



United Nations Association of Australia NSW Inc.

Patron: Her Excellency the Governor of NSW

## United Nations Day 2014 Friday 24th October (details page 4)

Help us continue our proud tradition of marking UN Day with the annual Cenotaph Ceremony honouring Australian uniformed personnel who have served the UN with such distinction as Peacekeepers followed by the UN Day Luncheon in Parliament House.

The details are as follows:

### Sydney Wreath Laying Ceremony:

TIME: 10:45 am, Friday 24th Oct.

PLACE: Cenotaph, Martin Place

Distinguished Guest:

*Lieut General John Sanderson AC*

Former Governor of WA and Chief of Army

### Annual UN Day Luncheon:

TIME: 12:15 pm, Friday 24th October

PLACE: Parliament House, Macquarie St

Guest of Honour: *Professor Ramesh Thakur*

Director, Centre for Nuclear Non-proliferation

and Disarmament ANU; and a former Assistant UN

Secretary General

Professor Thakur will speak on the timely theme:

*The United Nations and the Elusive Quest for Peace*

RSVP Luncheon 20th October ( Peter Airey at [peter.airey3@gmail.com](mailto:peter.airey3@gmail.com) Mobile: 0404 257 515) For

reservations and bookings see page 4.

### Afternoon Tea NSW Speakers Garden

TIME: 3 pm Friday 7th November

PLACE: Speakers Garden NSW Parliament

This is a traditional event, hosted by the Speaker which rounds off the UN Week celebrations:

*All welcome: Donation (suggested) \$10 at the door*

**Support from the City of Sydney for the Cenotaph Ceremony is gratefully acknowledged**

## UN International Day of Peace Sunday 21st September 2014

Peace is a long road that we must travel together – step by step, beginning today.

Ban Ki-moon UN Day Peace Message 2014

The dawning of World Peace Day 2014 was marked by Yoga enthusiasts who gathered at sunrise at Bondi Beach to salute the sun for peace.

Later a group led by Olympic gold medallist Sally Pearson, in association with 'Bridge Climb' scaled the Harbour Bridge to sound the Peace bells at noon.



The ringing of Peace bells over Sydney Harbour Bridge on World peace Day 2014

The solemnity of the message of peace was marked throughout the day in a number of church services. A

Solemn High mass for Peace was held in St Mary's Cathedral followed by the release of white doves in the lower forecourt and the pealing of church bells.

Peace services were held in Anglican churches in Port Macquarie, Point Clare and at the Apostolic Church, Yagoona. Interfaith services followed by the release of which doves were held in the Lindfield Uniting Church Hall and the Leigh memorial Uniting Church. Peacebuilding was the theme of the interfaith service at the Bahai House of worship, Ingleside,

Other events included a Community Forum in Gosford and a tree planting ceremony at the Strathfield Campus of the Australian Catholic University.

As Ban Ki-moon reminded 'Peace is a long road'. We are looking forward to building on the momentum next year.

Dr Zeny Edwards, UN Day of Peace Coordinator.

## UNAA Executive Director

Beth Shaw is leaving the UNAA after four years as Executive Director to take up new challenges in the corporate sector as well as to assume the Presidency of the Australian National Committee of UN Women.

In a fitting tribute to Beth's work with the UNAA, the National President Dr Russell Trood noted



'We owe a deep debt of gratitude to Beth. In the several years she has occupied the Executive Director role she has inspired and driven a great deal of much needed change within our organisation and been tireless in developing our external links with government, business and the non-profit sector.'

Her many friends and colleagues in NSW wish Beth all the very best for the future.

## Spreading the Message

One of the on-going aims of the UNAA(NSW) is to improve our public profile through the media.

The Peace Day celebrations have been particularly successful. The Bridge Climb with Sally Pearson was extensively covered. For instance, the reference in the Australian can be viewed at <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/latest-news/bell-tolls-for-peace-atop-harbour-bridge/story-fn3dxiwe-1227065787406>

The Point Magazine published an article "Sunrise Yoga on Bondi Beach heralds Peace Day" <http://www.thepointmagazine.com.au/post.php?s=2014-09-11-sunrise-yoga-on-bondi-beach-heralds-peace-day> .

