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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 SECRETARIAT

Dear Friends,

In March 2004, a Senate Committee issued its report on poverty and hardship. It was the most exhaustive investigation of the causes, effects and extent of poverty in Australia since Ronald Henderson's Commission of Inquiry into Poverty, thirty years earlier.

The 2004 report, *A hand up not a hand out: Renewing the fight against poverty*, was wide ranging - addressing everything from poverty measures to wages and income support, from education and training to gambling addiction, from the circumstances of sole parents to the decline of rural communities.

This inquiry called for the establishment of a National Poverty Strategy and a commitment to action within 12 months of the report being tabled. It warned, 'Australia will face a crisis of poverty and disadvantage in the coming years ... [with] the implication that Australians are increasingly at risk of falling into poverty and indeed more so now than at any time in the post-war era.'

The recommended Strategy did not eventuate and the lack of political consensus across parties saw the report and its recommendations shelved.

Many aspects of poverty persist. When they continue to emerge as issues of public concern or political debate it seems inevitable that, without a co-ordinated national strategy, the best that can be hoped for is the 'piecemeal and inconsistent responses to poverty' that the 2004 report condemned.

One such issue is the inadequacy of social security allowance payments in keeping individuals and families out of poverty.

At the end of November 2012, the Senate Committee on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations will report on its Inquiry into 'The adequacy of the allowance payment system for jobseekers and others, the appropriateness of the allowance payment system as a support into work and the impact of the changing nature of the labour market.' The Newstart allowance is a particular focus. (refer: http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Committees?url=eet_ctte/newstart_allowance/index.htm)

Church and community sector agencies have been lobbying strongly to get some increase to the poverty-level allowance payments.

Catholic Social Services Australia has been particularly vocal about the inadequacy of allowances over many years. Earlier this year, Executive Director Paul O'Callaghan renewed the call for Newstart and Youth Allowance to be increased.

'It is widely recognised that \$35 a day is not enough for essentials, including rent'

Noting a growing concern among some federal members over the inadequacy of the payments

he said, 'These voices join with a number of other prominent people in business and academia, such as Dr Ken Henry, Dr Ian Harper, Ms Judith Sloan, Ms Heather Ridout - who are calling for this unreasonably low level of allowances to be rectified.

'What does it say about us as a nation if we continue to allow more than 300,000 people who have been unemployed for over 12 months to struggle on an allowance level which can even hamper their capacity to undertake effective job searching,' he asked. (refer: <http://www.catholicsocialservices.org.au/node/44210>)

Catholic Social Services Australia joined with Anglicare, the Salvation Army and UnitingCare to commission the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM) study into the adequacy of Allowance payments. The NATSEM report, *Going Without: Financial Hardship in Australia*, confirms the experiences of many vulnerable families and what social service providers already know. But it provides the full extent of hardship in aggregate terms. The key findings are confronting. For example:

- Households where the unemployment benefit is the main source of income are more than five times as likely to be in poverty.
- A high proportion (46.8 per cent) of unemployed households remain in poverty for at least two years compared to the national average of 8 per cent.
- After housing costs unemployed people have disposable incomes of \$242 a week, about 25 per cent of the national average.
- Unemployed households have \$22 a day after shelter, electricity, food and health are accounted for.
- Over 15 per cent of unemployed households went without meals compared to 3.2 per cent of all households.

The Church organisations are calling for an increase in unemployment benefits for singles by \$50 a week, improvements to the tax-transfer system, an independent commission to set adequacy benchmarks and targeted assistance in the form of wage subsidies, vocational training and specialised services

to people who are long-term unemployed. (refer: <http://www.catholicsocialservices.org.au/node/44789>; http://www.catholicsocialservices.org.au/system/files/Going_Without_MCP_Report_Aug_2012.pdf)

This call is not new. For almost two decades, the Churches have been calling for these kinds of improvements.

It is a call that has been supported by the Catholic Bishops of Australia in their 2012 - 2013 Social Justice Statement.

Of all the Allowance payments they say, 'Over the past decade the unemployment benefit has fallen from 54 per cent to 45 per cent of the after-tax minimum wage. Currently over 600,000 people live on Newstart allowances as low as \$35 a day for a single adult, and many have done so for over a year. More than one million people depend on this and similar allowances. Keeping the unemployment benefit well below the poverty line is no way to help prepare people for work.'

They go on to say, 'It is time to build a genuine social security and wages system that guarantees social inclusion. We need a renewed assessment of the true costs of living for parents and children. This should be the benchmark for setting and adjusting minimum wages and income support payments.' (refer: [http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/CONTENT/PDF/Social%20Justice%20Statement%202012-2013%20\(pdf\).pdf](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/CONTENT/PDF/Social%20Justice%20Statement%202012-2013%20(pdf).pdf))

The 2004 Senate Committee report calling for a National Poverty Strategy warned that the risk of Australians falling into poverty was greater than at any time in the post-war era. Eight year on, the Bishops are highlighting the impact of the global financial crisis and note a growing awareness in the community that competitive markets are not equipped to ensure disadvantaged individuals and their families have access to the essentials of life.

The Bishops are alluding to the observations made by Pope Benedict XVI in his 2009 encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*. As the global financial crisis started to unravel, the Holy Father observed how a world-wide trend to deregulate and downsize public systems of

social protection would mean the rights of the most vulnerable would not be adequately protected when it mattered most. He called for equity and justice to be built into the very operation of the market and for the wellbeing of the vulnerable and unemployed to be respected 'as the economic process unfolds, and not just afterwards or incidentally'. (refer articles 25, 37: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/encyclicals/documents/hf_ben-xvi_enc_20090629_caritas-in-veritate_en.html)

The current Senate inquiry into the adequacy of allowance payments does not have terms of reference broad enough to consider how equity

and justice can be built into the very operation of the market. But it does have the capacity to recommend improvements that would benefit the most vulnerable - those whose need seems always to be considered incidentally and after the economic process unfolds.

It will be interesting to read the report of the Senate Committee. It will be fascinating to see if there consensus and the political will this time around to take some small steps that would substantially improve the lot of over one million Australians and their households.

John Ferguson (National Executive Officer)



Current Issues / Resources

REPORT: ONE IN EIGHT PEOPLE LIVING IN POVERTY

The Australian Council of Social Service has today released a new report showing an estimated 2,265,000 people or 12.8% of all people living below the internationally accepted poverty line used to measure financial hardship in wealthy countries. People who are unemployed, children (especially in lone parent families), and people whose main source of income is social security payments, are the groups most at risk of poverty.

The Executive Officer of ACOSS, Dr Cassandra Goldie, says: 'Over a third (37%) of people whose main income is social security is living below the poverty line, including 52% of people in households on Newstart Allowance. The low level of this payment means that when unemployment goes up as it did last month, more people are thrown into poverty. The Newstart Allowance has not been increased in real terms since 1994 so households relying on it have been falling further behind community living standards and into poverty ...

The report also shows that there are almost 600,000 children living in families below the poverty line. About half of those children are in sole parent families, and one quarter of

people in sole parent families are living below the poverty line'. Download the report at: http://www.acoss.org.au/uploads/ACOSS%20Poverty%20Report%202012_Final.pdf

RESEARCH: ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS AND TAX CONCESSIONS

The Australia Institute has recently released two reports touching on the inequitable distribution of wealth in Australia. The first is the Institutions submission to the Federal Inquiry into the allowance payment system for jobseekers and others. In the submission, David Richardson makes the case for lifting the level of Allowance payments and shows that there is little to suggest that higher unemployment benefits are at the expense of economic efficiency. (to access, visit: <https://www.tai.org.au/index.php?q=node%2F19&pubid=1028&act=display>)

In the policy brief, "Can the taxpayer afford 'self-funded retirement'?", Richard Denniss and David Richardson reveal how the annual cost of taxpayer contributions for private superannuation will exceed the annual cost of the age pension by 2015-16 - with the top five per cent of income earners receive 37 per cent of all superannuation tax concessions. (<https://www.tai.org.au/index.php?q=node%2F19&pubid=1034&act=display>)

NEW BOOK: 'A DECISION TO DISCRIMINATE'

The new publication of 'concerned Australians' is entitled 'A Decision to Discriminate - Aboriginal Disempowerment in the Northern Territory'. It provides an important historical record that focuses on the Senate Committee Inquiry into the Stronger Futures legislation. It shows how the Government decision-making process chose to ignore the views and ideas expressed by many Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory communities in much the same way as has happened since colonisation. It uses quotes as a way of recording what the people have said and is an invaluable resource for students of Aboriginal history and human rights law, particularly those with an interest in the continuing struggles of Aboriginal people.

This book documents: How the majority of those providing evidence to the Committee held similar, adverse views in regard to the Stronger Futures legislation; How Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory are being denied the right of taking responsibility for their communities; How the Senate Inquiry Committee failed to offer constructive alternatives for Government consideration through recommendations that genuinely reflected the views of the people. Cost: \$15 + \$5 packaging and postage. To order, visit <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au/> or contact info@concernedaustralians.com.au

CARITAS 'WALK AS ONE CAMPAIGN'

There are more than 370 million Indigenous peoples living in some 90 countries around the world today. They are custodians of some of the world's most biologically diverse territories; are responsible for a great deal of the world's cultural and linguistic diversity; and their traditional knowledge is an invaluable resource in many sectors, such as medicine and agriculture. Although Indigenous Peoples make up roughly 5 percent of the global population, they constitute up to 15 per cent of the world's poor, and over a third of the world's extremely poor rural population. The majority are living within Australia's own region, Asia. Join the Walk As One campaign to seek solutions to these challenges, calling on our government to improve Australia's foreign aid programme and policies as they relate to Indigenous Peoples, and seeking change in communities and businesses, promoting

positive engagement with Indigenous led initiatives and organisations. To find out more about this campaign, visit: <http://www.caritas.org.au/act/walk-as-one-indigenous-peoples-campaign>

EARTHCARE RESOURCE: 'PURE GIFT'

'Pure Gift' is Catholic Earthcare Australia's new resource, offering a range of prayerful exercises and contemplative reflections based on themes contained within an animated clip. Material is intended to assist the user in the growth and understanding of their emerging ecological consciousness. It is hoped that these exercises might provide moments of insight and transformation to stimulate and sustain the movement for ecological conversion at a personal and communal level. 'Pure Gift' has a flexible design and offers a selection of options for the user within each theme. The material is suited to use by individuals, small groups and for classroom use in the senior secondary context. To access, visit: <http://www.catholicearthcare.org.au/resources.html>

PETITION: END THE DETENTION OF CHILDREN!

