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From the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council,
the social justice and human rights agency of the Catholic Church in Australia

<http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

IN THIS ISSUE ...

- From the Secretariat
- Current Issues/Resources
- Latest Publications
- This Month's Notices
- News Monitor
- Social Justice Calendar

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Dear Friends,

In the past week, we have observed three dates that are significant for anyone interested in the welfare of Indigenous Australians.

On 25 May 1997, the *Bringing Them Home* report was handed down, summarising the findings of the inquiry into government policies that for generations forcibly separated Indigenous children from their families.

The following day, 26 May, Australia celebrates National Sorry Day, on which we remember the pain and suffering that Indigenous people suffered during those separations.

And on 27 May 1967, a national referendum amended sections of Australia's constitution that had discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. More than 90 per cent of the Australian electorate voted in favour of the change - an extraordinary result by any measure.

Each year on that day, 27 May, Australia marks the beginning of Reconciliation Week, when we reflect on the history of relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, celebrating our successes, but also facing up honestly to the challenges and shortcomings that are still to be dealt with.

This year the theme for Sorry Day is: 'SORRY. Still Living On Borrowed Time!' It's intended to remind us all of the work ahead of us in bringing justice to people who suffered under the policies of separation. 'So many of the Stolen Generations are Elders and Senior Citizens, and time is running out for them', says National Sorry Day Committee Indigenous Co-Chair, Helen Moran. (refer: www.nsdco.org.au)

Helen Moran is not alone in saying this. Mick Gooda, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner for the Australian Human Rights Commission, says:

'We need a commitment backed by a reparations package that provides monetary compensation, guarantees against repetition and provides restitution and rehabilitation to the Stolen Generations.'

These comments by Helen Moran and Mick Gooda are forceful reminders that reconciliation did not stop with the handing down of the *Bringing Them Home* report or with Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's Apology on 13 February 2008. Both the Apology and the *Bringing Them Home* report carried with them calls for concrete commitment to alleviate the disadvantage that the vast majority Indigenous Australians face at every turn.

In his Apology, Prime Minister Rudd looked forward to a future where 'the injustices of the past must never, never happen again ... A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous,

to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.’

Those three issues - gaps in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity - are still major challenges for people working for justice for Indigenous Australians. They are not the only ones. To take only one example, the National Sorry Day Committee is calling for an equitable share of the \$1.5 billion set aside in this year’s Budget for mental health, to deal with the trauma and grief from the years of separation under the state and federal government policies last century. It is a terrible rebuke to a nation like ours that so many people are entering old age with such wounds still untreated.

Those wounds have left a legacy of hurt that persists today - a legacy of disruption to families, unaddressed trauma and lack of continuity. The impact of that legacy is magnified by the other pains that so many Indigenous people suffer: the loss of family and friends through chronic illness, high rates of suicide, and high maternal and infant mortality. A resource from the Aboriginal Mental Health First Aid Training and Research Program, for example, says:

‘A history of invasion, the ongoing impact of colonisation, loss of land and culture, racism within the wider Australian community, family separations and deaths in custody, are all examples of trauma and loss experienced by Aboriginal people that contribute to mental distress.’ (refer: http://www.mhfa.com.au/documents/guidelines/8307_AMHFA_Trauma_guidelines_email.pdf)

With those words in mind, it’s worth remembering that this year, the Australian Catholic bishops are calling on us to consider the issues connected with Australian prisons and the justice system. The Australian Bureau of Statistics calculated that in 2008, Indigenous Australians were 13 times more likely to be in prison than the general population. In some states, the rate is far worse - for example, in Western Australia,

Indigenous people were 20 times more likely to be imprisoned. (refer: http://www.hreoc.gov.au/social_justice/statistics/index.html). At a recent seminar, Graham West, the CEO of the St Vincent de Paul Society in NSW said that about half of the juveniles in detention in NSW were Indigenous youths.

It is very difficult to imagine that rates of imprisonment like this are unrelated to the long history of injustice, dispossession and abduction that has marked the relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Reconciliation and the work for justice are tasks that have a long horizon - they are not something that we can finish next week or next year. Heart-lifting moments such as the bridge walks in our cities in 2000, or the National Apology, were occasions when large numbers of Australians focused with hope and determination on the possibility of a new way of living together. They were moments when millions of Australians realised the possibility not only of reconciliation and good will but of concrete steps to alleviate pain and injustice. Those moments are now some time in our past - but it’s vital not to forget the fire that illuminated us on those days and to keep the courage to continue working in large and small ways for justice.

It is only human to feel weary of confronting the same challenges year after year or to feel that we have ‘done enough’. But as Catholics, we know that Jesus calls us and gives us the courage to work, even when we’re weary, in the cause of love. A recent commentator has recalled the words of the Dutch writer and priest Henri Nouwen:

‘We need to forgive and be forgiven, every day, every hour - unceasingly. That is the great work of love among the fellowship of the weak that is the human family.’

The ‘fellowship of the weak’ - that is, every human on earth - has the strength of Christ to sustain it.

John Ferguson
National Executive Officer



Current Issues / Resources

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK: 'LET'S TALK RECOGNITION'

National Reconciliation Week (27 May - 3 June) offers the ideal time for everyone to join the reconciliation conversation and to think about how we can help turn around the disadvantage experienced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Recognition: Think about how much you value it. When you are sincerely recognised for who you are and what you contribute, you feel proud, validated and connected. Being recognised is good for your self esteem. It energises you and encourages you to recognise the best in others. Check out the NRW calendar to see how other people and organisations are talking about recognition: <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/home/get-involved/national-reconciliation-week>.

