



The Bulletin

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

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER : On to the Next Level

Having passed our tenth birthday, it is now time we thought about taking our association to the next level, in terms of both funding and membership. Now that we have DGR status (tax deductibility) for both our WCA Aid Project Fund and the Institute's IGPSG Trust Fund, we shall go looking for donations from charitable foundations to give us a greatly increased level of funding. That will begin as soon as we get our websites upgraded.

We should also look to increase our active membership, from the present level of a couple of dozen. The Model Global Parliament program directed by Pera Wells should be a great help here, in recruiting younger people to the cause. Already at the last MGP in Sydney we have picked up some valuable recruits. Aisyah Novanarima was one of the mainstays of the Steering Committee, and has now agreed to take over editing the Bulletin from Jawaid Hussein.

Fiona Macdonald was one of the prominent debaters at the last MGP, and has agreed to become our environmental advocate.

Last but by no means least, Pera has recruited Peter Mousaferiadis, Chief Executive of Cultural Infusion, to be patron of the MGP program – see the news item later in the Bulletin.

Cultural Infusion is an extensive youth enterprise with worldwide reach. Already they have offered to help us with our websites and other activities.

Another development to note is the idea of John Hegarty, to introduce an affirmation of world citizenship at his celebration of the UN International Day of Peace in the Hunter. I think this is an excellent idea. By standing and reciting this pledge, the participants will fix in their minds the ideals and objectives of world citizenship, and will hopefully act on them in their later lives. We introduced the affirmation at our last Sydney MGP, and we intend that it will be a regular feature of these events. Who knows, maybe we can persuade somebody to write an anthem for the movement as well!

Chris Hamer

NEWS AND EVENTS

UN International Day of Peace

Flag bearers for peace

Avondale hosts program as part of worldwide event

Former members of the armed forces have joined with those supporting an international community to reaffirm their commitment to humanity's ultimate but most elusive goal.

The United Nations International Day of Peace, which Avondale College of Higher Education hosted on its Lake Macquarie campus on Sunday (September 21), saw a call for a global parliament and a reminder that war profoundly affects those who serve.

Associate Professor Chris Hamer, founder and president of the World Citizens Association of Australia, spoke highly of the work of the United Nations.

"Imperialism is dead, colonialism is dead, apartheid is dead and the number of deaths in battle each year is down by a factor of 10 in the past half century." But ending wars, he said, called for a new community of democratic nations.



John Hegarty with the maker of the world peace flag, artist Sharon Davson. Credit: Summer Hull.

War made a hero out of William "Fighting Mac" McKenzie. The Salvation Army officer, one of the first chaplains ashore at Gallipoli and a wowsler who won the hearts of the Diggers, is the subject of Associate Professor Daniel Reynaud's research. Daniel, from the School of Humanities and Creative Arts at Avondale, reflected on some of McKenzie's experiences. Despite his nickname, said Daniel, McKenzie would later describe war as being like hell.

The program also featured two musical performances: Avondale Guitar Ensemble director Terry Latham played John Lennon's world-at-peace song "Imagine;" and Bonnells Bay Community Choir sang "Let There Be Peace."

The grandchildren of organiser John Hegarty, who represented the local branch of the

Returned and Services League of Australia, rang a peace bell.

John told those attending the program he felt emotional about it — because it brought many community organisations together and partly because of its worldwide significance. "Everyone wants peace, but sadly many give up trying," he says. "But there's no doubt that together we can make a difference."

Brenton Stacey (Public relations officer, Avondale College of Higher Education, Cooranbong, New South Wales, Australia)

At the end of proceedings, John Hegarty invited the assembly to stand and recite an affirmation of their commitment as world citizens. We hope to incorporate this little ceremony in our future Model Global Parliaments.

MGP Sydney

The 7th Model Global Parliament took place in the Legislative Assembly chamber of the NSW Parliament on Friday October 17th, as the first event in the Global Week of Action for a World Parliament. The event was organized by a large and active Steering Committee including Lisette Collins, Elisabeth Wale, Aisyah Novanarima, Farah Naz, Brian Son, Adrian Vandermey and Yike Zhao.

