of Welcome Ballarat
**SOUP & SANDWICH
LUNCHEON**

NAZARETH HOUSE HALL MILL ST BALLARAT
WEDNESDAY 19TH JUNE 2019- 12.30PM

Entry: \$20.

Refugee Week June 16-22



Guest Speakers 1.00pm – Women of Ballarat

Women of Yesterday- Anna Krohn

Women of Today- Anne Foley

Women of Tomorrow- Deruka Dekeuk

Entertainment

Nuer Dancers & St Alipius Students

Stalls and Competitions

Launching Major Fundraiser- **Grand Pacific Hotel Lorne**– Competition -2 nights accommodation.

House of Welcome- assists Refugees and vulnerable families with housing, legal advice and friendship.

Further information: Mob: 0401 175 045 Email: annekav1234@gmail.com

Refugee Week: Welcome Film Festival

Friday 21st June, 6pm - 9.30pm



Location: Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat

BRMC and CMY are proud to present the Ballarat Welcome Film Festival in Refugee Week 2019, screening The Merger and Hope Road.

The event will feature talks from some inspiring local individuals with powerful stories of their refugee experience.

General admission: \$20 / Concession: \$15

Ticket price is inclusive of both films and a selection of Nepalese tasters (vegetarian options available). All proceeds will be donated to BRASSN (Ballarat Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support Network).

Book Now: ballaratrefugeefilmfest.eventbrite.com.au

Refugee Week: Nepalese Banquet

Saturday 22nd June, 6pm - 9pm

Join us for a Nepalese feast prepared by local Nepalese couple, Susan and Raj. They will prepare a three course meal for your enjoyment while sharing their story of coming to Australia as refugees.

