



Don Harwin
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 9 November 2020

NAIDOC WEEK EVENTS SUPPORTED TO SHINE THROUGH NOVEMBER

The NSW Government has supported a total of 95 community-led and COVID-safe NAIDOC Week events to take place during November, as the nation celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements under the 2020 theme of ***Always Was, Always Will Be***.

Postponed from original July timings due to COVID-19 concerns, this year's NAIDOC Week runs from Sunday 8 November to Sunday 15 November.

As part of the celebration, funding from Aboriginal Affairs NSW of nearly \$160,000 will support Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs), local councils, schools, sports and dance groups and other Aboriginal organisations to host a range of community events across the State.

"NAIDOC Week explores and celebrates our cultural history and diversity, and in such a tough year, I'm so happy to be able to help communities safely continue this annual celebration," Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Don Harwin said.

"From weaving and language events, dance and culture workshops, BBQs and community arts projects to name a few, NSW will be alive with COVID-safe Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture throughout November.

"While some of the larger events that traditionally run during NAIDOC Week are unable to happen this year, I'm delighted to have shown our support to help our 95 smaller-scale activities throughout the State," he said.

The funding has supported 28 events in the Binaal Billa region, 12 in Greater Sydney, 13 in the Hunter Central Coast region, 10 in the Illawarra Southern, 7 in the Murdi Paaki region, 11 in the New England and North West and 14 on the North East Coast.

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A summary of the supported events is listed on the next pages

Aboriginal Affairs NSW 2020 NAIDOC Grants Funding Recipients (95): \$157,597.00

Binaal Billa (28) \$32,250

- **The Roman Catholic Church as Trustee for St Laurence's Primary, Dubbo, \$500:** *Always was, Always will be* project – week within the school term devoted to NAIDOC including one full day of activity
- **Narromine Local Aboriginal Land Council, Narromine, \$1,000:** *NAIDOC Traditional Dance Exhibition and Workshop* – traditional dance workshop and exhibition for community including a traditional food tasting
- **Forbes Preschool Kindergarten, Forbes, \$600:** *Early Years NAIDOC Celebration* – preschool community celebrations
- **Murrin Bridge Preschool Association Inc., Murrin Bridge, \$1,000:** *Keeping our dance/ language Alive 2020* – an Aboriginal dance group will teach children and Murrin Bridge mob traditional dance and language, with a lunch held for the Murrin Bridge community
- **Nyngan Local Aboriginal Land Council, Nyngan, \$2,500:** *Nyngan NAIDOC Week* – community walk to Frank Smith Oval for an opening ceremony and community day. Later in the week a community yarning session will be held on the Bogan River at Rotary Park
- **Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council, Bathurst, \$1,000:** *Community NAIDOC project* – a week-long schedule of community NAIDOC activities including a march with the schools and daily activity
- **Mater Dei Catholic Primary School, Lake Albert, \$500:** *NAIDOC Day Celebrations* – celebrations at the primary school
- **Cowra Information and Neighbourhood Centre, \$1,500:** *NAIDOC Community Celebrations* – flag raising celebration including craft workshops
- **Ngum baay Indigenous Corporation, Narrandera, \$1,000:** *Always was Always will be Aboriginal Land Community BBQ* – BBQ and yarning circle discussing Wiradjuri Warrior, Windradyne
- **Leader Life Limited Apollo House, Dubbo, \$500:** *Apollo House After School NAIDOC Event* – event for young people from the Apollo community
- **Nyngan Preschool Inc., Nyngan, \$500:** *NAIDOC Week 2020* – whole of community and preschool celebrations
- **St. Raphael's Catholic School, Cowra, \$500:** *NAIDOC Week celebration* – a week of celebrations including cultural workshops, liturgy, assembly and a community picnic lunch including bush tucker
- **Mingaan Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation, Lithgow, \$1,000:** *Lithgow NAIDOC 2020* – celebrating the stories, culture, language and history of First Nations People welcoming Indigenous and non-Indigenous people
- **Stride Mental Health, Wagga Wagga, \$650:** *LikeMind Wagga's "Yarruwala Dhulubang-bu (Strong Spirits)" Elders Morning Tea* – a visual morning tea to provide a culturally safe platform for local Aboriginal Elders to share their knowledge and history of Wiradjuri culture through storytelling
- **McAuley Catholic Central School, Tumut, \$1,000:** *Mural, Totem Poles and bush tucker for NAIDOC Celebrations* – a mural and totem pole painting project with bush tucker experience
- **Western Plains Regional Development Inc., Condobolin, \$2,000:** *NAIDOC Celebrations* – awards for Indigenous people nominated for excellence in areas including art, sports, academic achievement, leadership and cultural strength
- **Manildra Preschool Early Learning Centre, Manildra, \$500:** *Manildra (Millidurra) Preschool Early Learning Centre NAIDOC week celebration* – welcoming Elders, past, present and emerging for the 316 enrolments that identify as Indigenous
- **Wellington Information and Neighbourhood Services Inc., Wellington, \$3,000:** *Always Will Be Wellington NAIDOC* – a week-long celebration for the Wellington community
- **Warren Youth Support Group Inc., Beemunnel, \$2,000:** *BeConnected to the Beemunnel* – an all-inclusive cultural and family event on Country creating connections and ongoing participation with elders, community members and local people
- **St Mary's Catholic School, Wellington, \$500:** *NAIDOC Week 2020* – celebrating the rich Aboriginal culture and heritage of First Nations people and culture with students, families and community
- **Murrin Bridge Local Aboriginal Land Council, Lake Cargellico, \$2,000:** *NAIDOC Celebration Week* – a one day community gathering

