



No. 135 – June 2012

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>

IN THIS ISSUE ...

- From the Secretariat
- Current Issues/Resources
- Latest Publications
- This Month's Notices
- News Monitor
- Social Justice Calendar

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Dear friends,

The month of June begins in the middle of National Reconciliation Week, which started on 27 May and ends on 3 June. It's a moment in our year when all Australians can pause and think of the contribution that Indigenous people have made to our society, and the ways in which we can reach out to each other, recognising our strengths and achievements and acknowledging the areas where there is still a great deal of work to do.

We get a sense of the importance of this week when we think of the significance of the days that begin and end it.

Sunday 27 May is the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum, when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The referendum was approved by over 90 per cent of voters and carried in all states - an extraordinary moment in our history.

Sunday 3 June is the anniversary of the High Court's 1992 decision in the Mabo case, which recognised that the rights of Australia's Indigenous people to their lands could survive European colonisation and continue to this day.

The theme for this year's Reconciliation Week is 'Let's Talk Recognition'. We might say that those two pivotal events - the 1967 referendum and the 1992 Mabo decision - were vital moments in our recognition of the true relationship between Indigenous Australians and the rest of the nation. The theme 'Let's Talk Recognition' also reminds us of the current initiative to amend our Constitution so as to recognise that Indigenous peoples were the owners and caretakers of our land for tens of thousands of years before Europeans arrived. (<http://www.youmeunity.org.au>)

If we are really to 'talk recognition', we have to understand that this relationship, like any other, needs nurture and care. We have to ask what remains to be done since 1967 and 1992 and whether recent events have contributed to recognition in its truest sense. In asking that question, we come to realise that 'recognition' is not just a legal concept; it is an impulse that has deep implications for the way we relate to each other as members of a society.

So if we sit down and 'talk recognition', we have to ask ourselves exactly how much 'recognition' is to be found in the 'Stronger Futures' legislation that is before the Senate at the moment. Many Indigenous people and their advocates are deeply concerned about this Bill, which would continue many of the policies put in place by the 'Intervention' in 2007 and later - in particular, policies of income management, prescriptive welfare procedures and attempts to link welfare payments to children's school attendance.

In our Monthly Briefing for April this year, I quoted what the Elders of Ramininging,

in NE Arnhem Land, told the Senate Select Committee that was considering the legislation:

‘... we feel that Balanda (Europeans) are not listening. Government doesn’t listen to Yolngu; has no second thought. They hear, they ignore, forget, go back home, write what they think. (refer: http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Committees?url=clac_ctte/strong_future_nt_11/submissions.htm).

‘They hear, they ignore, they forget, go back home, write what they think’. It’s hard to imagine a better description of *not* recognising someone.

The Yolngu Nations Assembly, representing the people of eight Aboriginal nations in Arnhem Land, issued a statement addressed to the Commonwealth and Northern Territory governments registering their strong objections to the proposed legislation and calling on the Senate to reject it. ‘We have clearly informed you that we do not support the legislation’, the statement said.

‘The Australian Federal Government can achieve all its aims through partnership in our communities. They have no need to grant themselves the continued and new powers contained within these bills’, the statement continued. (refer: http://stoptheintervention.org/uploads/files_to_download/Stronger-Futures/Yolngu-Statement-2-5-12.pdf)

Indigenous people from Australia’s Catholic communities have heard the voices of Northern Territory Aboriginal leaders and spoken in support of them. ‘The statement by the Yolngu Nations Assembly cannot be any clearer’, said Graeme Mundine, executive officer of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Sydney Archdiocese. ‘The Yolngu have consistently asked for partnership and self-determination, not intervention and discrimination’ (refer: http://stoptheintervention.org/uploads/files_to_download/Stronger-Futures/ACM-Sydney.pdf)

Vicki Clark, coordinator of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Melbourne, said: ‘The disrespect

shown to traditional Aboriginal governance structures and traditional custodians has been staggering and is set to worsen under the proposed legislation’. (refer: http://stoptheintervention.org/uploads/files_to_download/Stronger-Futures/ACM-Melbourne.pdf)

These Indigenous voices have found strong support from Catholic and other organisations throughout Australia. Among Catholic groups are the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC), the St Vincent de Paul Society, the Sisters of St Joseph, the Presentation Sisters Victoria and the Sisters of Mercy. Other Christian groups include the Uniting Church in Australia National Assembly and the Religious Society of Friends in Australia. And I note the untiring work of people like Michele Harris and Georgina Gartland of the group ‘concerned Australians’ who have helped keep these issues in the spotlight. (For links to statements by these and other groups, refer: http://concernedaustralians.com.au/Stronger-Futures/Yolngu_supporters.html)

In May, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia issued an emphatic joint statement. It says in part:

‘We urge the Federal Government to abandon this legislation and develop strategies based on trust and respect which will promote collaboration with the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory in decision-making relating to their future ... The legislation before the Senate extends many aspects of “the intervention” and continues to raise serious human rights concerns.

‘We need to listen to the Aboriginal people. They are asking for their rights as human beings and citizens of this country to be respected.’ (refer: http://www.catholic.org.au/index.php?option=com_docman&Itemid=355)

With these words, we are back at the theme for National Reconciliation Week. Let’s talk recognition, indeed. That recognition is found not just in the pivotal events in 1967, 1992

or the National Apology in 2008, but in the way we approach the day-to-day interactions between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. The most compassionate interpretation of an attitude that says ‘we know better’ is that it might arise from a real desire to help and even empower others. History shows, however, that this approach has failed and done great harm. If we have not genuinely heard our brothers and sisters and listened to what they say, we fail at a deep level to recognise them.

The Stronger Futures legislation is expected to come before the Senate on 18 June. Consider signing the ‘Stand For Freedom’ petition listed below or contacting Senators to voice your concerns. (<http://www.aph.gov.au/~media/03%20Senators%20and%20Members/31%20Senators/contacts/los.ashx>)

In a month’s time, on 1 July 2012, the Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. This year’s theme is ‘By the Power of Faith, we shall be Healed.’ Thelma Parker, Chairperson of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council, has highlighted this great opportunity open our minds and hearts and, through the power of faith, to be healed.

‘We are truly grateful for our Church leaders that have challenged the country concerning the racism, injustices, disadvantage and poverty experienced by Indigenous people. Yet, we all know Indigenous people are still suffering. It is timely to reassess the way we do things together. Without doubt there still needs to be greater understanding, respect, recognition and much more to be done to bring about equality and reconciliation. And to allow our souls to be healed,’ Thelma says. It is fitting that the theme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday follows on so strongly from Reconciliation Week’s emphasis on ‘recognition’.

As Thelma Parker says: ‘We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday is a time to reaffirm the good will that has been achieved between us, to love one another, to share the riches God promises us, and to share Indigenous cultural ways in the stories of His word.’ ([http://www.natsicc.org.au/downloads/NATSICC%20Liturgy%20\(2012\)%20final%20from%20BCL.docx](http://www.natsicc.org.au/downloads/NATSICC%20Liturgy%20(2012)%20final%20from%20BCL.docx))

John Ferguson



Current Issues / Resources

MEDIA STATEMENT: ‘STRONGER FUTURES OR STOLEN FUTURES?’ (5 May)

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) and Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) have called on all Federal Senators not to pass the legislation of the ‘Stronger Futures Northern Territory 2011 Bill’. Archbishop Philip Wilson and Sister Anne Derwin RSJ on behalf of the ACBC and CRA released the following statement: ‘We join with the many Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians who have already urged the government to consult Aboriginal people and their Elders in planning actions and developing policies that will affect their lives for many years. The statement goes on, ‘We urge the Federal Government to abandon this legislation and develop strategies based on trust and respect which will promote

collaboration with the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory in decision-making relating to their future’.

Refer: http://www.catholic.org.au/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=1254&tmpl=component&format=raw&Itemid=355

PETITION: ‘STAND FOR FREEDOM’

The Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory are fighting for their freedom. The Stronger Futures legislation proposes to extend key elements of the Northern Territory Emergency Response until 2022. The Intervention has been condemned by the United Nations as racially discriminatory and contrary to international human rights principles. Our Generation and Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation are running the campaign ‘Stand for freedom’.

You can find out more and sign the petition to request the Government to withdraw the legislation: <http://standforfreedom.org.au/2012/05/07/bishops-slam-legislation/>

CONGRESS SAYS STOP AND LISTEN ON THE INTERVENTION

The National Congress of Australia's First Peoples backs calls by Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory for the Government to withdraw its legislations to continue the Intervention. All Australians that support justice and equality can send an email telling the Parliamentarians that the bills must be properly scrutinised to ensure that they comply with Australian human rights standards: <http://congressmob.good.do/stoplisten/bnmb/>.