REFUGEE WEEK RESOURCE KIT

Refugee Week (19 - 25 June) is coordinated by the Refugee Council of Australia. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the UN Refugee Convention, the 50th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, the 30th birthday of the Refugee Council and 25th year in which Refugee Week has been celebrated in Australia. The theme for 2011 is 'Freedom from Fear'. The 2011 Refugee Week Resource Kit is now available, with background information about refugees, a guide to organising events, responses to common myths about refugees and asylum seekers and an extensive list of websites, books, films, documentaries, lesson plans and online games on refugee-related issues. To download the Kit, visit: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rwresources.html>. To find out more about the week, visit: http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rw_index.html

CONFLICT RESOLUTION NETWORK E-LEARNING

CRN's E-Learning Certificate Course is an in-depth course in Conflict Resolution skills. Study is undertaken online under the guidance of a trained teacher. The course will usually

take 30-40 hours of study to complete. On successful completion students receive a Certificate of Achievement from the Conflict Resolution Network. The course is ideal for: those needing effective conflict resolution techniques for their workplace; those facing the public and handling a wide variety of challenging conflict situations; individuals who want to effectively manage conflict in their personal or work relationships; teachers and trainers of mediation and dispute resolution who want to add the Conflict Resolution Network's skills approach to their repertoire. The course has been designed by founder of the Conflict Resolution Network, Helena Cornelius (Psychologist); Helena is co-author of *Everyone Can Win* and author of *The Gentle Revolution*. For further information, visit the CRN website: http://www.crnhq.org/product_info.php?products_id=36

DISCUSSION PAPER: TUVALU, CLIMATE CHANGE AND CULTURE

The Edmund Rice Centre's Eco-Justice initiative the Pacific Calling Partnership have published a new discussion paper on the care that is needed to be fully respectful of unique cultures when considering low-lying island nations within global climate change discussions. Focus on Tuvalu as a global litmus test can function to subsume important issues of protecting cultural diversity. In any ethically and culturally informed debate, neither the Tuvalu islands nor Tuvaluan culture should be considered expendable to sea level rise as a signifier to the rest of the world that climate change is real and serious. To access the paper, visit: http://erc.org.au/index.php?module=documents&JAS_DocumentManager_op=viewDocument&JAS_Document_id=293

CAMPAIGN: 'BITE THE BULLET - CUT MILITARY SPENDING'

The Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition supports efforts to dismantle our excessive military spending and to develop a peace economy that will prioritise people over

profits, create more jobs and fund much needed public health, education, housing and environmental programs. Australia spends \$32 billion a year on the military, making it the 14th biggest spender on the military in the world. The Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition is holding the *Bite the Bullet* campaign to motivate broad-based movement to educate, agitate and organise against excessive military spending. To view the campaign video and suggested actions, visit the website: <http://www.anti-bases.org/>

AUSTRALIAN WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Australian Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (5 - 12 June), the theme this year is: "One in the Apostles' Teaching, Fellowship, Breaking of Bread and Prayer". The resources will assist people to look at the experiences of the churches in Jerusalem. Prayers and resources are available at <http://www.ncca.org.au>.

PUBLICATION: 'EMMALINE RABBIT'

This is a social justice resource for children to help them learn about the plight of refugees and the importance of accepting others. At the back of the book are some practical ideas for children to be involved in helping refugees. Author: Rachael Castle; illustrated by Nicholas Wight. Read the book: https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/justsalvos/up/Refugee_and_Asylum_Seekers/JSA019_Emmaline_BOOK_v6.pdf. More information is available at: <http://justsalvosaus.blogspot.com/2011/03/emmaline-rabbit.html>.

ANTAR CAMPAIGN: 'REDUCING IMPRISONMENT OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE'

It is 20 years since the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody handed their Final Report to the Governor-General. The Report found that there are 'disproportionate numbers of Aboriginal people in custody,

compared with non-Aboriginal people' and that 'too many Aboriginal people are in custody too often.' Yet 20 years later this problem is even worse. ANTaR have launched a National Call to Action for federal, state and territory governments to reduce the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the criminal justice system. To find out more and to send emails to relevant politicians visit: http://antar.org.au/issues_and_campaigns/reducing_indigenous_incarceration.

REFERENDUM ON CONSTITUTION RECOGNISING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE: REGIONAL CONSULT PANEL

The constitution is the basis for our laws and political system and represents the values that define us as a nation. Nowadays many Australians would be surprised to know that the constitution still includes the possibility for discrimination based on race, and ignores Australia's first peoples and their role as custodians of the world's oldest continuing culture. The Australian people have the power to update the constitution through a referendum so that it better reflects our shared values. A Panel has been appointed by the Government to consult with the people and lead a nationwide discussion on the issue. By December 2011, after a period of consideration, discussion and consultation with all Australians, the Panel will advise the government about the options for improving the constitution to reflect modern Australian values and for the first time formally recognising the unique place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the history of Australia. For more information and details of when the panel will be in your local area, call 1800 836 422 or visit: <http://www.youmeunity.org.au/>.

(Orders: phone (02) 8306 3499 or download an order form from the ACSJC website [that can be faxed to (02) 8306 3498]: http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/PDF/ORDER_FORM.pdf)

SERIES PAPER - 'THE LOVE THAT SURPRISES'

In Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.69, entitled 'The Love that Surprises: Lessons from Timor-Leste', Mark Green describes his experiences working for Caritas Australia in Timor-Leste. His work in remote communities prompted him to think deeply about the concrete reality of Catholic social teaching and our relationships with marginalised communities close to our shores. The paper also discusses Timor's society, language and history, including the disastrous years of occupation and the struggle for independence. Its title is inspired by Pope Benedict's encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*: '... in the love that we receive there is always an element that surprises us'. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

PASTORAL LETTER - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2011

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2011 is entitled 'Indigenous Employment - The most basic form of social justice'. It is available for download in regular and 'three-column' versions at: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

DISCUSSION GUIDE - WORLD DAY OF PEACE MESSAGE 2011

On 1 January, the Holy Father delivered his World Day of Peace message. The theme of his message is *Religious Freedom: the Path to Peace*. The ACSJC discussion guide can be downloaded in pdf or word formats from the ACSJC homepage: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

2011 SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY

The 2011 Social Justice Diary includes the dates of significant events, anniversaries and special days which celebrate particular aspects of social justice. It also highlights aspects of the theme for Social Justice Sunday in 2011 - 'Prisons and the justice system'. Cost: \$6.60 (inc. GST), plus postage. To download an order form, go to: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

SERIES PAPER - 'MERCY AND JUSTICE EMBRACE'

Sr Marie Farrell rsm considers the vast range of people and organisations working for justice in today's Church in Australia and how they form a mosaic of social justice that reflects the mystery of the Eucharist and God's bond with humanity. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

(Catholic Social Justice Series papers: \$6.60 a copy, plus postage. Postage rates for Catholic Social Justice Series Papers: 1 copy \$1.20; 2 copies \$1.80; 3-5 copies \$3.00)



This Month's Notices

UNTIL 3 JUNE. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK (NRW): 'LET'S TALK RECOGNITION' (NATIONAL). Join the reconciliation conversation and think about how we can help turn around the disadvantage experienced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Visit the NRW calendar for events where people and organisations are talking about recognition near you: <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/home/get-involved/national-reconciliation-week>.

