



## News of the week

# National Reconciliation Week 2023

5/26/2023

This year we are all challenged to 'Be a voice for generations' using our power, our words and our actions to create a better, more just Australia for everyone. Join us in celebrating National Reconciliation Week 2023.

The theme of this year's [National Reconciliation Week](#) encourages all Australians to be a voice for reconciliation in tangible ways in our everyday lives – where we live, work and socialise. We take a look at the different ways we can be a voice for reconciliation.

## In our workplace

As part of [our reconciliation journey](#), we are developing our inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The RAP will identify clear actions and realistic targets to gain a deeper understanding of our sphere of influence and establish the best approach to advance reconciliation within the ACMA.

Following [staff consultation earlier this year](#), the draft RAP is currently with Reconciliation Australia. We will share with you the finalised RAP very soon.

## Guest speaker: Kutcha Edwards

This year we are celebrating National Reconciliation Week by inviting Kutcha Edwards to share his story with us on Wednesday 31 May. Kutcha is a proud Mutti Mutti, Yorta Yorta and Nari Nari man, who is a strong advocate for Aboriginal people and dedicated to the continuum of his traditional Songline. He has been combining songwriting and activism since 1991 and is a now multi award winning singer-songwriter. His most recent album '[Circling Time](#)' has garnered critical acclaim.

Kutcha will join us in the Melbourne Authority Room, and you can listen to his story and ask questions from the Authority Room in each office location or via [Microsoft Teams](#).



## Significant dates around National Reconciliation Week

- [National Sorry Day](#) precedes National Reconciliation Week on **Friday 26 May** – a day to remember and acknowledge the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities, known as the Stolen Generation. This day reminds us that historical injustice remains an ongoing source of intergenerational trauma for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, communities and peoples.

National Reconciliation Week runs from 27 May to 3 June, marking 2 significant events in the journey of reconciliation:

- **Saturday 27 May**, the first day of National Reconciliation Week, marks the anniversary of the [1967 referendum](#), where Australians voted overwhelmingly to count Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the national census and allowed the Commonwealth Parliament to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, rather than individual states.
- **Saturday 3 June**, the final day of National Reconciliation Week, marks [Mabo Day](#) – the anniversary of the [High Court's historic judgment in the 1992 Mabo case](#). [Eddie Mabo](#) is celebrated for helping to overturn 'terra nullius' (land belonging to no-one) in a 10-year campaign through the courts.

To find out more about National Reconciliation Week 2023, watch the [Be a Voice for Generations](#) video from Reconciliation Australia.

You can also take a look at the many [National Reconciliation Week 2023 events](#) taking place around Australia to see how you can participate in your local area and socially.