



FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM

NPA Environment Centre

07 July

Constitutional Recognition for First Peoples – Are we there yet?

This week at Friday Forum – 07 July: As part of NAIDOC week celebrations, Noosa Parks Association welcomes **Glenn Ferguson** AM when he will outline the progress that Australia has made towards **constitutional recognition for Aboriginal people**.



G. Ferguson

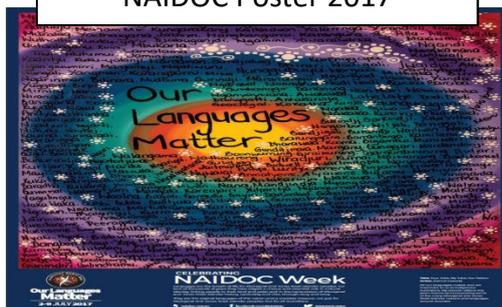
In 2010 Mr Ferguson was appointed by the Prime Minister to the Expert Panel to consider the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the Constitution. The report was delivered in January 2012 and Glenn continues as a member of a Reference Group appointed by the Minister to continue the push for constitutional recognition.

Reconciliation is about unity and respect between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and non-Indigenous Australians. It is about respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and valuing justice and equity for all Australians.

The reconciliation movement is said to have begun with the 1967 referendum in which 90 per cent of Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution which discriminated against Indigenous Australians.

As a result of the referendum, Aboriginal people were to be counted in the census. The referendum established citizenship status and confirmed voting rights for all Indigenous Australians. It was almost ten years later before the power given to the Commonwealth by the 1967 referendum was actually used by the Commonwealth Government under Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, to make laws for the benefit of Aboriginal people.

NAIDOC Poster 2017



All are invited to join the audience at the Environment Centre, 5 Wallace Drive Noosaville on July 07 to hear this interesting discussion. The forum starts at 10.30am, but coffee and a chat are on offer from 10am. Forum ends 12:15pm. For those interested in an interpretive birding walk before the forum, meet Valda in the Environment Centre car park at 8.30am.

All welcome.



Expert panel with Glenn Ferguson
(Image courtesy of NSW State Library)