



Dinner & Auction

Northside Reconciliation Group
(Formerly Albany Creek Reconciliation Club)

Friday 26 September at 7pm

Venue: Pine Rivers Bowls Club, Cnr. Sparkes and Francis Road, Bray Park.

Speaker: Dr. Ros Kidd

Cost: \$25 per head.

RSVP: Tuesday 16 September.

Payment must be received with the booking to confirm numbers for catering

Contact Zillah Jackson on (07) 3264 1249 or email zjackson@powerup.com.au or Steve McDonald on (07) 3205 2032 for additional information.

If you can't attend consider sponsoring an Indigenous person to come along. Much of the profit will support the Group's annual Christmas sausage sizzle and Christmas hampers for Indigenous families. Donations for the hampers will be greatly appreciated. Everyone is welcome.

Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital Reconciliation Group

Eight members of the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital staff graduated from a Reconciliation Learning Circle held from May to July this year. Graduates were presented with certificates and congratulated in a ceremony during the NAIDOC Cultural Expo celebrations held at the hospital. Staff are increasingly interested in attending Reconciliation Learning Circles.

Another initiative of the RBWH Reconciliation Team is to work with the RBWH Symposium Steering Committee to highlight Indigenous health research and issues during the a week-long series of presentations planned for October 2004.

A warm thankyou to all who purchased tickets for the attractive Charlie Chambers Jnr art works which were raffled over the past few months. The lucky winners were:

1st Prize - Carved Emu Egg - Linda Atkinson, Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital Occupational Therapy Department

2nd Prize - Decorated plate - Rachel Rigby, former staff member of The Prince Charles Hospital Indigenous Health Service.

Volunteering for RQI

RQI is looking for a volunteer to spend 3 hours per fortnight managing the database. This involves updating data using Microsoft Access. If you are interested in this project please contact Lisa Reynolds or Lexie Keane. Ph: **(07) 3857 6088**.

New Farm Neighbourhood Centre's Reconciliation Action Group

The group has been working towards reconciliation through community storytelling sessions. This free series is called **Stories of Street n' Soul** and aims to bring different people together to exchange views and break down barriers. The first session, **One Site Fits All? Belonging in New Farm and the Valley** took place of Sunday July 20th on the lawn in front of the Brisbane Powerhouse in New Farm.

The session began with Turrbul Song-woman and Law-woman Maroochy Barambah who gave a welcome to country in the form of a fragile song, told some of the history of the Turrbul people and told how the idea of belonging can be interpreted differently according to culture. Vanessa Fisher then told a story of the area using some words of the Turrbul language.

Storyteller Daryll Bellingham spoke about local history and his family history. Audience participation was followed by a sharing of personal story and food. Vanessa then drew a story which started with a dot. "Everything", she explained "is made from dots". Pens were shared among the crowd and everyone had the chance to draw their story, some of which were presented to the group.

The next storytelling session is "Women's Journeys" to take place on Tuesday September 16th from 11.30am - 2pm at the Centre located at 967 Brunswick St, New Farm. For further information contact Camielle on **(07) 3358 5600**.

VISION

A united Australia which respects this land of ours, values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage, and provides justice and equity for all.

RECONCILIATION QUEENSLAND INCORPORATED

Albion Peace Centre, 102 McDonald Road, Windsor QLD 4030

Tel: 07-3857 6088 Fax: 07-3857 3366 Email: reconciliation.qld@bigpond.com

RQI Membership Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name:	Date:	
Address:	Postcode:	
Telephone Numbers:	Home:	Work:
	Mobile:	Fax:
E-mail:		
Local Reconciliation Group (if any):		
Please include me on your mailing/e-mail list:	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Are you over 18 years of age? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Nominated by:	Signature: <i>(RQI Member)</i>	
Seconded by:	Signature: <i>(RQI Member)</i>	

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Membership runs from July to June each year.

Annual Membership fee

Organisation	\$20.00
Individual	\$10.00
Concession	\$5.00

Please **make cheque or money order** payable to Reconciliation Queensland Inc.

I agree with and support the RQI Vision and wish to become a member of Reconciliation Queensland Inc.

Signed:

Date:

Gold Coast Reconciliation Group

Eleven members of the Gold Coast Reconciliation Group visited Numinbah Correctional Facility to attend the NAIDOC celebrations which included a flag raising ceremony, Dancers, Didgeridoo player, speeches by local dignitaries including local elder Graham Dillon and local Labour MP for Mudgeeraba, Di Riley, followed by a barbecue lunch and dancing.

