



THE BULLETIN

of the Australian World Citizens Association
and the Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Development

<http://www.worldcitizens.org.au>

<http://igpsg.org/>

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Highlights of this Edition:

page

<i>News & Events</i>	3
<i>Wheelchair Project</i>Thich Minh Tam.....	6
<i>UNAA Conference</i>Daryl Le Cornu.....	4,7
<i>Non-Lethal Security for Peace</i>Andrew Greig.....	5
<i>To End All Wars</i>Chris Hamer.....	13

Regulars:

<i>President's Column</i>	2
<i>Model Global Parliament Program</i>Pera Wells.....	3,5,7
<i>Annual General Meeting</i>	9
<i>Bangladesh Aid Project</i>Wali Islam.....	10
<i>Education Report</i>Daryl Le Cornu.....	8,10
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>Michelle Cavanagh.....	11
<i>Institute for Global Peace & Sustainable Governance (IGPSG)</i>	12

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President's Column:

Reflections on a Tenth Birthday

This year is the tenth anniversary of the founding of our World Citizens Association, so a few reflections are in order.

Our paid-up membership has changed very little over that time, and we need to do something about that. But I'm very grateful to our loyal core of supporters, who have paid their dues and given the odd donation over the years. They form the backbone of our group.

The most hopeful sign for the future is that we have gradually accreted a small band of active members, who are all pursuing their own initiatives as world citizens. I would like to thank some of them individually, in what will be quite a long list! To anyone I have forgotten, please forgive me.

First, there are Michael de Mol and Michelle Cavanagh. Michael helped to set up the WCA in the first place, and has served as Secretary, as well as assisting Wali with the Aid Project, especially the Solar Coker project which we hope to get off the ground shortly. Michelle was shanghaied into the Treasurer's job at our first meeting, somewhat reluctantly, and has done a sterling job in that position ever since.

Our Media Committee has also done a sterling job. Alan Ryan has looked after the WCA website from the beginning. Brett Samuels has lent his expertise both there and as Editor of the Bulletin when time permits. and Jawaid Hussain has also helped enormously with both in recent times. We do need more help here, see advertisement below.

Wali Islam joined us a little later, and introduced the Aid Project in Bangladesh, which has given us a



concrete international objective. He has also been a strong supporter of

our initiatives towards a global parliament.

Thich Minh Tam was introduced to us by Wali, and has brought us his experience and contacts as a consultant to the World Bank. He has pushed the idea of a Centre for Global Governance and International Peace as one of his lifetime ambitions, and he led the formation of our Institute of Global Peace and Sustainable Governance to help bring it about. We are now ready to approach possible sources of serious funding for this project.

Daryl Le Cornu has put his background as a high-school teacher and member of curriculum committees in New South Wales to good use, in campaigning for more material on the United Nations and the European Union in the school curriculum. As a Vice-President of UNAA NSW, he is also providing us with strong links to the United Nations Association.

Pera Wells, a former Secretary-General of the World Federation of UN Associations, has recently come to us with her brilliant concept of Model Global



Parliaments. These are proving enormously effective in getting young people interested in these ideas, and I believe the concept will soon spread internationally.

In the next few years, we will be looking for a younger generation to take the helm, and drive our Association into a brighter future.

Chris Hamer

News and Events

Model Global Parliament in Canberra

(Report reproduced from the website of the Campaign for a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly)

Global Diplomats Descend on Canberra for Model Global Parliament

Mitchell Shepherd | July 2nd, 2014
Miscellanea

International politics recently visited Canberra, as representatives of various nations and organisations met at the Australian National University to discuss pressing global issues. Tensions occasionally boiled over as motions were debated rigorously.

After the event, diplomats returned to their dorms, share houses, and other forms of student accommodation as another successful Model Global Parliament had come to an end.

The MGP is a forum which allows students the opportunity to address global issues of our time in an environment similar to a national parliament or United Nations sitting. The forum is also an ongoing feasibility test for a future world parliament This year's Canberra

event held in late May was organised by the Crawford School Student's Association, in conjunction with Pera Wells, the Australian representative on the Steering Committee for the Global Interdependence Movement. The event was introduced by speeches from Professor Tom Kompas, (Director of the Crawford School of Public Policy), Professor Bruce Chapman (architect of the Australian HECS), and Federal MP Dr Andrew Leigh.

