

OUR HOME

My home, Your home,

2026 INTERFAITH AND INTERCULTURAL CALENDAR



Kylie Spencer

“Feeling at home for me means being connected to my community and culture – being on my traditional lands of the Wurundjeri people where my ancestors walked many thousands of years ago. Feeling home in Melton gives you a community vibe but also a country feeling.”



JANUARY 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1 New Year's Day Public Holiday	2	3  Mahayana New Year ** Buddhism	4
5  Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji Sikhism	6  Epiphany Orthodox Christianity	7  Nativity Orthodox Christianity	8	9	10	11
12	13	14  Pongal (14-17) Hinduism	15	16  Lailat al Miraj * Islam	17	18
19  Feast of Epiphany Orthodox Christianity	20	21	22	23	24	25
26  Australia Day Public Holiday	27	28	29	30	31	

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Mohamed Umar

“Feeling home for me means where my culture is respected, where I can feel safe, where I get a sense of belonging and living with a diverse community.”

FEBRUARY 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1  World Interfaith (1-7) Harmony Week
2	3  Lailat al Bara'ah * Islam	4	5	6	7	8
9	10  Losar/ Tibetan New Year Buddhism	11	12	13	14	15   Nirvana Day ** Buddhism MahaShivaratri ** Hinduism
16	17   Ramadan *** (17 Feb - 18 Mar) Islam Lunar New Year ** Buddhism	18  Lent begins (18 Feb - 2 April) Christianity	19	20	21  International Mother Language Day	22
23  Great Lent (23 Feb - 3 Apr) Orthodox Christianity	24	25	26	27	28	

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A portrait of Kimiora Joyce, an elderly woman with short, wavy white hair, smiling warmly. She has a traditional Maori tattoo (moko) on her chin and is wearing large, yellow, shell-like earrings. She is dressed in a black, long-sleeved button-down shirt with a large, yellow, carved Maori pounamu (stone) brooch at the collar. Her hands are clasped in front of her. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting with foliage. On the left side of the image, there is a purple graphic element consisting of overlapping shapes, one of which contains text.

Kimiora Joyce

“The feeling of home that I get from the City of Melton is the way that our Melton community enhance and encourage interculturalism. I love the way our city promotes diversity.”

MARCH 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1
2	3    Purim* Judaism	4  Hola Mohalla (4-6) Sikhism	5	6	7	8  International Women's Day
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16  Lailat al Qadr* Islam	17	18	19	20  Eid ul Fitr* Islam	21   Naw Ruz* Baha'i Harmony Day	22
23	24	25  The Annunciation Christianity	26  Rama Navami** Hinduism	27	28	29  Holy Week (29 Mar-4 Apr) Christianity
30	31  Mahavir Jayanti Jainism					

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A photograph of Patrick Kariuki, a man with short dark hair and glasses, smiling warmly. He is wearing a vibrant red Maasai traditional garment (shuka) with intricate beaded patterns in blue, yellow, and white. He is also wearing a black smartwatch and a black beaded bracelet on his left wrist. The background is a soft-focus green field. On the left side of the image, there are three overlapping organic shapes in dark blue, red, and orange, which serve as a design element for the text overlay.

Patrick Kariuki

“Feeling at home for me means feeling at peace and safe. My family feels protected and they are able to be out and about without worrying. The City of Melton gives me a feeling of home by providing accessible services. For instance, we can access libraries, parks and reserves.”

APRIL 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2   Theravada New Year (2-5) Buddhism Pesach* (2-9) Judaism	3  Good Friday Christianity Public Holiday	4	5  Easter Christianity
6  Easter Monday Public Holiday	7	8	9	10  Good Friday Orthodox Christianity	11	12  Easter/Pascha Orthodox Christianity
13	14   Baisakhi Sikhism Yom HaShoah * Judaism	15	16	17	18	19
20	21  Ridvan* (April 21-2 May) Baha'i	22	23	24	25   ANZAC Day Public Holiday	26
27	28	29	30			

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Heidi

“I am passionate about helping others feel welcome in our community. Feeling at home for me means feeling safe, comfortable and connected with my community. I do my best to make sure everyone feels seen and heard.”

MAY 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1  Vesak / Buddha Day ** Buddhism	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17  International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT)
18	19	20	21	22  Shavuot* (22-23) Judaism	23	24  Declaration of the Bab* Baha'i Pentecost Christianity
25	26	27  Eid Al Adha * (27-30) Islam	28	29  Ascension of Baha'ullah * Baha'i	30	31  Saga Dawa Duchen Buddhism

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Sandeep Kaur

“The City of Melton gives me a feeling of home, especially being a migrant. I have been given opportunities to practice my religion freely which is obviously of utmost importance to me.”