UNTIL 12 JUNE. THE HUMAN RIGHTS ARTS AND FILM FESTIVAL (HRAFF) (QLD, NSW, SA, WA). HRAFF's mission is to make human rights accessible and engaging to everyone through creative media. The Human Rights Arts and Film Festival (HRAFF) again brings Australian audiences an abundance of remarkable human rights stories. Brisbane: June 3 - 4; Sydney: Jun 3 - 5; Byron Bay: June 3 - 5; Adelaide: June 10 - 12; Perth: June 10 - 12. Contact: 03 9639 1121. Web: <http://www.hraff.org.au>.

UNTIL 26 JUNE. EXHIBITION: 'CARVED TREES - ABORIGINAL CULTURES OF WESTERN NSW' (NSW). Ronald Briggs, exhibition curator and a Gamilaroi man (from Moree) is hoping to renew interest in tree carvings because 'they remain as tangible evidence of our past and that has changed so much over time.' The Clifton Cappie Towle collection includes hundreds of rare surviving photographs including carved trees from central and north-western NSW photographed between about 1920 and 1940. No cost. Exhibition Galleries, Mitchell Library, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9273 1566 or ybond@sl.nsw.gov.au. Web: http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/events/exhibitions/2011/carved_trees/index.html.

UNTIL 8 JULY. GURINGAI FESTIVAL 'ONE VOICE', NYREE REYNOLDS ART EXHIBITION (NSW). Nyree (Ngari) Reynolds belongs to the Gamilaraay language group. She has received many prestigious awards for her work, and is an experienced art tutor based in the Central

West of NSW. This exhibition displays her paintings of the Aboriginal children from the Stolen Generations, evoking a sense of loss and heartbreak. No cost. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Ku-ring-gai Council Foyer 'Red Wall' Exhibition Space, Level 4, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon. Contact: 02 9424 0868 or mdavis@kmc.nsw.gov.au. Web: <http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/guringai>.

30 MAY. PUBLIC MEETING: 'HUMAN TRAFFICKING, WHAT CAN I DO?' (VIC). Hear about developments in compensation for survivors of trafficking. Learn about housing and education for survivors. Be part of the effort to stop human trafficking at a global level. Includes an Ethical Goods Market. Presented by ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans). 4.00 to 6.00 pm, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Contact: denisemulcahy09@googlemail.com or 03 9205 4200, RSVP essential. Web: <http://acrath.org.au/>.

30 - 31 MAY. COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL CONFERENCE: 'THE TAKEAWAY IS HOPE: CHANGE NOW' (VIC). Change is often slow in the Australian community sector. This conference will look at how to bring about improvements using the strength in the community sector rather than waiting for government action. Speakers: Simon McKeon, Australian of the Year; Miriam Lyons, Centre for Policy Development; Elizabeth Broderick, Sex Discrimination Commissioner; Hugh Mackay, author, social researcher, etc. Cost: \$298. Moonee Valley Racing Club, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9320 6805 or alanm@ourcommunity.com.au. Web: <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic2011>.

1 JUNE. BOOK LAUNCH: 'BEYOND WHITE GUILT' (NSW). Author Sarah Maddison, Associate Professor, Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Research Unit, University of NSW, in conversation with Jeff McMullen. A provocative call for white Australians to take personal

responsibility for the ongoing impact of colonisation on Aboriginal Australians. Sarah's bold and original take on the running sore of black-white relations offers a genuinely constructive alternative when so many other approaches have failed. Cost: \$10, concession \$7. 6.00 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. Contact: 02 9660 2333. Web: http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/events4.htm#Sarah_Maddison.

1 JUNE. FILM SCREENING: 'BEATING THE BOMB' (VIC). This documentary charts the history of the British peace movement, and the film will be followed by an informal discussion. Organised by Friends of the Earth ACE campaign. Cost: \$5-7. 6.00 pm, Irene Warehouse, 5 Pitt Street, Brunswick. Contact: tully.mcintyre@foe.org.au or 0410 388 187. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/film-beating-bomb>.

1 - 3 JUNE. NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE: 'OUR COUNTRY, OUR FUTURE' (QLD). This conference is convened by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and this year co-convened by Queensland South Native Title Services (QSNTS), and hosted by the Turrbal, Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul Peoples, the traditional owners of the wider Brisbane area. The conference promotes native title as an agenda for justice for people and country, including the broader relationships between traditional owners and country. Cost: \$510-820. Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, South Bank. Contact: 02 6246 1167 or nativetitleconference@aiatsis.gov.au. Web: <http://wired.ivvy.com/event/XN9D35PCN>.

2 JUNE. PUBLIC FORUM: 'AUSTRALIAN RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVES ON CLIMATE CHANGE' (ACT). Speakers: Bishop George Browning, former Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn; Hon. Mark Dreyfus MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change; Hon. Greg Hunt MP, Shadow Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water; and Dr Janette Lindesay, Assoc. Professor at ANU, climate scientist. No cost. 6.30 to 8.30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: chair@arrcc.org.

au pr 0405 293 466. Web: http://www.arrcc.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=461:thur-2-jun-2011-canberra-qpublic-forum-australian-religious-perspectives-on-climate-change&catid=39:act&Itemid=19.

