

# Surf Coast U3A Acknowledgement Of Country

**U3A Surf Coast respectfully acknowledges the traditional owners of the Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar country, on which this gathering is held. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.**

## Research and Preparation for an Acknowledgement to Country.

[https://www.indigenous.gov.au/contact-us/welcome\\_acknowledgement-country](https://www.indigenous.gov.au/contact-us/welcome_acknowledgement-country)

**The area that is now the Surf Coast Shire** is the traditional home of three Aboriginal nations, the Wadawurrung, the Eastern Maar people of the Gulidjan and the Gadubanud. The Gulidjan were based to the west of the Barwon River at Winchelsea and past Colac. The Gadubanud were located west of the Painkalac Creek along the Otway Ranges. The Wadawurrung covered the rest, which is most of the Shire

### **Pronunciation**

Wadawurrung- wathaurong. (Pron wadawahrung)

Gulidjan-. (Pron. coligan)

Gadubanud- (Pron. katahbanut)

The Wathaurong nation, also called the Wathaurung, Wadawurrung and Wadda Wurrung, are an Aboriginal Australian people living in the area near Melbourne, Gellong and the Bellarine Peninsula in the state of Victoria. They are part of the Kulin alliance. The Wathaurung language was spoken by 25 clans south of the Werriber River and the Bellarine Peninsula to Streatham. The area they inhabit has been occupied for at least the last 25,000 years.

The **Eastern Maar** are Traditional Owners of south-western Victoria. Our land extends as far north as Ararat and encompasses the Warrnambool, Port Fairy and Great Ocean Road areas. It also stretches 100m out to sea from low tide and therefore includes the iconic Twelve Apostles.

“**Eastern Maar**” is a name adopted by the people who identify as Maar, Eastern Gunditjmara, Tjap Wurrung, Peek Whurrong, Kirrae Whurrung, Kuurn Kopan Noot and/or Yarro waetch (Tooram Tribe)

**Neither of the Traditional owner corporations got back to me nor did Narana.**

### **Surfcoast Council acknowledgement**

The Surf Coast Shire local government area spans the traditional lands of the Wadawurrung People and the Eastern Maar People. The main Council office in Torquay where this meeting is held is on Wadawurrung Country. As this meeting is also live-streamed we wish acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands on which each person is viewing the meeting and pay respect to Elders past and present. Council also acknowledges other Aboriginal people that may be attending or watching the meeting today.