

# OUR CULTURAL DAYS

## ACTIVITY BOOK



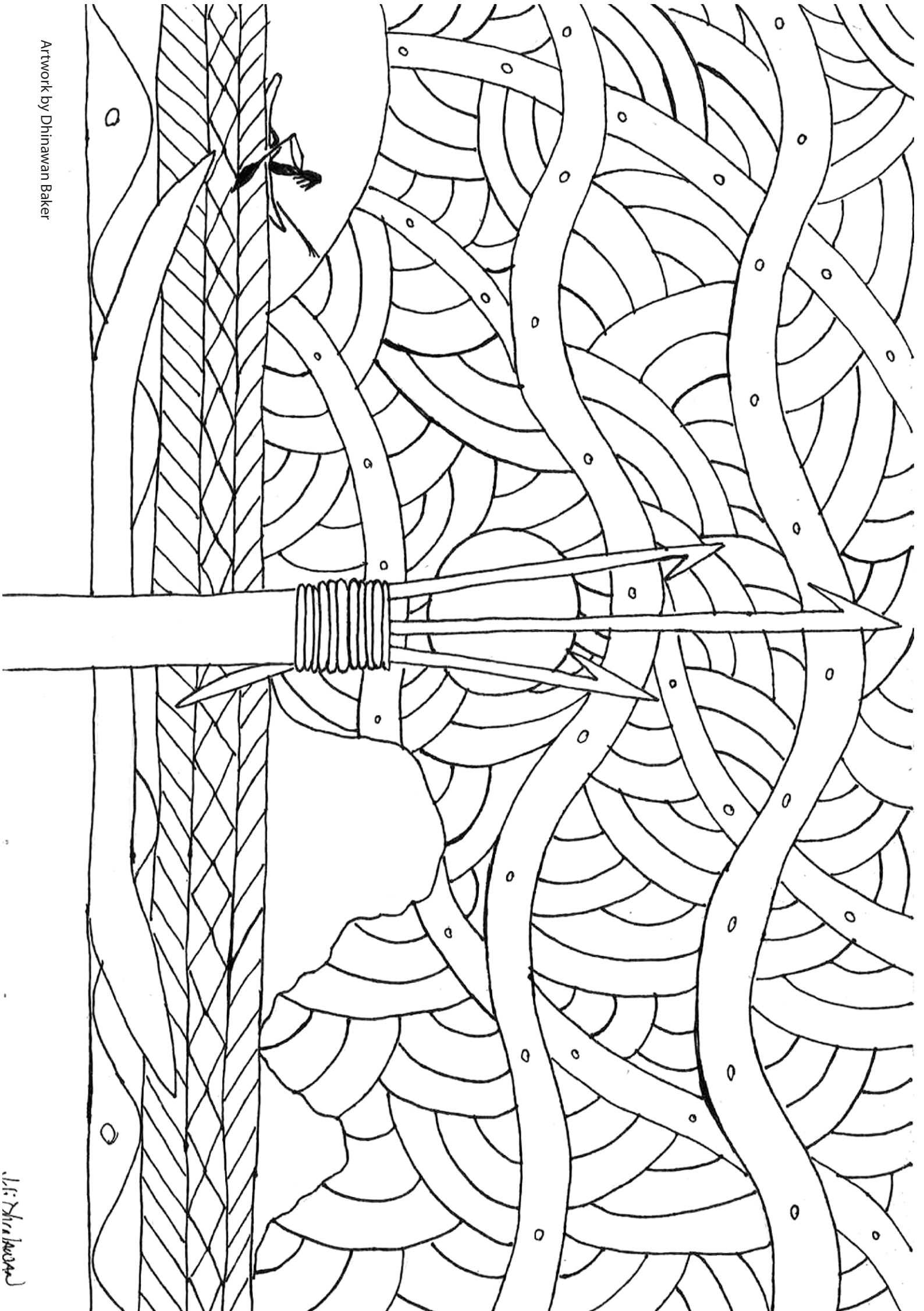




Mi Dhinawan

Artwork by Dhinawan Baker





Artwork by Dhinawan Baker

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# OUR CULTURAL DAYS ACTIVITY BOOK

## **Respect for Bundjalung Country:**

This book was produced on Bundjalung of Byron Bay - Arakwal Country and the project pays respect to the Arakwal Elders past and present.

We also acknowledge and pay respect to the Minjungbal people to the north and the Widjabal people to the west and to the broader Bundjalung peoples.

## **About the Book:**

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Days Activity Booklet was made by Byron Shire Council with representatives of the Bundjalung of Byron Bay Arakwal People and artists from the local Aboriginal community. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Days Activity Booklet was funded by National Reconciliation Week, the Department of Premier and Cabinet and Byron Shire Council to commemorate the 50 years of the 1967 Referendum and 25 years since the Mabo Native Title decision was handed down. This booklet was made in the Byron Shire, New South Wales, Australia in May 2017.

## **Credits:**

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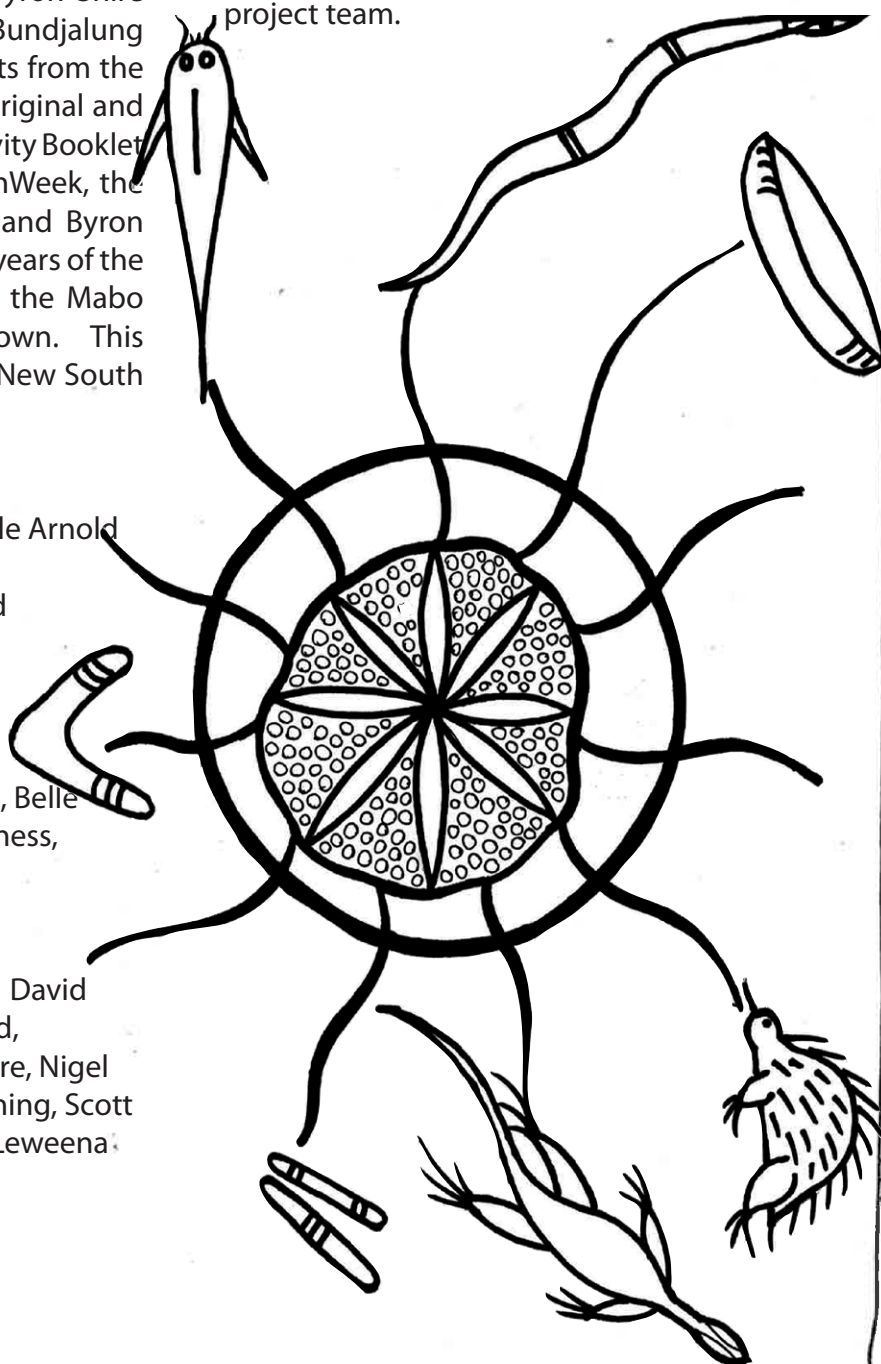
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## **Many Thanks to:**

Sarah Ford, Mark Arnold, Gavin Brown, David Kapeen, Julie Williams, Elizabeth Arnold, Kestrel Arnold Freire, Indira Arnold Freire, Nigel Stewart, Kimbo Dawson, Jennah Browning, Scott Sentence, Bunyrra Culture Collective, Leweeena Willams and Larissa Smyth.