RESOURCES FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday is celebrated on 1 July 2012. The theme for this year's celebration is 'By the Power of Faith we shall be Healed'. Please promote the celebration of this important day in your Parish and School communities. To access the Liturgy Notes and other resources prepared by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council, visit: http://www.natsicc.org.au/resources_liturgy.php

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

Amnesty International has released its 50th international review, which scrutinises the state of the world's human rights in 153 countries, including Australia. The report shows how Australia continues to violate the rights of Indigenous peoples, excluding traditional homelands from essential services and implementing a chain of policies that is further disenfranchising Aboriginal peoples in the Northern Territory. 'The Stronger Futures Bills are about to be debated in the Senate. If passed, they signal a continuation of a dark era for Aboriginal Peoples in the Northern Territory. Essentially, it's the Intervention under a new name,' says Claire Mallinson, National Director of Amnesty Australia. 'The Intervention was systematically condemned internationally and this month elders have brought their concerns on Stronger Futures to

the UN. We urge Senators not to support these Bills.' The report can be purchased for \$40 from: http://shop.amnesty.org.au/shop/view_our_range2/products?cid=34&pid=2160

NEW BOOK: 'NT CONSULTATIONS REPORT 2011: BY QUOTATIONS'

The groups 'concerned Australians' have released a new report on the consultations that took place in the Northern Territory between June and August 2011, at the request of Government. The stated purpose of Government was to find out what worked and what didn't work under the Intervention introduced there in 2007. Ten of these consultations were recorded and quotations from them are contained in this report. This publication is a sequel to the highly regarded books, 'This Is What We Said' (February 2010), and 'Walk with Us' (August 2011). An order form is available at <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au/>.

NATSICC ASSEMBLY: 'CULTURALLY ENRICHED THROUGH THE GOSPEL'

The 2012 National Assembly of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council will be held in Melbourne on 1-4 October. The theme of the event is 'Culturally enriched through the Gospel'. A strong emphasis has been placed on the incorporation of Catholic faith into the lives of Indigenous people. NATSICC Assemblies occur only once every three years and hold an important place on the Indigenous Catholic Calendar. For further information and to register, visit: http://www.natsicc.org.au/assembly_2012.html

INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO INSECURE WORK IN AUSTRALIA

The Independent Inquiry into Insecure Work in Australia has released its report, *LIVES ON HOLD: unlocking the potential of Australia's workforce*. It calls for a new approach focussed on training, supporting and investing in the workforce. The Report recommends improvements in labour law, including expanded definitions of employers and employees, a firmer definition of casual work, and expanded national employment standards that protect all employees. Other recommendations include a licensing system

for labour hire firms and the extension of basic entitlements like annual leave to casual employees over time. Recommendations aimed at achieving a more skilled workforce call for a broader focus on work-life transitions, rather than the current narrow preoccupation with the transition between employment and unemployment that has seen an emphasis on 'Welfare-to-Work' initiatives. The report *LIVES ON HOLD* can be accessed from the website of the Independent Inquiry into Insecure Work in Australia: [http://securejobs.org.au/resources/](http://securejobs.org.au/resources/2012.pdf?utm_source=ACOSS+Media&utm_campaign=d5c1819dc0-2012_05_18_ACOSS_Media_Release5_21_2012&utm_medium=email)

ANTI-POVERTY WEEK 2012

Anti-poverty week 2012 begins on Sunday 14 October. The United Nations has designated Wednesday 17 October as International Anti-Poverty Day. This year, Anti-Poverty Week is 10 years old. The Week is concerned with poverty around the world, especially in the poorest countries, but also in wealthier countries such as Australia. The main aims of the Week are to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty, and to encourage research, discussion and action to address the issues. For further information and ideas on how you can participate, visit: <http://www.antipovertyweek.org.au>

POST-BUDGET CALL FOR RETHINK ON PAYMENTS

The Australian Council of Social Service is appealing to the Federal Government to reconsider its planned Budget cuts to single parent families and raise the inadequate payment for Newstart and other Allowance recipients to prevent more than 100,000 families from falling deeper into poverty. Acting ACOSS CEO, Dr Tessa Boyd-Caine, said, 'The proposal to shift around 150,000 sole parents to Newstart and other Allowances would reduce their income support by up to \$60 per week. Even with the increases in family payments and the Supplementary Allowance, we calculate a sole parent family with a primary school age child will still be about \$40 a week worse off.' ACOSS has released a detailed paper on the impact of this measure and its implications for sole parent families, which can be accessed at: <http://www.acoss.org.au/images/uploads/Formatted%20briefing%20note%20sole%20parents%2021%20May%20>

[2012.pdf?utm_source=ACOSS+Media&utm_campaign=d5c1819dc0-2012_05_18_ACOSS_Media_Release5_21_2012&utm_medium=email](http://www.acoss.org.au/images/uploads/Formatted%20briefing%20note%20sole%20parents%2021%20May%20)

EDMUND RICE CENTRE APPEAL: DEPORTED TO DANGER

Recently Phil Glendenning, Director of the Edmund Rice Centre, returned to Afghanistan to monitor the safety of asylum seekers who had been rejected by Australia. 'We confirmed the deaths of another two returnees and the kidnapping of one other who is now presumed dead,' he says. 'The returnees are being actively targeted for having left the country, because they are seen as being favourable to the West, and many are falsely held to have converted to Christianity. According to the Independent Human Rights Commission the situation is deteriorating rapidly and security just fifteen minutes on the road to Ghazni cannot be guaranteed. ... These asylum seekers and their families should never have been returned to Afghanistan. They must not now continue to be forgotten,' he said. To find out more and to make a donation to this important work of the Edmund Rice Centre, visit: http://www.erc.org.au/index.php?module=documents&JAS_DocumentManager_op=viewDocument&JAS_Document_id=322

CALL TO HOSPITALITY: HOMESTAY FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

The Community Placement Network (CPN) is an initiative of the Australian Homestay Network (AHN) to offer 6 week homestay accommodation to eligible asylum seekers leaving immigration detention on a Bridging visa. The AHN has been commended by both the Senate Inquiry into the Welfare of International Students (2009) and the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into International Student Accommodation (2011). CPN offers those in the community who are interested the opportunity to volunteer their home to host an asylum seeker. CPN provides hosts with training and support services. Hosts will also receive accommodation cost reimbursement through AHN via their guest paying board. The CPN website explains the homestay experience, visit it at <http://www.homestaynetwork.org/cpn>.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS - 'DROP-IN' SUPPORT CENTRE FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

Church and community groups in Darwin are embarking on a great initiative to open a 'Drop-In' Support Centre for Asylum Seekers on Bridging Visas. St Vincent De Paul Society, Christchurch Cathedral, Melaleuca Refugee Centre, Catholic Care, Red Cross, DASSAN and community members are collaborating in this initiative and they are seeking volunteers to assist. They hope to operate the service two or three days per week, in which clients can go to receive English language support, help with CV writing and job hunting, help to search for housing and other social support. They are looking for people who are interested coordinating the centre, providing English tutoring, housing and employment support and generalist support. If you are interested in getting involved or want to know more about the Drop In Centre, please contact Pip Smith psmith@redcross.org.au or Kimberly Jonsson on kjonsson@redcross.org.au

PETITION: END IMMIGRATION DETENTION OF CHILDREN

Every day around the world, thousands of children fleeing abuse, poverty, human trafficking and war are locked up simply because they do not hold the right documentation. Many of these children are unaccompanied minors. Immigration detention has a devastating effect on the physical, emotional and psychological development of children and must be stopped. **The International Detention Coalition (IDC) is conducting a campaign on this vital matter.** You can support the global campaign to end this damaging practice by signing a petition at <http://endchilddetention.org/>.

PETITION: END INHUMANE TREATMENT OF ASYLUM SEEKERS IN AUSTRALIA

Asylum seekers are subjected to long-term and sometimes indefinite detention, often in remote locations. This causes anxiety, illness, self-harm and suicide. The current practices of mandatory and prolonged detention of asylum seekers are harmful, ineffective and unnecessarily costly, and are inconsistent with human rights and Australia's own professed immigration values. This petition calls on the Australian Parliament end mandatory detention

and endorse the majority recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on Australia's Immigration Network 2012, in particular recommendations 22 and 23 which call on Government to adhere to its commitment of only detaining asylum seekers as a last resort, and for the shortest practicable time and that all reasonable steps be taken to limit detention to a maximum of 90 days. You can find the petition at: <http://www.communityrun.org/petitions/end-inhumane-treatment-of-asylum-seekers-in-australia>

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (3 December)

The theme of this year's International Day of Persons with Disabilities is 'Removing barriers to create an inclusive and accessible society for all'. Barriers can take a variety of forms, including those relating to the physical environment or to information and communications technology, or those resulting from legislation or policy, or from societal attitudes or discrimination. Based on this theme, sub-themes can be selected to cover aspects of society and development, such as: removing barriers to education, employment, transportation, travel and tourism or sports. To find out more, visit: <http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1597>

NSW JUSTICE AWARDS - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Established in 1999, the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW's annual Justice Awards recognise the contributions that individuals and organisations have made to improving access to justice in NSW, particularly for socially and economically disadvantaged people. Nominations are now being called for the Justice Medal, Aboriginal Justice Award, Pro Bono Partnership Award, and Law and Justice Volunteer Award. The closing date for nominations is Friday 29 June 2012. The Awards will be presented on Wednesday 31 October 2012. To find out more, visit: http://www.lawfoundation.net.au/justice_awards

HUMAN RIGHTS BROCHURES: 'KNOW YOUR RIGHTS'

The Australian Human Rights Commission has just released a new set of information brochures entitled 'Know Your Rights'. The

series of five brochures are entitled, About Us, Age Discrimination, Disability Discrimination, Race Discrimination and Sex Discrimination. They aim to assist people to understand their rights, identify situations where their rights are not being met and know what actions they can take. To access these resources, visit: http://www.humanrights.gov.au/about/media/news/2012/38_12.html

STATEMENT: 'A TRANSFORMATIVE AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT'

An Environment Working Group of the National Justice and Peace Network of England and Wales has just produced a policy paper in the lead up to the Rio + 20 Earth Summit to be held from 20 - 22 June in Brazil. The statement calls for stronger action to tackle climate change, illegal logging and access to clean water. It calls for more sustainable development, improved security in the area of food and agriculture. It also calls for an international Financial Transactions Tax, restrictions on the pursuit of growth

and concentration of power in the markets, and for a new measure of progress beyond the limitations of measurement of Gross Domestic Product. To access the statement, visit: http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/documents/Rio20BriefingFINAL21May_002.pdf

MILLION PLEAS VIDEO TO FREE THE WORLD FROM NUCLEAR WEAPONS

A video has been started by a group of school children from Hiroshima, Japan and is addressed to the 9 countries still in possession of nuclear weapons. They are asking people to upload a video clip of themselves saying the word "please". The "pleases" will then be edited into a long virtual chain letter, which will act as a petition to abolish nuclear weapons, worldwide. The campaign is an initiative of ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons, and is being launched in this the 65th anniversary year of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. To add your voice, visit: <http://www.millionpleas.com/>.