- **Ross Circuit Preschool Centre Inc., Lavington, \$500:** *Birrang Cultural Connections, Yindyamarra (respect) Celebrations* – a celebration to show respect to the local Wiradjuri Culture
- **James Sheahan Catholic High School, Orange, \$500:** *Always Caring and Connecting to Our Land, for All Time* – sharing Aboriginal knowledge with students on how to best care for land and plants as well as learn about their use
- **Narrandera Shire Council, Narrandera, \$1,000:** *Narrandera Community NAIDOC Celebrations* – showcase of local Aboriginal artists, musicians and business owners, allowing the wider community to learn about and celebrate the local Aboriginal culture
- **Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre Aboriginal Corporation, Deniliquin, \$1,500:** *NAIDOC Community Day* – community BBQ and cultural day on the wetlands of Deniliquin Lagoon
- **Leeton and District Local Aboriginal Land Council, Leeton, \$1,500:** *Always Was, Always Will be NAIDOC 2020* – a family fun day and community event to engage with both Aboriginal and non-Indigenous people
- **Orana Support Services Inc., Dubbo, \$500:** *Aboriginal Art and History* – art through the eyes of history with a display of art drawn or painted by clients as well as morning tea
- **Birrang Enterprise Development Company Ltd, Orange, \$3,000:** *Orange NAIDOC Week Celebrations 2020* – supporting a week long schedule of celebrations across Orange

Greater Sydney (12) \$24,245

- **Wyanga Aboriginal Aged Care Program Inc., Redfern, \$2,000:** *Celebrating Posters of the Past 2020* – exhibition of NAIDOC posters from concept to 2020 with details of artist and poster meaning as well as a morning tea
- **Souths Cares PBI Ltd, Maroubra, \$3,000:** *Souths Cares NAIDOC Celebrations* – a sixth annual celebration will be held on 10 November at South Sydney Juniors, Heffron Park, with a highlights video available online after the event.
- **Redfern All Blacks RFLC Inc., Redfern, \$3,000:** *Redfern All Blacks Family & Community Day* – a free BBQ with kids activities, an Elders tent, traditional dance performers and appearances by South Sydney Rabbitohs players as well as community recognition awards
- **National Centre of Indigenous Excellence (NCIE), Redfern, \$1,500:** *NAIDOC @ NCIE 2020* – a week-long series of virtual events on social media and live streaming while also celebrating 10 years of NAIDOC at the NCIE
- **Sydney Region Aboriginal Corporation, Penrith, \$3,000:** *Always Will Survive* – an interactive walk through time offering the community a chance to part take in history, education, activities and food experiences
- **Canterbury-Bankstown Council, Bankstown, \$2,000:** *Canterbury Bankstown NAIDOC Celebrations 2020* – including a concert for families in Paul Keating Park
- **Blue Mountains Aboriginal Culture and Resource Centre, Katoomba, \$3,000:** *NAIDOC 2020* – a community NAIDOC Message Board will be established to share stories of country and culture
- **Liverpool City Council, Liverpool, \$3,000:** *NAIDOC Voices* – a community event in Bigge Park celebrating community and Aboriginal Heritage in the Local Government Area and beyond
- **Mary Brooksbank P&C Association, Rosemeadow, \$645:** *Who We Are* – 15 Indigenous students with disabilities will develop an understanding and connection to their culture and identity
- **Glebe Youth Service Inc., Glebe, \$1,600:** *Always Was, Always Will Be NAIDOC Art Project* – a large-scale collective community art work with contributions from local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth and community members, facilitated and guided by Indigenous Elder Auntie Katherine Farrawell
- **The Sydney University Settlement Neighbourhood Centre, Darlington, \$1,000:** *The Settlement Community NAIDOC Mural & Film* – presentation of a community mural project and short film created in the lead-up to NAIDOC Week at a special Settlement NAIDOC Annual General Meeting
- **Marrickville Public School P&C, Marrickville, \$500:** *Always Was, Always Will Be - Gadigal Garden Artwork* – a project to teach Aboriginal traditions and culture through the creation of an outdoor artwork/installation for the gardens of the school

