



**Our Languages Matter:**  
*Celebrating the importance, richness and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures in the wider Cairns region.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017

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### NAIDOC Week 2017

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders' Day Observance Committee <http://www.naidoc.org.au/about>. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920's which sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians.

NAIDOC Week is held in the first full week of July. It is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements and opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society.

All Australians are encouraged to participate in the celebrations and activities that take place across the nation during NAIDOC Week.

The importance, resilience and richness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages are the focus of national celebrations marking NAIDOC Week 2017. The National NAIDOC Committee encourages all Australians to embrace the 2017 National NAIDOC theme and to explore the use of Indigenous languages in their community. Many place names for our suburbs, rivers, mountains and parks have Indigenous language words. Observing and learning about these words generates greater appreciation and respect for the significance of Indigenous languages among all Australians.

The 2017 theme - Our Languages Matter – emphasizes and celebrates the unique and essential role that Indigenous languages play in cultural identity, linking people to their land and water and in the transmission of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, spirituality and rites, through story and song.

Some 250 distinct Indigenous language groups covered the continent at first (significant) European contact in the late eighteenth century. Most of these languages would have had several dialects, so that the total number of named varieties would have run to many hundreds.

Today only around 120 of those languages are still spoken and many are at risk of being lost as Elders pass on.

National NAIDOC Committee Co-Chair Anne Martin said languages are the breath of life for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the theme is to raise awareness of the status and importance of Indigenous languages across the country.

*"Aboriginal and Torres Strait languages are not just a means of communication, they express knowledge about everything: law, geography, history, family and human relationships, philosophy, religion, anatomy, childcare, health, caring for country, astronomy, biology and food."*

*"Each language is associated with an area of land and has a deep spiritual significance and it is through their own languages, that Indigenous nations maintain their connection with their ancestors, land and law," Ms Martin said.*

Committee Co-Chair Benjamin Mitchell hopes that the theme shines a spotlight on the programs and community groups working to preserve, revitalise or record Indigenous languages, and encourage all Australians to notice the use of Indigenous languages in their community.

*"There is currently a wave of activity, with people in many communities working to learn more about their language, and to ensure they are passed on to the next generation before it is too late." Mr Mitchell said.*

*"Nationally, many place names for our suburbs, rivers, mountains and parks are Indigenous language words. Noticing and paying attention to these words will generate greater appreciation and respect for the significance of language among all Australians."*

*"The preservation and revitalisation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages - the original languages of this nation - is the preservation of priceless treasure, not just for Indigenous peoples, but for everyone."*

**Cairns is the host city for the 2017 National NAIDOC Awards.**



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**WHOLE OF NAIDOC WEEK EVENTS:**

**22 June to 12 July 2017**

**Pop-Up Library**

The State Library of Queensland proudly presents a Pop-Up library in Cairns. Check out deadly books, magazines, movies and activities on offer or come to use the laptops, iPads and free wifi. The Pop-Up library is a place to sit and relax or participate in in the many activities.



The Pop-Up Library will include an exhibition, highlighting the 1967 Referendum as this year marks the 50th year anniversary.

Beyond the Referendum is an exhibition of photographs, statements and movies showing the historical impacts leading up and after to the referendum and the experiences and stories of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Pop-Up Library will showcase Indigenous Knowledge Centres (IKCs) from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Queensland that are operated by Indigenous Councils with the support from State Library of Queensland.

There is something for all ages, covering all kinds of interesting topics.

**NOTE:**

A full schedule will be advertised in coming weeks.

*There are NO public toilets at this location.*

Venue: 33 Lake Street, Cairns  
Time: 10:00am - 4:00 pm  
Contact: Natasha Webb, 4042 5200, [natasha.webb@slq.qld.gov.au](mailto:natasha.webb@slq.qld.gov.au)  
Louise Hunter, 4042 5200, 0477 396 516, [louise.hunter@slq.qld.gov.au](mailto:louise.hunter@slq.qld.gov.au)



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**Saturday 1 July 2017**

**The National NAIDOC Awards Ceremony (Ball) 2017**

*NOTE: This not a Cairns NAIDOC Committee event. The Ball is organised by the National NAIDOC Committee.*

*For more specific information contact the national Committee secretariat on details below.*

National NAIDOC Committee members are Anne Martin, Ben Mitchell, Anita Lee Summers, Ann Weldon, Bilawara Lee, Jessa Rogers, John Paul Janke, Jonathan Newchurch, Patricia Conlon and Stephen Hagan.

