



**NARRAWONG**  
**KANG-O-MEERTEEK**  
 SMALL TOWN TRANSFORMATION

art  
 identity  
 community  
 transformation

# UPDATE

March 2018

The Mt Clay sculpture will be a significant marker of the relationship between Aboriginal people and those who have come more recently. It will become part of Victoria's listed Cultural Heritage.



*"... it is their custom to send up a column of smoke when a whale appears in the bay, and the fishers understand the signal."*

Major Thomas Mitchell's visit to Portland Bay during his 1836 "Australia Felix" expedition

We've been listening, revisiting the history, and updating the vision for the project.

Nature Glenelg Trust (NGT), the new lead agents, are a not-for-profit group, and handle the money, insurance, OHS, and administration of the grant. Jodie Honan is the new Project Manager (from Port Fairy).

### What's happened so far?

- Community forums and events about Narrawong's history and Indigenous heritage
- Free community art workshops for children and adults
- Established Cre8ive Narrawong to ensure a lasting legacy for the project
- Finalised the design of the sculpture to be installed at Whaler's Lookout, Mt Clay
- Worked with RMIT Landscape Architecture students to explore ideas for the artwork at the Narrawong Recreation Reserve
- Walk and talks at Mt Clay with lead artist, Wal Saunders
- Stalls at Mouth-to-Mouth and Tyrendarra Show
- The "invisible" planning, administration, contracts, OHS, permits, and permissions

### What's next?

- Stall at Lake Bolac Eel Festival – **24/25 March**
- Stall at Portland Easter Fair – **31 March**
- Community eel event – **April school holidays TBA**
- Working with community on a meeting place in town, and all that follows
- Winter walk and talk
- Open workshops
- Community working bees at Mt Clay
- Other community events: whales, basket weaving, music
- Preparing for the launch: making installation, community choir
- More activities with the kids at the school
- Mt Clay sculpture launch
- The "invisible" planning, administration, contracts, OHS, permits, and permissions



## WHAT DOES KANG-O-MEERTEEK MEAN AND HOW DO I SAY IT?

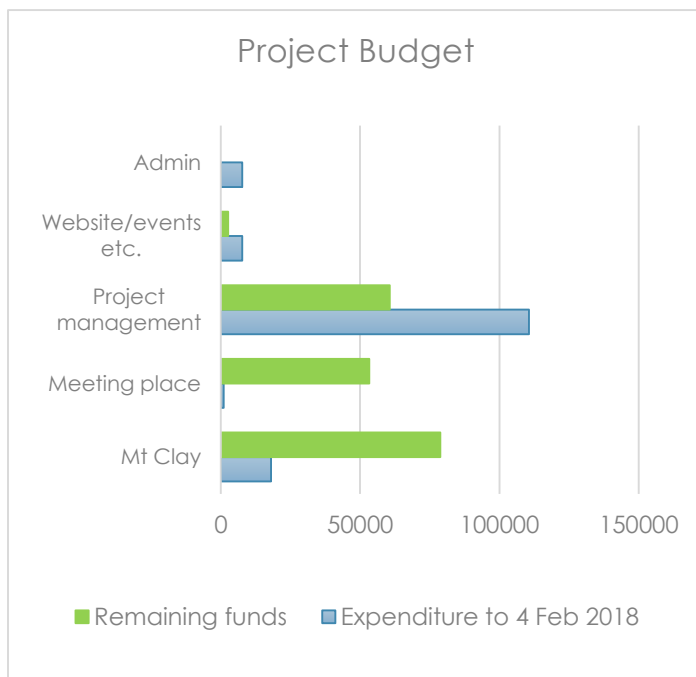
Kang-o-meerteek (pronounced KANG – oh – mere- teeck) means Mountain to Sea. Kang – means mountain. It is a Dhauwurd Wurrung word from the Portland/Lake Condah area. Meerteek – means sea, big water or salt water. It is a Peek Wurrung word from Port Fairy area.

## WHAT ABOUT THE MONEY?

Kang-o-meerteek will show how the Narrawong community can work together to deliver a complex project. It's rare for a project this size to run exactly to plan; the important thing is how Narrawong overcomes problems and differences to achieve as a community. Successful delivery of a project like this shows Narrawong has the vision, skills, communication and capacity to be a good investment for future funding.

**About 40% of the money has been spent. It costs a lot to set things up. The remaining money is allocated as shown in the graph. We also need volunteers and other help to:**

- Demolish and rebuild at Mt Clay viewing platform
- Plan and build the meeting place
- Prepare for and run the launch



## WHAT'S THE PLAN FOR MT CLAY?

A 5-6m tall stainless steel sculpture commemorating the clans and their interactions with the whalers will be installed at Mt Clay (Cart Mountain). Wal Saunders is the lead artist, with a support crew of welders and artists. A lot of 'invisible' work has taken the sculpture from concept to a well-designed and developed plan. The old viewing platform will be demolished and a fire resistant viewing area built with seats, signage and landscaping.

## WHAT ABOUT THE MEETING PLACE?

We are working on a meeting place in town. This can't be at the Recreation Reserve, it also can't be a track. There is no debate about this. Our funding can be used for a meeting place that contributes to the town, and has artistic and cultural value. What local people have said about the meeting place includes:

- Somewhere to meet, possibly outdoors
- In town on public land
- Kid friendly
- Acknowledges our history and natural environment
- For the locals to use
- Needs to have public toilets nearby
- Significant art work

*Transformation: a marked change in form, nature, or appearance: alteration, modification, variation, conversion, revision, metamorphosis, transfiguration, evolution*

### Stay informed:

- Check out the board at the Narrawong Post Office
- Sign up for updates on the website: [www.kangomeerteek.com.au](http://www.kangomeerteek.com.au)
- Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/kangomeerteekstt](http://www.facebook.com/kangomeerteekstt)
- Follow us on Instagram: [www.instagram.com/kangomeerteek](http://www.instagram.com/kangomeerteek)

### Contact:

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**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE PART OF THE PROJECT, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH 😊**