

# CHP events calendar 2020

## Important weeks and days



Original information provided by [our community website](#) and other organisations.  
If there is an event you would like to appear on this list, please email [lucy@chp.org.au](mailto:lucy@chp.org.au).

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### January

#### 26 January

##### [Survival Day](#)

An important opportunity to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' survival as the longest continuing culture on earth within the story of the modern Australian nation. The day serves to acknowledge the past, present, and the future of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

### February

#### 13 February

##### [Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations](#)

The Anniversary of the 2008 Apology delivered by Kevin Rudd to the people of the Stolen Generations, acknowledging the suffering of Indigenous families under the Commonwealth, state and territory Aboriginal protection and welfare laws and policies.

#### 20 February

##### [World Day of Social Justice](#)

Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous

coexistence within and among nations. The United Nations World Day of Social Justice supports the promotion of social justice and the removal of barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, or disability.

### March

#### 8 March

##### [International Women's Day](#)

The United Nations International Women's Day is a day to celebrate the contribution and achievements of all women. It is an opportunity to remember the barriers that women have broken through, and the accomplishments they have made despite barriers.

#### 19 March

##### [National Close the Gap Day](#)

National Close the Gap Day aims to raise awareness of the importance of closing the gaps in health, educational and life expectancy that exist between the Indigenous and the non-Indigenous communities in Australia.

## 21 March

### [Harmony Day](#)

Organised by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, Harmony Day encourages Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. The day is also the United Nation's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Harmony Day is managed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) and gives people the opportunity to celebrate what makes each Australian unique and share what we have in common.

## 29 March

### [Neighbour Day](#)

Neighbour Day is Australia's annual celebration of community held on the last Sunday in March every year. Its aim is to encourage closer, friendlier relationships between neighbours and to strengthen communities. The annual theme for Neighbour Day 2020 is social connection, focusing on the importance of belonging.

## April

### 3–12 April

#### [Victorian Youth Week](#)

Formerly known as National Youth Week, Victorian Youth Week is a week-long celebration of young people (12 to 25), encouraging youths to share ideas, attend events, discuss youth issues, showcase their talents, and have a bit of fun.

### Date TBC

#### [Youth Homelessness Matters Day \(YHMD\)](#)

Youth Homelessness Matters Day aims to raise awareness and public

discussion about youth homelessness so that we can develop sustainable and innovative solutions for not only supporting the needs of homeless youth, but supporting the dreams of homeless youth. Organised by the National Youth Coalition for Housing.

## May

### 12 May

#### [Federal Budget](#)

The Australian Government will deliver the 2020–21 Federal Budget.

### Date TBC

#### [Victorian State Budget](#)

The Victorian State Government will deliver the 2020-21 State Budget.

### 15 May

#### [International Day of Families](#)

The United Nations International Day of Families is an opportunity to raise awareness of issues relating to families in the international community.

### 17 May

#### [International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia](#)

IDAHOBIT was created in 2004 to draw the attention of policymakers, opinion leaders, social movements, the public and the media to the violence and discrimination experienced by LGBTIQ people internationally. It is one of the most important dates for LGBTIQ communities to mobilise on a worldwide scale.

**18–24 May**

[National Volunteer Week](#)

National Volunteer Week (NVW) by Volunteering Australia is the largest celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia, and provides an opportunity to highlight the role of volunteers in our communities and to say thank you to the more than 6 million Australians who volunteer.

**26 May**

[National Sorry Day](#)

National Sorry Day is an Australia-wide observance. This day gives people the chance to come together and share the steps towards healing for the Stolen Generations, their families and communities. Stolen generations refer to Indigenous Australians who were forcibly removed from their families and communities.

**27 May**

[Anniversary of the 1967 Referendum](#)

A day marking the anniversary of the national 1967 Referendum, which saw an overwhelming majority of voters electing to amend clauses of the Australian Constitution concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The referendum was the culmination of a long struggle for equality before the law.

**27 May – 3 June**

[National Reconciliation Week](#)

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

## June

**3 June**

[Mabo Day](#)

The anniversary of the 1992 Mabo judgement, which saw the High Court recognise native title and acknowledge the rights and connection between land, identity, and continuity of family and community for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

**14–20 June**

[Refugee Week](#)

Organised by The Refugee Council of Australia, Refugee Week is used to inform the public about refugees and celebrate positive contributions made by refugees to Australian society.