Brief talks were given by Mr Michael Daley, MP for Maroubra, welcoming MPs to Parliament

House; Chris Hamer, Peter Mousaferiadis, Prof Colin Wight and Prof John Keane from Sydney Uni, and Camilla Schippa from the Institute for Economics and Peace. Wali Islam, John Hegarty, and Andrew Greig came along as observers from the WCA, and helped to swell the numbers – thanks guys.

The MPs had an excellent time debating motions on peace and security, human rights and reform of international institutions, with Adrian acted as speaker, Farah as MC, and

Elisabeth as Recorder. A fuller report will appear in the next Bulletin.

Numbers were low because of inopportune timing of the event, but nevertheless there was a very strong sense of collegiality among the participants, and we ended by standing to recite together a hearty affirmation of our world citizenship, an excellent idea due to John Hegarty.

The text ran:

”I recognize the humanity I share with all people, and I declare myself to be a citizen of the world.

I will uphold the universal rights of others, regardless of nationality, race, religion or gender, and I will endeavour to work with my fellow citizens to create a better world.”

Since the event, Farah Naz has made an initial approach to the National University of Science and Technology in Pakistan, to see if it might be possible to put on an MGP there.

Chris Hamer



Participants in the 7th Model Global Parliament on the steps of the NSW Parliament House in Macquarie Street (up) and inside the chamber.

ICAN meeting

Daryl and I attended a meeting of ICAN Australia (International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons) on November 26. Their main focus at present is campaigning for a Treaty to ban nuclear weapons entirely, as an unacceptable threat to humanity. They don't expect this treaty to result in the immediate abolition of all nuclear weapons, but it will add to the public pressure

on the nuclear-weapon states. They would like to achieve a Treaty by August next year, the 70th anniversary of the dropping of the first bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We should make this the subject of motions at our Model Global Parliament events next year.

Chris Hamer

Defence White Paper 2015

I made a submission to the upcoming Defence White Paper, arguing for:

- 1) A security community for the Pacific Islands, including a Pacific Islands Maritime Patrol and a

Pacific Islands Regiment;

2) A Reconstruction and Reconciliation Commission

3) A world Security Community of Democratic Nations.

Whether this will have the slightest effect is debatable.

Chris Hamer

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Global Week of Action for a World Parliament

October 17 - 26. See <http://worldparliamentnow.org/>

The Global Week of Action for a World Parliament, GWA, is an annual event celebrated for one week in October around United Nations Day on the 24th. During this week independent events worldwide are held to promote the establishment of a democratically elected world parliament.



During the week in 2014, some 40 events were organized at locations all around the world, including another Model World Parliament in Pretoria, South Africa.

THE NUCLEAR THREAT

Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons

On the 8-9th December 2014 a most important event occurred. 158 governments met to discuss the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. This is the third such conference in two years and it has created a momentum to get nuclear disarmament back on to start moving towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Many nations now believe that the first step in this is to get a nuclear weapons convention. Such conventions have already become a reality with treaties on biological and chemical weapons, as well as on land mines and cluster munitions.

Also, we must remember that the International Criminal Court (established in 2002) came about as a result of the Rome Statute of 1998. Momentum is building for some real change to come about from the NPT Review conference

next year.

If there are no serious moves made by the 9 nuclear weapons states to start eliminating their nuclear weapons, then it is quite likely that a significant number of the nation states at the Vienna conference will start the process of drafting a nuclear weapons convention. The entire Vienna conference was filmed.

We urge WCAA members to watch some of it.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTzbIE69Q4U&list=PLOX6GHcKYM_vZ-oSBpe2KTzgJrMxl-u6D

You may start with Session 2 which has presentations dealing with the risk of a nuclear detonation and nuclear war.

Daryl Le Cornu

The Marshall Islands Forum

In Vienna on Friday 5th December a forum was held to discuss the legal action undertaken by the government of the Marshall Islands. The Marshall Islands is taking the 9 nuclear weapons states to the International Court of Justice.

The Marshall Islands has suffered from the effects of 60 nuclear bombs being exploded on their tiny islands. They are not seeking compensation but are seeking to end the threat that nuclear weapons pose to all life on this planet.

The forum was filmed in its entirety.

Part 1:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3zyyZ7lmy4>

Part 2:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI7TWwfatCY>

The Marshall Islands government is being strongly supported by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in the US and by the Human Survival Project and People for Nuclear Disarmament (PND) in Australia.