JUNE 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 King's Birthday Public Holiday	9	10	11	12	13	14
15  Refugee Week (15-20)	16   Martyrdom of Guru Arjun Dev Ji Sikhism Hijra * Islam	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26  26 Ashura* Islam	27	28
29  Ascension of Baha'ullah * Baha'i	30					

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Makelesi Lemba Qalubau

“Feeling at home for me means being with my family, being with my friends and being with the closest ones that I love. If I didn’t find the City of Melton, I wouldn’t have found my family and friends.”

JULY 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7  NAIDOC Week (7-14)	8	9	10  Martyrdom of the Bab* Baha'i	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23  Tisha B'Av* Judaism	24	25	26
27	28	29  Asalha Puja** Buddhism	30	31		

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Ava Collins

“Feeling at home for me means that I have a sense of warmth, that wherever I go, I feel secure. I feel proud to be part of the community. It’s a really amazing community to be a part of.”

AUGUST 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15  Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Christianity	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27  Ullambana** Buddhism	28  Raksha Bandhan** Hinduism	29	30
31						

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Princess Olamijulo

“I have lived in Melton for 25 years. Feeling at home means where I can live with my neighbours and connect with people from different parts of the world. The City of Melton has given me a feeling of home through various programs, events, festivals, and the shopping centres.”

SEPTEMBER 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2	3	4  Krishna Janmashtami** Hinduism	5	6
7	8  Paryushana** (8-15) Jainism	9	10	11	12  Rosh Hashanah * (12-13) Judaism	13
14	15   Samvatsari ** Jainism Ganesh Chaturthi ** Hinduism Daslakshana ** (15-25) Jainism	16	17	18	19	20
21   Yom Kippur * Judaism International Peace Day	22	23	24	25	26  Sukkot * (Sep 26-Oct 2) Judaism	27  Kshamavani** Jainism
28	29	30				

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Vaosa Toleafoa-Poliko

“Feeling at home for me means bringing your culture and being who you are – it doesn’t matter which country you are from. At the Melton Interfaith Network we come together and share the common meaning of a sense of belonging.”

OCTOBER 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1	2	3  Shemini Atzeret* Judaism	4  Simchat Torah* Judaism
5	6	7	8	9	10	11  Navaratri (11-19) ** Hinduism
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20   Dussehra Hinduism Conferment of Guruship to Guru Granth Sahib Sikhism	21	22	23	24	25  Kathina** Buddhism
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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Gue Athel

“Feeling at home for me means feeling welcome where you live - feeling part of the community, being able to participate in the life of people within the community and being involved in what’s happening.”

NOVEMBER 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1  All Saints Day Christianity
2	3	4  Melbourne Cup Public Holiday	5	6	7	8  Diwali** Hinduism
9  Mahavira Nirvana Diwali Jainism	10	11  Birth of Baha'ullah * Baha'i	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24  Birth of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib Ji Sikhism Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji Sikhism	25	26  Day of the Covenant Baha'i	27	28  Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha Baha'i	29  Advent (29 Nov- 24 Dec) Christianity
30						

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Puneet Singh Thakur

“I call myself Indian by birth, Aussie by choice and a spiritual leader by passion. The City of Melton provides a diverse range of events that bring harmony and community partnerships.”

DECEMBER 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2	3	4	5  Hanukkah * (5-22) Judaism	6
7	8  Bodhi Day Buddhism	9	10  Human Rights Day	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25  Christmas Day Public Holiday	26 Boxing Day Public Holiday	27
28	29	30	31			

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The City of Melton is a vibrant city celebrated for its cultural diversity and dynamic communities. Melton City Council is dedicated to creating an inclusive environment where everyone feels welcome and valued, regardless of their background. They prioritise community engagement and partnerships, encouraging residents to participate in shaping the city's future. The goal is to build a thriving, harmonious, and inclusive community for all who live here. As part of Cultural Diversity Week Festival 2025, Melton City Council created City of Melton – My Home, Your Home, Our Home.

This video series showcases the inspiring stories of 12 dedicated residents who have played a vital role in making the City of Melton a more inclusive and welcoming place for all our residents to call home.

Through their contributions, they have helped foster a community where diversity is embraced and celebrated. These stories highlight their journeys and sense of belonging as residents of the City of Melton.

melton.vic.gov.au/iicalendar

Acknowledgement of Country
Melton City Council acknowledges the Kulin Nations as the Traditional Owners and custodians of this land and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

Please note:
The names of certain events may have alternative spellings or be recognised on different dates by groups and individuals within communities. The calendar focuses on countries, national days, significant multicultural festivals in Australia, and events that are widely celebrated by Australia's major ethnic and religious communities. Please be advised that the calendar is not exhaustive of all events that are celebrated around the world and should be considered a guide only. Calendar users should seek further advice regarding particular events.