**20 June**

[World Refugee Day](#)

On World Refugee Day, the United Nations commemorates the strength, courage and perseverance of millions of refugees, while raising awareness of the difficulty of their lived experiences.

## July

**1 July**

[Coming of the Light Festival](#)

This festival celebrates the adoption of Christianity through Torres Strait Island communities during the late nineteenth century. Religious and cultural ceremonies across Torres Strait and mainland Australia are held annually.

**5–12 July**

[NAIDOC Week](#)

NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities but by Australians from all walks of life. The theme for 2020 is Always Was, Always Will Be.

**11 July**

[World Population Day](#)

The United Nations World Population Day seeks to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues and to remind us that we need to look after each other and the planet we live on.

## August

**The date of Equal Pay Day changes annually to reflect the number of additional days worked by women to achieve pay parity with men.**

[Equal Pay Day](#)

Equal Pay Day is an important reminder of the continuing barriers women face in accessing the same opportunities and rewards as men in Australian workplaces.

**2–8 August**

[Homelessness Week](#)

From Homelessness Australia and Council to Homeless Persons, Homelessness Week is an annual awareness raising week to highlight the over 116,000 Australians who are homeless on any given night. Homelessness Australia provides information sheets and resources to support events all around Australia.

**4 August**

[National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day](#)

Children's Day is a national day to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, giving all Australian the opportunity to show their support and learn about the crucial impact that culture, family, and community play in the life of every child.

**9 August**

[International Day of the World's Indigenous People](#)

Led by the United Nations, this is a day used to celebrate and recognise the stories, cultures and unique identities of Indigenous peoples around the world.

**12 August**

[International Youth Day](#)

The United Nations International Youth Day is dedicated to celebrating young people's contributions to conflict prevention and transformation as well as inclusion, social justice, and sustainable peace. It's a reminder that investment in the world's youth will provide a better future for all.

**Date TBC**

[Wear it Purple Day](#)

Wear it Purple Day is an annual LGBTIQ+ awareness day. Supporters wear purple to celebrate diversity and young people from the LGBTIQ+ community. Businesses, councils, schools, community groups and clubs can participate by wearing purple and hosting events.

## September

### 2 September

#### [Indigenous Literacy Day](#)

Indigenous Literacy Day is a national celebration of Indigenous culture, stories, language and literacy. Attention is focused on the disadvantages experienced in remote communities, encouraging the rest of Australia to raise funds and advocate for more equal access to literacy resources for remote communities.

### 10 September

#### [World Suicide Prevention Day](#)

World Suicide Prevention Day is about bringing together communities, researchers, practitioners and politicians, clinicians and those in government, individuals with lived experience and those bereaved by suicide, to demonstrate a commitment to reducing the incidence of suicide in Australia and to share information about ways to effectively take action as individuals and a community.

### 10 September

#### [R U OK? Day](#)

R U OK? Day is an annual national day of action that aims to get Australians, right across the entire spectrum of society, connecting with friends and loved ones, by reaching out to anyone doing it tough and simply asking: "Are you ok?" talking about suicide with someone at risk actually reduces the chances of them taking their life. It is the one thing we can all do to make a real difference.

## October

### 1 October

#### [International Day of Older Persons](#)

The United Nations International Day of Older Persons is a celebration of the older people in all societies, and a reminder to continue developing a society for all ages.

### 5 October

#### [World Habitat Day](#)

The United Nations has designated the first Monday of October of every year as World Habitat Day. The purpose of World Habitat Day is to reflect on the state of our towns and cities, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter. It is also intended to remind the world that we all have the power and the responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns.

### 5 October

#### [International Tenants' Day](#)

The Council of the International Union of Tenants marks this day to amplify awareness of housing and tenancy issues. This includes rights for tenants, affordable rental, and tenant participation in all matters related to housing. The day helps to highlight the universality of tenancy and promote awareness in the community.

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to remind the world that we all have the power and the responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns.

#### **4–10 October**

##### [Mental Health Week](#)

Mental Health Week is an annual national awareness event held in October every year. The aim is to raise awareness of the importance of mental health and wellbeing in the wider community, to increase community awareness and education about mental health issues and to encourage participation in life enhancing lifestyles.