**Award Categories:**

- Apprentice of the Year
- Artist of the Year
- Caring for Country Award
- Elder of the Year (Female)
- Elder of the Year (Male)
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Person of the Year
- Scholar of The Year
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Youth of the Year

Venue: Cairns Convention Centre, cnr Sheridan St and Wharf St, Cairns City

Time: 6pm (TBC)

Tickets: via Ticketek

Contact: National NAIDOC Secretariat, c/o – Culture and Capability Branch, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Canberra

[naidoc@pmc.gov.au](mailto:naidoc@pmc.gov.au) OR (02) 6152 3877

<https://www.facebook.com/NAIDOC/> and [www.naidoc.org.au](http://www.naidoc.org.au)



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**Sunday 2 July 2017**

**10:30am COMBINED CHURCH SERVICE**

The Cairns NAIDOC Committee would like to invite everyone to the Combined Church Service hosted by Many Rivers Christian Ministries (MRCM) Cairns to help bring worship and fellowship and kick off the start of NAIDOC Week activities.

The morning service will include participation from various Indigenous Churches located in the Cairns Region in prayer and music from invited ministers, a language hymn and a final message shared by MRCM Cairns.

Following the Combine Church a free sausage sizzle will be provided from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm.

Venue: Fogarty Park, the Esplanade Cairns

Time: 10:30 am – 11:30 am (church service), 11:30 am – 12:30 pm (sausage sizzle)

Contact: Pastor Yodie Batzke, MRCM Cairns, mobile 0415 542 120 or email [mrcmcairns@gmail.com](mailto:mrcmcairns@gmail.com)



**1:00pm CAIRNS NAIDOC OFFICIAL OPENING AND FLAG RAISING CEREMONY**

Cairns NAIDOC Committee in partnership with the North Queensland Regional Aboriginal Corporation Language Centre presents the official opening of Cairns NAIDOC Week 2017.

The event will commence with the formal Welcome to Country and the raising of the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Australian flags along with speeches from dignitaries. There will be various forms of entertainment celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture through dance and song. The official opening will focus on the importance, richness and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures from Cairns and the wider region.

*Food will be sold at this event.*

Venue: Fogarty Park, the Esplanade Cairns

Time: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Contact: Nathan Williams, mobile 0423 741 475 or email [cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com](mailto:cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com)

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## Monday 3 July 2017

### 9:30am JCU & CQU SYMPOSIUM

#### Our World Our Future Our Challenges: The Voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff from Central Queensland University and James Cook University are presenting a public lecture and discussion during NAIDOC Week; to discuss how young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people see their world, their future and their challenges; two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander university students will deliver a ten minute speech which will be followed by a panel style discussion and Q&A session. The young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander university students and several year 12 students from local schools in Cairns will share their views and experiences and critically discuss how attitudes and decision making processes that impact on their lives, families and communities today.

Venue: CQU First Floor, Shields and Abbott Streets, Cairns

Time: 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

Contact: Henrietta Marrie, phone 4037 4703 or email [h.marrie@cqu.edu.au](mailto:h.marrie@cqu.edu.au)



### 6:00pm CAIRNS NAIDOC TRIVIA NIGHT

ACCOR Hotels are excited to partner with the Cairns NAIDOC Committee in presenting the third NAIDOC Trivia Night. This event grows bigger, with more fun, each year. There are heaps of games and prizes along with five rounds of trivia. *Much laughter and groaning!* **Secure a table ASAP, as there is seating limitations.**

MCs will be radio personalities Francine from Cairns FM89.1 and Baz from Star 102.7

There will be five rounds of ten questions, judged by "the monkeys".

Rules: No phones

Bribes will be allowed by way of gold coin donation, so bring plenty of coins.

Venue: Novotel Cairns Oasis Resort, 122 Lake Street, Cairns

Time: 7:00pm - 9:30pm

Cost: \$60 per team (max 6 per team) or \$15 per person; includes entry and nibbles. Other meals and drinks are available for purchase.

Contact: Donna Dewis, mobile 0408 452 420 Email: [donna.dewis@live.com.au](mailto:donna.dewis@live.com.au)





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**Tuesday 4 July 2017**

**6:45am CAIRNS NAIDOC CORPORATE BREAKFAST 2017**

The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) in collaboration with the Cairns NAIDOC Committee will host the 8th Cairns NAIDOC Corporate Breakfast 2017.

