



# World Citizens Association of Australia

## THE BULLETIN

World Citizens Association (Australia)  
 Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Development  
 Coalition for a World Security Community

<http://www.wcaa.org.au>  
<http://igpsg.org/>  
<https://coalitionforawsc.org/>

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**Index**

<i>President's Column.....</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Education report.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Global News.....</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Junior World Citizens program.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Local News.....</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>IGPSG Annual General Meeting ....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Visit of Andreas Bummel.....</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Model Global Parliament program..</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>WCAA Annual General Meeting.....</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Coalition for a World Security</i>	
<i>Bangladesh Aid Project.....</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Community.....</i>	<i>7</i>
		<i>Registration form .....</i>	<i>8</i>

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## President's Column – The Changing of the Guard

Our Annual General Meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup> saw some substantial changes in our Council.

Daryl submitted his resignation as President, citing his very heavy workload, with deadlines looming for writing two high school textbooks in Legal Studies and Modern History, plus recent ill health. He did accept a new role as Vice-President (Education), however. He is currently teaching a course on 'War & Peace' at the Australian Catholic University, in which he makes reference to the campaigns by the International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) and Democracy Without Borders (DWB). The meeting warmly applauded Daryl for all his efforts on our behalf for a better and more peaceful world!

No one else stepping forward, I said I would take over again as President, as an interim measure until a younger person can be found.

At the same time, John Hegarty indicated his wish to pull back from his position as Director of the Junior World Citizens program, citing advancing years and frailty. He will continue participating as an ordinary member. The meeting applauded John for all his amazing efforts to promote world citizenship, and voted that he be accorded Life Membership in the WCAA. He will continue to be invited to board meetings, despite stepping down from all official positions.

Zeny Edwards also indicated that she wished to pull back from her official role as Director of the Sydney Model Global Parliament program, citing lack of time due to her increasing role as grandmother (!), and other major commitments. Despite her brief tenure, she showed extraordinary energy and efficiency in her efforts, and we will miss her help sadly.

We also welcomed two young and energetic new members to the Council:



Luiz Bispo accepted the position of **Secretary**.

Luiz Fernando Pereira Bispo has a Bachelor degree in Forest Engineering and a Licentiate degree in Agricultural Science from University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. He was awarded a full scholarship programs to study at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) and Tokyo University of Agriculture (Tokyo NODAI) during his bachelor's degree. In 2014, he was awarded as the "Outstanding Volunteer of the Year" by UNSW ARC Volunteer Army, and with the "2014 Hidden Eco-Hero" by

Samsung Engineering in partnership with the U.N. Environment. Among other initiatives and engagements, Luiz is also one of the delegates of the "UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme". Currently, he is pursuing an advanced MBA degree at Torrens University Australia.





Margaret Webb also agreed to act as **Editor** and **Communications Director** for the WCAA.

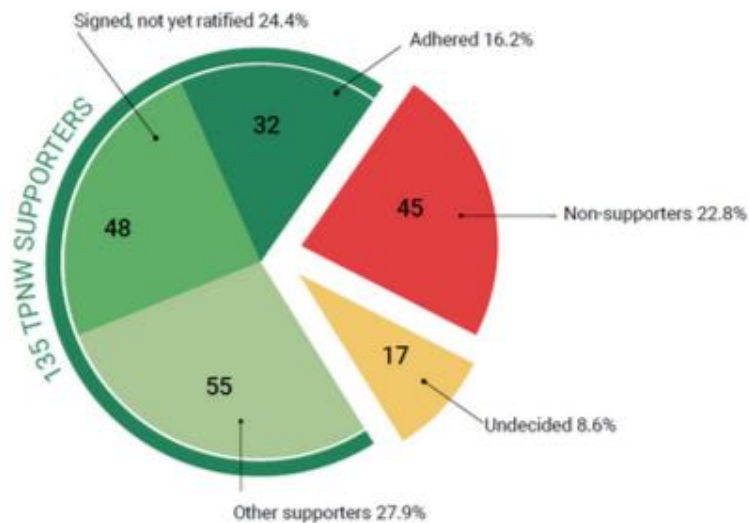
Margaret has a Bachelor of Inclusive Education and Disability Studies and a Masters in both teaching and Theology. Margaret is currently the director of BeeU2day, a community organisation aimed at advocating for inclusive education for students with disabilities. She is currently completing her PhD in attitudes towards people with disabilities.