2 JUNE. SPIRITUALITY AT THE DUKE FORUM: 'JUSTICE, MORE THAN PRISONS?' (TAS). As Christians we are called to minister to those in prison. Often offenders have poor life and education skills. Our Corrections System needs to offer offenders the opportunity to access services and learn skills for reform. Panellists will share their perspectives and experiences of the Tasmanian Criminal Justice System. Panellists: Nick McKim, Corrections Minister; Prof Rob White, Criminologist; Fr. Denis Allen, Assistant Chaplain. Presented by The Tasmanian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission. Meals available from 6.00pm. 7.00pm, The Duke Hotel, 192 Macquarie Street, Hobart. Reservations essential: 03 6223 5206. More information: 03 6208 6271 or tcjpc@aohtas.org.au. Web: http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au/TCJPC_documents/TCJPC_PrisonForum_0511.pdf

2 JUNE. ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICE (NSW). The Hunter Heads of Churches are holding this service to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. 7.00 pm, St Johns Anglican Church, corner Dawson and Parry Streets, Cook's Hill. Web: http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/pdf/Parish_Update_17May11.pdf.

2 JUNE. ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE (ASRC): 'LIGHT IN WINTER FESTIVAL' OPENING CEREMONY (VIC). The ASRC is excited to take part in this festival. In a moving new work, our country's oldest inhabitants will welcome the nation's newest, with a ritual involving local Indigenous representatives and a group of asylum seekers introduced to them by the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre. No cost. 6.00 pm, Federation Square, Melbourne. Web: <http://www.asrc.org.au/events/lightinwinter/>.

2 JUNE - 3 JULY. FEDERATION SQUARE 'LIGHT IN WINTER FESTIVAL' (VIC). Directed by Robyn Archer, this is Federation Square's

annual celebration of light and enlightenment. This free winter program brings together local and international artists, designers and multicultural communities. In a moving new work, our country's oldest inhabitants will welcome the nation's newest, with a ritual involving local Indigenous representatives and a group of asylum seekers introduced to them by the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre. A simple and ceremonial performance resulting from the collaboration between Indigenous performers and asylum seekers begins the evening. Web: <http://www.asrc.org.au/events/lightinwinter/>.

3 JUNE. PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (ACT). Canberra Taizé Group will hold a Taizé prayer evening to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The evening is jointly presented by St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Weston Creek Uniting Church and the Canberra Taizé Group. Everyone is welcome. Prayer followed by supper. 7.00 to 8.00 pm, St Thomas the Apostle Church, 37 Boddington Crescent, Kambah. Contact: rawsclarke@apex.net.au or 02 6231 8468. Web: http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/news/view_event.cfm?loadref=18&id=890.

3 JUNE. ETHICA FAIR TRADE: 'PERUVIAN WINTER WARMER' (NSW). Beautiful alpaca products including bags, cards, finger puppets and more. The Ethica Accessories range is produced by women in marginalized areas in Peru. Enjoy the Peruvian food and music and raffle prizes. 12.30 to 7.30 pm, Auditorium, Mary MacKillop Place, 7-11 Mount St, North Sydney. Contact: 02 8912 2716 or gina.bradley@sosj.org.au. Web: <http://www.ethica.org.au>.

3 JUNE - 10 JULY. TJANPI DESERT WEAVERS EXHIBITION: 'KURU ALALA, EYES OPEN' (NSW). This is a travelling exhibition developed by the Tjanpi Desert Weavers and the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council. Launch on 3 June, 6.00 to 8.00 pm, includes speakers Susan Moyland Coombs, Co Chair, Guringai Festival Committee; Virginia Rigney, Curator, Gold Coast City Gallery; and Alexandra Balnaves, The Balnaves Foundation. No cost. Exhibition: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Manly Art Gallery and

Museum, West Esplanade Reserve, Manly. Contact: 02 9976 1420 or artgallery@manly.nsw.gov.au. Web: <http://kurualala1.wordpress.com/>.

4 JUNE. SOCIAL JUSTICE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD ANNUAL CONFERENCE: 'THROWING THE BABY OUT WITH THE BATHWATER' (NSW). Program includes: 'Teacher's Talk': a conversation about social justice and curriculum; what Indigenous families expect from the early childhood sector; social justice in everyday early childhood curriculum; and a panel discussion on social justice and inclusive perspectives. Cost: \$35. 8.30 am to 4.00 pm, Redfern Community Centre, 29-53 Hugo Street, Redfern. Contact: conference@socialjusticeinearlychildhood.org. Web: <http://www.socialjusticeinearlychildhood.org/campaigns/2011-annual-conference-throwing-the-baby-out-with-the-bathwater-8>.

4 JUNE. MAHBOBA'S PROMISE FUNDRAISER: 'CHOCOLATE INDULGENCE' (NSW). Mahboba's Promise is an Australian non-profit organisation dedicated to helping the women and children of Afghanistan. After decades of turmoil and conflict, the challenges remain formidable. Health statistics are harrowing; poverty and insecurity are deeply entrenched. Half the children in Afghanistan still do not go to school and the literacy rate today is one of the lowest among developing countries. This ladies only fundraiser will support the building of a home/education centre for orphans and deserted children in Afghanistan. Cost: \$50. 6.00 pm, Emporium, 258 South Terrace, Bankstown. Contact: 02 9887 1665 or mahboba@mahbobsapromise.org. Web: <http://www.mahbobsapromise.org>.

6 JUNE. SYDNEY DEVELOPMENT CIRCLE SEMINAR: 'LEARNING VALUABLE RECONCILIATION SKILLS THROUGH RESTORATIVE JUSTICE' (NSW). Restorative Justice brings together both victims and offenders in a wide range of circumstances from minor conflicts to major crime. It is a process which helps both parties to come to terms with a wrong doing, and gaining healing and reconciliation from the process. Speaker: Glenn Duhigg, experienced facilitator,

Restorative Justice Unit, Corrective Services.
Cost: \$5. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, UTS Broadway
Campus, Building 10, Level 6, Large training
room, 235 Jones Street, Sydney. Contact:
0414 905 290 or sinar@optusnet.com.au.
Web: [http://sdc.groupsite.com/calendar/
event/2011/6/6/276229](http://sdc.groupsite.com/calendar/event/2011/6/6/276229).

**8 JUNE. CONVERSATION WORKSHOP:
'ASYLUM SEEKERS ARE USED AS POLITICAL
FOOTBALLS. WHAT CAN WE DO?' (NSW).**
Research shows that community views and
fears around so-called 'boat people' are
founded on myth, not fact. This campaign
mobilises action from those who already
want asylum seekers to be treated fairly, and
helps inform community views as a whole.
The workshop will include viewing the new
TV campaign, and training to help develop
conversation skills about refugees and asylum
seekers. 6.00 to 7.30 pm, Liverpool Library,
170 George Street, Liverpool. Contact:
nswcampaigns@amnesty.org.au, RSVP by 6
June. Web: [http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/
event/25505/](http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/event/25505/).