The central theme underpinning the Canberra MGP was global inequality. Thomas Piketty's 'Capital in the Twenty-First Century' and Andrew Leigh's 'Battlers and Billionaires' were set as background readings to spark the fire within the student parliamentarians. The meeting also focused on three specific topics: food security, water and energy, and capitalism.

Students were randomly allocated to various regions or organisations which they were required to represent. Some of these included Latin America, Asia, Africa, North America and Europe, Global Civil Society Organisation, International Conservation Union, and Mayors of Global Cities.

Motions that were passed on food security involved increasing agricultural research and the reduction of food wastage. Water



and energy motions focused on limiting the privatisation of water supplies and supporting renewable energy development projects in Africa. The topic of Capitalism produced motions on increased progressive taxation and more effective and equal distribution.

The MGP moves through various Australian cities each year. Check the webpage or the Crawford School Students Association on Facebook for ongoing details.

UNAA Conference

UNAA NSW held their state conference in the Customs House in Sydney on July 25-6, on the theme “*To End all Wars*”. The principal organizer was our very own Daryl Le Cornu, who put an enormous amount of effort into the conference, and provides us a fuller report later in the Bulletin. The event went very well, and was enjoyed by all. Congratulations to Daryl.

Festival of Democracy

The Sydney Democracy Network, headed by Professor John Keane of the University of Sydney, is

organizing a **Festival of Democracy** in Sydney on September 23-29. For further details, see <http://www.sydneydemocracynetwork.org/symposia/festival-of-democracy>.

International Day of Peace

John Hegarty is organizing a celebration of the International Day of Peace at Avondale College in Morriset on Sunday, September 21st. He has invited Chris Hamer to give a short talk on the theme (you guessed it!) ‘*To End All Wars*’, and we will set up a stall to advertise the WCA. John has also come up with the brilliant idea of asking the participants to affirm themselves as world citizens, to help in the great objective of ending all wars. We will try to add this as an extra feature of our Model Global Parliaments.

The online group **Global Democracy** is calling for a second **Global Week of Action for a World Parliament**, October 17 – 26. See

<http://www.worldparliamentnow.org/>



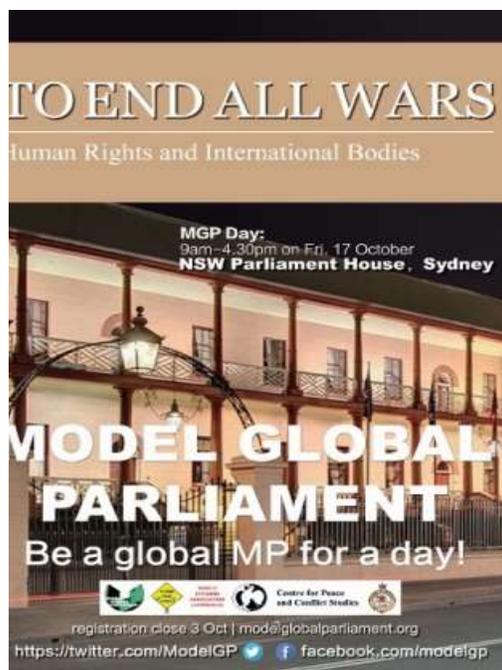
Model Global Parliament in Sydney

The next Model Global Parliament will take place in the Legislative Assembly chamber of the NSW Parliament in Macquarie Street on Friday 17th October. The theme will be 'To End All Wars'.

Nonlethal Security for Peace Campaign website:

www.nonlethalsecurityforpeace.com

Andrew Greig is organizing this campaign. The Nonlethal Security for Peace Campaign (NLSPC) aims to reduce death and injury in warfare (and other conflicts) by using non-damaging technology (more info on the website).



There is agreement that nonlethal methods seem logical. Military and security organisations associated with the European Symposium on Non-Lethal Weapons continue their research and development.

