

Thank you for putting up your hand, along with hundreds of others, to be part of the Linked Hands for YES event. It should be a fun and inspiring way of demonstrating our intention to walk with First Nations people for a better Australia. These are housekeeping notes and information on what to expect on the day.

If first aid is required please ring **04 2292 0075**, but dial 000 if it is an emergency. Event organisers can be contacted on the day on 0467 955 358 or 0437 876 487.

If attending the main event at Curtin please bring;

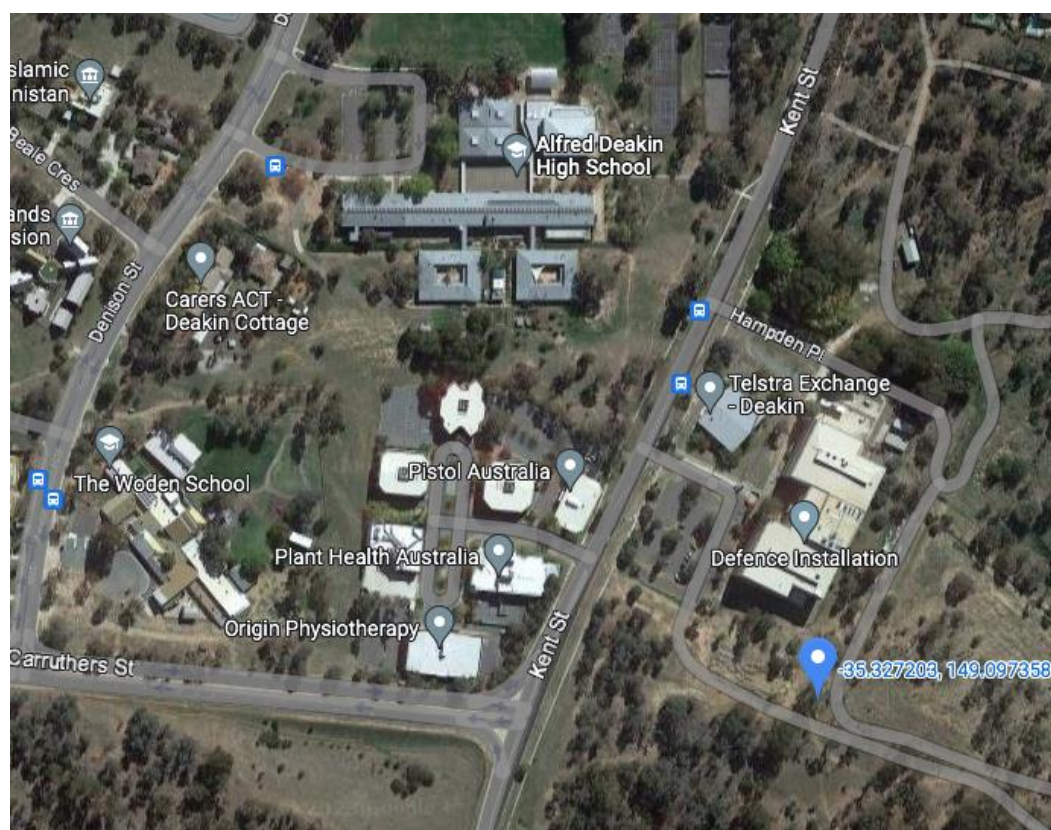
- **Deck chair or rug for seating – unless you have requested provided seating**
- **Cash for bucket collection donation and food and drink**
- **A song sheet (but they will be available on the day if you forget)**

There are two options for involvement, you can do both or one or the other.

### **1. 11:00 am - Red Gum ceremony and 1.3km reconciliation walk**

Gather around an ancient RED Gum tree at the base of Red Hill for a short ceremony beginning at 11:00am. Park in the Telstra car parks of the Deakin Telephone exchange at 111 Kent Street and walk up past the bike jumps to the tree. The tree location is shown as the blue pin below. If the Telstra car parks are full, parking is also available at Woden School or Alfred Deakin High. The ceremony will be a reflection on the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the start of carrying a message stick, crafted by the Hughes Community Shed. After the short ceremony people can walk the 1.3km to the main event next to the Curtin Shops via a 10-stop reconciliation walk, where information is provided on features of local environment and/or reconciliation interest. Walkers must be at the Curtin site no later than 11:50am.