Hunter Central Coast region (13) \$22,475

- **Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School Tarro, Tarro, \$1,000:** *NAIDOC Week 2020* – a whole school assembly including cultural workshops and family BBQ lunch

- **Community Resources Forster-Tuncurry, Forster, \$3,000:** *NAIDOC Community Day* – a community activity day promoting community cohesiveness with fun activities and inspirational speakers
- **Wyong/Gosford Central Coast Community Legal Centre, Wyong, \$2,000:** *Always Was Always Will Be Film Screening* – a community screening of *Always Was Always Will Be*, the documentary produced and directed by Aunty Madeline McGrady
- **Gloucester Worimi First Peoples Aboriginal Corporation, Gloucester, \$2,200:** *NAIDOC Family Fun Day* – Gloucester community fun day
- **Peninsula Occasional Care, Woy Woy, \$2,000:** *Peninsula Community Centre NAIDOC Week Art Competition* – local child care, primary and secondary school students will submit collaborative artworks inspired by the theme 'Always Was, Always Will Be'
- **Awabakal Ltd, Newcastle East, \$3,000:** *Newcastle Community NAIDOC Celebration* – a day of food, activities, art, dance and song while sharing stories and knowledge
- **Kiray Putjung Aboriginal Corporation, Wollombi \$2,050:** *Kiray Putjung and Ngarraliingayil School NAIDOC project - Awakening Culture* – a chance to highlight Wonnarua People's rich culture and traditional foods through an immersive cultural program
- **NAISDA Dance College, Kariong, \$3,000:** *Gurayndja ~ Always* – exhibition of visual artworks by NAISDA students celebrating connections as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to what *Always Was and Always Will Be* the world's oldest continuing culture.
- **Scone Neighbourhood Resource Centre Inc., Scone, \$1,075:** *Always Was and Always Will Be workshops* – a project to raise awareness of Aboriginal history and art through storytelling and painting workshops with Aboriginal woman Michelle Earl
- **Macquarie Pre-schools Co-operative Limited, Carey Bay, \$500:** *Interwoven Workshop 0-5 (Aboriginal Weaving)* – an opportunity for students to learn about traditional Aboriginal weaving
- **Uniting Preschool Adamstown Heights, Adamstown Heights, \$1,000:** *Sharing culture towards reconciliation* – opportunities for preschool children to participate in cultural experiences provided by Speaking in Colour, including early childhood specific workshops on dance, art appreciation and weaving
- **Upper Hunter Shire Council, Scone, \$800:** *Learning About Culture* – a project for young people to learn about culture in an interactive environment with local Aboriginal community members sharing their stories, skills and experiences
- **Uniting Early Learning Medowie, Medowie, \$850:** *Recognising and Promoting Worimi Culture* – an opportunity to network with Murook Cultural Centre on a weekly basis during Term Four where they will visit educators and children and provide fun interactive cultural experiences.

