

NAIDOC Week

National NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year, to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In support and recognition of NAIDOC Week, its meaning, purpose and cultural significance; Cockburn Cement is committed to learning about First Nations cultures and histories and participating in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth.



National Reconciliation Week 2022

On Wednesday, 1 June, our Kwinana and Munster sites recognised Reconciliation Week with a smoking ceremony led by Mervyn (Nick) Abraham from Warrang-Bridil to cleanse the environment and ward off bad spirits from the people and land to pave a pathway for a brighter future.

The smoking ceremony is a significant cultural experience for all to understand one of the many aboriginal ancient and contemporary customs. The ceremony was followed by a team morning tea at Munster and lunch at Kwinana from First Nation's caterer, Gather Foods.



National Reconciliation Week is held every year from 27 May to 3 June and is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements. This year's theme was '*Be Brave. Make Change.*' and calls on individuals, organisations, communities, families and governments to contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia for the benefit of all Australians.

Cockburn Cement is committed to continuing discussions that contribute towards achieving and understanding reconciliation.

BE BRAVE. MAKE CHANGE. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2022

Curtin University's Moorditj Yorga Scholarship Program

Adbri, Cockburn Cement's parent company is proud to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women enter and succeed at Curtin University through the Moorditj Yorga Scholarship Program. Adbri's Deputy Chair and Lead Independent Director, Dr Vanessa Guthrie is a Curtin University Council member who continues to contribute to the success of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mature age women at Curtin University through this Scholarship Program.

The Moorditj Yorga Scholarship Program at Curtin University supports mature-aged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women – who may feel the promise of higher education has passed them by – to enter university, pass their studies and receive mentoring as they transition into their careers.

The program provides holistic support for students to receive an annual stipend for up to five years, individualised, a structured mentoring program in the final year of study and support from a dedicated Moorditj Yorga Coordinator.





"The Moorditj Yorga Scholarship aims to build upon the personal and cultural strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, enabling them to become strong leaders and role models within their own families and communities, and in doing so, to help Australia grow and prosper." - Dr Vanessa Guthrie, Adbri Deputy Chair, Pro Chancellor and Founder, Moorditj Yorga Scholarship Program.

Adbri continues to support the program and recently published its first Reconciliation Action Plan with the assistance of initiatives and key leaders such as those integrated with programs like the Moorditj Yorga Scholarship program.

Meet Aunty Trish - inaugural Moorditj Yorga Coordinator

Aunty Trish Hill-Wall, a Wadandi Elder from the South West of WA and inaugural Moorditj Yorga Coordinator, welcomes all scholarship recipients to the University, providing wrap-around pastoral care, ensuring they are succeeding in their studies, and placing them in bespoke mentoring programs before they graduate. Her object is to make students feel welcome, safe and connected, help overcome cultural barriers and support each yorga on her own path to success.

Attaining her Applied Science degree at Curtin 20 years ago when she was in her late forties, Aunty Trish has overcome great adversity and cultural barriers as a survivor of the Stolen Generations.



"As someone who has walked this path before, I know the cultural hurdles and family obligations holding our people back from achieving a tertiary education. With compassion and guidance, I will help our students manage their studies, achieve a better family life balance and feel connected and supported throughout their undergraduate studies. I hope my lived experience and background in mental health will provide the emotional support our students need to stay the course, succeed in their studies, and change their future in the most meaningful way." - Aunty Trish Hill-Wall, Wadandi Elder and Moorditj Yorga Coordinator.

Information and questions

If you're interested in knowing more about our Community Partnerships or have questions regarding other Cockburn Cement operations, email us at **Community@cockburncement.com.au** or speak to a member of the team, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on **1800 156 826**.

It is important to us that Cockburn Cement information and news are readily available, easy to access, current and informative. We invite you to join the conversation through our Cockburn Cement Community website as we continue working to build a stronger relationship with our local community.

Cockburn Cement Community