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Artwork by Leanne Hamilton





# Survival Day - Invasion Day

Invasion day is on the 26th of January, to most Australians this day is celebrated as 'Australia day' but for many Aboriginal Australians there is little to celebrate and it is a commemoration of a deep loss. This day reminds our people of the loss of their sovereign rights to their land, loss of family, loss of the right to practice their culture.

On January 26 in 1788 Captain James Cook and the first fleet came to Australia, and the British marked the shores with the British flag under the term of Terra Nullius (Land belonging to no one). For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people it is the day of the first invasion from the British First Fleet and the fleets that followed. Aboriginal people call it 'Invasion Day,' 'Survival Day,' 'Day of Mourning,' or, since 2006, 'Aboriginal Sovereignty Day'.

For many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people the day is one of protest, to bring attention to the continuing and historical acts of genocide by continuing Australian Governments. For many it is a day to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples cultural survival, in spite of the genocide we

have our culture has survived and thrived.

Many Australians are beginning to understand and accept that Australia day is no longer an appropriate day for celebrations and call for a new day which includes all Australians.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people there is continuing call for a Treaty process with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nation. A treaty, between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the Australian government will create an official agreement to secure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people sovereignty and self-determination, the the asserted right to make their own decisions and control their own lives, economy and land, free from the effects of changing governments.. The Australian Government has never negotiated with indigenous peoples for a treaty and Aboriginal activists argue that the genocide from invasion continues today. Treaty is an important part of the journey to healing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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FIRST FLEET  
ABORIGINAL  
TERRA NULLIUS  
RECOGNITION  
TREATY  
SURVIVAL DAY  
FUTURE  
RIGHTS  
TORRES STRAIT  
ISLANDER  
NEW DAY  
LOSS  
NATIONS  
THRIVE  
FLAGS  
HEALING  
PROTEST  
HISTORY  
GENOCIDE





# CAREERS For COUNTRY



Artwork by Rikkara McGuinness





Artwork by Nickolla Clark





# NATIONAL APOLOGY DAY

On the 13th February 2008, more than ten years after the Bringing them home report was tabled, the Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, tabled the motion in parliament apologising to Australia's Indigenous peoples, particularly the Stolen Generations and their families and communities, for laws and policies which had 'inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians'. The motion was supported by opposition and passed through both Houses of Parliament. Many Stolen Generation members were present in the Chamber to hear the Apology and thousands filled the Great Hall of parliament House and flowed out onto the lawns. The apology was broadcasted nationwide, thousands of home viewers watched.

Bringing Them Home is the Australian Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their Families. The report marked a pivotal moment in the controversy that has come to be known as the Stolen Generations. The inquiry was established by the federal Attorney-General, Michael Lavarch, on 11 May 1995. It was in response to work of key Indigenous agencies and communities. They were concerned that the general public's ignorance of the history of forcible removal was hindering the recognition of the needs of its victims and their families and the provision of services.

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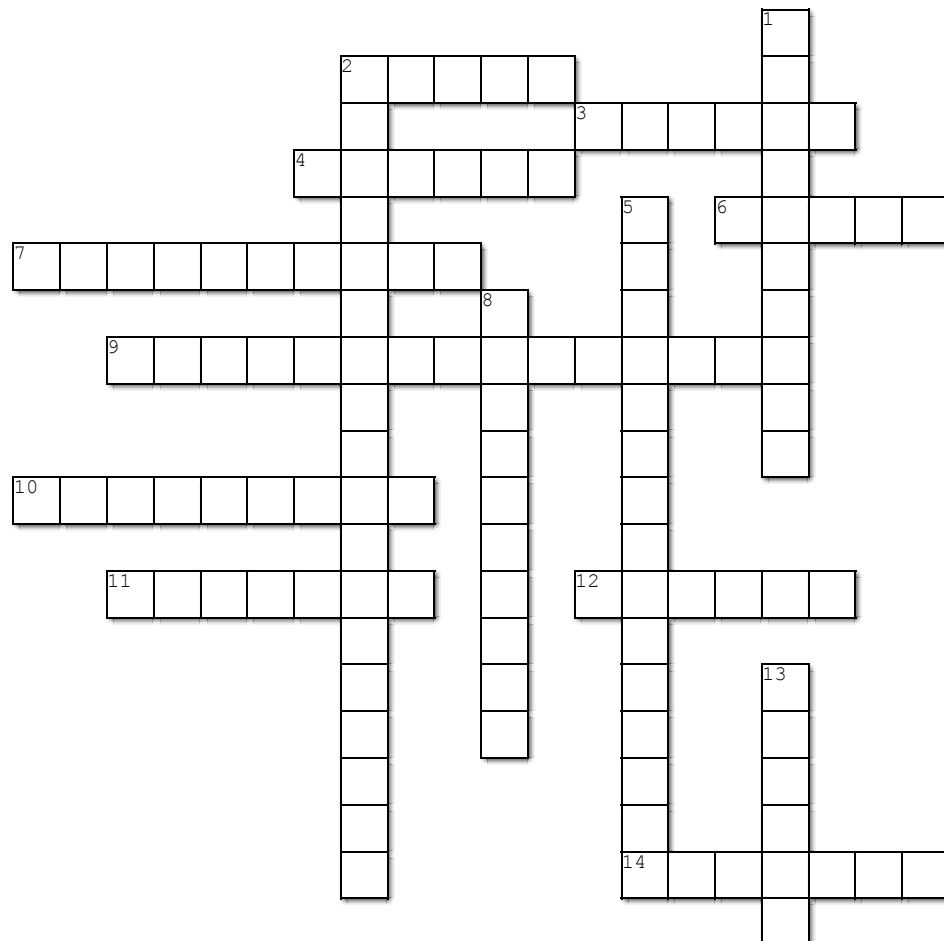
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COUNTRY  
GOVERNMENT  
COMMUNITY  
FUTURE  
KEVIN RUDD  
MISTREATMENT  
STOLEN  
HEALING  
CULTURE  
BRINGING  
BREAKING  
SORRY  
PROUD  
GENERATIONS  
RESPECT  
FAMILY  
GRIEF





# NATIONAL APOLOGY DAY CROSSWORD

Complete the crossword below



## Across

2. Ask for forgiveness
3. To Take Away
4. Successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted upon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
6. Overwhelming sadness
7. Place or name for government
9. Report into Stolen Generations - Inquiry
10. Caused from forced removal of children from families
11. Place we belong
12. Continuing culture in human history
14. Was hoped to be gained through the apology

## Down

1. Who was responsible for the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
2. Forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
5. Attorney General that launched the Bringing them home Report
8. Australian Prime Minister that made the National Apology
13. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were removed from their.....

Created with TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Puzzle Generator](http://TheTeachersCorner.net)





# NATIONAL CLOSE THE GAP DAY

National Close The Gap Day is an annual event that aims to close the health and 17 year-life expectancy gap between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous communities in Australia. The campaign focuses on poverty, lacking education and employment levels, as part of the health issues which continue to have long-lasting impacts on the health in Indigenous communities.

Health and community organisations work with government and businesses groups outreach to all Australian communities aiming to bring attention to the problem of low life expectancy among indigenous groups and ways to solve it.

The Close the Gap campaign was launched in 2006 and achieved enormous amounts of community

support.