Daryl Le Cornu

'The Man who Saved the World' film coming to Australia

The Sydney-based Human Survival Project (HSP) along with People for Nuclear Disarmament (PND) will be promoting a new film being released in Australia this year. It is 'The Man Who Saved the World' and is about a Soviet commander, Stanislav Petrov, who was on duty in the Soviet's nuclear command centre on the 26th September 1983 when all the alerts sounded signifying a US nuclear attack.

Link on the right brings you to the trailer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IncSjwWQHMo>

The HSP and PND will be supporting the release of 'The Man Who Saved the World' by producing a study-guide for teachers and students for use in schools in the US and Australia. WCAA support for this initiative is welcome.

Daryl Le Cornu

World Federalist Movement Council Meeting

I attended the annual meeting of the Council of the World Federalist Movement in the Hague 10-12 November. WCAA is an Associated Organization of the WFM, which is the umbrella organization for the global movement. A short summary of some items of interest follows.

The WFM has 12 active Member Organizations and 14 Associated Organizations (smaller in size). We are one of the Associated Organizations. Most are experiencing declines in membership and funding at the present time, unfortunately.

The total budget of the WFM stands at about \$3.5 million, most of which is dedicated funding from donors to the two big projects, the **Coalition for the International Criminal Court** (\$2.8 million) and the **Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect** (\$200K). I notice that Australia's funding for R2P, which used to be very substantial, has now evaporated. There is very little discretionary funding available, e.g. only \$20K for the **Campaign for a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly**.

The good news is that the US member organization, Citizens for Global Solutions,

which had drifted away from any explicit advocacy of world federation, is apparently in the process of renewing its faith, and looking for a new CEO.

The tactic of forming coalitions of NGOs has borne much fruit with the ICC and R2P. The Coalition for the ICC boasts an enormous number of NGO members, about 3000, including big ones like Amnesty International, which gives it great clout. The Chairman of WFM, Fernando Iglesias from Argentina, is forming a **Coalition for a Latin American Court against Organized Crime**. He reckons that the killing of 43 schoolchildren in Mexico illustrates the extent of the problem in Latin America, and may provide a handle to push for greater integration there.

In the same way, we are trying to organize a **Coalition for a World Community of Democratic Nations**. I plan to submit a resolution on this to the Policy Review Committee of WFM next year. I didn't get a chance to do anything about it this time.

WFM is also supporting a campaign to change selection procedures for the Secretary-General of the UN. Currently he/she is selected by the 5 permanent members of the Security Council behind closed doors. It needs to be a more transparent and inclusive process. I recently passed on the '1 in 7 billion' campaign message about this.

There is also a campaign to limit the use of the veto in the Security Council, and (I think) to avoid it altogether on crimes concerning the ICC. A working group on reform of the Security Council has been set up, consisting of 20-30 NGOs. This is supported by some of the biggies, Avaaz, Amnesty International, etc.

The **Campaign for a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly** is continuing, and now has the support of about 1300 sitting and former MPs around the globe, as well as the group Parliamentarians for Global Action. It is driven almost single-handedly by Andreas Bummel from the German Campaign for a Democratic UN (KDUN).

The bad news was that regional integration in South America is completely stalled at present. They have grand plans on paper for **UNASUR**, a union of South American republics, with a Commission in Quito and a Parliament in Cochabamba (or the other way round, haven't checked details), but nothing has happened on the ground.

The dominant player, Brazil, is more interested in cementing its own place as a BRIC in the global order, Argentina is in chaos, and Venezuela is trying to sell its oil to China (and Russia?).

On the other hand, ASEAN is said to be moving ahead towards greater integration in the SE Asian region, led by Indonesia. There was a summit meeting in Myanmar recently, they are moving towards formally announcing an ASEAN Community in December 2015, and already have three subsidiary organizations (as well as a Secretariat):

- An ASEAN Political-Security Community
- An ASEAN Economic Community
- and an ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

Chris Hamer

Climate Change

UN World Environment Day – Friday 5th June 2015

The United Nations Association of NSW (UNAA NSW) for the UN World Environment Day this year. It will be held in Sydney Mint and will have some big names as speakers.

Support from WCAA members will be welcome.

Daryl Le Cornu

WCA World Citizens Association

Treasurer's Report

We hold \$683.49 in our Working Account and \$2161.71 in our WCA Aid Project Account.

