

You are invited to a community story-sharing weekend.
Everyone's story matters. Your story matters.



AUSTRALIANS SHARING A NEW STORY

Together we can discover who we really are, and can be, as a three-story nation:

- our ancient Indigenous living heritage
- British institutions and democratic traditions
- and a rich cultural mix of people from all over the world.

Through hearing each others' stories of struggle and achievement, and breaking through any barriers that divide us, we can find a new story of our shared humanity.

BLACKTOWN 3-5 MAY 2019



LEAD PARTNERS

SydWest
Multicultural Services

 Initiatives of Change
Australia

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

 Blacktown
City Council

 NSW Police Force

MECA

This is an invitation for you to come and hear stories of struggle and healing, of overcoming and breaking through barriers, of finding hope through a change of heart... and to share your own stories, too, whatever they may be. On Sunday 5 May, starting at 1.30pm in Bowman Hall, there will be a chance for *everyone* to share part of their story in eight minutes each, within a facilitated group of less than 10 people. We are asking each person who shares to respond to two questions:

1. What is the connection you and your family have with the Blacktown area?
2. Is there one significant experience you would like to share that has made a particular impact on who you are?

Program Outline

03 MAY

FRIDAY 5.30 - 7PM

Public launch at Bowman Hall, Blacktown

Hear from a variety of powerful and inspiring speakers, modelling the 'new story'. And meet your neighbours in a new way.

04 MAY

SATURDAY 1.30 - 5.30PM

A choice of programs in various venues: film shows, workshops and discussions, each demonstrating and telling stories of trust-building in action, breaking through barriers of fear and difference.

See detailed list of events below.

Visit the information hub, for international recipes & stories, music and conversations in Blacktown City Plaza (in front of the library).

05 MAY

SUNDAY 1.30 - 7PM

Bowman Hall

1.30 - 4.30pm - *Discover Each Other, Story Sharing*. Everyone is welcome to join a small facilitated group to share in eight minutes each, as described above. These will not be recorded and you can remain anonymous.

4.30 - 6.30pm - *Sharing a new story from Blacktown*. Wrap up session with feedback from sharing groups, inspiring speakers, the music of First Nations artist Johnny Huckle, and a Darug closing ceremony.

CREATING & SHARING YOUR STORY TO IMPACT THE AUDIENCE



1.30PM & 3.30PM (90min duration)

Workers Club Wattle Room - 55 Campbell St Blacktown

With Doug Cronin, Director of Change and Upstander, 'Our Race'.

Doug is an academic and facilitator of intercultural connections and storytelling.

WRITING FOR WELLBEING



2PM (120min duration)

Max Webber Function Room - 61 Flushcombe Rd Blacktown

Using writing as a self-care tool, participants will engage with writing their own life story in their own language, unlocking each one's unique writing ability. Facilitated by the Western Sydney Recovery College.

LIFE MATTERS



1.30PM & 4PM (90min duration)

SydWest Meeting Room Lvl 2 - 125 Main St Blacktown

Come and explore the power of personal transformation through topics such as identity, relationships, forgiveness, trust, and inner reflection. This is an introductory session to the **Life Matters** program, a four day workshop taking place in June. Join the journey to 'Being the change we want to see in the world'.

CREATORS OF PEACE



1.30PM & 4PM (90min duration)

SydWest Meeting Room Lvl 2 - 125 Main St Blacktown

A taster session of a global program that deepens friendship and understanding across divides of race and religion in the exploration of our peace creating potential. A women's initiative at work in over 45 countries.

THE IMAM AND THE PASTOR



2PM (90min duration)

SydWest Meeting Room Lvl 1 - 125 Main St Blacktown

This film follows two religious leaders in Nigeria who now work together to bring peace between warring religious factions. Imam Ashafa and Pastor James were once enemies themselves. Then something happened. A dialogue will follow the screening.



THE BAULKHAM HILLS AFRICAN LADIES TROUPE



1.30PM (90min duration)

Blacktown Arts Centre - 78 Flushcombe Rd Blacktown

A film about four charismatic and inspirational African women, now living in Australia, who, with the help of acclaimed theatre director Ros Horin, turned their harrowing stories of survival into a joyous theatre of humanity.