Australian Young Christian Students (YCS) are calling on the Prime Minister and Australian Parliament to uphold rights of Child Convention & end the detention of children. Around 590 Children are currently locked up within Australia in Immigration Detention, and with the recent amendments to the Migration Act their wellbeing is set to get even worse. The Parliament has not ensured that a guardian for the children will be sent offshore, so there is no-one who can advocate for their needs. No legal safeguards have been put in place to ensure their safety and, as high school students of the same age, members of the YCS have serious concerns for their wellbeing. To support them in their call for the rights of vulnerable children and young people, visit the petition website and lend your support: <http://www.change.org/en-AU/petitions/australian-parliament-uphold-rights-of-child-convention-end-the-detention-of-children>

ASRC: MYTH BUSTER ON OFFSHORE PROCESSING

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre has just released its latest Myth Buster fact sheet on Offshore Processing. MYTH: Offshore

processing is the solution to boat arrivals. FACT: Like other detention centres, asylum seekers sent to offshore locations such as Nauru and Manus Island suffered from a history of suicide attempts and self-harm. By locating these centres far from the Australian mainland, however, the government was able to hinder public scrutiny of the dire living conditions and protests from the asylum seekers detained there. The Human Rights Commission was denied access to investigate the conditions of children in Nauru while it took over three years for the first journalist, Michael Gordon, to be granted unrestricted access to the detention compounds. What he found when he got there was asylum seekers, including children, full of despair, highly medicated and suffering from severe mental health conditions. To find out more, and access other fact sheets and resources, visit: <http://www.asrc.org.au/learn-more/>

MUSIC: KEY OF SEA VOLUME 2

Australian musicians are supporting the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre with the Key Of Sea Volume 2 Album. Artists include Paul Kelly, Jinja Safari, Chet Faker, Lanie Lane, Brous, Clubfeet, Kim Salmon, Dick Diver, David Bridie, The Tiger & Me, Sietta and more. The Key of Sea is an album of collaborations between artists that you know and artists who have brought their incredible musical skills and culture to Australia seeking a life free from want and hardship. It represents the effort of an entire community who have joined together in search of a common goal - unity through music. To order, visit: <http://keyofsea.com.au/releases/>

YOUNG PEOPLE: GET YOUR CAMERAS OUT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The Australian Human Rights Commission is calling on young people around Australia to channel their passion for human rights through the camera lens. The Commission has been running a photo competition since March this year with monthly winners already announced. Commission President Professor Gillian Triggs said the competition's theme is human rights. 'Human rights are contained in legislation, international covenants and treaties but they affect each and every one of us on a daily

basis,' Professor Triggs said. Photos can be submitted in either the under 18 or 18 years and over category. Monthly winners will go into the pool for selection as the overall winner in each category where they will win Canon EOS-1100D Digital SLR Camera Single Kits. Winners will be announced at the Commission's Human Rights Awards Ceremony on Monday, 10 December 2012 at the Hilton Sydney. A selection of the best images and online entry are at <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/PhotoCompetition2012>.

REPORT: THE CONCERNS OF YOUNG AUSTRALIANS

In 2011, Mission Australia conducted its 10th National Survey of Young Australians, receiving 45,916 responses from people aged between 11-24 years. The survey aimed to identify the most significant issues facing Australian youth today, through questions relating to their top three issues of concern, as well as what they think can be done about them. Young Australians from a range of backgrounds participated. The snapshot, 'Insights into the concerns of young Australians' identified key concerns of young people, including: school or study problems; coping with stress; body image; family conflict; bullying; drugs and alcohol; the environment. To access the snapshot, visit: <http://www.missionaustralia.com.au/document-downloads/category/29-2011>

PETITION: PALESTINIAN RECOGNITION

The Australia Palestine Advocacy Network has launched a campaign to support Palestinian recognition in the United Nations. The Palestinian Authority have announced that they will be seeking admission to the UN as a non-member state at the General Assembly, probably some time around 29 November. APAN is urging the Australian Government to support the majority of the world in voting YES to this resolution. It is seeking a meeting with the Foreign Minister to deliver this petition in person by 15 November, two weeks before the anticipated UN General Assembly vote. To find out more, visit the APAN website (<http://apan.org.au/>) . To sign the petition, visit: <http://www.communityrun.org/petitions/say-yes-to-palestine-joining-the-un>

ROOTS OF PEACE CAMPAIGN AGAINST LANDMINES

Roots of Peace is a humanitarian organisation dedicated to eradicating landmines worldwide and rehabilitating the land to make it productive once more. The roots of the organisation are in the heart of California's agricultural grape growing region. With the generous support of the entire California wine industry, Roots of Peace aims to turn 'Mines into Vines', which helps innocent farmers and families avoid a lethal harvest of bloodshed for future generations. For a report on the organisation's visit to the Vatican, see <http://www.rootsofpeace.org/events/2011/05/mines-to-vines-on-sacred-sites.html#more>. Their website is at: <http://www.rootsofpeace.org>.

NATIONAL SURVEY: 'LEGAL NEED IN AUSTRALIA'

The Law and Justice Foundation (NSW) has just released a national survey: 'Legal need

in Australia'. It measures not only how many people resolve their legal problems but also how many people fail to do so. Additionally, it provides evidence of the disadvantaged groups that are particularly vulnerable to legal problems. For example, people with a disability and single parents are twice as likely to experience legal problems. The unemployed and people living in disadvantaged housing also have heightened vulnerability. Indigenous people are more likely to experience multiple legal problems including government, health and rights related problems. Taking no action to resolve legal problems is more prevalent among some disadvantaged groups including people with a non-English main language, people with low education levels and the unemployed. The survey demonstrates that access to justice for disadvantaged people must remain a priority. To find out more and access the report, visit: <http://www.lawfoundation.net.au/ljf/app/6DDF12F188975AC9CA257A910006089D.html>

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>)

ORDER NOW! - 2013 SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY

The 2013 Social Justice Diary includes the dates of significant events, anniversaries and special days which celebrate particular aspects of social justice. The Diary provides a social justice program for the full year. Information and ideas for prayer and reflection are included. This is an essential resource for teachers and parishes. A great Christmas gift. Diaries will be available in November. Cost: \$6.60 (inc. GST), plus postage. To download an order form, go to: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

LAUNCH OF THE 2012-2013 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Addresses delivered at the launch of the 2012-2013 Social Justice Statement by the Dr John

Falzon, Executive Officer of the Society of St Vincent de Paul in Australia, Dr Lisa Bridle, Senior Consultant at the Community Resource Unit in Brisbane, and Bishop Christopher Saunders are available for download on the ACSJC homepage: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2012-2013 - STILL TAKING ORDERS

This year's Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement is entitled 'The Gift of Family in Difficult Times: The social and economic challenges facing families today'. The ACSJC is now 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 to strengthen and support families.
Now available. Call (02) 8306 3499

Social Justice Statement Summary, Audio version of the Statement, Community and Student Resources, PowerPoint Presentation - now available at: www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

Ecumenical resource: 'Peace in the Marketplace - So all may live in dignity'. Download from the National Council of Churches website: <http://www.ncca.org.au/component/content/article/41-sjn-resources/686-social-justice-sunday-2012>

SERIES PAPER - 'CHARITY AND JUSTICE'

The ACSJC has published Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.72, entitled 'Charity and Justice: St Mary MacKillop and Australian Society'. Author Professor John Warhurst draws on presentations at a conference on the life, work and legacy of Mary MacKillop that was organised last year by Catholic Social Services Victoria, MacKillop Family Services, the Sisters of St Joseph, the Australian Catholic University and the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry. It also draws on the 2011 CSSA McCosker oration by Sr Anne Derwin RSJ. The paper's principal theme is St Mary's unswerving vision: that a commitment to justice must go hand in hand with a commitment to hard practical work on behalf of people on the margins of society.

PASTORAL LETTER - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2012

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2012 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)

(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 15 NOVEMBER. REFUGEE COUNCIL NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS. The consultations of the Refugee Council of Australia will inform its annual submission to the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship on issues the Australian Government should consider in planning the coming year's refugee program. The consultations will include a presentation on the implications of recent government announcements as well as an opportunity for former refugees and service providers to have their say. Locations and dates: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/r/isub.php>.

10 NOVEMBER. ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES WEBINAR: 'LESSONS OVERBOARD'. Hosted by Imogen Bailey, one of the participants in this year's TV series *Go Back to Where You Came From*. This webinar will provide an opportunity to learn about refugee and asylum seeker issues. Register: <http://www.lessonsoverboard.com>.

24 NOVEMBER - 2 DECEMBER. SOCIAL INCLUSION WEEK. This week aims to ensure all Australians feel included and valued, giving everyone the opportunity to participate fully in society. It's about connecting local communities, workmates, family and friends in

order to build and strengthen relationships and networks, addressing isolation and exclusion by supporting people who may be unable to help themselves. For resources and events see: <http://www.socialinclusionweek.com.au>.

