



United Nations Day 2014 Today's Events

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

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first contingent of UN Peacekeepers including a party of NSW police to Cyprus. We are honoured that the occasion will be marked by a presentation by the Cypriot community.

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

We are delighted that Professor Marie Bashir AD CVO, 37th Governor of NSW will be present.

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

Secretary-General's Message for 2014

The United Nations is needed more than ever at this time of multiple crises. Poverty, disease, terrorism, discrimination and climate change are exacting a heavy toll. Millions of people continue to suffer deplorable exploitation through bonded labour, human trafficking, sexual slavery or unsafe conditions in factories, fields and mines. The global economy remains an uneven playing field.



The founding of the United Nations was a solemn pledge to the world's people to end such assaults on human dignity, and lead the way to a better future. There have been painful setbacks, and there is much work ahead to realize the Charter's vision. But we can take heart from our achievements.

The UN Millennium Development Goals have inspired the most successful anti-poverty campaign ever. United Nations treaties addressing inequality, torture and racism have protected people, while other agreements have safeguarded the environment. UN peacekeepers have separated hostile forces, our mediators have settled disputes and our humanitarian workers have delivered life-saving aid.

At this critical moment, let us reaffirm our commitment to empowering the marginalized and vulnerable. On United Nations Day, I call on Governments and individuals to work in common cause for the common good.

Ban Ki-moon

New UNAA Executive Director

*Congratulations to Matthew Kronborg,
former Co-vice President UNAA(NSW)*

Born in Melbourne, Matthew has a strong academic background in commerce, aviation and sustainability. He is a polymath with expertise stretching from business, environmental sustainability, global systems, aerospace engineering to renewable energy technologies. He has worked on environmental sustainability and community strategy at Qantas for several years. He also holds an active Commercial Pilots Licence. Matthew was first elected to the UNAA(NSW) board in 2012. Prior to this he has been a long time member of UNAA in his home state of Victoria. He serves on a number of not-for-profit boards and committees.



Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project (APMP)

The aim of the APMP is to create a national memorial that will appropriately honour the sacrifice of Australian Peacekeepers in the service of international peace and security, and recognise the courage and professionalism of Australian Peacekeepers in the face of the particular challenges of their operations. The Memorial will be the focus for recognising the continuing significant contribution by Australians to international peacekeeping.



The Chair of the APMP Committee is Major General (retd) Tim Ford. One of the Patrons is our Distinguished Guest L/General John Sanderson AC.

Members and friends of the UNAA are encouraged to show commitment to our Peacekeepers by becoming a member of the Australian Peacekeepers memorial project. Individuals or groups and Associations may apply. Full details are on the website:

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

Australian Peacekeeping Memorial *Anzac Parade, Canberra*

On the 19th of December 2008, the winner of the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Design Competition was announced at Parliament House. The winner of the competition was Super Colossal, now Bennet and Trimble, based in Sydney.

The Australian Peacekeeping Memorial has two main elements. The first is a glowing passage of light that is a powerful entry for the Memorial. The passage is between two massive monoliths, raised slightly off the ground in a stone courtyard. They make up a monumental structure that is the right size for Anzac Parade. The pathway between the two polished cubes glows with an intense golden light. This light can evoke the Australian Peacekeepers' role and their help to local populations. The Memorial with the lit interior has a striking presence on Anzac Parade both by day and night.



This information is taken from the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial website (above)

United Nations Day Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony *Order of Procedure*

10:30 am

Arrival of contingents on parade and distinguished guests

10:55 am

Arrival of Distinguished Guest of Honour

Mr Geoffrey BW Little JP, Convenor of Ceremony, will invite all to stand for the General Salute.

11:00 am

Bells Peal from No 1 Martin Place

Welcome and invocation

UNAA Anthem *Song of All Nations* by the Late Magda Nield performed by soloist Geoffrey Little and the Shore Cadet Brigade Musical Ensemble

The UN Secretary General's special message read by Mr Christopher Woodthorpe, Director UN Information Centre, Canberra

11:15 am:

Cultural presentation from the Cypriot Community

11:25 am

Cenotaph Oration by the Distinguished Guest of Honour, Mike Smith.

11:40

Flag Orderlies stand to attention and the Wreath Laying Ceremony commences.

11:55 am

The Master of Ceremonies will call for all to stand and remain silent for:

- The sounding of the Last Post;
- The playing of the Requiescat;
- The observance of One Minute's Silence; and
- The Reveille

This will be followed by the playing of the Australian National Anthem and the taking of the General Salute as the Distinguished Guest leaves the precinct.

