



**United Nations Association of Australia**  
WA Division

# UN Matters

August/September 2016



## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

### Carolyn Gatward

There are exciting times ahead as Portugal’s former Prime Minister Antonio Guterres is set to become UN Secretary General from 1 January, 2017. Mr Guterres was the UN’s High Commissioner for Refugees from 2005-15. In that role, he appealed for countries to improve their efforts to help refugees who had fled from violent conflicts in countries such as Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. His leadership skills, vision and versatility are well respected.

We had excellent attendance for both our Insider’s Guide to the UN event and the World Peace Day function (see reviews inside). Please book your tickets to celebrate UN Day 2016 (see flyer inside) at Government House Ballroom. We have a wonderful program of performers and speakers and refreshments are included.

Check out the other activities and events on our website, such as:

- UN Environment Committee meeting (13 October)
- Family Fun Day stall – Whiteman Park (23 October)
- UN Food Day event (26 October)
- International Day of Tolerance event (19 November)

A new President and Vice Presidents will take over leadership of the UNAANA at the AGM on 9 October, 2016. After five years as President, I am proud of the strong growth and new initiatives in the Association, the friendly and harmonious Executive team and the dedicated support shown by our members for our work and for the UN.

Special thanks to Neesha and Ricky for their loyal contribution as VPs. I have very much enjoyed my time as President and, as Immediate Past President, I look forward to continuing to support the Executive. The Association is blossoming in many ways and I thank you for your involvement in its evolving transformation.

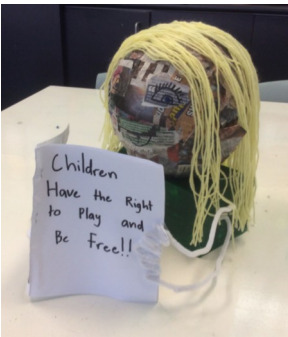
### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Yolande Frank Art award.....	2
Volunteer Information Evening .....	3
A Celebration of Aboriginal Women — Their Art, Music and Culture .....	4
Afghanistan — A Nation of Refugees .	5
New Human Rights Chair .....	7
World Breastfeeding Week .....	9
World Peace Day .....	11
Insider’s Guide to the UN .....	13
News from other organisations .....	15
UNAANA AGM flyer .....	16
UN Day flyer .....	17
UN World Food Day flyer .....	18
UN Observances .....	19

## YOLANDE FRANK ART AWARD

For the past seven years the UNAAWA has conducted the Yolande Frank Art Award in which primary school students from Years 4 to 6 use any art medium to convey the meaning of a selected human right. The award is named in honour of outstanding long-time member of the Association Yolande Frank who died in 2009. A survivor of the Holocaust, Ms Frank had a passion to ensure children understood the fundamental importance of human rights.

Human rights education is a vital part of the school curriculum. Teaching for human rights contributes to building student self-esteem and confidence — the foundation of protective behaviours instruction — which is now mandatory in all WA schools. Teaching about human rights is part of the new Civics and Citizenship syllabus currently being implemented in WA schools.



**Sculpture by Madi Miller and Mikayla Evans.**

Pictures: Rees Barrett

The 2016 Yolande Frank Art Award was based on Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: "Children have the right to relax, play and to join in a wide range of leisure activities." Teaching about the right to play builds understanding of the role of play in learning, the responsibilities entailed by this right and issues faced by children who do not enjoy this right.

For the first time, schools in 2016 were asked to select up to four entries for submission to the judging panel, and 18 entries were received from five schools. Long-time judges of the award Diana Warnock and Jill Green were this year joined by artist Mike Nicholas of [Run, Mouse, Run](#).

The judges were asked to select winning entries based on their originality and effectiveness in conveying the importance of the child's right to play.

The judges were impressed with the sophisticated message and high-quality drawing skills displayed by 2016 Award winner Tea Heathcote-Marks of Karrinyup Primary School. Olivia Cohen's (Carmel School) drawing was highly commended and a sculpture by Madi Miller and Mikayla Evans (Karrinyup Primary School) was awarded the group prize for its originality.

The judging panel provided ideas on how the award may be developed in future years. They recommended the award details be published by the end of the academic year, when many teachers are planning next year's programs.



**Prize-winning students (L to R) Tea Heathcote-Marks, Olivia Cohen and Madi Miller; with Carolyne Gatward and City of Subiaco Subiaco Mayor Heather Henderson.**

Picture: Miriam Fisher



**2016 Yolande Frank Art Award winning entry by Tea-Heathcote Marks.**



Olivia Cohen's drawing.

