



## No. 123 – May 2011

*From the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council,  
the social justice and human rights agency of the Catholic Church in Australia*

<http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

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### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends

Below is the text of a Pastoral Letter issued to mark the Feast of St Joseph the Worker (1st May), which I invite you to circulate in your parish and local communities. The formatted letter can be downloaded from: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

#### **Indigenous employment - the most basic form of social justice**

On this Feast Day of St Joseph the Worker I would like to acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia and their Elders past and present. Each day, Indigenous leaders witness how high unemployment undermines living conditions, drains communities of basic services and robs future generations of opportunities the majority of us take for granted.

Consider what it would be like to live in an overcrowded house where power and water go off regularly and repairs can take weeks. Imagine not having regular rubbish removal, no building maintenance or public transport.

There is only one store selling a limited range of food at high prices. Imagine having no banking services except an ATM that charges transactions fees as high as \$10. Fuel is more than twice city prices and unsealed roads in need of repair make driving dangerous. There is no local ambulance or fire service and it can take many hours for police or health workers to respond to an emergency.

These basic difficulties highlight deeper poverty and hardship that has been experienced by remote Indigenous communities over generations.

The unemployment rate among Indigenous workers is 18 per cent - three times the non-Indigenous rate.<sup>1</sup> The situation is worse in remote communities where unemployment would skyrocket without subsidised community service jobs that have been available through the Community Development Employment Program ('CDEP scheme'). In the remote Northern Territory community of Wadeye, for example, the unemployment rate could jump from 44 to as high as 75 per cent.<sup>2</sup>

How can we respond to communities enduring third-world conditions in this prosperous nation?

#### **Closing the Gap**

In his National Apology to the Stolen Generations, then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd committed the government to 'Closing the Gap'. One of the targets was to halve the gap in employment between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians by 2018. Prime Minister Julia Gillard has reaffirmed this commitment, emphasising the need to address decades of underinvestment in services and infrastructure and encouraging 'personal responsibility' as a key to improving family and community life.<sup>3</sup>

A broad range of initiatives related to the Closing the Gap strategy is being pursued

by the Commonwealth, Northern Territory and Council of Australian Governments. However, the following strategies highlight the current approach to reducing Indigenous unemployment.

In December 2008, the Commonwealth announced that it would dismantle the CDEP scheme and require participants to 'transition' into 'properly paid jobs'. Those remaining on CDEP would receive only income support and be subject to compulsory income management whereby Centrelink quarantines half of the payment for the purchase of essential food and household items.<sup>4</sup>

Apart from its commitment to preserving 2,000 jobs in government service delivery and funding for 1,500 jobs that were created under the CDEP scheme, the Government's service-delivery focus is limited to job placement and training.

The great hope for job creation rests with the private sector. In October 2008 the Government launched the Australian Employment Covenant with the ambitious target of securing 50,000 private sector jobs for Indigenous Australians by 2010. While the Covenant received an impressive 26,000 job pledges from employers, only around 2,800 jobs had materialised by the two year deadline and very few advertised positions were based in remote communities of the Northern Territory and Western Australia.<sup>5</sup>

While it is encouraging to hear the Commonwealth is committed to increasing the conversion of job pledges into real job outcomes, perhaps it is time for a greater focus on the creation of jobs by the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments.

### Three challenges

At the launch of the Australian Employment Covenant, Prime Minister Rudd stated 'the most basic form of social justice to any person and in any place: that is the right to a job.'<sup>6</sup>

There are three significant challenges to achieving this basic level of justice.

First, the Government's position is that 'welfare should not be a destination or a way of life'.<sup>7</sup> But it is hard to imagine any alternative to long-term welfare dependence without direct job creation in remote communities where sometimes almost half of those employed have been in subsidised work. Subjecting these workers and welfare recipients to compulsory income management will not of itself address the underlying causes of poverty and disadvantage. Nor will an emphasis on job search and work-for-the-dole improve the skills of the workforce or the demand for workers.

Secondly, it is unlikely that the private sector alone will be able to supply the jobs that are needed, particularly in remote communities. It has been estimated that to meet the Government's target of halving the gap in employment over 70,000 jobs will be needed, requiring 'a level of non-CDEP employment growth of a scale unseen in contemporary labour markets.'<sup>8</sup>

This relates to the third challenge - the need for all levels of government to work together to create jobs and address years of underinvestment in remote communities. Where private sector demand is low or absent, governments must take the lead in creating real jobs and providing just wages and conditions. A strategy is needed to provide essential community services through the employment of locals.

The political will is needed to address the loss of employment, skills, wealth and the most valuable asset, young people, from already vulnerable communities. Councils should not be in the position of having to outsource work to overseas call centres in order to balance the budget and remain solvent.<sup>9</sup> There should not be the need to import building contractors on salaries of \$450,000 per annum because of skills shortages.<sup>10</sup> Young people should not be forced to leave their communities because there are no jobs.<sup>11</sup>

People in the cities and regional centres of Australia see it as their right to have reliable supplies of water, power and community services. How can we possibly say that those

in more remote communities do not have the same rights? Looking at the actual need of remote communities, it becomes clear that there is a multitude of employment opportunities and there are people currently on welfare support who could be employed to fill them. What is lacking is the funding and infrastructure required to be established and maintain the basic services we expect as a right of citizenship.

## Social Progress and Social Justice

Fifty years ago this May, Pope John XXIII issued the social encyclical *Mater et Magistra*, in which he called for concerted action to address the growing gap between the rich and poor.

*It often happens that in one and the same country citizens enjoy different degrees of wealth and social advancement. ... Where such is the case, justice and equity demand that the government make efforts to either remove or to minimise imbalances of this sort.*<sup>12</sup>

Pope John called on governments to guarantee essential public services in vulnerable communities, to raise their standard of living to the national average and to promote employment and local enterprise. He said that governments have a vital role to ensure vulnerable communities are empowered to drive their own progress.<sup>13</sup>

This call resonates with the challenges facing Indigenous Australians today. It also highlights the pressing need for Government to adopt a different approach to the one it has taken under the Northern Territory Emergency Response.

Indigenous communities want proper consultation about the services they are lacking and the jobs that will be created. This requires less bureaucracy, more enduring partnerships and better understanding that effective community development takes time. The process of job creation needs to be respectful of Indigenous culture and flexible to meet the diverse needs and customary practices of communities.

Seven Elders of the Northern Territory recently sent out a call to the people of Australia:

*We demand the return of our rights, our freedom to live our traditional lives, support to develop our economic enterprises to develop jobs and to work towards a better future for our peoples.*<sup>14</sup>

These leaders know, more than most, the real community-building value of work beyond the generation of personal wealth. For the life of their communities and the God-given dignity of their people, let us consider how we can help our Indigenous brothers and sisters achieve the most basic form of social justice: the right to a job.

Most Rev. Christopher Saunders, DD  
Bishop of Broome  
Chairman, Australian Catholic Social Justice Council

## Notes

- 1 Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2010, '2009 Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians', 6287.0, ABS, Canberra.
- 2 J Taylor, 2010, 'Demography as Destiny: Schooling, Work and Aboriginal Population Change at Wadeye', Working paper No.64, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University, p.35.
- 3 Prime Minister Julia Gillard, 2011, 'Closing the Gap - Prime Minister's Report 2011', Commonwealth of Australia, p.1.
- 4 Ibid., p.45; Ministers Jenny Macklin & Brendan O'Connor, 2008, 'Strengthening Indigenous employment opportunities', Media Release, 19/12/2008.
- 5 K Jordan & D Mavec, 2010, 'Corporate initiatives in Indigenous employment: The Australian Employment Covenant two years on', Working paper No.74, CAEPR, Australian National University, pp.13-18.
- 6 Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, 2008, 'Remarks at the launch of the Australian Employment Covenant', 30/10/2008, Kirribilli House, Sydney.
- 7 Minister Jenny Macklin, 2009, Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of the Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009, Second Reading Speech.
- 8 N Biddle, J Taylor & M Yap, 2008, 'Indigenous Participation in Regional Labour Markets, 2001-06', Discussion Paper 288, CAEPR, Australian National University, pp.35-38.
- 9 ABC News, 28/3/2011, 'Shire rejects critics of outsourcing jobs to India'.
- 10 ABC News, 25/2/2011, 'Indigenous housing contractors on \$450k: Senator'.
- 11 Rosalie Kunoth-Monks cited in: Concerned Australians, 2010, 'Loss of Rights - The despair of

Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory', Submission to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, p.48.

12 *Mater et Magistra* ('Christianity and Social Progress'), 1961, Encyclical Letter of Pope John XXIII, St. Paul Editions, n.150.

13 *Ibid.*, n.151.

14 Message of Rosalie Kunoth-Monks of Utopia, Rev Dr Djiniyini Gondarra of Galiwin'ku, Harry Nelson of Yuendumu, Mirium Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann of Nauiyu, Djapirri Mununggirritj & Dhanggal Gurruwiwi of Yirrkala, & George Gaymarani Pascoe of Milingimbi, 7/2/2011, 'To the People of Australia'.



## Current Issues / Resources

### TASMANIAN DETENTION CENTRE: RETROGRADE STEP

Bishop Christopher Saunders has slammed the government's decision to open an asylum seeker detention centre in Tasmania. 'I find this a retrograde step and an added cause of shame for us all as a nation of people who desire to give everyone a fair go,' he says. 'The solution as to how to handle the boat people arrivals does not lie in the construction of new detention centres but rather might be found in the realm of compassion and care-filled concern. A caring and just response to refugees must look to see how quickly they might be processed and how humanely they might be treated.' ([http://sydneycatholic.org/news/latest\\_news/2011/201147\\_795.shtml](http://sydneycatholic.org/news/latest_news/2011/201147_795.shtml))

### REFUGEE WEEK RESOURCE KIT

Refugee Week (June 19 to 25) is coordinated by the Refugee Council of Australia. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the UN Refugee Convention, the 50th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, the 30th birthday of the Refugee Council and 25th year in which Refugee Week has been celebrated in Australia. The theme for 2011 is 'Freedom from Fear'. The 2011 Refugee Week Resource Kit is now available, with background information about refugees, a guide to organising events, responses to common myths about refugees and asylum seekers and an extensive list of websites, books, films, documentaries, lesson plans and online games on refugee-related issues. Download the Kit at <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rwresources.html>. More about the week, visit: [http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rw\\_index.html](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rw_index.html)

### OMBUSMAN TO INVESTIGATE CHRISTMAS ISLAND

Commonwealth Ombudsman Allan Asher has announced the conduct of an investigation into the use of force by the Australian Federal Police and the immigration detention provider, SERCO, on Christmas Island during the week of 12 March 2011. Mr Asher said, 'My principal concern with Christmas Island, as with all of Australia's detention facilities, is to ensure that in using its exceptional powers, DIAC upholds the highest standards of public administration and accountability.' Mr Asher said, 'As long as there are families with children, unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable people in immigration detention facilities on Christmas Island, and as long as there are risks to their health and well-being as a consequence of inadequate services, I consider that DIAC is in breach of the Australian Government's own detention values.' (<http://www.ombudsman.gov.au/media-releases/show/175>)

