

# Weaving the South East Seasons

WOTHONGKOL KAPAYAN KAROMARNA

The days of the Weather

Time of plenty / Land begins to dry from greens to browns / Wildflowers and Lilies in flower / Young marsupials are out of the pouch / Birds are feeding their young with baby birds preparing to leave the nest / Kangaroos, wallabies and wombats are active feeding on fresh native grasses and growth / Fish spawning / Set Fish traps as season warms / Bentwing-bats congregate at maternity cave to give birth / Coastal Mallee in Flower / Mistletoes in flower / Grass trees flowering / Whales migrate South to Antarctica / Seed Collecting begins with Native grasses they are tall with seed heads flowering and seeding / Pea flowers begin to seed such as Kennedias, Swansonias, Dillwynia, Pultenaeas etc. / Insects, bees and ants active till Autumn / Echidnas dig for ants / Eucalyptus germinating / Wedge-tailed eagles are breeding / Migrant birds return to Tasmania for breeding season such as Orange-bellied Parrots

Longest day - shortest night / Coastal living / Fishing season abundant with seafood and shellfish / Fire danger season / Wattle seed gathering and Wattle seed damper prepared / Bursaria and Banksia in flower soaked in water to make traditional energy drink / Cumbungi in growth time to gather / Fruiting season: Native Cherry, Currant-bush, Dianella, Elderberry / Seed collecting season: Acacia species, native grasses, Lomandra, Old Man's Beard, Senecio, Pommederris, Native Geranium, Hop-bush, Velvet-bush. / Season of butterflies / Hooded Plover eggs on beach and chicks hatching until February / Red-tailed Black Cockatoo migrate to Buloke country for season feeding on Buloke (January to March)

*Kangaroo & Grass Seed Time*  
KURRA KALALABA KROYNMI\_PUTHA

*Shell & Wattle Seed Time*  
KARALABA WITA KAROMARNA

LATE SPRING  
EARLY SUMMER  
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

HIGH SUMMER  
DECEMBER - JANUARY



Longer days and rise in temperature / Change in season brings storms, spring showers and changeable weather / Rainbow season / Brolga pair up for breeding season / Breeding season for many marsupials / Late planting season / Nesting birds / Orchids, Lilies and Yam Daisies begin to flower / Snakes and lizards become active / Tadpole season / Yabbies are crawling and turtles breeding / Kangaroo Apple blossom / Fish traps set / Fish spawning season begins / Egg season / The warmth energises growth and the food chain in wetlands / Germination of Melaleuca, Leptospermum, Allocasuarina, Olearia, Ozothamnus, Hakea, Dodonaea / native grasses, Lily's and all coastal, understory and wetland species / Migrant birds return

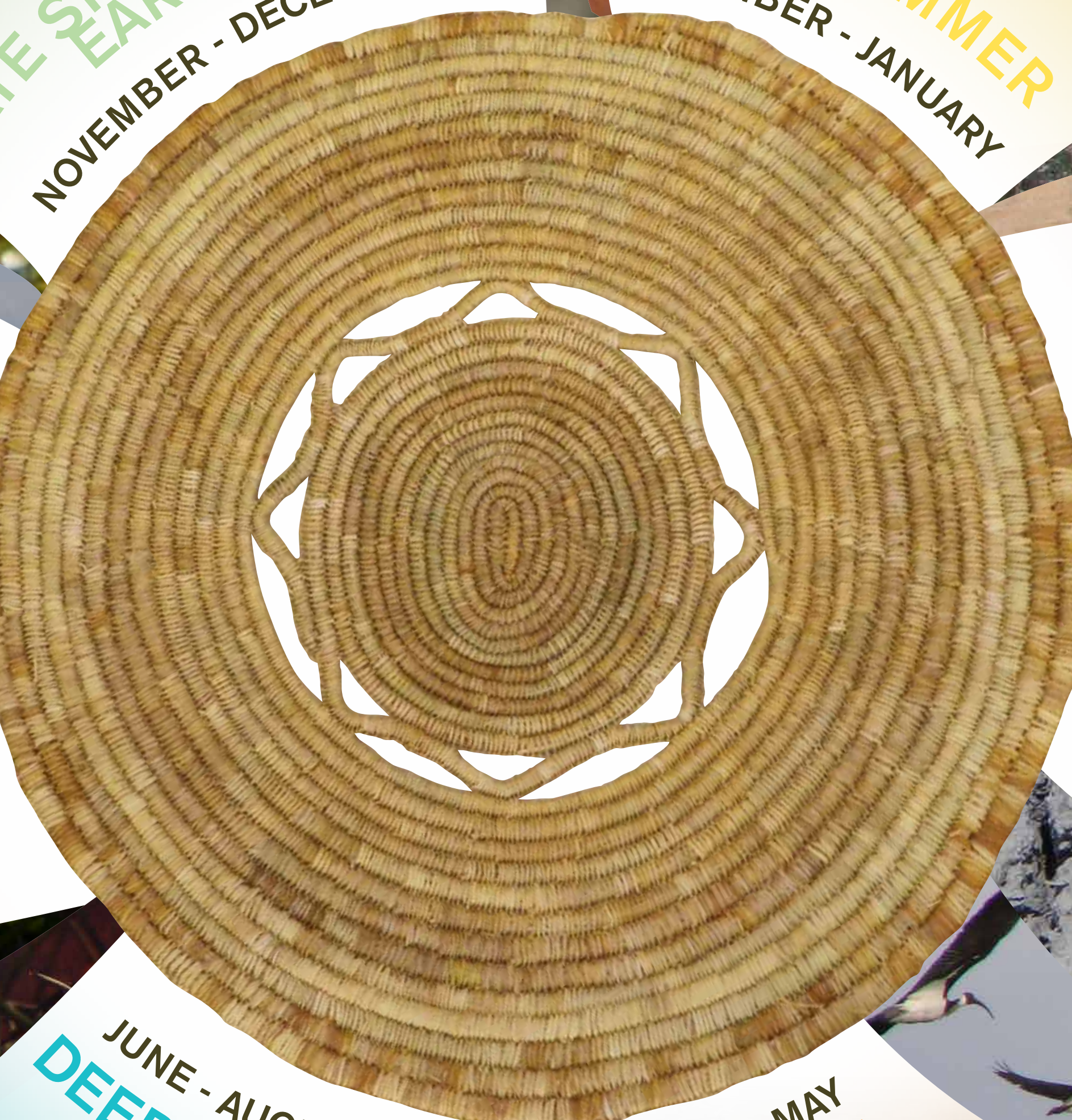
*Egg & Orchid Time*  
KULABA PUTHU KAROMARNA