We are pleased to present this year's Guest Speakers who are recognized locally, nationally and internationally. Their presentations will provide insights into how "Our Languages Matter" to business. Guest speakers include **Terri Janke**, Solicitor Director of Terri Janke Company, commercial law firm and **Francoise Lane**, Interior Designer and Co-director of Indij Architectural. The MC will be renowned multi- talented entertainer, key note speaker, musician and artist, **David Hudson** who will bring his unique style and sense of humour to our breakfast.

So come along to this great breakfast event that includes a question and answer panel discussion that will give you an opportunity to gain good business acumen.

**PRE-BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL**

Venue: Grand Ballroom, Pullman Cairns International, 17 Abbott Street, Cairns

Time: 6:45am - 7:15am (Registration)

7:20am - 8:50am (Breakfast)

9:00 - 10:30am (Panel discussion)

Cost: \$45 per person or \$320 per table of 8

Contact: Joanne Bowie or Sarah Seden on T: 4232 4232

Email: [FNQIndigenousEmployment@datsip.qld.gov.au](mailto:FNQIndigenousEmployment@datsip.qld.gov.au)

Subject Heading: NAIDOC Corporate Breakfast 2017

**SOLD  
OUT**



**6:30pm CAIRNS NAIDOC PRIMARY SCHOOL DISCO**

PCYC Cairns is happy to facilitate a NAIDOC themed disco for primary school aged children. The NAIDOC Disco is a fully supervised event. One food and drink voucher is given to the first 150 children, and other food and drinks are available for purchase. Children can win door prizes and giveaways, and there are prizes for the best dressed and the best dancer.

*Watch me nae nae!*

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL**

NAIDOC Week - Primary School Disco

Venue: Cairns PCYC, 91-97 MacNamara Street, Manunda

Cost: FREE ENTRY with food and drinks for sale at the Disco

Time: 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Theme: NAIDOC, come dressed in the colours of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags or indigenous patterns.

Prizes: Door Prizes, Best Dressed (Male and Female), Best Dancer (Male and Female)

Contact: Peter Fitzpatrick, 4053 1521 or email [peter.fitzpatrick@pcyc.org.au](mailto:peter.fitzpatrick@pcyc.org.au)



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**Wednesday 5 July 2017**

**11am CAIRNS COMMUNITY HEALTH DAY**

The Community Health Day NAIDOC Week event is again being hosted by Wuchopperen Health Service Ltd <http://www.wuchopperen.org.au/>.



WuChopperen provides Counselling and Support Services; the Children and Family Centre; Women's, Child & Maternal Health, Child Wellbeing Services and General Medical Clinic and Healthy Lifestyles Programs. People can become a member by calling 4080 1000 and asking to speak to the Executive Assistant, or email [enquiries@wuchopperen.com](mailto:enquiries@wuchopperen.com) *Stay Healthy and Strong! Keeping our generations growing strong!*

In line with the national NAIDOC theme, there's storytelling and traditional dancing. There are fun activities for the kids, including indigenous games, activities and games. Lunch will be provided. Everyone is welcome!

Venue: 6 Moignard Street, Manoora

Time: 11:00am – 3:00 pm

Cost: FREE

Contact: Nichole Dorante, phone 4080 1000, [ndorante@wuchopperen.com](mailto:ndorante@wuchopperen.com) or email [marketing@wuchopperen.com](mailto:marketing@wuchopperen.com)



**7:00pm CAIRNS NAIDOC HIGH SCHOOL DISCO**

PCYC Cairns is happy to facilitate a NAIDOC themed disco for high school aged children. The NAIDOC Disco is a fully supervised event for High School aged children. Proof of school identification is required.

DJ Boogie will be spinning the latest tunes and other deadly songs to bust a move and groove to.

There will be lots of fun to be had and prizes to be given away.

**THIS IS AN ALCOHOL AND DRUG FREE EVENT**

Venue: Cairns State High School, Crosswell Hall, Grafton Street

Cost: FREE ENTRY with food and drinks for sale at the Disco

Time: 7:00pm – 10:00pm. *Students to show identification.*

Contact: Lesigo Akee Zaro, mobile 0437 900 919 or email [cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com](mailto:cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com)







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## **Thursday 6 July 2017**

### **9:00 am CAIRNS NAIDOC "COME AND TRY" MULTI-SPORTS DAY**

The Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing in partnership with the Cairns NAIDOC Committee and other key community stakeholders are hosting a "Come and Try" multi-sports day. Regional sports development officers from a number of sporting codes delivering a series of skills and drills based clinics including modified friendly games throughout the day.

