



Objection 276

St. Mary's Parish Bairnsdale/Omeo - Petition

10 pages



Renaming the Seat of McMillan

1st May 2018

Attention: Redistribution Secretariat

The Pastoral Council of St Mary's Catholic Church in Bairnsdale are wanting to lodge an objection to the proposed name change for the Seat of McMillan to become the Seat of Monash. Although Sir John Monash is a very credible Australian citizen his connection to Gippsland is limited so we do not agree with the renaming to Seat of Monash.

We feel very strongly that changing the name from Seat of McMillan is vital as Angus McMillan has been confirmed as being involved in the removal of Aboriginal culture and massacres of many aboriginal men, women and children.

We believe that the renaming the electoral area, Seat of Bunjileene-Purrinee is appropriate as the Gunaikurnai people are the ancestors of our area. The renaming would also help towards healing the hurts of the past. If a cultural name is not to be used we continue to diminish the significance of the first peoples of our land and we are continuing the hurts. Our Gunaikurnai people have had to live with the insult of McMillian's name being honored. We believe changing the name to a culturally significant Ganaikurnai ancestor's name would be a major step towards saying sorry and a strong message of Reconciliation and education especially as we move towards Reconciliation week 2018.

The community of St Mary's Catholic Church Bairnsdale support the Parish Pastoral Council's recommendation that the seat is renamed to a culturally significant name to the Gippsland area.

We believe that this renaming will be a major step towards healing and reconciliation.

Your Sincerely

Father Michael Willemsen
Parish Priest

Denise Fallon
Parish Pastoral Council Chair

PETITION

"HEALING THE HURTS" regarding the "RENAMING THE SEAT OF MCMILLAN"

When the seat of McMillan was named after Angus McMillan the standards of the day would have considered him to be a man who made significant inroads into early exploration.

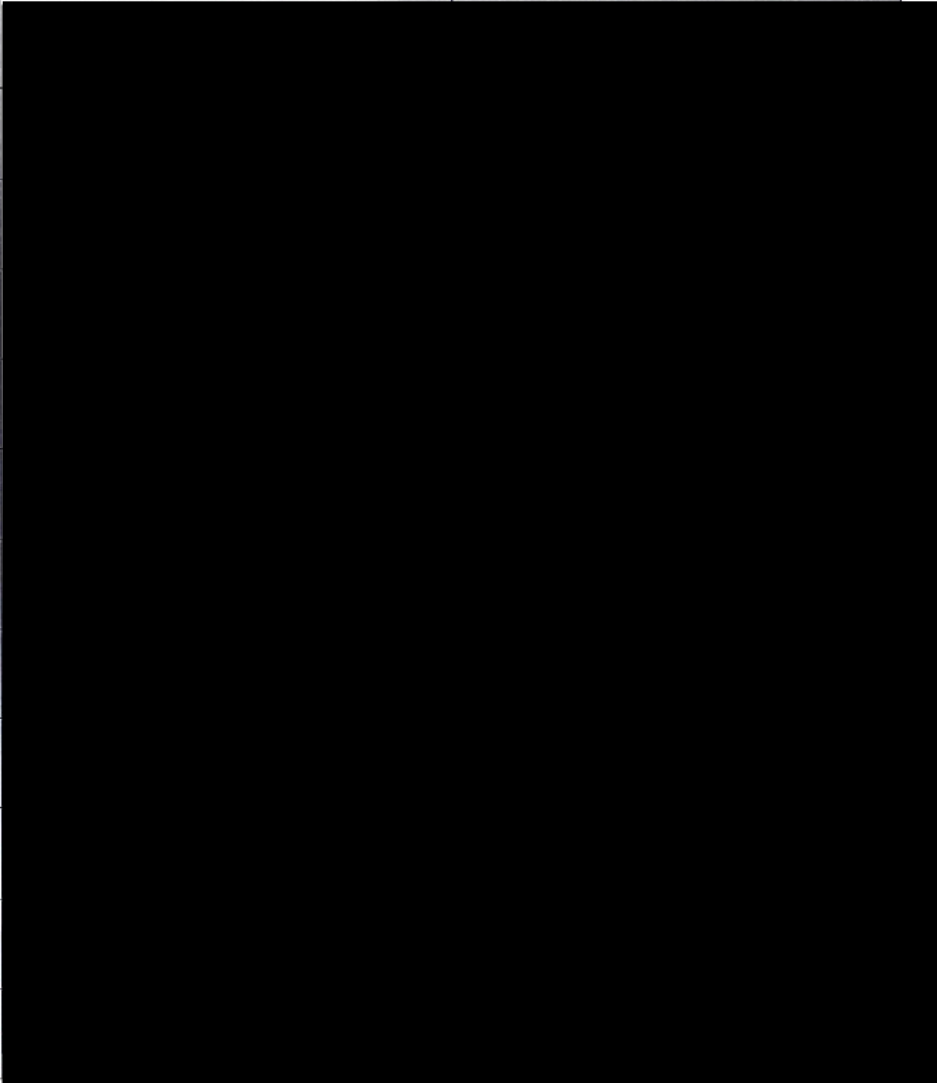
It has come to light that Angus McMillan, in his role, ordered a significant number of massacres of Aboriginal people in the region. These massacres in the 1840's, caused the deaths of hundreds of men, women and children.

