



# Deakin Rural Health supports Reconciliation Week

Deakin Rural Health (DRH) has established a strong working group in the Southern Grampians region to promote community awareness and involvement in Reconciliation Week for 2018.

The concept of a working group began when Katie Dopheide, Administrative Assistant with DRH's Indigenous Program returned from a three-month trip to northern Australia.

Ms Dopheide was aware of organisations in the district holding individual events and believed there was an opportunity to get far greater awareness in the community by working together. She met with more than 15 individuals and ideas were formed, changed and made and then finally everyone came together.

The group includes Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation, Southern Grampians Shire Council, Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, Southern Grampians Adult Education & Community College, Hamilton District Skills Centre, Hamilton Kangaroos Football Netball Club, AFL Victoria, Western District Health Services and Hamilton Regional Business Association.

Hamilton shops have joined together to promote Reconciliation Week with posters and flags displayed in their windows showing unity and awareness.

Senior Program Manager at DRH, Mel Robertson, said "We (DRH) pride ourselves on working with local communities and feel that this awareness supports our population and indigenous health research work that we are undertaking in the south west region".

SGE2653731

## National Reconciliation Week Southern Grampians Shire 'Program of Events'

Saturday 26 May, 2.00pm

### HAMILTON KANGAROOS FOOTBALL & NETBALL RECONCILIATION GAME

Melville Oval, Hamilton

1.45pm - 'Welcome to Country'  
2.10pm - Reconciliation match will take place between the Hamilton Kangaroos and Terang-Mortlake Football Clubs. Hamilton Kangaroos will don a specially created Indigenous football jumper designed by local Aboriginal artist Charmaine Barker.

Wednesday 30 May, 11.00am

### OFFICIAL WELCOME CEREMONY

Southern Grampians Shire Council Offices  
111 Brown Street, Hamilton

The Official Welcome Ceremony will include a Welcome to Country, smoking ceremony and Aboriginal dance performance.

Tuesday 29 May, 10.30am

### CULTURAL STORY TIME

Greater Hamilton Library

This program is designed for 3 to 5 year olds and is theme based involving picture books, stories to tell, songs, rhymes and a simple related activity.

Thursday 31 May, 9.45am

### TRADITIONAL OWNER WALK AND TALK

The Grange Burn footbridge  
(bottom of Skene St or Pierrepont St)

Join us for a leisurely stroll on the Grange Burn and hear about the cultural landscape of the Gunditjmarra people. Meet at the footbridge, bottom of Skene or Pierrepont Streets. Finish approx. 11.30am. A light morning tea will be provided.

This event is supported by Glenelg Hopkins CMA, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Aboriginal Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pay our respects to their Elders past, present & future.

Please contact Southern Grampians Shire Council for further information  
(03) 5573 0444 | [www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](http://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au)

