



## **CHANGE THE DATE**

### **Let's make Australia Day a day we can all share**

Can you help amplify the #changethedate message by submitting a letter to the editor to your local paper?

Please use the template below as a guide only. Be sure to add your own language and story. Editors are much more likely to pick up your letter if it's written in your own words.

Some tips to remember: keep your letter to the editor under 250 words, keep it to one or two clear points, and submit it to one paper only. [Read this handy guide for more information.](#)

## **CHANGE THE DATE**

### **LETTER TO THE EDITOR EXAMPLE**

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**Optional Title:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**[INSERT DATE] January 2018**

Dear Editor,

Australia Day should be for all Australians. It is time to acknowledge that 26 January has a long and painful history for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and creates division in our community.

It is time for the government to acknowledge this and to consult with the community to choose a new date for Australia Day so it can be celebrated by all.

Since colonisation, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have been subjected to violence including the frontier wars and government policies that created harm including the removal of children, the removal of people from their ancestral lands, slavery and the denial of self-determination.

I'll be supporting my local [insert event] Survival Day event because [insert your own reasons].

The 26th of January will always be an important date in our history, but it's not a day for celebration. Our country's history goes back well beyond 26 January 1788. It began over 65,000 years ago - and we're still making it now.

Let's respect the survival and resilience of the oldest living culture in the world and #ChangeTheDate.

**[INSERT YOUR NAME]**  
**INSERT YOUR ACTION GROUP (IF YOUR ACTION GROUP WOULD LIKE TO BE IDENTIFIED)**  
**INSERT YOUR SUBURB OR POSTCODE]**

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For media support please contact Community and Activist media organiser:  
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