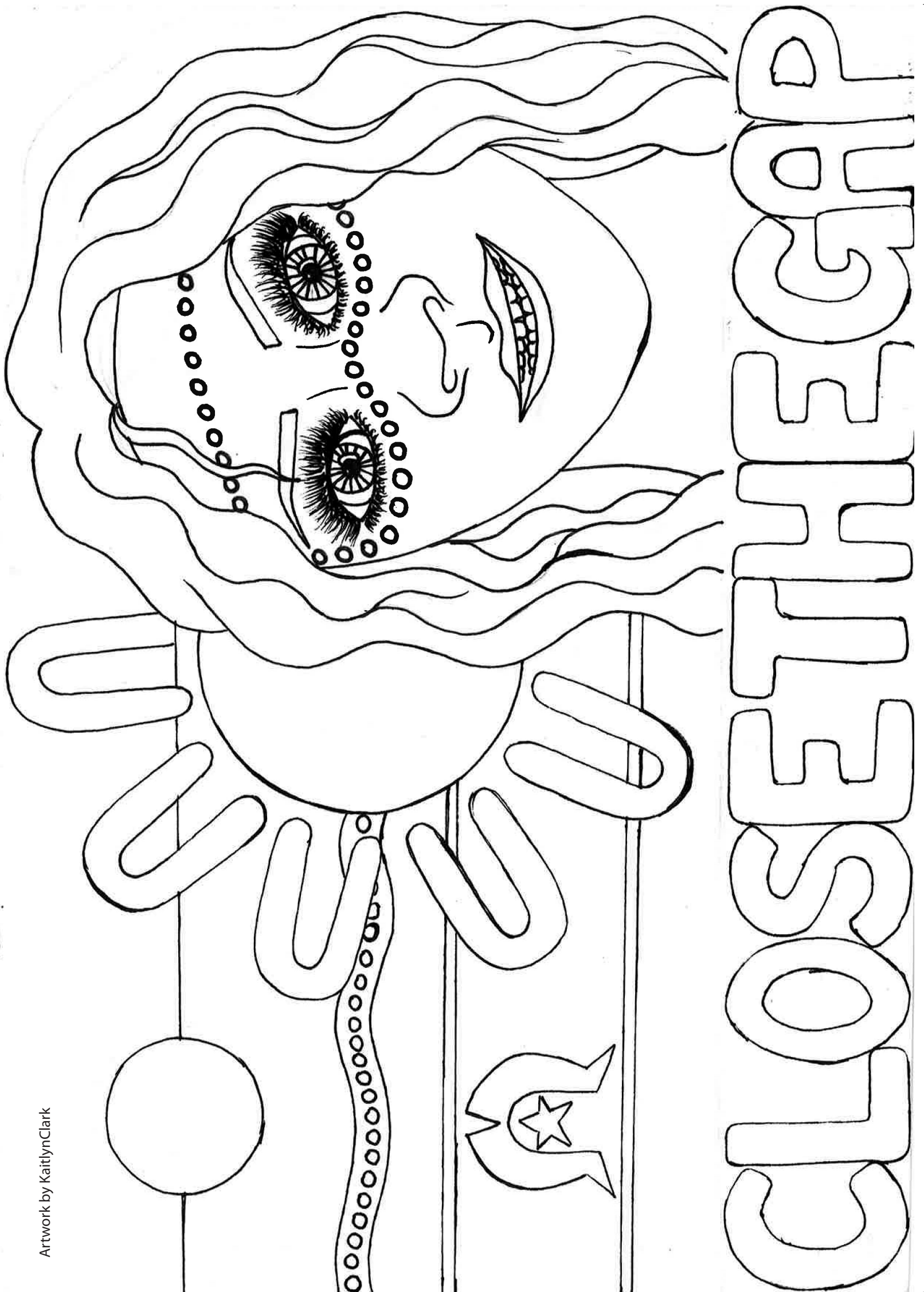
The campaign recognises that tackling low life expectancy is not just a health issue but a human rights issue. To address these issues holistically is the only solution and that involves; encouraging early childhood development, schooling, housing, and employment.



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HUMAN RIGHTS  
FUTURE  
CHOICES  
AWARENESS  
EMPLOYMENT  
HOUSING  
NEEDS  
CLOSE THE GAP  
COMMUNITY  
CHILDHOOD  
CHRONIC  
CHANGE  
CHILDREN  
ENCOURAGE  
EDUCATION  
HEALING  
PROMOTE  
WELLBEING  
HEALTH