Recently there has been submissions to the Australian Electoral Commission to rename the seat of McMillan as "Bunjileene-Purrinee." Bunjileene was a tribal chief of the Gunai Kurnai people in the area. He and his family were taken off country and incarcerated during the time of the massacres.

At this stage the Australian Electoral Commission is preferring the name Monash for this electorate after John Monash rather than Bunjileene-Purrinee. John Monash has no connection to the area and so this choice seems to be misguided.

**We, the undersigned, support the renaming of the seat of McMillan to
"Bunjileene-Purrinee"**

This petition will then be presented to the Australian Electoral Office.

| NAME | ADDRESS | SIGNATURE |
|---------------------|---|-----------|
| Judy Sebrell |  | |
| Margie Kavanagh | | |
| Joan Lees | | |
| RONALD L. RODRIGUEZ | | |
| BRIAN LUDERMAN | | |
| Brian Ludeman | | |
| Damen Leloma | | |
| MARGUERITE BYRNIE. | | |
| Shirley McKenna | | |
| Eleanor Mitchell | | |
| Angelo D'Amore | | |
| Tom McKenna | | |

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| FAYE BETTS | | |
| Carol Bennet | | |
| Patricia Pruscino | | |
| Jennifer Leachey | | |
| Margery Swin | | |
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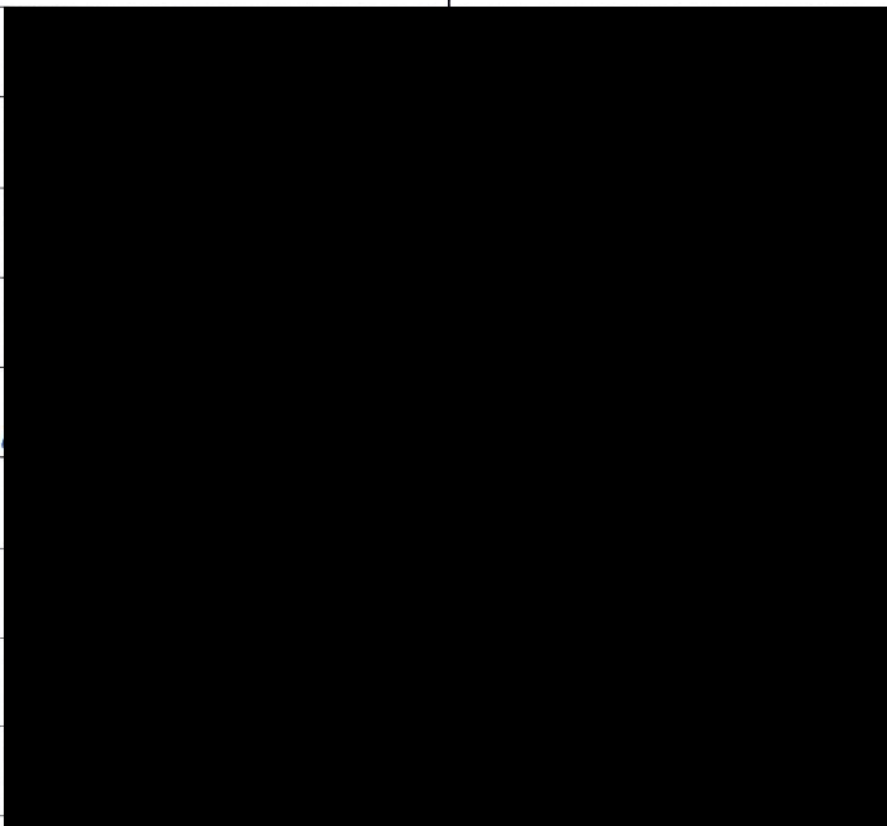
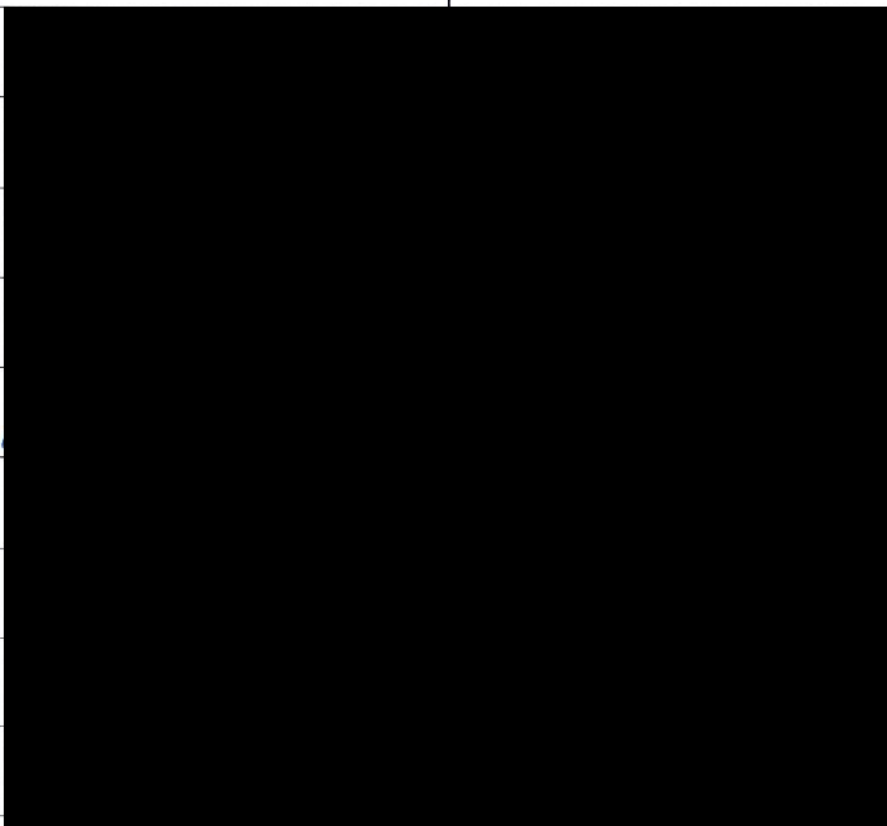
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| ALMA CLARK |  |  | | |
| Gabriele Schwab | | | | |
| Maria Whitcombe Shingler | | | | |
| Judith Whitcombe | | | | |
| Anna Roberts | | | | |
| Judy Ward | | | | |
| Rose Bullock | | | | |
| Jo MILLER | | | | |
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| CHRIS POWER | | |
| Krisma Villa | | |
| Michael Guizdel | | |
| Felix Guizdel-Fankner | | |
| MARLENE PRIOR | | |
| Anne Mwangi | | |
| Will Mwangi | | |
| Geoff Neeson | | |
| Tracey Smith | | |
| Tim Ward | | |
| RITA BOWERS | | |

