## CAMDEN COUNCIL Media Release



20 June 2014

## Celebrate NAIDOC Week 2014

Camden Council is inviting the community to join in celebrating NAIDOC Week in Camden on Tuesday 8 July, 10.30am with a Flag Raising Ceremony in John Street followed by a Family Fun Day at Camden Town Farm.

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee whose origins can be traced back to the awareness work by Aboriginal groups in the 1920's. NAIDOC Week is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements as well as acknowledge our Indigenous artists, scholars, sportspeople, elders and community members.

The celebrating of NAIDOC in Camden dates back to 2002. This year's flag raising ceremony will incorporate the Australian, the Aboriginal and the Torres Strait Islander flags following the recent installation of a third flag pole in Camden, funded by Camden Council Community Small Grants Scheme, applied for by the by local Aboriginal organisation Muru Nanga Mai.

This year's National NAIDOC theme is "Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond". The theme honours all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of our country, from warriors in the Frontier Wars to warriors who have served with honour and pride in Australia's military conflicts and engagements across the globe.

Mayor of Camden, Councillor Lara Symkowiak is encouraging the community to attend the NAIDOC events.

"NAIDOC Week provides Australia the opportunity to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and recognise their contributions to our country. Our events provide local residents the opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge our Indigenous community at a local level".

The Flag Raising Ceremony and Family Fun Day are free community events and have been organised by Camden Council and the Mygunyah Camden Aboriginal Residents' Group.

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