There are no outstanding bills as far as I know.

Michelle Cavanagh

WCAA Facebook Page

How many of you know that we have a Facebook page with nearly 3000 followers!? We need to look at how we can use this page much more effectively in 2015 to promote our activities and to support worthy activities of likeminded organisations. We really need

to form a social media committee to oversee this and we need the older and more experience members to supply information for posts on the page.

Daryl Le Cornu

Model Global Parliament Program

Pera has invited Mr Peter Mousaferiadis, CEO of Cultural Infusion, to be Patron of the MGP program. Cultural Infusion is a social enterprise that works in education, youth, communities and the arts to promote cultural harmony and well-being for a more cohesive and richer society.

to move between and respect cultures other than our native one is an invaluable asset for personal and community development.

Cultural Infusion is dedicated to promoting equality, social justice and encouraging a broader understanding of culture across our community for the benefit of all. Since 2003, we have worked with diverse tools to enable the greatest number of people possible to experience vibrant cultural and inter-cultural arts and social initiatives.

Cultural Infusion recognises the benefits of cultural diversity and works to promote intercultural understanding. Our education, youth and community programs build cultural harmony and wellbeing through cultural presentations, workshops and engagement programs that act as a bridge to intercultural understanding. We reach an annual audience of more than 300,000 people, and have produced intercultural experiences at major events for organisations such as the United Nations, Commonwealth Games and the Parliament of the World's Religions.

As an organisation that promotes intercultural understanding we have a strong belief that as a diverse society living in a globalised world the ability

Internationally, Cultural Infusion runs programs in five countries overseas.

Bangladesh Aid Project: Charitable donation (DGR) status

The WCA has at last been granted DGR (deductible gift recipient) status as a "Public Benevolent Institution", Trustee of the WCA Aid Project Fund. Now we have to get busy raising actual funds. I will produce a project proposal to show prospective donors.

developing human resources. There are many problems in Bangladesh. There are no fish left in the river. When all of the forests were cleared for cooking fuel, all the birds disappeared. To change people's mindset to help them become sustainable is an important part of the work. Wali has sent two people to assist with agriculture. Because of

One of the big issues in Bangladesh is

the corrupt nature of the country, water has been polluted with heavy metals and human waste. Fresh fruit and vegetables are not grown organically and formalin is used as a preservative.

The School at 120 students is full and they can't enrol any more students even though there is a demand for more places. The application to make it a Government run School is still under consideration. There is a refuge centre in case of natural disaster such

as floods but there is no furniture.

They also have a medical centre. There are many medical problems in Bangladesh, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, child birth problems and there are problems with the drinking water being contaminated. One of Wali's contacts in Bangladesh is going to develop one or two full trial Solar Cookers for a field trial in his village.

Wali Islam

Education Report

Legal Studies in NSW

The NSW Legal Studies syllabus is a world-class document that mandates that the 25,000 students undertake it each year learn a great deal about international law, international organisations (IGOs), the work of non-government organisations (NGOs), geopolitical rivalry, human rights and the environment. As an organization we need to continue to look for ways to provide opportunities to Legal

Studies and teachers to learn more about movements towards global government. This can be done by writing articles for professional journals (read by educators), giving public lectures, or running public events (such as the Model Global Parliament).

Daryl Le Cornu

New Modern History Syllabus Coming

A new Modern History syllabus for NSW is currently being drafted by the Board of Studies. As an organization, we need to engage in the consultation of this very important document and think about what aspects of the movement towards global

government we can suggest for inclusion in this syllabus. The draft syllabus will be published early in the year.

Daryl Le Cornu

Taking Advocacy a Step Further: e-Newsletters?

You and I might be as excited to found WCAA's letter in the mailbox rather than seeing it standing among promotional e-newsletters and our e-bills. Sadly, physical letters often can't tell how WCAA should improve to get more people to know and join the move. The time and date of the posted letters doesn't really mean something to WCAA.

of delivery influences recipients to actually read our newsletter. Well, it does more than that; you're never 100% sure if it helps them decide to spread the word about WCAA.

Having e-bulletin as the only medium is what I've been considering.

Aisyah Novanarima

Handy e-newslettering solutions like MailChimp helps organizations find how time