This event is free and registrations are essential leading up to and on the day of the event. Children under 11 years of age must be registered and have an adult present at the venue at all times. Please ensure your child/children are sun safe smart by wearing covered footwear, dressing appropriately, wearing a broad brimmed hat, apply SPF 30 or higher sunscreen and bringing their own marked water bottles as all activities are outdoors.

**REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL**

Venue: Shang Park, corner Shang & Long Streets, Mooroolbool  
Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm morning session and 1:00pm - 3:00pm afternoon session  
Cost: FREE  
Contact: Chris Coutts, phone 4222 5235 or email [chris.coutts@npsr.qld.gov.au](mailto:chris.coutts@npsr.qld.gov.au) and [cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com](mailto:cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com)



### **9:00am THE GATHERING**

Deadly Inspiring Youth Doing Good (DIYDG) Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Corporation is proud to host our inaugural Cairns NAIDOC event, called The Gathering. We aim to bring together a diverse group of young Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people to highlight the issues and create solutions. DIYDG will then strive to achieve 3 goals from these discussions.

**REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL**

Time: 9am to 5pm  
Who: 15 to 25 year old  
Location: Civic Reception Room, Cairns Regional Council, 119 – 145 Spence Street, Cairns  
Contact: Semara, 0431 556 375 or [semara.jose@diydg.org.au](mailto:semara.jose@diydg.org.au)



DEADLY INSPIRING YOUTH DOING GOOD





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## Thursday 6 July 2017

### 1:30pm CAIRNS NAIDOC HIGH TEA

*This first time event is presented in partnership with Dee's Department Grooming and Self Care.*

The High Tea Event will celebrate and acknowledge the accomplishments of inspiring local women Dee's Department and Grooming Program, providing an opportunity for women of all ages and backgrounds to experience an elegant afternoon of dining.

Be a part of the first ever red carpet High Tea Event. Be inspired, be empowered and come along and enjoy a day of elegance simply because you deserve it!

**PRE-BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL**

Venue: Pullman International Ball Room

Time: 1:30pm – 5:00pm

Cost: High Tea Tickets - \$60 pp

Contact: Donna Corrie, 0457 328 280

Media: Facebook - Dee's Department, Grooming and Self Care

OR

website: <http://www.deesconsultancy.com/>



### 5:30pm THE HAPPENING

Be a part of this exciting launch as we celebrate DIYDG, a newly formed Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Corporation. Hear from our young leaders and our board. Learn about our vision for our AMAZING young people in our community.

Time: 5.30pm to 6.30pm

Who: You!

Location: Civic Reception Room, Cairns Regional Council, 119 – 145 Spence Street, Cairns

Contact: Semara, 0431 556 375 or [semara.jose@diydg.org.au](mailto:semara.jose@diydg.org.au)



DEADLY INSPIRING YOUTH DOING GOOD

### 6:00 pm CAIRNS NAIDOC MOVIE NIGHT

The North Queensland Regional Aboriginal Corporation Language Centre will be showing a free viewing of various Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander movies and documentaries. The common theme for the movies and documentaries is languages.

*Food will be sold at this event.*

**REGISTRATIONS REQUIRED**

**Parking is limited**

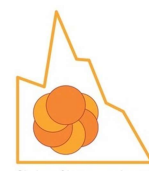
Venue: Serbian Cultural Centre, 67 Greenslopes Street, Edge Hill

Time: 6:00 – 8:30pm

Cost: Free of Charge

Contact: Jenny Warrack, [nqrac@bigpond.com](mailto:nqrac@bigpond.com)

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Circles of Language Learning

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## Friday 7 July 2017

### 9:00am CAIRNS NAIDOC MARCH – BE LOUD, BE PROUD

Rain, hail or shine bring your flags, banners, signs and join the NAIDOC March. *Cairns Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community - be loud and be proud!*

Venue: Muster at Barlow Park, Spence Street

Time: 9:00 am muster

9:30 am – 10:00 am March

Route: Depart Barlow Park @ Spence Street and march directly down to Fogarty Park

Contact: Donna Dewis, mobile 0408 452 420 or email [cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com](mailto:cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com)



### 10:00am CAIRNS NAIDOC FRIDAY IN THE PARK

Proudly sponsored by Hearing Australia



Cairns NAIDOC Friday in the Park commences with the arrival of the Marchers followed by the Welcome to Country. Recognised Indigenous leaders, local politicians and community members address the public. The Cairns NAIDOC Committee has been able to attract a national profile artist and comedian for the day – *tune in for details*. The entertainment rolls out into the early evening.

