



[www.geelongonefire.org.au](http://www.geelongonefire.org.au)

***We respectfully acknowledge that Geelong One Fire is located on Wadawurrung Country, and pay our respects to Elders, both past and present***

## **ONE FIRE INFORMATION SHEET - Activities and Links for 2022**

Established in the 1990s, Geelong One Fire Reconciliation Group has a strong reputation for collaborative partnerships and effective reconciliation activities in the Greater Geelong region.

Geelong One Fire Reconciliation Group aims to foster and promote reconciliation in the region. 'One Fire' reflects our desire to achieve the meeting of people "around the fire" in mutual respect and understanding.

Our objectives are to consult with Aboriginal Elders, leaders and community members to develop policies, recommendations and action plans in pursuit of the following:

- Actively promote reconciliation in the Geelong region;
- Raise public awareness of local Aboriginal history and culture, and issues relating to health, housing, employment, education and cultural heritage preservation;
- Work with community organisations and government on issues contributing to Aboriginal-health, well-being and opportunity;
- Work with the local Aboriginal communities to promote and value culture, heritage and places;
- Promote the integration of appropriate representation of Aboriginal history within the various educational bodies of the region. Resources include the locally created website and DVD at: [www.djillong.net.au](http://www.djillong.net.au)

### **Geelong: Reconciliation in the Park**

Established by Aboriginal community leaders with One Fire in 2010, this is Geelong's annual Aboriginal community-led National Reconciliation Week event. By listening to and learning from local Aboriginal people we strengthen all of community on Wadawurrung Country. With partners we won the Victorian 2016 Community HART Award for this free event. This 13th year's event will be at Johnstone Park on Sunday 22nd May, 2022.

### **Djillong Project - [www.djillong.net.au](http://www.djillong.net.au)**

Initially created with the late Uncle David Tournier this website and timeline about Djillong: a tongue of land, connects us all to history and story on Wadawurrung Country. It incorporates Aboriginal leaders telling their stories - *Djillong: Our History, Our Story, Our Future*. An increasing number of organisations have the Djillong timeline on display as an active step for reconciliation. Contact One Fire to purchase the timeline banner.

### **Geelong Council Advisory Committees**

One Fire is represented on both the Heritage and Kilangitj Aboriginal Advisory Committees. On Kilangitj we sit alongside local Aboriginal community members and agencies. Council adopted a Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan in 2020, which was a positive outcome. We

support Aboriginal representatives' guidance that all Councillors and staff receive Aboriginal cultural learning on Country.

### **One Fire Members Learning Together**

Following on from cultural competency workshops in 2018, One Fire members have continued to learn together through a Privilege & Unconscious Bias workshop and time spent on Country with Wadawurrung and other Aboriginal community members. This strengthens our knowledge and capacity to engage the non-Indigenous communities of Geelong as more effective allies to First Nations people on Wadawurrung Country.

### **Backing Aboriginal Peoples' Leadership & Self-determination - partnering**

One Fire partners with local organisations. This includes building young people's reconciliation leadership through the Wangala Balit Ngarrwa - making knowledge strong project. This annual day of workshops with Year 5 students is provided through a partnership with the Koorie Engagement Support team, Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation and Geelong Regional Libraries Service.

### **Reconciliation Victoria**

One Fire is a member of Reconciliation Victoria, receiving important updates and knowledge, which informs our local activities. We appreciate conversations about the Victorian Treaty Process and progress of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, catching up on regional Group activities and guidance from the Cultural Council of First Peoples.

[www.reconciliationvic.org.au](http://www.reconciliationvic.org.au)

### **January 26**

Reconciliation Victoria supports a continuing national conversation about shifting our national day from January 26. This helps us reflect on who we are as a nation, what we stand for, and what date in our history best reflects those values and attributes.

One Fire is committed to truth telling and the growth of knowledge about the impacts of colonisation on First Nations Peoples on these sovereign lands, including on Wadawurrung Country. This is, we believe, a necessary journey to a society we can all celebrate.

### **First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria**

The Assembly is creating the framework for Treaty negotiations, the Treaty Authority (independent umpire) and an Elders' Voice. [www.firstpeoplesvic.org/](http://www.firstpeoplesvic.org/)

March 2021 saw the establishment of the **Yoo-rrook Justice Commission** in Victoria.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twZvDrtA\\_8Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twZvDrtA_8Y)

Its mandate is to reveal, record and analyse the systemic injustices experienced by Victorian First Peoples since colonisation.

### **Uluru Statement from the Heart**

One Fire believes that our local activities are deeply interconnected with national reconciliation, or reckoning, progress.

The First People's deliberations at Uluru in 2017 led to the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*.

The statement demands substantive constitutional reform, the establishment of a First Nations Voice in Parliament enshrined in the Constitution and a Makarrata Commission.

Websites for information and updates -

<https://ulurustatement.org/>

<https://fromtheheart.com.au/>