Book Now: trybooking.com/BDGMP



SAT
22 JUNE
6-9PM

BALLARAT
SOUTH
COMMUNITY
HUB
11 TUPPEN
DRIVE

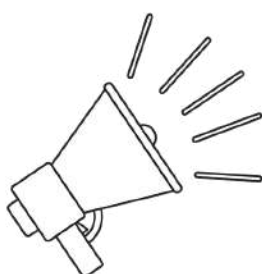
DINNER
MUSIC
SPEAKERS

TICKETS
\$40 ADULT
\$30 CHILD

<https://trybooking.com/BDGMP>



Ballarat Regional
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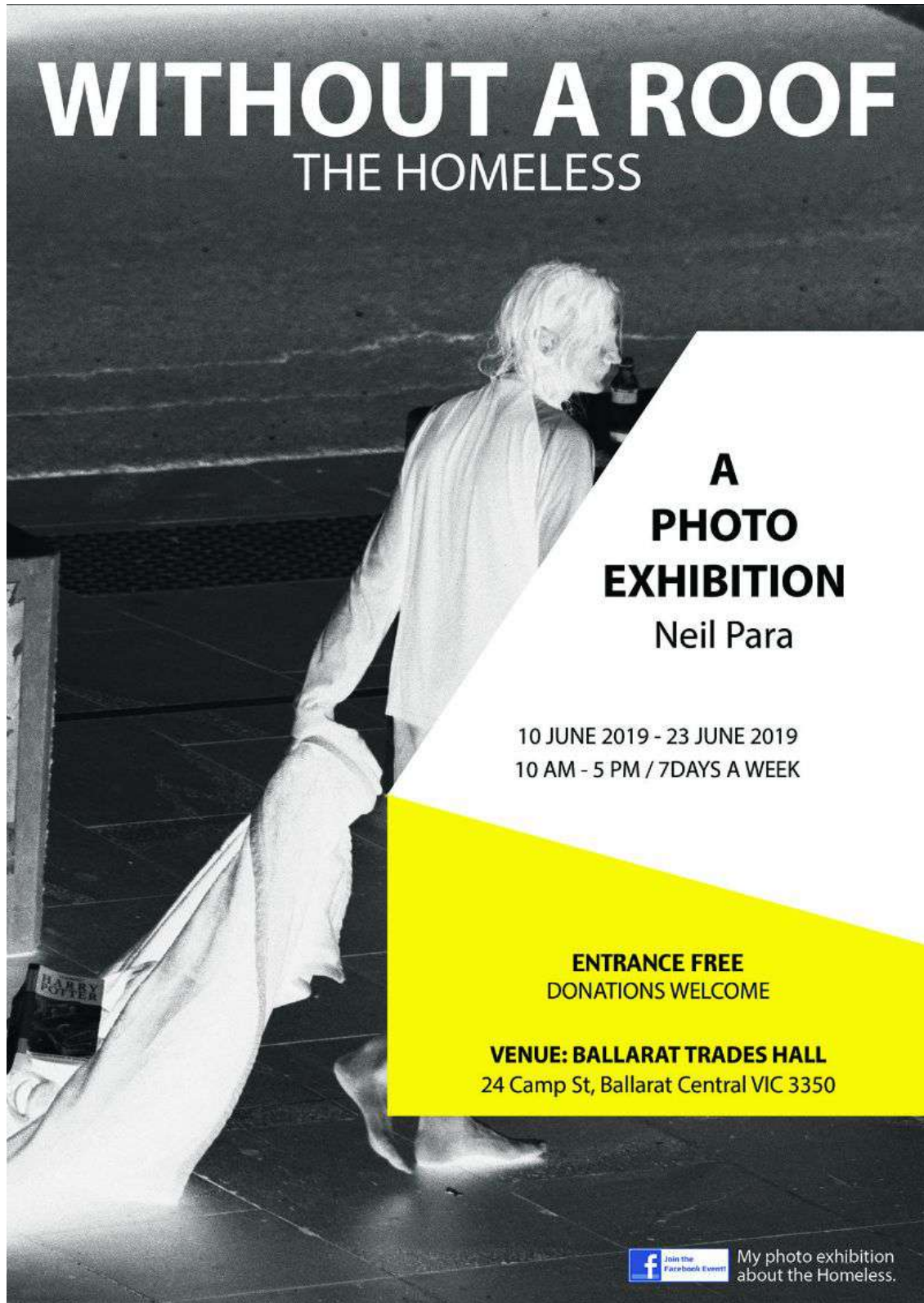
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Nepalese Banquet. Volunteer roles include setting up, welcome/registration, serving and cleaning.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event please contact Annie on **03 5383 0613**

Without a Roof: The Homeless - A Photo Exhibition by Neil Para

10 to 23 June 2019, 10am - 5pm / 7 days a week



WITHOUT A ROOF

THE HOMELESS


A PHOTO EXHIBITION

Neil Para

10 JUNE 2019 - 23 JUNE 2019
10 AM - 5 PM / 7DAYS A WEEK

ENTRANCE FREE
DONATIONS WELCOME

VENUE: BALLARAT TRADES HALL
24 Camp St, Ballarat Central VIC 3350

 Join the Facebook Event

My photo exhibition about the Homeless.

David Nyuol Vincent Tells His Story

Thursday 27th June, 6.30pm



MERCY CONNECT BALLARAT INVITES YOU TO LISTEN TO
THE STORY OF

David Nyuol Vincent

Thursday 27th of June 2019 • 6:30 pm

The Gathering Room
151 Victoria Street, Ballarat East
Entry: Gold Coin Donation
RSVP by: 21st June to mercyconnectb@gmail.com

Events in Review

National Reconciliation Week 2019

Grounded in Truth: Walk Together with Courage

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

Each year on May 27th through to the June 3rd, Reconciliation Week commemorates two landmarks in our Nations journey to Reconciliation.

27 May 1967: The Australian Government held a referendum, a turning point in Australian

history as the referendum altered the Australian Constitution. It is at that time that more than 90% of Australian voters chose 'Yes' to count Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the census and give the Australian Government the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

June 3rd 1992: Eddie Mabo challenged the Australian Legal system in Australia's Highest Court, the Mabo Decision was handed down and effectively won recognition of the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of their land.