**9 JUNE. CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
VICTORIA BREAKFAST MEETING: 'KEEPING
FAITH WITH OUR WORKERS IN FAITH-BASED
ORGANISATIONS' (VIC).** Robyn Rose, Manager,
ACCESS Employee Assistance Program, will
discuss the importance of recognising and
reducing stress and associated burnout, as well
as not tolerating unacceptable behaviours, as
this will help workers keep faith in the work,
client, management, mission/vision/values
and faith based organisation. Cost: \$15. 7.15
to 8.45 am, Cathedral Room, Cardinal Knox
Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne.
Contact: esilvius@css.org.au or 03 9287 5566,
RSVP by 6 June. Web: [http://www.css.org.au/
documents/FlyerJune2011.pdf](http://www.css.org.au/documents/FlyerJune2011.pdf).

**9 JUNE. GURINGAI FESTIVAL SCREENING:
'OUR GENERATION' (NSW).** 'Our Generation' is
the ground breaking new documentary on the
NT Intervention and Aboriginal rights. Followed
by Q&A led by Jeff McMullen (former ABC
Foreign correspondent). Hosted by Bennelong
and Surrounds Residents for Reconciliation.
6.30 pm, St Albans, Church Hall, 3 Pembroke
Street, Epping. Contact: 02 9869 1737
johnmclintock@optusnet.com.au. Web:
<http://www.ourgeneration.org.au>.

**10 JUNE. MELBOURNE PRESS CLUB
LUNCHEON: DALAI LAMA - 'THE STORY OF
THE REFUGEE: BUSINESS ETHICS, CULTURE
AND THE ARTS' (VIC).** This will involve the
Dalai Lama in a discussion with four Melbourne
residents who were refugees from Burma,
Eritrea, China and Vietnam. The speakers
will provide a compelling personal insight
of their incredible life stories from tragedy
and adversity in their home countries, to
personal and business success, achieved in
Melbourne. Cost: \$195-\$295. 12.00 to 2.30 pm,
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre,
1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf.
Contact: [bookings@melbournepressclub.
com](mailto:bookings@melbournepressclub.com) or 03 9614 2779. Web: [http://www.
melbournepressclub.com/events/lunch-his-
holiness-14th-dalai-lama](http://www.melbournepressclub.com/events/lunch-his-holiness-14th-dalai-lama).

**11 JUNE. MYALL CREEK COMMEMORATION
(NSW).** The memorial commemorates the
unprovoked massacre of twenty-eight
Wirrayaraay women, children and old men
by a group of stockmen in 1838. The story of
the massacre, of those who fought to bring
it to justice, and of the remarkable ongoing
and growing grassroots reconciliation is told
through the annual memorial ceremony. 9.30
am, Myall Creek, Bingara-Delungra Road,
west of Inverell. Contact: 02 6257 4600 or
iroberts@iinet.net.au. Web: [http://www.
myallcreek.info/news/article/myall-creek-
commemoration-11-june-2011/](http://www.myallcreek.info/news/article/myall-creek-commemoration-11-june-2011/).

**12 JUNE. GURINGAI FESTIVAL AUTHOR TALK:
JOHN OGDEN (NSW).** John Ogden's latest book
Portraits from a Land Without People (2009)
is now regarded as the most comprehensive
survey of the pictorial history of Aboriginal
Australia yet produced. It also raised over
\$80,000 towards the Jimmy Little Foundation's
work helping improve Indigenous health. John
will discuss this incredible project and his new
book *Saltwater People of the Broken Bays*. No
cost. 3.00 to 5.00 pm, Manly Art Gallery and
Museum, West Esplanade, Manly. Contact: 02
9976 1420. Web: [http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/
guringai](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/guringai).

**14 JUNE. MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
PREVENTION OF WAR (MAPW) DINNER:
'NUCLEAR WEAPONS - LAWS AND TREATIES'
(VIC).** Speakers: Tim Wright, Campaign

Director, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN); Nic MacLellan, journalist and researcher in the Pacific islands; and Dr Mark Zirnsak, Director, Justice and International Mission, Uniting Church in Australia. Cost: \$30, concession \$15. 6.30 pm, La Notte, 140 Lygon Street, Carlton. Contact: vic@mapw.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/dinner-nuclear-weapons-laws-and-treaties>.

14 JUNE. CONVERSATION WORKSHOP: 'ASYLUM SEEKERS ARE USED AS POLITICAL FOOTBALLS. WHAT CAN WE DO?' (NSW). Research shows that community views and fears around so-called 'boat people' are founded on myth, not fact. This campaign mobilises action from those who already want asylum seekers to be treated fairly, and helps inform community views as a whole. The workshop will include viewing the new TV campaign, and training to help develop conversation skills about refugees and asylum seekers. 6.30 to 8.00 pm, Dirty Nelly's, 9-11 Glenmore Road, Paddington. Contact: nswcampaigns@amnesty.org.au, RSVP by 13 June. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/event/25507/>.

14 JUNE - 13 JULY. REFUGEE WEEK EXHIBITION: HAND IN HAND (SA). Student poster exhibition and awards. Presenter: Kerry Packer Civic Gallery in conjunction with the Migrant Resource Centre and SA Refugee Week. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, UniSA City West campus, Hawke Building Level 3, 50-55 North Terrace, Adelaide. Web: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/news/events.asp>.

15 JUNE. SUTHERLAND SHIRE SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'WHY BOTHER ABOUT REFUGEES?' (NSW). 'The most disappointing element of the asylum-seeker debate of the past ten years has been the forsaking of values-based leadership in both major political parties, in favour of poll-driven pandering to xenophobia.' Edmund Rice Centre Media Release. Speakers: Kaveh Akbari, Iranian Refugee; and David Addington, Coordinator Northern Beaches Refugee Sanctuary. 7.30 pm, Sutherland United Services Club, East Parade, Sutherland. Contact: 02 9520 0617. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/Slp%20Programs.htm>.