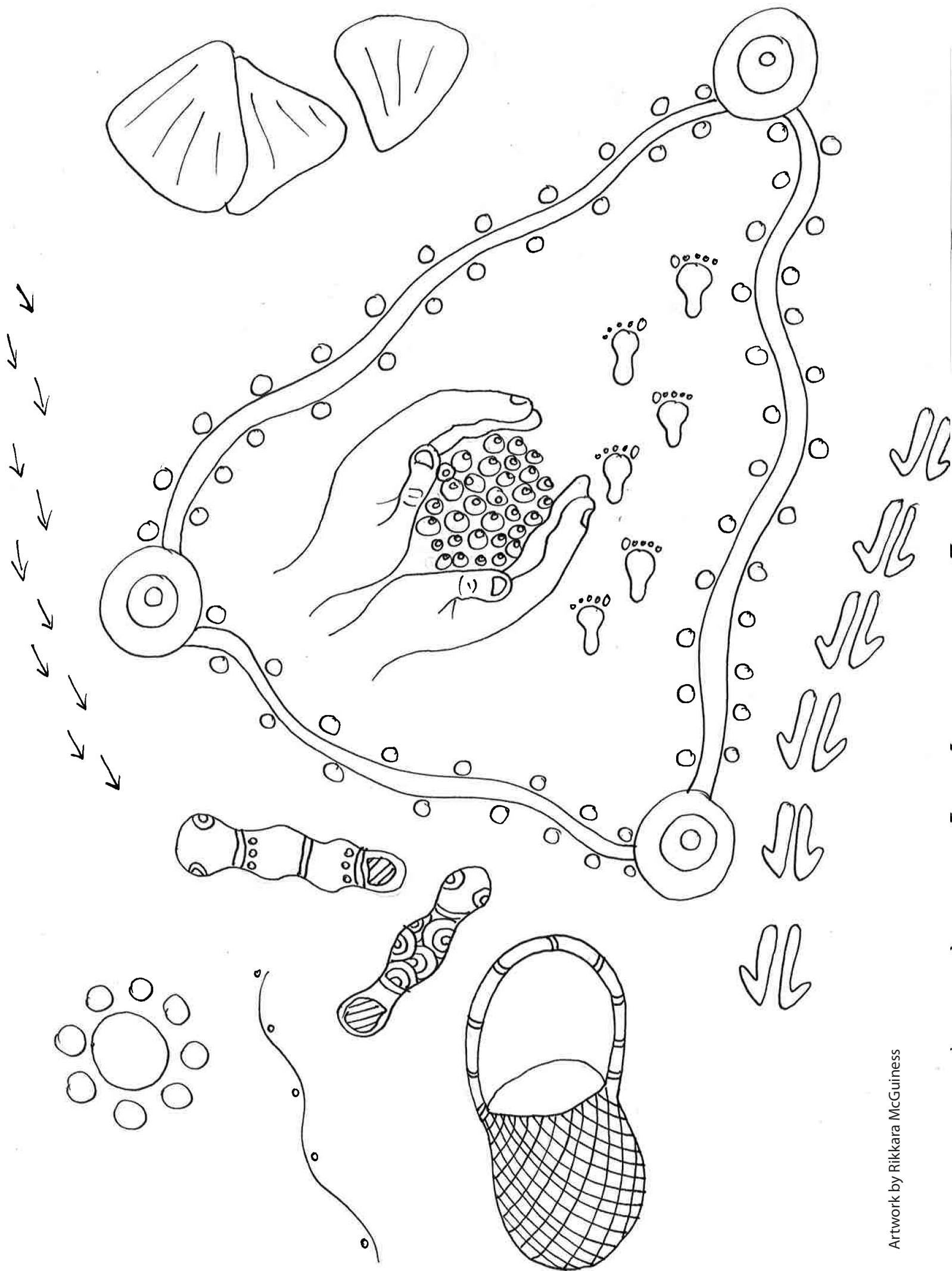




Artwork by KaitlynClark



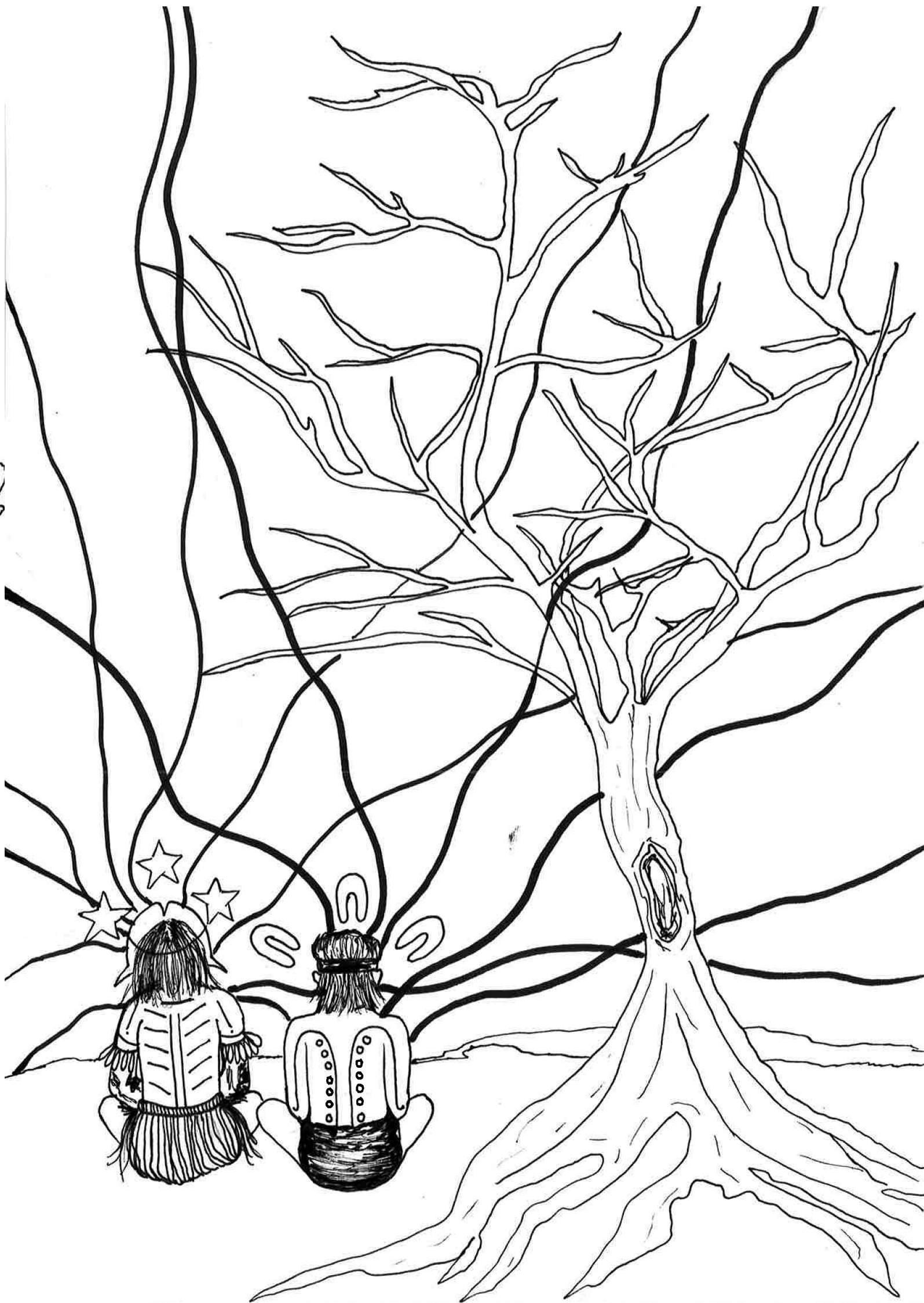




Artwork by Rikkara McGuinness









# NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians reflect on shared histories, contributions and achievements towards reconciliation..

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is an annual event held from the 27th of May til 3rd of June. The weeks is made up of events that celebrate and build respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with other Australians. The week includes recognition for National Sorry Day on the 26th of May.

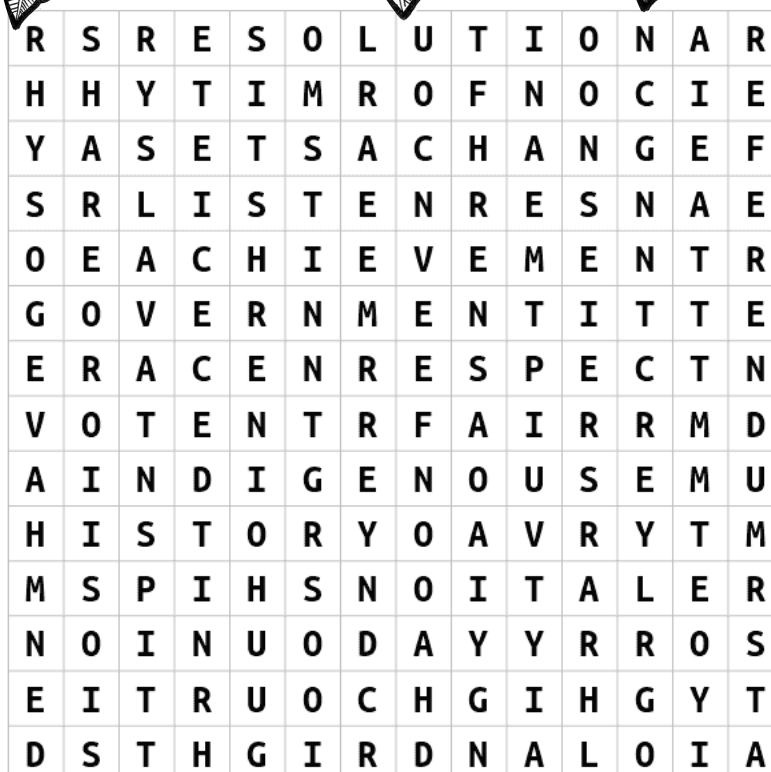
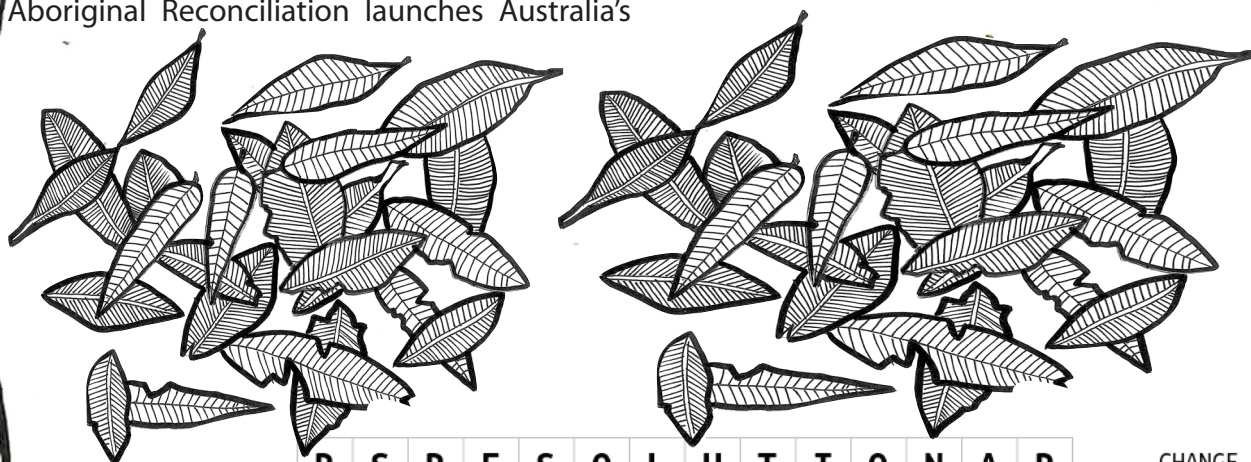
In 1996, following on from the National Week of Prayer for Reconciliation, the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation launches Australia's

first National Reconciliation Week

The week is also framed by two key historical events in Australia's history, which provide strong cultural significance and symbols for reconciliation;

- 27th May 1967 ; the referendum that saw more than 90 per cent of Australians vote yes to give Australian government power to make laws for our people and recognise them in the census.

