

MEDIA RELEASE

NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATED AT MANNUM WITH INAUGURAL ‘TOGETHER AS ONE’ MARCH

The Mid Murray’s rich Aboriginal heritage will be recognised and celebrated in a special NAIDOC Week event on Friday, 13 November.

The Mannum Aboriginal Community Association Inc (MACAI), Mannum Community College and Mid Murray Council are partnering to deliver the local celebration, which will begin at the Mannum Council office from 10am.

The event begins with a Welcome to Country, flag raising and traditional smoking ceremony. A highlight this year will be the inaugural march ‘*Together As One*’, allowing Elders, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the wider community to walk together in a show of unity and support to the Mannum Showgrounds.

Celebrations then continue, with free activities for all ages including games, dot painting, wurly making and more, along with a barbecue lunch.

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess said the day will be a fun way to celebrate the district’s important Aboriginal heritage, paying homage to the contributions and culture of local Aboriginal people throughout history, while promoting working together with the MACAI for a stronger future.

“Mid Murray has a strong Aboriginal culture and this is a significant part of our shared heritage,” Mayor Burgess says.

“NAIDOC Week is an opportunity to celebrate that culture and unique history, and to stand together with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to show our connection, respect and support now, and into the future.

“It’s also a great way to come together as a community, learn more about local Aboriginal culture and for everyone to enjoy a fun, family-friendly day out.”

The theme for this year’s NAIDOC Week is ‘*Always Was, Always Will Be*’, recognising the spiritual and cultural connection that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have had to the land and waters for more than 65,000 years.

Council is also keen to hear from community members interested in helping to organise the district’s 2021 NAIDOC Week celebrations. To register your interest, contact Council on 8569 0100.

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