15 - 26 JUNE. FACES OF ASYLUM PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION (NSW). Behind the rhetoric on refugees and asylum seekers are real people, each with a unique and often tragic story to tell. This exhibition tells real life stories of people who left their homes, friends, family and everything they know to escape violence, persecution or worse. 9.30 am to 5.00 pm, The Q Exhibition Space, Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre, Lowe Street, Queanbeyan. Contact: bede.carmody@amnesty.org.au. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/actsnsw/event/25389/>.

15 JUNE - 30 JULY. EMERGE FESTIVAL (VIC). Presented by Multicultural Arts Victoria, Emerge Festival commemorates United Nations World Refugee Day and celebrates Refugee Week. Melbourne's rich cultural heritage comes alive with this colourful annual music and arts festival presenting amazing new refugee and emerging artists who have recently settled in Australia. It includes a series of amazing performances and unique cultural experiences encompassing music, dance, visual arts, film, exotic foods, ancient crafts and ceremonies. Web: <http://www.multiculturalarts.com.au/events2011/emerge.shtml>.

19 JUNE. REFUGEE ADVOCACY NETWORK RALLY ON WORLD REFUGEE DAY: 'UNITE TO END MANDATORY DETENTION' (VIC). The crisis in Australia's detention system has reached a critical point - there are now almost 7,000 people locked in detention centres across the country. Increasing numbers have been incarcerated for long periods of time - months or even years. Something needs to change. After speeches there will be a mass march to join the EMERGE festival in Fitzroy. 12.30 pm, Nicholson Street entry (near Gertrude Street), Royal Exhibition Centre, Carlton. Contact: refugeeadvocacynetwork@gmail.com. Web: <http://refugeeadvocacynetwork.org/>.

19 JUNE. WORLD REFUGEE DAY RALLY AND MARCH: 'IT'S TIME TO END MANDATORY DETENTION' (NSW). The World Refugee Day Rally is being organised by a broad range of refugee activist and advocacy groups, including ChilOut, Labor for Refugees, Balmain for Refugees, the Edmund Rice Centre, the NSW Greens, the Refugee Action Coalition,

unions and others. 12.00 noon. Sydney Town Hall. Contact: jemima.mowbray@sydney.edu.au. Web: <http://refugeeaction.org.au/2011/05/17/world-refugee-day-rally/>.

19-22 JUNE. AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC ADULT FAITH EDUCATORS CONFERENCE: 'WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?' (QLD). This conference experience is an energising process including a journey of self discovery and a deepening of your response to be who God calls you to be. Workshops provide a space for reflection on how to live the call of Baptism in everyday ministry. Cost: \$280 (accommodation extra). 2.00 pm 19 June to 1.30 pm, 22 June, Riverglenn Conference Centre, 70 Kate Street, Indooroopilly. Contact: 07 3336 9181. Register: <http://www.bne.catholic.net.au/faithlife/cafeconf/>.

20 JUNE. NORTH SYDNEY SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'STORIES TO INSPIRE - REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER EXPERIENCE' (NSW). Speaker: Fr Sacha Bermudez-Goldman SJ, former director, Jesuit Refugee Service, now delegate to Provincial for Social Ministries for the Society of Jesus. Originally from Nicaragua, Sacha studied in the US and later joined an American missionary society and served as a lay missionary teacher in Tanzania and Cambodia. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, The Union Hotel, corner Pacific Highway and West Street, North Sydney. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/Slp%20Programs.htm>.

21 JUNE. PRIOLETTI CROSS CULTURAL AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATION TRAINING (VIC). This course provides an excellent overview to understanding and communicating with people from cultural and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Cost: \$110. 1.00 to 4.00 pm, Northcote Library Meeting Room, 32-38 Separation Street, Northcote. Contact: josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au or 03 9038 9292. Web: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au/>.

21 JUNE. GURINGAI FESTIVAL LANE COVE RESIDENTS FOR RECONCILIATION EVENT (NSW). Film screening of 'Freedom Ride - 40 Years On'. In 2005 a busload of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students retraced the route of the '1965 Freedom Ride' led by Charles Perkins across regional NSW, looking at race relations

today. All welcome, refreshments provided. No bookings necessary. No cost. 7.00 to 9.30 pm, Lane Cove Community Centre (lower level), 164 Longueville Road, Lane Cove, (opposite library, near Austin Street). Contact: 02 9428 1197. Web: <http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/guringai>.

21 - 26 JUNE. EORA COLLEGE ART EXHIBITION (NSW). This exhibition will include a selection of artworks created by the Aboriginal students of Eora College. This event has been organised to bring awareness to the Amnesty's Demand Dignity campaign asking for the improved rights of Indigenous and Aboriginals in Australia. The theme of the artwork will be 'Aboriginal Housing', in response to the recent Indigenous Homelands Policy. 10.00 am to 6.00 pm, Boomalli Art Gallery, Flood Street, Leichhardt. Contact: nswdignity@amnesty.org.au. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/event/25586/>.

22 JUNE. WATAC LUNCHEON: 'A VOICE WE NEED TO HEAR' (NSW). Speaker: Ilona Lee AM is a Jewish woman who has served on many boards both within and outside the Jewish community. Ilona is currently Chair of the Shalom Gamarada Indigenous Scholarship Program at University of NSW and is also the immediate past president of The Shalom Institute. Cost: \$78. 12.00 to 3.00 pm, Dining Room, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9520 9409, RSVP by 8 June. Web: <http://www.watac.net/>.

22 JUNE. REFUGEE WEEK PUBLIC FORUM: 'LABELS AND LIABILITIES - WHEN IS A REFUGEE NO LONGER A REFUGEE' (VIC). In this timely public forum, recent and not-so-recent refugees discuss the positives and negatives of the refugee label, its influence on self esteem and life opportunities, and how long an individual has to reside in a new country before the categorisation is no longer applicable or desirable. No cost. 6.30 to 9.00 pm, fortyfive downstairs, 45 Flinders Lane, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9349 4122 or eccv@eccv.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.eccv.org.au>.