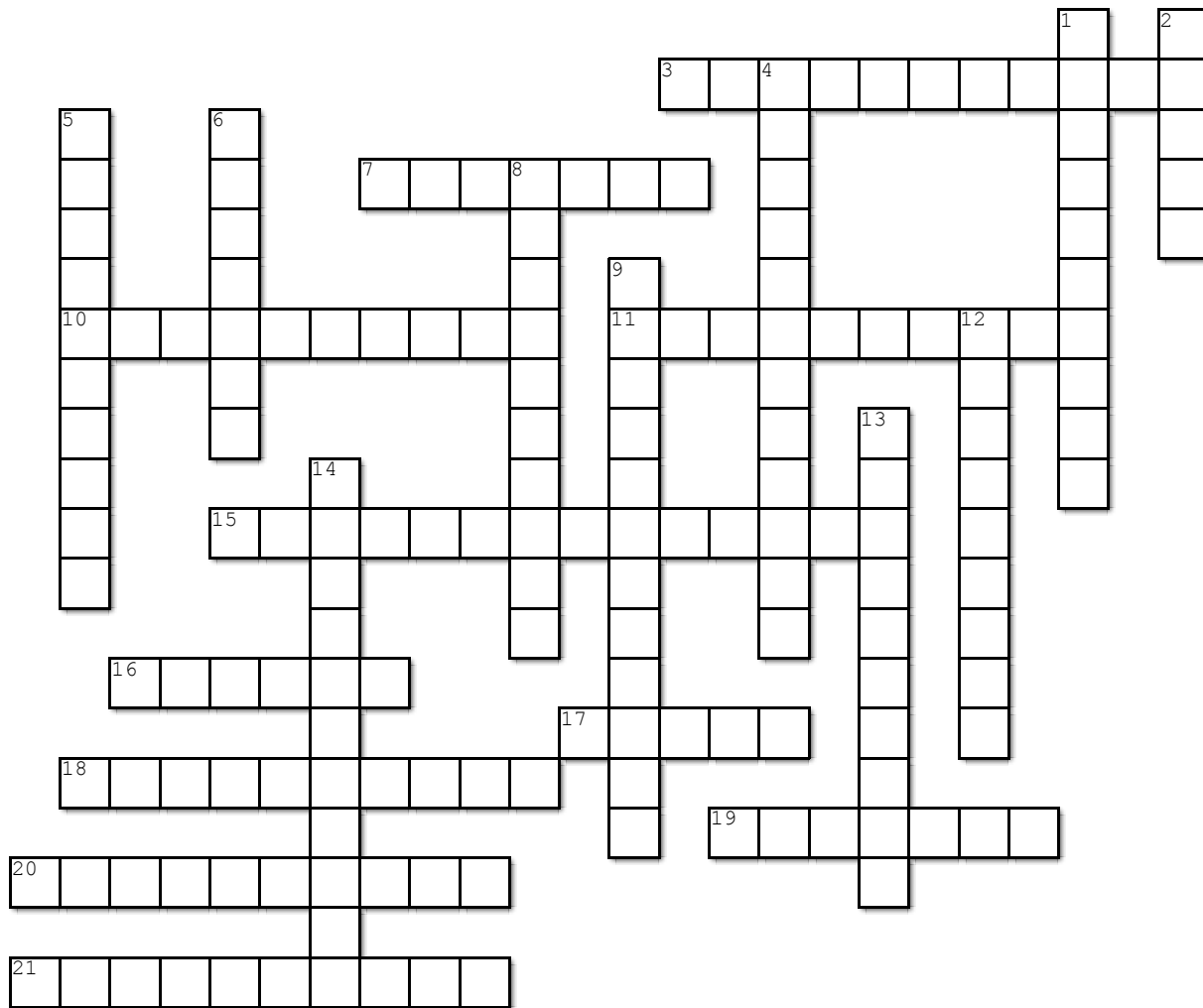
- 3rd of June 1992 ; Australian High Court delivered the Mabo decision, which recognised Indigenous people have a special relationship with the land overturning the legal term of Terra nullius, hence paving the way for land rights known as Native title Claims.



CHANGE  
RELATIONSHIPS  
HIGH COURT  
FAIR  
GOVERNMENT  
HISTORY  
VOTE  
LAND RIGHTS  
RESPECT  
INDIGENOUS  
REFERENDUM  
LISTEN  
RESOLUTION  
CONFORMITY  
DAY  
ACHIEVEMENT  
CARE  
SHARE  
SORRY  
UNION



# NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK CROSSWORD



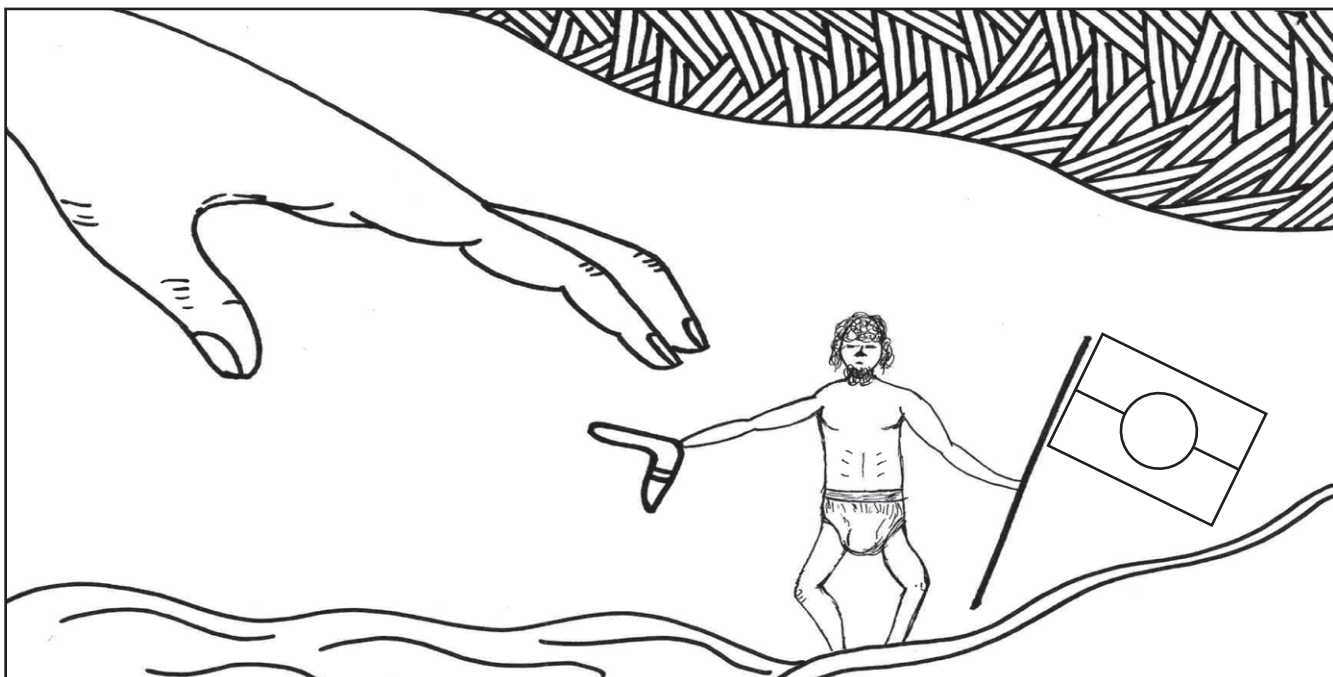
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## Across

- 3. An action of being recognized or acknowledged
- 7. Greet someone in a friendly way
- 10. Group of people with authority to govern
- 11. Influential figure in Australia's land rights movement
- 15. Healing of relations between two people
- 16. Attention to sound; Hear
- 17. To give equal portions with another
- 18. A popular vote during 1967
- 19. Past events over time
- 20. A way which things are dissimilar, contrast
- 21. A decision to solve something

## Down

- 1. A supreme court of justice
- 2. Association formed by people with a common purpose
- 4. A person plays a role in helping something advance
- 5. Originating, native to particular origins
- 6. High regard towards or feeling
- 8. Consistent existence over time
- 9. Bond between people
- 12. An arrangement between two parties
- 13. An act of matching attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors to group norms
- 14. : An act of accomplishing something special



Artwork by Leanne Hamilton



Artwork by Belle Budden





# NATIONAL SORRY DAY

Generations.