Illawarra Southern (10) \$17,350

- **Pejar Local Aboriginal Land Council, Goulburn, \$3,000:** *Community Family Day BBQ* – community celebration
- **Sapphire Life Opportunities Ltd, Eden, \$600:** *Eden Kids Club NAIDOC Celebration* – a celebration of the history of the Aboriginal people of Eden
- **Bodalla Local Aboriginal Land Council, Bodalla, \$3,000:** *Community and Family Day* – community celebration
- **Shellharbour Aboriginal Youth Association, Warilla, \$3,000:** *SACYA NAIDOC Celebration Day* – community celebration
- **Mogo Public School P&C Association, Mogo South, \$1,000:** *Mogo Public School NAIDOC Week* – a week-long program of cultural activities and events for students, staff and parents
- **Wingecarribee Shire Council, Bowral, \$1,500:** *2020 NAIDOC Community Art Exhibition* – A two-day exhibition of NAIDOC home-made art, with activities and digital story-telling from local schools and Aboriginal community groups
- **CareWays Community, Koonawarra, \$3,000:** *NAIDOC Celebrations 2020 Illawarra* – a short multimedia presentation shared online, showcasing various local Indigenous people in a variety of social and cultural settings including engaging in local cultural activities and workshops
- **Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation, Wollongong, \$750:** *Coming Through the Other Side Art Exhibition and Morning Tea Launch* – an exhibition drawing attention to some of the adversities Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have experienced over the past few decades
- **St Bernard's Primary School, Batemans Bay, \$500:** *NAIDOC Week Celebration* – an experience introducing the concept of traditional yarning circles to K-6 students at the school
- **Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council, Bomaderry, \$1,000:** *Nowra LALC Members NAIDOC*

Celebrations – a movie night and children's disco

Murdi Paaki region (7) \$16,877

- **Lightning Ridge Local Aboriginal Land Council, Lightning Ridge, \$3,000:** *Wall of Honour connecting Community Family Celebration Day for NAIDOC* – an event unveiling a wall of Honour for local Elders, to raise awareness of the importance of NAIDOC WEEK as well as promote Aboriginal cultures and the values of respect
- **St Brigids School, Coonamble, \$700:** *Always Was, Always Will Be* – an event to engage with students through storytelling, yarning circles and art while teaching the importance of family and Aboriginal cultures
- **Broken Hill Local Aboriginal Land Council, Broken Hill, \$3,000:** *Broken Hill NAIDOC Family Fun Day* – a community event celebrating the local Aboriginal community through traditional foods, music and art
- **Walgett Shire Council, Walgett, \$3,000:** *Walgett Shire NAIDOC Week 2020 - 'Our Time To Shine'* – Walgett Shire council in collaboration with a range of organisations will deliver events including community fun days and dance parties for three Aboriginal communities
- **Brewarrina Shire Council, Brewarrina, \$1,977:** *Brewarrina NAIDOC 2020 'Always Was, Always Will Be'* – events including a NAIDOC community art project, golf day, night sports and a NAIDOC-themed outdoor cinema
- **Bourke and District Childrens Services, Bourke, \$3,000:** *BDCS NAIDOC Celebrations - 'Always Was Always Will Be'* – local Aboriginal artists will create a mural in the pre-school play ground
- **MacKillop Family Services, Lightning Ridge, \$2,200:** *MacKillop Family Services Community Gathering* – a community event educating community about First Nations people and cultures with an opportunity to share knowledge, stories and food.