22 JUNE. WORKSHOP: 'HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY IN AUSTRALIA' (NSW). Exploitation of men, women and children can

occur in agriculture, construction, hospitality, cleaning, natural resource industries, retail, manufacturing, sex work, domestic work and a range of other industries. This workshop will introduce basic concepts of human trafficking and slavery, what is known about these practices in Australia and what can be done to help people in need. Speaker: Jenny Stanger, Supervisor, Salvation Army's Safe House for Trafficked Women. 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, Hawkesbury City Salvation Army, 290 George Street, Windsor. Contact: 02 4577 3889, RSVP by 8 June. Web: <http://www.cnet.ngo.net.au/content/view/53355/503/>.

22-24 JUNE. CONFERENCE: 'THE REINTEGRATION PUZZLE' (NT). The Reintegration Puzzle Conference brings together people working to support the reintegration of offenders into the community after release from prison. This year's conference will focus on partnerships and innovative practices that are achieving positive outcomes for people involved in the justice system. Cost: \$700, concession \$350. Crowne Plaza, Alice Springs. Contact: 03 9251 7887 or jcrosbie@deakin.edu.au. Web: <http://www.reintegrationpuzzle.com.au>.

23 JUNE. JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE (JRS) FUNDRAISING DINNER (VIC). Support JRS work in Australia and overseas. The guest speakers Sr Jackie Ford RSM and Maggie Lynch will share their experiences of working with asylum seekers and refugees, both in detention and starting new lives in the community. Cost: \$50. 7.00 pm, Kingston Hotel, 55 Highett Street, Richmond. Contact: 0409 438 128 or mary.storey@xavier.vic.edu.au, RSVP by 20 June. Web: <http://www.jrs.org.au/events/current-events/211-23-june-melbourne-dinner>.

24 JUNE. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'DETENTION SYSTEM FOR REFUGEES - REPLACING A GROSS INJUSTICE' (NSW). Speakers: Sophie Peer, Refugee Council Australia and David Bitel, past President Refugee Council Australia. Cost: \$5 to become club member. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9692 0005 or odl_bradley@pacific.net.au. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au>.

24 JUNE. NEWMAN COLLEGE DOM HELDER CAMARA LECTURE SERIES: 'TATTOOS ON THE HEART: THE POWER OF BOUNDLESS COMPASSION' (VIC). Lecturer Fr Greg Boyle is a Jesuit priest and director and founder of Homeboy Industries and former Pastor of the Dolores Mission Church. Fr Boyle is internationally known for his pastoral work with gang members in LA and prison ministry to them. 6.00 pm, Xavier College, Eldon Hogan Performing Arts Centre, Barkers Road, Kew, Melbourne. Contact: markoconnorfms@gmail.com or 0401 222 596. Web: http://www.cam.org.au/index.php?option=com_eventlist&view=details&id=210&Itemid=393.

25 JUNE. JRS FUNDRAISER MELBOURNE BALL (VIC). The Winter Ball is chance for a great night out, whilst learning more about the plight of asylum seekers, refugees and internally displaced and raising funds for an incredible organisation. All proceeds support JRS projects in Australia and overseas. A large part of this year's funds will help facilitate vital education and mental health support programs at the Mai-Aini refugee camp in Ethiopia, home to over 20,000 refugees. Live entertainment by the high-energy African beats of Gambian master percussionist King Marong and his band Afro Mandinko. Speaker: James Atanasious, former refugee from Sudan. Cost: \$120. 6.30 pm, MAIÀ, Central Pier, Docklands. Contact: jrsball2011@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.jrs.org.au/events/current-events/206-25-june-melbourne-jrs-melbourne-ball>.

25 - 26 JUNE, 6-7 AUGUST. CARITAS SOCIAL JUSTICE COURSE: LEAP (VIC). Caritas Australia and Diocese of Sandhurst are offering a three-phased program giving participants the chance to explore the central issues around poverty in the world and the humanitarian and Christian principles behind the aid and development work of Caritas. It will include workshops, guest speakers, an optional immersion visit to Uganda and commitment to action at a local level. Contact: kmstone@bigpond.net.au or 0408 579 904, RSVP by 27 May. Web: <http://www.sandpiper.org.au/>.

26 JUNE. WORLD REFUGEE DAY COMMUNITY FESTIVAL (QLD). Brisbane City Council in association with Multicultural Development

Association is holding this festival. It will include: cultural performances, music, dance, drumming, art exhibitions and arts and crafts stalls, etc. No entry fee. 9.00 am to 6.00 pm, Annerley Soccer Club Fields, Ridge and Juliette Streets, Annerley. Web: <http://www.barc.org.au/post/12667>.

30 JUNE. HOUSING FOR THE AGED ACTION GROUP: 'AGEING ON THE EDGE - OLDER AUSTRALIANS ON THE VERGE OF HOMELESSNESS' (VIC). This event will highlight the growing problem of older people experiencing homelessness in Australia and the current responses from community agencies that are assisting older people in crisis. There will be discussion on a possible framework for a government strategy to address the emerging problem of housing an ageing population. Cost: \$165-\$225. 9.30 am to 4.15 pm, Cinema 1, Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), Federation Square, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9654 7389 or haag@oldertenants.org.au. Web: <http://www.conferenceworks.net.au/ageingforum/index.php?page=Welcome>.

3 - 6 JULY. JEWISH CHRISTIAN MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (JCMA) WINTER CONFERENCE: 'THE HAND OF WELCOME: HOSPITALITY IN OUR 3 FAITHS' (VIC). The conference will include: the hospitality of God: the spiritual dimension of hospitality; studies in the sacred texts of the three faiths on the theme of hospitality; hospitality to each other in the prayer and worship of the three faith traditions, in small reflection groups, in eating together and in shared leisure time. It will also look at how people of these faiths show God's hospitality to the wider community, to refugees and asylum seekers, to the homeless, to the stranger etc. Cost: \$325-\$355. 2.00 pm 3 July to 3.00 pm 6 July, Conference Centre, Pallotti College, 80 McNamaras Road, Millgrove. Contact: 03 9650 3294 or registrations@jcma.org.au. Web: <http://www.cam.org.au/eic/JCMA2011>.