3 DECEMBER. INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY. This is a United Nations sanctioned day that aims to promote an understanding of people with disability and encourage support for their dignity, rights and well-being. Resources and events: <http://www.idpwd.com.au/>.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

31 OCTOBER. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS: THE HON JENNY MACKLIN MP: 'MAKING A NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME REAL'. The NDIS is the biggest social reform in Australia in decades. Jenny Macklin will outline the next steps the Federal Government is taking to build an NDIS and how this work is being shaped by those at the centre of this reform - people with disability, their families and carers. Cost: member \$57, guest \$77. 11.30 am to 1.30 pm, 16 National Circuit, Barton. Contact: 02 6121 2199 or npc@npc.org.au. Web: <http://www.npc.org.au>.

3 NOVEMBER. ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY: 'STARTING AFRESH FROM CHRIST'. The day will include a keynote address by Bishop Peter Comensoli, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Sydney, Mass and the chance to experience different forms of prayer. All participants will receive a copy of the Archdiocesan Year of Grace resource *30 days of Grace, in a Year of Faith*. Lunch and childcare supplied. Cost: donation. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Merici College Canberra, Wise Street, Braddon. Contact: sharon.brewer@catholiclife.org.au or 02 6163 4304. Web: <http://www.cgassembly.org.au>.

13 NOVEMBER. CONCERNED AUSTRALIANS BOOK LAUNCH: 'A DECISION TO DISCRIMINATE: ABORIGINAL DISEMPOWERMENT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'. Speakers: John Falzon, CEO, St Vincent de Paul, and Janet Hunt, Fellow, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy, Research and former President of ANTaR. No

cost. 5.30 pm, Co-op Bookshop, Union Court, ANU. Contact: 02 6249 6244. Web: <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au>.

13 NOVEMBER. FILM SCREENING: 'BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA'. Amnesty International and the Refugee Action Committee invite you to a screening of an award-winning documentary to promote awareness of refugee rights. Through candid interviews, hidden camera footage and in the words of asylum seekers themselves, the story of the 'refugee' is told. 6.00 to 9.00 pm, Copland Lecture Theatre, Australian National University, Kingsley Street, Acton. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/actsnsw/event/30028/>.

15 NOVEMBER. SEMINAR: 'HOUSING AND SOCIAL INCLUSION'. This seminar is based on two new Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) research projects addressing complementary aspects of housing and social inclusion - Housing assistance, social inclusion and people with a disability; and social inclusion and housing: a household and local area analysis. Cost: \$50. 1.30 to 4.30 pm, Cliftons, Level 2, 10 Moore Street, Canberra. Contact: kristina.conley@ahuri.edu.au. Web: <http://apo.org.au/node/31574>.

20 NOVEMBER. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS: 'AN EVENING WITH HELEN CONWAY - UPCOMING CHANGES IN GENDER EQUALITY LEGISLATION'. Speaker: Helen Conway, Director of Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency (EOWA). The Press Club is partnering with the National Foundation for Australian Women (NFAW) for this dinner. Cost: \$60. 6.00 to 8.30 pm, 16 National Circuit, Barton. Contact: 02 6121 2199 or npc@npc.org.au. Web: <http://www.npc.org.au>.

20 NOVEMBER. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS: 'IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH HEALTHIER WORKPLACES - THE NATIONAL GO HOME ON TIME DAY ADDRESS'. Research has shown that stress and fatigue in the workplace have an adverse impact on mental and physical health and, in turn, lead to reduced productivity, increased staff turnover and significant costs to employers, employees, the community and the health

budget. Speakers: Ged Kearney, ACTU President; and Kate Carnell, beyondblue CEO. Cost: member \$57, guest \$77. 11.30 am to 1.30 pm, 16 National Circuit, Barton. Contact: 02 6121 2199 or npc@npc.org.au. Web: <http://www.npc.org.au>.

23 NOVEMBER. ACTCOSS TRAINING: 'ABORIGINAL CULTURE, HISTORY AND HERITAGE'. This workshop for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal workers aims to improve knowledge of Aboriginal culture and dispossession, and explores ways organisations may improve their practice to respond to the needs of Aboriginal peoples. Facilitator: Kerry Reed-Gilbert, Kuracca Consultancy. Cost: \$165-305. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, Level 1 meeting room, Weston Community Hub, 1/6 Gritten Street, Weston. Contact: actcoss@actcoss.org.au. Web: <http://www.actcoss.org.au/secdevel/seminars.html>.

28 NOVEMBER. ACTCOSS TRAINING: 'APPRECIATION OF TORRES STRAIT CULTURE AWARENESS'. This training for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers aims to assist participants in developing a better understanding of the cultural perspectives of Torres Strait Islander people in Australia. The training assists participants in developing and improving a range of cross-cultural communication skills. Facilitator: Benny Hodges, Wis-Wei Consulting. Cost: \$165-305. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, Level 1 meeting room, Weston Community Hub, 1/6 Gritten Street, Weston. Contact: actcoss@actcoss.org.au. Web: <http://www.actcoss.org.au/secdevel/seminars.html>.

28 NOVEMBER. CES FORUM: 'VULNERABLE FAMILIES: NURTURING A SENSE OF WELLBEING FOR BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS'. This talk will refer to Commonwealth initiatives and to recent ACT approaches which seek to increase the responsiveness of services to 'vulnerable and in need' children and young people. Speaker: Dr Gail Winkworth, Adjunct Professor, Institute of Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University. 7.30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, corner Blackall Street and Kings Avenue, Barton. Web: <http://www.ces.org.au/index.htm>.

NEW SOUTH WALES

31 OCTOBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'DON'T GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM: WHY MULTICULTURALISM WORKS'. Tim Soutphommasane boldly stakes a claim for the overwhelming success of multiculturalism in Australia. Cost: \$10, concession \$7. 6.00 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. Contact: 02 9660 2333. Web: http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/welcome4_htm.

31 OCTOBER. LAUNCH OF BLACKTOWN COMMUNITY UNIONS. The purpose of Blacktown Community Unions will be to campaign locally for great jobs and a thriving community and to give the local workers a voice. Speakers: Local workers talking about public and private sector job security, education, health, workers comp, transport, emergency services and community services; Mark Lennon, Unions NSW Secretary; Bobby Lastica, Public Service Association. No cost. 5.30 to 7.00 pm, Max Webber Library, Function Centre, Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street, Blacktown. Book by 29 October: <https://register.eventarc.com/11074/blacktown-community-unions-launch>. Contact: 0414 316 839 or arahill@actu.org.au.

31 OCTOBER. CLEANERS' CONGRESS. This is an opportunity to take a stand against poverty and show support for hardworking cleaners. 11.00 am, Sydney Town Hall. Contact: <http://www.cleanstart.org.au/>.

1 NOVEMBER. FREE GAZA AUSTRALIA FUNDRAISER: 'PROGRESSIVE TRIVIA'. This night of progressive trivia will include a bonus Palestine round. Free Gaza Australia has been working in cooperation with partners in the US, Canada, Europe and Palestine on a new joint initiative to challenge the illegal and inhumane Israeli blockade of Gaza. Cost: \$10-30. 7.00 pm, Marrickville, Sydney. Contact: freegazaaustralia@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.gazaark.org/>.

1 NOVEMBER. WAHROONGA QUAKER INTERFAITH PRESENTATION: 'FOOD IN FAITH'. Panellists will speak about the place of food in celebration, spiritual discipline, identity in

the Jewish, Sikh, Buddhist and Seventh Day Adventist traditions. There will be time for questions during the presentations. Speakers: Robyn Lenn, Judaism; Jassi Singh Khan, Sikhism; Kai Wang and Phoebe Wu, Buddhism; Garry Duncan, Seventh Day Adventist. 7.15 pm, Wahroonga Quaker Meeting House, 59 Boundary Road, Wahroonga. Contact: 02 9868 4431.

1 NOVEMBER. FUNDRAISER: WESLEY FAIR. Stalls include new, vintage and handmade goods, food, fashion, home wares, toys, jewellery, and handmade craft. Proceeds from the Fair go towards Wesley's programs helping the vulnerable in our community. 9.30 am to 4.00 pm, Wesley Mission, 220 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9263 5569 or Hannah. Rodrigues@wesleymission.org.au. Web: http://www.wesleymission.org.au/get_involved/events/wesley_fair/default.asp.

1 AND 8 NOVEMBER. ERC AFTERNOON TEA FOR THE FUTURE: DOCUMENTARY SCREENING 'BE THE CHANGE'. Designed by the Pachamama Alliance with the collaboration of some of the finest scientific, Indigenous and activist minds in the world, this DVD explores the current state of our planet from a new perspective, and connects viewers with a powerful global movement to reclaim the future. Facilitators: Andrew Lenart and Bozenia Sawa. Cost: \$5 or \$2. 2.00 to 4.00 pm, Edmund Rice Centre, 15 Henley Road, Homebush West (near Flemington Station). Contact: eco.justice@erc.org.au or 02 8762 4200. Web: http://erc.org.au/index.php?module=documents&JAS_DocumentManager_op=viewDocument&JAS_Document_id=343.

3 OR 4 NOVEMBER. FILM SCREENING: 'DUKOT' (ABDUCTION). This movie is based on true stories about abducted political activists who were summarily executed. Dennis Evangelista, Producer and Allen Dizon, lead actor will take part in a discussion at the end of film screening. Co-host organisations: Search Foundation, Migrants Australia, Philippines-Australia Union Link, Action for Peace and Development in the Philippines, Philippines-Australia Women's Association and Philippine Caucus for Peace. 2.00 to 4.00 pm,

UTS Theatre, University of Technology Sydney (UTS), Broadway. Cost: \$15. Contact: 0414 409 905 or buoyancy70@yahoo.com. Web: <http://www.apdp.org.au/>.