Advice on how to convey human rights concepts through art should be developed and the addition of a new category for the junior secondary years (7 to 9) should also be considered. These ideas will be discussed at the next meeting of the UNAANA Education Reference Group.

Prize-winning students and their families were among the attendees at the UNAANA World Peace Day Celebration on 25 September. It was great to publicly recognise the students as part of a dignified ceremony.

**Rees Barrett**

**School Programs Co-ordinator**

## **VOLUNTEER INFORMATION EVENING**

**28 SEPTEMBER**

Our latest volunteer information evening Discover UNAA was an outstanding success.

Eighteen people attended to listen to Human Resources Officer Emily Oliveira deliver an extremely comprehensive presentation on the UNAA, its role within Western Australian civil society and how our volunteers make a beneficial contribution towards educating the community on the role of the United Nations.

A formal Q&A session was followed by light refreshments, and informal talks took place with Ms Oliveira, Chief Communications Officer Saskia Tjahja and Executive Committee member Lindsay Dorman.

A couple of attendees had been at the recent International Day of Peace celebrations and some were made aware of the event through the successful use of LinkedIn. The use of Facebook has also been a vital medium we must continue to expand upon.

Many expressed the wish to contribute their time and energies to assist in the work of the association alongside their studies, work and other commitments.

The Discover UNAA events have been fruitful on several levels. It is important we build on this success in 2017 and continue to provide new outlets for volunteers beyond the existing committees, as failure to do so could mean the loss of enthusiastic young people who are the future of the UNAA.

**Lindsay Dorman**

**UNAANA Volunteer Co-ordinator and Executive Committee member**



## A CELEBRATION OF ABORIGINAL WOMEN — THEIR ART, MUSIC AND CULTURE

10 AUGUST

On 10 August an inspirational group of indigenous community leaders came together at Perth City Farm in East Perth for A Celebration of Aboriginal Women — Their Art, Music and Culture. The sold-out event was held to honour the important work being done by indigenous Australian women, while also in recognition of the United Nation’s International Day of the World’s Indigenous People.

The night kicked off with the traditional Welcome to Country and another warm welcome from Perth City Farm founder Rosanne Scott.

Next, 2016 West Australian of the Year — Aboriginal Award winner Rishelle Hume spoke about the importance of shared cultural understanding, and how this understanding could break down barriers between people with different cultural heritage and build better personal and professional relationships.

Ms Hume explained how she was defined by her culture, and described how the passing on of art, music and language through ceremony and ritual ensured her cultural heritage was not lost.



Madjartil Moorna Choir treated the audience to a mix of indigenous and English-language songs, including Steal my Kisses by Ben Harper and The Innocent Criminals. Koondarm Choir then rose up, encircling the audience while the entire room sang together, before joining Madjartil Moorna for more songs.

To close out the evening, artist and cultural educator Jade Dolman, also known as JC Penangke, told us how Aboriginal women “carry our society and culture” through their ability to share knowledge through art, music and stories.



*Rishelle Hume spoke about the importance of shared cultural understanding, and how this understanding could break down barriers between people with different cultural heritage and build better personal and professional relationships.*

Madjartil Moorna Choir. Pictures: UNAAWA Women’s Committee



Ms Dolman also highlighted the importance of family, and how she was proud “everywhere I walk now, my family has walked before me”.

Ms Dolman invited the audience to help create a community canvas, a painting honouring women and water using traditional art methods. Once completed, the artwork was donated to Perth City Farm for display on its walls.

The UNAAWA Women’s Committee thanks attendees for making it a night to remember. Make sure you keep an eye on the Facebook page for photos of the event.

*Susan Manwaring*  
**UNAAWA Women’s Committee member**

## AFGHANISTAN — A NATION OF REFUGEES

“ONE’S OWN LAND IS ALWAYS BEST”

Asadullah, 40, a day labourer, Kabul, 2016

In early 2016, pictures of the misery facing asylum seekers and refugees from various parts of the Middle East emanating from Europe captured the world’s attention. It captured hearts and minds. It is no wonder the media is entranced by the crisis, particularly television, which relies exclusively on vision. No vision, no story.

Among the thousands fleeing from conflict are Afghans, who, because of the ongoing unrest within Afghanistan’s borders, seek asylum in any country willing to accommodate them. They were swept up in the flood of refugees from Syria, Libya, Yemen and other parts of the Middle East-North Africa. Afghans make up the second largest group of asylum seekers entering the European Union — some 178,230 in 2015 alone — according to the April 2016 Afghanistan Analysts Report.

