MEDIA RELEASE

September 11, 2024

Invitation to the **Opening Ceremony | Yila Healing Trail**
Friday, October 11, 2024 | 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Paringa Park, Nowra

Join us for the opening ceremony of the Yila Healing Trail, an extraordinary celebration of healing through Connection to Country across the Shoalhaven. This event will feature a Corroboree at the culturally significant Paringa Park linking the freshwater and saltwater songlines, Cullunghutti Mountain, and an area deeply tied to the Dreaming Tracks.

Enter the Corroboree site through a sacred smoking corridor and into a Welcome to Country conducted by respected Elders, including Aunty Ruth Simms, Aunty Margaret Samoes, Uncle Sonny Simms, and Uncle Paul Mcleod.

An Evening of Cultural Revitalization
Take time to relax and come to earth as David Little offers a grounding Didge session, Amanda Reynolds leads us through a Cultural Healing and the Mudjingaal Yangamba women's choir sing in Dharawal and Dhurga language. The night will include very special performances from members of the Doonooch Dancers, Gumaraa, Uncle Warren Foster and the Gulaga Dancers and local dancers - all connected through Country and bloodlines.

We are delighted to welcome singer-songwriter and storyteller Áine Tyrrell performing songs in support of Aboriginal community healing, alongside Ash Mac who will perform her powerful song, Never Letting Go. Our MC, Joe Brown McLeod, will guide us through the evening.

Cultural Unity through Food and Song
On-site will be three delicious food truck options to nourish us throughout the evening. In a special gesture of respect, we are offering dinner to local Aboriginal community members who book ahead. Please note, this is an alcohol-free event.

Corroboree
In 2019 Alwyn Doolan put a call out heeded by 100 Aboriginal Communities to come together on December 1st 2019 and dance to bring on the healing of Community and Country.

Uncle Warren Ngarrae Foster has kept this going under Mt Gulaga with 4500 people attending this last January and a bigger Bunaan Birriga scheduled for 2025. He has this to say about Corroboree :

“Birriga Bunaan was put together to bring the people for healing Spirit and Country. Hopefully we can do this annually early every January. Dancers came from Canberra, Sydney, Victoria and Western NSW and it’ll just get bigger.“

As we honour the past and present, the Yila Healing Trail continues to revitalise Culture, ensuring our traditions thrive into the future.

Stay Tuned for More!

For more information about the Yila Healing Trail and this event, visit us HERE
For media resources, visit HERE

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Supported by generous funding from the Department of Regional NSW