

Students want £12,000 to help aboriginals

Australian university students wanted aboriginals to know they were welcome in all Australian universities, a member of the Melbourne branch of the Aboriginal Scholarships Committee, John Pasquarelli, said today.

He said Melbourne students would put on a "rag" at the university to celebrate Australian Aboriginals' National Day on Friday.

The students are trying to raise £12,000 for their scholarship fund by exhibitions, films and button days throughout the year.

With the income from the £12,000 they hope to support any aboriginal students who want to study at Melbourne University.

Mr Pasquarelli said

there were only two aboriginal students at Australian universities out of an aboriginal population of 74,000.

Aboriginals did not have the opportunities or the money for university study, and there were not many openings for them if they did have higher qualifications.

Gifts for the fund should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, Aboriginal Scholarships Committee, Melbourne University.