8th EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM on NON-LETHAL WEAPONS

A symposium on non-lethal weapons is held in Europe every two years. The next European Symposium is scheduled for 18-20 May 2015 in Ettlingen (near Frankfurt) Germany. The theme for the symposium will be "to examine the obstacles still faced in fielding non-lethal technologies: assessment of effectiveness and safety, legal hurdles, public opinion objections (and) operators' trust". The closing date for abstracts is 6 October 2014. For more details go to www.non-lethal-weapons.com <<http://www.non-lethal-weapons.com>> .

Contributions to the Newsletter Invited

Andrew is inviting contributions to the next (and following) newsletter(s) on the topic of nonlethal security/ nonlethal weapons. These might include reports of new research, field experiences, upcoming events and general comments. Please keep them brief (a few hundred words) with contact details for further information, if appropriate. Send to info@tamingwar.com .

Andrew Greig



WCA – World Citizens Association

Wheelchair Project

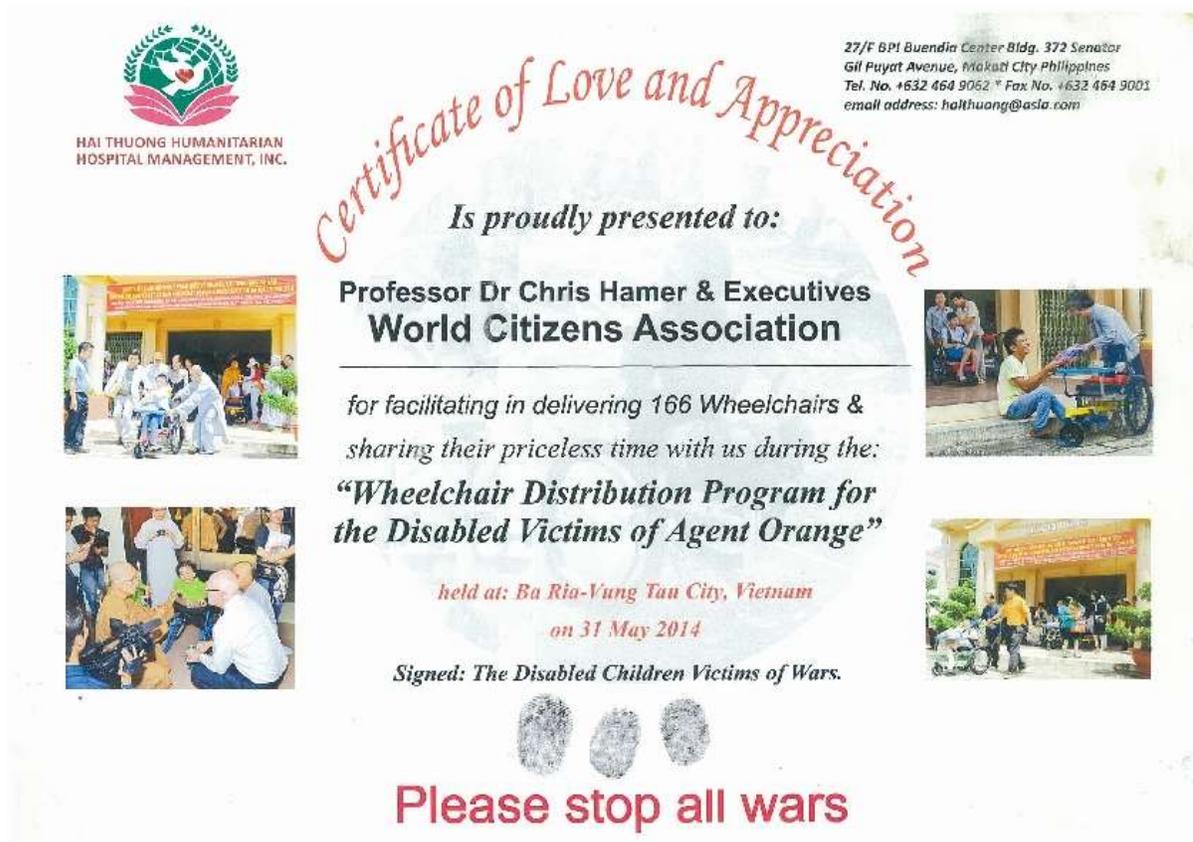
Thich Minh Tam has managed to arrange a magnificent donation of container loads of wheelchairs for disabled children in South-East Asia from a company in Perth, provided only that someone meets the shipping costs.. One container has already been shipped to Vietnam, amid appropriate ceremony. We have pledged to raise \$3000 to ship another container to Bangladesh.