National Sorry Day is a day of significance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and particularly the Stolen Generation survivors. 'Sorry Day' was first mentioned as one of the 54 recommendations of the Bringing Them Home report, which was tabled into Parliament on 26 May 1997. This was a result of a two year National Inquiry into the forcible removal of Indigenous children from their families, communities and cultural identity. The following year, 1998, Sydney held the first 'Sorry day' event, which is now commemorated across Australia annually with thousands of people participating in commemorative events to honour the Stolen

The Bringing Them Home report was the result of an inquiry by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission into the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families and communities since the first days of the European occupation of Australia' by governments and missionaries.

National Sorry Day is very important and everyone is encouraged to participate and respect the memorials and commemorative events held around the nation.

## The 1967 REFERENDUM

On 27 May 1967, the Australian Government held a referendum. This was a momentous turning point in Australian history. The 1967 referendum altered the Australian Constitution. More than 90 per cent of Australian voters chose 'Yes' to count Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the census and give the Australian Government the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

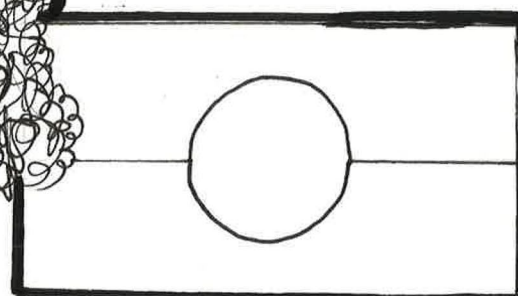
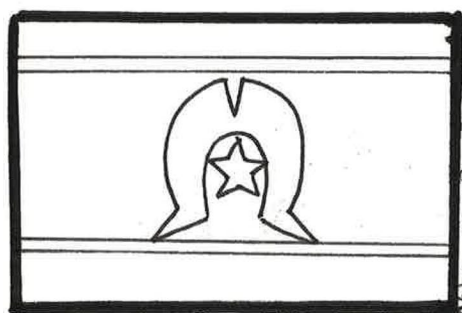
could be involved in the affairs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This meant the government could make specific laws that applied to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples that could assist in addressing inequalities.

This year, 2017 marks the 50 year anniversary of the 1967 Referendum and we celebrate this date as a turning point in the legislative rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Many Indigenous people regard the 1967 Referendum as a symbolic turning point, revealing a widespread desire for Indigenous equality in Australia. Others felt that the Referendum was irrelevant to their lives, having little effect on the daily discrimination they experienced. The referendum opened a door; it allowed the Australian Government to change the Constitution so it

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P	F	I	L	A	W	S	R	A	C	I	S	M	R

COOPERATION  
FIFTY YEARS  
REFERENDUM  
EFFECT  
PARLIAMENT  
NATION  
ACTIVISM  
PEOPLE  
ADDRESS  
ABORIGINAL  
LAWS  
PERCENT  
LEGISLATE  
GOVERNMENT  
RACISM  
NINETY  
MAKE  
CHANGE  
RECONCILE  
VOTE



Artwork by Daniel Hend

# MABO DAY

Eddie Koiki Mabo name is celebrated on this day to recognise the enormous change he created for his people on country, he believed that Australian laws on land ownership were wrong and campaigned to change them.

Also, 2017 marks the 25th anniversary since the Mabo decision in Australian High Court, the changes Mabo made for indigenous people here in Australia has begun a process for traditional owners to have access and rights over their lands and waters.

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CONSULTATION  
DETERMINATION  
CUSTOMS  
SEA  
TRADITIONAL  
HIGH COURT  
PROTECTION  
RIGHTS  
POWER  
NATIONAL  
ISLANDS  
STRAIT  
COUNTRY  
SONGLINES  
ACCESS  
LAWS  
TORRES







# NAIDOC WEEK

NAIDOC stands for National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee.

NAIDOC originated from Aboriginal groups in the 1920s, who set to create awareness in the wider community around the status and treatment of Indigenous Australian's. The original NAIDOC Committee wanted a public holiday for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to celebrate culture.

The weeks celebrations is held on the first Sunday of July to the following Sunday and celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and the contributions of Indigenous Australian's in various fields nationwide.

The week is celebrated not just in the Indigenous communities but also in increasing

numbers of government agencies, schools, local councils and workplaces.

NAIDOC Week is an important week to all Australians but especially for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to practice and celebrate our culture and long history. It is a time for us to come together and share our strength, share culture with the wider community and empower each other through these celebrations.

NAIDOC Week celebrations often involve a showcase of cultural dance, art, craft, language, song, films and other practice. It is a joyful time to celebrate and take pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples culture.

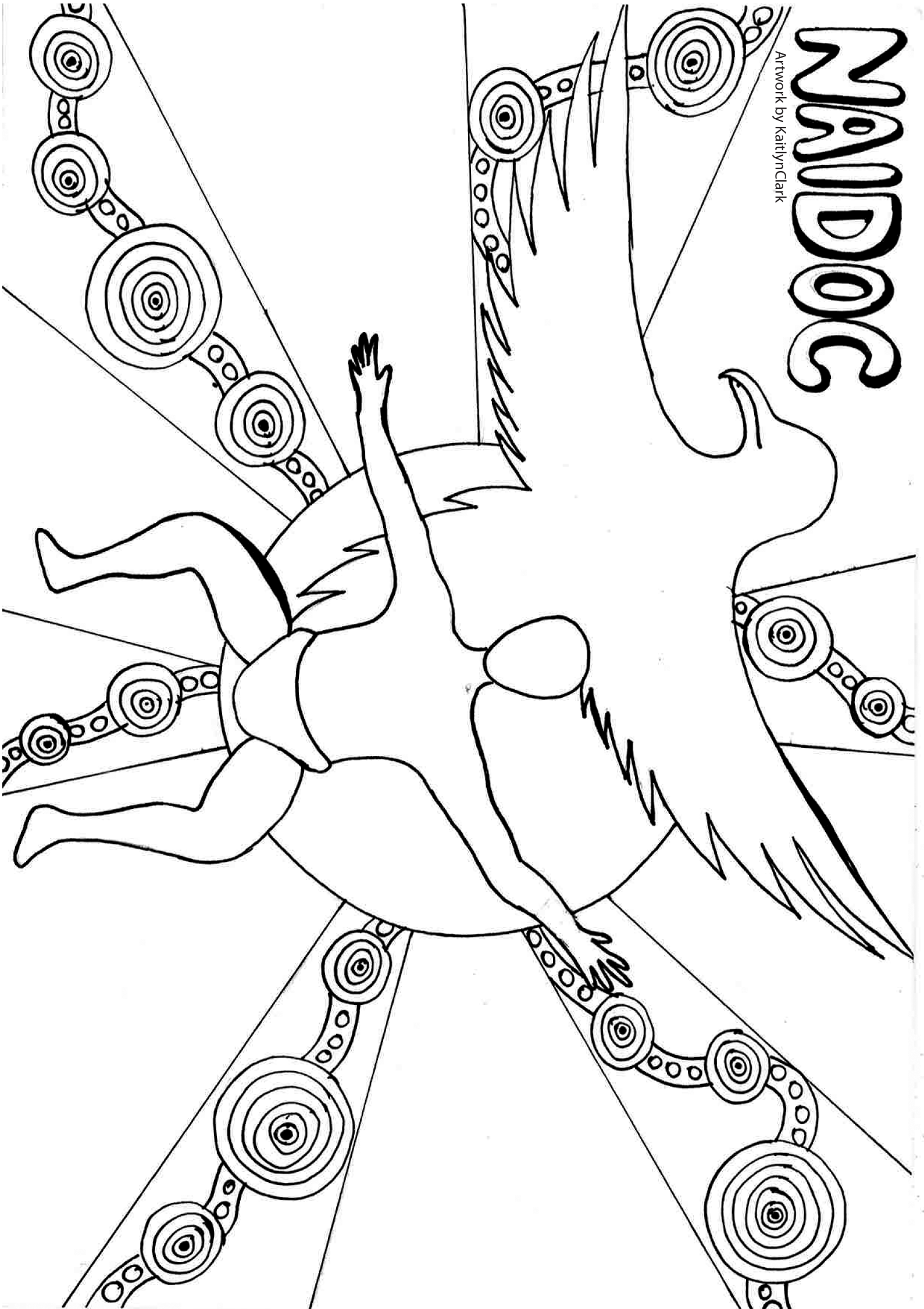
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CONTINUOUS  
ARTWORK  
CHANGE  
SUPPORT  
ACTIVITIES  
COMMUNITY  
RECOGNIZE  
AWARDS  
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NATION

