

**Beyond the Bars - live prison radio**  
**NAIDOC Week July 6-10, 2015**  
[www.3cr.org.au/beyondthebars](http://www.3cr.org.au/beyondthebars)



## **Giving prisoners a voice** ***Beyond the Bars***

*Beyond the Bars* is a 3CR community project dedicated to giving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners a voice. The project features radio shows broadcast live from six Victorian prisons during NAIDOC\* Week 6-10 July 2015. The broadcasts can be heard on 3CR 855AM, 3CR Digital, streaming live on [3cr.org.au](http://3cr.org.au), and simulcast on 3KnD 1503AM.

'The main purpose of these broadcasts,' explains *Koori Survival Show* broadcaster Gilla McGuinness, 'is to connect our people in the prison system back to family and culture on the outside during NAIDOC Week.'

*Beyond the Bars* is one of the only live prison broadcasts in Australia and this year will give voice to over 100 men and women. The broadcasts feature stories, songs, opinions and poems from within the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Barwon Prison, Fulham Correctional Centre, Marngoneet Correctional Centre, Middleton Prison and Port Phillip Prison.

The *Beyond the Bars* project began in 2002, and has won several awards including the *Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Radio Award* in 2004 and more recently the *Community Broadcasting Association of Australia Contribution to Indigenous Broadcasting* award in 2013.

In June 2015 Amnesty International reported that 'Australia locks up Indigenous children, from as young as 10 years old, at one of the highest rates in the world.' They called on the Government to 'support Indigenous-led justice reinvestment programs, in response to the soaring overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in detention, who are incarcerated at 24 times the rate of non-Indigenous children.' Having a voice beyond the bars is an important part of changing this situation, and reducing the unacceptable level of Indigenous incarceration in Australia.

*Beyond the Bars* receives financial support from the Community Broadcasting Foundation, the Koori Justice Unit and Corrections Victoria at the Department of Justice, and the City of Yarra.

### **BEYOND THE BARS 2015**

**Broadcast dates are as follows:**

**Mon 6 July 11am-2pm – Dame Phyllis Frost Centre (Deer Park)**

**Tue 7 July 10am-2pm – Barwon Prison (Lara, near Geelong)**

**Wed 8 July 12-2pm – Fulham Correctional Centre (near Sale, Gippsland)**

**Wed 8 July 2-4pm – Middleton Prison (Castlemaine)**

**Thu 9 July 12-4pm – Port Phillip Prison (Laverton)**

**Fri 10 July 11am-2pm – Marngoneet Correctional Centre (Lara, near Geelong)**

\*National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee

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