



## KYOGLLE COUNCIL

# M E D I A R E L E A S E

---

**Date: Wednesday 31 May 2017**

A special flag raising ceremony to celebrate Reconciliation Week and commemorate the anniversaries of the historic 1967 Australian referendum and 1992 Mabo High Court decision will be held at Kyogle tomorrow (Thursday 1 June).

Organised by Kyogle Council in conjunction with the Kyogle Reconciliation Group, the flag raising ceremony will be held in front of the Kyogle Council Chambers at 10.30am for 11am.

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the referendum which recognised Aboriginal people as a part of Australian society and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mabo decision which recognised native title in Australia for the first time.

Kyogle Reconciliation Group member Ruth Haig said the event was aimed at remembering from where Australia had come on the road to reconciliation.

"As the Aboriginal flag is raised, we will be remembering how Bundjulahm (Patsy Nagas), a proud Bundjalung woman and past Kyogle Council Deputy Mayor, who worked with Council and her Kyogle Reconciliation Group to have the flag flying proudly outside the Council Chambers," Mrs Haig said.

"It is 17 years since Patsy worked with the group to make sure that every year the community combines to remember more than 40,000 years of Aboriginal caring for country here in the Kyogle Local Government Area."

Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Danielle Mulholland encouraged everyone in the community to attend this special event.

"The efforts of Patsy Nagas and other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community representatives towards reconciliation represent important milestones in Kyogle's past as well as significant cornerstones for its future," Cr Mulholland said.

"Everyone is invited to the Flag Raising Ceremony which will be followed on Thursday 22 June by a showing of *Mabo: Life of an Island Man* and other cultural activities at the Kyogle Cinema.

"The Council is very appreciative of the funding provided by the Australian Government Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet as part of its Indigenous Advancement Strategy for both of these events and the support provided by the Member of Page, the Hon. Kevin Hogan MP."

Those attending the flag raising ceremony are asked arrive at 10.30am for the ceremony to start at 11am. Light refreshments will be available prior to the event.

**END OF RELEASE**

<b>Authorised by:</b>	Graham Kennett General Manager	<b>For an interview &amp; further information contact:</b>	Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Danielle Mulholland Ph: 0438 931 425
-----------------------	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------