New England and North West (11) \$22,700

- **Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council, Tamworth, \$3,000:** *Tamworth Community NAIDOC Celebrations* – a public art installation and 'virtual' NAIDOC March as well as prizes and incentives for participation in online events
- **Ashford Local Aboriginal Land Council, Ashford, \$3,000:** *Ashford Community NAIDOC Week 2020* – including a family fun day, street march and individual men's and women's celebrations
- **Armidale Regional Council, Armidale, \$3,000:** *A Day in the Dale & Guyra Aboriginal Day* – a celebration of the NAIDOC theme and local Aboriginal culture
- **Narrabri Pre school Association Inc., Narrabri, \$1,000:** *'Always Was, Always Will Be' NAIDOC Celebrations* – an annual community celebration involving children, families, and the Narrabri local Aboriginal community
- **St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School, Coonabarabran \$500:** *NAIDOC Celebrations 2020 - 'Always Was, Always Will Be* – a Welcome to Country, flag raising, NAIDOC-themed mass, local Aboriginal dance group, morning tea and lunch and storytelling with elders
- **Uralla Shire Council, Uralla, \$1,000:** *Uralla NAIDOC Week Celebrations* – a flag raising followed by a street parade, cultural performances and morning tea and lunch with Aboriginal Elders
- **Coonabarabran Local Aboriginal Land Council, Coonabarabran, \$2,300:** *NAIDOC week 2020* – an opening ceremony, colouring competition, morning tea and family BBQ
- **Joblink Plus Limited, Tamworth, \$900:** *Joblink Plus NAIDOC Celebrations, Our Foot Prints* – event inviting participants to paint white canvas shoes with traditional designs, with traditional foods cooked by local Indigenous leaders and Elders
- **Armajun Health Service Aboriginal Corporation, Inverell, \$3,000:** *Inverell/Tingha NAIDOC Celebrations 2020* – a week-long schedule of community NAIDOC activities celebrating NAIDOC Week and the local Aboriginal community
- **Moree Plains Shire Council, Moree, \$2,000:** *'Always Was Always Will Be' - The Chant Exhibition* – an installation of powerful graphics drawing upon the rich connection of Aboriginal people from Moree to culture
- **Miyay Birray Youth Service Inc., Moree, \$3,000:** *NAIDOC Week Moree 2400 - 'Always Was Always Will Be'* – community celebration run by the Moree Aboriginal Interagency, which has coordinated local NAIDOC activities for over twenty years.

North East Coast (14) \$21,700

- **Purfleet Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council, Taree, \$2,000:** *NAIDOC Concert 2020* – a collaboration of organisations, local schools, Aboriginal businesses and local community to scout Biripi talent for an 'Always Was, Always Will Be' NAIDOC concert
- **Bullinah Aboriginal Health Service Limited, Ballina, \$1,350:** *Annual NAIDOC Sports Day* – an inclusive sports day for people of all ages, backgrounds and capabilities
- **Bunyah Local Aboriginal Land Council, Wauchope, \$1,500:** *NAIDOC Family Fun Day* – community celebration of the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- **Dunghutti Elders Council (Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC), Kempsey, \$800:** *Under The Stars, Movie Night* – the Dunghutti Elders will provide a movie for the community to view with a BBQ dinner to accompany the film
- **South West Rocks Figtree Descendants Aboriginal Corporation, Arakoon, \$2,000:** *South West Rocks Cultural NAIDOC Day* – multiple organisations will be holding a cultural community event recognising the ongoing achievements of First Nations people
- **Mary Help of Christians Primary School, Toormina, \$1,000:** *2020 NAIDOC Celebrations* – an event providing bush tucker, bush medicine knowledge and stories to all students from primary school students
- **Bundjalung of Byron Bay Aboriginal Corporation (Arakwal), Byron Bay, \$1,400:** *BOBBAC Arakwal NAIDOC Community Day* – a community day sharing and celebrating Aboriginal cultures with dance, cultural information, education, art activities, cultural awareness and a BBQ
- **YWCA Australia, Goonellabah, \$2,200:** *YWCA's Lismore NAIDOC Showcase* – partnering with local services, YWCA will showcase art, activities and performances including stories of success and achievement
- **Old Bar Community Preschool, Old Bar, \$1,000:** *Care for Country, Love Biripi Land* – a project celebrating Biripi country, culture, dance, music, art, language and knowledge as well as bush medicine and bush tucker provided by local Aboriginal people
- **Nimbin Community Centre Inc., Nimbin, \$2,200:** *Always Was Always Will Be* – an event to strengthen the connection between the Indigenous and non-indigenous community and a celebration of the resilience and diversity of Indigenous cultures
- **Bundjalung Tribal Society Ltd, Alstonville, \$3,000:** *Namabunda Farm Aboriginal Community Cultural Event* – an event for both the Aboriginal and non-Indigenous community to educate and promote Aboriginal culture and heritage
- **Birrigan Gargle Local Aboriginal Land Council, Yamba, \$1,000:** *Birrigan Gargle Gathering* – cultural painting, drawing and colouring for pre-school children and a community celebration with yarning circles as well as food and cultural activities at Ngaru Village
- **Dalaigur Pre-School and Children's Services Aboriginal Corporation, West Kempsey, \$1,250:** *NAIDOC Day* – celebrations connecting local Aboriginal children to their culture and history through games, activities and food
- **Unkya Local Aboriginal Land Council, Macksville, \$1,000:** *2020 NAIDOC Cultural Experience* – a local Indigenous artist will lead students to create a mural, with storytelling, games and language activities.