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Healing Songs to Shine on Sorry Day

CAN's Healing Songs singers from Kellerberrin and Quairading are proud to be a part of the 2015 Sorry Day event at Wellington Square in Perth on Tuesday 26 of May. The Noongar and Yamatji singers will perform ballads from their debut album *Shine*.

The Sorry Day event is held annually to commemorate the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It is held on the anniversary of the date the 'Bringing Them Home Report' was tabled in Federal parliament. The report resulted from a national inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander children from their families.

The event is close to the hearts of the Healing Song singers who have all have been impacted by the stolen generation. Kellerberrin elder, Uncle Tom Hayden will perform a song called 'Some Kids Were Taken'. He wrote this song during the CAN project, to share his personal experience.

"We had parents who loved us dearly; they made sure we didn't want for anything. Then one day our world was turned upside down. We were taken away from our mum and dad. They were heartbroken. We were taken to a place called New Norcia where we were placed in an orphanage." Said Uncle Tom.

The Healing Songs singing group and their album of original songs, *Shine – Healing Songs from the heart and the land* was born out of a three year community songwriting-healing project produced by CAN with award winning artists Gina Williams, Guy Ghouse and David Hyams.

About Community Arts Network

CAN is an exciting and dynamic organisation working towards positive social change through community arts and cultural development practice.

Over the last thirty years CAN has been inspiring and mobilising WA communities who experience social disadvantage, to creatively express their unique stories through a diversity of art mediums.

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