### PUBLICATION: 'DESTITUTE AND UNCERTAIN'

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre has just released a new paper entitled *Destitute and Uncertain: The reality of Seeking Asylum in Australia*. The purpose of this paper is to educate, advocate and work constructively towards better practices and process regarding the welfare needs of asylum seekers. It highlights key recommendations to ease the uncertainty and destitution facing many asylum seekers living in our community. The paper outlines a best practice model for responding to the welfare needs of asylum seekers. To access the paper, visit: <http://www.asrc.org.au/publications/publications/>

## **PETITION: GRAVE CONCERNS OVER MOU WITH AFGHANISTAN**

Over the past two months, the Edmund Rice Centre has been inviting all people who are concerned about Australia's Memorandum of Understanding with Afghanistan, which permits the involuntary repatriation of unsuccessful asylum seekers, to sign on to a public statement of concern. So far about 1,000 endorsements have been received from organisations, prominent Australians and from other concerned individuals. To view the statement and sign on, visit: <http://erc.org.au/>

## **PETITION: RESTORE HUMAN RIGHTS TO NT ABORIGINAL PEOPLE**

'concerned Australians' are seeking your support in seeking equity, respect and human rights for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sisters and brothers of the Northern Territory. In early February, Elders & leaders from the Northern Territory travelled to Melbourne and addressed a full auditorium at the Melbourne University Law School. They released a statement to over 400 people. Such have been the serious criticisms of the NT Intervention at the United Nations, that Navi Pillay the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights is visiting Australia shortly. 'Concerned Australians' has a letter and petition requesting Navi Pillay to address these issues with the Government, urging them to turn around the human rights violations embedded in the Northern Territory Intervention.

Petitions need to be returned to 'concerned Australians' by 7 May at: PO Box 281, East Melbourne, Victoria 8002.

To access the letter and forms, and also to access the Elder's Statement of February, visit <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au>.

## **PUBLICATION: 'JUVENILE JUSTICE IN AUSTRALIA'**

A new study by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Juvenile justice in Australia 2008-09*, shows how young people living in geographically remote areas or areas of low socioeconomic status are more likely to be under juvenile justice supervision than those in major cities or areas of high socioeconomic status. Young people from very remote areas were about 6 times as likely to

be under community-based supervision and 5 times more likely to be in detention than their counterparts living in major cities. Similarly, young people from areas of low socioeconomic status were about 5 times as likely to be under supervision and almost 6 times as likely to be in detention. Although only about 5% of young Australians are Indigenous, almost 40% of those under supervision and 50% in detention were Indigenous. 216 pages, cost: \$31.00. To order, visit: <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=10737418606>

## **NEW WEBSITE: JRS ASIA PACIFIC**

Jesuit Refugee Service Asia Pacific has launched a new website that comprehensively highlights the plight of urban refugees with videos, photos, stories and news articles. The work of the eight Asia Pacific countries will be presented in more detail, as will specific campaigns; for example, on landmines, women, education and detention. A special place will be given to the voices of refugees and a new multimedia library. Initially, it will be available in English, but over the next few months, the Thai and Indonesian versions will come online. Visit the website at: <http://www.jrsap.org>

## **DVD & BOOKLET: 'STATIONS OF THE FORESTS'**

Following the format of *The Stations of the Cross* this prayerful resource laments the stages in the death of a part of God's Creation, the rainforests. It incorporates issues related to rainforest destruction: extractive industries, loss of biodiversity and climate change. In the International Year of the Forests, it invites you to reflect on our place in the Australian landscape in a similar manner and take hope-filled action. A Booklet accompanies the DVD, providing the script, an agenda for meetings, a reflection for each of the Stations, and prayers. Ideal for senior students and adult groups. Price: \$25.00 plus postage, handling and GST. To Order, visit <http://www.columban.org.au> or Contact Columban Mission Institute, Locked Bag 2002, Strathfield NSW 2135, ph 02 9352 8021.

## **DISCUSSION PAPER: TUVALU, CLIMATE CHANGE AND CULTURE**

The Edmund Rice Centre's Eco-Justice initiative the Pacific Calling Partnership have

published a new discussion paper on the care that is needed to be fully respectful of unique cultures when considering low-lying island nations within global climate change discussions. Focus on Tuvalu as a global litmus test can function to subsume important issues of protecting cultural diversity. In any ethically and culturally informed debate, neither the Tuvalu islands nor Tuvaluan culture should be considered expendable to sea level rise as a signifier to the rest of the world that climate change is real and serious. To access the paper, visit: [http://erc.org.au/index.php?module=documents&JAS\\_DocumentManager\\_op=viewDocument&JAS\\_Document\\_id=293](http://erc.org.au/index.php?module=documents&JAS_DocumentManager_op=viewDocument&JAS_Document_id=293)

### **CAMPAIGN: 'BITE THE BULLET - CUT MILITARY SPENDING'**

The Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition supports efforts to dismantle our excessive military spending and to develop a peace economy that will prioritise people over profits, create more jobs and fund much needed public health, education, housing and environmental programs. Australia spends \$32 billion a year on the military, making it the 14th biggest spender on the military in the world. The Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition

is holding the *Bite the Bullet* campaign to motivate broad-based movement to educate, agitate and organise against excessive military spending. To view the campaign video and suggested actions, visit the website: <http://www.anti-bases.org/>

### **CALL FOR PAPERS: THE WAY FORWARD - AUSTERITY OR STIMULUS?**

The 13th Path to Full Employment/18th National Unemployment Conference will be held at the University of Newcastle from Wednesday 7 to Thursday 8 December 2011. The Conference will explore the contradictions of the policy stances that are now emerging amidst the global unemployment crisis. There are tens of millions unemployed, a large proportion of productive capacity lying idle, and vast quantities of output and income foregone. The political landscape seems divorced from this reality and instead of creating jobs, governments are seeking ways to impose fiscal austerity to reduce their budget deficits at a time when private spending is still mostly weak. Conference organisers are now calling for papers. Further information can be found at: [http://e1.newcastle.edu.au/coffee/conferences/2011/Call\\_for\\_Papers.cfm](http://e1.newcastle.edu.au/coffee/conferences/2011/Call_for_Papers.cfm)

## Latest Publications

(Orders: phone (02) 8306 3499 or download an order form from the ACSJC website [that can be faxed to (02) 8306 3498]: [http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/PDF/ORDER\\_FORM.pdf](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/PDF/ORDER_FORM.pdf))

### **SERIES PAPER - 'THE LOVE THAT SURPRISES'**

In Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.69, entitled 'The Love that Surprises: Lessons from Timor-Leste', Mark Green describes his experiences working for Caritas Australia in Timor-Leste. The paper discusses Mark's involvement with three water supply projects in remote communities, and the experience of watching and helping as the people themselves decided what they needed and how the projects would be completed. These encounters prompted him to think

deeply about the concrete reality of Catholic social teaching and our relationships with marginalised communities close to our shores. The paper also discusses Timor's society, language and history, including the disastrous years of occupation and the struggle for independence. Its title is inspired by Pope Benedict's encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*: '... in the love that we receive there is always an element that surprises us'. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

### **PASTORAL LETTER - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2011**

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2011 is entitled 'Indigenous Employment - The most basic form of social justice'. It is available for download in regular

and 'three-column' versions at: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

### **DISCUSSION GUIDE - WORLD DAY OF PEACE MESSAGE 2011**

On 1 January, the Holy Father delivered his World Day of Peace message. The theme of his message is *Religious Freedom: the Path to Peace*. The ACSJC discussion guide can be downloaded in pdf or word formats from the ACSJC homepage: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

### **2011 SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY**

The 2011 Social Justice Diary includes the dates of significant events, anniversaries and special days which celebrate particular aspects of social justice. It also highlights aspects of the theme for Social Justice Sunday in 2011 - 'Prisons and the justice system'. Cost: \$6.60 (inc. GST), plus postage. To download an order form, go to: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

### **2010 SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY STATEMENT**

The 2010 Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Sunday Statement is entitled 'Violence in Australia: A message of peace'. The ACSJC is still taking orders for the Statement. An order form and other information/resources are available on the ACSJC website: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

### **Prayer Card & Leaflet: Ten steps towards being a peacemaker.**

Now available. Call (02) 8306 3499

**Social Justice Sunday Statement Summary, Liturgy Notes, Teachers' Notes, PowerPoint Presentation** - now available at: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

**Ecumenical resource: 'Peace Be With You'**. Download from the National Council of Churches website: <http://www.ncca.org.au/departments/social-justice>

### **SERIES PAPER - 'MERCY AND JUSTICE EMBRACE'**

Sr Marie Farrell rsm considers the vast range of people and organisations working for justice in today's Church in Australia and how they form a mosaic of social justice that reflects the mystery of the Eucharist and God's bond with humanity. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

(Catholic Social Justice Series papers: \$6.60 a copy, plus postage. Postage rates for Catholic Social Justice Series Papers: 1 copy \$1.20; 2 copies \$1.80; 3-5 copies \$3.00)



## **This Month's Notices**

### **UNTIL 8 MAY. EXHIBITION: 'FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW: FIGHTING FOR INDIGENOUS RIGHTS 1920-1970' (NSW).**

This exhibition tells the story of a group of Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, who said 'That's not good enough' - and did something about it. The exhibition tells some uncomfortable truths and celebrates some 'ordinary extraordinary' heroes. This is the time where some Australians did not have the same freedoms as everybody else. They were the First Australians, made second-class citizens in their own country. This is a moment to share our common history and celebrate some courageous Australians. Cost: \$10,

concession \$5. 9.30 am to 5.00 pm, Museum of Sydney, corner Bridge and Phillip Streets, Sydney. Contact: 02 9251 5988. Web: <http://www.hht.net.au/museums/mos>.

**UNTIL 26 JUNE. EXHIBITION: 'CARVED TREES - ABORIGINAL CULTURES OF WESTERN NSW' (NSW).** Ronald Briggs, exhibition curator and a Gamilaroi man (from Moree) is hoping to renew interest in tree carvings because 'they remain as tangible evidence of our past and that has changed so much over time.' The Clifton Cappie Towle collection includes hundreds of rare surviving photographs including carved trees from central and north-western NSW

photographed between about 1920 and 1940. Exhibition Galleries, Mitchell Library, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9273 1566 or [vbond@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:vbond@sl.nsw.gov.au). Web: <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/events/exhibitions/future.html>.

### **30 APRIL. HILLS JUSTICE PROJECT FAIR TRADE MARKET (NSW).**

Organisation: Hills Justice Project. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Dural Sport and Leisure Centre, 1 Pellitt Lane, Dural. Contact: [hjp.ft@hotmail.com](mailto:hjp.ft@hotmail.com) or 0413 122 103. Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/node/537>.