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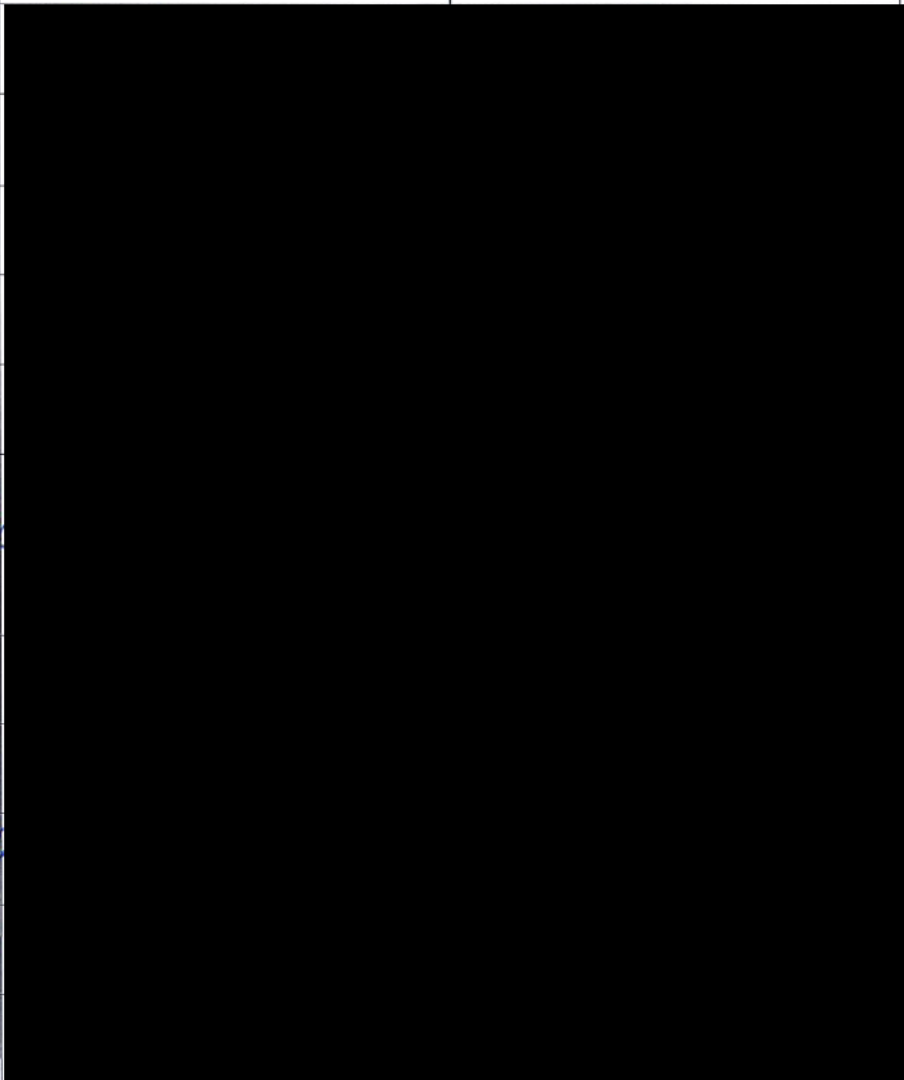
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| Elizabeth Luby | | |
| TIMMY FRANNERY | | |
| JOHN DELANY | | |
| MARY SAUNDERS | | |
| Julie Cavone | | |
| Carmel Cavone | | |
| Mary Josephine Debra | | |
| Maureen Plunkett | | |
| CAROLINE CRUNDEN | | |
| Chris Greaves | | |
| Michelle Grimsted | | |