5 NOVEMBER, BOOK LAUNCH: 'A DECISION TO DISCRIMINATE - ABORIGINAL DISEMPOWERMENT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'. This book by 'concerned Australians' is an important historical record that focuses on the Senate Committee Inquiry into the Stronger Futures legislation. It shows how the Government decision-making process chose to ignore the views and ideas expressed by many Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory communities in much the same way as has happened since colonisation. Speakers: Graeme Mundine, Deni Langman and Jeff McMullen. No cost. 6.00 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe. RSVP essential: http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/2012/nov/Launch-A-Decision-to-Discriminate-Aboriginal-Disempowerment-in-the-Northern-Territory_htm.

5 NOVEMBER. AFTERNOON TEA FOR THE FUTURE: COAL SEAM GAS MINING. The Social Justice Committee of the Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes (NSW) has been working on the development of a simulation game about coal seam gas mining (a simulation game is something between a role play, a game, an experiential study tour and a shared learning experience.) They are now at the point of needing to play it and tweak it and you are invited to help. Lunch provided. 1.00 to 3.30 pm, Edmund Rice Centre, 36 Collins Street, Annandale. Contact: clrinsw@ozemail.com.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.erc.org.au>.

5 NOVEMBER. GOOGLE EARTH OUTREACH LAUNCH. Macquarie University is partnering with Google to launch Google Earth Outreach, a program designed to help non-profit organisations, NGOs and Indigenous peoples in Australia and New Zealand. Google Earth Outreach will illustrate the important work these communities and organisations are doing in areas such as energy, environment, human rights and cultural preservation on Google Earth. Speakers: Professor Tim Flannery, Macquarie University; Rebecca Moore and

Alan Noble, Engineering Directors Google Australia. 6.00 to 9.00 pm, Macquarie Theatre, Macquarie University. Contact: 02 9850 1881 or events@mq.edu.au. Book: <http://www.mq.edu.au/about/events/view/google-earth-outreach-launch/>.

6 NOVEMBER. JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE FUNDRAISER: MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON.

An event where guests gather at a beautiful harbour-side location to celebrate the Melbourne Cup horse race and raise funds and awareness for refugees and asylum seekers. Cost: \$125. 11.30 am, The Star Room, Level 6, The IMAX Theatre Complex, 31 Wheat Road, Darling Harbour. Contact: 02 9356 3888. Book: <http://www.jrs.org.au/events/current-events/237-6-november-2012-melbourne-cup-luncheon>.

7 NOVEMBER. SCREENING: 'BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA'. Jessie Taylor and Ali Reza Sadiqi travelled across Indonesia and met with 250 asylum seekers in jails, detention centres and hostels. Through candid interviews, hidden camera footage and in the words of asylum seekers themselves, the story of the 'refugee' is told. Hosted by the House of Welcome, Edmund Rice Centre and Amnesty International's NSW Refugee Network. Cost: \$25, concession \$18. 6.30 pm, Dendy Opera Quays, 2 East Circular Quay, Sydney. Book: <http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=33860>. Contact: 02 9727 9290 or office@houseofwelcome.com.au. Web: <http://www.au.timeout.com/sydney/film/events/32427/between-the-devil-and-deep-blue-sea>.

7 NOVEMBER. PUBLIC FORUM: 'DOES AUSTRALIA DEFEND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REGION?' Speakers from the Burmese, Tibetan and Sri Lankan communities will outline the human rights crisis in their countries, and sharing their view on if Australia is helping protect human rights. Moderator: Jamie Parker, Green NSW State MP. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Auditorium, Labour Council Building, 377-383 Sussex Street, Sydney. Web: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/n/event.php>.

7 NOVEMBER. CITY OF SYDNEY PEACE PRIZE LECTURE: SENATOR SEKAI HOLLAND. Senator

Holland, Co Minister for Reconciliation, Healing and Integration in the Cabinet of President Robert Mugabe and Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai, was selected by the Sydney Peace Prize jury 'for a lifetime of outstanding courage in campaigning for human rights and democracy, for challenging violence in all its forms and for giving such astute and brave leadership for the empowerment of women.' Cost: \$25-35. 7.00 pm, Sydney Town Hall. Book: <http://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx?sh=SYDNEYPE12>. Contact: peace.foundation@sydney.edu.au or 02 9351 4468. Web: <http://www.sydneypeacefoundation.org.au>.

8 NOVEMBER. DOCUMENTARY SCREENING: 'THE LAST SURVIVOR'. Following the lives of survivors of four different genocides and mass atrocities - the Holocaust, Rwanda, Darfur, and Congo - 'The Last Survivor' presents a unique opportunity to learn from the lessons and mistakes of the past in order to have lasting social impact on how to act collectively in the face of similar issues today. All profits from this event will support the work of the NSW Asylum Seekers Centre. Cost: \$25, concession \$20. 7.00 pm, Randwick Ritz, 39-47 St Pauls Street, Randwick. Book: <http://www.trybooking.com/33520>. Contact: development@asylumseekerscentre.org.au. Web: <http://www.thelastsurvivor.com>.

8 NOVEMBER. COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS NSW (CCJNSW) LUNCHEON: 'THE FUTURE OF INTERFAITH DIALOGUE IN AUSTRALIA'. Speaker: Jim Mein AM. In 2010, Jim was awarded Membership of the Order of Australia for service to the Uniting Church for promotion of interfaith dialogue, to education and to the community. He is a member of the Synod's Relations with Other Faiths Committee, the Affinity Intercultural Foundation's Advisory Board and recipient of their annual Interfaith Dialogue Award. Cost: \$5. 12.30 pm, Pitt Street Uniting Church, 264 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact: interfaith.asst@sydneycatholic.org or 02 9390 5168, RSVP by 5 November.

8 NOVEMBER. ECUMENICAL SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION. Bishop David Walker is holding this service with Bishop Peter Stuart,

Assistant Bishop of Anglican Diocese of Newcastle. This service is a chance to come together with Anglican brothers and sisters in Christ, to pray for more understanding and healing. 7.45 pm. Anglican Church, corner Brooke Avenue and Eastern Road, Bateau Bay. Web: http://www.dbb.org.au/news/Broken%20Bay%20News/BBNOctober12_WEB.pdf.

9 NOVEMBER. WORLD CHANGERS FAIR TRADE MARKET. This will include fair trade stalls, information on fair trade, live music, food and fun for the children as well as hourly lucky door prizes. This is an opportunity to shop for Christmas and help those less fortunate. 5.00 to 9.00 pm, Gynea Baptist Church, corner Tea Gardens Avenue and Hotham Road, Kirrawee. Contact: 02 9521 4611 or gbc@gymeabaptist.org.au. Web: <http://www.gymeabaptist.org.au/WorldchangersMarket.aspx>.

9 NOVEMBER. ROCK FOR RECOGNITION. ANTaR, Oxfam, the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples and YouMeUnity have initiated a series of concerts called Rock for Recognition to raise awareness and promote the need for recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution. This will feature a varied bill of artists including songstress Leah Flanagan and all-star band Dead Marines. The Factory Theatre, 105 Victoria Road, Marrickville. Contact: 02 9550 3666. Web: <http://antar.org.au/news/rock-recognition-launched>.

9 NOVEMBER. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'IS AUSTRALIA FUNDING INDONESIAN DEATH SQUADS? STOP NEWS FROM WEST PAPUA'. Speakers: Dr Peter King, Convenor, West Papua Project Centre, Peace and Conflict Studies; and Professor Eben Kirksey, Mellon Fellow, City of New York University. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, The Gaelic Club, 1/64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9552 3599 or winchilds@bigpond.com. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

9, 10 NOVEMBER. PROJECT FUTURES SLAVERY AWARENESS AND FUNDRAISERS: SOMALY MAM'S TOUR DOWN UNDER. Somaly Mam dramatically turned her life around, after being forced into a world of sexual slavery. She later rescued Sina Mann from the same fate.

Today the pair continue the battle to abolish human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Project Futures welcomes Somaly and Sina to share their stories and raise awareness about this global issue. Funds raised will support Somaly Mam's work in Cambodia. Book: <http://www.projectfutures.com/events/somaly-tour.php>.

9 November: Business Chicks Breakfast Event. Cost: \$95-109.7.00 to 9.00 am, Westin Hotel Ballroom, 1 Martin Place, Sydney.

10 November: Cocktail Party. Cost: \$70-80. 7.00 to 11.00 pm, Dome Bar, Level 1, corner Cleveland and Crown Streets, Surry Hills. Host: 2012 Stella Fella, Josh Stinton.

10 NOVEMBER. GATHERING OF PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE CONTACTS: BREAKING OPEN THE SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT. Speaker: Maureen Eagles, CatholicCare Sydney. 10.30 am to 3.00 pm, St Patrick's Church, 5 Drynan Street, Summer Hill. Contact: 02 9390 5935. Web: <http://www.justiceandpeace.org.au/>.

10 NOVEMBER. DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE COUNCIL FOR AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN CONTACT GROUP LUNCHEON. Speaker: Louise Gannon rsj, Diocesan co-ordinator for the National Year of Grace. Cost: \$20. 11.30 am, Murray Room, Diocesan Offices, Hamilton. Contact: 02 4932 5601 or 0409 300 192, RSVP by 3 November. Web: <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/pdf/2012/cacwlunch2012.pdf>.

11 NOVEMBER. ANNUAL MASS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop David Walker, followed by afternoon tea. 2.00 pm, St Bernard's, Berowra. Contact: 02 9476 5338. Web: http://www.dbb.org.au/news/Broken%20Bay%20News/BBNOctober12_WEB.pdf.