Last year’s Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict midyear report released by the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the UN Human Rights Office accounted for 4921 casualties (1592 deaths and 3329 injured) in the first half of 2015. This was an increase of 1 per cent over the same period in 2014.

The raw facts are that within Afghanistan, civilians and military continue to be victims of this never-ending conflict. Seventy per cent of casualties are attributed to anti-government forces, which includes an increase of 23 per cent in women’s deaths and 13 per cent in children’s. A 57-per-cent increase in targeted killings or assassinations resulted in 440 deaths and 259 injured, thus became the leading cause of civilian deaths.

The 2016 Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict midyear report is not likely to be any better as non-military attacks have not declined.

A UNAMA report indicates about 161 children died and 449 were wounded between January and March — an increase of 29 per cent on the same period in 2015.

Instances of kidnapping or abduction of civilian passengers taking public transport have increased over the years, and in many cases summary executions have taken place. The Kunduz-Baghlan highway has been one targeted area in Kunduz, a northern province, which has been under attack from non-military insurgents, including the Taliban. The city of Kunduz, Afghanistan's fifth largest city was taken over by the Taliban in 2015 and retaken by Afghan National Security Forces with the aid of foreign troops.

In a country functioning under dual leadership — with President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Dr Abdullah in control after another disputed election in 2014 — it is hardly surprising a survey conducted in June 2015 by the Asia Foundation showed public confidence in the country and its leaders had fallen to a 10-year low.

Eighty-three per cent of the population believed their military still required foreign troops for assistance, which prompted Barack Obama to declare the United States would maintain troop levels in Afghanistan at 8400 until the end of his term as US president. It was originally intended the numbers would be reduced to 5500 by the end of 2016.

This announcement has been followed by Australian commander of Middle East and Afghanistan operations Air Vice Marshall Tim Innes, confirming Australian troops would continue to be in Afghanistan for at least another three years to assist the Afghan forces. This will take Australia's commitment to 18 years.

Consider this. If you were to carry out a survey of asylum seekers from any country, the result may well be that most would say they would prefer to remain in their own country if given the choice. No surprise there.

It's possible many asylum seekers will be sent back to their home countries, having failed to convince authorities their claim for asylum is justified. In April 2016 Al Jazeera reported the European Union had drafted a plan to deport 80,000 Afghans back to Kabul.

Though he denounced the plan President Ghani appealed to his countrymen and women to remain in Afghanistan. This is not an exclusively European situation, of course.

Finally, I turn to the issue of internally displaced people. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimates Afghanistan has about one million IDPs in a population of 30 million. The International Office for Migration states it costs about \$3000 per person to pay human smugglers who would, at least in theory, deposit a person safely to another country.

The cost is prohibitive for the overwhelming majority of Afghans, who stay either in their homes or are forced into overcrowded camps. The only other alternative is to go to Pakistan, with the distinct prospect of being rounded up and sent back across the Durand Line.

This is not a pretty picture I have painted, but it wasn't meant to be. However, as the conflict rages throughout Afghanistan with little end in sight, the vision of more asylum seekers crammed into unsafe boats seeking safety in a country that doesn't want them will continue to be the new normal.

***Lindsay Dorman***

***UNAAWA Volunteer Co-ordinator and Executive Committee member***

## NEW UNAAWA HUMAN RIGHTS CHAIR FORGES PATH TO EQUALITY



Fadzi Whande Picture: Fadzi Whande

In September Fadzi Whande was appointed UNAAWA's new Human Rights Chair. Born in Zimbabwe but now settled in Australia, Ms Whande is a Global Diversity and Inclusion Strategist, working with individuals, communities and organisations to develop and implement strategies that create inclusive cultures that celebrate and value diversity.

"On a practical level, this includes creating workplace diversity strategies and community capacity-building initiatives. I facilitate training in the areas of unconscious bias, gender inequality and courageous conversations about race," she said. "As Founder and Director of Whande Group, my work focuses on capacity building, leadership development, and addressing systemic barriers held towards historically undermined groups."

Ms Whande's interest in the United Nations stems from her deep interest in human issues, an interest that first stirred as a young girl. "When I was six years old I watched a news report about a plane crash," she said. "There was a group of volunteers looking for survivors and some were wearing jackets with UN on them.

"I remember asking my dad what the UN was and he told me it was an organisation that helped people. I told him I wanted to do that when I grew up, which is why I have been attracted to programs that seek to help and make a difference in people's lives."

Ms Whande is particularly driven by her desire to reduce inequality within and among communities — UN Sustainable Development Goal 10.