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/OrderFormPublications.pdf>)

PASTORAL LETTER - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2012

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2011 is entitled 'The Dignity of Work - More than a casual concern'. It is available for download in regular and 'three-column' versions at: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

SERIES PAPER - 'TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES, WALK ON THE GROUND'

The ACSJC has published a collection of three essays under the title *Take Off Your Shoes, Walk on the Ground: The journey towards reconciliation in Australia* (Catholic Social Justice series paper No. 71). The authors are: Professor Lyn Henderson-Yates of the University of Notre Dame Australia; Fr Brian McCoy SJ, Senior Research Fellow in Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander Health at La Trobe University; and Melissa Brickell, member of several Catholic and ecumenical commissions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Director of Reconciliation Victoria and Chair of the Stolen Generations Victoria Alliance. (\$6.60 a copy plus postage - postage rates listed below)

DISCUSSION GUIDE - WORLD DAY OF PEACE MESSAGE 2012

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

SERIES PAPER - 'READING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES'

The ACSJC Secretariat has releasing Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.70, 'Reading the Signs of the Times: A basic introduction to Catholic social teaching'. This paper provides

a brief analysis of the context in which the encyclicals were promulgated, some of the key themes of each, and a method for applying the permanent principles of social doctrine to the challenges of today. (\$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

NATIONAL

UNTIL 3 JUNE. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK (NRW): 'LET'S TALK RECOGNITION'.

NRW is celebrated each year between 27 May and 3 June, commemorating two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey - the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision. This year's theme focuses on how Australians can better recognise each other and recognise the contributions, cultures and histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Resources and events: <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/>.

UNTIL 16 JUNE. HUMAN RIGHTS ARTS AND FILM FESTIVAL (HRAFF). HRAFF provides a shared site whereby artists, human rights organisations and the Australian public are united in their desire to contribute to social change. HRAFF will exhibit a selection of contemporary cinema, fine art, discussion panels and music, seeking to engage, inspire and entertain. 29 May-1 June: Adelaide and Sydney. 5-8 June: Brisbane. 8-10 June: Alice Springs. 12-15 June: Byron Bay. 14-16 June: Perth. Events: <http://hraff.org.au/>.

3 JUNE. OPEN DOORS: 'STAND UP SUNDAY'. Ongoing changes in Iraqi leadership have been a disaster for Iraqi Christians. Constant threats, terrorist attacks, families being forced to leave their homes and communities with no protection, and a recent spate of kidnappings have all been aimed at demoralising the already dwindling Christian population. On this Sunday, Open Doors is encouraging Churches across Australia to join

in supporting our Christian brothers and sisters in Iraq by praying, giving and writing to the Iraqi Ambassador in Australia. Resources and registration: <http://www.opendoors.org.au/standup/whatisstandupsunday>.

17 - 23 JUNE. REFUGEE WEEK: 'RESTORING HOPE'. Refugee Week is Australia's peak annual activity to inform the public about refugees and celebrate positive contributions made by refugees to Australian society. Resources and events: <http://www.refugeeweek.org.au/>. United Nations World Refugee Day is held on 20 June and the theme this year is 'One refugee without hope is too many'. Events and resources are also available at <http://unhcr.org.au/unhcr/>.

21 JUNE. VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT: 'RISE TO THE CHALLENGE'. The annual Vinnies CEO Sleepout will take place across Australia. CEOs and senior business and community leaders are invited to rise to the challenge and experience what it is like to be homeless for one night in winter and help the St Vincent de Paul Society to raise awareness of the real facts of homelessness. Register: <http://www.ceosleepout.org.au/>.

23 JUNE. WELCOME TO AUSTRALIA: WALK TOGETHER. Australians are invited to 'Walk Together' in recognition that although we've all arrived here via different pathways we share a common Australian journey. It's time to walk into a future where diversity is celebrated, fear is replaced with welcome and everyone belongs. 1.00 pm, locations: <http://www.welcometoaustralia.org.au/index.php>.

1 - 8 JULY. NAIDOC WEEK: 'SPIRIT OF THE TENT EMBASSY: 40 YEARS ON'. The Tent embassy became a powerful symbol of unity; its founders instilled pride, advanced equality and educated the country on the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. To move forward, we must acknowledge our forbears, learn from their experiences and ask ourselves ... what have their sacrifices meant for me and my family today? Events and ideas: <http://www.naidoc.org.au/>.

QUEENSLAND

4 - 6 JUNE. NATIONAL NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE: 'ECHOES OF MABO, HONOUR AND DETERMINATION'. This conference is an opportunity for native title holders and claimants, traditional owners, native title representative bodies and service agencies, the Federal Court, National Native Title Tribunal, Commonwealth and state government agencies, academics, consultants and industry representatives to engage in debate. Cost: \$510-990. Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre, Entertainment Drive, Townsville. Contact: 02 6261 4250 or ntconference@aiatsis.gov.au. Web: <http://wired.ivvy.com/event/NT2012/>.

5 JUNE. TALKS: 'THE GIFTS OF THE UNIVERSE'. Missionary Sisters of Service, the John Wallis Foundation and the Toowoomba Social Justice Commission are holding these two events. Speaker: Dr Larry Edwards, teaches the Deep History of the Universe and its implications, California Institute of Integral Studies.

9.30 to 11.30 am: 'Our Amazing Universe Story: Appreciating The Gifts Of Our Ancestors', cost: \$5.

7.00 to 9.30 pm: The John Wallis Memorial Lecture: 'The Gifts of the Universe: Living into Gratefulness', cost: \$10. Cathedral Parish Centre Conference Room, 123 Neil Street, Toowoomba. Contact: 07 4687 4300 or 07 4613 0895, RSVP essential. Web: http://www.tsjc.org/uploads/media/Larry_Edwards_brochure_Tba_1_.pdf.

5 - 6 JUNE. ALCOHOL AND DRUG FOUNDATION CONFERENCE: 'LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD'. This year's program

focuses on advancements in the alcohol and other drug and mental health sector as well as providing the opportunity to talk openly about pending changes to the health landscape. Cost: \$250-570. Outrigger, 22 View Avenue, Surfers Paradise. Contact: dinie.vandenBerg@adfq.org or 07 3834 0214. Register: <http://www.winterschool.info>.

8 JUNE. REFUGEE LANTERN PARADE. This is a unique opportunity to celebrate peace and to bring together diverse groups. For refugees particularly, it is a way to thank people who have helped them on their journey and to celebrate the Refugee Council of Australia's theme for Refugee Week 2012 - 'Restoring Hope'. 5.30 pm, Cultural Forecourt, South Bank Parklands, Brisbane. Web: <http://www.barc.org.au/post/12821>.

12, 14 JUNE. ACU TALK: 'HOW MINISTERS THINK'. Speaker: Professor Richard French, a former minister in Quebec government, will highlight the limits of evidence based policy, the importance of political judgment, and the real hurdles in developing policy and working with elected officials.

12 June: 12.20 to 1.50 pm, Royal on the Park, Brisbane.

14 June: 5.30 to 7.30 pm, IPAA Queensland, Level 9, 100 Edward Street, Brisbane.

Contact: 07 3623 7100. Web: http://www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/news_events/acu_events/?SQ_CALENDAR_VIEW=month&SQ_CALENDAR_DATE=2012-06-01.

14 JUNE. PALMS AUSTRALIA INFORMATION SESSIONS. Palms Australia places volunteers with a community who requests a particular expertise to help develop the skills of local people. Volunteers will not only assist in building the capacity of a local community and advancing a sustainable future, but their own growth will be even greater. 5.30 pm, Brisbane Square Library Community Meeting Room, Ground Level, 266 George Street, Brisbane. Contact: 02 9518 9551. Web: <http://www.palms.org.au/about/events/>.

14 JUNE. ACU SIMONE WEIL LECTURE ON HUMAN VALUE: 'NARRATING PAIN: THE POWER OF CATHARSIS'. The lecture explores the healing function of narrative,

in both fiction and history. It also engages with recent controversies on the moral and spiritual importance of trauma testimonies. Speaker: Professor Richard Kearney, Boston College. 6.30 pm, ACU Brisbane Campus, Lecture Theatre IB.12, 1100 Nudgee Road, Banyo. Contact: Richard.Colledge@acu.edu.au. Register: http://www.acu.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/425491/Simone_Weil_poster_final_version_24_May_2012.pdf.

14 - 15 JUNE. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: 'CONNECTING FOR ACTION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION'. This conference will focus on four major themes of global importance to women: Building Sustainable Communities; Women and Economic Development; Making Women's Lives Safer; and Women's Leadership and Governance. Cost: \$590. Pacific International Hotel, corner The Esplanade and Spence Street, Cairns. Contact: iwc@jcu.edu.au. Web: <http://www.jcu.edu.au/iwc/index.htm>.