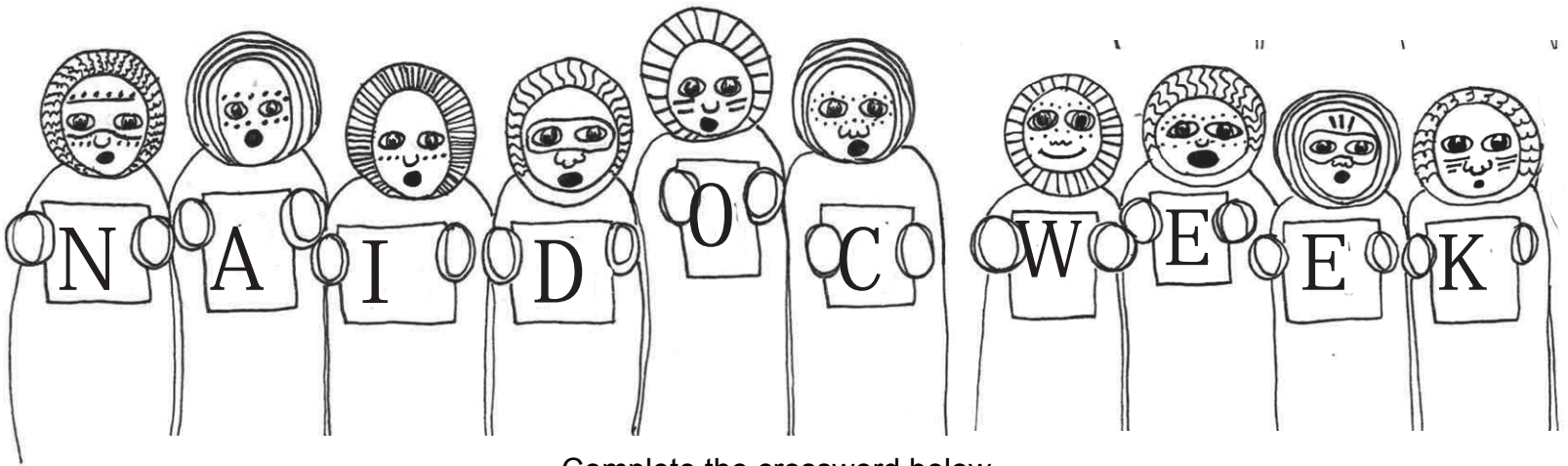


# MAIDOC

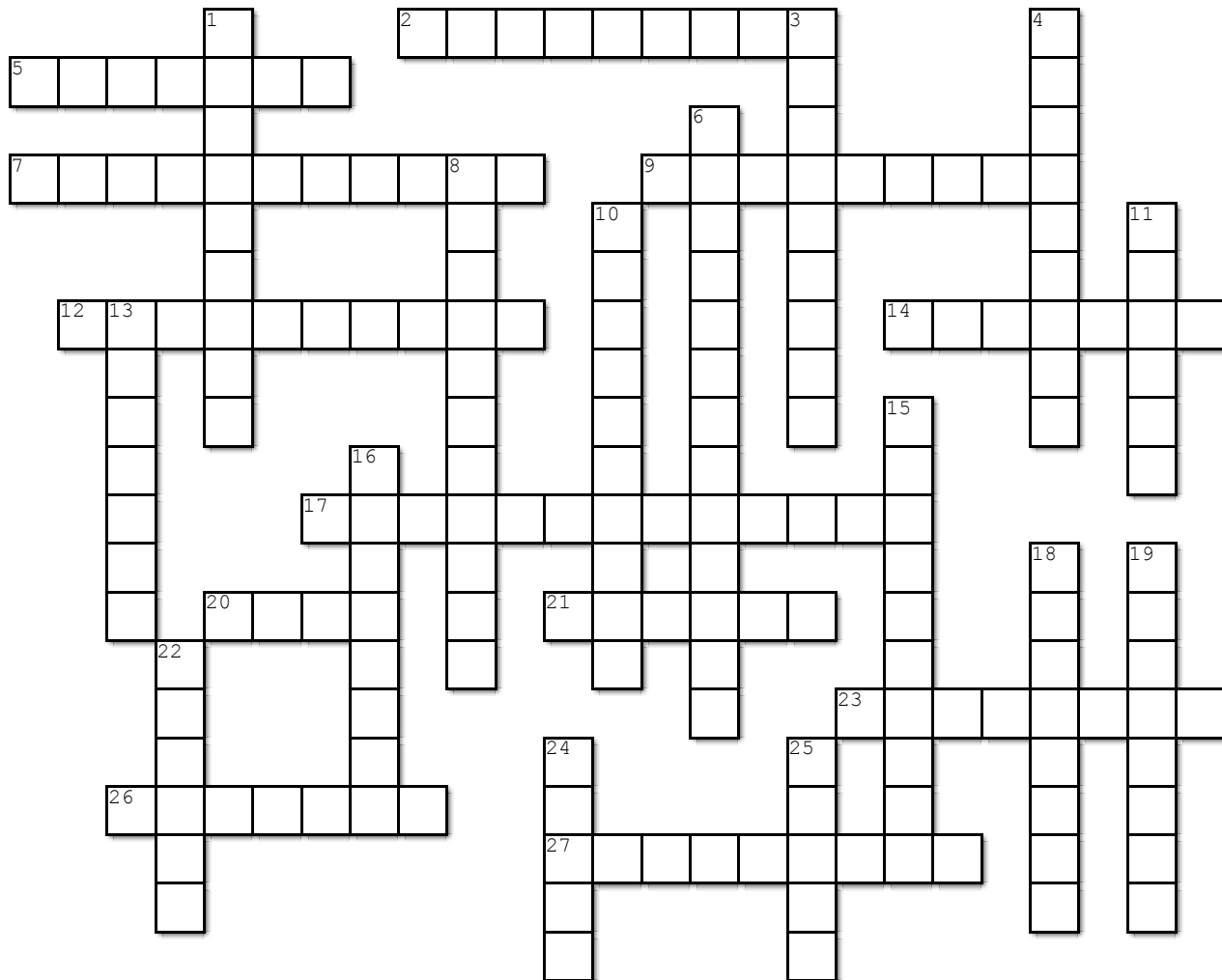
Artwork by KaitlynClark







Complete the crossword below



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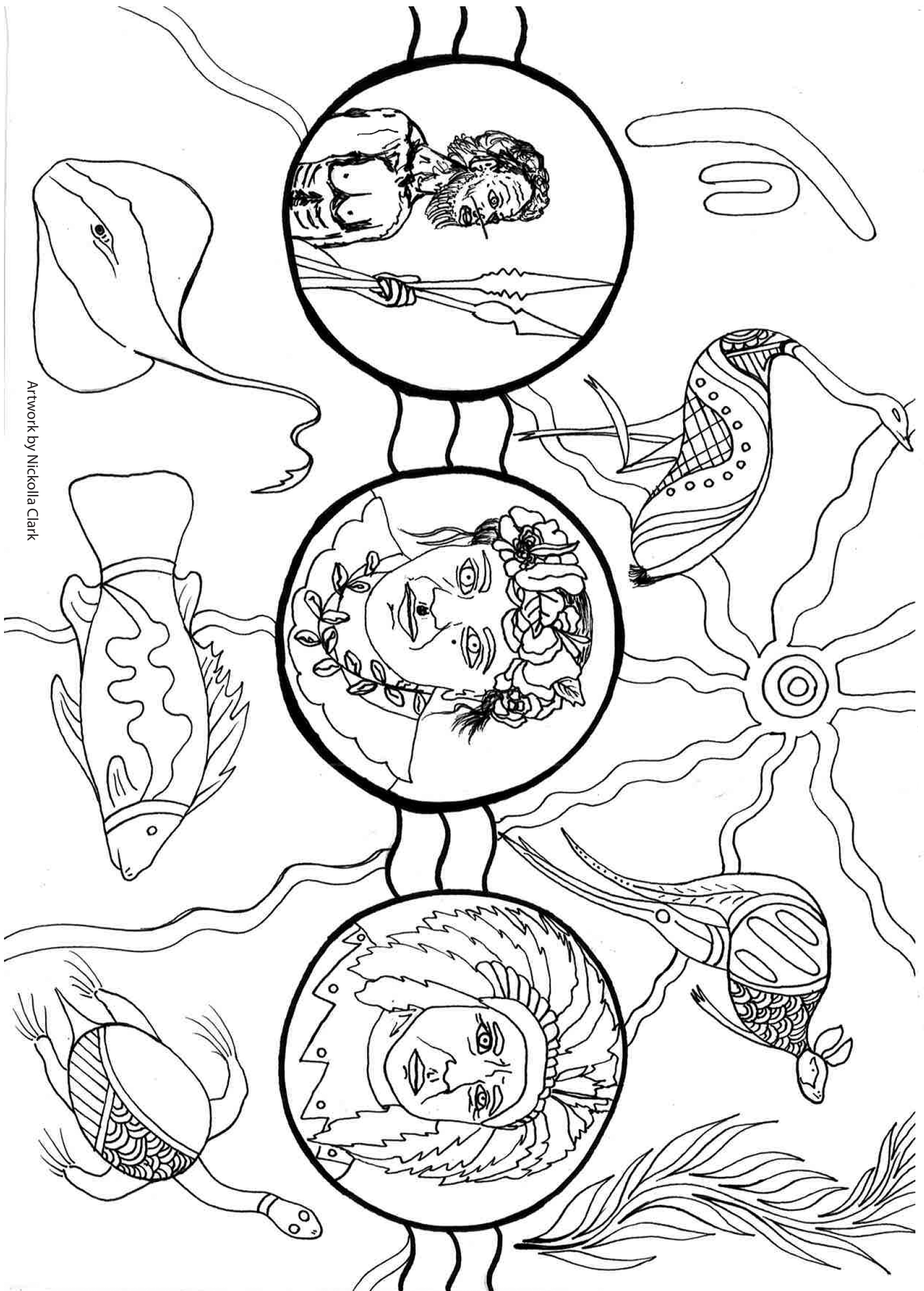
### Across

