

Stolen Generations Victoria Ltd



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26/09/08

Dear All,

I would firstly like to thank everyone who participated in the 'Unfinished Business' forums. It was a good opportunity to hear from members and gather together ideas and recommendations for the future.

There are a number of events coming up so feel free to get involved where you can.

Melbourne Support Group

The support group here in Melbourne has been very rewarding for everyone involved. It is great to see people sharing their experiences and encouraging each other in their journey of healing.

We would love to see more members to come down and join in the next support group which will be held at **11am on Tuesday October 7**.

The support group is held at Stolen Generations Victoria. For more information give me a call on (03) 9470 3477.

Echuca Support Group

There is a support group meeting every month in Echuca. Newcomers are welcome. The next one is on October 22 at the Njernda Aboriginal Health House (126 Hare St, Echuca) at 12pm. Lunch is provided. For more information, please call Nolita Edwards on (03) 5482 6566.

Start a Support Group in Your Local Area

Many members of the Stolen Generations have been attending support groups and we have had very positive feedback. The support groups are a chance to share stories, have a yarn and encourage each other.

If you are interested in becoming involved in a support group in your area, contact your local Bringing Them Home worker and speak to them. If you are unsure who the BTH worker is in your area, call us here at SGV and we will help you with that.

Christmas Newsletter Contributions

We would really love to publish a collection of poems, stories, art, drawings or anything else you can think of over Christmas. If any members would like to contribute, please contact Alister on (03) 9470 3477.

EMR Indigenous Healing Expo 2008

The purpose for this Expo is to showcase and provide information to the local Indigenous community about the range of services that are available across the Eastern Region and what these services have to offer the Indigenous community.

When: Friday 3rd October 2008 (last day of the school holidays)

Where: Lilydale Showgrounds, Lilydale Recreational Reserve
Maroondah Highway Lilydale (Melway Map Reference 38 E 4)
Access via Market St off Castella St Lilydale

Time: 10:00 am - 4:00pm (set up time is 9-10am)

Care Leavers Protest

For all members of the Stolen Generations who were traumatised while in institutions, orphanages and/or state care between 1900 and the 1970's. Do you want recognition and justice from government? Do you want to be compensated for the abuse you or your loved one's experienced while in care?

Then come along to the CARE LEAVERS PROTEST

When: Thursday 9th October 2008

Where: Steps of Parliament House (Cnr Bourke & Spring St, Melbourne)

Time: 9am till 1pm

Longing, Belonging, Land: A public ceremony of personal commitment to healing and change

Marking the ongoing significance, necessity and importance of the National Apology, the Ngarra Jarra tree will burn, laden with 'clooties' at Birrarung Marr on the opening night of the Melbourne International Arts Festival. Each 'clootie', or cloth, will contain a hand written expression of commitment inspired by the Apology, by love of country or perhaps by the urgent need to 'Close the Gap' between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

Longing, Belonging, Land will commence at approximately **8.30pm on Thursday the 9th of October at Birrarung Marr**. All are welcome to join us for the ceremony, and please bring a rug or low seat to sit on and rug up. For more information see www.longing.synthasite.com

Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation

Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation have asked for some SGV members to speak at a walk and picnic to be held at Blackburn Lake on Sunday 9th Nov 2008. The speaking involves yarning informally to small groups of people. This could be talking about your experiences as members of the Stolen Generations or just talking about Indigenous culture and issues in general.

The event will be held on **Sunday 9th November 2008** and will start with a walk around the **Blackburn Lake at 12pm**. The walk will be followed with food and activities between 2pm and 4pm. If you would like to volunteer your time to speak to people at this informal picnic, please contact Alister McKeich on (03) 9470 3477.

Volunteers Needed for VAYSAR Carnival

SGV will be holding a stall at the upcoming VAYSAR football and netball carnival. We would appreciate any volunteers who would like to come along and help out at the stall. The carnival runs between October 3-5, in Plenty Rd, Reservoir. Call me for more information.

It's a busy time so please call if you have any questions or would like to get involved in any way.

Sincerely,



Bradley Brown
Deputy CEO
Stolen Generations Victoria