We warmly welcome these two new and exciting additions to our executive!

Chris Hamer

## Global News

### International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)



The ICAN campaign in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) is making excellent progress. According to a [recent report](#) by Norwegian People’s Aid, over two-thirds of the UN members support the Treaty in one way or another. Some 32 states have already ratified the Treaty, heading rapidly towards the target of 55 ratifications which would see the Treaty enter into force. Australia, as an ally of the United States, does not support the Treaty.



## Pacific Islands Forum



The Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, attended the annual meeting of Forum leaders in Tuvalu in August. Aiming to counter the increasing influence of China in the Pacific, he has announced a ‘step-up’ in relations with the island members of the Forum. Our development assistance to the region has reached record levels of \$1.4 billion, apparently, despite a decreasing overall aid budget, and we will spend \$500 million on ‘climate change’ in the Pacific region!

Since then, the Prime Minister has made a second visit to Fiji, and relations between Australia and Fiji seem to have improved from their somewhat frosty state of recent years. Subsequently, the Fijian Defence Minister, Inia Seruiratu, has suggested that Australia should revisit the idea of setting up a Pacific Island Regiment consisting of Pacific Islanders.

All this suggests fertile territory for pushing again the WCAA idea of a [Pacific Islands Community](#), to provide a “step-up” in political and security cooperation between the members of the Forum. Watch this space!

## Local News

### Visit of Andreas Bummel



*Bob Brown, Andreas Bummel and Chris Hamer at Parliament House*

The WCAA invited Andreas Bummel, the global coordinator of the Campaign for a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly (UNPA), to visit Australia in the period 2-12 September 2019. Our aim was to raise public awareness of the Campaign, generate



public support, and ultimately to secure the Australian government's agreement to become a supporter of the Campaign.

During his visit, we organized a Symposium at the Australian National University on the theme "*Towards a More Democratic United Nations*" and a Seminar at the University of Sydney on the broader theme "*Strengthening Democratic Global Governance: Towards a World Parliament*" [Read more](#)

(The Canberra component of Andreas' visit was organized due to the amazing and tireless efforts of Pera Wells, for which much thanks!)

We also held a Roundtable of likely supporters of the Campaign in Sydney, organized by Zeny Edwards, to draw up plans for follow-up action to further the Campaign in Australia. Again, watch this space.

Since then, we have made a submission to the Inquiry of the Senate Committee on *Legal and Constitutional Affairs regarding Nationhood, national identity and democracy*, advocating Australian government support for the campaign. [Read the submission here](#)

## **WCAA Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the WCAA/IGPSG/CWSC was held on Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 141 Oberon Street, Coogee. Items discussed appear elsewhere in this Bulletin. For the minutes, click [here](#).

### **Bangladesh Aid Project – Wali Islam**

The Aid Project is waiting for official government approval before we send any more funds. John Hegarty supplied a carload of materials for the Bangladesh library/study centre, plus a disc containing every past issue of National Geographic  
Thanks, John!

Transport of materials to Bangladesh: we received a quote of \$4300, and are seeking a second quote.

Wali also talked about his new project to establish a vocational high school in his home district, to give young people an opportunity for higher education that they would not otherwise have.

### **Treasurer's Report – Radhiga Dey**

Radhiga was unable to be present at the meeting. For financial accounts, click [here](#).

### **Education Report – Daryl Le Cornu**

See the President's report above.

### **Junior World Citizens program – John Hegarty**

See John's report [here](#).



The meeting applauded John for all his amazing efforts to promote world citizenship, and voted that he be accorded Life Membership in the WCAA. He will continue to be invited to board meetings, despite stepping down from all official positions.

### **Election of Officers**

The following officers were unanimously elected at the meeting:

President:	Chris Hamer
Vice-President (Aid Project):	Wali Islam
Vice-President (Education):	Daryl Le Cornu
Treasurer:	Radhiga Dey
Secretary:	Luiz Bispo (in absentia)

Margaret Webb accepted a role as Editor, in charge of the Bulletin and social media, and Communications Manager.