The event at St Mary's Cathedral was described in the "Sydney Catholic" at [http://sydneycatholic.org/news/latest\\_news/2014/2014922\\_1068.shtml](http://sydneycatholic.org/news/latest_news/2014/2014922_1068.shtml)

In other areas, congratulations are due to Pamela Lemoine had two major letters in the (Central) Coast Community News; one on the UNAA Conference (20 August); and the other on Climate change issues (17 September).

## President's Message

Dear friends,



Since I spoke to you last we have had a very successful UN Peace Day which was conducted over the period 19-21 Sep 14. This was managed and coordinated by Dr Zeny Edwards. The first event on 19th September, involved teams distributing UN Peace Day flags and other memorabilia Central, Town Hall and Central stations. Peace Day on 21 September commenced with a yoga salute to the sunrise at Bondi Beach, peaked with our younger members scaling the Harbour Bridge with Sally Pearson on the Harbour Bridge Climb, and culminated with several churches conducting UN Peace Day ceremonies. Congratulations to Sally for her second prestigious "The Don Award" by the Sport Australia Hall of Fame.

My sincerest appreciation goes to Zeny for organising such a wonderful series of events.

I hope to see you at the UN Day ceremony which is being held at the Martin Place Cenotaph on 24 Oct 14. The Distinguished Guest is General Sanderson who has significant peacekeeping history. It will conclude with a UNAA luncheon at the State Parliament House. If you have not booked please do so.

And don't forget to reserve the date for the UNAA Annual Dinner on 28 Nov 14 at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel (Masonic Club). It's a great night in a wonderful location.

Kel Gleeson  
President UNAA (NSW)

## Central Coast Community Forum

The Central Coast Branch of the UNAA(NSW) in association with the Gosford Uniting Church held a Community Forum to mark the UN Day of Peace on Monday 22nd September.

The Forum was led by three distinguished speakers:

*Jane Singleton* Director of the Sydney Peace Foundation, and former presenter and senior reporter with the ABC;

*Richard Broinowski* Adjunct Professor, Media and Communications University of Sydney, author and former senior diplomat; and

*Sister Trish Madigan* - A Dominican Sister and Director of the Dominican Centre for Inter-faith Ministry, Education and Research

# UN International Day of Peace Events

## 21 September 2014

### St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney

More than 2000 people gathered at St Mary's Cathedral to mark the United Nation's 31st International Day of Peace. The Choral High Mass was celebrated by Father Paul Hilmer, Dean of the



Cathedral.



Release of the white doves symbolising peace at St Mary's forecourt.

Photo: Faye Combe

Those present then gathered in the forecourt to witness the release of doves symbolising peace and to hear the pealing of the Cathedral bells.

Sincerest thanks are due to the Cathedral staff and to the UN Peace Day volunteer Bridgett Leslie.

A full report is in the Sydney Catholic

News at <http://sydneycatholic.org/news/>

### The Baha'i House of Worship

Dr Patricia Jenkins represented the UNAA(NSW) at a special service marking International Peace Day at the Baha'i House of Worship Ingleside. The photo shows the presentation to Dr Jenkins (centre) of a token of appreciation.



The service featured some beautiful choral music. At the following reception, Judy Hassall, daughter of a Gallipoli veteran reflected on how her father's legacy inspired her to work for peace.

### Lindfield Uniting Church

*This is a paraphrase of a report by Malcolm Allerding of the Interfaith Service at the Lindfield Uniting Church (LUC) celebrating the UN International Day of Peace.*

Yes, in some parts of the world there is a level of peace, but in far too many other parts there is way too much 'not peace'. Lindfield Uniting Church at least hopefully encouraged an increase in peace amongst the 100 people who attended the Interfaith Peace Service, at 12 noon on Sunday 21 September, the United Nations International Day of Peace. The UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon puts it this way, 'Peace is one of humanity's most precious needs'. Or in the words of Mother Teresa, 'Let peace fill our hearts, our world and our universe'.