That target has now been met, thanks to donations from

Pera Wells, John Smith, Joe Wolfe, Hadrian Judge, & yours truly.

Many thanks to all of you. The shipment of 166 chairs is probably worth about \$30,000 in market value, and will hopefully take place in September/October. Wali Islam has pledged to look after the arrangements from here. I think this is a tremendously valuable one-off project.

Chris Hamer



Bangladesh Aid Project

Charitable donation (DGR) status
An application for DGR (deductible gift recipient) status was submitted to

OAGDS for a second time, and rejected for a second time. But as part of the process, we were required



to set up the **WCA Aid Project Fund** as a fixed trust, and get it registered with the ACNC (Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission). Registration has now been granted to us as Trustees of the WCA Aid Project Fund, as a "Public Benevolent Institution". Apparently this entitles us to ask for DGR status directly, without troubling DFAT!. I have been advised we need to modify the wording of the Trust Deed, see the motion later on, and otherwise we are almost ready to go. So it appears we may be able to finesse the OAGDS refusal after all.

Model Global Parliament Program (Pera Wells)

I spoke at the Australian Internet Governance Forum about the concept of the MGP in a Panel Discussion on the question: Is the digital age facilitating global citizenship?
See.....<http://www.igf.org.au/speakers>. Go to Workshop Speakers and open the second one for more information.

A Standing Committee of the MGP has been formed by Ifti Rashid to consider the call by the founder of the World Wide Web, Tim Berners-Lee, for a Magna Carta to preserve the openness and neutrality of the WWW for the next 25 years. The Standing Committee will report to the Sydney session of the MGP in October.

The head of the Interdependence Movement, Benjamin Barber, has written a book - "If Mayors ruled the world...." and is holding a major

planning meeting for the Global Parliament of Mayors in Amsterdam on Friday, September 19th, hosted by the G-4 Dutch mayors (Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Utrecht and The Hague).

Pera Wells, Director

UNAA Conference 2014

The UNAA Conference held at Customs House on 25-26 July was a wonderful event. There were 25 quality speakers who led sessions on topics such as peacekeeping, nuclear disarmament, the history of the United Nations, global governance, positive peace, war in space, counter-terrorism, the impact of war on children, reconstruction, the global arms treaty, and more. We had around 150 people attend each day. In addition to our UNAA members, our audience included high school students and teachers, university students, academics, UN veterans, members of various NGOs, and other interested members of the public.

The aim of the conference was to start a conversation about war in the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, and to consider how the world has dealt with the problem of war in the last 100 years. Many instances were examined in which the United Nations worked to prevent war and create conditions for peace. At the outset of the commemoration for the First World War, the UNAA has started the conversation. We live in a very dangerous world today because though we have not had another world war since 1945 there are unsettling signs that



serious conflicts could break out between the major powers in a number of areas. Also, according to the Global Peace Index, there has been a deterioration in peace around the world over the last seven years. Conflicts that have started are still going and are not being resolved. Many people are suffering in conflict zones such as Syria, Iraq, Ukraine, and the Congo. Meanwhile in western democracies like Australia, we have grown complacent and think that war is something far off and need not concern us.

The UNAA sees its primary role as to educating the Australian community about the ever-present threat of war and about how the United Nations provides a pathway to a sustainable future for all. The UNAA endeavors to work with all likeminded organisations to promote global peace and security. The UNAA Executive thanks Chris Hamer for his presentation on 'Democratic global governance' and Michael De Mol for representing the WCAA.