***'I remember asking my dad what the UN was and he told me it was an organisation that helped people. I told him I wanted to do that when I grew up.'***

"For me (SDG10) touches on issues I am passionate about and advocate for, such as the reduction of poverty, economic empowerment, gender equality and finding innovative ways to solve some of the social issues communities face," she said.

"As a woman of colour, I have experienced first-hand the effects of sexism, racism, xenophobia and disadvantage. Treating people based on a bias towards their race, religion, sex, lifestyle, age or educational level is something I do not tolerate. I have committed my life to fighting injustice and inequality in any form."

Ms Whande's drive to make a difference motivated her to complete her Graduate Certificate in Social Impact at The University of Western Australia and then an Executive Master in Business Administration.

"Both my personal and professional careers are driven by a genuine desire to make a difference and contribute to helping solve some of the social issues faced in the community," she said. "My faith is integral to this and has shaped the trajectory of my career."



Her comprehensive professional career has included launching telecommunication networks, addressing financial literacy, and helping to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS, unemployment, social disadvantage, poverty and gender inequality.

Ms Whande's dedication and hard work has not gone unnoticed — locally, nationally and abroad. From 2013-2014 she was appointed a People of Australia Ambassador by the Federal Minister for Multicultural Interests, and was the recipient of the National Community Ambassador Award by the Celebration of African Australian Inc.

In 2015 she attended the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations Headquarters in New York as one of the member delegates representing the Australian National Committee for UN Women.

***'I would like to believe I can be a conduit for creating and fostering a culture that promotes dialogue, innovation and global citizenship.'***

Closer to home, she serves on the boards of Mirrabooka Senior High School and the Careers Advisory Council, and sits on the UN Women Perth International Women's Day Committee, the Western Australian Police Multicultural Women's Group and the National White Ribbon Diversity Reference Group. She is also Vice State Leader for the Speakers Institute.

Ms Whande has volunteered for various UN-run programs and initiatives, and was happy to have been elected UNAAWA Human Rights Chair so she could root her efforts at the local level.

"As a relational person, I believe in partnerships and collaborations and look forward to working with the Human Rights committee and supporters to raise the profile of the organisation among our various networks," she said.

"Since I commenced in this role I have met with a few people and identified a few opportunities for us to work together. I am travelling to the USA for a conference and will be meeting with the President of the Atlanta chapter of UNAA to find out about their work and see what we can learn from them that could be implemented in WA."

Ms Whande's ultimate aim is to nurture the next generation of passionate global citizens. "I have just started a leadership and peer-to-peer mentoring group for young women called Sofa Sundays," she said. "The group is comprised of emerging young women leaders who are doing amazing things in the community. I love the diversity of the group and hearing their passion about human rights, economic empowerment, education and celebrating culture.

"My hope for the future is to increase my investment in people. I would like to believe I can be a conduit for creating and fostering a culture that promotes dialogue, innovation and global citizenship."

***Miriam Fisher***  
***UNAAWA Deputy Editor***



## WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK — BREASTFEEDING AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1-7 AUGUST

**“BREASTFEEDING IS NOT ONLY THE CORNERSTONE OF A CHILD’S HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT;  
IT IS ALSO THE FOUNDATION OF A COUNTRY’S DEVELOPMENT.”**

UNICEF and WHO 2016

The United Nations celebrated World Breastfeeding Week from 1-7 August. The event aims to promote awareness of the importance of breastfeeding across more than 170 countries, and emphasise the strong link between breastfeeding and the Sustainable Development Goals the world’s leaders have committed to achieve by 2030.

The celebration fell shortly after the United Nations Children’s Fund reported 77-million newborns across the globe — about half — are not breastfed within the first hour of birth, which, according to UNICEF Senior Nutrition Adviser France Bégin, could “make the difference between life and death”.

Breast milk is considered a baby’s first vaccine, providing vital antibodies and nutrients to help stave off illness, and newborns face a significant risk of death if they fail to breastfeed within their first hour postpartum.

UNICEF further noted a two-hour delay increased mortality risk by 40 per cent within 28 days, a risk that increased to 80 per cent if the delay stretched to 24 or more hours.



An Ethiopian Mother feeds her breast to her son. ©UNICEF Ethiopia/2010/Audycka and is made available under a [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/).

Exclusivity is also important. According to Ms Bégin, more than 800,000 deaths can be prevented by exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a baby's life. However, only 43 per cent of babies across the world fall within this category, with less nutritious substitutes such as cow's milk, sugar water or formula making up the shortfall for the rest.

