

You're invited

# The skies of Aboriginal Australia

The Westmead Precinct Education Hub, The Children's Hospital at Westmead and the Westmead Redevelopment project team are working collaboratively with Aboriginal liaison officers across the Westmead precinct to host a special event that will explore Aboriginal astronomy. The event will include information on how concepts of the skies of Aboriginal Australia are being integrated into new facilities at the Westmead precinct.

**Presentation:** Aboriginal people in Australia have a rich astronomical tradition such as the 'Emu in the Sky' constellation of dark clouds, and stories about the sun, moon, and stars.

Aboriginal people were, and are, experts in a variety of fields - they know the sky intimately and are familiar with planetary motions, tides and eclipses.

The stories and songs still sung today show Aboriginal people continue to understand the landscape and seek to understand the universe in a similar way to modern science. Aboriginal people have the world's oldest continuous knowledge of the sky. This has been used to construct calendars, song lines and other navigational tools, which are still used today.

## Program Outline:

- Welcome to Country
- Professor Ray Norris presentation
- Traditional star song and storytelling
- Westmead Redevelopment update

**Speaker:** Professor Ray Norris is an astronomer with CSIRO Astronomy & Space Science and Western Sydney University. He researches how galaxies formed and evolved after the Big Bang, and also researches the astronomy of Aboriginal Australians. Professor Norris has worked with several Aboriginal groups in NSW and NT.

To register, please email: [WSLHD-PMO@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:WSLHD-PMO@health.nsw.gov.au)



## Thursday, 5 July 2018

12:30pm - 1:30pm

The Cabaret, Westmead Education and Conference Centre (WECC) Level 1  
Westmead Hospital

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