12 NOVEMBER. PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE (PIAC) TRAINING COURSE: 'ADVOCATE FOR CLIENTS'. The workshop is targeted at people working in the disability sector, and people with disability, and will be presented in partnership with the Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association of NSW. Cost: \$225. 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Sydney CBD. Contact: 02 8898 6503. Book: <http://www.piac.asn.au/trainingevent/advocate-clients-0>.

12 NOVEMBER: TALK: 'TRANSPLANT ABUSE IN CHINA'. Growing evidence shows that a large number of Chinese organs for transplants come from prisoners, many of whom are prisoners of conscience. This talk will explore the involvement of Chinese state institutions in this abuse. Speakers: Professor Maria Antoinette Fiatarone Singh, Medicine and Exercise and Sport Science, Sydney University; and Mr David Matas, Nobel Prize nominee. No cost. 12.00 to 1.00 pm, University of Sydney, General Lecture Theatre, Main Quadrangle, Camperdown Campus. Contact: 02 9351 9612 or lyndall.burke@sydney.edu.au.

12, 16 NOVEMBER. PARAQUAD NSW'S WHEELS FOR A DAY. People take for granted simple tasks such as boarding a bus and opening a door, but for those of in wheelchairs straightforward tasks can become quite onerous. ParaQuad encourage you to come along and join in the events held on the day that highlights accessibility issues. Web: <http://paraquad.org.au/event/wheels-for-a-day>.

12 November: from 8.00 am, Main Concourse, Central Station Sydney (Near Lost Property Office). Contact: 02 8741 5627.

16 November: 10.30 am to 12.00 pm, Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle. Contact: 02 4969 6388.

13 NOVEMBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'STATE ORGANS: TRANSPLANT ABUSE IN CHINA'. You are invited to hear the latest in the mounting research regarding live organ harvesting in China, providing insight into the current political context in China and its impact on Australia. Growing evidence shows that a large number of Chinese organs for transplants come from prisoners. Many of these are prisoners of conscience. State Organs explores the involvement of Chinese state institutions in this abuse. Meet the authors and researchers at a lunchtime book signing. 1.00 to 2.00 pm, Waratah Room, NSW Parliament House, Sydney. Contact: event@fdnsw.org or 0425 752 398, RSVP by 8 November.

15 NOVEMBER. SCREENING 'FREE CHINA: THE COURAGE TO BELIEVE'.

This film by Michael Perlman, examines widespread human rights violations in China through the remarkable stories of two

individuals, Jennifer Zeng, a mother and former Communist Party member, and Dr. Charles Lee, an American Chinese businessman who are imprisoned and subjected to slave labour for their spiritual beliefs in the Falun Gong meditation practice. 12.45 pm, Theatre, NSW Parliament House, 6 Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: susie.hughes@ntdtv.com, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.FreeChinaMovie.com>.

15 NOVEMBER. SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH: 'CHRISTMAS IN PERU'. This will include children's choir singing carols, Peruvian food for purchase, champagne cocktail and Ethica fair trade goods for sale. Cost: 5.00 to 8.30 pm, The Auditorium, 9 Mount Street, North Sydney. Web: http://www.sosj.org.au/news-events/view_event.cfm?id=266&loadref=8.

15 - 16 NOVEMBER. BONHOEFFER CONFERENCE: 'RELIGIONLESS CHRISTIANITY IN AUSTRALIA'. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote from a Nazi prison, the writings were published posthumously as *Letters and Papers from Prison*, constituting Bonhoeffer's prison theology. Speakers: Charlotte Baines, completing a PhD at Monash University; John McDowell, Morpeth Professor of Theology, University of Newcastle; Gordon Preece, vicar, Yarraville Anglican Church, Victoria and director, Ethos Centre for Christianity and Society; Rod Moore, Anglican priest and co-ordinating chaplain, NSW Correctional Services. Cost: \$185. St Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre, Kincumber. Contact: Geoffrey.See@newcastle.edu.au or 02 4921 7755. Web: <http://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/news-and-events/fx-view-event.cfm?loadref=132&id=17>.

16 NOVEMBER. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'PHILIPPINES HUMAN RIGHTS CRISIS - WOMEN, PEACE, SECURITY'. Speakers: Manya Bayang, Philippines Human Rights Activist; and Jane Corpuz-Brock, Co-convenor, WILPF. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, The Gaelic Club, 1/64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9552 3599 or winchilids@bigpond.com. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

16 NOVEMBER. ACOSS POLICY FORUM AND AGM. This forum enables ACOSS members and sector colleagues come together to exchange

ideas and help direct ACOSS' policy and advocacy focus for the coming year. Speaker: Laura Tingle, Political Editor of the Australian Financial Review and author of *Quarterly Essay, Great Expectations: Government, Entitlement and an Angry Nation*. Cost: members \$0; non-members \$84. Policy Forum: 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, AGM (members only) 3.00 to 4.00 pm, Powerhouse Museum, Ultimo. Contact: 02 9310 6200 or members@acoss.org.au. Book: <http://acospolicyforum2012.eventbrite.com.au/>.

16 NOVEMBER. PRESENTATION: 'PERSON CENTRED APPROACH: MAKING IT WORK FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY WHO ARE AGEING'. This presentation will include the latest research and reforms in Ageing and Disability policy at both state and federal levels. There will be an update on the development of the NDIS. It will also include stories of people with disability and their carers about their lived experience as they age. Organised by Futures Alliance and Australian Association of Gerontology NSW. Morning tea and lunch provided. Cost: \$0-80. 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, 117 Ryedale Road, West Ryde. Book: http://www.communitynet.tricomm.org.au/images/stories/11_person_centred_approach.pdf.

12, 19 NOVEMBER. CATHOLIC BIOETHICS: 'LIVING OUR EVERYDAY LIFE WITH CHRIST IN MIND'. Presented by the Bishop of Parramatta, Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP. Topics: respecting the dignity of the human being; Christian conscience; culture of modernity, the recovery of virtue; etc. Cost: donation. 7.00 to 9.00 pm, Institute For Mission, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. Contact: mh@instituteformission.com.au or 02 9831 4911. Web: <http://www.instituteformission.com.au>.

19 NOVEMBER. GLEEBOOKS BOOK LAUNCH: 'PEACE WITH JUSTICE: NOAM CHOMSKY IN AUSTRALIA'. In 2011, the cognitive scientist, philosopher and political activist Noam Chomsky received the Sydney Peace Prize. He delivered lectures and answered questions about economics, history, international relations, linguistics, philosophy, justice and much more. Editor Clinton Fernandes in

conversation with Peter Slezak. MC: Stuart Rees, Sydney Peace Foundation. No cost. 6.00 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. Book: 02 9660 2333 or online. Web: http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/2012/nov/Free-Event-Clinton-Fernandes-Peace-With-Justice-Noam-Chomsky-in-Australia--ed-by-Clinton-Fernandes_htm.

20 NOVEMBER. TRI-DIOCESAN RECONCILIATION SERVICE. All are welcome to this service between Anglican and Catholics. 6.30 pm, New Lambton All Saints Church, St James Road, New Lambton. Web: <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/pdf/2012/Annual%20Tri-diocesan%20Reconciliation%20Service%20%283%29.pdf>.

22 NOVEMBER. STARTTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP: 'CORE CONCEPTS IN WORKING WITH PEOPLE FROM REFUGEE BACKGROUNDS'. This workshop is designed to put a framework of understanding around working with refugees and asylum seekers. It focuses on understanding the link between what refugees have been through, the sorts of issues and behaviours refugees may present with, and how to work in a way that promotes recovery and minimises the risk of retraumatisation. Cost: \$149, concession \$99. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, STARTTS, 152-168 The Horsley Drive, Carramar. Book: <http://www.startts.org.au/default.aspx?id=388>.

22 - 23 NOVEMBER. MATER DEI SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE: 'HEAR MY VOICE' - ACCESSING THE CURRICULUM IN CHANGING TIMES. Engaging students with a disability, hearing their plans, their aspirations, and that of their families for tomorrow is key to developing education programs, planning transitions and sustaining high expectations. Speakers: Dr Martin Agran, University of Wyoming; Dr Iva Strnadová, Senior Lecturer, School of Education, University of New South Wales; Greg O'Connor, Professional and Consultancy Services Manager, Spectronics; etc. Cost: \$400. The Cube, Campbelltown Convention and Entertainment Centre, Campbelltown Catholic Club, 20-22 Camden Road, Campbelltown. Contact: 02 9744 5252. Web: <http://www.gemsevents.com.au/materdei2012/index.shtml>.

26 - 28 NOVEMBER. LABOUR START GLOBAL SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE.

This conference provides an opportunity for trade unionists from many different countries to meet and discuss the things that really matter. Speakers: trade union leaders from Norway, Turkey, Russia, the USA, Fiji, China and elsewhere. No cost. NSW Teachers Federation conference centre, 23-33 Mary Street, Surry Hills. Book: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q7ZZR5N>. Web: <http://www.facebook.com/events/260537070684403/>.

28 NOVEMBER. MARY MACKILLOP FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER: SYDNEY SMALL BUSINESS CHRISTMAS PARTY. For small businesses looking for a special end of year Christmas party, this will be a night of celebrations and networking. Tickets include premium 10 piece canapés, live entertainment, prizes and a beverage package. Proceeds will support the Mary MacKillop Foundation's life-changing projects. Cost: \$90. 6.30 pm, Dunbar House, Watsons Bay. Book: <http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au/index.php?section=events&type=future&eventID=70>

8 DECEMBER. AFTINET FUNDRAISER: 'ROD QUANTOCK LIVE COMEDY NIGHT'. The Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network presents a special night of comedy to highlight their campaign warning about the secretive Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement that has its next round of negotiations in Auckland, New Zealand, during the week of the show. Cost: \$25. 7.30 pm, The Red Rattler, Marrickville. Book: <http://aftinet.org.au/cms/>.