*Sugar & Eel Time*  
KUYABA YURRENGA KAROMARNA

Hot temps northerly winds / Coastal living / Fishing season / Fire danger season / Swamps and drains are dry / Water table at its lowest point / Wetlands drying as yabbies and Galaxia hibernate in the mud / Turtles find refuge / Eel trapping season / Moths emerge and provide food for birds and mammals / Seasonal fruit gathering - Muntries, Pigface and Sweet Apple-berry, Coastal dune flower berry, Boobialla and Cherry Ballart / Wattle sap collected for food, resin and glue / Seed collection season: Banksia, Xanthorrea, Gahnia and sedges / Blue Gum in flower, Dryland Tea-tree begins to flower / Germination of: Dianella, Gahnia, Current-bush and native grasses

EARLY/MID SPRING  
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

LATE SUMMER  
FEBRUARY - MARCH



JUNE - AUGUST  
DEEP WINTER

APRIL - MAY  
AUTUMN

Wettest and coldest time of year / Longest night and shortest day / Sun is low and shadows long / Wetlands and drains flowing at highest point / Ground water levels rise and swell / Rock shelters and caves were used for

*Cultural Ceremonial Time*  
KULAYU MARAPINA

Country starts to cool down / Mild weather / rainbow season / no wind and first rains / cobwebs / dew mornings / Families migrated inland to woodlands and higher ground near wetlands for winter / Set up camps / Gathering together for hunting and cultural ceremony / Make coats from possum and kangaroo skins / Make fish traps / Kangaroos and wallabies feeding on new growth / Reptiles less active / Seed collecting season: Bursaria seed, Coastal Rosemary, Seaberry saltbush, Cushion bush, Scavola. / Germination of: Lomandra and Banksia seed / Bursaria late May into June / Mistletoe, Cherry Ballart and bush tomato fruiting / Sheoak pollinating and Dryland Tea-tree in full flower / In woodlands Heath flowering / Still days first frosts / Soil warmth and rainy days bring fungi and mushrooms / Waterholes filling up and animals moving to higher ground / Birds flock and migrate north / Orange-bellied parrot start migration to the mainland across Bass Strait - over wintering and feeding on Coastal wetlands in Victoria and Southern South Australia / Snakes go into hibernation / Eagles building nests / Possums mating / Prepare ground for planting season / firestick farming / mammals are active feeding on fresh growth / Emus nesting



winter shelter / Sitting by the fire, campfire stories about creation, lore, hunt and gather and connection to country / tree planting season / Acacias in flower / Collect and sow Knobby Club-rush seed / Bentwing-bats migrate to over wintering caves / Male Emus raising their young ones / Yam Daisy and lily tubers dug, collected and cooked in underground ovens / Honey pots and Cherry ballart fruiting / Native spinach lush for picking / Swamp Gums in flower / Southern right whales birthing in southern coastal waters / Echidna train - Echidna breeding season / Birds start building nests and ducks and swans start breeding in August

*Emu Camp & Story Time*  
KARUEU NGULABA KARIPAMU

Natural Resources South East acknowledges and respects the traditional owners of the ancestral lands of the South East. We acknowledge elders past and present and we respect the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal peoples to country. Doug Nicholls and Kathy Bell are acknowledged for their undertaking in collating the Seasons Calendar information. Des Hartman is also acknowledged for his assistance providing Aboriginal language. Images courtesy of Kathy Bell and DEWNR

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