BEYOND FORGIVING



4.15PM (30min duration)

Blacktown Arts Centre - 78 Flushcombe Rd Blacktown

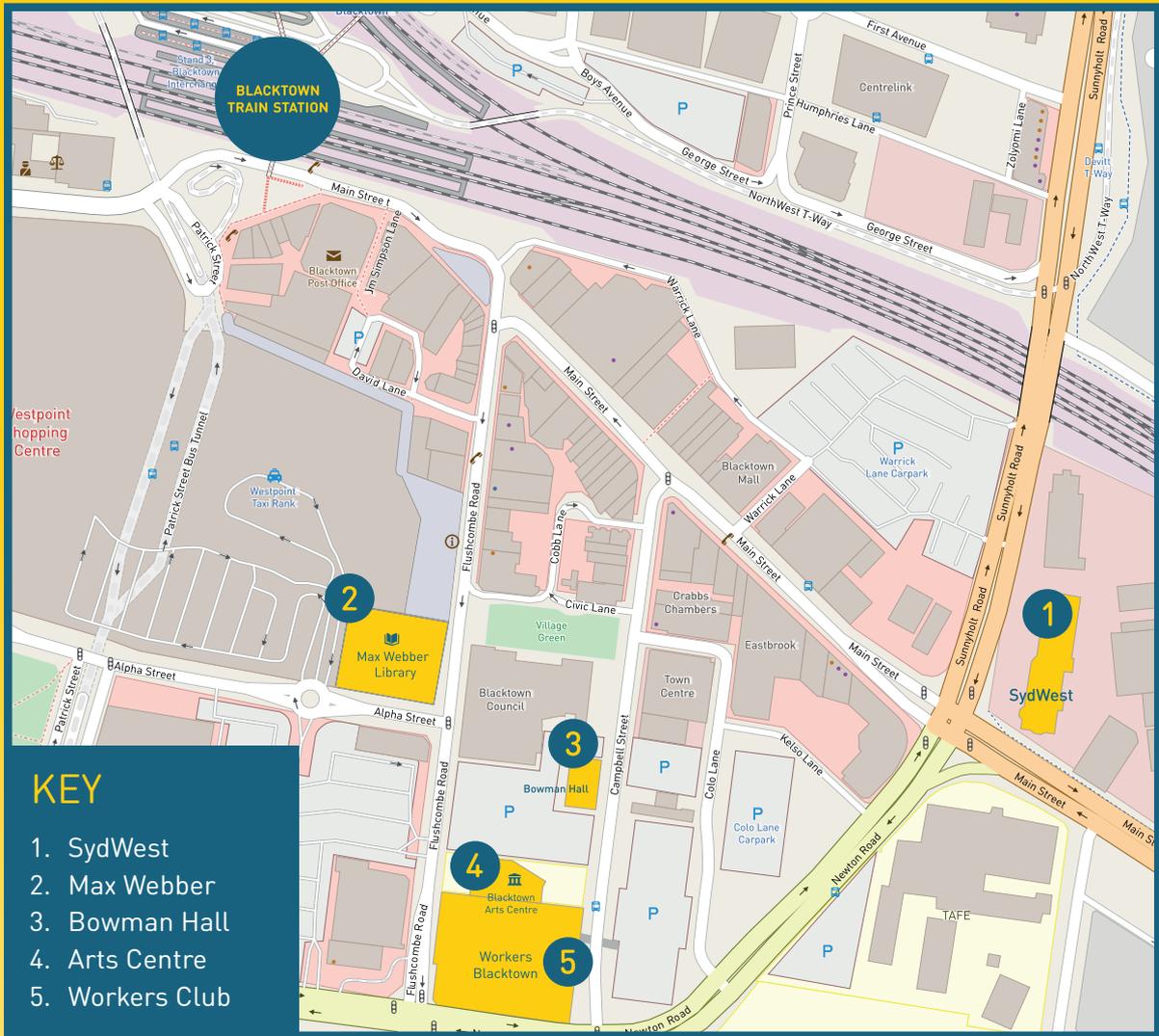
This film tells the true story of two South Africans to bring healing and reconciliation to their country post-Apartheid. The two form an unlikely pair after one suffered directly from the vengeful actions of the other.



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KEY

1. SydWest
2. Max Webber Library
3. Bowman Hall
4. Arts Centre
5. Workers Club

What does it cost?

Entry to all events is free. This forum is being run with in-kind support from a number of civic and community service organisations, and through the enthusiastic service of many volunteers. We have no government grants. Still we have costs to cover. You are invited to PAYBAY (Pay As Your Budget Allows You) through this GoFundMe account. Any contribution, large or small, will help. Thank you!

<https://www.gofundme.com/asans>

The Organising Committee wishes to thank many organisations and individuals for their participation and support. As well as those listed on the front, they include:

The Darug Strategic Management Corporation, the Darug Nura Aboriginal Corporation and the Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation.

Uniting Ability Links, Our Race, Reconciliation NSW, Sathya Sai Centre of Blacktown, Community of South Sudanese and Other Marginalized Areas in NSW, Simply Voices choir, singer Johnny Huckle and FoodFaith.



SCAN ME

Uniting



Workers
Blacktown



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