**30 APRIL. FILM: 'COUNTDOWN TO ZERO' (VIC).** MAPW Geelong presents the prize-winning film 'Countdown to Zero' (from the makers of 'An Inconvenient Truth'). Introduced by Senator-elect Dr Richard Di Natale. Cost: \$20, concession \$15. 7.30 to 10.00 pm, Theatre 1, Deakin Clinical School, Ryrie Street, Geelong. Contact: 0430 861 621 or email [geelong@mapw.org.au](mailto:geelong@mapw.org.au). Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/countdown-zero-film>.

**1 MAY. MARY MACKILLOP PLACE MUSEUM OPEN DAY (NSW).** Explore the museum's latest special exhibition, enter historic Alma Cottage and catch a short talk on Mary's life in North Sydney, learn more about the Sisters' special projects worldwide and take a free Museum Highlights Tour. Free museum admission. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, 7-11 Mount Street, North Sydney. Web: <http://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/museum/WhatsOn.asp>.

**1 MAY. SERVICE TO COMMEMORATE REV JOSEPH ORTON, CHAMPION OF THE DISADVANTAGED (VIC).** Wesley Uniting Church will host the service, which will be led by Revd Alistair Orton, a direct descendant of Revd Joseph Orton, who was the first clergyman to conduct a church service in the Port Phillip District. A champion of the disadvantaged, Revd Joseph Orton had tried to educate African slaves in Jamaica, before being imprisoned for publicly opposing slavery. An active campaigner for Aboriginal people, Orton pushed for their just treatment and land rights. The celebration will feature presentations from two of Melbourne's leading

historians. Dr Peter Sherlock, Dean of the United Faculty of Theology, and Mrs Alison Head, Past President UCHS. 11.00 am, 64-66 Orrong Road (South), Elsternwick. Contact: 03 9523 1056. Web: [http://www.lightfm.com.au/index.php?option=com\\_events&task=view\\_detail&agid=1405&year=2011&month=05&day=01&Itemid=48](http://www.lightfm.com.au/index.php?option=com_events&task=view_detail&agid=1405&year=2011&month=05&day=01&Itemid=48).

### **1 MAY. BIG CATHOLIC DAY OUT (NSW).**

Families are invited to pack a picnic and gather for the annual Marian Procession. The event is an opportunity for Catholic families to meet, pray together and enjoy each other's company. Bishop Pat Power will celebrate an open air pilgrims' Mass at noon. Everyone is then invited to join the procession to Rosary Hill at 2pm, which Archbishop Mark Coleridge will also take part in. The day will include a talk by Goulburn Sisters of St Joseph congregational leader Sr Noelene Quinane on 'Mary - Woman for All'. 12.00 pm, St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong. Contact: 02 6299 4611 or [stg.queanbeyan@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:stg.queanbeyan@cg.catholic.org.au). Web: [http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/news/view\\_article.cfm?id=456](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/news/view_article.cfm?id=456).

### **2 MAY. SDC MONTHLY SEMINAR 'CREATING A CONFLICT RESOLVING COMMUNITY' (NSW).**

Shoshana Faire, author of 'Everyone Can Win - Resolving Conflict Constructively' will introduce us to the Conflict Resolution Network's resources. She will also facilitate an interactive session of the 12 skills of conflict resolution (CR). The Conflict Resolution Network's vision is to create a conflict-resolving community in a culture of peace and social justice by researching, developing, teaching and implementing the theory and practice of conflict resolution. Cost: \$5. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, University of Technology Sydney, 235 Jones Street, Building 10, Level 6, large training room, Sydney. Contact: 0417 272 101 or [lucy@claypartners.com](mailto:lucy@claypartners.com). Web: <http://sdc.groupsite.com/calendar/event/2011/5/2/270118>.

**2 MAY. AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES TALK: 'ABORIGINAL ENGLISH IN THE LEGAL PROCESS' (ACT).** Presenter: Dr Diana Eades, University of New England. Aboriginal English is the cover term used to refer to



the varieties of English spoken by Aboriginal Australians. This talk will discuss a number of linguistic and legal issues relating to the participation of Aboriginal English speakers in the legal process, raising questions such as - how can the complex variation in Aboriginal ways of speaking English be explained within the legal system? 12.30 to 2.00 pm, The Mabo Room, AIATSIS, Lawson Crescent, Canberra. Web: <http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/documents/Eades020511.pdf>.

**2 MAY. SEMINAR: 'CAPACITY FOR CRIME: ADOLESCENT BRAIN DEVELOPMENT, MENTAL HEALTH AND YOUTH CRIME' (NSW).** This seminar will explore current thinking in the science of adolescent brain development and review recent research into the mental health of young people within the NSW juvenile justice system. By considering these features of youth crime, it will be possible to reflect upon the efficacy of current programs for young people. This seminar is the third in a series sponsored by the Department of Human Services NSW - Juvenile Justice. Speakers: Professor Hickie, Executive Director, Brain and Mind Institute; Jonathan Nicholas, CEO, Inspire Foundation; and Natalie Mamone, Chief Psychologist, Juvenile Justice NSW. No cost. 5.30 to 8.00 pm, Foyer (level 2), Sydney Law School, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Contact: 02 9351 0238 or [law.events@sydney.edu.au](mailto:law.events@sydney.edu.au), RSVP essential. Web: <http://sydney.edu.au/law/criminology/seminars/events/#capacitycrime>.

**2 MAY. BIG IDEAS EVENING: 'HOW DO WE INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN THE HEALTH SECTOR?' (WA).** Panellists: Ken Wyatt MHR, Liberal Member for Hasluck and a Member of the Order of Australia for services to Aboriginal health; Ben Wyatt MLA, the current Shadow Minister for Education and former Shadow Treasurer; Jenni Collard, Director, Office of Aboriginal Health, Department of Health Western Australia; and Kevin Cox, Area Director of Aboriginal Health Improvement Unit, WA Country Health. There will be a diverse range of perspectives on Indigenous health issues presented, including the views of key decision makers in Western Australia and ideas from Notre Dame students. 6.00 to 7.30 pm, Tannock Hall of Education,

Lecture Theatre, ND4/101, University of Notre Dame. Contact: [stephanie.greige@nd.edu.au](mailto:stephanie.greige@nd.edu.au) or 08 9433 0101, RSVP by 25 April. Web: [http://www.nd.edu.au/downloads/events/Big\\_Ideas\\_Poster.pdf](http://www.nd.edu.au/downloads/events/Big_Ideas_Poster.pdf).

**2 MAY. FILM SCREENING: 'OUR GENERATION' (NSW).** A journey into the heart of Australia's Indigenous relations, a hidden shame that is pushing the world's oldest living culture to the edge. Through the stories of the Yolngu of Arnhem Land, the film looks at the Government's ongoing policies of paternalism and assimilation, examines the real issues underlying Indigenous disadvantage, and opens dialogue on ways forward that respect Aboriginal culture and dignity. Jeff McMullen, former ABC Foreign Correspondent, will be speaking before the film. Hosted by Hornsby Area Residents for Reconciliation. No cost. 6.30 pm, Hornsby RSL (Acacia room), 4 High Street, Hornsby. Contact: 02 9482 2994 or [dbabb@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dbabb@bigpond.net.au). Web: <http://www.ourgeneration.org.au/>.

**2, 23 MAY. CULTURE OF PEACE: 'MAKING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PEACE, ECOLOGY AND JUSTICE' (NSW).** A formation program for educators offered by the Columban Mission Institute Centre for Peace, Ecology and Justice. Cost: \$220. Columban Mission Institute, 167 Albert Road, Strathfield. Contact: 02 9352 8021 or [pej.cmi@columban.org.au](mailto:pej.cmi@columban.org.au). Web: <http://www.justiceandpeace.org.au/home.shtml>.

**3, 4 MAY. FILM SCREENING: 'OUR GENERATION' (NSW).** A journey into the heart of Australia's Indigenous relations, a hidden shame that is pushing the world's oldest living culture to the edge. Through the stories of the Yolngu of Arnhem Land, the film looks at the Government's ongoing policies of paternalism and assimilation, examines the real issues underlying Indigenous disadvantage, and opens dialogue on ways forward that respect Aboriginal culture and dignity. No cost. 6.00 pm, The Youthie, Nowra Youth Centre, 132 Kinghorne Street, Nowra. Contact: 02 4422 1988. Web: <http://www.ourgeneration.org.au/>.

**3-29 MAY. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: 'LAND IS LIFE' (TAS).** This launch features work from Rodney Dekker documenting how climate change has had an impact on the lives of the people from the Pacific island nations of Tuvalu and Kiribati. 9.00 am to 6.00 pm, Morris Miller Library, UTAS, Hobart. Contact: 03 6226 2227. Web: <http://www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/land-is-life>.

**4 MAY. AFTINET TRADE JUSTICE ANNUAL DINNER (NSW).** Speaker: Ms Ged Kearney, President ACTU. Cost: \$60. The Hellenic Club Restaurant, 251 Elizabeth Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9212 7242. Web: <http://aftinet.org.au>.

**5 MAY. SHOAH HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL SERVICE (VIC).** For the sake of the present we do not forget the past. Shoah Holocaust Memorial Service for Christians and all people of good will. Followed by refreshments and conversation. 7.30 pm, St Paul's Cathedral, Swanston Street, Melbourne. Web: [http://www.cam.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_eventlist&view=details&id=193&Itemid=393](http://www.cam.org.au/index.php?option=com_eventlist&view=details&id=193&Itemid=393).

**5 MAY. EDMUND RICE CENTRE EVENING WITH PATRICK DODSON: 'LABOURERS IN THE FIELD OF JUSTICE' (NSW).** Winner of the 2008 Sydney Peace Prize and former Chair of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, Patrick Dodson is highly regarded as a national leader of Aboriginal Australia. He is involved in matters relating to the preservation and enhancement of Indigenous rights and culture and reconciliation. He is Chairman of the Lingiari Foundation, an Indigenous non government advocacy and research Foundation. Cost: \$25. 6.30 to 9.00 pm, Treacy Centre, Christian Brothers' High School, Lewisham. Contact: [erea.east@erea.edu.au](mailto:erea.east@erea.edu.au) or 02 9818 8522, RSVP by 2 May. Web: <http://www.paxchristi.org.au/plugins/events.cgi?short=1&date=2011-05-05>.

**5 MAY. FREILICH FOUNDATION: THE ALICE TAY LECTURE ON LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS (ACT).** Professor the Hon Gareth Evans AO QC will speak on 'Implementing the Responsibility to Protect: Lessons and Challenges'. Genocide and other mass atrocity crimes continue

to shock our consciences - with echoes of Cambodia, Rwanda and Srebrenica in the recent cold-blooded shooting of protesters across North Africa and the Middle East. The embrace by the UN in 2005 of 'the responsibility to protect' marked a major normative shift. But will the new principle ever be fully and effectively implemented in practice? No cost. 6.00 to 7.00 pm, Finkel Theatre, The John Curtin School of Medical Research, Garran Road, ANU. Contact: [Freilich.Foundation@anu.edu.au](mailto:Freilich.Foundation@anu.edu.au) or 02 6125 5527. Web: <http://freilich.anu.edu.au/>.