QUEENSLAND

1 - 4 NOVEMBER. FAIR TRADE ARTISANS MARKET: 'HANDS OF THE WORLD'. The Cathedral of St Stephen Art Group (COSSAG) is holding this market including textiles, handmade goods, Christmas decorations, clothing and craft from 19 countries. Purchases offer crucial support to the skilled hand making talents of the artisans. Entry: no cost. 9.00 to 5.00 pm, Francis Rush Centre, 277 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane. Contact: 07 3870 9427. Web: <http://www.bne.catholic.net.au/asp/index.asp?pgid=11637&cid=7465&id=4047>.

2 NOVEMBER. MARY MACKILLOP FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING DINNER. Speaker: The Hon Patrick Keane, Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Australia. All donations from the dinner to the foundation will go toward small life-changing projects in Australia. 7.00 pm, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. Cost: \$165. Contact: 02 8912 2714 or events@mackillopfoundation.org.au. Web: <http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au/index.php?section=events&type=future&eventID=67>

17 - 18 NOVEMBER. FAIRINDIE CHRISTMAS MARKET. A Christmas Market to showcase independent artists and fair trade businesses. There will be a range of artists and fair trade products from around the world, with great music, yummy food and wonderful coffee in Marian's brand new weather proof hall. 9.00 am to 3.00 pm, Marian Catholic College, corner Hugh and Corcoran Streets, Townsville (Near Castle Town). Contact: FairIndieTownsville@gmail.com or 0410 564 947. Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/node/833>.

23 - 25 NOVEMBER. IPSWICH FAIR TRADE EXPOSÉ. An opportunity to purchase fair trade handcrafted Christmas Gifts from Africa, Bangladesh, India, Peru and Thailand. Fair trade commodities such as tea, coffee and chocolate will also be available for purchase. Organisation: Siham Craftlink Pty Ltd and Esther Parties. Friday 3.00 to 8.00 pm, Saturday 9.00 am to 4.00 pm, Sunday 9.00 am to 3.00 pm, Studio 188 (Heritage Listed Old Baptist Church), 188 Brisbane Road, Ipswich City. Contact: sihamcraft@optusnet.com.au or 07 3276 0684. Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/node/836>.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

UNTIL 21 NOVEMBER. KERRY PACKER CIVIC GALLERY EXHIBITION: 'OUT OF SUDAN'. This is the account of Angelo Mapial, a Sudanese/Australian man, who returns to his homeland after 26 years, having fled the Sudan after being severely tortured and threatened. Proceeds from the sale of signed copies of the photos and DVD will assist the building of a school room in the same village that is featured in the exhibition. Weekdays 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, UniSA City West campus, Hawke Building Level 3, 50-55 North Terrace,

Adelaide. Web: http://w3.unisa.edu.au/hawkecentre/KerryPackerCivicGallery/exhibitions_2012.asp.

3 - 4 NOVEMBER. CONFERENCE: 'TOWARDS ELIMINATING NUCLEAR WEAPONS'. This conference, hosted by Australian Red Cross and Flinders University, will explore issues associated with nuclear weapons from the legal, medical and broader community perspectives. Speakers: Judge C.G. Weeramantry, Panel Judge, 1996 International Court of Justice; Assoc Prof Tilman Ruff AM, Chair, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons; Dr Sue Wareham OAM. Hawke Building, 50-55 North Terrace, University of South Australia. Costs: various. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/towards-eliminating-nuclear-weapons-conference>.

4 NOVEMBER. UNITED NATIONS DAY DINNER. The UNAA SA is hosting a dinner to celebrate UN Day. Robyn Layton AO QC will speak about her work for the Asia Development Bank in Cambodia, Philippines, and Kazakhstan addressing Inclusive Development with poverty reduction programs for women. 6.30 pm, Ming's Palace Restaurant, Adelaide. Contact: johncraw@internode.on.net or 08 8344 4978. Web: <http://www.unaa.org.au/un-day-dinner.html>.

6 NOVEMBER. SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES RESOURCE LAUNCH: 'PRISONERS, PRISONS AND RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS'. An online ecumenical resource, launched by The Most Reverend Dr Jeffrey Driver, Anglican Archbishop of Adelaide, Chair, Leaders of Christian Churches SA. 2.15 to 3.45 pm, New Building, Adelaide Gaol, 18 Gaol Road, Thebarton. Contact: sacc@picknawl.com.au or 08 8215 0300, RSVP by 26 October. Web: <http://www.sacc.asn.au>.

12 NOVEMBER. UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (UNISA) LECTURE: 'INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGES, THE ACADEMY AND THE COMMUNITY: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT AND STILL TO LEARN FROM FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES?' This presentation will critically review how far we have travelled and where we are currently positioned, in relation to

the lives of First Nations Peoples. Speaker: Dr Irene Watson, Associate Professor in Aboriginal Studies, David Unaipon College of Indigenous Education and Research, UNISA. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, University of South Australia, Allan Scott Auditorium, City West campus, rear Hawke Building, 50-55 North Terrace, Adelaide. Web: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/Calendar/2012-Duguid-Memorial-Lecture/>.

14 NOVEMBER. HAWKE CENTRE EVENT: 'THE RISING TIDES OF CLIMATE CHANGE - THE CHALLENGE TO PREPARE, AN INSIDE VIEW FROM THE PACIFIC WITH AUSTRALIAN OBSERVATIONS'. Rising sea levels are expected to spark the largest movement of displaced people in human history. The most severely affected areas are within our region. How will this affect Australia? What are we doing to prepare? Jointly presented by Just Sustainability Australia and The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre at UniSA. Speaker: Dr Alice Aruheeta Pollard. 5.30 pm, Allan Scott Auditorium, UniSA City West campus, Hawke Building (rear), 50-55 North Terrace Adelaide. Book: http://w3.unisa.edu.au/hawkecentre/events/2012events/JustSustainabilityAustralia_Pollard.asp.

16 NOVEMBER. CONCERNED AUSTRALIANS BOOK LAUNCH: 'A DECISION TO DISCRIMINATE, ABORIGINAL DISEMPOWERMENT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'. 7.00 pm, The Ngoppon Together Inc. AGM, Ninkowar. Contact: 08 8531 2330. Web: <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au>.

10 DECEMBER. CONCERNED AUSTRALIANS BOOK LAUNCH: 'A DECISION TO DISCRIMINATE, ABORIGINAL DISEMPOWERMENT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'. This will be held on International Human Rights Day, details to be advised. Web: <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au>.

TASMANIA

1 NOVEMBER. TASMANIAN PEACE TRUST LECTURE: 'REFUGEE SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA: AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT'. Speaker: Cedric Manen, CEO, Migrant Resource Centre. 6.00 to 7.30 pm, Hobart Town Hall

Conference Room, off Elizabeth Street, Hobart. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/tas/event/30099/>.

15 - 16 NOVEMBER. TASCROSS CONFERENCE: 'ENGAGEMENT, INNOVATION AND EQUITY'.

Speakers: Tim Costello, CEO World Vision Australia; Premier Lara Giddings; Bec White, parliamentary secretary; Jacque Petrusma, Opposition spokeswoman; etc. Cost: various. Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart. Contact: 03 6234 1424. Book: <http://tascross.org.au/>.

4 DECEMBER. HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK DISABILITY SUCCESS SHOWCASE.

Focus will centre on individuals in the local community with 'Ability', who despite the limitations of their disability, have managed to operate successfully and find meaningful ways to participate and contribute to the local economy. Entertainment is designed to both celebrate International Disability Day and to provide a stage for people with disability to voice their stories. The aim is to raise local awareness around the impending growth of this sector and how many living with disability actually aim to contribute to a sustainable local economy. 11.00 am to 1.00 pm, Glenorchy Civic Centre. Contact: 0400 779 809 or jwhi8895@bigpond.net.au. Web: http://www.afairerworld.org/_Coming_events/Disability_Success_Showcase.pdf.

6 DECEMBER. WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM FORUM: WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE - 'THERE ARE BETTER SOLUTIONS TO CONFLICT'.

It will include presentations from guest speakers, a light lunch, a live performance; and a short video. Cost: gold coin donation. 12.30 to 2.30 pm, CWL rooms, above the crèche off Criterion Street, Hobart. Contact: mgr70303@bigpond.net.au or 03 6234 6672, RSVP by 29 November. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/tas/event/30100/>.

VICTORIA

31 OCTOBER. NATHAN AND PAMELA JACOBSON LECTURE 'THE AUSTRALIAN JUSTICE SYSTEM - THE NEED FOR REFORM'.

The Adversarial Model of Justice fails to achieve just outcomes, and it has become so

burdensome and costly that it can be accessed only by the very rich and the very poor.

Significant changes are necessary. Speaker: Ray Finkelstein QC. No cost. 6.30 to 7.30 pm, Melbourne Law School, 185 Pelham Street, Carlton. Contact: 03 8344 1153. Book: <http://events.unimelb.edu.au/events/2621-2012-nathan-and-pamala-jacobson-lecture-the-australian-justice-system>.

1 NOVEMBER. COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION: 'KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS - SIERRA LEONE'.

Hosted by Wyndham Interfaith Network in partnership with Wyndham City and Wyndham Community and Education, these sessions provide an opportunity to meet and learn about members of the Wyndham community from diverse cultural backgrounds. 7.00 to 9.00 pm, Wayaperri House, 106 Duncans Road, Werribee. Contact: 03 9742 8124 or David.Lukudu@wyndham.vic.gov.au. Web: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/n/event.php>.

