



Quaker Silent Vigil

Supporting

Justice for the First Peoples of Australia

"We took the traditional lands and smashed the traditional way of life. We brought the diseases. The alcohol. We committed the murders. We took the children from their mothers. We practised .. exclusion."

(from Paul Keating's Redfern speech, 1992)

- This Vigil acknowledges the First Peoples of Australia on whose land we live.
- We wish to support their ongoing struggle for justice.
- We recognize with respect the Elders, whose ancient knowledge has shaped profound and distinctive cultures.
- We respect the diversity of Aboriginal/Islander leadership and expertise in this country.
- We listen to stories of the stolen generations and their continuing pain, grief and trauma, and acknowledge the Apology as a first step in bringing restorative justice with dignity and healing for us all.
- We support First Nations peoples in their endeavours to gain recognized sovereignty and treaties that include all rights in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- We believe that only through a reconciliation which celebrates diversity and demands justice can we live in mutual respect, knowing we are all one in spirit.

We Invite you to pause now, or to join this vigil at anytime.

Each Monday 12-1pm Old GPO Steps, Bourke Street

Groups working in this area

Reconciliation Victoria

www.reconciliationvic.org.au

Ph: 9016 0657

ANTaR (Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation)

www.antarvictoria.org.au

Ph: 9419 3613

Indigenous Social Justice Association – Melbourne Support Group

PO Box 266, West Brunswick Vic. 3055

Ph: 9388 0062

Koorie Heritage Trust

The Yarra Building, Federation Square, Melb.

Ph: 8622 2600

‘concerned Australians’

www.concernedaustralians.com.au

We understand that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia prefer to be recognized as the First Peoples or First Nations of Australia.

The Vigil is conducted on land of the Yarra Yarra, Wurundjeri and Boonwurrung peoples, country that gives them physical and spiritual identity and is filled with the spirit presence of their ancestors.

Quakers / The Religious Society of Friends

www.quakers.org.au