

Stolen Generations Victoria Ltd



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20/2/09

Dear All,

First of all, I hope everyone had a happy and safe Christmas and New Years. I can't believe it's already nearly the end of February.

I would like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who came down and supported 'Woorbadinda – celebrating the national apology' at Federation Square.

It was fantastic to see so many members show their support, especially those who travelled down on the day. It was also good to see many members of the public supporting the Stolen Generations on such a significant day.

The year is already flying by, with many events and activities planned for Stolen Generations Victoria. Feel free to get involved in any way and remember that all are welcome to drop into the office at any time.

Monthly Support Groups - Melbourne

The next support group in Melbourne will be on Tuesday, March 10 at 11am. Lunch will be provided. This will be a good opportunity to get together and discuss what members would like to do for May 26, Sorry Day.

Members will also have the chance to discuss the NSW 'Stolen Wages' program with Jade (see below). For more information, contact Jade Johnson, Community Development Officer at Stolen Generations Victoria.

Regional Support Groups

As you may be aware, support groups are being set up in some of our regional centres. If you would like to get involved, please contact your local Bringing Them Home worker.

Warrnambool:	Trish McGregor	5564 3333
Ballarat:	Vicki Peart	5331 5344
Dandenong:	Patrick Farrent	9794 1247
Heywood:	Daryl Rose	5527 2051
Healesville:	Gail Grozier	1300 130 381
Geelong:	Marika Cox	5277 0044
Echuca:	Nolita Edwards	5482 6566

NSW Stolen Wages Program

Attention all descendants of Cummergunja and NSW: NSW Link Up need to check makes sure all possible claimants and their descendents are registered with the NSW Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme before the May 31st 2009 deadline.

Stolen Wages is money that was taken from Indigenous people's wages, pensions, child endowment payments, inheritances and lump sum compensation payments. It was either not paid or was put into trust funds.

These funds were administered by the Aboriginal Protections Board, later the Aborigines Welfare Board. In many cases people didn't know about that they had a trust fund existed and of course, many did not give permission for the Government to take their money.

Please see the attached letter for more information. Any inquiries should be directed to Jade Johnson at Stolen Generations Victoria.

Mullum Mullum Festival

Experience Indigenous culture at the opening of the 12th Mullum Mullum Festival, Sunday 22nd March 2009 at Yarran Dheran Reserve, Mitcham (Mel 49 B6).

The Mullum Mullum Festival has always acknowledged prior occupation and Indigenous heritage in the Mullum Mullum Creek valley, and to celebrate will hold a variety of talks, walks and activities from 11am to 4pm, including traditional games for kids, ochre painting and some of our Stolen Generations members speaking.

Afternoon tea is available and the Mullum Mullum Festival continues with walks and talks on Sat 28th and Sun 29th March. See website for details: www.vicnet.net.au/~mulfest/

Art Required for Link-Up Victoria

Link-Up is in the process of establishing a website and would like a member of the Stolen Generations to produce some artwork to be included in the design. If you would like further information about the project and would like to be involved, please contact Angela Swindle at Link-Up Victoria (VACCA) 8388 1855.

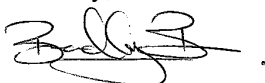
Newsletter – contributions needed

If you have a picture, photo, story, poem, song lyric, painting or anything else you would like published in the next full colour newsletter, please call Alister on (03) 9470 3477. We would love to have your contributions.

Second Step Education Resource

SGV have recently produced an education resource for teachers which will assist them in engaging students with the history and stories of the Stolen Generations in Victoria. If you know of any teachers or people involved in education who would like a copy of this resource, please direct them to us and we will send one out to them.

Sincerely,



Bradley Brown
CEO
Stolen Generations Victoria