### **Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Governance (IGPSG)**

#### **Model Global Parliament Program**

The 2019 Sydney Model Global Parliament this year was booked to take place on October 25<sup>th</sup> in the NSW Legislative Assembly chamber, during the Global Week of Action for a World Parliament. Jamie Parker, Greens MP for Balmain, kindly agreed to sponsor the event once again.

We recruited an active committee, comprising Ahmed Khan (co-ordinator), Nayonika Bhattacharia (last year's principal), Margaret Webb, Luiz Bispo, Jialu Meng, Tram Huynh, Dave Kalra, Paul Neeraj (website), Zeny Edwards and Chris Hamer. Largely driven by Zeny, we decided to make a bigger effort to recruit senior school students as MPs for this year's MGP after last year's disappointing enrolments. Zeny prepared a manual and kit to be mailed out to prospective school principals, to advertise for volunteers as MPs. Nayonika prepared a Facebook page and Eventbrite page for recruiting purposes, Ahmed drafted new material for the website, and Paul put it up.

Despite all this unprecedented effort, the response was small, and in the end we had to cancel the event! We will adjust our strategies, and do better next time. Many thanks to all the committee for their efforts.

Pera has recently raised the possibility of another MGP at the Crawford School at the ANU early next year. Once more, watch this space!

#### **Visit of Andreas Bummel**

The Institute sponsored the visit by Andreas Bummel, described above. That will be the major budget item for next year.



## Election of Officers

Zeny Edwards has decided to stand down from her position as Vice-President of the IGPSG due to pressure of other commitments. We thank her for her brief but very effective contributions! No other nominations being received, the previous committee was declared elected to the other positions.

Chairman: Chris Hamer  
Vice-Chair: Michael de Mol  
Secretary: Daryl Le Cornu  
Treasurer: Wali Islam

For the IGPSG financial accounts for 2019, click [here](#).

## Coalition for a World Security Community

### President's Report – Chris Hamer

Not a great deal has happened as regards this transnational working group recently. Didier Jacobs has been very busy after the arrival of his second son!

- I applied for a stall at this year's Paris Peace Forum, but was unsuccessful
- The Global Challenges Foundation has declined to continue its financial support for the project, but we still have total funds of about \$US9K left over from last year's activities in our Washington bank account
- Allen Luke has done an excellent job in upgrading and updating the website. He now proposes to change the URL to something more transparent than the current one. See <https://coalitionforawsc.org/>
- We are now ready to start publicizing and seeking support for our proposal for a World Security Community of democratic nations. Silvia Solidoro has done an outstanding job in contacting leaders of the Italian branch of the UEF, and we will probably try to make a presentation at next year's Ventotene Seminar. Peter Davidse has proposed a meeting at the European House in Paris, and Conny Beyer is preparing a grant submission to NATO next year. Watch this space.

## Election of Officers

No other nominations being received, the following officers were declared elected:

President: Chris Hamer  
Vice-President: Didier Jacobs  
Secretary: Brian Hyouk Son  
Treasurer: Radhiga Dey



## REGISTRATION FORM

I would like to join/renew my membership in the World Citizens Association (Australia)

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Subscription Rates: Full	\$40
Juniors, seniors, unwaged	\$10
Funds transferred:	
<b>Subscription</b>	-----
<b>Donation to World Citizens Aid Project</b>	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>_____</b>

Please complete this form and send together with your cheque made out to 'World Citizens Association (Australia)' to:  
 Radhiga Dey, Treasurer, World Citizens Association (Australia),  
 PO Box 2705  
 N. Parramatta NSW 1750  
[treasurerwcaa@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerwcaa@gmail.com)

**Alternative methods of payment: (please still send in the form)**  
 Online via <http://www.wcaa.org.au>, hit the 'Member Login' button at the top of the page, and then either the 'Join Us' or the 'Donate' button (no password necessary).  
 Or use direct electronic funds transfer to  
 BSB: 633000, account: 122927916

