


A word from the CEO....

Yura maroomba bigi ("hello, good day" in Jandai)



Congratulations, Aaron on becoming our new President. Our community is lucky to have someone with such commitment and interest in our mob. Your strong financial background and corporate experience as our new leader will ensure a smooth transition. Thanks once again to Jeanette for all you have given to mob – it is great we are retaining you on the Board!

2024 will hopefully be our best year yet and another one where our mob and the broader non-Indigenous community work together to create change and benefit for all. One of the unsung aspects of Willum Warrain (and indeed all the 17 gathering places across the state) is the day-to-day work we all do on the reconciliation front. We get many phone calls throughout the week (with people ringing up with cultural information requests) and multiple daily visits – more and more people just drop in to day hello and walk around our site. We love this function of our Gathering Place and, as you know, we pride ourselves on being a destination for reconciliation.

Coming up this term in our every busy calendar are some important events, Welcome Baby to Country on Saturday 24th February, our 10th Birthday on Saturday 16th (featuring our very own Willum Warrain Dance group performing) and our annual Koorie Youth Summit for Aboriginal secondary students across the region.

Finally, our two social enterprises, the Bush Nursery and our Cultural Immersion tours and Cultural Awareness training, are going from strength to strength. Our nursery grows 120 local endemic species now and we are aiming to produce 80,000 plants this year – we can't wait to get into our new "digs" midway through the year and set up more professionally. Bookings for tours and training are again very strong for 2024 – did you know that last year over 10,000 people visited Willum Warrain?

Yoway, Peter Aldenhoven



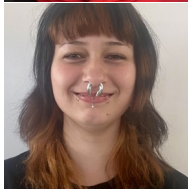
Introducing Eddie Lenart...

Hello, my name is Eddie Lenart. I am a proud young Palawa fella. Willum Warrain offered some short-term holiday employment in the Bush Nursery which I loved. Now I am excited to be offered two days a week ongoing employment as well as continuing my studies at Oakwood School. I am interested in cars and possibly becoming a mechanic in the future.

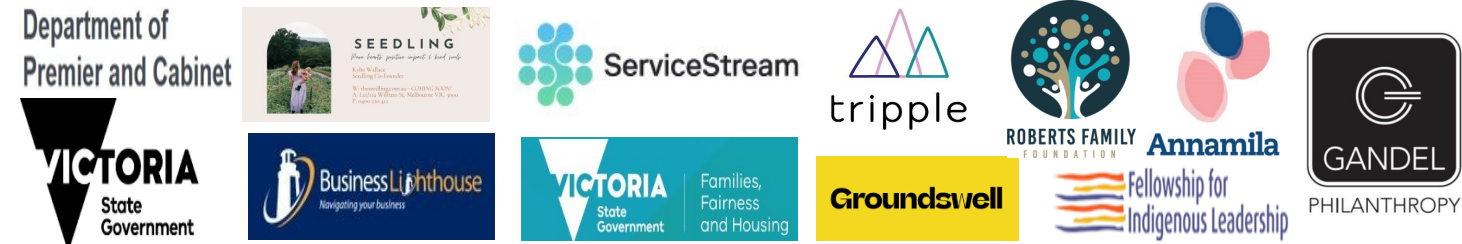


Introducing Evelin Davis...

Thanks to Willum Warrain for giving me a chance. Like Eddie, I enjoyed holiday work which now has given me the opportunity to work 2 days a week while completing my secondary studies. I am a proud young Yuin woman, interested in heavy metal music and bush walking. I enjoy working with plants.



Willum Warrain acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands our Gathering Place is located, the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation, we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



Aunty Jen & Blak Santa Willum Warrain's Koorie Kristmas party—14th December 2023

Opening hours... Monday to Friday 9am - 4pm
What's coming up at Willum Warrain...



A new year, and this term we will celebrate Willum Warrain's 10th Birthday on Saturday **16th March** from 11am—1pm and everyone is welcome! For the women, there is a weaving session on Saturday **9th March** it's our only one for the term so pencil that one in! Our first **Big Mob Cook Up** for the year is on the **23rd February** straight after our Mornington Peninsula RAP session that all members are welcome to attend. For the Elders, we have a **Morning tea** on the 23rd February from 9.30 - 10.30am and an **excursion** on the 15th March from 10am—2pm.

Support Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association

We stock a large range of local indigenous plants. Plants are grown from seed or propagated onsite by our team of indigenous staff and volunteers. Our Bush Nursery is open 9am - 4pm weekdays. If you would like to place a large order for click and collect, email hl@willumwarrain.org.au



Book Cultural Awareness Training & Cultural Immersion Tours Online

Thinking about booking a cultural group tour? Go to www.willumwarrain.org.au/programs/tours to find out which dates are available, book anytime! You may also want to consider tour add ons such as morning tea, bush tucker lunch or a bush nursery plant to take home or hire our meeting room. Our sessions are informative and interactive, and can be tailored to suit curricula. We cover topics such as Aboriginal culture and traditions, contemporary issues, Indigenous plants, and so much more!



Visit Willum Warrain's online shop for our full merchandise range

We have 14 exclusive Willum Warrain t-shirt designs in stock, available in sizes S - 5XL, as well as a selection of kids tees in sizes 2 - 12. Our latest designs by resident artist Sammy Trist, incorporate animal totems Bundjil, Waang and Gawarn. We also stock a range of indigenous plant designs, below is a sample.