15 JUNE. QCOSS 'BREAKFAST WITH THE MINISTER' THE HON TRACY DAVIS MP. This breakfast is an opportunity for the Hon Tracy Davis MP, Minister for Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, to meet and address representatives of the community services sector on matters currently relevant to the sector. Cost: \$55. 6.45 to 8.30 am, Royal on the Park, corner Alice and Albert Streets, Brisbane. Contact: 07 3004 6900 or rsvp@qcross.org.au, RSVP by 12 June. Web: <http://www.qcross.org.au/qcross-breakfast-minister-hon-tracy-davis-mp>.

NEW SOUTH WALES

UNTIL 8 JULY. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: 'MANUWANGKU, UNDER THE NUCLEAR CLOUD'. An exhibition by renowned photographer Jagath Dheeraseskara which aims to break down the preconception that an area proposed for a nuclear dump is in the middle of nowhere. An Amnesty International Human Rights Innovation Fund Grant project. No cost. Level 2, Customs House, Circular Quay. Contact: 02 9242 8551. Web: <http://jd.photoshelter.com/page1>.

1 JUNE. STARTTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP: 'CORE CONCEPTS IN WORKING WITH PEOPLE FROM REFUGEE BACKGROUNDS'. This workshop focuses on understanding the link between what refugees have been through, the sorts of issues they may present with, and how to work in a way that promotes recovery. Cost: \$149, concession \$99. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, STARTTS, 152-168 The Horsley Drive, Carramar. Contact: 02 9794 1900 or starttstraining@startts.org.au. Register: <http://www.startts.org.au/default.aspx?id=388>.

1 JUNE. TENISON WOODS EDUCATION CENTRE ANNUAL DINNER: 'TWO HANDS, THE ONLY WAY FORWARD'. Speaker: Damien Price CFC. Damien has worked with youth at risk, with homeless people, with refugees and asylum seekers as both a parish youth worker and classroom teacher. Damien says, 'There is a desperate need in today's church and society to see the two hands of spirituality and justice as essential if we are to go forward as effective evangelisers.' Cost: \$55. 6.30 pm, The Therry Centre, New England Highway, East Maitland. Contact: 02 4930 9601 or twec@ssjl.org.au. Web: <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/pdf/2012/TWEC%20dinner%20poster%202012.pdf>.

1 JUNE. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'SYRIA - THE DILEMMA OF INTERVENTION'. Speaker: Prof Ahmed Shboul, Department of Arab and Semitic Studies, Sydney University. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, Gaelic Club, Level 1, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9692 0005 or odl_bradley@pacific.net.au. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

2 JUNE. SOCIAL JUSTICE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD (SJIEC) CONFERENCE: 'THROWING OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATHWATER'. Cost: \$35. 8.30 am to 4.00 pm, Redfern Community Centre, 29-53 Hugo Street, Redfern. Contact: conference@socialjusticeinearlychildhood.org or 0404 852 151, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.socialjusticeinearlychildhood.org/campaigns/>.

3 JUNE. ABRAHAM CONFERENCE: 'FAMILY IN THE THREE ABRAHAMIC FAITHS'. The family is under more pressure than ever before.

This conference will examine the sacredness of the family unit, importance of the family as the building block of a progressive and harmonious society, and challenges facing the family to relay faith traditions and values across generations. Speakers: Ms Maha Abdo OAM; Ms Claerwen Little, Uniting Care; Assoc Prof Amanda Gordon, Clinical Psychologist; Angela Shanahan, The Australian. Cost: \$20, concession \$10. 2.00 to 5.00 pm, Isobel Menton Theatre, Mary MacKillop Place, Mount Street, North Sydney. Contact: 02 9702 0789 or registration@affinity.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.cimer.org.au/documents/10thAbrahamicConference2012.pdf>.

3 JUNE. 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MABO SERVICE. Pitt Street Uniting Church Community invites reconciliationists, their friends and families to this service to commemorate the Mabo High Court Decision recognising Native Title by Koiki Mabo in 1992. 10.00 am, Pitt Street Uniting Church, 264 Pitt Street, Sydney. Web: <http://www.nswreconciliation.org.au/events-1/20th-anniversary-of-mabo>.

4 JUNE. HOUSE OF WELCOME FUNDRAISER: 'A WELCOME FEAST: COOKING CLASSES WITH ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES'. This cooking class will provide an opportunity to try different cuisines and learn new skills from asylum seeker and refugee teachers. Funds raised will support the House of Welcome's work with asylum seekers. Cost: \$60. 6.30 to 9.30 pm, North Sydney Community Centre, 220 Miller Street, North Sydney. Contact: 02 9922 2299 or info@northsydneycentre.com.au. Web: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/getinvolved/events.php>.

5 JUNE. CENTRAL COAST SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'BECOMING WHOLE, SEEKING MEANING'. Speakers: Alf Taylor, special needs teacher, lay preacher, Gosford Uniting Church, Gosford Citizen of the Year 2011; Pat Dell, teacher, Social Justice co-ordinator, St Edward's College, East Gosford, Gosford Citizen of the Year 2012. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, The Grange Hotel, corner Renwick Street and Pacific Highway, Wyoming. Contact: 02 4325 3627. Web: http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=122:central-coast&catid=8:nsw-sip-venues&Itemid=94.

6 JUNE. SEMINAR: 'STOP THE TRAFFICK - IT DOESN'T HAPPEN IN AUSTRALIA?' The Salvation Army has been working with people who have experienced human trafficking and slavery in Australia. Some of these people will be present to share their story and their insights into ways to can better work in this area. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, 339 Crowne Street, Surry Hills, Sydney (red door next to Op Shop). Web: <http://www.facebook.com/events/321999224540651/>.

6 JUNE. ONE JUST WORLD FORUM: 'FEEDING THE WORLD - LAND, HUNGER AND HUMAN RIGHTS'. Hunger is the world's number one health risk. In recent years, this problem has been compounded by changing weather conditions, escalating food prices, the global financial crisis, and the soaring demand for land as investors look for places to grow food for export, biofuels, or as an investment. What can be done to help prevent further abuse of human rights, displacement and to ensure that poor communities can access land to grow food and generate income? No cost. 6.00 pm, York Theatre, Seymour Centre, The University of Sydney. Register: <http://www.onejustworld.com.au/Upcoming-Forums>.

6 - 8 JULY. TEAR CONFERENCE: 'ENOUGH'. We live in a culture that is held captive to a vision of growth: where privilege, entitlement, exploitation and endless accumulation are the norm. This conference is a chance to explore what it means to have had enough (of poverty, injustice and excuses), and what it means to have enough (sufficient for our needs). Cost: various. The Tops Conference Centre, 51 Bendena Garden, Stanwell Tops. Contact: 03 9264 7000 or 1800 244 986. Web: <http://enough.org.au/>.

7 JUNE. PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE IN HOUSING AWARDS CEREMONY. Housing professionals from around NSW and ACT will gather to celebrate the achievements of the very many talented and committed people that work in social housing. Mr Mike Allen, Chief Executive, Housing NSW will attend the ceremony and present an award. Cost: \$120. 6.30 to 9.30 pm, Aerial UTS Function Centre, Level 7, 235 Jones Street (Building 10), Ultimo. Contact: 02 6494 7566 or admin@housinginstitute.org. Web: <http://>

housinginstitute.learningsource.com.au/au/courses/28-professional-excellence-in-housing-awards-presentation.

11 JUNE. QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CONVENTION V: 'THE SOCIAL GOSPEL'. What is the social gospel? How should Christians respond to the social problems of society? What is the right response to the social issues of our world? Speakers: Phillip Jensen, Con Campbell, and Adrian Russell. Cost: \$30. 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, St Andrew's Cathedral, corner George and Bathurst Streets, Sydney. Contact: 02 9265 1661 or cathreception@sydney.anglican.asn.au. Web: <http://www.queensbirthdayconvention.com>.

14 JUNE. ETHICA ACCESSORIES FAIR TRADE FESTIVAL. Ethica Accessories in association with Afri Beads, Nui and Serendipity are holding this festival. Shop ethically and make a difference around the world. Ethically produced Alpaca clothing, jewellery, handbags, woven bowls, skin care, tea and coffee are available for sale. Food is available for purchase and there will be live entertainment. Entry cost: \$5. 5.00 to 8.00 pm, Isabel Menton Auditorium, 7 Mount Street, North Sydney. Contact: 02 8912 2716. Web: <http://www.ethica.org.au/>.

15 JUNE. DINNER AND CONVERSATION WITH AUNTIE ALI GOLDING: 'LISTENING TO THE DEEP SPIRIT IN THE LAND'. Aunty Ali Golding was awarded female Elder of the Year at the Deadly Awards for her advocacy and work in education and reconciliation. She will speak on the need for deep listening to what the spirit of the land is saying to all of us as we prepare to vote for Aboriginal recognition in the Australian Constitution. Cost: \$25. 6.30 to 9.30 pm, St Anthony in the Fields, 46 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills. Contact: 0408 279 871 or 0425 226 380, RSVP by 1 June. Web: <http://sjaroundthebay.org/?p=2488>.

16 JUNE. AUSTRALIAN REFUGEE FILM FESTIVAL. This festival aims to raise awareness of refugee-related issues by the screening of a selection of short films. No cost. 2.00 to 5.00 pm, Pitt Street Uniting Church, 264 Pitt Street, Sydney. Web: <http://www.australianrefugeefilmfestival.org/events.php>.