A marshal will guide people across Kent St, and please be careful crossing the other roads, stay on the south (Hughes) side of Carruthers St. A map of the route of the reconciliation walk is included in the songsheet.



## **2. 11:45 am – 14:00 pm Linked Hands for YES a Celebration of Reconciliation – Vacant block east (Yarra Glen) side of Curtin Shops**

We will be forming a spiral of up to 500 people and want this in place by 11:55am, so please arrive in plenty of time. Those that live locally are encouraged to walk to the site. In addition to the shops, parking is available at the Good Shepard Anglican Church off Gillies St and at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church off Strangways St, and along Martin, Parker, Gilies and Allen streets. Parking may be tight. If someone has to be dropped off at the event site let us know so we can make arrangements.

On arrival please find a spot along the spiral, which will be marked out with paint on the ground. Seating can be provided at request, or you are welcome to bring deck chairs and rugs. Chairs can be used in the Spiral, rugs and other things you bring can be dropped at the craft activity tent for retrieval after the dispersing from the spiral, or you can keep them at your feet. Marshals can assist with finding a place. If arriving late, no worries, just make your way to the outside end of the Spiral.

Toilets are available at the nearby Woden Valley Uniting Church and at the Curtin Shops (past 3 Blind Mice and near the dental clinic). Please take rubbish home with you or dispose in the appropriate recyclable (yellow lid) or general waste (red lid) bin.

Please bring cash for gold coin or small note donation to cover costs of staging event and to purchase food and drink at sausage sizzle stall.

The program of events is

**11.45** People begin to arrive at the Curtin Block. As the spiral forms some Mexican waving and chanting will be practiced - marshals will be present to guide people into place and MC (Genevieve Jacobs) will be giving verbal instructions.

**12:00** Church bells mark start of activity - message stick begins to be passed down the line from outer part of circle towards centre

**12:00** Communal singing led and taught by A Chorus of Women of an acknowledgement of Country (see song sheet).

**12:03** Minute of silent reflection - focussed on the words from the Uluru Statement of the Heart

**12:05:** Greeting of “May the voice be amongst us” turn and greet those next to you

**12:06:** A Mexican wave along spiral

**12:07:** “Yes Today” (think the Beatles Yesterday) sung - led by A Chorus of Women. (See song sheet)

**12:10:** “Voice Treaty Truth” taught and sung by A Chorus of Women. We will all join in the refrain (see song sheet)

**12:13:** Final celebratory call of YES YES YES, clapping, whistling, pumping of hands

**12:15:** Breaking up of line - people on rugs sit near stage, chairs further back, those on provided seating stay pretty much as they are, sign banner, grab food, make your self comfortable for performances and short speeches

**12:15:** Bucket collection to try and cover costs

**12:25:** Performance by A Chorus of Women

**12:40** Speech by Bindi Stewart Fitzpatrick a Ngarigo and Yuin Aboriginal man who has 20 years campaign experience and is a Yes23 volunteer.

**12:50** Speech by Wiradjuri woman Katrina Fanning who is a past chair of the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body (ACT's equivalent to the Voice), the current ACT Citizen of the year and a YES23 volunteer

**1:00 – 1:30** performance by Ngunnawall singer/song writer Alinta Barlow -

While the performances are going on and up to 2pm there will be kids (and young at heart) craft activities on the site, a Yes23 stall and a sausage sizzle and drinks stall.

Crafts are focused around making YES designs and decorations and include weaving of "gods eyes", painting of rocks and gum leaves and Yes hand stencils.

Every one is encouraged to sign a large banner with the Uluru Statement From the Heart at its centre and the words form Our Hearts to Your Hearts. The banner will include the name of all the local community groups helping run the event and the signatures of the hundreds of individuals attending.

Walkley award winning documentary maker, Simon Cunich, will be filming the event and making a short video of the day. You will be provided to a link to this video and we hope that you will send it on family and friends with a short explanation as to why you think voting YES is important.