

The Idea of an Australia Long Weekend for Everyone



The Idea of Australia is an SBS documentary commencing 15 Oct 25 based on the book of the same name by Julianne Schultz. Two new books to be released in Nov 25 are ***The Australian Wars*** a book conceived by filmmaker Rachel Perkins following her award-winning documentary and ***The Shortest History of Australia*** by Mark McKenna.

All these works reveal in detail the truth of our history and imagine a more inclusive future. They are a challenge to us all to come up with new ideas and solutions.

Australia Day is presently celebrated on 26 January, a date that marks the beginning of British colonisation and the dispossession of First Nations peoples from their land with devastating consequences.

It is increasingly clear to many that we need to change the date of our national celebration and reflection to a time that all Australians can support.

There is such a time – move the date of Australia Day to the second last Monday in January, thereby creating an *Australia Long Weekend* every year for everyone.

“This is the best time of the year to celebrate and reflect on our nation and will always pre-date January 26” says community advocate **Phil Jenkyn OAM**.

Elizabeth Elliott AM a professor of Paediatrics at Sydney University says, *“We need a national conversation about this idea, to help move our diverse nation towards reconciliation and a better future for all.”*

Geoff Cousins AM business leader and environmentalist states - *“This is a great idea. It is above party politics, and really should be supported by everyone, including all our elected representatives.”*

Lisa McLean, former journalist says, *“This is a strong foundation for a truly inclusive and unifying national holiday.”*

James Woods, Melbourne lawyer and businessman says, *“We are seeking the support of the Australian people for this idea.”*

Supporters for an Australia Long Weekend for Everyone

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