Luckily, any amount of breast milk greatly diminishes a child's risk of death and disease, with those fed at least some breast milk within the first six months of life seven times less likely to die from infection.

Despite slow progress towards increasing breastfeeding, these findings suggest new mothers remain largely unaware of the importance of breastfeeding because of insufficient help and education from their medical practitioners.

A series of breastfeeding articles published earlier this year by esteemed British medical journal The Lancet made the following key conclusions and recommendations:

- Breastfeeding has significant benefits for women and children in high- and low-income countries.
- Increasing breastfeeding rates could save hundreds of thousands of lives and save the global economy hundreds of billions of dollars each year.
- Rapid progress is achievable if countries invest in supportive breastfeeding policies and programs.
- Breastfeeding will play a key role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 as it helps improve nutrition, education, and maternal and child health and survival outcomes.

The link between breastfeeding and the Sustainable Development Goals could not be clearer. Mortality rates for children under five years remain the highest in the world in sub-Saharan Africa, and though early breastfeeding rates have tripled in South Asia over the last 15 years 21-million newborns still receive delayed breastfeeding. By adopting exclusive breastfeeding in these and other parts of the world, an investment is made to end hunger, improve nutrition and promote health and wellbeing among each country's citizens, therein fulfilling SDGs 2 and 3.

Breastfeeding has a knock-on effect of preparing each newborn with the best physical and cognitive health and development possible that will carry them over the longer term, enabling better educational prospects and a better chance to contribute to a strong and cohesive society through greater ability for productivity later in life. In this way, breastfeeding can help achieve inclusive education and lifelong learning (SDG4), end poverty (SDG1) and promote economic growth (SDG8). In doing so, breastfeeding can contribute greatly to reducing inequality (SDG10).

Further, breastfeeding can play a role in achieving gender equality (SDG5). Breastfeeding delays subsequent pregnancy, enabling women greater reproductive autonomy in the absence of readily available contraception and therefore the chance to seek education and work, as well as decreased risk of breast and ovarian cancers.

**Miriam Fisher**  
**UNAOWA Deputy Editor**

## WORLD PEACE DAY

25 SEPTEMBER

There wasn't a spare seat to be found at UNAAWA's celebration of World Peace Day held at Subiaco's Palms Community Centre on 25 September. The overflow of well-wishers lined the walls, happy to stand for the duration to take in the speeches, culturally diverse performances and prayers from religious leaders and community groups, and show their support for the cessation of hostilities around the world.

The event was launched with a rousing rendition of Wonderful Peace by the Seventh Day Adventist Choir. The crowd suitably warmed, UNAAWA President Carlyne Gatward delivered the first of the afternoon's speeches. After an Acknowledgement to Country, Ms Gatward's World Peace Day message appealed for a focus on efforts towards achieving peace not only overseas, but also closer to home to help reduce violence within our own communities.



World Peace Day. Picture: UNAAWA

Ms Gatward, Subiaco Mayor Heather Henderson and a select group of religious representatives joined together for a candle lighting ceremony, observing a minute's silence to mark a commitment to the pursuit of peace, after which participants were led in a five-minute guided meditation session.

Wendy Wisniewski was the first religious representative to speak, and spoke of the Baha'i belief in the "oneness of humanity and the oneness of God". Next, Buddhist Don Weerakody called on participants to not simply accept what is said, but to seek their own truth. Drawing many parallels between Buddhist teachings and United Nations ideology, he appealed to leaders of the world to follow the UN Charter signed in 1945 and seek harmony with others. "As Buddhists, we try to live in peace with the environment, fellow human beings and animals of this world," he said.

Sister Margaret spoke next of her Christian faith, citing Jesus' teachings on the need for peace as her inspiration, followed by Rabbi Adi Cohen who did away with his five pages of prepared speeches and instead questioned why religious leaders are so often called on to speak at World Peace Day events, suggesting we don't need to sanctify beliefs or religion, but we do need to sanctify human rights for peace.

Muslim representative Johana Gordon delivered the final of the religious prayers, speaking from the Qur'an in perfect Arabic. Guests were then lifted by the Hare Krishna Community's colourful song and dance performance, after which the group gave its blessing to: "Let there be universal brotherhood, let there be universal sisterhood, let there be universal peace." Next, Joanna Ko had the crowd mesmerised with her expert command of traditional Chinese stringed instrument the guzheng.





Wendy Wisniewski.

Subiaco Mayor Heather Henderson took to the microphone for her keynote address. Her poignant presentation detailed the history and role of the UN, namely the key role the Sustainable Development Goals have in achieving world peace.

