

2014 NAIDOC WEEK 6TH TO 13TH JULY



The theme for 2014 NAIDOC Week was Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond, which honours all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of the country. As a positive, proactive and long-term supporter of NAIDOC Week, 2014 was our opportunity to partner with our clients and the Traditional Owner communities, to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, to highlight and recognise the contributions they have made and continue to make to our country and wider society.

John gave a talk on "Service to Country" for our NAIDOC Week community activity. Our Weipa team gained a better understanding of the Indigenous involvement and commitments/sacrifice made to protect and defend Australia from WWI through all the wars and humanitarian relief efforts... up to the present day.

"NAIDOC WEEK IS A TIME FOR EVERYONE TO CELEBRATE THE HISTORY, CULTURES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES. FOR SODEXO'S EMPLOYEES, NAIDOC WEEK ON SITE IS A BUSY AND EXCITING TIME AS RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE ELDERS ARE RENEWED, BUSH TUCKER MENUS ARE PREPARED AND THEME NIGHTS ARE PLANNED. I AM PROUD TO BE A PART OF THE SODEXO FAMILY WHICH HAS FOR MANY YEARS RECOGNISED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF NAIDOC."

WENDY DAWSON,
GENERAL MANAGER INDIGENOUS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Boddington residents enjoying the film entitled "Mad Bastards" and starring a local Noongar actor, which was screened on site as part of the NAIDOC celebrations on Tuesday 29 July 2014

REFLECTING ON OUR IMPACT

In 2014, 19 of our sites across the country planned activities in collaboration with our clients and communities. Our CEO encouraged and supported site teams to find ways in which to celebrate NAIDOC Week and support local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Highlights during 2014 NAIDOC, 6 to 12 July, including:

- Bush tucker sausage sizzle, quandong pies, kangaroo stew and damper at the Roxby community SA;
- Traditional Owners and Elders, Welcome to Country, Flag Raising, history and culture film night, bush tucker theme dinner in the East Pilbara region of WA;
- Gourmet bush tucker morning and afternoon teas in Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and Brisbane;
- Bush tucker theme dinner, table talkers and information DVD at sites in SA, WA and the NT;
- Flag Raising, NAIDOC dinner, Aboriginal band and art exhibition from local Aboriginal women in SA;

- Sponsorship of the NAIDOC Week Film Festival at sites in SA;
- Traditional Owners and Elders at sites in the East Pilbara for Flag Raising ceremonies, bush tucker barbeque and tasting plates;
- NAIDOC awareness with travel and accommodation support for Traditional Owners and Elders to attend, Welcome to Country, Flag Raising, story-telling, information boards, art exhibition, bush tucker barbeque and Aboriginal Band in the Midwest region of WA; and
- Corporal John Witty, B Company of the 51st Battalion FNQ Regiment gave a talk on service to country at the Weipa community breakfast and afternoon tea on site.

Sodexo is an organisation that is focused on ensuring the sustainable growth and development of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in locations where we operate, we remain committed to this journey. Making time to slow down, reflect and celebrate significant events on the Indigenous calendar is an important and enjoyable way to experience the rich tapestry of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and to nurture our connections with Traditional Owners and communities.