Our prayers came from a mix of different people groups – Aboriginal, Baha'i, Buddhist, Catholic, Hindu, Islam, Jewish, Sikh, Sufi, and Lindfield Uniting Church. We lit peace candles, watched white doves fly free, sang songs together and we listened to music.

There was an opening prayer by the Rev Neil Eriksson of the LUC, introductory remarks by Dr Daryl Le Cornu, UNAA(NSW) and a moving homily by Dr Fiona Scott of the Baha'i faith.

### Peace Roundtables

The UN International Day of Peace program is being backed by a series of five Peace Roundtables hosted by the Lend Lease Group over the next 12 months.

The agree topics are:

- What is Peace?
- Building Peace - The mechanisms and need for collaborative effort;
- The Economics of Peace;
- Promoting Peace; and
- Changing the Narrative.



Participants in the First Roundtable Planning Meeting hosted by the Lend lease Group.

## Annual UN Day Luncheon

The annual luncheon at Parliament House is one of the highlights of the UNAA(NSW) year.

As note on page 1, the luncheon is scheduled for 12:15 for 12:45 Friday 24th October in the Strangers Dining Room of Parliament House.

The Guest of Honour is Professor Ramesh Thakur, Director of the Centre for Non-proliferation and Disarmament ANU who will discuss *the UN and the Elusive Quest for Peace*, a topic which is on all of our minds. Professor Thakur is a former Senior Vice Rector of the UN University and Assistant UN Secretary General.



Margaret Piper AM presenting the keynote address at the UN Day Luncheon 2013

Those who attended last year will recall the inspiring address by Margaret Piper AM.

The luncheon will be attended by representatives of Government, civil society, the UN family and members of the Consular Corps. We are particularly grateful to our Parliamentary Host, Mr Mark Coure MP Member for Oatley.

We sincerely hope to see you there. The standard cost is \$89 per ticket and \$79 for students and accompanying teachers. A payment slip is below.

Peter Airey [peter.airey3@gmail.com](mailto:peter.airey3@gmail.com) M: 0404 257 515

## Cenotaph Ceremony

The Cenotaph Ceremony at Martin Place to honour Australian peace-keepers will precede the Luncheon. Guests are invited to be seated by 10:30 am. Details are on page 1.

The Distinguished Guest is L/General John Sanderson AC Former Governor of WA. Representatives from Government and from all walks of life have been invited.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first Australian peace-keeping contingent to Cyprus. The High Commissioner from Cyprus will help us mark this important occasion.

The ceremony will commence with the pealing of the bells in Martin Place. The UN Flag will be flying on the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

*Support from the City of Sydney is gratefully acknowledged,*

### Afternoon Tea: Speakers Garden

The UN Week events will conclude with an afternoon tea generously hosted by the NSW Speaker in the Speakers Garden (see page 1)



The Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP speaking at the Cenotaph Ceremony 2013 on behalf of Prime Minister Tony Abbott

### Payment Slip (UN Day Luncheon)

Number tickets @\$89 .....

Number student/teacher tickets @ \$79 .....

Total cost: \$.....

Name (for name card) .....

**1) Through Triboking:** <http://www.trybooking.com/102014>

**2) Cheque or money order:** Make payable to the UNAA(NSW) and post to the address below.

**3) Credit card (Visa or Mastercard only)**

Amount: \$.....

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name on card/ Signature: (if posted) .....

**4) Direct bank transfer:** account name: United Nations Assoc of Aust NSW: Commonwealth Bank

BSB: 062 734 account number: 2812 2520 Branch: 48 Martin Place Sydney NSW

(Please indicate your name on transfer.)

**Postal address** UNAA (NSW) PO Box K229 HAYMARKET NSW 1240Type to enter text