#### **10 October**

##### [World Homeless Day](#)

The concept of 'World Homeless Day' emerged from discussions between people working to respond to homelessness from various parts of the world. The purpose of World Homeless Day is to draw attention to homeless people's needs locally and provide opportunities for the community to get involved in responding to homelessness.

#### **10 October**

##### [World Mental Health Day](#)

The United Nations World Mental Health Day aims to raise public awareness of mental health issues, and increase understanding of the strain they can place on the individual, their families, friends and communities.

#### **11–17 October**

##### [Anti-Poverty Week](#)

Anti-Poverty Week aims to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and

hardship around the world and in Australia; and to encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems, including action by individuals, communities, organisations and governments.

#### **17 October**

##### [International Day for the Eradication of Poverty](#)

The United Nations developed this day to promote awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution in all countries, particularly in developing countries - a need that has become a development priority.

#### **24 October–1 November**

##### [Children's Week](#)

Organised by Council of Australia, Children's Week is an annual event celebrated in Australia during the fourth week in October. Children's Week celebrates the right of children to enjoy childhood. It is also a time for children to demonstrate their talents, skills and abilities.

#### **Date TBC**

##### [Blue Knot Day](#)

Blue Knot Foundation's national awareness day is celebrated in October every year. On this day, they ask all Australians to unite in support of the five million Australian adult survivors of childhood trauma and abuse.

## **November**

#### **21–29 November**

##### [Social Inclusion Week](#)

Created by Dr Jonathon Welch AM, Social Inclusion Week aims to help ensure all Australians feel included

and valued, giving everyone the opportunity to participate fully in society.

### **25 November**

#### [International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women](#)

Organised by the United Nations, this day is a reminder that violence against women should never occur. It is a reminder that the world must continue to eliminate instances of violence.

### **25 November – 10 December**

#### [16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence](#)

A time to galvanize action to end violence against women and girls around the world. The international campaign originated from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute coordinated by the Centre for Women's Global Leadership in 1991.

## **December**

### **3 December**

#### [International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#)

Organised by the United Nations, this day aims to promote a better understanding of disability issues with a focus on the rights of persons with disabilities and gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of the political, social, economic and cultural life of their communities.

### **5 December**

#### [International Volunteer Day](#)

The United Nations International Volunteer Day is a day for volunteers

and volunteer-involving organisations to celebrate their efforts and to showcase the difference they make in their communities. Events are held to honour and acknowledge the outstanding work and contribution of volunteers to change the world for a better future.

### **10 December**

#### [International Human Rights Day](#)

The United Nations International Human Rights Day celebrates and promotes the basic rights of all humans – and serves as a reminder that many people still have to fight for their human rights.

### **20 December**

#### [International Human Solidarity Day](#)

The United Nations International Human Solidarity Day was established by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2005 as an initiative in the fight against poverty.

# Conferences and awards

## **Date TBC**

### [ACOSS National Conference](#)

The ACOSS National Conference is the premier community sector event which brings together key decision makers, practitioners, researchers and people on the front line of social policy and services.

## **Date TBC**

### [Women of Yarra Awards](#)

In celebration of International Women's Day, these awards celebrate the unique contributions women make to community, culture and progressive social change. Winners will be announced at an award ceremony and afternoon tea at Collingwood Town Hall.

## **Date TBC**

### [National Youth Homelessness Conference](#)

This will be the first national conference focusing on youth homelessness in 20 years. It will ask: what would a genuine strategy to end youth homelessness look like?

## **Dates TBC**

### [Australian Progress](#)

From health, human rights and social justice to inequality and climate

change, Progress 2019 showcases strategies to drive change; and provide practical insights to grow the impact of our organisations.

## **Date TBC**

### [National Elder Abuse Conference](#)

Working to respect, promote, and support the rights of older Australians, the National Elder Abuse Conference presents a program of speakers, exhibitions, and resources for delegates.

## **26–28 February 2020**

### [FIA Conference](#)

A conference for like-minded people from the fundraising community for talks, workshops and experiences to help inspire and shape the year ahead.

**For a full list of 2020 Indigenous conferences, please visit:**

[www.icsconferences.org/](http://www.icsconferences.org/)

