



# Walgett Shire Council

ABN 88 769 076 385

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### RADIO

- ABC Western Plains
- ABC New England
- ABC National
- \*\* 2WEB
- NOW FM/2VM
- Opal FM

### PRINT MEDIA

- \*\* Walgett Spectator
- Mungindi Matters
- Daily Liberal – Dubbo
- Western Magazine
- North West Magazine
- Sydney Morning Herald

### TV

- Prime (Dubbo)
- WIN (Dubbo)
- Southern Cross 10
- Imparja
- NBN

**DATE: 14/06/2022**

**EMBARGO: NIL**

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## **2022 SORRY DAY & RECONCILIATION WEEK PARTICIPATION**

As each year passes and Walgett Shire Council looks forward to stronger relationships and reconciliation across our community and this year's *Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week* programs and events witnessed tremendous community support, participation and involvement.

Walgett Shire Council conducted a Sorry Day Acknowledgment Ceremony on the Council front lawn, with dignitaries, service providers, residents and local school children in attendance to remember and acknowledge what this day means for so many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. The event MC, Mr Joshua Ruttley invited speeches given by Local Elders Cnr Anne Dennis, Aunty Doreen Peters and also Mr. Michael Urquhart (General Manager Walgett Shire Council), followed by a flag raising ceremony and cake cutting.

During Reconciliation Week, Recognition Events were staged in all larger communities across the Shire, at Collarenebri, Lightning Ridge and Walgett, which offered opportunities for our broader community and young people to actively participate in the building, strengthening and reconciliation of all Australians.

Council Youth Centres focused on Reconciliation activities throughout each afternoon session during the week and also held a series of free movie nights and BBQ's, with an average of 70 young people at each of the events, along with Mums and Dads.

A BBQ breakfast / morning tea was held at Walanbaa Dhurruli *Aboriginal Child and Family Centre*, Lightning Ridge, in which Council staff assisted and facilitated a "Remembering & Connecting" event for those present. And the Central School at Collarenebri staged a significant event with school children and community members participating in a day of recognition and acknowledgment.

Walgett Shire Council would like to thank all who attended and participated in these significant community events as we walk hand in hand for a stronger understanding together. A special thank you must be given to our Elders, schools and the local services (such as Mission Australia) who again came on board to unite and strengthen the programs we were able to deliver to the community.

Please contact Walgett Shire Councils Aboriginal Liaison and Community Development Officer Mr Josh Ruttley on [jruttley@walgett.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jruttley@walgett.nsw.gov.au) or 68286134 / Manager Community Development, Mr George McCormick [gmcormick@walgett.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gmcormick@walgett.nsw.gov.au) or 0268286107.

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