- 2. Creation Stories
- 5. To guide or help someone
- 7. Commemorate something lost or taken
- 9. Acknowledge one's presence or identify
- 12. Actions, An act of things done in groups
- 14. An improvement in the condition, strength of someone, community or something
- 17. Members collectively taking part in something
- 20. Serenade, songlines
- 21. Synonym for country
- 23. To continue under threat
- 26. Describe an event to someone else, way we teach about the dreamtime
- 27. Concern about and well-informed interest in a particular situation

### Down

- 1. A group of people living in the same place sharing common attitudes
- 3. Give support, confidence or hope to someone
- 4. Variety of cultures, More than one
- 6. Strength of will
- 8. A social gathering for an important / enjoyable event
- 10. Synonym for Indigenous
- 11. Become or make different
- 13. Ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society
- 15. Without end
- 16. Way we speak, Wajung (Dolpin) is in Bundjalung
- 18. Important things from the past that make us who we are
- 19. Showing your artistic, imaginative sense
- 22. Relative social or professional position
- 24. Interlacing strands of material; a cultural practice for baskets
- 25. Waltz or tango, we \_\_\_\_\_ for country





Artwork by Nickolla Clark





## NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY

NAICD is a celebration of Indigenous children and is held on the 4th of August each year. This day opens opportunity for Indigenous youth to showcase and

represent culture and their personal achievement amongst their communities.

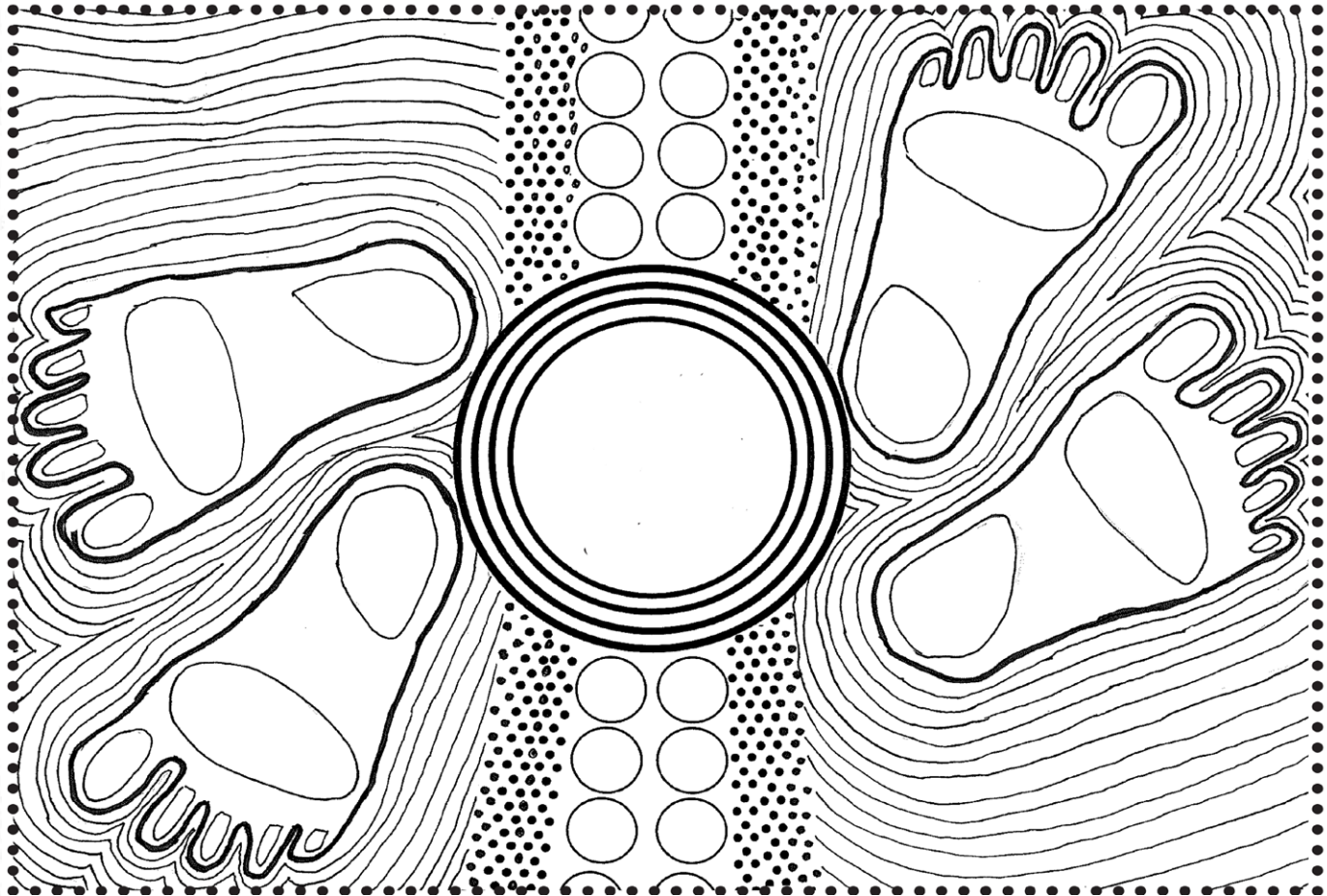
## WAVE HILL WALK OFF

On 23rd of August 1966, Wave Hill Northern Territory, Vincent Lingari and 200 hundred other station hands and their families walked off protesting against equal pay rights for Aboriginal people to their white counterparts. The walk off set the wave for Australia's first Aboriginal land rights movement.

The Gurindji Aboriginal people were claiming that this land was morally theirs because their people "lived here from time immemorial and [their] culture, myths, dreaming and sacred places have been evolved in this land". This was the first claim

for traditional Aboriginal land in Australia.

This act of strike lead from a protest about equal wages into a formal issue of land rights. The event turned heads nationwide as it was broadcasted on television. The strike was backed by non-Indigenous peoples alongside thousand of aboriginal community members, considered one of the most significant moments in Australia's history. Then Prime Minister Gough Whitlam visited the site of the strike and made history with a symbolic gesture of handing over the sand from the site to Vincent Lingari.



Artwork by Belle Budden

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WOLRD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

IDWIP was first proclaimed by United Nations General Assembly in December of 1994, the day is held on August 9th. UNGA set the first World Indigenous decades 1995- 2004 and the second International decade in 2005-2014.

The GA expresses all first nation people of the world and aims with the goal of strengthening international cooperation for solving problems faced by indigenous peoples in areas such as human rights, the environment, development, education, health, economic and social development.