17 JUNE. FILM SCREENING AND FORUM: 'ARMS FOR THE POOR'. U.S. taxpayers support an immense military budget that is growing larger while the poor need housing, education and health care. The film presents an international spectrum of experts who maintain along with one Nobel laureate that 'the poor are crying out for schools and doctors, not guns and generals'. No cost. 4.00 to 6.00 pm, Pennant Hills Community Hall, Yarrara Road, Pennant Hills. Contact: ph.amnesty@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/event/28634/>.

18 JUNE. ACU SIMONE WEIL LECTURE ON HUMAN VALUE: 'NARRATING PAIN: THE POWER OF CATHARSIS'. The lecture explores the healing function of narrative, in both fiction and history. It also engages with recent controversies on the moral and spiritual importance of trauma testimonies. Speaker: Professor Richard Kearney, Boston College. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Ryan Auditorium, ACU, North Sydney. Contact: Richard.Colledge@acu.edu.au. Register: http://www.acu.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/425491/Simone_Weil_poster_final_version_24_May_2012.pdf.

19 JUNE. NORTH SYDNEY SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'DICKENS AS PROPHET OF SOCIAL JUSTICE'. Speaker: Jenny Gribble. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, Union Hotel, corner Pacific Highway and West Street, North Sydney. Web: http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=126:north-sydney&catid=8:nsw-sip-venues&Itemid=94.

20 JUNE. SUTHERLAND SHIRE SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'WHAT IF WE EACH ESTEEMED THE OTHER REGARDLESS OF RACE, GENDER, COLOUR OR CREED?' 'How you see is what you see. And to see rightly is to be able to be fully present - without fear, without bias, without judgment' Richard Rohr, *The Naked Now*. 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/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=129:sutherland-shire&catid=8:nsw-sip-venues&Itemid=94.

20 JUNE. TENISON WOODS EDUCATION CENTRE: CONVERSATION WITH PETER MITCHELL. Peter Mitchell is ‘an ordinary bloke who came to manage Villawood Detention Centre and still live with himself’. Peter is the author of *Compassionate Bastard*. Donation: \$15, (includes cost of finger food). 6.00 pm, Function Centre, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West. Contact: 02 4930 9601 or twec@ssjl.org.au, RSVP by 14 June. Web: <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/pdf/2012/TWEC%20refugee%20week.pdf>.

20 JUNE. BALMAIN FOR REFUGEES GROUP (UNITING CHURCH) FORUM: ‘NOT POLITICAL FOOTBALL: REAL SOLUTIONS FOR REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS’. Speakers: John Menadue, former Secretary, Department of Immigration, Board Director, Centre for Policy Development, and joint author, *A New Approach: Breaking the Stalemate on Refugees and Asylum Seekers*; and Lucy Morgan, Policy Officer, Refugee Council of Australia. The forum will include hearing an interview of Ali Al Jenabi, whose story is the subject *The People Smuggler: the True Story of Ali Al Jenabi, the Oskar Schindler of Asia*. No cost. 6.30 to 9.00 pm, Balmain Town Hall, 370 Darling Street, Balmain. Contact: basfevents@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.asylumseekersfoundation.com/events.html>.

22 JUNE. MERCY FOUNDATION GALA DINNER: ‘HOME FOR GOOD’. Speaker: Honourable Justice Virginia Bell AC, High Court Judge. Entertainment: John Field Band. This dinner will help Mercy Foundation make a difference to the lives of the city’s most vulnerable people. Cost: \$150. 7.30 pm to midnight, Westin Hotel, No 1 Martin Place, Sydney. Contact: events@mercyfoundation.com.au or 02 9911 7390, RSVP by 15 June. Book: http://www.mercyfoundation.com.au/latest-news/view_event.cfm?loadref=43&id=12

23 JUNE. BROKEN BAY DIOCESE FILM PREMIERE: ‘LIFE ABOVE ALL’. This event aims to raise funds for the Yakhumdeni Project, Diocese of Dundee, South Africa which is dealing with the fallout from AIDS. The film follows the journey of a twelve year old girl, Chanda, whose family is affected by the HIV virus. Presented by The African

Orphans Appeal of the Hornsby Cathedral Parish. Cost: \$20, concession \$12. 7.00 pm, Cathedral Hall, Yardley Avenue, Waitara. Contact: 02 9483 2314. Web: <http://www.dbb.org.au/ourparishesandpriests/Pages/BulletinDownloads.aspx>.

24 JUNE. VINCENTIAN SOCIAL JUSTICE DAY: ‘THE SITUATION IN AUSTRALIA FOR REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS - THE FACTS’. This day will include insightful speakers and lively discussion that aims to find a way forward on the issue of refugees and asylum seekers. Speaker: Paul Power, CEO, Refugee Council of Australia. The day will include speakers, refugees’ personal stories and a Community Expo. Hosted by FAMVIN Australia. Cost: \$20, concession \$10. 10.30 am to 3.30 pm, De La Salle College Hall, Bland Street, Ashfield. Contact: wyd@cmaustralia.org or 0419 418 547. Web: <http://www.vincentianswyd.org.au/>.

26 JUNE. PANEL DISCUSSION ON TORTURE AND REFUGEES. On the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture (June 26), the Pitt Street Action Group in conjunction with STARTTS will be hosting a panel group to discuss these critical concerns. The panel will focus on the treatment and support refugees are provided with to help them recover from their experiences of torture and rebuild their lives in Australia. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Sydney Mechanics’ School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact: aia.pittst@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/event/28645/>.

27 JUNE. AFTINET TRADE JUSTICE DINNER. Speaker: Dr. Kyla Tienhaara, Research Fellow, Australian National University and author, *The Expropriation of, Environmental Governance: Protecting Foreign Investors at the Expense of Public Policy*. All proceeds go to fund AFTINET’s trade justice work. Cost: \$60. 6.30 pm, The Hellenic Restaurant, 251 Elizabeth Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9212 7242 or campaign@aftinet.org.au, RSVP by 20 June. Web: <http://aftinet.org.au/cms/>.

27 JUNE. MATT LAFFAN MEMORIAL ADDRESS IN SOCIAL JUSTICE. Introduction: Andrew Buchanan, Chair of the NSW Disability Council

and Consultant. Speaker: Peter Fitzsimons, Motivational Speaker, Sports Commentator, Columnist and Author. Chair: Gillian Triggs, Dean of the Law School. No cost. 5.30 to 7.30 pm, Sydney Law School, Building F10, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Contact: 02 9351 0232 or law.events@sydney.edu.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://sydney.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventid=9457>.

28 JUNE. PALMS AUSTRALIA INFORMATION SESSION. Palms Australia places volunteers with a community who requests a particular expertise to help develop the skills of local people. Volunteers will not only assist in building the capacity of a local community and advancing a sustainable future, but their own growth will be even greater. 5.45 pm, Level 5, Aquinas Academy, 141 Harrington Street, The Rocks. Contact: 02 9518 9551. Web: <http://www.palms.org.au/about/events/>.

28 JUNE. PUBLIC EVENT: 'BELONGINGS: ABORIGINAL CONNECTIONS AND RECONCILIATION'. The intent of this event is to strengthen engagement to achieve justice for Aboriginal people, build more understanding for identity and belonging and grow relationships with each other. 3.30 to 8.00 pm, Parramatta Town Hall. Contact: wscf@wscf.org.au or 02 9896 3839, RSVP by 25 June. Web: http://www.communitynet.tricomm.org.au/images/stories/06_wsc_reconciliation.JPG.

29 JUNE. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'ISRAEL AND IRAN - WARMONGERING, NUCLEAR THREATS AND HYPOCRISY'. Speakers: Dr Noah Bassil, Macquarie University; Antony Loewenstein, freelance journalist, author *My Israel Question*. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, Gaelic Club, Level 1, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9692 0005 or odl_bradley@pacific.net.au. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

2 JULY. CATHOLICCARE GOLF DAY AND LUNCHEON. A Single Stableford event. All monies raised will fund education and career development programs for children and young people in foster care. Cost: \$60. 8.00 am, Port Kembla Golf Course. Contact: 02 4254 9318 or enquiries@catholiccare.woll.catholic.org.au, RSVP by 25 June. Web: <http://www.dow.org.au/news/news/item/news-in-brief-130>.

11 - 12 JULY. NOT FOR SALE (NFS) FREE2WORK ACADEMY: 'JUST MARKET SUPPLY CHAINS'. NFS is running an academy on supply chain research and advocacy. Free2work is an app that enables consumers to scan a barcode and instantly determine the transparency of the supply chain of the item with respect to people trafficking. The aim is to train activists hopefully leading to implementation of the app in Australia. Cost: \$99. University of Technology, Sydney. Contact: theacademy@notforsalecampaign.org. Web: <http://www.nfsacademy.org/sydney-academy/>.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

5 JUNE. GUINNESS AND GOD: 'HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH WITHOUT LOSING YOUR FRIENDS'. Speaker: Peter Holmes, former pastor, Lutheran Church prior to becoming a Catholic. Peter currently is the Lecturer in Scripture, University of Notre Dame, Sydney. 6.30 to 9.00 pm, King O'Malley's Pub, 131 City Walk, Canberra. Web: <http://www.guinnessandgod.com/>.