**6 MAY. FUNDRAISER: KARINYA HOUSE MOTHERS DAY BALL (ACT).** Help Karinya House continue to support mothers and their babies in crisis by attending the Mother's Day Ball at the Southern Cross Club in Phillip. Raffles, lucky door prizes and live auctions will be held throughout the evening. Anyone unable to attend can still support Karinya by making a donation to the Mother's Day Appeal. Cost: \$100. 6.30 pm, Corinna Ballroom, Canberra Southern Cross Club, Corinna Street, Philip. Contact: 02 6241 8427 or [jackie.gallagher@karinyahouse.asn.au](mailto:jackie.gallagher@karinyahouse.asn.au), RSVP by 29 April. Web: <http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/uploads/rsfil/03057.pdf>.

**6 MAY. TENISON WOODS EDUCATION CENTRE ANNUAL DINNER: 'HOW CAN WE BE PEACEMAKERS IN AN AGE OF VIOLENCE?' (NSW).** Maitland born, Sydney based peace activist, Donna Mulhearn, was a human shield during the war in Iraq. She later returned as a humanitarian aid worker to set up a shelter for street kids and orphans. Donna will share from her experiences confronting violence in various war zones around the world, weaving in her spiritual journey of contemplation and action. Cost: \$55. 6.30 pm, The Therry Centre, New England Highway, East Maitland. Contact: 02 4930 9601 or [twec@ssjl.org.au](mailto:twec@ssjl.org.au). Web: <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/pdf/TWEC%20Dinner%20Poster%202011.pdf>.

**6 MAY. MELBOURNE 2011 HUMAN RIGHTS DINNER (VIC).** The Human Rights Law Centre and the Public Interest Law Clearing House have organised a Human Rights Dinner with keynote speakers Simon McKeon, 2011

Australian of the year, and Dr Cassandra Goldie, CEO of the Australian Council of Social Service. There will be a silent auction, featuring pictures by renowned photographer, the late Wolfgang Sievers, signed human rights books, fine wines and other delights. Cost: \$140, concession \$80. 6.45 pm, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf (Rooms 105 and 106 Hilton South Wharf entrance). Contact: [rsvphumanrights@pilch.org.au](mailto:rsvphumanrights@pilch.org.au) or 03 8636 4459, RSVP by 27 April. Web: <http://www.hrlrc.org.au/content/events/upcoming-events/2011-human-rights-dinner-6-may-melbourne/>.

**6 MAY. WORLDCHANGERS MARKET (NSW).** The event promotes fair trade and ethical products from around the world. Buy quality ethical and fair trade products that help vulnerable communities escape the cycle of poverty. Learn more about local and international poverty issues, influence government and business choose people over profit. Enjoy international food, live music, and family activities. 5.30 to 9.00 pm, Wollongong Church of Christ, 25 O'Briens Road, Figtree. Contact: 0411 801 553 or [anne@wgongcoc.org](mailto:anne@wgongcoc.org). Web: <http://www.wgongcoc.org/news-and-events/>.

**6 MAY. ABORIGINAL CULTURE, HISTORY AND HERITAGE TRAINING (ACT).** This workshop for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal workers gives participants a general introduction into the recent history of Aboriginal people in Australia. It aims to improve knowledge of Aboriginal culture and dispossession, and explores ways the organisations might improve their practice to respond to the needs of Aboriginal people. Facilitated by Kerry Reed-Gilbert. Cost: \$54-239. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre, Lady Denman Drive, Yarramundi Reach. Contact: [actcoss@actcoss.org.au](mailto:actcoss@actcoss.org.au). Web: <http://www.actcoss.org.au/secdevel/seminars.html>.

**6, 13, 18 MAY. FAIRTRADE ONLINE CHAT (NATIONAL).** Tune to hear from Fairtrade Producers on Tour - Senarath Yatigamma or Cecilia Granadino. Ask your questions, and listen to their stories from Sri Lanka and Peru. 3.00 pm. Web: <http://www.fairtradefortnight.com/fairtrade-on-tour/follow-the-tour.aspx>.

**6 MAY. FAIRTRADE TOUR OXFAM SHOP (NSW).** Come down to Oxfam and meet with Senareth Yatigamma who knows about the benefits Fairtrade is providing to Sri Lankan tea farmers. View an array of fairtrade goods and products. 4.00 pm, Oxfam Shop Broadway, Shop G15, Broadway Shopping Centre, 1 Bay Street, Broadway. Contact: 03 9662 2919 or [info@fairtrade.com.au](mailto:info@fairtrade.com.au). Web: <http://www.fairtradefortnight.com/fairtrade-on-tour/follow-the-tour.aspx>.

**7 MAY. ERC FAIR TRADE STALL AT STRATHFIELD FAIR (NSW).** The Edmund Rice Centre will be hosting a stall at the upcoming Strathfield Olde Fashion Fair Day with Fair Trade goods, including mothers day gift packs, as well as educational information on or current justice projects and publications. The Fair will include a wide variety of local community groups and organisations, with fun and entertainment throughout the day for the whole family. No entry cost. 10.00 am to 3.30 pm, Strathfield Square (next to railway/bus station), Strathfield. Contact: 02 8762 4200 or [dannyl@erc.org.au](mailto:dannyl@erc.org.au). Web: [http://www.erc.org.au/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE\\_user\\_op=view\\_page&PAGE\\_id=137](http://www.erc.org.au/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE_user_op=view_page&PAGE_id=137).

**7 MAY. EVENT: 'ECOLOGY AT THE HEART OF CHRISTIAN FAITH' (VIC).** Catholic Religious Victoria is proud to sponsor this event. People around the globe have begun to recognize that we are called to a new way of being on Earth. There is a growing movement of people who are connected in a common love of Earth and its creatures, a movement of farmers, artists, school children, scientists, industrialists, politicians and religious leaders. As Pope John Paul II has said, we are all being called to an ecological conversion. Presented by Father Denis Edwards, Priest of the Archdiocese of Adelaide. Denis Edwards teaches at the School of Theology, Flinders University, and CTC Adelaide. He has published a number of books on theology and science. Cost: \$50. 10.00 to 3.00 pm, Veneto Club, 190 Bulleen Road, Bulleen. Contact: [clrcv@connexus.net.au](mailto:clrcv@connexus.net.au). Web: [http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/?page\\_id=5](http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/?page_id=5).

### **7 MAY. MANLY FAIR TRADE FAIR (NSW).**

There will be many Fair Trade stalls selling a huge variety of high quality handmade Fair Trade products from around the world ranging from jewellery to clothing, accessories, toys, chocolate and sports balls. Adding to the excitement and fun of the markets will be a vibrant mix of free all-day entertainment. Manly Council Forecourt, 1 Belgrave Street, Manly. Contact: [carol.layton@manly.nsw.gov.au](mailto:carol.layton@manly.nsw.gov.au) or 02 9976 1658. Web: <http://www.manly.nsw.gov.au/whatson/fair-trade-markets/>.

### **7 MAY. COMMEMORATION OF TUTSI GENOCIDE (NSW).**

Each year since the Genocide against Tutsi in Rwanda took place (April-July 1994), commemorative events are organised world wide to remember more than 1 million people brutally killed in a period of 100 days. This year, the Rwandan Community of NSW has organised a series of activities to commemorate its 17th anniversary. Among them are a church service and a conference on genocide. The speaker, a social and cultural anthropologist and researcher in Rwandan Tutsi genocide, will deliver a talk on social and cultural dimensions that led to unspeakable mass murder. 12.00 pm, Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus, 25A Barker Rd, Strathfield. Contact: [damascene.byimira@acu.edu.au](mailto:damascene.byimira@acu.edu.au) or 02 9701 4161. Web: [http://www.acu.edu.au/about\\_acu/news\\_events/acu\\_events/strathfield/17th\\_commemoration\\_of\\_tutsi\\_genocide/](http://www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/news_events/acu_events/strathfield/17th_commemoration_of_tutsi_genocide/).

### **7-22 MAY. FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT**

**(NATIONAL).** This Fair Trade Fortnight celebrate the life-changing difference fair trade makes for millions of developing country farmers, workers, artisans and their families and communities. The fortnight is Australia's biggest annual celebration of all things fair trade. There will be events, activities and promotions. Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/news-events>.

### **8 MAY. FAIR TRADE MOTHERS' DAY HIGH TEA**

**(VIC).** Guest Speakers: Kommel Chanthavong, Director of Phontong-CAMA Handicraft Cooperative and Lao Sericulture Company, a World Fair Trade Organisation in Laos; and Nicole Lamond Philp, director Universal Village, Australia's 100% Fair Trade Food Co.

Mother's Day celebrations will continue in the Rosina Courtyard where 25 fair trade stalls are expected to take part and will sell an abundance of fair trade mothers' day gifts. Cost: various. 10.30 am to 4.30 pm, Rosina Room, Abbotsford Convent, 1 St Heliers Street, Abbotsford. Organisation: Moral Fairground. Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/node/564>.

### **9 MAY. SHOAH MEMORIAL SERVICE (NSW).**

The NSW Council of Christians and Jews is holding this Holocaust Commemoration held annually in memory of the Shoah's Jewish suffering. Speaker: Michael Jaku will address the gathering for the Cathedral commemoration service and speak of his father's experiences in the Holocaust. A further component of the service will be a special music interlude with Faye Sussman singing in Yiddish and viola music by David Angel. 6.00 pm, crypt of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Contact: [dacymarianne@yahoo.com.au](mailto:dacymarianne@yahoo.com.au). Web: <http://www.ccjaustralia.org>.

### **10 MAY. PCP CONGREGATIONAL PACIFIC CONNECTIONS FORUM (NSW).**

The Social Justice Committee of the Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes NSW (CLRI NSW), a member of the Pacific Calling Partnership, is inviting congregations who have past or present connections in the Pacific Region, to increase our solidarity for purposeful action in response to the many issues co-existing with the harmful effects of climate change in these areas. The aim of this forum will include a sharing of information on congregational involvement in conjunction with the Pacific Calling Partnership to date, and discussion and strategic planning on how we can forge a path ahead for passionate and targeted action together. 3.30 to 5.30 pm, The Good Samaritan Centre, Glebe. Contact: [clrinsw@ozemail.com.au](mailto:clrinsw@ozemail.com.au), RSVP essential. Web: [http://www.clrinsw.org/current/soc\\_just/sj\\_110308.pdf](http://www.clrinsw.org/current/soc_just/sj_110308.pdf).