Learn more at www.reconciliation.org.au

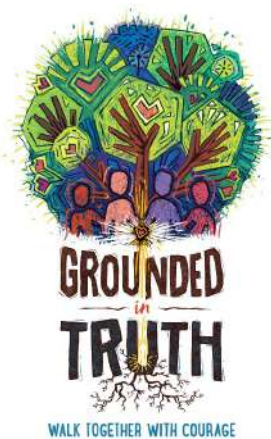
Morning Tea at Barkly Square

On Wednesday 29th May BRMC celebrated National Reconciliation Week with a Morning Tea at Barkly Square. Thank you to all who attended. We enjoyed a lovely morning together.



During morning tea Neal shared this honest and touching story with us.

My name is Neal. I was taken off country and away from my family at a very young age. As far as I knew, I was the only blackfella in my kindergarten, primary school and high school. At 14, I remember trying to wash my skin colour off in the shower because I didn't know why I was so different from everyone else. From that day I struggled with identity issues. I turned to the drink and drugs but eventually put myself through private rehabilitation using my super. I had my ups and downs after leaving rehab but am three and a half years clean from drugs now, and at the age of 36 a lovely girl from high school came back into my life. I had no idea that she was also Indigenous. She knew how lost I felt without family connection and was able to help track down my father, a Yirendali man from Queensland, and my brothers and sisters! Unfortunately, my Dad was terminally ill when I met him and passed away days later, but I'll cherish that time forever. It's been close to a year now since I was reunited with my family. I have been learning about my culture and changed my life for the better. I have a good connection with my family now and look forward to what my future holds. And I will NEVER EVER forget what this beautiful kind-hearted person did for me. That's my story.



Ballarat Welcome Centre Working Bee

The working bee held on Saturday 25th May was a great success. With the help of our wonderful volunteers we got lots of unpacking and cleaning done. A massive thank you to everyone who gave their time to be there.

Gambling Harm Forum

Thank you to everyone who attended the Gambling Harm Forum on Thursday 23rd May. The event was very informative and we were privileged to have such wonderful speakers at the event including Arnold Zable and Daniel who shared his lived experience.

Quick Program Updates

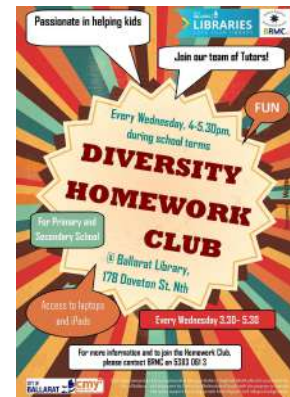
Migration and Settlement Services

Diversity Homework Club

Diversity Homework Club provides homework support for primary and secondary school students in a supervised venue with trained tutors.

Homework Club gets together every Wednesday at the Ballarat Library 3.30pm - 5.30pm during school terms.

If you would like to attend or enquire please contact Deruka Dekuek on 03 5383 0613 or email d.dekuek@brmc.org.au



Volunteer Tutors Needed

We are looking for tutors in all subjects for Homework Club.
If you are interested or know anyone that can help, please contact BRMC on 03 5383 0613.

Migrant English Program

Community Volunteer Tutoring

Trained volunteer tutors assist BRMC in providing help with the English Language for

people who have migrated to Australia. The program provides Individual Tuition for Eligible Clients.

Want to get **FREE English tutoring**?
Register for the BRMC Migrant English Program!

Want to give back to the community?
Become a community volunteer tutor! Register and receive FREE training.

For more information please contact Sara on 03 5383 0613 or email mep@brmc.org.au

Senior Services

Multicultural Tucker

June Multicultural Tucker is a Hungarian themed three-course meal. Perfect for winter!

The next MCT will be held on **Friday 12th July at 12pm** at the Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria St, Ballarat East

To find out more about Tucker or if you are eligible for Senior Services, contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613.