There's organisations and agencies' information stalls, arts and craft stalls, Indigenous business enterprises selling their wares. Food will be available for purchase. **PRE-BOOKINGS AND APPROVALS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR STALL HOLDERS**

The Cairns NAIDOC Committee particularly asks Bama groups and organisations from across the wider Cairns region and rainforest Country to be represented at NAIDOC Friday in the Park.

*This event will have Auslan interpreters to support interaction with the deaf community.*

Venue: Fogarty Park, Cairns Esplanade

Time: 10:00am – 6:00pm

Contact: Lynette Dewis, mobile 0402 612 013 or email [cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com](mailto:cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com)



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**Saturday 8 July 2017**

**6:30am IMP CAIRNS NAIDOC FUN RUN**



The Cairns NAIDOC Committee partners with Indigenous Marathon Project (IMP) <http://imf.org.au/> to offer the Cairns NAIDOC Fun Run. IMP uses the marathon as a vehicle to promote healthy lifestyles to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Running is accessible to any age, ability and location and has the tremendous power to instil a sense of personal accomplishment when one has pushed beyond what they thought possible. On the back of the amazing success of the IMP here in Cairns, and also across Australia, *get your running shoes on and come down and participate in this awesome event.*

Register with Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/imp-cairns-naidoc-fun-run-tickets-32984098326>

**Pre-registration is essential!**

Distance: 3.5 kms

Venue: Cairns Esplanade, Pirate Ship

Time: 6:30am – 7:00am registration is essential

Contact: Harriet David, mobile 0400 470 602 or email [Harriet\\_g@hotmail.com](mailto:Harriet_g@hotmail.com) and  
Tania Davis, mobile 0403 243 811 or email [tjd\\_0603@hotmail.com](mailto:tjd_0603@hotmail.com)



**12:30pm CAIRNS ELDERS' LUNCHEON**

Another afternoon of old music and dance organised specifically for Elders. A two course meal with live entertainment will be provided. Bring your loved ones along for a great time.

This event is proudly supported by Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service.

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL**

Venue: Nintringanyi Cultural Training Centre,

Time: Arrivals 12:00 noon – 12.30pm

12.30pm – 4:30 pm

Contact: Wynetta Dewis, 0431 947 281 or [naidoceldersluncheon@gmail.com](mailto:naidoceldersluncheon@gmail.com)





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**Sunday 9 July**

**11:00am CAIRNS NAIDOC CLOSING CEREMONY / CULTURAL CENTRE OPEN DAY**

In a fitting end to NAIDOC Week 2016, the NAIDOC Week 2017 Closing Ceremony is held at Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park [www.tjapukai.com.au/](http://www.tjapukai.com.au/). With this year's NAIDOC Week theme being 'Our Language Matters', Tjapukai is an ideal facility to showcase giving life to the theme.

Venue: Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park  
Time: 11.00am – 4.00pm (NAIDOC Closing Ceremony will be held at 11.30am)  
Cost: FOC entry for Locals  
Contact: Jane Harris Shirley Hollingsworth  
4042 9911 4042 9930  
[Jane.harris@tjapukai.com.au](mailto:Jane.harris@tjapukai.com.au) [Shirley.hollingsworth@tjapukai.com.au](mailto:Shirley.hollingsworth@tjapukai.com.au)  
Website: [www.tjapukai.com.au](http://www.tjapukai.com.au)



*The Cairns NAIDOC Committee can be contacted at [cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com](mailto:cairnsnaidoc@gmail.com)*

*We proudly acknowledge Bumma Bipperra Media 98.7FM as our auspicing organisation.*

*We sincerely thank everyone involved in organising and celebrating this week of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements as opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society.*

*If you would like an electronic version of this calendar of events, please email us. All events are advertised on our Facebook Page*



Cairns NAIDOC



**Our Languages Matter**  
**2-9 JULY 2017**

