



Council Celebrates NAIDOC Week

South Gippsland Shire Council will participate in National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week with a community event that showcases film and music.

This year the theme for NAIDOC Week is *Songlines: The Living Narratives of Our Nation* which focuses on the dreaming tracks that crisscross Australia and trace the journeys of ancestral spirits as they created the land, animals and lores.

The films showcase these Songlines including *The GunaiKurnai Journey* which was produced to tell the story of the GunaiKurnai journey particularly around the development of the Joint Management Plan which encompasses GunaiKurnai aspirations.

Council in partnership with Manna Gum Community House is hosting the film and music event which will include *Boorun's Canoe*, *The GunaiKurnai Journey*, highlights from the *Deadly in Gippsland Conference* and music from Uncle Herb Patten playing the gum leaves.

The event will assist in the aim of the week to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians.

Council's Community Strengthening Officer Barbara Look said celebrating NAIDOC Week is important in recognising and celebrating aborigine and islander culture.

"NAIDOC Week is a perfect opportunity for us all to take a moment and learn about the aborigine and islander culture that is embedded in our municipality.

"It is fantastic to see the community working alongside Council to produce an event that supports this initiative and we would like to give special thanks to the traditional custodians of this land for their assistance and support with this event," said Ms Look.

This free event will be held on Thursday 7 July 2016 from 5.30pm to 7.30pm at the Manna Gum Community House Corner of Station Road and Court Street, Foster.

Individuals wishing to RSVP can contact Barbara Look on 5662 9200 or barbaral@southgippsland.vic.gov.au.

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