

Raymond Minniecon

Healing the wounds of the past - Australia's Sorry Day and Journey of Healing

A multi-media story



Kinchela Boys Home (KBH) was the place that Aboriginal boys were forcibly removed to under the NSW Government policies of the 1920s.

As young boys, they suffered physical, mental, emotional and sexual torture and abuse in the Kinchela Boys Home that has left them scarred for life. In this home, they didn't have a name, only a number.

Their abusive treatment has affected their participation in Australian community life. One survivor put it quite succinctly, when he commented that, *"when I came out of Kinchela Boys Home, my own family and people didn't know me. And the white people didn't want me."* Like this survivor, many of the men were left alone and marginalized, without any practical social support systems or networks to help them deal with their abuse and traumas, when they were inmates in this Home.

Pastor Ray Minniecon has worked with the KBH survivors for the past thirteen years. He has supported the men to take a number of important steps in their personal and collective healing. For example, in 2002, he organized the Men to courageously return to the former Kinchela Boys Home in Kempsey NSW to face their personal demons. This Journey Home was a great success for all who were involved.

Ray then supported the Men to move forward from this event and develop initiatives that represent their collective interests in healing. In 2003, Ray supported the men to form their own Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation (KBHAC). Through a number of strategic partnerships, Ray helped the men KBHAC write their own Strategic Healing Plan, and has obtained vital funds to begin implementing their Strategic Healing Plan.

The overarching aim of the KBHAC is to develop long-term sustainable personal, family and community healing solutions to address the issues facing their personal, family and community members. And in the process, offer their collective support for other members of the Stolen Generation in New South Wales and elsewhere to find healing solutions.

Rev Ray Minniecon will share his personal story in supporting these brave men in their personal and collective healing journeys.

Brief Personal Bio

Pastor Ray Minniecon is a descendant of two Aboriginal Nations in Australia, the Kabi Kabi nation and the Gurang Gurang nation of South-East Queensland. Ray is also a descendant of the South Sea Islander people with deep connections to the people of Ambrym Island.

- Director of Bunji Consultancies.
- Coach with Resilient Futures Framework
- Community Chaplain in the Redfern Community
- Vice Chairman. Babana Aboriginal men's Group.
- Producer: NITV documentary, *"Searching For God in Australia."*
- Former CEO Kinchela Boys Home (KBH).
- Board member of Red Dust Role Models,
- Chairperson of the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples Committee.
- Council member of St Andrews Cathedral School.
- Founding Member of Gawura Aboriginal School,
- Founder: Coloured Digger Recognition Project Redfern.
- Vision Keeper of the World Christian Gathering of Indigenous Peoples."
- Member of the Global Indigenous Dialogue.
- National Secretary of the Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship Australia.
- Has a BA in Theology from Murdoch University in West Australia.
- Currently, enrolled in a MA in Indigenous Theology with NAIITS and Tyndale University, Canada.
- Has Certificates in Management and Leadership
- Establish Aboriginal churches and numerous community organizations.
- At Murdoch University, WA was the Inaugural Coordinator of the Aboriginal Education Unit.
- Former National Manager World Vision Australia's Indigenous programs
- Former Editor-in-Chief of the National Indigenous Leadership Journal
- Local, National and International Speaker.
- Father. Grandfather. Husband.
- Loves writing, singing and song writing.
- Ray also loves music, sport, public speaking and travel.

Contact Details:

Pastor Ray Minniecon
PO BOX 3032
REDFERN. 2016.
New South Wales.
Australia.

Email: raymin@me.com.

Phone: 61 0417929701.