This was followed by the presentation of the Yolande Frank Art Award certificates to proud winners Tea Heathcote-Marks (Karrinyup Primary School), Olivia Cohen (Carmel School) and Madi Miller (Karrinyup Primary School). Based on Article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child — “Children have the right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of cultural, artistic and other recreational activities” — the award was established by Holocaust survivor and long-time UNAAWA member Yolande Frank. For more details please see pages 2-3 of the newsletter.

Resplendent in red Ani-K then performed her soulful ballad Come on People. Written at the age of 11, the song asked: “Are we doing enough if people are still doing it tough?” Her beautiful voice and words gave attendees plenty to think about.

Guests then had the chance to mingle and meet new friends by introducing themselves to others with the tying of blue ribbons around each others’ wrists as the Tone Deft Choir closed the event off with a medley from 1960s musical Hair — Age of Aquarius/Let the Sunshine in.

**Miriam Fisher**  
**UNAAWA Deputy Editor**



Tone Deft Choir. Pictures: Miriam Fisher



# INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE UN

7 SEPTEMBER

Many people dream of working for the United Nations. While there's a multitude of ways to get involved, competition is fierce and the path to securing a job can seem daunting.

Eager for insight, about 80 people squeezed into St Catherine's College on 7 September to listen to an array of speakers share a little of their journeys. UNAAWA Vice President and UNAA Young Professionals (WA) State Convenor Ms Neesha Seth hosted the evening.

The first guest was former Australian Ambassador Ms Anna George, an experienced multilateral negotiator on disarmament, trade and social policy. Ms George said she learned much about policy development and the value of working in Government during her time with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. She acknowledged the positive regard in which Australia is held for its work on particular issues such as the systematic and inclusive approach to tackling AIDS.

"Don't underestimate the analytical and policymaking skills you can gain from the public service. DFAT is only one organisation. Think broadly about your options," she said. She recommended people look for what inspired them and sought challenges that best suited them.

"Being overseas adds an additional dimension of change. You need to know what you are comfortable with, moving between issues or becoming an expert," she said. "Work in an international setting is very rewarding. It is a hard task to get there, but once you're there, there's nothing better".

UNAAWA Human Rights Committee member Ms Sofia Kouznetsova is in her second year studying political science and international relations at The University of Western Australia. Ms Kouznetsova described the various application processes to intern, volunteer or apply for a job with the UN. She encouraged career hopefuls to look online at the key attributes and requirements of applicants and start working toward achieving them.

"It's not just for lawyers and those studying political science," she said. "There are many diverse job types, roles and opportunities available,". As a first step, she encouraged people to start locally and get involved in volunteering.

The third speaker was Australian Federal Police Detective Superintendent Michael McTiernan (Intelligence, Specialist Operations). More than half of his 10-year career has been spent working overseas helping to protect Australia from the impact of organised crime, counterterrorism, cyber crime and child exploitation among other threats.

## Insider Tips

- Keep an open mind and be flexible in where you are willing to work.
- Get involved locally.
- Think about volunteering at home or abroad.
- Know what type of challenge suits you best.
- Look for what inspires you.
- Think broadly. Look at the UN and NGOs around the UN. There is more than one place to apply.
- Gain experience and learn new skills.
- Tailor your study to help meet your desired job requirements.
- Learn another language.
- Meet people and start making connections.

The AFP is a significant contributor to international aid, and deployed police assist with peacekeeping missions, joint investigations, local capacity building, mentoring, and fulfilling local law enforcement.

Deployment can be quick depending on the response required and postings can either include family or be unaccompanied.



Detective McTiernan addresses the crowd. Pictures: UNAAWA

Detective McTiernan was appointed as leader of a multilingual investigation team as part of a bilateral mission to Timor Leste. “We helped with local policing and the UN with an election. Learning new laws in a short time was pretty crazy,” he said.

Given great responsibility for decision making when overseas, Detective McTiernan said police were very much valued when they returned to Australia. He encouraged those interested to think broadly about the different types of career avenues available to them.



Detective McTiernan, Sofia Kouznetsova and Renata Sivacolundhu.

The final speaker for the evening was Ms Renata Sivacolundhu. Based at UNHQ in New York she worked for many years as the focal point for Human Rights, Rule of Law and Indigenous Issues within the United Nations Department of Public Information. Ms Sivacolundhu described the job as hectic and stressful but a great privilege. She was fortunate to meet many inspiring people and witness historic events. “I was involved in organising a press conference on women’s rights that featured Meryl Streep,” she said.