13 JUNE. CAEPR SEMINAR: 'LOOSENING THE GRIP: A RESILIENT FUTURE FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS'. A resilient future for Australia's Indigenous people will come through giving them the time, space and tools to articulate a future of their own design. Speaker: Ian Gill, founding CEO, Ecotrust Australia. 12.30 to 2.00 pm, Haydon Allen G052 (Quadrangle, near ANU Union), Australian National University. Contact: 02 6125 0587 or admin.caepr@anu.edu.au. Web: http://caepr.anu.edu.au/Seminars/12/Seminar-Topics%E2%80%941/13_6_Seminar.php.

20 JUNE. FORUM: 'HOW WILL AN ARMS TRADE TREATY WORK?', Speaker: Widney Brown, Amnesty International's Global Director of International Law and Policy. Widney will speak about why Amnesty is campaigning for an Arms Trade Treaty that has a strong human rights component. The treaty is to be debated by the United Nations in July and Amnesty is part of a global push calling for a treaty which has human rights protection at its core. No cost. 6.00 to 7.30 pm, Legislative Assembly, London Circuit, Civic. Contact:

actaia@amnesty.org.au, RSVP by 15 June.
Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/actsnsw/event/28757/>.

22 JUNE. ST THOMAS MORE LECTURE DINNER: 'CULTURE WARS - THE CHURCH AND THE MEDIA'. Speaker: Paul Bongiorno, Network Ten's National Affairs Editor, Parliamentary Press Gallery Canberra. Cost: \$49. 6.30 to 10.00 pm, Canberra Southern Cross Club, 92 - 96 Corinna Street, Phillip. Contact: info@catholiclife.org.au or 02 6163 4300. Web: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e5vh9d869a2d7bdf&llr=bl9b6idab>.

25 - 28 JUNE. YOUTH CLIMATE EMBASSY: 'ONE PLANET, ONE FUTURE'. This embassy is standing up for the rights of future generations on the lawns of Parliament House. It will include a display of posters, art, and video clips, about the hopes of young people for a safe climate future. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Parliament House Lawn, Canberra. Web: <http://www.arrcc.org.au/news-a-events/event/details/23>.

26 JUNE. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB LUNCH: DR LOBSANG SANGAY, PRIME MINISTER OF TIBET: 'DEMOCRACY IN EXILE: THE CASE FOR TIBET'. Dr Sangay calls for a peaceful resolution of the Tibet issue and supports the Dalai Lama's Middle Way Policy, seeking genuine autonomy for Tibet under the constitution of China. Cost: \$77. 11.30 am to 1.30 pm, 16 National Circuit, Barton. Contact: npc@npc.org.au or 02 6121 2199. Web: <http://www.npc.org.au/upcomingspeakers.html>.

28 JUNE. INTERFAITH FORUM FOR INTERGENERATIONAL CLIMATE JUSTICE. Speakers: Bishop George Browning and youth from various faith backgrounds. 6.30 to 8.30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: 02 9150 9713 or 0405 293 466. Web: <http://www.arrcc.org.au/news-a-events/event/details/22>.

VICTORIA

UNTIL 9 JUNE. PHOTO EXHIBITION: 'UNSAFE HAVEN: HAZARAS IN AFGHANISTAN'.

Photographer: Afghan refugee Abdul Karim Hekmat. The status of the Hazaras, who are vulnerable because of their ethnicity and religious belief, has become ever more perilous in past months as it is intertwined with the security situation in Afghanistan. Put together by the UTS Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Research Centre, Amnesty International and the Australian Refugee Council. No cost. RMIT Gallery, 344 Swanston Street, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9925 1717 or rmit.gallery@rmit.edu.au. Web: <http://www.rmit.edu.au/browse/Our%20Organisation%2FRMIT%20Gallery%2FExhibitions/>.

2 JUNE. SATURDAY OASES BREAKFAST: 'SUFFICIENT FOR THE DAY: A RESPONSE TO GLOBAL WARMING'. Powerful technologies have enabled people to utilise vast energy resources for industrial development and a consequence is global warming. Speaker, Geoff Lacey. Cost: \$25, concession \$15. 9.00 to 11.00 am, Augustine Centre, 2 Minona Street, Hawthorn. Contact: 03 9819 3502 or info@oases.edu.au, RSVP essential. Web: http://gallery.mailchimp.com/8125f451e8c2734b5c5d00eb3/files/glacey_oases_workshop_flyer.pdf?utm_source=Social+Policy+Connections+List&utm_campaign=6bd8948459-SPC_Newsletter_June_2011&utm_medium=email&ct=t%28SPC_Newsletter_September_2011_Asylum_seekers_time_%29.

3 JUNE. ANNUAL JEWISH CATHOLIC DINNER: 'THE ORIGINS OF OUR COMMUNITIES IN MELBOURNE'. Members of Jewish and Catholic communities of Melbourne are invited to enjoy good friends, good food and good music. Speakers: Rabbi John Levi, emeritus Rabbi of Temple Beth Israel; Rev Fr Brendan Hayes, Parish Priest, Toorak Armadale Parish. Cost: \$48. 7.00 pm, Cathedral Room, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Bookings: www.jewishcatholicdinner.eventbrite.com.au or 03 9272 5641. Web: [http://cam.org.au/News-and-Events/News-and-Events/ctl/Details/Mid/2102/ItemID/790?ContainerSrc=\[G\]Containers/cam/header_Text&SkinSrc=\[G\]Skins/cam/cam_page_NewsEvents](http://cam.org.au/News-and-Events/News-and-Events/ctl/Details/Mid/2102/ItemID/790?ContainerSrc=[G]Containers/cam/header_Text&SkinSrc=[G]Skins/cam/cam_page_NewsEvents).

4 JUNE - 20 JULY. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: 'MANUWANGKU, UNDER THE NUCLEAR CLOUD'. An exhibition by renowned photographer Jagath Dheerasekara which aims to break down the preconception that an area proposed for a nuclear dump is in the middle of nowhere. Curated by Dr Vincent Alessi, Artistic Director, La Trobe University Art Museum. La Trobe University, Library, Bundoora Campus, Plenty Road, Bundoora. Web: <http://jd.photoshelter.com/page1>.

7 JUNE. FILM SCREENING: 'ARMS FOR THE POOR'. U.S. taxpayers support an immense military budget that is growing larger while the poor need housing, education and health care. The film presents an international spectrum of experts who maintain along with one Nobel laureate that 'the poor are crying out for schools and doctors, not guns and generals'. 6.00 to 9.30 pm, 30 Gertrude Street, Fitzroy. Contact: AmnestyMelbMetro@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/vic/event/28621/>.

7 - 8 JUNE. CENTRE FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY AGEING CONFERENCE: 'STORIES TO INSPIRE'. The conference will address a broad range of themes associated with the design and delivery of culturally inclusive services and showcase best practice and innovative service models. Cost: \$350. Melbourne Convention Centre, 1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf. Contact: 03 8823 7979. Web: <http://culturaldiversity.com.au/conference-2012>.

13 JUNE. PUBLIC LECTURE: 'WHATEVER HAPPENED TO RECONCILIATION?' Speaker: Larissa Behrendt, Eualeyai/Kamillaroi woman, Professor of Law and Director of Research, Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning, University of Technology, Sydney. Hosted by Raimond Gaita. No cost. 6.30 to 7.30 pm, Lecture Theatre GM15, Melbourne Law School, 185 Pelham Street, Carlton. Contact: 03 9035 3804. Book: <http://events.unimelb.edu.au/events/2288-whatever-happened-to-reconciliation-hosted-by-raimond-gaita>.

15 JUNE. WORKSHOP: 'IT IS MY BUSINESS: UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING THE IMPACT OF FAMILY VIOLENCE AT WORK'. Two thirds of women who have experienced family violence

are in the workforce and many are at risk of losing their jobs, sliding into homelessness and poverty as a result. Catholic Social Services Victoria, in conjunction with McAuley Community Services for Women, are holding this workshop. Speaker: Jocelyn Bignold, CEO, McAuley Community Services for Women. 9.00 am to 12.00 noon, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Contact: 03 9287 5566 or Lucia.Brick@css.org.au, RSVP by 12 June. Web: <http://www.css.org.au/documents/2012WorkplaceAwarenessFlyer.pdf>.

15 JUNE. TEAR FUNDRAISER: 'TRIVIA FOR RECONCILIATION'. This Trivia Night aims to raise awareness about Close the Gap, NAIDOC and Indigenous Reconciliation. Aboriginal performer, Yamba Konrad Ross will tell stories and perform. Cost: \$10. 7.30 pm, Crossroads Uniting Church Hall, corner Synnot Street and Duncans Road, Werribee. Contact: cstorie@optusnet.com.au or 0409 521 998, RSVP by 8 June. Web: <http://www.tear.org.au/states/vic/>.

17 JUNE. WORLD REFUGEE DAY RALLY: '20 YEARS TOO LONG! END MANDATORY DETENTION'. March to end the mandatory detention of refugees. 12.00 noon, Parliament House, Spring Street, Melbourne. Web: <http://refugeeadvocacynetwork.org/world-refugee-day-rally-march-2012/>.

19 JUNE. THE CASTAN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS LAW / KING AND WOOD MALLESONS ANNUAL LECTURE: 'THE ROLE OF THE RIGHT TO FOOD IN COMBATING GLOBAL HUNGER'. Speaker: Professor Olivier De Schutter, United Nations Special Rapporteur. 5.45 to 7.00 pm, State Library of Victoria Conference Centre and Theatre, 328 Swanston Street, Melbourne. Contact: castan.centre@monash.edu or 03 9905 3327. Web: <http://www.law.monash.edu.au/castancentre/events/2012/right-to-food.html>.