### **10 MAY. NEWTOWN SIP: 'SPIRITUALITIES IN A MULTIFAITH SOCIETY' (NSW).**

Throughout 2011 we will explore the traditions and spiritualities of various faiths and no faith. We will have the opportunity to probe and question various traditions through their own representatives. Please join us for this rich and varied spiritual odyssey Neil Ormerod, ACU, and Stuart Piggitt,

Centre for the History of Christian Thought and Experience at Macquarie University. Sponsored by Newtown SIP Committee and Catalyst for Renewal. No cost. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, Town Hall Hotel - the Townie, 326 King Street, Newtown. Contact: 02 8020 7631 or [aclevana@mooball.com](mailto:aclevana@mooball.com). Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/SIp%20Programs.htm>

**10 MAY. SEMINAR: 'THE IMPACT OF THE FINANCIAL CRISIS ON DEPRIVATION AND EXCLUSION: MEASUREMENT AND INITIAL FINDINGS' (NSW).** Prof Peter Saunders and Dr Melissa Wong, Social Policy Research Centre, UNSW. Professor Peter Saunders holds a Research Chair in Social Policy at the SPRC. His research interests include poverty and income distribution, household needs and living standards and comparative social policy. Dr Melissa Wong is a Research Associate at the SPRC. Her research interests include the causes and consequences of poverty, income inequality, trade poverty linkages and the interactions between growth and international trade on human capital accumulation. 12.30 to 1.30 pm, Location Room 223, John Goodsell Building (F20), UNSW. Contact: 02 9385 7800, RSVP essential. Web: [http://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/File/2\\_SPRC\\_Seminar\\_SaundersWong.pdf](http://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/File/2_SPRC_Seminar_SaundersWong.pdf).

**11 MAY. CAEPR SEMINAR: 'WORKING WITH COMPLEXITY: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND THE MURDI PAAKI COAG TRIAL 2002-2007' (ACT).** Achieving improvements in indigenous health and education and reducing the incidence of crime and domestic violence in Indigenous communities has proved heartbreakingly difficult. A large part of the problem is that governments see themselves as doing things 'for' indigenous communities. The Murdi Paaki COAG Trial in western NSW aimed to break this pattern by tailoring flexible Commonwealth and State government support to indigenous communities, working within a framework of shared responsibility and community-initiated planning. Speakers: Wendy Jarvie and Jenny Stewart. 12.30 to 2.00 pm, School of Cultural Inquiry Conference Room, First Floor, A.D. Hope Bldg #14 (opposite Chifley Library), The Australian National University, Canberra. Contact: 02 6125 0587 or [admin.caepr@anu.edu.au](mailto:admin.caepr@anu.edu.au). Web: [\[caepr.anu.edu.au/Seminars/11/Seminar-Topics%E2%80%94Series-1/11\\\_5\\\_Seminar.php\]\(http://caepr.anu.edu.au/Seminars/11/Seminar-Topics%E2%80%94Series-1/11\_5\_Seminar.php\).](http://</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

**11 MAY. JUSTICE AND MERCY YWAM DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING SCHOOL: 'ACT JUSTLY. LOVE MERCY' (SA).** This life changing school is comprised of a lecture and outreach part. The lecture phase will have 12 different topics such as: The Father Heart of God by guest speaker Steve Aherne, YWAM Australia's National Director; Relationships by Glenda Watson, International speaker on Restoration; Transformation and Wholeness by Rose Rowlson, clinical counsellor/ Elijah House Trainer; and Evangelism by Danny Taylor, YWAM Perth; etc. The mission phase is a 10-week practical mission outreach, where students go overseas and reach out with Jesus' love to those in lifestyles of brokenness, poverty, addictions and human trafficking. Certificate III in Discipleship - 52282. Contact: 08 8390 1040 or [rebecca.palmer@ywamsa.org.au](mailto:rebecca.palmer@ywamsa.org.au). Web: <http://www.ywamsa.org.au>.

**11 MAY. AUSTRALIAN HOUSING AND URBAN RESEARCH UNIT (AHURI) SEMINAR: 'INDIGENOUS HOUSING: THE LATEST EVIDENCE' (NT).** This AHURI housing research seminar will discuss the findings from two AHURI research projects which have examined specific Indigenous housing issues. Following the research presentations, discussants will comment on the implications of these findings. No cost. 12.15 to 3.00 pm, Holiday Inn Esplanade, 116 The Esplanade. Contact: [juan.li@ahuri.edu.au](mailto:juan.li@ahuri.edu.au). Web: <http://www.apo.org.au/node/24588>.

**12 MAY. BREAKFAST FORUM: 'CAN WE RISE TO THE CHALLENGE, AS INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS, OF BUILDING A MORE JUST AND COMPASSIONATE SOCIETY?' (VIC).** Jesuit Social Services, in collaboration with NAB, is holding the Just Leadership Just Imagine Breakfast Series. Frank Brennan SJ AO, will join Daniel Street in an inspiring inter-generational conversation about emerging frontiers in leadership and social change. Cost: \$15. 7.15 to 8.55 am, NAB Auditorium, 800 Bourke Street, Docklands. Contact: 03 9427 7388 or [justleadership@jss.org.au](mailto:justleadership@jss.org.au). Web: <http://www.jss.org.au/policy-and-advocacy/news/154-just-leadership-breakfast>.

**12 MAY. CHRISTIANS FOR AN ETHICAL SOCIETY (CES) FORUM: 'POPULATING THE FUTURE' (ACT).** Speakers: Geoff Buckmaster on 'Hurling Towards a Precipice, Hoping for a Miracle?'; and Mark O'Connor on 'Controlling Our Population - A Moral Obligation'. Cost: A donation of \$5 is invited to cover the cost of room hire. 7.30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall Street, Barton. Web: <http://www.ces.org.au>.

**12 MAY. COURSE: 'EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY SKILLS AND STRATEGIES' (NSW).** Learn how to be more effective in your advocacy work in this practical one-day course designed for community workers, advocates and campaigners. The interactive workshop format uses small group problem solving, role-play, and case studies. There are no prerequisites for attending this training. Cost: \$230, concession \$115. 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Sydney - Haymarket. Contact: 02 8898 6503. Web: <http://www.piac.asn.au/trainingevent/effective-advocacy-skills-and-strategies-0>.

**12-15 MAY. MESSAGE STICKS INDIGENOUS FILM FESTIVAL.** A celebration of Indigenous film from Australia and around the world. This year, Message Sticks expands beyond film to include more art forms and artists. / See is part of our Babies Proms series and an engaging way for young audiences to be introduced to some of the music, dance and storytelling from around Australia. *Magpie Blues* is a musical cabaret starring Ursula Yovich reflecting on her mixed heritage and her childhood in Darwin. Message Sticks is an integral part of the cultural calendar and reflects Sydney Opera House's commitment to support Indigenous art and culture. No cost. Web: <http://www.blackfellafilms.com.au/messagesticks/>.

**12 MAY-12 JUNE. THE HUMAN RIGHTS ARTS AND FILM FESTIVAL (HRAFF) (VIC, ACT, NT, QLD, NSW, SA, WA).** HRAFF's mission is to make human rights accessible and engaging to everyone through creative media. Our vision is a vibrant human rights culture and community across Australia. To achieve both our vision and our mission, we work with and engage our audiences, sponsors and donors and the creative community to provide: The Human Rights Arts and Film Festival (HRAFF) again brings Australian audiences an abundance of remarkable human rights stories in 2011. Victoria: May 12-22; Canberra: May

26-29; Alice Springs: May 27-29; Brisbane: June 3-4; Sydney: Jun 3-5; Byron Bay: June 3-5; Adelaide: June 10-12; Perth June 10-12. Contact: 03 9639 1121. Web: <http://www.hraff.org.au>.

**13 MAY. CLRI (NSW) SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINAR DAY: 'ECOLOGY AT THE HEART OF FAITH' (NSW).** The CLRI (NSW) Social Justice Committee is delighted to present a day with theologian Father Denis Edwards who calls us to an ecological conversion that involves a new way of seeing, thinking and acting. Cost: \$75. 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, Good Samaritan Centre, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe. Contact: 02 9663 2199 or [clrinsw@ozemail.com.au](mailto:clrinsw@ozemail.com.au), RSVP by 29 April. Web: <http://www.clrinsw.org/events/news.html>.

**13 MAY. BIG FAIR TRADE MORNING BREAK (VIC).** Grab your breakfast and some Fairtrade tea and coffee before heading to work and hear from Senarath Yatigamma about the benefits Fairtrade is providing to Sri Lankan tea farmers. Enjoy the band performance. 7.00 to 11.00 am, Docklands, Harbour Esplanade, (NAB forecourt). Web: <http://www.moralfairground.com.au/bigfairtrade.html>.

**13 MAY. FAIRTRADE TOUR: OXFAM SHOP (VIC).** Come down to Oxfam and meet with Senareth Yatigamma about his experiences with Fairtrade, about the benefits Fairtrade is providing to Sri Lankan tea farmers. View an array of fairtrade goods and products. 4.00 pm, Oxfam Shop, Shop 45, Walk Arcade, Bourke Street Mall, Melbourne. Web: <http://www.fairtradefortnight.com/fairtrade-on-tour/follow-the-tour.aspx>.

**13 MAY. LAUNCH: 'POCKET GUIDE TO FAIR TRADE IN WA' (WA).** Celebrate the one year anniversary of Fremantle being a fair trade city as Cecilia Granadino helps to launch the guide and speak will speak briefly of her experience as Executive Director, of the World Fair Trade Organisation, MINKA, in Peru. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, City of Fremantle Council Chambers Courtyard. Contact: [shona@theethicalentrepreneur.com.au](mailto:shona@theethicalentrepreneur.com.au) or 0448 942 657. Web: <http://fairtradewa.blogspot.com/>.

**13-14 MAY. MESSAGE STICKS INDIGENOUS FILM FESTIVAL (NSW).** Blackfella Films and

Blacktown Arts Centre are proud to present the Message Sticks Film Festival, the only festival of its kind, devoted solely to films made by Indigenous people from Australia and abroad. No cost. Blacktown Arts Centre, 78 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown. Web: <http://www.blackfellafilms.com.au/messagesticks/>.

**13-15 MAY. REAL CHOICES CONFERENCE: 'EVIDENCE, EXPERIENCE AND PREGNANCY SUPPORT OPTIONS' (NSW).** Real Choices Australia is holding this conference, an opportunity to be informed about the latest national and international research on the impact of abortion, and to hear about new and innovative ways that different groups around Australia are working toward meeting the needs of women and families experiencing unintended pregnancy. speaker: Priscilla Coleman, Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Studies, Bowling Green State University; Melissa Ohden, survivor of abortion. Cost: \$90-395. The Collaroy Centre, Collaroy, Sydney. Web: <http://realchoices.org.au/>.