The Group donated four books and the inmates were delighted to find familiar faces amongst the South East Queensland Indigenous artists profiled in one of the books. Everyone enjoyed helping with the celebrations and a good time was had by all. For further information contact Claire Watts. Ph: (07) 5581 8594

Bunya Reconciliation Group

Our Group targeted only two activities for Reconciliation Week and both were very successful.

A march for Reconciliation was held in Murgon on Monday 2 June 2003. The response and participation was powerful with over 300 people walking. The reconciliation dinner was a huge success. Next year we plan to make events bigger and better by including schools and the Local Government Association.

The Bunya Reconciliation Group is on the look out for a secretary as the current secretary, Ms Colleen Barrett, will be moving to Western Australia very soon. Sincere thanks to Colleen for a job well done. We are going to miss Colleen!

The BRG currently meets on the first Tuesday of the month and we are having a planning day in November to form working bees for next year.

Recently five Queensland Health staff members graduated from the Reconciliation Learning Circles held at the Cherbourg Community Health Centre.

The graduates offered to help assist future Learning Circles.

Eight participants completed Learning Circles with the Bunya Reconciliation Group in Murgon. They commented on how the true history was never told and how much they have learnt over the eight modules. For further details contact Marshall Saunders. Ph **0418 745 235**.

RQI Working Groups

RQI is looking for members to participate in working groups to progress the work of Reconciliation Queensland Inc. There are four working groups: Policy & Procedures, Fundraising, Promotions and Education. The working groups share ideas and formulate procedures, which will enable RQI to move forward as a community organisation for Reconciliation in Queensland. Meetings are conducted by telephone linkup and emails. Please get involved!

Promotional working group:

Convenor: Ellen Oldfield
Email: oldfieldellen@hotmail.com

Fundraising working group:

Convenor: Terry Tyler
Email: callanan@bigpond.com.au

Policy & Procedures working group:

Interim Convenor until AGM: Arthur McCutchan
Email: abmccut8@tpg.com.au

Education working group:

Convenor: Joan Hendriks
Email: momo@odyssey.com.au

Or contact Lisa Reynolds (07) 3857 6088 or email: reconciliation.qld@bigpond.com

Thanks...

...to RQI Member, Jean Holden! Jean volunteers in the RQI Office on a regular basis.

RQI Committee Members

OFFICE BEARERS

Aunty Joan Hendriks	Co-Chair
Terry Tyler	Co-Chair & Acting Treasurer
Uri Thermal	Secretary

OTHER EXECUTIVE

Michael Yau	Beverley Johnson
Arthur McCutchan	

OTHER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Toni McPherson	Claire Watts	Richard Cherry
Nick Xynias	Lesley Williams	Beverley Hickey
Marshall Saunders	Ellen Oldfield	Steve
McDonald	Sharon Kinchela	Cathy Boyle

STAFF

Lisa Reynolds	Coordinator
Lexie Keane	Administration Officer

Practical Reconciliation in Hervey Bay

Glendyne Education and Training partnering with Koorawinga

Glendyne is a non-State school at Hervey Bay which is under the management of Queensland Baptist Care. It is located on a pineapple farm on the outskirts of Hervey Bay adjacent to the land of the Koorawinga site on Scrub Hill.

This year Glendyne and Koorawinga have established a program which integrates Indigenous and non-Indigenous students into an educational program involving skill development, eg welding, automotive, marine combined with literacy, numeracy and life skills. Teachers have completed a cultural awareness program with Grant Sara and it has been great to see better understanding develop between cultures.

The boys have enjoyed camping together on Woody Island for a night, fishing and sitting around the fire. The boys have made a great effort to help each other achieve, especially in sport. In the future the program will include spending time at Koorawinga to gain first hand experience and understanding of some of the valuable traditions of the local Aboriginal people.

For further details contact Ray Krueger.
Ph **0403 040 725**.

Website & Logo

The website is in the final stages of planning and will be operational in the very near future. Three logo designs have been submitted for a decision within the next few weeks.

Benarrawa Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Solidarity Group

On 13 September 2003 we are hosting a luncheon with the Brisbane Council of Elders at a venue yet to be confirmed. The October meeting will be held on Saturday 18 October 2003 at a venue yet to be confirmed. Everyone is welcome to meetings and events.