“The highlight of my life was adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Being Australian it was particularly moving,” she said. Another memorable moment for Ms Sivacolundhu was working with the UN’s special rapporteurs, unpaid independent experts appointed to report on specific human rights themes, “In my mind they were the real celebrities” she said.

Earlier this year, Renata completed a three-month deployment with the UN in Myanmar as Emergency Communications and Advocacy Consultant for recovery projects in flood and conflict affected areas — a position she obtained through RedR Australia, which offers surge capacity for humanitarian responses.

“The non-stop nature of the work can be challenging and co-ordination in the field can be problematic at times,” she said. “Personal beliefs and ideologies can be challenged but as a professional you need to rise above it.” Her top tip was to network and make connections. “Meet as many people as you can and ask advice” she said.

The evening concluded with an informative question and answer session with the speakers.

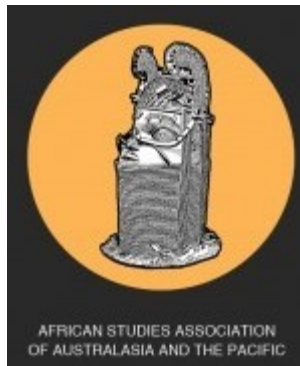
**Melanie Chatfield**  
**UNAAWA Chief Editor**

## NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS

### WORLD NUMBAT DAY – QUIZ NIGHT

5 November, Melville Bowling Club, 6pm opening for 7pm start. Silent auction, games, great prizes. Tickets \$20. All proceeds to numbat conservation and awareness projects.

[numbat.org.au](http://numbat.org.au)



### AFRICA — MOVING THE BOUNDARIES

39th AFSAAP Annual Conference

The African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific  
5-7 December, St Catherine's College, UWA

[afsaap.org.au](http://afsaap.org.au)

### WHITE RIBBON COMMUNITY NETWORKER

18 October, \$20 including cocktail food and beverages, Fraser's, Fraser Avenue, West Perth

[eventbrite.com.au](http://eventbrite.com.au)



### BORDERLESS GANDHI EXHIBITION

The Borderless Gandhi Exhibition 2016 will open on 2 October and will be open to the public until 2 November in Perth. Several sculptures in stainless steel will be installed at Barrack Street Jetty in front of the Bell Tower.

[borderlessgandhi.org.au](http://borderlessgandhi.org.au)





UN Photo/Manuel Elias

# 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## THE MEETING WILL INCLUDE:

- Presentation of the Annual Report
- Election of Executive Committee members
- Guest Speaker - Ruth O'Dwyer

Our guest speaker will be Ruth O'Dwyer, the founder and Chairperson of not for profit community organisation Women in Leadership Driving Change (WILD'C). Ruth will discuss a program called 'Tall Poppies' that the organisation delivers into women's prisons in Perth. The program model aims to facilitate leadership, change and empowerment and it is starting to gain traction in the prison system. With recidivism at 28% for female offenders in the prison system, WILD'C engages with women before their release to help reduce the cycle of reoffending.



**WHEN** 2pm on Sunday 9 October 2016  
**WHERE** Claisebrook Lotteries House, 33 Moore St, East Perth  
 Light refreshments from 1.30pm  
**FOR INFORMATION:**  
 Ph: (08) 9221 7020.  
 Email: [office@unaa-wa.org.au](mailto:office@unaa-wa.org.au)  
 Website: [www.unaa-wa.org.au](http://www.unaa-wa.org.au)



## COME ALONG AND HEAR ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES & HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED.

Nominations for Executive Committee positions are open to all members. For more information, contact the office or email [volunteering@unaa-wa.org.au](mailto:volunteering@unaa-wa.org.au).



**United Nations  
 Association  
 of Australia  
 WA Division**

**UNAAWA [www.unaa-wa.org.au](http://www.unaa-wa.org.au)**

**FACEBOOK [UNAAWAInc/](#)**

**TWITTER [UNAAWA](#)**

**LINKEDIN [company/united-nations-association-of-australia-wa-](#)**





United Nations Association of Australia

21 OCT 2016



# UNITED NATIONS DAY 2016

Join us in the celebration of the anniversary of the United Nations.