Daryl Le Cornu

Education Report

Breaking News! Syllabus consultation for new Modern History syllabus begins.

Some very important news has just come from BOSTES (Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards). They are conducting a syllabus review of the Modern History HSC syllabus for New South Wales high schools. This is the beginning of a process that will see a new Modern History syllabus for NSW possibly in 2016. Most history

teachers regard the current syllabus as being an excellent document. However, some of its topics have become dated and there is a lack of post 1945 topics offered. It is important that the new syllabus covers the post-1945 period in a way that gives students a thorough understanding of the historical roots of the current world order. It is also important that some post-Cold War options that address significant recent historical trends also be part of the new syllabus. From the perspective of the WCAA we would like to see a thorough treatment of the origins of the United Nations system and the post-WW2 legal framework created by various treaties and international organisations. We would also like to see some study of the historical roots of the movements to world government, particularly the immediate post-Hiroshima period, as well as the origin and development of the European Union. We look forward to making a contribution to the syllabus consultation.

In 2010 submissions were made to ACARA (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority) regarding the new national Modern History curriculum then being developed. The outcome was the inclusion of an optional topic in Year 12 called 'The Search for Peace and Security since 1945.' This option goes some way to towards meeting the criteria outlined above. However, the national curriculum is taught only in a small number of schools across Australia excluding NSW. Whereas in NSW, the current Modern History syllabus is studied by around 25,000 students each year.



Therefore, the development of the NSW syllabus is far more significant. It appears that BOSTES will draw upon elements of the national curriculum for Modern History that teachers think will add to the new NSW Modern History syllabus but is not committed to incorporating the

whole national curriculum into the new NSW syllabus, which is a good thing as far as many teachers in NSW are concerned. So, watch this space.

Daryl Le Cornu, Education Officer

Advertisements

Wanted: Young people with experience in **web design or maintenance**, to maintain our websites. Members of our current media committee are too busy with other commitments to continue the job. Please contact Chris Hamer at C.Hamer@unsw.edu.au

Wanted: Volunteers to help with organization of the WCA. Michael de Mol would be happy to give up his position as Secretary to a suitably qualified successor. Contact Michael de Mol at m.demol@unsw.edu.au

Annual General Meeting

Other relevant items follow.

Election of Officers 2014-2015

No other nominations being received, officers were declared re-elected as follows:

Chris Hamer President,
Wali Islam Vice President,
Michelle Cavanagh Treasurer
Michael de Mol Secretary.

Pacific Project Report:

One of our objectives is to promote the idea of a Pacific community, built on the present Pacific Islands Forum. Chris Gardiner, who has recently joined us, is interested in this side of our activities, and has agreed to act as Director of this project. He is keen to set up a panel discussion between the Liberal and Labour

spokesmen on the Pacific (Brett Mason and Matt Thistlethwaite, respectively), and has spoken with Matt Thistlethwaite. Stephanie Lawson, the leader of the Research Cluster at Macquarie associated with our Centre proposal, also has research interests in the Pacific. Wali has also spoken with Matt Thistlethwaite.

Revocation Clause for WCA Aid Project Fund

In order to pursue DGR status for the Aid Project Fund, and following advice from the ATO, CJH proposed, and MdM seconded, that the revocation clause 16 in the Trust Deed for the WCA Aid Project Fund be replaced by the following form of words:



"If the organisation is wound up or its endorsement as a deductible gift recipient is revoked (whichever occurs first), any surplus of the following assets shall be transferred to another organisation to which income tax deductible gifts can be made:

* gifts of money or property for the principal purpose of the organisation

* contributions made in relation to an eligible fundraising event held for the principal purpose of the organisation

* money received by the organisation because of such gifts and contributions."

Passed nem con.

Education Report

1. UNAA Conference

- Conference was a success. Excellent talks from speakers.
- A big achievement for NSW UNAA. Now there is confidence to attempt more events of this nature.
- Relationships with speakers expert in a variety of areas were fostered

2. Education Committee

- The UNAA will set up a committee to promote knowledge of the United Nations in schools.
- Will link with a teacher in the ACT who is setting up an Australian Branch of CTAUN (Committee on Teaching About the United Nations) of which Pera Wells is on the Advisory Committee.