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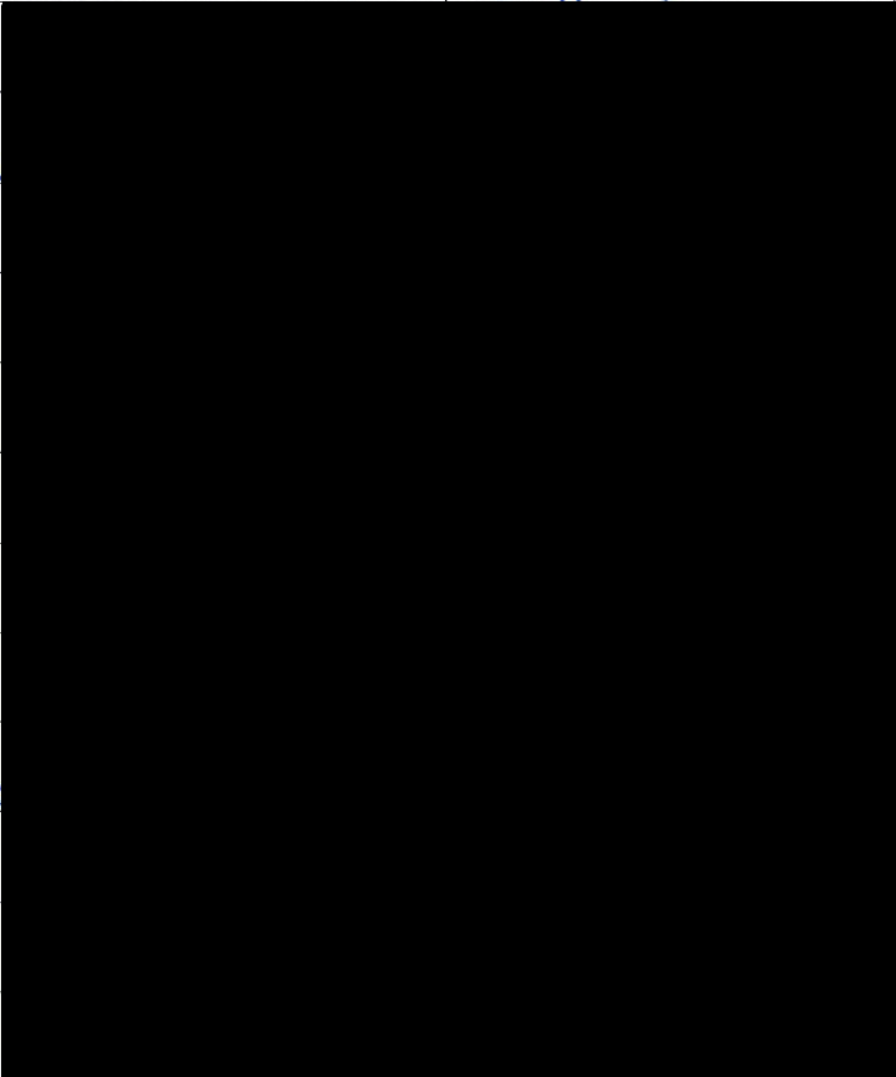
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| Rosanna Tabone | | |
| | | |
| JAMES DEERY | | |
| RUTH LAWLOR | | |
| Joan Marshall | | |
| BOB MARSHALL | | |
| B Broz | | |
| Denise Fallon | | |
| CATHERINE Mc LOUISE | | |
| STEPHEN BAWLES | | |
| S. Garrard | | |

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| ANGIE MCKAIL | | |
| Kerrie Flannery | | |
| Christina Eldridge | | |
| Pete Elliott | | |
| Vikki Stone | | |
| Ron Stone | | |
| John Corby | | |
| JOAN M'BURNE | | |
| PETER COLLINS | | |
| Judith Byrne | | |
| Heather Bodd | | |