**VENUE:** Government House Ballroom, St Georges Tce, Perth  
**DAY:** Friday 21 October 2016  
**TIME:** 6.30pm-8.30pm  
**TICKETS:** \$50 (standard);  
 \$35 (concessions, members of UNAA, AIIA & WAMA and group bookings 10 or more)  
[www.trybooking.com/MGOX](http://www.trybooking.com/MGOX)  
**CONTACT:** 9221 7020 or [un.day@unaa-wa.org.au](mailto:un.day@unaa-wa.org.au)

### THE EVENT WILL INCLUDE:

- > Ms Andrea Gleason, Director Western Australia State Office, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade – Keynote Address
- > Ms Carolyn Gatward, President UNAANA – UN Day Message 2016
- > Anastasios Karamintzas, Bouzouki Instrumentalist, Winner of the WA Multicultural Youth Talent Quest 2016
- > Multicultural Talent Academy – Kalinka Malinka
- > Magda Lisek, Soprano – Classical Voice, WA Academy of Performing Arts
- > Young Ladies from the Ester Foundation – United Continents Dance
- > Oberthur Primary School – Chinese Folk Dance
- > Madjtil Mooma Choir

*Refreshments will be provided. You are very welcome to attend in cultural or national costume if you wish.*

### PARTNERS:



Australian Institute of International Affairs  
*Promoting understanding of international issues*



### SPONSOR:



Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade





United Nations Association of Australia



# UN WORLD FOOD DAY

## CLIMATE IS CHANGING. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MUST TOO.

World Food Day is a commitment to eradicate hunger in our lifetime and celebrates the creation of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations. Our climate is our biggest threat to a secure food supply. With an adverse changing climate and population increases, to meet an increased demand agriculture and food systems will need to adapt to become more resilient, productive and sustainable.

This year the UNAA WA Division is hosting an evening seminar for the Perth community to learn about Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. Our two expert speakers will present on these topics and how they related to Western Australians.

### DID YOU KNOW:

**2/3 livestock**

Livestock contributes to nearly 2/3 of agricultural greenhouse gas emissions

**climate change**

Climate change directly impacts the quality of agriculture through declining water supply and degraded soil quality.

**60% by 2050**

Agriculture must increase by 60% by 2050 to feed the world's population

**1/3 wasted**

Over 1/3 of food produced worldwide is lost or wasted

### > DETAILS

**WHEN:** 5.30pm arrival for 6pm start, Wednesday 26 October 2016

**WHERE:** Rio Tinto Theatre, 158 St Georges Terrace, Perth

**COST:** Free. Please register by sending an email to [environment.unaawa@gmail.com](mailto:environment.unaawa@gmail.com)

### SPEAKERS

- Professor Kadambot Siddique, Hackett Professor of Agriculture Chair and Director (also UN FAO Special Ambassador for the International Year of Pulses 2016)
- Professor Janet Bomman, Adjunct Professor, Curtin Business School (also co-Chair of the UNEP Environmental Effects Assessment Panel (EEAP)).

**RioTinto**



United Nations Association of Australia WA Division

UNAAWA [www.unaa-wa.org.au](http://www.unaa-wa.org.au)

FACEBOOK UNAAWAInc/

TWITTER UNAAWA

LINKEDIN company/united-nations-association-of-australia-wa-

## UN OBSERVANCES

### OCTOBER

**1 October**

International Day of Older Persons

**2 October**

International Day of Non-Violence

**3 October**

World Habitat Day

**4–10 October**

World Space Week

**5 October**

World Teachers' Day (UNESCO)

**9 October**

World Post Day

**10 October**

World Mental Health Day (WHO)

**11 October**

International Day of the Girl Child

**13 October**

International Day for Disaster Reduction

**15 October**

International Day of Rural Women

**16 October**

World Food Day (FAO)

**17 October**

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

**20 October**

World Statistics Day

**24 October**

United Nations Day

**24 October**

World Development Information Day

**24–30 October**

Disarmament Week

**27 October**

World Day for Audiovisual Heritage

**31 October**

World Cities Day

### NOVEMBER

**2 November**

International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists

**5 November**

World Tsunami Awareness Day

**6 November**

International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict

**9–15 November**

International Week of Science and Peace

**10 November**

World Science Day for Peace and Development (UNESCO)

**14 November**

World Diabetes Day

**16 November**

International Day for Tolerance (UNESCO)

**17 November**

World Philosophy Day (UNESCO)

**19 November**

World Toilet Day

**20 November**

Africa Industrialisation Day

**20 November**

Universal Children's Day

**20 November**

World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims

**21 November**

World Television Day

**25 November**

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

**29 November**

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People



Be connected. Follow us!  
**FACEBOOK:**  
United Nations Association of  
Australia WA Inc

**TWITTER:** @UNAAWA