21 JUNE. ACU: THE SIMONE WEIL LECTURE ON HUMAN VALUE: 'NARRATING PAIN: THE POWER OF CATHARSIS'. The lecture explores the healing function of narrative, in both fiction and history. It also engages with recent controversies on the moral and spiritual importance of trauma testimonies. Speaker:

Professor Richard Kearney, Boston College.
6.00 to 8.00 pm, ACU Melbourne Campus,
Mercy Lecture Theatre, 115 Victoria Parade,
Fitzroy. Contact: Richard.Colledge@acu.edu.
au. Register: http://www.acu.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/425491/Simone_Weil_poster_final_version_24_May_2012.pdf.

21 JUNE. JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICES (JRS) DINNER. Come and hear speakers talk about the experience of refugees in community detention. Cost: \$50. 7.00 pm, Kingston Hotel, 55 Highbury Street, Richmond. Bookings: <http://www.trybooking.com/24589> or 02 9356 3888, RSVP by 18 June. Contact: mary.storey@xavier.vic.edu.au. Web: <http://www.jrs.org.au/events/current-events>.

22 JUNE. BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE SYMPOSIUM: 'A BETTER OFFER FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE'. The aim of this major symposium is to have senior federal and state government representatives, leading Australian and international researchers, leaders from across the community sector and the public service review recent youth related policies and programs and consider what an improved policy landscape might look like. Convenors: Dr George Myconos, Senior Researcher, Brotherhood of St Laurence; Sally James, Youth Transitions, Brotherhood of St Laurence. Cost: \$50, concession \$20. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Theatre 230, Level 2, 234 Queensberry Street, Parkville, Melbourne Graduate School of Education, The University of Melbourne. Contact: bsl@emgevents.com.au or 03 9676 8200. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=706>.

26 JUNE. CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA SEMINAR: FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH: 'ENABLING SOCIAL INCLUSION'. This seminar is about the policy framework required to enable social inclusion for those people living with mental illness. Cost: \$50. 9.00 am to 1.00 pm, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Book: <http://www.trybooking.com/BMYR>. Contact: lucia.brick@css.org.au or 03 9287 5566, RSVP by 18 June. Web: http://www.css.org.au/documents/Flyer_Enabling_Social_Inclusion_26June2012.pdf.

27 JUNE. ST VINCENT DE PAUL: SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE CITY. Speaker: Robert Fitzgerald AM, Productivity Commissioner for the Australian Government. 12.00 to 1.00 pm, St Francis' Pastoral Centre, MacKillop Room, St Francis' Church annex, 326 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9895 5815 or paulas@svdp-vic-org.au. Web: http://www.cam.org.au/kairos-digital/kairos_v23i08/.

27 JUNE. DOCUMENTARY SCREENING: 'LIFE IN PALESTINE AND ISRAEL'. Filmmaker Anna Baltzer, an American of Jewish background, experiences for herself the difficult and complex situation in this region of the world. Donations at the door will be given to the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion Education Fund to help in the education of Palestinian children. Cost: donation. 7.30 to 9.30 pm, St Timothy's Church, 21 Stevens Road, Vermont. Contact: st_tims_foresthill@hotmail.com or 03 9878 8858, RSVP essential. Web: http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/?page_id=5.

29 JUNE. FORUM: 'INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON INCLUSIVE GROWTH, WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY'. The forum aims to bridge the divide between welfare and social policy and development practice through the prism of 'inclusive growth'. The forum will be hosted by the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences in partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence. Cost: \$60. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Public Lecture Theatre, Old Arts Building, University of Melbourne. Contact: tamsinc@unimelb.edu.au or 03 8344 8985. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=708>.

29 - 30 JUNE. DINNER AND CONFERENCE: 'REMIXING ROMANS - GOSPEL, CULTURE, EMPIRE - AND FINDING THE WAY HOME'. Speakers: renowned Canadian husband and wife team Brian Walsh (co-author of *The Transforming Vision* and *Truth is Stranger than it Used to Be*) and Sylvia Keesmaat. There will be workshops on topics such as Coming Home to Your Community, Reconciliation, Ecological Restoration, Suffering Creation and Climate Change, etc. Cost: \$115. 6.30 pm Friday to 5.30 pm Saturday, Ridley Melbourne, 170 The Avenue, Parkville. Contact: 03 9890 0633 or Enquiries@ea.org.au. Web: <http://www>.

ea.org.au/Ethos/Ethos-Overview/Events/Remixing-Romans.aspx.

30 JUNE. JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICES (JRS) BALL. Former Afghan refugee Zamera Shariffie will be the guest of honour and comedian Michael Chamberlin the MC. There will be live entertainment by Nussy, as well as a live DJ, heaps of prizes, raffles and more. All proceeds will be directed towards JRS projects. Cost: \$120. 7.00 pm, Central Pier, Docklands, Melbourne. Bookings: <http://www.trybooking.com/BKFA>. Contact: jrsball.melb@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.jrs.org.au/events/current-events/232-30-june-jrs-melbourne-ball>.

1 - 4 JULY. JEWISH CHRISTIAN MUSLIM ASSOCIATION (JCMA) CONFERENCE: 'THE PROPHET MOTIF - MEETING THE DIVINE CHALLENGE TODAY'. JCMA aims to enable people of faith to deepen their understanding of Judaism, Christianity and Islam in Australia today by meeting, engaging with and learning from Jews, Christians and Muslims. Cost: \$365. Conference Centre, Pallotti College, 80 McNamara Road, Millgrove. Contact: registrations@jcma.org.au, RSVP by 1 June. Web: <http://jcma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/JCMA-Conference-2012.pdf>.

2 - 13 JULY. TEAR INTENSIVE STUDY COURSE: 'UNDERSTANDING INTEGRAL MISSION OPPORTUNITY'. Selected biblical texts on the themes of poverty, wealth, justice and compassion will provide a framework within which will be explored Christian responses to the needs of marginalised people in a globalised world. Facilitator: Steve Bradbury, Director, Micah 6:8 Centre, Tabor College, Melbourne. Cost: \$500. 9.30 am to 1.00 pm, TEAR Education Centre, 1/4 Solwood Lane, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9790 9260, 0401 068 089 or sbradbury@tabor.vic.edu.au, RSVP by 22 June. Web: <http://www.tear.org.au/education/further-education#uim>.

10 JULY. MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOR PREVENTION OF WAR (MAPW) DINNER. Speaker: Professor Louise Newman, psychiatrist and director of the Centre for Developmental Psychiatry and Psychology, Monash University. Prof. Newman, a strong advocate for refugees and asylum seekers, has researched the link between time in

detention and rates of mental illness. Cost: \$30, concession \$15. 6.30 to 10.00 pm, La Notte Restaurant, 140 Lygon Street, Carlton. Contact: secretary@mapw.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/mapw-dinner-prof-louise-newman>.

TASMANIA

UNTIL 17 JUNE. BLAKE PRIZE EXHIBITION. The Blake Prize reflects the multi-cultural nature of Australian society with works of art expressive of diverse religious faiths and others reflecting the spirituality of indigenous peoples. Rosny Barn, Rosny Hill Road, Rosny Park. Contact: 03 6245 8740. Web: <http://www.ccc.tas.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=864&c=4750>.

26 JUNE. JOURNEYS OF FAITH. Speaker: Fr Terry Yard, who is currently the parish priest of Meander Valley Parish will be speaking about his work with the young people at Ashley Detention Centre. 6.30 to 9.00 pm, Upstairs Cock 'N' Bull, Wellington Street, Launceston. Web: <http://hobart.catholic.org.au/media/events/journeys-faith>.

9 JULY. TWILIGHT CONVERSATIONS: 'WHERE CAN CHRIST BE FOUND IN TEENAGE POP CULTURE OF TODAY?' Speakers: Dr Tony Lennard; Kylie Sullivan; and Michael Hangan. Cost: \$5. 4.00 to 6.00 pm, St Mary's Cathedral Centre, 164 Harrington Street, Hobart. Contact: 03 6210 8888. Web: <http://hobart.catholic.org.au/media/events/twilight-conversations-0>.

12 - 13 JULY. AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY CONFERENCE: 'CHANGING THE WAY WE THINK ABOUT CHANGE: SHIFTING BOUNDARIES, CHANGING LIVES'. The conference encourages critical analysis of changing contexts, innovative approaches, and emerging challenges in criminology. Convenor: Professor Rob White, School of Sociology and Social Work. No cost. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Faculty of Arts, Sandy Bay campus. Contact: R.D.White@utas.edu.au or 03 6226 2877, RSVP by 2 July. Web: <http://www.events.utas.edu.au/2012/july/the-australian-and-new-zealand-critical-criminology-conference-2012>.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

20 - 21 JUNE. SACOSS CONFERENCE AND MASTERCLASS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Ever wondered how Community Development principles and practices can be incorporated into projects across justice, arts, activism, or health? The conference is on 21 June and the optional master classes are held on 20 June. Speaker: Emeritus Professor Jim Ife, honorary professorships at Deakin University and Victoria University, and actively engaged with community development through Borderlands Cooperative. Cost: \$385. National Wine Centre, Adelaide. Contact: 08 8305 4222 or sacoss@sacoss.org.au, RSVP by essential. Book: <http://sacoss2012conference.eventbrite.com.au>.

27 - 29 JUNE. NATIONAL SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE: 'CREATING OUR FUTURE'.