For further details contact Michele Bourke.
Ph **(07) 3379 9925**.

Cleveland Sorry Day Service

Father Frank O'Dea was moved and inspired by the RQI sponsored National Sorry Day Service held on the shores of Moreton Bay in May this year. Frank is currently liaising with the local community and RQI to begin a Local Reconciliation Group in the area.

Once the group is formed the group will focus on organising the 2004 National Sorry Day Service and other events and ways in which they can promote reconciliation within the local community.

For further details contact Fr Frank O'Dea.
Ph **(07) 3821 4902**.

Public Invited to UQ National Week of Prayer for Reconciliation Event

The University of Queensland welcomes members of the public to a ceremony marking the National Week of Prayer for Reconciliation at UQ's St Lucia Campus on Wednesday, 17 September 2003. The ceremony will be held in the natural amphitheatre between the University lakes and the Staff and Graduates Club from 5:30pm to 6:45pm.

The multi-faith prayer evening will include a singing group organised by Aunty Barbara Marnoch, Torres Strait Island Dancers, prayers, a candle lighting ceremony and speakers including University of Queensland Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay and Mr Dick Estens, Director of Reconciliation.

University Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (ATSIS) Unit Director, Michael Williams said the seventh annual ceremony was part of the University's activities to support reconciliation and hopes it will continue to be celebrated as part of the University's commitment to Reconciliation.

For more information contact Mary Ware.
Ph **(07) 3365 6714**.

Reconciliation Learning Circles

The School of Social Work and Social Policy has organised another Reconciliation Learning Circle for staff and students of University of Queensland. Initially these gatherings will be facilitated by Leilani Garland and will follow the process set down by the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation on the website <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/IndigLRes/car/>

The decision to organise these groups arose from discussions with staff of the School, Social Work students, practitioners and the Brisbane Council of Aboriginal Elders. Staff, students and practitioners expressed a wish to learn more about Indigenous Australians and contribute to the reconciliation process in a meaningful way.

Participants do not require previous knowledge of Indigenous people, only open minds and enthusiasm to learn. An important part of the philosophy of a learning circle is that everyone learns from each other and everyone has something to contribute if desired. Everyone is welcome. You do not have to be a student of UQ to attend.

Learning Circle held each Wednesday 12 - 2pm Room 202 Chamberlain Building, University of Queensland.

For more information: contact Leilani Garland phone **(07) 3365 2952**.

Congratulations...

...to RQI Committee Member, Lesley Williams! Lesley received an individual award for Distinguished Service at the Queensland NAIDOC Ball.

Noonga Reconciliation Group Inc.

Since mid-2003 a number of classes at Taigum Primary School have been trialing material which aims to integrate Indigenous perspectives across all Key Learning Areas of the curriculum. A successful grant application to the Gaming Machine Community Benefit Fund has resulted in the development of this material which enables teachers to facilitate learning experiences in Indigenous history, culture, lifestyles, customs, art and dance. Taigum's Reconciliation Learnscape (another NRG initiative) provides the central focus for this curriculum material.

Brooke Harwood is a Year 7 student at Taigum school. Brooke and her classmates have been exploring the concept of creation and dreaming stories with their teacher, Catherine Lunney. Noonga members are proud to share Brooke's creation story because we believe that this young person truly captures the spirit of reconciliation with her insightful words. Congratulations Brooke! We thank you for giving us permission to print these excerpts from your story "How the Learnscape came to Be".

Once upon a dreamtime there lived an Aboriginal girl. Her name was Kasma and she was six years old. She had four brothers and two sisters. Her family didn't mix with the white people and hated the difference in cultures so Kasma was always told never to be friends with people outside her own race. Whenever she heard her family speak of these things she got mad and annoyed inside. She wanted to be friends with everyone even if they were white.

Brooke goes on to tell the story of how Kasma decides to break family rules and cross into the bush on the other side of the road. Here she meets some white children and they all decide to explore beyond a deep creek. Kasma has brought homemade rope with her and manages to loop it over a branch that has fallen onto the other side

of the creek. They pull themselves over and as they enjoy each other's company one of the children says wouldn't it be nice if we could have a beautiful place to meet no matter what colour your skin is?

