



**PRIDE IN OUR HISTORY**

# **Celebrating Aboriginal People**



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Aboriginal People

Acknowledgment of country. We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians whose ancestral lands we live and work upon and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and respect their deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to Country. We also pay our respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their nations in South Australia, as well as those across Australia



# Pride in Our History

Our state and our continent are home to the oldest living culture on the planet with tens of thousands of years - and thousands of generations - of strong and resilient culture and connection to country.

Australia's unique history is something that we can all take great pride in but, in years gone by, the ancient and proud people of this nation have not been recognised as they should.

It's time that we properly acknowledge and recognise our Aboriginal history. The statues and monuments at the centre of our towns and cities are almost exclusively about the history of those who colonised Australia. They ignore one of the greatest treasures in the world - the oldest living culture on our planet.

It's time for our statues and monuments to celebrate those whose history dates from tens of thousands of years in the past and lives on today. Aboriginal history and heritage are often associated with remote areas but all of our towns and cities are built on the traditional lands and homes of Aboriginal people.

Development over the past two centuries has destroyed much of the natural heritage in our urban areas and harsh laws sought to break Aboriginal people's connection with culture and country. We can change this one step at a time.

South Australian Labor has already committed to a state-based implementation of the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* that includes Voice, Treaty and Truth.

A key part of truth is understanding and recognising our history. Statues and monuments that recognise great South Australian Aboriginal leaders and heroes will help current and future generations to understand the value and contribution of our Aboriginal community.

It's time that leaders like David Unaipon, Lowitja O'Donoghue, Yami Lester, Gladys Elphick and many others were recognised for their outstanding contributions.

It's time for young and emerging Aboriginal leaders to know that in, decades and centuries to come, future generations will walk past their legacy and likeness and remember them.

**The  
Guardian**

## **Indigenous leaders welcome SA Labor's vow to take Uluru statement to polls**

**Exclusive: Peter Malinauskas says party will establish  
a voice to parliament if it wins next election**

Saturday 6 July, 2019



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### **Lowitja O'Donoghue**

Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue is one of the most recognised Aboriginal leaders in Australia.

She became the first Aboriginal nurse in South Australia after initially being rejected because she was Aboriginal.

Lowitja was the inaugural chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), Australian of the Year in 1983 and the first Aboriginal person to ever address the United Nations General Assembly.

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## A Malinauskas Labor Government will:

- ✓ Commit \$1 million to the design and delivery of new statues and monuments.
- ✓ Consult with South Australians to identify the first six Aboriginal leaders to be commemorated in the first term of a Malinauskas Labor government.
- ✓ Work with local councils on co-funding and finding prominent homes for these new artworks.
- ✓ Develop online virtual histories about each subject to be included on the Premier's website.
- ✓ Seek ideas for further monuments and statues to be delivered in the second term of a Malinauskas Labor government.



**Peter Malinauskas MP**

SA Labor Leader



**Hon Kyam Maher MLC**

Shadow Minister for  
Aboriginal Affairs



## David Unaipon

David Unaipon was a prolific preacher, inventor and advocate for Aboriginal education who, for many years, appeared on Australia's \$50 note.

David was granted provisional patents on 19 inventions including one that became the basis of modern shearing machines.

He was born in 1872 and died in 1967 shortly before the historic referendum, during which time he was widely published and provided evidence to multiple Royal Commissions into Aboriginal people.

He advocated for Commonwealth involvement in Aboriginal Affairs and legal independence for Aboriginal people decades before the 1967 referendum and modern land rights legislation.

## Yami Lester

Yami Lester lived at Wallatina at the time of the Maralinga bomb tests and eventually lost vision in both his eyes.

Yami successfully advocated for clean up and compensation after the Maralinga atomic tests.

Yami's advocacy was instrumental in the development of the Pitjantjatjara Land Rights Act and negotiations surrounding Uluru's land lease.



## Gladys Elphick

Aunty Gladys Elphick was active in Aboriginal advocacy from the 1940s and became the founding president of the Council of Aboriginal Women of South Australia in the 1960s – an organisation that campaigned for the Yes vote in the 1967 referendum.

She was a member of the South Australian Aboriginal Affairs Board and developed programs that led to the establishment of the College of Aboriginal Education.

A highly respected elder, she was named Aboriginal South Australian of the Year in 1984.



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