**13 - 15 MAY. SISTERHOOD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (NSW).** The conference is a mix of keynote presentations, workshops, time for personal prayer, reflection and adoration as well as an opportunity for reconciliation and Mass. Speakers: Sr Mary Rachel OP; Anna Krohn, Pontifical Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family; Karen Doyle, author and co-founder of Catholic media business Choicez Media; Fr Chris Ryan MGL; etc. Cost: \$195. The Collaroy Centre, Homestead Avenue, Collaroy Beach. Contact: [info@sisterhood.org.au](mailto:info@sisterhood.org.au). Web: <http://www.sisterhood.org.au>.

**14 MAY. WORLD FAIR TRADE DAY TEA PARTY (WA).** Join Cecilia Granadino, Executive Director, Minka, Peru, for high tea and celebrate World Fair Trade Day. The afternoon includes cabaret performance, take home fair trade pack, raffle fair trade swap photo booth, etc. Cost: \$35. 2.30 to 5.00 pm, Royal Perth Yacht Club. Contact: [monicawade@optusnet.com.au](mailto:monicawade@optusnet.com.au) or 0404 183 828. Web: [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-E0GfeRMvBas/TbIG\\_mnbddl/AAAAAAAAAtQ/qfJSEf0PxKs/s1600/WAFTC\\_tea\\_party\\_2011.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-E0GfeRMvBas/TbIG_mnbddl/AAAAAAAAAtQ/qfJSEf0PxKs/s1600/WAFTC_tea_party_2011.jpg).

**14 MAY. FAIRTRADE TOUR (VIC).** Come down to our Oxfam Shop and meet with Senarath Yatigamma from BioFoods, a fairtrade producer partner from Sri Lanka, and hear about how fairtrade is creating better futures for tea workers and their families. 12.00 pm, Shop 3060, Westfield Southland, 1239 Nepean Highway, Cheltenham. Web: <http://www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/event-calendar/victoria>.

**14 MAY. FAIR TRADE AND GREEN MARKET (QLD).** This Fair Trade and Green Market which attempts to both provide a marketing outlet for traders and an educational experience for the public in the areas of both Fair Trade and environmental issues and practices. The market seeks to empower disadvantaged communities both locally and globally via this market and raise awareness of these ventures, and also seeks to encourage people to live a more sustainable lifestyle. No entry cost. 9.00 am to 2.00 pm, Caloundra Uniting Church, 56c Queens Street, Caloundra. Contact: [milandbeck@ozemail.com.au](mailto:milandbeck@ozemail.com.au) or 07 54382789. Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/node/544>.

**14 - 15 MAY. ASRC ARTS PERFORMANCE: 'NOT JUST MY STORY' (VIC).** Stories of persecution, family, resilience and love are explored by 30 asylum seekers through physical theatre, story telling, movement and music. The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre presents Not Just My Story as part of the Human Rights Arts and Film Festival. Cost: \$40, concession \$30. 14 May, 3.00 pm and 8.00 pm; and 15 May, 8.00 pm. St Martins Youth Arts Centre, 44 St Martins Lane, South Yarra. Contact: [events@asrc.org.au](mailto:events@asrc.org.au). Web: <http://www.asrc.org.au/events/asrc-arts-not-just-my-story/>.

**15 - 20 MAY. KURB GALLERY EXHIBITION: 'ART FOR FAIRTRADE' (WA).** This exhibition of fairtrade arts and creations seeks to raise funds for the Empowering Cambodia Developing Project and raise awareness of Fair Trade. Artists are invited to contribute any art form in support of Fair Trade Fortnight, registration due by 7 May. Kurb Gallery, 310 William Street, Perth. Contact: [andreaklek\\_99@hotmail.com](mailto:andreaklek_99@hotmail.com) or 0401 471 698. Web: <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-IUR-9o5qwIM/Ta2O6rHe1pl/AAAAAAAAAtM/4LoAj0vW6Q/s1600/WAFTC.jpg>.

**15 MAY. ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE FUNDRAISER (VIC).** Three Melbourne acts will be turning on an entertaining, family-friendly afternoon of live music at Wesley Anne. All proceeds from this event will go to the ASRC. The ASRC provides advocacy, aid and justice programs to protect the human rights of asylum seekers, with no federal funding. Cost: \$10. 4.00 to 7.00 pm, The Wesley Anne, 250 High Street, Northcote. Web: <http://www.asrc.org.au/events/asrc-fundraiser-stillsons-and-friends/>.

**16 MAY. SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB (NSW).** Joanna Penglase OAM, grew up in a Children's Home in Sydney and is the co-founder of CLAN, a support and advocacy organisation for people who grew up in institutional care. She is the author of 'Orphans of the Living: Growing up in "care" in 20th century Australia'. Joanna now works as an editor, researcher, writer and sometime lecturer. Graham Hercus is an Organisational Psychologist who has worked for the past 7+ years for UPA of NSW - now a large Aged Care Provider, but in the 1940s-1980s, an Institutional Child Care Provider. UPA's 13 Children's Homes housed over 3,300 children, who variously suffer from the effects of abandonment, rejection, abuse, and/or loss of identity. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, The Union Hotel, corner Pacific Highway and West Street, North Sydney. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/Slp%20Programs.htm>

**16 MAY. ACT VICTIMS OF CRIME COMMISSIONER SEMINAR: 'BUBBLING UPWARDS AND CASCADING DOWNWARDS: TRAILBLAZING VICTIMS' RIGHTS AS HUMAN RIGHTS' (ACT).** Seminar presented by the in association with the Australian Institute of Criminology and the Australian National University. Speakers: Simon Corbell MLA, Attorney General; Dr Jonathan Doak, Nottingham Trent University, UK. Dr Doak will speak on the implications for domestic criminal justice of the rapidly expanding recognition of victims' rights as human rights at an international level. 12.30 to 1.30 pm, ACT Legislative Assembly reception room. Contact: [victimssupport@act.gov.au](mailto:victimssupport@act.gov.au), RSVP by 12 May. Web: <http://www.aic.gov.au/events/seminars/2011/doak.aspx>.

**16-20 MAY. LIVE BELOW THE LINE (NATIONAL).** The week of Live Below the Line is a week like no other, thousands of Australians will spend just \$2 each on food, and use their daily experiences to bring extreme poverty to the centre of conversation in homes, businesses and schools. There are 1.4 billion people who live below it every day: forced to make choices between basic necessities like food, medicine and education. Your participation will help us fundamentally change the way Australians think about the issue of extreme poverty, and raise crucial funds for projects that fight the root causes of poverty, and help developing communities break the cycle of poverty. Sign up: <http://www.livebelowtheline.com.au>.

**17 MAY. VICTIMS OF CRIME AND THE RIGHT TO REDRESS (ACT).** This presentation by Dr. Jonathan Doak, Nottingham Trent University (UK), addresses the pressing need to reconfigure different justice systems around a broader and more holistic understanding of crime, with the right to redress being conceived as part of a 'communicative' system of law that targets the social needs of victims and communities. A light lunch is provided. 12.30 pm, Room 1.04 Coombs Extension Building 8, Australian National University. Contact: [scott.rutar@anu.edu.au](mailto:scott.rutar@anu.edu.au), RSVP essential. Web: [http://www.adfvc.unsw.edu.au/events\\_reports.html#victims](http://www.adfvc.unsw.edu.au/events_reports.html#victims).

**17 MAY. PRIOLETTI CONSULTANTS COURSE: 'CROSS CULTURAL AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATION TRAINING' (VIC).** This course provides an excellent overview to understanding and communicating with people from cultural and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Cost: \$110. 1.00 to 4.00 pm, Wheelers Hill Library Meeting Room, 860 Ferntree Gully Road, Wheelers Hill. Contact: [josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au](mailto:josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au) or 03 9038 9292. Web: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au/>.

**18 MAY. SEMINAR: 'DRUGS, CRIME AND BRIEF INTERVENTIONS FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS' (NSW).** Drugs and crime interact in a variety of ways, but certainly tend to exacerbate each other. The evidence is clear that reduced



drug use is associated with reduced crime. Frontline workers often feel ill-equipped to address the complexity of presentations of young offenders who use drugs, yet access to effective community or residential treatment is often elusive. This course will provide an update on the drug use of young people, available intervention options, and how those who come into contact with young offenders who use drugs may be able to provide helpful evidence-informed and brief Contact: Sydney Institute of Criminology. Cost: \$220, concession \$150. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Foyer (level 2), Sydney Law School, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Contact: 02 9351 0450 or [law.criminology@sydney.edu.au](mailto:law.criminology@sydney.edu.au). Web: [http://sydney.edu.au/law/criminology/seminars\\_events/#capacitycrime](http://sydney.edu.au/law/criminology/seminars_events/#capacitycrime).

**18 MAY. SUTHERLAND SHIRE SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'WHY BOTHER BUILDING BRIDGES WITH OTHER FAITHS?' (NSW).** 'Imagine a world where people from different religious backgrounds come together to create understanding and respect by serving their communities', Interfaith Youth Core. Speakers: Fr Patrick McInerney and Judith Levitan, member of the Jewish Board of Deputies of NSW. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, Sutherland United Services Club, East Parade, Sutherland. Contact: 02 9520 0617 or 02 9548 2475. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/Slp%20Programs.htm>.

**19 MAY. LUNCHTIME SEMINAR SERIES WITH PROFESSOR MARY CROCK: 'REGIONAL SOLUTIONS TO AUSTRALIA'S REFUGEE DILEMMA?' (NSW).** Professor Mary Crock, Sydney Law School, came to academia in Sydney in 1995 after completing her PhD in immigration and refugee law. Her main field of research is migration, citizenship and refugee law. However, she has general interests in administrative law and international human rights law as well as in related fields of public law such as constitutional law and public international law. No cost. 1.00 to 2.00 pm, Faculty Common Room 432, Sydney Law School, Building F10, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Contact: 02 9351 0429 or [law.events@sydney.edu.au](mailto:law.events@sydney.edu.au). Web: <http://www.usyd.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventid=7604>.

**19 MAY. FAIR TRADE PERUVIAN WINTER WARMER (VIC).** A Peruvian Winter Warmer, come see our quality alpaca products, bags, home wares and much more be ready this Winter. The Ethica Accessories range is produced by women in four workshops in marginalized areas. There will be Peruvian food and music. No entry cost. 12.30 to 7.00 pm, Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert Street, Contact: [gina.bradley@sosj.org.au](mailto:gina.bradley@sosj.org.au) or 02 8912 2716. Web: [http://www.sosj.org.au/news-events/view\\_event.cfm?id=101&loadref=8](http://www.sosj.org.au/news-events/view_event.cfm?id=101&loadref=8).

