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MEDIA RELEASE



## **A fresh look at reconciliation in time for National Reconciliation Week**

Two of Melbourne's leading cultural institutions have joined forces to offer a fresh look at reconciliation in the lead up to National Reconciliation Week.

RBG Melbourne and Shrine of Remembrance are running a one-day experience on Friday 23 May for people to discover how Indigenous people have been contributing to Victoria's history in many different ways.

Beginning at the Shrine of Remembrance at 11am, participants will meet Ian Hamm, Deputy Director of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, who will share some of the history of Indigenous service from the First World War through to modern day conflicts. There is a particular focus on stories about the Lovett Family and Captain Reg Saunders - the Australian Army's first Aboriginal officer.

Participants will then cross the road to RBG Melbourne to join Trevor Gallagher in the ever-popular Aboriginal Heritage Walk in the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne.

**Spirit – Connection – Land** tells the story of the Royal Botanic Gardens through Indigenous eyes. The Gardens was a traditional camping and meeting place for the local custodians of the area – the Boonerwurrung and Woiwurrung people. Trevor Gallagher, the Gardens' Indigenous guide, will bring this history to life, as well as share his knowledge of local plant lore and Indigenous culture. .

**When:** Friday 23 May  
**Time:** 11am – 2pm  
**Where:** Meet at the Visitor Centre, the Shrine of Remembrance, Birdwood Avenue.  
**Cost:** Gold coin donation (includes refreshments) at the Shrine;  
**Spirit – Connection – Land** - \$18 adults; \$14 concession and \$9 children.  
**Bookings:** Shrine of Remembrance: 03 9661 8107 or [programs@shrine.org.au](mailto:programs@shrine.org.au)  
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne: (03) 9252 2429

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