

NAIDOC Week (3-10 July 2022)

28 June 2022: NAIDOC Week is usually held in the first week of July and this year is being held on 3-10 July. This year, the theme is ‘Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!’, encouraging all Australians to champion institutional, structural, collaborative, and cooperative reforms, while celebrating those who have already driven and led change in First Nations communities over generations.

NAIDOC stands for ‘National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee’ and it traces its origins to the boycotting of Australia Day (26th of January, referring back to the arrival of the First Fleet in Sydney Cove in 1788 and the commencement of the British colony under Captain Arthur Phillip). The National Aborigines Day Observance Committee (NADOC) was established in 1956 as a remembrance day for Aboriginal people and their heritage was established on the second Sunday in July. In 1975, it was decided that the event should cover a week. In 1991, NADOC became NAIDOC (‘National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee’) in recognition of Torres Strait Islander history, heritage and achievements.

Australia Day became widely known as ‘Invasion Day’ from 1988. Although the ‘Australia Day Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Acknowledgement Project’ has been running since 2020, with Councils and local Aboriginal Communities working together on ‘meaningful, reflective, and respectful Australia Day events’, it is hard to contemplate true reconciliation when the date celebrated is that of colonisation, especially under the legal pretence of acquiring terra nullius (nobody’s land – land considered unoccupied or uninhabited). As we wait for the inevitable - the removal or movement of Australia Day - NAIDOC is an extremely important celebration of Aboriginal and Islander history, culture and achievements.

Sources: National NAIDOC Committee (2022) [‘National NAIDOC Week 2022’](#); Creative Spirits (2022) [‘NAIDOC Week’](#); National Australia Day Council (2021) [‘Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Acknowledgement Project’](#)

What's on during NAIDOC Week

- Sat & Sun, 2-3 July, 10 am – 5 pm: [National Indigenous Art Fair](#)
Sydney Harbour Foreshore
- Sat, 02 July, 06:00 pm – 03:00 pm: [2022 National NAIDOC Awards \(Ticketmaster\)](#)
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
- Sun, 03 July, 10:00 am – 04:00 pm: [Eora NAIDOC Family Fun Day Redfern Park](#) (bound by Elizabeth, Chalmers, Redfern and Phillip Streets, Redfern NSW 2016)
- Mon-Fri, 4-8 July, 2 Screenings/day: [Virtual Indigenous Film Festival](#)
Featuring four award-winning Australian films; screening times 1 pm and 7 pm AEST
- Mon, 04 July, 07:30 am – 09:15 am: [Future Women celebrates NAIDOC Week 2022](#)
The Great Room, 408 Flinders Ln, Naarm, Melbourne
- Tue, 05 July, 07:30 am – 09:15 am: [NAIDOC Screen Printing Workshop at Swinburne](#)
Adobe Hub, Swinburne University of Technology, John St, Hawthorn. Four workshops with start times of 11 am, 12 pm, 1 pm and 2 pm, led by First Nations artist, Jarra Karalinar Steel (must book)
- Wed, 06 July, 02:00 pm – 03:00 pm: [Ablaze: Filmmakers Talk for NAIDOC Week](#)
Tiriki Onus and Alec Morgan talk about the making of their documentary, Ablaze
- Thu, 07 July, 06:00 pm – 08:00 pm: [Pirritu – Winter Concert \(First Nations singer-songwriter\)](#) 47 Miller Cres, Mount Waverley Vic
- Fri, 08 July, 12:00 pm – 02:00 pm: [2022 Victorian NAIDOC March](#) (Victorian Aboriginal Health Service at 186 Nicholson Street to Fitzroy)
- Sat, 09 July, 10:00 am – 03:00 pm: [National Gallery of Victoria: music, art, drama](#)
- Sat, 09 July, 05:00 pm – 11:00 pm: [Geelong Supercats Basketball Indigenous Round](#)
At Geelong Arena, 110 Victoria St., North Geelong
- Sat, 09 July, 06:30 pm – 11:30 pm: [Sydney NAIDOC Ball 2022](#) (the highlight for many Aboriginal people as they travel miles to connect and reconnect with family and community)
- Sun, 10 July, 02:45 pm – 04:00 pm: [Extinction: The Ballad of Pirt Koorrook](#) At Eureka Centre Ballarat, 102 Stawell St, South Eureka, Vic
- Sun, 10 July, 02:45 pm – 04:00 pm: [Wash My Soul in the River's Flow - NAIDOC Week Special Screening](#) Collingwood Town Hall
- Thu, 14 July, 06:30 pm – 09:30 pm: [The Mission](#), a dramatic performance about Allan McDonald, one of the first Aboriginal soldiers from Victoria to enlist for WWI (Cost: \$25)
- Various dates & times: [Hundreds of local events; events at Deakin University](#)

Recent articles by three journalists who genuinely care about prisoners

Jon Stanhope, CBR City News (ACT Chief Minister from 2001 to 2011):

08 June 2022: [‘There’s something rotten in the state of our prison’](#)

09 March 2022: [‘Ministers urged to listen to indigenous wisdom’](#)

02 March 2022: [‘Ministers and managers should face the law, too’](#)

16 February 2022: [‘Why a young man’s death in prison matters’](#)

Calla Wahlquist, Guardian Australia (Melbourne Chief of Staff):

07 May 2022: [‘Veronica Nelson inquest: nurse and doctor give contradictory...’](#)

04 May 2022: [‘Immigration detainees transferred from Melbourne to Christmas...’](#)

01 May 2022: [‘Police errors, no legal representation and strict bail laws: why...’](#)

27 April 2022: [‘WA coroner says police failed to monitor breathing of Aboriginal...’](#)

26 April 2022: [‘Veronica Nelson made repeated calls for help before her death...’](#)

14 December 2021: [‘Indigenous Australians make up half of those in youth detention with two-thirds yet to be sentenced, report finds’](#)

Lorena Allam, Guardian Australia (Indigenous Affairs Editor):

26 April 2022: [‘Half of Australia’s youth detainees are Indigenous children...’](#)

17 December 2021: [‘“The system failed us”: Aboriginal families describe... in custody’](#)

06 December 2022: [‘“Beyond heartbreaking”: 500 Indigenous deaths in custody...’](#)

04 December 2021: [‘Warning ‘cage-like’ conditions...young people in NT detention...’](#)

26 November 2021: [‘Indigenous woman sues ACT over forced strip search her legal team alleges amounts to ‘torture’](#)

2021 Census initial results are in

The Australian population has exceeded 25 million for the first time. On census night in August 2021, we had 25,422,788 people. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population increased by more than 25% since 2016 when the previous census was taken. There are now 812,728 people who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, which is 3.2% of the population.

Read more in [The Guardian](#) or view the [ABS staged release dates](#)