**19 - 20 MAY. BALLARAT DIOCESAN WOMEN'S REFERENCE GROUP (BDWRG) OPEN FORUM: 'WOMEN IN TODAY'S CHURCH' (VIC).** Ballarat Diocesan Women's Reference Group has been invited by the Council for Australian Catholic Women (CAWC) to host this forum. All women throughout the Diocese are invited to participate. The aim of the gathering is to engender in all women participants a greater sense of belonging to the Ecclesial Community of the Ballarat Diocese and of sharing in the vision put forward in "Women and Man: One in Christ Jesus." (Report on the Participation of Women in the Catholic Church in Australia, Harper Collins, April 1999). 5.00 to 7.00 pm, O'Collins Hall, 5 Lyons Street, Ballarat. Web: <http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services/default.cfm?loadref=568>.

**19 - 21 MAY. PERUVIAN DINNER FAIR TRADE (QLD).** Enjoy an evening of authentic Peruvian cuisine with guest speaker Cecilia Granadino, head of 'MINKA', the first organisation in Peru to engage in Fair Trade. MINKA has been working to combat poverty in Peru for over three decades, and has helped to democratically organise over 3000 producers towards sustainable and ethical production. Cecilia is a writer and communications specialist, and the author of several books. In her role as executive director of MINKA, she has worked tirelessly to continue the expansion of Fair Trade and to increase recognition of Peru's Indigenous groups and their cultural heritage. Cost: \$49. 7.00 to 10.00 pm, Red and White Restaurant, 165 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane. Contact: [qldfairtrade@gmail.com](mailto:qldfairtrade@gmail.com). Web: <http://qldfairtrade.org.au/perudinner>.

**20 MAY. SUSTAINABLE FASHION MASTERCLASS @ QUT (QLD).** Ethical Fashion Evening: This is a fantastic networking opportunity for ethical entrepreneurs to connect with like-minded businesses and learn more about the future of ethical fashion. You will hear talks from the leading-lights in ethical fashion including Ethical Clothing Australia, the Sinerji fashion label, and the touring producer Cecilia Granadino. Cost: \$15. 6.30 to 8.30 pm, The Stitchery Collective, Bell Bros. Building, 1/57 Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley. Contact: [qldfairtrade@gmail.com](mailto:qldfairtrade@gmail.com). Web: <http://qldfairtrade.org.au/fashionevening/>.

**20 MAY. YOUTH OFF THE STREETS FUNDRAISER: COOLEY GOLF CLASSIC (NSW).** 4th Annual Cooley Golf Classic for Youth Off The Streets. St Michael's Golf Club, Little Bay, Sydney. Contact: 02 9326 2833. Web: <http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/newsletters/w1/i1001885/>.

**20 MAY. ASYLUM SEEKER CENTRE FUNDRAISER: TRIVIA NIGHT (NSW).** Join us for 'A Night at the Movies' - the Asylum Seekers Centre's 9th Annual Quiz! Bring a team dressed in theme and test your trivia with this year's celebrity hosts HG Nelson and James Valentine. Special prizes for the winning trivia team, best dressed guest and table. Tickets are strictly limited so please book early. Cost: \$80. 7.00 to 11.00 pm, North Sydney Leagues Club, 12 Abbott Street, Cammeray. Contact: 02 9361 5606 or [fundraising@asylumseekerscentre.org.au](mailto:fundraising@asylumseekerscentre.org.au).

**21 MAY. RETHINK REFUGEES AT THE CENTRAL MARKETS (SA).** As part of Amnesty International Australia's Rethink Refugees campaign, we are asking the public to help reject the myths and think again about refugees and asylum seekers. The Adelaide City group will take you through the process that many refugees and asylum seekers face when they are forced to flee persecution. From the dangers that force people to leave their families and homeland, to the uncertainty and confusion of a long journey, Amnesty activists will highlight many of the very difficult choices that refugees and asylum seekers experience before and after arriving in Australia. 9.00 am to 1.00 pm, Adelaide Central Markets, Gouger

Street, Adelaide. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/sa/event/25412/>.

**22 MAY. VICTORIAN FAIRTRADE FESTIVAL (VIC).** Fair Trade Fortnight is about inspiring people to spread the word about the difference that swapping to Fairtrade Certified products makes to producers in developing countries. The festival is free to the public and it will feature a lively entertainment corner with music and dance throughout the day, a kids corner to keep the children busy with creative craft activities, 'Show Off your Swap' Art Exhibition and 30 stalls. Organised by Moral Fairground. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Queen Victoria Market, Melbourne. Contact: [art@moralfairground.com.au](mailto:art@moralfairground.com.au). Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/node/561>.

**21 MAY. FUNDRAISER: EDMUND RICE DINNER (QLD).** This dinner will support a diverse range of development projects throughout Oceania as part of the Christian Brothers' social justice mission. These ministries encompass work with Indigenous people, Refugees and Asylum Seekers, and across initiatives in justice, advocacy, eco-spirituality and work with young people on the margins of society. This is a function supporting the works of the Christian Brothers. Speakers: Cameron Clyne, CER, National Australia Bank Group; Wayne Bennett, Coaching Legend; and Peter Murray, a leading Australian Singer, Song Writer. 7.00 to 10.00 pm, Great Hall, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Merivale Street, Brisbane. Contact: 0435 963 091 or [awryan@edmundrice.org](mailto:awryan@edmundrice.org). Web: <http://www.edmundricecommunity.com/events/edmund-rice-dinner-2011-1>.

**22 MAY. OPEN DAY SUNSHINE MOSQUE - INTERFAITH PRAYER FOR DISASTER VICTIMS (VIC).** Mosque Open Day is part of the Australian Intercultural Society's interfaith visits to the place of worship project which aims to breakdown barriers between different faiths through information and interaction. Sunshine Mosque staff welcomes everyone to this informative event with free BBQ and refreshments. The Mosque Open Day event will also include an Interfaith Prayer for the Queensland flood victims and Japan tsunami victims. 11.30 am. Web: [http://www.intercultural.org.au/events\\_2011/Sunshine%20](http://www.intercultural.org.au/events_2011/Sunshine%20)

[Mosque/Flyer%20Sunshine%20May%202011.jpg/.](#)

**23 MAY. HUMAN RIGHTS 2011 SPEECH (NSW).**

The UN High Commissioner For Human Rights, HE Excellency Navi Pillay, will be the guest of honour at a major public event to be hosted by the Australian Human Rights Commission. Human Rights 2011 will also include a special performance by one of Australia's leading dance companies, Bangarra. No cost. 5.00 pm, Sydney Town Hall, George Street, Sydney. Register: <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hr2011/>.

**24 MAY. EVENT: 'OUT OF THE SHADOWS - YOUNG PEOPLE FINDING SOLUTIONS TO DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE' (QLD).**

Out of the Shadows, funded by Dept of Communities Violence Prevention Team, aims to raise awareness about Domestic and Family Violence while seeking solutions from young people on how to end violence in their own culturally diverse communities. There will be creative stalls and activities to allow young people and the community to have their say, as well as informational stalls, music and dance performances and food. Contact: 07 3847 9633 or [group@othilas.org.au](mailto:group@othilas.org.au). Web: <http://www.barc.org.au/post/12671>.

**25 MAY. WATAC SCHOOLS' INTERFAITH SYMPOSIUM: 'WOMEN, RELIGION AND PEACE' (NSW).**

**Speakers:** Tamkin Ansari, Muslim, is involved with the Christian and Muslim youth from the Northern Beaches, where she lives, working on a project aimed at getting youth together to discuss faith and spirituality from their respective faith traditions; Jan Barnett rsj, a Sister of St Joseph and has worked in secondary and tertiary education for most of her religious life. Currently Jan is the national chaplain for the AYCW (Australian Young Christian Workers) who work to uphold basic human rights, especially the right to meaningful and just work; Rabbi Jacki Ninio, Jewish, one of the first female rabbis in New South Wales,

At Emanuel Synagogue Jacki has focused on work with youth and young adults and serves on the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies. Cost: \$20. 12.00 to 3.00 pm, Theatre of NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney.

Contact: 02 9520 9409, RSVP by 11 May. Web: <http://www.watac.net/interfaith-symposium.php>.

**26 MAY. GPNN 'CLOSING THE GAP' EVENT (NSW).**

GP Network North side (GPNN), is part of the National funding initiative 'Closing the Gap' program. This event is a pathway to breaking down the barriers for the Aboriginal Community to access doctors, hospitals and allied health care workers in an ongoing program that contributes to closing the gap in the life expectancy of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders by improving access to culturally sensitive primary care services. No cost for Aboriginal Community and GPs in GPNN catchment area. 6.30 pm, Hornsby RSL Club, 4 High Street, Hornsby. Contact: [office@gpnn.org.au](mailto:office@gpnn.org.au) or 02 9477 8700. Web: [http://www.nswreconciliation.org.au/webapp\\_828203/GPNN\\_%27Closing the Gap%27 Event](http://www.nswreconciliation.org.au/webapp_828203/GPNN_%27Closing%20the%20Gap%27%20Event).

**26 MAY. SPEECH: 'RESCUING CHILDREN FROM THE ASHES OF WAR' (NSW).**

In 1991 Aussie Grandma Irene Gleeson, left her Sydney home and headed into one of the most dangerous places on the planet - the war zone of northern Uganda, Africa. With the chaos caused by kidnapped children made to fight as child soldiers and 2 million children orphaned, she began to teach, feed and provide medicine for a handful of traumatised children under a mango tree. Today 10,000 children are under her care. 7.00 pm, Bible Society, Bible House, 5 Byfield Street, Macquarie Park. Contact: 02 9888 6588 or [rgeorge@biblesocietynsw.com.au](mailto:rgeorge@biblesocietynsw.com.au). Web: <http://www.biblesocietynsw.com.au>.

**26 MAY. NATIONAL SORRY DAY (NATIONAL).**

The Australian Human Rights Commission's Bringing them home report into the Stolen Generations recommended that a National Sorry Day be held each year. For events see: <http://www.nsd.org.au>. Sorry Day Flowers available from the Kimberley Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation: [www.kimberleystolengeneration.com.au/flower.html](http://www.kimberleystolengeneration.com.au/flower.html).

**27 MAY MARIST YOUTH CARE (MYC)**

**FUNDRAISER: CHARITY GOLF DAY (NSW)** This event will again be a will be a four person Ambrose with a Shotgun Start. This is the

seventh year that the Charity Golf Day has been run by Marist Youth Care, each year raising much needed funds for a wide variety of projects which assist at risk young people. This year the funds raised will go towards the Affordable Housing for Life Project - a Social Enterprise which employs at risk Young People to build houses which provides them with employment, skills training and a permanent place to live, whilst also increasing the pool of community housing available for at risk young people. Cost: \$150. 7.00 am, Northbridge Golf Club, Sailors Bay Road, Northbridge. Contact: 02 9672 9268 or at [alycel@maristyc.com.au](mailto:alycel@maristyc.com.au), RSVP by 20 May. Web: <http://www.northbridgегolfclub.com.au>.