3. UN Booklet Project

- 2015 is the 70th anniversary of the UN Charter.
- Will use this to launch a project to print tens of thousands of the booklets (UN Charter & UDHR) for distribution in schools.
- Seeking corporate funding for this project.

4. ICAN Civil Society Conference in Vienna 6-10 December 2014

- DLC hoping to attend and to educate students and teachers about the issues on return.

5. UNPA Campaign

- Looking at the possibility of having the UNAA and the WCAA cooperating in this campaign.

Daryl Le Cornu

Bangladesh Aid Project Subcommittee Report :

WI set up a charitable organisation in Bangladesh, the **Wajifa Noor Ashmatia Foundation**, to run the aid project there. Recently that charitable organisation has been officially recognised by the Government of Bangladesh as an NGO, allowing more fund raising. WI plans to go to Bangladesh in October. Next week he is visiting the Sun Moon University in Korea. And some good news he may get his first grand daughter in September! We will require everyone to see how much we can raise for projects such as occupational training, and a clinic.

Wali Islam



Treasurer's Report

World Citizens Association Australia

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as 30/06/2014

CURRENT ASSETS

Brought forward 1/7/2013
1264.17

Cash at bank
993.08

TOTAL ASSETS
\$2257.25

TOTAL LIABILITIES
\$1866.42

NET ASSETS as at 30/06/2014
\$390.83

Statement of Income & Expenditure as at

30/06/2014

INCOME

Membership fees	474.74
Donations	462.00
Stale Use Draft returned	56.34

TOTAL INCOME **\$993.08**

EXPENDITURE

Admin Expenses	273.10
Postage	171.60
Printing	126.72
Dept of Fair Trading	245.00
World Federalist Movement	150.00
Donation to Aid Project Fund	900.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$1866.42

WCA Aid Project Fund

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as 30/06/2014

CURRENT ASSETS

Brought forward 1/07/2013
23.71

Cash at bank*
4930.00

TOTAL ASSETS*
\$4953.71

TOTAL LIABILITIES*
\$3602.70

NET ASSETS as at 30/06/2014

\$1351.01

Statement of Income & Expenditure as at

30/06/2014

INCOME

Donations*	4730.00
Wheelchair Appeal	200.00

TOTAL INCOME*
\$4930.00

EXPENDITURE

Bangladesh school support *
3600.00

PayPal fees
2.70

TOTAL EXPENDITURE*
\$3602.70

*This total includes \$900 paid directly for Bangladesh school support from the WCA account, and \$900 paid directly by C.J. Hamer

Michelle Cavanagh



IGPSG - Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Governance (IGPSG)

Centre for Global Governance and International Peace

This has been a long-held dream of our friend and Vice-Chairman Thich Minh Tam. A second proposal to fund the Centre was prepared last year, involving Sydney and Macquarie universities. It was sent to Minh Tam and the International Buddhist Organization for Culture, Education and Social Development (IBO). Unfortunately, once more nothing came of it, and Macquarie in particular was disappointed at the lack of feedback. We continue to press forward towards this objective, however, see the item below.

IGPSG Trust

In order to facilitate the raising of funds for the Centre, we have set up the IGPSG Trust as a fixed trust, registered with the ACNC, with its sole purpose being to fund educational activities of the hoped-for Centre and associated universities. We applied for DGR status for the Trust. This has now been **granted**, thanks to the generous and efficient help of our lawyer Lisa Oddo.

Our task now is to go out and solicit donations from charities and foundations for this purpose. To do this, we need to add website material on the Trust to the IGPSG website, prepare a brochure, and prepare a new, general proposal for a Centre to present to these institutions. We will

also hope that Thich Minh Tam can persuade the IBO to contribute.

Peace Journalism Project

The IGPSG has agreed to contribute towards the Peace Journalism project of A/Prof Jake Lynch at the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney. The first couple of payments have now been made, representing the first actual financial project of the IGPSG Trust. Jake may be able to tell us more about the project.