Kasma uses her bush skills to draw a map for her new friends and herself on bark from the paperbark tree and as they return home they promise to meet there again. But Kasma's dad has other ideas as he sees the children crossing back over the creek. He looked very mad... and whacked Kasma in the head! Her friends didn't know what to do so they took off in the direction of home.

The precious map is thrown into the creek and Kasma goes to bed without food and thinking sadly about her new friends. In the night she dreams about the meeting place which is even more beautiful and filled with many people. They grow and harvest food and everyone is happy and they all get along. Kasma sees the spirit of her grandmother Mae smiling at her.

The next morning Kasma awakes to a place outside her home that is different. The trees are bigger, the shrubs bushier. There are beautiful gardens and a waterhole full of fish. Paths intertwine to meet each other and people of all different kinds talk and smile. It was the beautiful place just as she had dreamed about. In the distance she sees her grandmother standing in the bushes. Mae waves and then she is gone. Kasma felt so happy and was happy there for a long, long time. And that is how the learnscape came to be ...

Brooke's story (in full) and photos and information about the Reconciliation Learnscape and Curriculum initiative are online at www.reconciliation.qld.gov.au and click on "Your Stories" link

Or contact Bev Hickey ph (07) 3256 3508.

Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Group (Caloundra)

Computers for Aboriginal students program is under way.

On Thursday 1 August 2003, Noel Cavanagh and Keith Whisson installed computer programs for the home benefit of a family with an Indigenous student. The event was covered by WIN TV.

The programs 100 licences (Windows 98 and Microsoft Office XP Professional) were donated to the Group by Microsoft for the benefit of Sunshine Coast Aboriginal students and have a value of \$120,000. Microsoft Office XP Professional incorporates Microsoft products Word, Excel, Outlook, Power Point and Access.

The next phase of this project involves a partnership with GreenPC, a not for profit social enterprise which reconditions computers. Through GreenPC our group will be able to offer families with Aboriginal students, Pentium 11 computers from \$320 and from \$400 with printer.

For further details contact Dawn Wilson. Ph (07)5492 2297.

Samford Reconciliation Group

A sad loss

Maureen Brilliant lived at Samford for 30 years and was a very active member of the Samford Reconciliation Group until her recent death. Throughout her illness Maureen remained a strong supporter of Reconciliation.

Maureen was instrumental in helping to organise a very successful Reconciliation Concert in which Indigenous and non-Indigenous performers participated. On another occasion she organised a BBQ in the park which was also a great success.

The funeral service left no doubt about the importance Reconciliation played in Maureen's life.

Symbols of her life were placed on and around the coffin. Her own painting representing Reconciliation in Australia was indicative of her strong support for the Reconciliation process.

Maureen had a loving concern for the poor, for refugees and for the welfare of Australian Indigenous peoples. She was popular and well respected. The group will miss her greatly.

For further information contact Danielle Burette. Ph (07) 3289 1540.

REACHING OUT

By Maureen Watson

Be kind to each other
You may be on a narrow ledge
Never push anybody too far
You don't know how close they are to the edge
With your loved ones, always let it be known
No need to carry it on your own
After the fiercest storm you all know
When it's all over you'll find the Rainbow
All of life is sacred that's what it's all about
And we all so badly want to be loved
So Reach Out, Reach Out, Reach Out.

Radio 4AAA. Ph (07) 3892 0100 or
Email: info@4aaa.org.au

Have you read the Indigenous Times?

It's a national newspaper which aims to help build a bridge between Australia's black and white communities. Subscribe now admin.nitimes@bigpond.com. Ph 1300 786611

View the National Indigenous Times online at www.indigenoustimes.com.au.

Waringh Waringh

"Waringh Waringh: A history of Aboriginal people in the Warwick area and their land" written by David Parsons (RQI Member) has dedicated his work to the First People of the Warwick area. In the writing of David's book he consulted with the local Traditional Owners of the area. David hopes his book will encourage an understanding of the local history and further the reconciliation process between non-Indigenous and Indigenous peoples. If you would like to purchase a copy of this book please contact David Parsons on (07) 4631 2530 or email parsonsd@usq.edu.au.

Reconciliation at ACU National

Australian Catholic University (ACU) National recently celebrated their Indigenous Week which focused on "Reconciliation through Education". The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Unit at ACU, Weemala, organised a series of events to encourage Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to meet and share their culture. Events included a guest speaker on Torres Strait Islander culture, flag raising ceremony; fire blessing ceremony, Indigenous film presentation, concert featuring Troy Cassar-Daley and Reconciliation Talking Circles.