3 NOVEMBER. MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL.

This festival is an initiative of the Bhutanese Organisation in Australia to celebrate multicultural harmony on the occasion of Dashain and Tihar. Activities will include Dashain TIKA, face painting, balloon man, AFL Flying Squad, soccer clinic by Melbourne Heart, food stalls, multicultural performances and information stalls. 11.00 am to 4.00 pm, Performing Arts Centre, Glenroy College, 120 Glenroy Road, Glenroy. Contact: info@bhutanese.org.au. Web: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/n/event.php>.

6 NOVEMBER. MELBOURNE CUP DAY WELCOME REFUGEES BBQ AND FESTIVAL.

This Melbourne Cup Day join refugee rights supporters outside the Maribyrnong detention centre for an anti-racism music concert and BBQ. A chance to let the residents know of the support for their attempts to live in Australia. Music from Chris Wilson, the Cherrywoods and Les Thomas, etc. Speakers: Pamela Curr, campaigns coordinator, Asylum Seekers Resource Centre; and Adam Bandt, Greens MP. 1.00 to 5.00 pm, outside the Maribyrnong Detention Centre, 53 Hampstead Road, Maidstone. Contact: 0402 246 491 or 0405 736 265. Web: <http://rac-vic.org/?p=450>.

7 NOVEMBER. CONCERNED AUSTRALIANS BOOK LAUNCH: 'A DECISION TO DISCRIMINATE: ABORIGINAL DISEMPOWERMENT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'. Speakers: Hon Alastair Nicholson AO RFD QC; Elder Rosalie Kunoth-Monks OAM, Utopia, NT; Professor Muriel Bamblett AM, CEO Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency. No cost. 12.00 pm, The Co-op Bookshop, Baillieu Library Building, Melbourne University. Contact: info@concernedaustralians.com.au or 03 9415 7164. Web: <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au>.

7 NOVEMBER. BENDIGO SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'EVEN AMID DIVISIONS WE FIND COMMON GROUND, SO WHAT GIVES US HOPE?' Speaker: Margaret Costigan, an adult community educator who focuses on personal and community development, has walked in various ways with people including prisoners, people with intellectual disability, mental illness, and cultural differences. Margaret will reflect on what we can see happening in our world currently and where we might start seeing the hope that not only will challenge us but may be that spark of change for tomorrow and the years ahead. Cost: gold coin or \$5 donation. Meals from 6.00 pm, speaker from 8.00 to 8.30 pm, conversation from 8.40 pm, Foundry Hotel Complex, 366 High Street, Golden Square. Contact: 0409 212 009. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/>.

7 NOVEMBER. UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE PRESENTATION: 'IN CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR MEGAN DAVIS'. Themes: UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; addressing Violence Against Indigenous Women; issues of Aboriginal self-government in Australia, with particular reference to women's participation and leadership; and reflections on the now delayed constitutional referendum. Speaker: Professor Megan Davis, Indigenous Law Centre, University of New South Wales. 4.00 to 6.00 pm, Room 920, Level 9, Melbourne Law School, 185 Pelham Street Carlton. Contact: law-iilah@unimelb.edu.au or 03 8344 6589. Web: <http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/iilah>.

8 NOVEMBER. NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS) PUBLIC CONSULTATION. Open to people with

disability. Topics: eligibility, assessment, review and complaints mechanisms; what are reasonable and necessary supports; individual choice and control; how can people with disability and carers be actively involved in the design of the NDIS; and how to ensure the system is innovative and responsive to needs. Organised by the National Disability and Carer Alliance. Hosted by People with Disability Australia. No cost. Lunch provided. 10.00 am to 2.30 pm, The Bass Room, Level 2, 99 On York, 95-99 York Street, Sydney. Book: <http://disabilitycareralliance.org.au/event/sydney-nsw-open-to-people-with-disability-hosted-by-people-with-disability-australia/>, RSVP by 31 October.

8 NOVEMBER. CONCERT: 'ROCK FOR RECOGNITION'. ANTaR, Oxfam, the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples and YouMeUnity have initiated a series of concerts called Rock for Recognition to raise awareness and promote the need for recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution. It will feature songstress Leah Flanagan and PBS DJ Ken Eavel. The Corner Hotel, 57 Swan Street, Richmond. Contact: 03 9427 9198. Web: <http://antar.org.au/news/rock-recognition-launched>.

10 NOVEMBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'THE STORY OF THE FIRST REFUGEE TO HOLD THE UGANDAN GOVERNMENT TO ACCOUNT AT THE UNITED NATIONS'. Sirage Kifamunyanja wants to hold the Ugandan government to account for their human rights violations against him, and is the first to take a complaint to the United Nations. He was not a high-level political agitator, but a modest businessman who had worked hard from tough beginnings and stood up for justice, and found the price was a life of disruption, harassment and imprisonment. Help Sirage share his story, be inspired by his determination and encourage other victims to speak out. 2.00 to 3.30 pm, The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. Contact: emc@bsl.org.au or 03 8412 8700. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=730>.

11 NOVEMBER. MOVIE SCREENING: 'OCTOBER BABY'. Based loosely on the life of abortion survivor Gianna Jessen, this film is a message

of life and hope amidst the tragedy of abortion. Raising awareness of Victoria's Abortion Law Reform Act 2008, which allows abortion up to 9 months and denies doctors freedom of conscience. Proceeds to support the work of LifeVote in restoring a pro-life parliament in Victoria. Cost: \$20 donation. 4.00 pm, The Bentleigh Club, 33 Yawla Street, Bentleigh. Contact: 0438 088 681 or marialusby4@gmail.com. Web: [http://www.cam.org.au/News-and-Events/News-and-Events/ctl/Details/Mid/2102/ItemID/1622?ContainerSrc=\[L\]Containers/cam/header_Text&SkinSrc=\[L\]Skins/cam/cam_page_NewsEvents](http://www.cam.org.au/News-and-Events/News-and-Events/ctl/Details/Mid/2102/ItemID/1622?ContainerSrc=[L]Containers/cam/header_Text&SkinSrc=[L]Skins/cam/cam_page_NewsEvents).

12 NOVEMBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'CHARITY AND JUSTICE - ST MARY MACKILLOP AND AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY'. This recent publication by Professor John Warhurst builds on the 2011 Melbourne conference on Mary MacKillop and her influence on Catholic social services. Speaker: Professor Anne Hunt, Executive Dean of Theology and Philosophy, Australian Catholic University. 5.30 to 7.30 pm, Catholic Social Services Victoria, Cathedral Room, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Contact: 02 9287 5566 or lucia.brick@css.org.au, RSVP by 2 November. Web: <http://www.css.org.au/documents/2012BookLaunchMaryMacKillopFlyer.pdf>.

12 - 13 NOVEMBER. SWINBURNE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: 'WANTED: NEW PARADIGMS? FORCED MIGRATION, MOBILITIES AND HUMANITARIANISM IN AUSTRALIA AND BEYOND'. It will critique current paradigms framing thinking and practice on the management and care of forced migrants and will interrogate new paradigms that situate mobility and morality at the centre. The symposium will facilitate an intensive face-to-face discussion among scholars and practitioners, who are working on issues of forced migration in Australia and the region, take stock of the state of the field and identify new research agendas. Cost: \$275, concession \$165. Hawthorn Campus, Swinburne University of Technology. Contact: sgifford@swin.edu.au. Web: <http://www.formhub.net>.

13 NOVEMBER. BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE FORUM: 'EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN AN AGE OF INSECURITY'. The forum aims to highlight women's employment insecurity in relation to equality of opportunity in the workforce, present and future economic security, and the gendered nature of unpaid and paid work. It will bring together a range of stakeholders to develop strategies that focus on decent jobs and economic security for women in Australia. 9.30 am to 1.00 pm, Melbourne Airport Park Royal Hotel, Arrival Drive, Melbourne Airport, Tullamarine. Contact: jdouglas@bsl.org.au or 0423 198 567. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=733&dt=13/11/2012>.

15 - 16 NOVEMBER. MULTICULTURALISM SYMPOSIUM: 'RECLAIMING MULTICULTURALISM - GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND ETHICAL ENGAGEMENT WITH DIVERSITY'. Hosted by the Centre of Citizenship and Globalisation in partnership with the Audiovisual Media Lab for the Study of Cultures and Societies at the University of Ottawa, this conference will bring together scholars, state and community actors specialising in the fields of multiculturalism, intercultural and interreligious relations across diverse disciplines and geographical regions. Cost: \$120-290. The Richard Searby Room, Melbourne Burwood Campus, Deakin University, Melbourne. Book: <http://www.deakin.edu.au/arts-ed/ccg/events/conferences/12-reclaiming-multiculturalism/index.php>.

16, 17 NOVEMBER. PROJECT FUTURES SLAVERY AWARENESS AND FUNDRAISER: SOMALY MAM'S TOUR DOWN UNDER. Somaly Mam dramatically turned her life around, after being forced into a world of sexual slavery. Later she rescued Sina Mann from the same fate. Today the pair continue the battle to abolish human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Project Futures welcomes Somaly and Sina to share their stories and raise awareness about this global issue. Funds raised will support Somaly Mana's work in Cambodia. Book: <http://www.projectfutures.com/events/somaly-tour.php>. **16 November:** Business Chicks Breakfast Event. Cost: \$95-109. 7.00 to 9.00 am, Westin

Hotel Ballroom, 1 Martin Place, Sydney.
16 November. Project Futures Melbourne Launch Party. Cost: \$80 (includes canapés and drinks). 6.30 pm, 1 Fitzroy Street, St Kilda.
17 November: Black Tie Dinner. Cost: \$135. 7.00 pm, Melbourne. Contact: kate@marketingfocus.com.au.

