



MEDIA RELEASE

13 SEPTEMBER 2022

STATEMENT ON THE PASSING OF UNCLE JACK CHARLES

Today we honour Boon Wurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Woiwurrung, Palawa and Yorta Yorta senior Elder Uncle Jack Charles. He will be remembered as a storyteller for our times.

Uncle Jack was the first Elder to appear at a formal hearing with the Yoorrook Justice Commission and encouraged other First Peoples to come forward and share their truths. Chair of the Yoorrook Justice Commission, Professor Eleanor Bourke AM, said:

"Uncle Jack Charles left an enormous legacy and shone a light on the path towards truth-telling in our state. In telling his story, he gave us hope for a better future-based on truth".

A survivor of the Stolen Generations, Uncle Jack's experiences illustrated many of the key impacts of colonisation still felt today. He captivated audiences with his skill as an actor, author and musician.

Vale Uncle Jack Charles.

We extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends and Community.

A statement on Uncle Jack Charles' participation in the Yoorrook Justice Commission's first wurrek tyerrang (public hearings) can be [viewed here](#).

A full transcript of Uncle Jack Charles' wurrek tyerrang can be [viewed here](#).

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