Money raised from sale of our merchandise goes to funding Aboriginal programs and supporting self determination. Gift vouchers are also available, if interested phone **0403528034** www.willumwarrain.org.au/merchandise/



Looking to volunteer?

Join us on a **Friday from 11am– 1pm** in our bush nursery. Make lots of new friends, learn about local indigenous plants and how to propagate and plant successfully. Lunch included. We hope to see you here, no experience necessary!



" a safe gathering place for all community members..."

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our programs and Koori Services on the Mornington Peninsula.



Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association

10C Pound Road
Hastings Victoria 3915

0403 528 034

gpc@willumwarrain.org.au








www.willumwarrain.org.au

www.facebook.com/WillumWarrain

instagram.com/willumwarrain



PROGRAM – TERM 1, 2024

WK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	29 JANUARY Term 1 Begins	30 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	31 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group *1&2	1 FEBRUARY 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 4pm– 5.30pm Deadly Youth *1&2	2 11am - 1pm Community drop in & Gardening *4	3	4 
2	5	6 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	7 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group *1&2	8 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 4pm – 5.30pm Deadly Youth *1&2	9 11am - 1pm Community drop in & Gardening *4	10	11
3	12	13 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	14 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group *1&2	15 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 4pm – 5.30pm Deadly Youth *1&2	16 11am - 1pm Community drop in & Gardening *4	17	18 10am - 1pm Men's group *1
4	19 	20 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	21 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group *1 &*2	22 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 4pm – 5.30pm Deadly Youth *1&2	23 9.30am - 10.30am Elder's Morning Tea *1&2 10.30am - 11.30am MPS RAP *3 11.00am - 1pm Big Mob Cook Up *3	24 10am - 1pm WBTC	25 
5	26	27 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	28 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group *1&2	29 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 4pm – 5.30pm Deadly Youth *1&2	1 MARCH 11am - 1pm Community drop in & Gardening *4	2	3
6	4 	5 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	6 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group *1&2 7pm - 8.30pm Cultural Forum — Plants *1&2	7 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 4pm - 5.30pm Deadly Youth *1&2	8 10am - 2pm KKDO— Westernport catchment	9 9.30am - 12pm Women's weaving *3	10 
7	11 LABOUR DAY Closed	12 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	13 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group *1&2	14 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 4pm - 5.30pm Deadly Youth *1&2	15 10am - 2pm Elder's excursion *1&2 11am - 1pm Community drop in & Gardening *4	16 11am - 1pm 10th Birthday Celebration *4	17
8	18	19 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	20 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group **1&2	21 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 4pm - 5.30pm Deadly Youth *1&2	22 10am—2pm Youth Summit	23	24
9	25 	26 10am - 2pm Men's group *1	27 10am - 12pm Bush Kids Play group *1&2	28 10am - 2pm Women's group *2 NO DEADLY YOUTH PROGRAM TONIGHT	29 GOOD FRIDAY Closed	31 Closed 	31 EASTER SUNDAY Closed

*1.Aboriginal Men & kin *2.Aboriginal Women & kin *3.Aboriginal & non-Indigenous members *4.Open to the public.
Follow Willum Warrain on Facebook for further details <https://www.facebook.com/WillumWarrain/>



A word from the President...

Martu karu winggap, (“Good day friends” in Bunganditj)

Greetings and welcome back, everyone, for another year. As some of you may already know, I've taken over from Jeanette Kaindel who stepped down last year. I'd like to express my gratitude to Jeanette for her outstanding leadership over the past seven years, including the challenging periods before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Speaking of which, it seems like there's a lot going around again.

Firstly, let me introduce myself. My name is Aaron, and I'm a proud Boandik fella. Although I grew up off country, I've found a home and comfort within the Willum Warrain community, even though I head back to my own Country every chance I get. I've been on the Board for five years, serving as Treasurer for the last four. These days, I can be found working for Programmed on their Southeast Water Maintenance contract, allowing me to spend most of my time on the Peninsula.

I've been actively involved in ensuring that Willum Warrain remains a safe place for both our mob and the broader community. During my time as Treasurer, we had to make some tough decisions maximising funding and planning for future growth. However, this year brings exciting developments, as we anticipate the commencement of our new Pun Pun and our new entrance building, now in the final design stages. Also, mid-year will see Willum Warrain take over the final parcel of land in the adjacent leased area allowing us to consolidate and develop our Bush Nursery.

Thank you all for your ongoing support, and I'm looking forward to another successful year together.

Aaron Simmler



“ A vibrant and confident Aboriginal community, encouraging cultural strengthening, promoting health, and providing a safe gathering place for all community members”

- Willum Warrain’s Vision



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 24th February
“Welcome Baby to Country” *1&2
10am - 1pm

Friday 6th March
Cultural Forum *1&2
7pm - 8.30pm

Saturday 9th March
Women's weaving *3
9.30am - 12pm

Friday 15th March
Elder's Excursion *1&2
10am - 2pm

Saturday 16th March
Willum Warrain's 10th
Birthday celebration *4
11am - 1pm

Children are our Elders of tomorrow.

Always safe at Willum Warrain.