These circles were one of the highlights of the week and involved members from Reconciliation Queensland, Noonga Reconciliation Group, Weemala staff, Indigenous and non-Indigenous students at ACU. At lunch time members met at Weemala and formed small facilitated groups (5-6 people per group) to discuss how the vision of reconciliation can be implemented at ACU National. It was an opportunity for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to share their experiences and work together at breaking down the barriers of racism and ignorance. Feedback from the students was extremely positive and they hope that more organisations take up the idea of running talking circles in their community.

For further details contact: Yasmin Evans at Weemala on (07) 3623 7304.

Local Reconciliation Groups

Bayside Reconciliation Group (Wynnum)
Beverley Johnson - Ph (07) 3341 3342

Benarrawa Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Solidarity Group (Graceville)
Michele Bourke - Ph (07) 3373 9499 or (07) 3379 9925
Email: benarrawacda@hotmail.com

Bray Park Reconciliation Group
Celia Winter - Ph (07) 3205 5174

Bundaberg Reconciliation Group
Lionel Evans - Ph (07) 4152 4219
Email: lionlee@ozemail.com.au

Bunya Reconciliation Group (Murgon)
Marshall Saunders - Ph 0418 745 235
Email: coord@burnett.net.au

Dadirri Reconciliation Group
Prince Charles Hospital Reconciliation Group
Robyn Chilcott - Ph (07) 3350 8123 Mob 0409 540 862
Adele Dingle - Ph (07) 3350 8124 Mob 0411 259981
Email: Adele_Dingle@health.qld.gov.au

Gold Coast / Tweed Reconciliation Group
Claire Watts - Ph (07) 5581 8594 Mob 0405213387
Email: clairewatts@hotmail.com

Gympie Reconciliation Group
Pastor Fricke - Ph (07) 5482 1435 Mob 0409477040

Hervey Bay Reconciliation Group
Frances Gala - Ph (07) 4124 6908
Email: scrubhill@bigpond.com

Inner Northern Suburbs (New Farm)
Enrica Sella - Ph (07) 3254 1238
Email: sellaenrica@hotmail.com

Ipswich Reconciliation Group
Megan Bathurst - Ph (07) 3875 7791
Email: m.bathurst@mailbox.qc.edu.au

Manyborough Reconciliation Group
June O'Hanlon - Mob 0409 496 760

Mt Isa Reconciliation Group
Mick Lowcock - Ph (07) 47 43 6088
Email: lowcock@isagsp.centrecare.com.au

Noonga Reconciliation Group
Bev Hickey - Ph (07) 3256 3508
Email: bmhickey@ozemail.com.au

Noosa Reconciliation Group
Dale Scott - Ph (07) 4851126
Email: thedillybag@yahoo.com

Northside Reconciliation Group (Albany Creek)
Zillah Jackson - Ph (07) 3264 1249 Fax (07) 3264 1249
Email: zjackson@powerup.com.au

People for Reconciliation in Cairns
Richard Cherry - Ph (07) 4032 4327
Email: rcherry@xtown.com.au

Rockhampton Reconciliation Group
Laurel Hunt - Ph (07) 4930 9975
Email: l.hunt@cqu.edu.au

Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital Reconciliation Group
Jan Roberts - Ph (07) 3636 1839
Email: Jan_Roberts@health.qld.gov.au

Samford Reconciliation Group
Danielle Burette - Ph (07) 3289 1540
Email: Danielle.burette@nrm.qld.gov.au

Shorncliffe/Sandgate Reconciliation Group
Susan Black - Ph (07) 3269 0277 Mob 0409542848
sandbag2@bytesite.com.au

Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Group (Caloundra)
Dawn Wilson - Ph (07) 5492 2297
Email: dawnonline@bigpond.com

University of Queensland School of Social Work & Social Policy Reconciliation Group
Leilani Garland - Ph (07) 3365 2952
Email: garlandl@social.uq.edu.au

If you would like mailing address for any of the above Local Reconciliation Group please call RQI on (07) 3857 6088.

RQI Annual General Meeting October 2003

Have you renewed your RQI membership? The AGM is scheduled for October 2003 and to vote you must be an RQI member. So join now! Members will receive quarterly newsletters, monthly updates and formal invitations to all events and RQI's Constitution listing the rules of the organisation.