Coalition for a World Community of Democratic Nations

Progress here has again been slow, but we have gained formal adherence to the Coalition from the Democratic World Federalists in California, and the Sydney Democracy Network (SDN). John Keane has agreed to join our Institute, and promised active support to the Coalition, as being right in line with the aims of the network. We welcome them on board.



To End All Wars

Chris Hamer

This year marks a hundred years since the start of World War I. It is hard to imagine how all those young men in the trenches must have felt, dying of disease, drowning in mud, blown up by artillery shells, and then climbing over the top to be mown down by machine guns. 'Why am I here?', they must have thought. 'Surely there must be a better way!'

They dubbed it the "war to end all wars", and after the war they tried earnestly to make it so. They set up the League of Nations as the first attempt at international governance, and they forged disarmament treaties which led to the scrapping of newly-built battleships sitting on the slipways. But still it wasn't enough.

Nowadays, it is possible for one man to press a button and incinerate half a million of his fellow human beings with a nuclear missile. Or a computer jockey in Nevada can pot a man like a rabbit from half the world away, using a drone aircraft. War has become a business of mechanical slaughter, and there is no honour or glory left in it. It is time we renewed our commitment, to End All Wars!

How can we do that? Most people will say it is impossible. But in fact it is possible, and the way to do it has been known for hundreds, if not thousands of years. It was put very neatly by William Penn in the seventeenth century. He was the son of Admiral William Penn of the British Navy, and he later became a leader of the Quakers, and the founder of

the colony of Pennsylvania in America, with its capital in Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love. In 1692 Penn wrote an essay "*Towards the Present and Future Peace of Europe*", in which he summed it all up:

"Peace is Maintained by Justice, which is a Fruit of Government, as Government is from Society, and Society from Consent".

In other words, people will be happy to live at peace provided they are treated justly and equitably according to the law. But you cannot have the rule of law in a state of anarchy, because then the robber barons and the warlords rule. The rule of law can only be upheld by a stable government, installed according to the will of the people.

For example, look at the national level. A country like Australia has a reasonably stable and effective government, and has never had a war within its borders in its entire history. Compare that with the Congo, which has little or no government, where some five million people have died in conflicts over recent decades.

William Penn called for a *European Parliament* to keep the peace in Europe. A mere three hundred years later, that has actually come to pass! Similarly, if we want *world peace*, we need a *world parliament*. Albert Einstein put it in different words:

"In my opinion, the only salvation for civilization and the human race lies in the creation of a world



government, with security of nations founded upon law”.

How are we going with that? The world tried again after World War II, with the creation of the United Nations. Under the UN system, we have made major advances. Imperialism is dead, colonialism is dead, apartheid is dead, and the number of deaths in battle each year is down by a factor of ten in the last half-century, though you would hardly know it from the newspapers. But the UN is not a global parliament, and was never intended to be one. It is not the final answer.

Meanwhile, the Europeans have acted to prevent any future wars between France and Germany, having endured five of them in the past two centuries. Starting from the Schuman Declaration of 1950, they proceeded in a step-by-step fashion, through a succession of treaties, to construct first the European Coal and Steel Community, then the European Economic Community, and finally the present European Union and European Parliament. As a result, we can be confident that there will never again be a war between France and Germany.

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Now we need to copy the European example in the global arena, and proceed to the construction of a global parliament. It is a huge task, involving the integration of nearly two hundred sovereign nations and seven billion people, and is likely to take many years. It could come about through reform of the UN, or it could start from a smaller grouping, a new global community of democratic nations, perhaps. We are supporting the global campaign for a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly, and also trying to form a Coalition for a World Community of Democratic Nations. Nobody knows precisely what the future may hold.

The first necessity, however, is the Consent of Society, and a change in our way of thinking. We must all learn to regard ourselves as fellow citizens of the global village. We must all work together, and promote international cooperation for the solution of our global problems. We must resolve to uphold the universal human rights of others, regardless of nationality, race, religion or gender. And we must all commit ourselves, as citizens of the world, To End All Wars.