**27 MAY. ETHICA FAIR TRADE: PERUVIAN WINTER WARMER (NSW).** Beautiful alpaca products see all our bags, cards, finger puppets and more. The Ethica Accessories range is produced by women in four workshops in marginalised areas. Enjoy the Peruvian food and music and great raffle prizes. Auditorium, Mary MacKillop Place, 7-11 Mount St, North Sydney Contact: 02 8912 2716 or [gina.bradley@sosj.org.au](mailto:gina.bradley@sosj.org.au). Web: <http://www.ethica.org.au>.

**27 MAY-3 JUNE. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK: 'LET'S TALK RECOGNITION' (NATIONAL).** Each year National Reconciliation Week (NRW) celebrates the rich culture and history of the First Australians. It is the ideal time for everyone to join the reconciliation conversation and to think about how we can help turn around the disadvantage experienced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Recognition. Think about how much you value it. When you are sincerely recognised for who you are and what you contribute, you feel proud, validated and connected. Being recognised is good for your self esteem. It energises you and encourages you to recognise the best in others. Check out the NRW calendar to see how other people and organisations are talking about recognition: <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/home/get-involved/national-reconciliation-week>.

**28 MAY. WOMEN'S INTERFAITH DINNER: 'HAND IN HAND FOR A BETTER FUTURE' (VIC).** The Australian Intercultural Society Women's Network, in collaboration with

women from Muslim, Christian, Jewish and Buddhist groups, is organising a women's only interfaith dinner. There will be short speeches from keynote speakers representing each faith and dinner accompanied by traditional music performances. 7.00 pm, Beletti Restaurant, Punthill Apartments, 159 Lonsdale St, Dandenong. Web: <http://www.intercultural.org.au/>.

**28 MAY. TEAR SA: 'SEEDS OF HOPE WITH LISA AND BRYAN HUGHES - THE HUGHES FAMILY IN CAMBODIA' (SA).** Lisa, Bryan and Lily Hughes completed their time as TEAR fieldworkers in Cambodia in November 2010 (at the end of their second term with TEAR) and have returned to Adelaide. They have lived in an urban poor community in Phnom Penh, Cambodia's capital city. As well as spending time with their neighbours in community, they assisted some of the Cambodian staff at TASK Cambodia, one of TEAR's partners which helps people living in urban poor communities to improve their lives through a variety of development projects and initiatives. Come and be encouraged as they share stories of hope and transformation from their time in Cambodia. 10.00 am, Bible College SA, 176 Wattle Street, Malvern. Web: <http://www.tear.org.au/states/news/seeds-of-hope-with-lisa-bryan-hughes/>.

**28 MAY. GLEEBOOKS BOOK LAUNCH: COLTAN BY MICHAEL NEST (NSW).** A decade ago no one except geologists had heard of tantalum or 'coltan' - an obscure mineral that is an essential ingredient in mobile phones and laptops. Then, in 2000, reports began to leak out of Congo: of mines deep in the jungle where coltan was extracted in brutal conditions watched over by warlords. The United Nations sent a team to investigate, and its exposé of the relationship between violence and the exploitation of coltan and other natural resources contributed to a re-examination of scholarship on the motivations and strategies of armed groups. 3.30 to 4.30 pm, Gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Sydney. Contact: 02 9660 2333. Web: <http://www.gleebooks.com.au>.

**30 - 31 MAY. COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL CONFERENCE (VIC).** Change is often slow in

the Australian community sector. Reforms and reports and inquiries are announced endlessly, but nothing much seems to happen. We go on carrying out our good works in our own corners, while our politics and our media and our public discourse become more and more dysfunctional. Are we satisfied with what we've got? If we started with a clean slate, what would we come up with? Be there as the conversation kicks off when 1300 people who work in, work for or care about community come together for this Conference. Speakers: Simon McKeon, 2011 Australian of the Year; Miriam Lyons, Centre for Policy Development; Elizabeth Broderick, Sex Discrimination Commissioner; etc. Moonee Valley Racing Club, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9320 6805 or [alanm@ourcommunity.com.au](mailto:alanm@ourcommunity.com.au). Web: <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic2011>.

**1-3 JUNE. NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE: 'OUR COUNTRY, OUR FUTURE' (QLD).** Welcome to the National Native Title Conference, convened annually by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and this year co-convened by Queensland South Native Title Services (QSNTS), and hosted by the Turrbal, Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul Peoples, the traditional owners of the wider Brisbane area. The conference promotes native title as an agenda for justice for people and country, including the broader relationships between traditional owners and country. Key conference attendees include native title holders and applicants, native title practitioners (primarily legal counsel and anthropologists), academics, Commonwealth and state government agencies, State and Federal Ministers, and Federal and High Court Judges. Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, South Bank. Web: <http://wired.ivvy.com/event/XN9D35PCN>.

**2 JUNE. PUBLIC FORUM: 'AUSTRALIAN RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVES ON CLIMATE CHANGE' (ACT).** Speakers: Bishop George Browning, former Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn; Hon. Mark Dreyfus MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change; Hon. Greg Hunt MP, Shadow Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water; and Dr Janette Lindesay, Assoc.

Professor at ANU, climate scientist. No cost. 6.30 to 8.30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: 0405 293 466. Web: [http://www.arrcc.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=461:thur-2-jun-2011-canberra-qpublic-forum-australian-religious-perspectives-on-climate-change&catid=39:act&Itemid=19](http://www.arrcc.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=461:thur-2-jun-2011-canberra-qpublic-forum-australian-religious-perspectives-on-climate-change&catid=39:act&Itemid=19).

**3 JUNE. PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (ACT).** Canberra Taizé Group will hold a Taizé prayer evening to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The evening is jointly presented by St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Weston Creek Uniting Church and the Canberra Taizé Group. Everyone is welcome. Prayer followed by supper. 7.00 to 8.00 pm, St Thomas the Apostle Church, 37 Boddington Crescent, Kambah. Contact: [rawsclarke@apex.net.au](mailto:rawsclarke@apex.net.au) or 02 6231 8468. Web: [http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/news/view\\_event.cfm?loadref=18&id=890](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/news/view_event.cfm?loadref=18&id=890).

**14 - 17 JUNE. REFUGEE CONFERENCE (NSW).** The conference, which marks the 60th anniversary of the Refugee Convention, will provide a timely opportunity to reflect on the strengths and achievements of the Convention and refugee protection system and to consider what further action is needed to secure the rights of refugees during flight, in countries of asylum and in resettlement. Speakers: Assistant High Commissioner (Protection), UNHCR, Geneva; Rick Towle, Regional Representative, UNHCR; and Dr Jeff Crisp, Head, Policy Development and Evaluation Services, UNHCR. Policy makers, UNHCR representatives, academics, advocates, refugee service providers, refugees, students and community members are encouraged to attend. University of New South Wales Kensington Campus, Sydney. Further information including registration details can be found at <http://refugeecon2011.arts.unsw.edu.au>.

**22-24 JUNE. CONFERENCE: 'THE REINTEGRATION PUZZLE' (NT).** The Reintegration Puzzle Conference brings together people working to support the reintegration of offenders into the community after release from prison. This year's

conference will focus on partnerships and innovative practices that are achieving positive outcomes for people involved in the justice system. Cost: \$700, concession \$350. Crowne

Plaza Alice Springs. Contact: 03 9251 7887 or [jcrosbie@deakin.edu.au](mailto:jcrosbie@deakin.edu.au). Web: <http://www.reintegrationpuzzle.com.au>.

## News Monitor

### Non-government schools help overcome disadvantage: report

The quality of the education that non-government schools provide contributes significantly to a more equitable society, according to a report by Australian Catholic University's Public Policy Institute, the university said in a media release.

### Let us help clear public hospital backlog, CHA says

Waiting times in emergency departments and elective surgery waiting lists could be reduced if the NSW Government proceeds with plans to contract non-government hospitals to treat more public patients, said a report in the Catholic Weekly.

### Don't penalise schools with low fees: NCEC

The money that schools collect in fees and donations should be considered in calculating their government funding, to compensate schools that choose to charge low fees, the National Catholic Education Commission told a review of school funding, reported the Sydney Morning Herald.

### Parenting becoming a 'lost skill', said police commissioner

CatholicCare Victoria backed a call from Victoria's police Chief Commissioner Simon Overland for stronger parenting, which the commissioner said become a "lost skill", reported the Herald Sun.

### Inquiry over refugee living conditions

Claims that refugees who have settled in the Newcastle area are living in squalid conditions have prompted the Immigration Minister Chris Bowen to announce an independent inquiry of the matter, reported the ABC.

### Vatican's top migrant official to visit Australia

The Vatican's head of Pontifical Council for Migrants is scheduled to visit Australia in May, aiming to encourage migrant chaplains and communities living here, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference said in a media release.

### Refugees living in squalor, sister says

A religious sister who works with refugees in the Hunter in NSW said housing is substandard and refugee families in the region live in squalor, reported the ABC.

### Pakistan archbishop calls for arrest of Koran-burning US pastor

The president of the Pakistani bishops' conference called for the arrest of US pastor Terry Jones - whose burning of the Koran sparked fury in the Muslim world and the deaths of more than 20 people, reported the Catholic News Service.

### No ban on holy books at citizenship ceremony, said govt

Holy books such as the Bible, the Koran and the Torah, are acceptable at Australian citizenship ceremonies - provided people bring their own, said a Nine News report.

### Abducted Caritas director released in Ivory Coast

The director of Caritas in Abidjan, Father Richard Kissi, been released unharmed in the Ivory Coast after being kidnapped by an armed group two days earlier, said a statement on the Caritas Internationalis website.

- For details click on headlines or go to <http://cathnews.com>



# Social Justice Calendar

1 Sun	Second Sunday of Easter St Joseph the Worker International Workers Day Save the Rhino Day	21 Sat	World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development 1991: Australian Josephite Sr Irene McCormack murdered in Peru
3 Tue	World Press Freedom Day		
8 Sun	Third Sunday of Easter World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day Mothers Day 1945: War ends in Europe 1970: First Anti-Vietnam War Moratorium March in Australian cities	22 Sun	Fifth Sunday of Easter International Day for Biological Diversity. Theme: Biodiversity and Forests
10 Tue	1994: Nelson Mandela's Inaugural Address as President of South Africa	24 Tue	Mary Help of Christians, Patron of Australia 1948: Foundation of World Council of Churches
12 Thu	International Day for Nurses (Anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth)	25 Wed	Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories begins 1997: Bringing Them Home Report released
13 Fri	International Conscientious Objectors Day		
15 Sun	Fourth Sunday of Easter Jubilee Sunday World Day of Prayer for Vocations UN International Day of Families	26 Thu	National Sorry Day
16 Mon	World Debt Day	27 Fri	National Reconciliation Week begins 1967: Referendum changes articles in the Australian Constitution that discriminate against Aboriginal people
17 Tue	World Telecommunications and Information Society Day 2005: Death of Fr Ted Kennedy	29 Sun	Sixth Sunday of Easter International Day of UN Peacekeepers
20 Fri	2002: Timor-Leste becomes fully independent	31 Tue	World No Tobacco Day

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