This conference will provide a forum for sharing current thinking, research, good practice and engagement pilots, both within the settlement sector and with other diverse stakeholders. Cost: \$165-385. Adelaide Festival Centre, King William Road, Adelaide. Contact: conference@scoa.org.au, RSVP by 20 June. Web: <http://www.scoa.org.au/content/conference>.

9 - 11 JULY. MORE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER TEACHERS INITIATIVE (MATSITI) NATIONAL CONFERENCE: 'TEACHERS ARE DEADLY'.

This conference will bring together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators, to plan effective Indigenous teacher workforce strategies within the schooling sector. With presentations by leading Australian and international Indigenous educators, this conference is an important opportunity for delegates to network with colleagues and get their voices heard - directly influencing sustainable change within the industry. No cost. Intercontinental Hotel, Adelaide, South Australia. RSVP by 4 June. Register: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/Calendar/MATSITI-National-Aboriginal-and-Torres-Strait-Islander-Teachers-and-Education-Leaders-Conference/>.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

5 JUNE. YOUNG ADULTS DINNER: 'THE WORLD'S A MESS UNLESS...' Speaker: Jon

Owen. Jon is involved in building community in his local Sydney neighbourhood through *Urban Neighbours of Hope*. Cost: \$10. 6.30 to 9.00 pm, Subiaco Church of Christ Leadership Centre, 25 Barker Road, Subiaco. Contact: wa@tear.org.au, RSVP by 1 June. Web: <http://www.tear.org.au/states/news/the-worlds-a-mess-unless/>.

6 - 8 JUNE. NATIONAL INDIGENOUS DRUG AND ALCOHOL CONFERENCE (NIDAC): 'BEYOND 2012 - LEADING THE WAY TO ACTION'.

NIDAC aims to highlight how the sector is able to lead the way to action in addressing the harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs among Indigenous Australians. Speakers: Stephanie Bell, CEO, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress; Linda Forrest, Indigenous Programs Officer, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Services, QLD; Noel Hayman, Clinical Director, Inala Indigenous Health Service, QLD; etc. Cost: \$300-700. Esplanade Hotel, 44-54 Marine Terrace, Fremantle. Contact: nidac@eventcorp.com.au or 07 3334 4400. Web: <http://www.nidaconference.com.au/>.

10 JUNE. OXFAM QUAD SQUAD: 'CHANGING THE WORLD YOUR WAY'.

Hear from the Quad Squad about their visit to Oxfam's programs in Southern Africa. All funds raised will go to Oxfam's Stop Hunger Appeal. Cost: \$10. 11.30 am to 3.00 pm, Claremont Bowling and Recreation Club, 64 Bay View Terrace, Claremont. Book: <http://www.trybooking.com/BKWL>. Web: <https://www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/events-calendar/>.

11 JUNE. CROSS-SECTOR BREAKFAST: 'CHANGE THE WORLD YOUR WAY'.

Oxfam Ambassadors Kris and Jamie from the Quad Squad will talk about their visits to Oxfam's work in Africa, and how we can all act as active global citizens to challenge poverty and injustice. Donations will be accepted for Oxfam's Stop Hunger Appeal, and Oxfam Unwrapped cards will be available. No cost. 7.15 am, King and Wood Mallesons, Level 10, Central Park, 152 St Georges Terrace, Perth. Book: <http://www.trybooking.com/BKWM>, RSVP essential. Contact: majja.alakauhaluoma@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.oxfamwa.org>.

14 JUNE. SOUTH AFRICA NIGHT: 'FEEDING COMMUNITIES'. Listen to a conversation with small-scale women farmers from the Western Cape region of South Africa and find out how they're overturning misleading food myths and feeding their communities. There will be two speakers from South Africa, live African music from Tendera, and a 10-minute film *Women on Farms*. Cost: \$10. 6.30 to 8.00 pm, Fremantle Oxfam shop, 22 Queen Street, Fremantle. Contact: paddyc@oxfam.org.au, RSVP by 11 June. Web: <https://www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/events-calendar/>.

14 - 21 JUNE. WANTI URANIUM ART EXHIBITION AND AUCTION. This exhibition is centred on the environment, culture and country. It is a collaborative exhibition of indigenous and non indigenous artists working together to create artworks that examine the themes of the nuclear industry in Australia. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Kidogo Art Gallery, Bathers Beach, off Mews Road, Fremantle. Auction: 17 June - 2.00 to 5.00 pm. Contact: wansa.org.au@gmail.com or 0415 380 808. Web: <http://nuclearfree.wordpress.com/protest/>.

29 JUNE. FORUM: CONCESSIONS REFORM - BETTER TARGETING THE NEEDS OF LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS. Speaker: Chris Twomey. Cost: members \$35, non members \$45, Corporate/Govt \$55. City West Lotteries

House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth. Contact: katherine@wacoss.org.au or 08 9420 7222. Web: <http://www.wacoss.org.au/services/EventsDetails.aspx?EventItem=7e5b9288-1d84-46da-aeab-b8f31f71f591>.

1 JULY. NAIDOC OPENING CEREMONY. The NAIDOC Perth Opening Ceremony is the official start to NAIDOC Week in Perth. This free event has Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander music, dance, community stalls, food, kids' activities and more. Wellington Square, East Perth. Contact: treasurer@naidocperth.org or 0417 901 788. Web: http://www.naidocperth.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9&Itemid=17.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

6 JUNE. FAITH ON TAP: 'PUMAS, PRAYERS AND PISTOLS - THE FIGHT FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY'. Speaker: Sam Clear, who walked 15,600 km around the world praying for the unity of Christians. Through story, photographs and film the muggings, beatings, near-death experiences, extraordinary environments and amazing people come to life. An event for 18 - 35 year olds. 6.30 to 8.30 pm, Shenannigans, 69 Mitchell Street, Darwin. Contact: youth@darwin.catholic.org.au. Web: http://www.darwin.catholic.org.au/youth/news_events.htm.

News Monitor

NSW nuns in protest against coal seam gas
Religious on the north coast of NSW took part in a protest rally against the coal seam gas industry, reported *The Northern Star*.

Cath Social Services welcomes two-stage NFP reform

Catholic Social Services Australia welcomed the Government's decision to proceed with an Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit

Commission in two stages rather than one, said the organisation in a media statement.

Leaders divide nation over refugees: Edmund Rice

Our political leaders are alienating the people and dividing the nation over the issues of immigration and border control, said Edmund Rice Centre director Phil Glendenning, according to *The Catholic Weekly*.

leaders, reported *The Catholic Leader*.

Bishop calls for better work policies

A new approach is needed in labour market policy that would place the dignity of the worker at the centre of deliberations on pay and conditions, said Australian Catholic Social Justice Council chairman Bishop Christopher Saunders, reported *The Catholic Leader*.

Cath Social Services welcomes Children's Commissioner

Catholic Social Services Australia has welcomed the Federal Government's decision to establish a National Children's Commissioner, it said in a media statement.

Church opposes Stronger Futures draft laws for NT

The Catholic Church has joined with Aboriginal leaders in opposing the Federal Government's draft Stronger Futures laws, reported SBS.

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

Caritas urges govt to lead push to end poverty, not follow

Caritas Australia has urged the Federal Government to keep its commitment to the world's most marginalised people after announcing a substantial drop in the forecast foreign aid budget tonight, the organisation said in a media statement.

Vinnies said surplus at expense of sole parents and unemployed

St Vincent de Paul Society Chief Executive, Dr John Falzon, sharply criticised the failure of the Budget to deliver relief for people who are outside the labour market, the organisation said in a media statement.

Caritas calls on leaders for good will over foreign aid

Pre-Budget speculation that the Federal Government could reduce its future commitment to foreign aid and development prompted Caritas Australia to appeal to the good will of the people and the national



3 Sun Trinity Sunday

Day of Prayer for Catholic and Anglican Reconciliation

Mabo Day: High Court Decision in Mabo Case, 1992

1886: Catholic and Anglican Martyrs of Uganda

4 Mon International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

1989: Tiananmen Square Massacre

5 Tue World Environment Day

8 Fri World Oceans Day

10 Sun Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ)

1838: Myall Creek Massacre

1935: Alcoholics Anonymous established in New York

11 Mon 1971: Senator Neville Bonner first Aboriginal Australian to hold a seat in Federal Parliament

1975: Ratification by the Australian Government of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

- 12 Tue World Day Against Child Labour
1988: Barunga Statement presented to Prime Minister Bob Hawke by Aboriginal leaders
- 16 Sat International Day of the African Child
- 17 Sun Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
National Refugee Week commences
World Day to Combat Desertification & Drought
- 19 Tue 1945: Birth of Aung San Suu Kyi
1969: Equal pay for women in Australia
- 20 Wed UN World Refugee Day
- 22 Fri 1989: Destruction of the Berlin Wall
- 23 Sat UN Public Service Day
- 24 Sun The Nativity of John the Baptist
- 26 Tue International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking
International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
- 30 Sat 1945: Introduction of unemployment benefits in Australia

Notes on these dates are available in the printed ACSJC's Seasons of Social Justice Diary. The cost is \$6.60. To order go to http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/publications/social_justice_calendar.html, or call 02 8306 3499.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL PO Box 7246, Alexandria NSW 2015. Tel: (02) 8306 3499, Fax: (02) 8306 3498, Email: admin@acsjc.org.au
Website: <http://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>. ACSJC Briefing is sent by email at the beginning of each month (except January). To subscribe or unsubscribe, go to the front page of the website Comments and contributions are also welcome.