

Reconciliation for Western Sydney

Reconciliation for Western Sydney Inc. is a community group that meets monthly to discuss and plan actions to advance reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. We engage with other groups concerned about justice for Indigenous people.

We initiate and support various public events throughout the year including during Reconciliation Week in May and NAIDOC Week in July. **Building Bridges** is also one of our major activities held each year since 1998.

For our monthly meetings we sometimes invite Indigenous guests to share with us some of their thoughts and stimulate action. They include health workers, lawyers, stolen generation survivors, teachers, environmentalists and others in virtually all walks of life.

We welcome newcomers to our regular monthly meetings which are friendly and informal and where supper is provided. Details are in the block below. A nominal subscription of \$10 a year is charged to help offset running costs.

Building Bridges sessions are in the Town Hall
Reconciliation for Western Sydney meets at

Place: Reg Byrne Room,
Karabi Neighbourhood Centre,
Cnr Darcy Rd & Fyall Ave, Wentworthville,
off Cumberland Highway

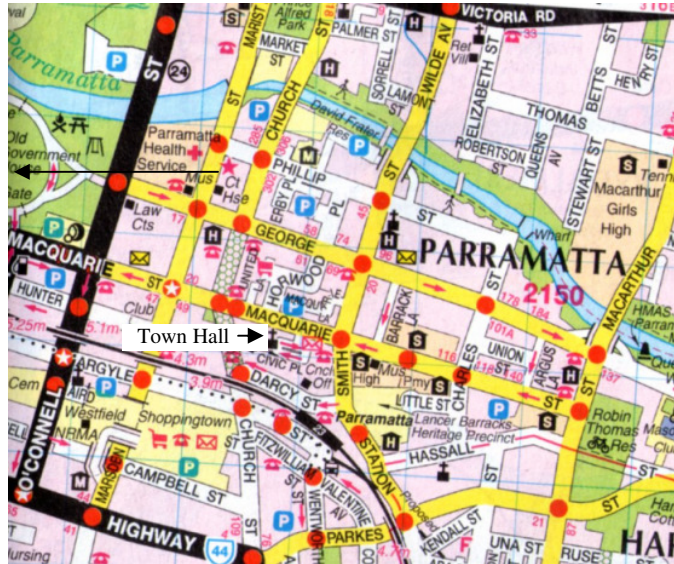
Time: 3rd Wednesday in the month, 7.30 pm

Further information: Contact Lyn Leerson
9639 8394

The Jubilee Hall, Parramatta Town Hall

Church Street Mall, opposite St John's Cathedral

Parking: Council Car Park. Enter from Macquarie St,
behind Town Hall and Library



Come along, bring a friend and learn from Indigenous people in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

Building Bridges is an initiative of Reconciliation for Western Sydney, a community group that has been hosting such occasions for 15 years.

On 15th August Julie Welsh and women from the MIYAY dance group (including her 6-month old baby) will be performing at the beginning of the evening session

Parramatta Council's ongoing support for Building Bridges is greatly appreciated.



Building Bridges 2012

An initiative of **Reconciliation for Western Sydney (R4WS)**

Building Bridges is a series of five Wednesday evening seminars in August, commencing
1st August at 7:30 pm

Jubilee Room, Parramatta Town Hall

The Program will include topics such as:

- * *Stronger Futures?*
- * *Indigenous Higher Education*
- * *Income Management: coming to a suburb near you*
- * *Indigenous Housing & Health*
- * *The Constitution & Referendum*
- * *Electoral Participation*
- * *Lively Culture, Trustworthy Information*
- * *Northern Territory Intervention*
- * *Indigenous Lawyers*

The presenters

Ray Jackson was stolen from his Aboriginal mother & fostered out. Founding member of the *Indigenous Social Justice Association*, Ray has had three decades of exposing issues and failures in the criminal justice system.

Paul Pholerors is an architect & director of *Health Habitat*. Housing for Health projects aim to improve the health of people, particularly children 0-5 years of age, by ensuring they have safe and well functioning housing.