REMINDER

Multicultural Tucker will be held on a **Friday** during the months of April to August at the Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East

Social Hub

For our May Social Hub our Seniors enjoyed a Mother's Day theme. What a magical afternoon we shared exploring the art of floristry! Our seniors were also treated to a gentle hand massage.



Our next Social Hub is on **Tuesday 18th June, 1.30pm to 3.30pm** at the Victoria Bowling

Club.

Cost is \$2. Bookings are essential!
To book please call Teresa or Natalie on 03 5383 0613.

Bus Trip

Wednesday 26th June

Join us for a trip to Bendigo Pottery followed by a lovely lunch at the National Hotel.



Bendigo Pottery is Australian owned and operated and is Australia's oldest working pottery.

Call Teresa or Natalie on 03 5383 0613 to book.

Opportunities & Items of Interest

Good Governance Program



Are you someone who wants to make a difference in the community?

Would you like to help and empower community organisations be their best?

If the answer is yes, then this is your opportunity to utilise your skills and experience to make a real difference to new, emerging and established community organisations in matters relating to Good Governance.

This initiative is hosted by local peak bodies, councils and community development organisations, and it is free for community groups to take part. BRMC is the host for the Good Governance Program in Ballarat.

Under this program, trained volunteers skilled in governance are matched with small community organisations. These volunteers act as mentors over 12 months, working with the entire governing committee to empower the organisation, making sure the organisation gets the individualised support to overcome challenges and reach the set goals.

Free training will be provided to the mentors. A brochure with detailed information for mentors is available on our website: [Good Governance - Mentor Information](#).

If you are interested in taking part in Good Governance as a participating group or mentor or would like more information about the program, please contact Hemraz at the BRMC

Volunteering and Settlement in Australia: A Snapshot

The Settlement Council of Australia (SCoA) and Volunteering Australia have released their report, 'Volunteering and Settlement in Australia', with a snapshot of the volunteering activities of new migrants and refugees in Australia.

In the settlement sector, 65% of new arrivals to Australia volunteered within the first 18 months of their arrival, to contribute to society, make friends, improve their English or gain local work experience.

Read more and download the report:

<http://scoa.org.au/policy-hub/scoa-publications/volunteering-settlement-australia-may-2019/>



Welcoming Australia Winter Appeal

This winter, help us support vulnerable people seeking asylum.

More than 7,000 people across Australia are facing difficult situations. Some are still unable to work. Others are struggling to advance their English language skills. While others just need more time and support to find employment.

Make a donation:

<https://welcoming.org.au/winterappeal2019/>



Saver Plus



Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- | | |
|--|--|
|  laptops & tablets |  lessons & activities |
|  uniforms & shoes |  books & supplies |
|  sports fees & gear |  camps & excursions |

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner), have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment*



Contact
your local Saver Plus Coordinator
Phone or SMS
your name and postcode to
1300 610 355
Email
BallaratSP@bgt.org.au
Online
saverplus.org.au
Find us on Facebook 



* many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

For more information contact Sue Ogilvie on 03 5333 8602 or sue@bgt.org.au
View the [Saver Plus Fact Sheet](#) | Website: www.saverplus.org.au

Reminder

It is helpful if we receive RSVP for activities and events. This helps us to deliver a quality service for all.

RSVP: 03 5383 0613 or email welcome@brmc.org.au or info@brmc.org.au



Volunteering

We often need a helping hand and every volunteer is valued. We have various positions available and everyone can find the perfect position to suit them.

Currently we need **Reception/Admin** volunteers, **Home Visiting** volunteers and **Tutors**.

If you are interested in volunteering at BRMC, or know someone who is, please contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613 or teresa@brmc.org.au

Visit our website for more information: www.brmc.org.au/get-involved

BRMC Contact Details

Ballarat Welcome Centre
25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat VIC 3350
Phone: 03 5383 0613
Email: info@brmc.org.au

Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/brmc.ballarat

Website
Visit www.brmc.org.au



BRMC respectfully acknowledges the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung people, their elders and community leaders, past, present and emerging - traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work.

