

# Nillumbik Reconciliation Group Inc



**PO Box 1017  
Research VIC 3095**  
[www.vicnet.net.au/~nrgp](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~nrgp)  
**ABN: 61 506 201 828**  
**Secretary: Diana Warrell 9439 8565**

The Nillumbik Reconciliation Group grew out of an Advisory Committee delegated by the Nillumbik Shire Council to arrange a ceremony to promote reconciliation. As a result of its recommendations, a formal document of Acknowledgement, Apology and Commitment was presented by the Council to Wurundjeri Elders at a Gayip (the Woiwurrung word for an inter-clan gathering or ceremony) held in May 1998 at Wingrove Park.

Ten years on, in 2008, the Council has unanimously passed a Reconciliation Charter, which will underpin all Shire initiatives and activities, and NRG continues to work in partnership with the Council promoting Reconciliation in Nillumbik.

### Our goals and aims include:

- Acknowledging the Wurundjeri as traditional owners of the land that is now Nillumbik Shire;
- Promoting consultation with, and recognition of, Wurundjeri Elders in developments and events within the Shire;
- Valuing our Shire's Indigenous heritage in the promotion of Aboriginal culture, arts and sites of significance;
- Commemorating events in Wurundjeri history;
- Celebrating Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC;
- Meeting together to hear Indigenous speakers tell of their successes and needs, and learning how we can work together for Reconciliation;
- Supporting developments which bring justice and improved health and welfare services to Indigenous groups;
- Working towards full constitutional equality for Indigenous Australians.

### Some recent initiatives include:

- Establishing and maintaining the Gawa Wurundjeri Aboriginal Resource Trail;
- Establishing the Darrabi Bush Food Garden in partnership with Hurstbridge Primary School; the garden is now maintained by Friends of Darrabi;
- The Yinga Festival of Indigenous Music and Culture, during NAIDOC 2007;
- Kangaroo Ground Tower: native grass planting at the Moor-rul Platform;
- Past Matters Festival of Indigenous writers and writing, in partnership with Eltham Bookshop;
- Reconciliation Case Moth Project;
- Basket Weaving Workshops with Aunty Dot Peters;
- Flag Raisings at local schools and the Shire Offices commemorating events of significance in Wurundjeri history;
- Working with Reconciliation Eastern Metro at the Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place;
- Production of a Wurundjeri Culture Resource Kit for schools;
- A regular Newsletter of information and events.

GAWA Trail



Matt Weeberg on Australia Day



"Respect", Trudy West Trawlwoolway, Tasmania



Indigenous Australians die 17 years younger than non-Indigenous Australians.  
 Demand Indigenous health equality. Photo: Wayne Quilliam/OxfamAUS.