12:00 noon

Photo opportunity at the Cenotaph

Distinguished Guest Wreath Laying Ceremony *John Sanderson AC*

Lieutenant General (Retd) John Sanderson, AC retired from the position of Governor-General of his home state, Western Australia, in October 2005.

For most of the preceding 40 years he was engaged at the operational and strategic levels of defence and security planning.



He was Chief of the Australian Army 1995-1998 and commanded the UN Peacekeeping Force during the period of UN transition authority in Cambodia(UNTAC) throughout the mission, March 1992 to October 1993. He has lectured on the subject of peace building at many institutions and has been a strong advocate of human rights as the basis of national and international reconciliation.

His services have been recognised with numerous high awards both in Australia and abroad.

Guest of Honour UN Day Luncheon *Professor Ramesh Thakur*

Professor Thakur is Director of the Centre for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament, Professor of International Relations ANU, and Adjunct Professor in the Institute of Ethics, Governance and Law at Griffith University. He was previously Senior Vice Rector of the United Nations University (and Assistant Secretary-General of the UN).



He was educated in India and Canada.

Prof. Thakur was a Commissioner and one of the principal authors of *The Responsibility to Protect* (2001), and Senior Adviser on Reforms and Principal Writer of the United Nations Secretary-General's second reform report (2002). He is the author/editor of over 40 books and 400 articles and book chapters, and serves on the international advisory boards of institutes in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America.

UNAA Submission to the Defence White Paper*

<http://www.defence.gov.au/whitepaper/>

One of the roles of the UNAA is to contribute to policy development by passing resolutions and making submissions. The Association is in the final stages of preparing a submission to the Defence White Paper concerning the importance of Australia's contribution to peacekeeping around the world.

The Executive Summary makes the following points:

The UNAA submits that greater a commitment and preparation by the ADF for United Nations and other international peace and stability operations will contribute to Australia's interests. It will contribute to strengthening peace and stability in our region and assist with global and regional security. Such a commitment will also provide a good medium to develop closer ties with regional and international partners, and opportunities for Australians to gain experience in complex activities.

The UNAA submits that the nation's long term interests will be further enhanced by encouraging members of the ADF to see peace-keeping as integral to their career development. It is recommended that Australia should plan to always have a range of individuals and force elements preparing for and deployed on international peace operations.

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From previous column:

Well directed public information and publicity programs will lead to a wider acceptance by civil society of the roles of the ADF in peace-keeping and peace-building in dysfunctional environments and will contribute to the recruitment of the best and brightest into these vital national activities.

* The UNAA submission is based on the draft by Major General (ret'd) Tim Ford with contributions from Peter Nadin, Kel Gleeson, Daryl Le Cornu, Alex Bellamy, Mark Dinnen and Peter Airey

<http://www.defence.gov.au/whitepaper/>

Acknowledgments

The UNAA(NSW) gratefully acknowledges the support of the City of Sydney for the Cenotaph Ceremony.

Special gratitude is due to Mr Geoffrey Little JP who has been organising these events for 21 years and to the volunteers who make everything possible on the ground.

Finally, the nation owes our peacekeepers and all who serve in the cause of human betterment around the world a deep sense of gratitude.

Invitation to Join the UN Association Australia (NSW)

The United Nations Association of Australia is a non-profit, non- government organisation, which works to advance the goals of the United Nations in Australia and around the world.

Established in 1946, the UNAA engages Australians in the important work of the UN, through education projects, speaker events, advocacy campaigns and model UN competitions.

UNAA members come from all areas and walks of life— age, education levels and employment histories aren't important. What brings them together is a shared interest in the work of the United Nations, and in trying to make the world a better place.

UNAA Branches run events for members throughout the year, such as conferences, dinners, film nights and speaker events. These are a great way to connect with high-profile UN officials, diplomats, politicians and academics.

UNAA Branches hold regular meetings for members, which provide an opportunity to be updated about news from the UN and what the UNAA is doing around Australia. Meetings are also used to organise upcoming community events.

There are three ways of joining:

- *Join on line:* <https://unaansw.tidyclub.com/public/memberships/new>
- *Email Membership Secretary* at nsw@unaa.org.au and request an application form.
- Request application form by post: UNAA(NSW) PO Box K229 HAYMARKET NSW 1240

Peruse the UNAA Website at: www.unaa.org.au