18 NOVEMBER. FUNDRAISER: RUN FOR PALESTINE PROGRAM. The 3.87 km run around Melbourne's most popular track, The Tan, is for runners and all those who just want to join in a family event walking. It accommodates strollers and wheelchairs. All funds go to the Palestinian Red Crescent Society to aid in the rehabilitation of disabled Palestinian children. Cost: \$25. 10.00 am, The 'Tan Track'. The start line is near the Swan Street Bridge, Alexandra Avenue, Pillars of Wisdom, King's Domain, Royal Botanical Gardens, Melbourne. Contact: run@runforpalestine.com.au. Book: <http://www.runforpalestine.com.au>.

20 NOVEMBER. ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL OF VICTORIA STATE CONFERENCE: 'VICTORIA'S MULTICULTURAL IDENTITY'. This conference aims to bring together government, policy makers, academics, service providers and community leaders to find intelligent solutions to Victoria's identity challenges. Topics: addressing key multicultural issues, enhancing strategic relationships, promoting best practice policy and projects, developing multicultural identity strategies and providing access to latest policy developments. Cost: \$110-137. Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf. Book: <http://eccvconference.eventbrite.com>.

28 NOVEMBER. SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE CITY. Speaker: Fiona McLeod SC, Senior Counsel, Victorian Bar practising in the areas of human rights. This event is hosted by Francis Conference Melbourne which is a part of the St Vincent de Paul Society. 12.00 to 1.00 pm, St Francis Pastoral Centre, MacKillop Room, St Francis' Church annex, 326 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9895 5800 or paulas@svdp-vic.org.au. Web: [http://www.cam.org.au/News-and-Events/News-and-Events/ctl/Details/Mid/2102/ItemID/1311?ContainerSrc=\[L\]Containers/](http://www.cam.org.au/News-and-Events/News-and-Events/ctl/Details/Mid/2102/ItemID/1311?ContainerSrc=[L]Containers/)

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4 DECEMBER. FILM SCREENING: 'A WALK TO BEAUTIFUL'. Come along to this moving film in support of the great work of Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia, who have treated 35,000 cases so far and are involved in preventative work. All proceeds go to Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia. Organised by Demand Dignity International. Cost: donation. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Ross House, Level 4, 247 Flinders Lane, Melbourne. Contact: rksolomon2003@yahoo.com.au. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/vic/event/29842/>.

6 - 7 DECEMBER. CONFERENCE ON THE PASTORAL CARE OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES: 'I HAVE HEARD THEM CRYING OUT' (EXODUS 3:7). The conference is designed to shed light on the forces driving asylum seekers from their homes, their journey to Australia, and their reception once they arrive. This conference is organised on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference through the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office. Cost: \$110-385. St Patrick's Campus, ACU, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy. Contact: 02 6201 9848. Web: <http://www.acmro.catholic.org.au>.

12 - 14 DECEMBER. AUSTRALASIAN BUSINESS ETHICS NETWORK CONFERENCE. This conference will examine ethical issues as they pertain to a wide range of issues, topics, and contexts including business ethics, education, employment, the Fairtrade movement, sustainability, leadership, human rights, law, corruption, corporate governance, global supply chains, ethical theory, and the future of ethics. Supported by The Bowater Trust, Deakin University. Cost: \$380, Concession \$280. Metropole Hotel, Conference Centre, 44 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Contact: enquire@deakin.edu.au or 1300 334733. Book: <http://www.deakin.edu.au/buslaw/management-marketing/aben/index.php>, RSVP by 1 December.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

31 OCTOBER. CONVERSATIONS ON TAP: 'BREAKING BREAD WITH THE DEAD - THE

COMMUNION OF SAINTS AND WHAT IT OFFERS TO INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE’.

Speaker: Most Rev Vincent Sowah BOI-NAI, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Yendi, Ghana. As the church prepares to remember her dead during the month of November, it is helpful to look at the role that the Communion of Saints play in the life of the Christian Church and those of the Muslim world. Come along and hear what Bishop Vincent has learned in his life of ministry and his work as a facilitator of inter-faith dialogue. No cost. 10.00 am, ND7 Mouat Street, Fremantle (near Bateman Courtyard). Contact: 08 9433 0580 or stacie.oneill@nd.edu.au, RSVP appreciated. Web: http://www.nd.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0014/114701/Breaking-Bread-with-the-Dead-CoT-Bishop-VincentCM.pdf.

2 NOVEMBER - 25 JANUARY 2013. TJANPI DESERT WEAVERS EXHIBITION: ‘DESERTS AND RIVERS’. Tjanpi Desert Weavers is a not-for-profit social enterprise of Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Women’s Council, an Aboriginal governed and directed Corporation. Out of a need for meaningful and appropriate employment, NPY members created Tjanpi to enable women on the lands to earn a regular income from selling their fibre art. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday; 10.00 am to 5.00 pm Saturday, FORM Gallery, 357 Murray Street, Perth. Web: <http://www.tjanpi.com.au/Exhibitions/Exhibitions/2012ExhibitionsUpcomingEvents.aspx>.

7 NOVEMBER. UNICEF PRESENTATION: ‘DO WE LISTEN TO OUR CHILDREN?’ In a recent report, the UN Committee on the Convention of the Rights of the Child have questioned the Australian Government on a range of issues facing our children. The Child Rights

Taskforce has assembled a panel of experts to discuss the UN report, with a particular focus on Indigenous children. No cost. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, King and Wood Mallesons, Central Park Theatre, 152 St Georges Terrace, Perth. Contact: tbroughan@unicef.org.au. Book: <https://register.eventarc.com/11720/childrens-report-card-how-does-australia-compare>.

10 and 11 NOVEMBER. ROCK FOR RECOGNITION. ANTaR, Oxfam, the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples and YouMeUnity have initiated a series of concerts called Rock for Recognition to raise awareness and promote the need for recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution. It features artists including songstress Leah Flanagan and all-star band Dead Marines. Cost: \$33.

10 November: 8.00 pm, The Bakery, 233 James Street, Northbridge.

11 November: 7.00 pm, Fly by Night Musicians Club, 1 Holdsworth Street (entrance via Parry Street), Fremantle.

Contact: 02 9550 3666. Web: <http://antar.org.au/news/rock-recognition-launched>.

23 NOVEMBER. RALLY: ‘SAY NO TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE’. The Women’s Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services are holding this rally in support of victims of domestic violence at the Silent Domestic Violence Memorial march. There will be guest speakers and live performances at the 10.30 am rally, before a silent march through the city at 12.00 pm. 10.30 am to 1.00 pm, Stirling Gardens, Perth, corner Barrack Street and St Georges Terrace, Perth. Contact: terri@womenscouncil.com.au. Web: <http://www.womenscouncil.com.au/annual-silent-march.html>.



Number of young indigenous Catholics doubles

In the past 20 years the number of Catholic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders has more than doubled growing from just 62,000 in 1991 to 125,000, reported the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

Vinnies backs call for debate on banks

A call by the Reserve Bank of Australia for a national debate regarding Australia’s banks and bank profits was welcomed by church welfare agencies, with Vinnies’ John Falzon calling for an examination of the impact of bank profits on the poor, reported the Catholic Weekly.

Nauru's Catholics bring comfort to detainees

The Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart established a community centre on Nauru to support the welfare of asylum seekers held in detention on the island, reported the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

Philippines bishop urges rejection of pro-mine candidates

A bishop in Mindanao in the Philippines has called on the faithful not to vote for politicians who back mining in next year's mid-term elections, reported Ucanews.

Pope sends cardinals to Syria to promote peace, show solidarity

A papal delegation of bishops, including Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, will travel to the capital of war-torn Syria in late October to show solidarity with victims and encourage peace negotiations, reported the Catholic News Service.

Churches urged to make a stand on live animal exports

Christians were called to stand up for the fair treatment of all living things, said the Vicar-General of Adelaide Archdiocese, Fr Philip Marshall, in response to a call to Australian churches to take a stand against live animal exports, reported Adelaidenow.

US study finds most Catholics want emphasis on social justice

US Catholics overwhelmingly say the church should emphasise social justice and the poor in its pronouncements on public policy, even if it means focusing less on abortion, according to a new study conducted by the Public Religion Research Institute, reported NCR Online.

Nauru and Manus Island policy will fail, says Catholic coalition

The Nauru and Manus Island asylum seeker policy will fail, says the Catholics in Coalition for Justice and Peace, according to a media release from the group.

For details click on headlines or go to cathnews.com



Social Justice Calendar

- 1 Thu All Saints Day (Solemnity)
- 2 Fri Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)
- 3 Sat World Community Day
- 4 Sun Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 6 Tue International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict
- 8 Thu 1907: Justice Higgins hands down minimum wage judgement in *Harvester* case
- 9 Fri 1989: Berlin Wall opened
- 10 Sat 1995: Nine Nigerian environmentalists and human rights activists hanged
- 11 Sun Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Restorative Justice Week commences
Remembrance (Armistice) Day, commemorating the end of World War I in 1918

12 Mon 1991: Dili Massacre, Timor-Leste: more than 271 people killed

13 Tue 1975: Death of Karen Silkwood, en route to a meeting at which she planned to expose unsafe practices in a US nuclear facility

14 Wed World Diabetes Day

16 Fri International Day of Tolerance

18 Sun Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

20 Tue Universal Children's Day
1959: Declaration of Rights of the Child
1989: Convention on Rights of the Child

21 Wed World Television Day

25 Sun Christ the King (Solemnity)
International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
1981: Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

27 Tue 1998: Inaugural Sydney Peace Prize

29 Thu UN International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
1980: Death of Dorothy Day, Founder of the Catholic Worker Movement

30 Fri 1971 Synod of Bishops Statement, *Justice in the World*

Notes on these dates are available in the printed ACSJC's Seasons of Social Justice Diary. The cost is \$6.60. To order the 2013 diary, 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.