



WELCOME: Armidale's Steve Widders is looking forward to the Journey to Recognition relay arriving in the region next week.

On the long road to recognition

A CAMPAIGN for the recognition of indigenous people in the nation's constitution will make its mark in the region this weekend.

The Journey to Recognition relay will stop in Armidale, Inverell and Moree from Sunday to Tuesday, giving the local community the chance to hear from campaigners about why fixing the constitution is so important.

Armidale man and Kamilaroi and Anaiwan elder Steve Widders will be among those welcoming the relay to his home town.

"This is all about community coming together and respecting

and learning more about the whole movement," he said.

"The Journey will encourage community members to become more interested; to put their hands up to participate; to share with others; and to have a better idea, a clearer idea of what it's all about and the impact it will have, particularly when it comes to attempts to eliminate racism."

Since launching on May 26, 2013, the Journey to Recognition has been on the road for 247 days, travelling through 195 communities by foot, bike, four-wheel drive, kayak, surfboard

and paddleboard. Campaigners have held 253 events and meetings and covered more than 30,660km.

The relay will host a community lunch in Armidale at Kent House on Sunday from noon to 2pm; and a morning tea in Inverell on Monday from 11am to noon at the Armajun Aboriginal Health Service.

On Tuesday, May 5, there will be a panel discussion and morning tea from 10am to noon at the Dhi-iyaa Aboriginal Centre, Moree, followed by a free lunch from noon to 2pm and an afternoon tea and discussion from 2pm to 4pm.