



News of the week

# NAIDOC Week 2024

7/02/2024

Join us in celebrating, supporting and learning more about the oldest continuous living culture on earth during NAIDOC Week this year. Hear from our guest speaker Craig Quartermaine and find out about other ways you can get involved to help keep the fire burning!

## NAIDOC Week 2024 theme

The theme of this year's NAIDOC Week is [Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud](#). It celebrates the unyielding spirit of Indigenous communities and invites all to stand in solidarity, amplifying the voices that have long been silenced.

## The history of NAIDOC Week

Have you ever wondered what NAIDOC stands for or how it came to be?

- **1956:** Major Aboriginal organisations, state and federal governments, and several church groups come together to support the formation of National Aborigines Day Observance Committee (NADOC).

- **1974:** The NADOC committee is composed entirely of Aboriginal members for the first time.
- **1975:** It is decided that the annual event should cover a week from the first to second Sunday in July.
- **1991:** NADOC is expanded to recognise Torres Strait Islander people. The committee becomes known as the National Aborigines and Islander Day Observance Committee, commonly referred to as NAIDOC.
- **Present:** This new name (NAIDOC) becomes the title for the whole week and not just the day. Each year, a theme is chosen to reflect the important issues and events for NAIDOC.

[Read more about the history of NAIDOC Week.](#)

## Getting involved in NAIDOC Week

There are lots of opportunities internally and externally to get involved in NAIDOC Week and immerse yourself in Indigenous culture.

Guest speaker event: Craig Quartermaine

Join us on Thursday 11 July to hear from our NAIDOC Week 2024 guest speaker, Craig Quartermaine. Craig is a comedian, writer and TV presenter with over 10 years' experience as a journalist covering Indigenous Affairs for NITV and the ABC.

Craig has also traveled internationally with his comedy as well as performing at the Sydney and Melbourne International Comedy festivals. Craig will be joining us virtually over MS Teams.



**NAIDOC Week 2024 guest speaker: Craig Quartermaine**

Thursday 11 July

2:00 pm to 2:45 pm

Online via MS Teams

Look out for the calendar invitation in your Inbox!

MS Teams background

Show your support by using the official NAIDOC Week 2024 background in your Teams meetings.

To upload the background:

- Save the below picture > open background and effects in Teams > select the image > click apply.



Find out about the new First Nation names of our Canberra meeting rooms  
We recently confirmed the names of our meeting rooms in our Canberra office following the office relocation last year. As part of our commitment to our [Reconciliation Action Plan](#), several of these rooms are in the local Ngunnawal language. Look out for an intranet article during NAIDOC Week to find out about the cultural meaning of the new names.

Local events

NAIDOC Week is celebrated all over Australia, see [what's on in your area](#).

## Ongoing engagement and opportunities

Cultural leave

First Nations employees can access NAIDOC Week leave to participate in NAIDOC week activities. Find out more in the [ACMA Enterprise Agreement 2024-2027](#).

Cultural training

Undertake any of the cultural training programs available:

- [First Nations Course - SBS Inclusion Program](#): Available on Learnhub. This course explores 8 themes central to the understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.
- [Cultural Capability Hub – APS Academy](#): A central repository of practical guidance and suggested resources to support Australian Public Service staff to uplift their Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander cultural capability.

- [Footprints – APS Academy](#): Footprints is a framework that supports APS employees to continually increase and enhance their cross-cultural knowledge and understanding. There are a range of learning activities including reading a book, completing a course, watching a movie or an on-country experience.

Volunteer with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities or not-for-profit organisations

Another great way to celebrate NAIDOC Week is to connect with and support Indigenous communities by volunteering for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations.

Engaging in volunteer activities fosters a deeper understanding of the rich cultural heritage and ongoing contributions of First Nations peoples and promotes reconciliation. You can develop new skills, gain unique perspectives, and contribute to meaningful projects which have a lasting impact.

Visit [Volunteering Australia](#) to find volunteering opportunities near you.

## **Reconciliation Action Plan**

Last year we launched our inaugural [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) (RAP). Find out more about this and other ways you can incorporate and support reconciliation at the ACMA and eSafety at [Our Reconciliation Journey](#) on The Hub.

Your ideas

Your input and ideas are welcome to ensure the diverse workforce of the ACMA and eSafety is included.

Contact [HR Assist](#) if you would like to join the RAP Working Group, be involved in upcoming awareness days, or have ideas for fostering a more inclusive workplace – we'd love to hear from you!

**You can also read more on our new Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.**

**You can also find out more about how the Australian Public Service is looking to boost First Nations Employment at leadership level with the [SES100 initiative](#) as part of APS Reform.**