Graeme Mundine is a Bundjalung man & former Marist Brother. He was founding chair of NATSICC (Cath. Council) & NATSIEC (Ecumenical Commission). Inspired by Pope John Paul's 1986 speech, he is a strong advocate for ATSI justice.

Peter Radoll is from the Anaiwan People, Northern Tablelands, NSW. His PhD research examined the adoption & effectiveness of communication technologies in Indigenous communities and works at the *Indigenous Education Centre* at the ANU in Canberra.

Sarah Maddison, associate professor at UNSW, is involved with Pat Dodson & Ian Katz investigating the use of evidence in Indigenous policy. She was awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 2009 to study International Indigenous representation.

Aunty Sandra Lee is a proud Darug woman & is on the *Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation* (DTAC) Board. She provides support to researchers, archaeologists and councils to ensure compliance with heritage regulations.

Terry Chenery is an Anaiwan man born in Awabakal land. He is vice president of the *Indigenous Lawyers & Law Students Association* of NSW & Executive Officer for the *Aboriginal Justice Advisory Council*.

Aunty Daphne Lake & Sue Gillett are Wiradjuri women from Dubbo NSW who are committed to the struggle for justice. They are members of *Stop the Intervention Collective Sydney* and opposed to Income Management.

Shirley Blacklaws has a BA in Adult Education & Community Management and networked with schools & families in western Sydney to improve education & help the disadvantaged. She now works with the *Western Sydney Community Forum*.

Carol Barton's background derives from her Aboriginal mother & Hungarian father. Currently an *Australian Electoral Commission* Indigenous Electoral Field Officer, she is working to increase electoral participation.

Lily Shearer is a Muruwaroi woman with academic degrees from two universities. Her expertise is in dance, heritage, culture, theatre, youth work and *Koori Radio*. She is currently the GM of *Gadigal Information Services*.

Program		Where to for Reconciliation? Aboriginal. Housing: Needs, Rights, Possibilities	Stronger Futures? Pathways to Education for Indigenous People	Constitutional Recognition of ATSI People, Campaign for Referendum – Legal and Strategic Considerations	NT Intervention & Income Management What Works & Doesn't in Urban Communities	Closing the Gap and Electoral Participation Growing Indigenous Voices for Information & Culture
01 Aug	Ray Jackson Paul Pholerors					
08 Aug	Graeme Mundine Peter Radoll					
15 Aug	Sarah Maddison Aunty Sandra Lee Terry Chenery					
22 Aug	Aunty Daphne Lake & Sue Gillett Shirley Blacklaws					
29 Aug	Carol Barton Lily Shearer					

The sessions start at 7.30 pm and finish around 9.30, with a break for supper between the two presenters. Both presenters will engage in dialogue with the participants and are open to your questions.

Parking (See map)

By Train The venue is about 5 minute' walk from Parramatta Station

Building Bridges 2012

Building Bridges provides an opportunity to come and hear Indigenous (and a few non-Indigenous) presenters sharing their knowledge, expertise and personal and community experience in an informal and relaxed atmosphere.

Many people have never met an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian. Here's your chance to meet them over a cuppa and discover that there's more to Indigenous society and culture than is often negatively portrayed in the media.

While the Federal Government's 2008 Apology was seen as overwhelmingly positive, the Northern Territory Intervention was not, and by the time you read this, legislation may have been passed extending it by ten years.

Many Indigenous Australians still experience unemployment, poor health, deplorable housing, poor education, violence and imprisonment at levels that would not be tolerated by other Australians.

Many Indigenous people are working tirelessly to address the problems. They are calling on the government and all of us to work with them to achieve justice and reconciliation.

For further information

ring Lyn on 9639 8394 or Tom on 0425 250 360

Registration & Catering

While registration is not essential we encourage you to register (no charge) with the **Parramatta Evening College on 9687 2072** since this helps us with catering needs. Otherwise just turn up when you can. A donation on the night would be appreciated to help cover costs of hall hire and publicity.

Please note: Program might be subject to change without notice