3 - 10 JULY. NAIDOC: 'CHANGE - THE NEXT STEP IS OURS' (NATIONAL). NAIDOC stands for the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee and this week celebrates the survival of Indigenous culture and the Indigenous contribution to modern

Australia. NAIDOC Committee co-chairs Ben Mitchell and Anne Martin say the theme is about taking responsibility for the future. For celebrations of Indigenous culture, history and achievements near you visit: <http://www.naidoc.org.au/about/local-naidoc-events-calendar/>.

5 JULY. SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'WHAT GIVES ME HOPE' (NSW). Speakers: Anne Hand, was a nursing officer in the Australian Army, and visited many places including a UN posting to Cambodia. Anne varies her time between nursing and pastoral care. Dianne Langham is an Aboriginal Anglican priest, and a Chaplain of Cessnock Correctional Centre. 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm, The Grange Hotel, corner Renwick Street and Pacific Highway, Wyoming. Contact: 02 4369 1586 or carmen.fitzgerald@bigpond.com. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/Slp%20Programs.htm>.

5 JULY. PRIOLETTI INDIGENOUS AWARENESS FORUM: 'WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES' (VIC). This forum offers an opportunity to gain insight into Australia's Indigenous culture and aims to facilitate understanding about Indigenous Australians. Speaker: Ron Murray, a descendant of the Wamba Wamba tribe of Swan Hill, Victoria. Ron has worked for Indigenous communities in educating the wider community over the past 15 years and has conducted Indigenous awareness workshops across the community, government, education and corporate sectors. Cost: \$55. 10.00 am to 12.00 pm, Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, corner Bell Street and St Georges Road, Preston. Contact: josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au or 03 9038 9292. Web: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au/forums/6-indigenous-awareness-forum>.

5 - 6 JULY. SYMPOSIUM ON INDIGENOUS SENTENCING, PUNISHMENT AND HEALING (QLD). This meeting aims to bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous activists, academics and practitioners with an interest in issues relating to the sentencing, healing and punishment of Indigenous people in Australia and elsewhere. Issues for discussion may include Indigenous courts and

sentencing, Indigenous healing programs, prison issues, sentencing principles and Aboriginality, gender and sentencing, gender and punishment, Indigenous law, human rights and sentencing. Speakers: Mr Mick Gooda, The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Australia Human Rights Commission Professor; Chris Cunneen, Tropical leader in Justice and Social Inclusion, James Cook University; etc. No cost. Rydges Esplanade Hotel, Cairns, Queensland. Contact: 07 4042 1892 or kate.munro@jcu.edu.au, RSVP essential. Web: http://www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute/info/events/JCUPRD1_067963.html.

6 JULY. CONVERSATION WORKSHOP: 'ASYLUM SEEKERS ARE USED AS POLITICAL FOOTBALLS. WHAT CAN WE DO?' (NSW). Research shows that community views and fears around so-called 'boat people' are founded on myth, not fact. This campaign mobilises action from those who already want asylum seekers to be treated fairly and helps inform community views as a whole. The workshop will include viewing the new TV campaign, and training to

help develop conversation skills about refugees and asylum seekers. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, 134 Norfolk Road, Epping. Contact: nswcampaigns@amnesty.org.au, RSVP by 4 July. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/event/25506/>.

6 - 8 JULY. THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL POLICY CONFERENCE (ASPC): 'SOCIAL POLICY IN A COMPLEX WORLD' (NSW). This conference aims to bring together researchers, practitioners and policy makers and provide an opportunity to explore research and practice. Speakers: Professor Paula England, Professor of Sociology, affiliate of the Clayman Institute for Gender Research, Stanford University USA; Associate Professor Bea Cantillon, Professor of Social Policy and Director of the Centre for Social Policy, University of Antwerp, Belgium; Professor John Quiggin, Australian Research Council Federation Fellow in Economics and Political Science, University of Queensland; etc. Cost: \$500, concession \$250. University of New South Wales. Contact: aspc@unsw.edu.au or 02 9385 7800. Web: <http://www.aspc.unsw.edu.au>.

News Monitor

Church must welcome migrants, Vatican official tells Australian chaplains

The Church expects welcome from its own ranks for migrants - not just from governments and other organisations, a Vatican official responsible for migrants issues told Chaplains during a pastoral visit to Australia, according to Fides.

ERC hopes probe can reveal root causes of detainee protests

The Edmund Rice Centre was hoping that a recent Commonwealth Ombudsman investigation into detainee protests on Christmas Island will help bring more public scrutiny on to the "root causes" behind them, reported the *Catholic Weekly*.

Create indigenous jobs, says Cath Social Justice head

The head of Australia's Catholic Social Justice Council said the Government must create jobs to reduce welfare dependency in remote indigenous communities, reported the ABC.

Bin Laden death calls for reflection, not rejoicing, says Vatican

The Vatican said the killing of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden should prompt serious reflection about one's responsibility before God, not rejoicing, the Catholic News Service reported.

Catholic NGOs welcome Budget

Catholic Social Services lauded the Federal

Budget for 2011-12 as containing “many positive measures”, while Caritas Australia said it commended the support it promises for the world’s most vulnerable communities, according to media statements.

Deal with Malaysia on asylum seekers raises ‘deep fears’

Malaysia’s poor human rights record and refusal to sign the Refugee Convention raise “deep fears” for the newly-announced asylum seeker deportation deal, according to a statement by the Edmund Rice Centre.

Remember bin Laden in prayer, Melbourne priest urges

A Melbourne priest challenged people to forgive Osama bin Laden, including him in a “We Remember” tribute to those who have died recently in a parish newsletter, reported the *Herald Sun*.

Appeal for help to cut suicide in Aboriginal communities

Suicide prevention advocate Mary Victor O’Reeri said a young Aboriginal person dies by suicide almost every week in WA’s Kimberley region, and a priest in the area said most people don’t ask for help, reported the ABC.

Legislative overhaul and education needed over prostitution

The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn advocated a thorough review of the community’s approach to prostitution, including a legislative overhaul, plus education campaigns to change the behaviour of men who go to brothels, in its submission to an ACT Government Committee.

Act now against climate change, Vatican-commissioned report said

Nations and individuals have a duty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enact policies to deal with the impacts of climate change, said a Vatican-sponsored working group, reported the Catholic News Service.

Asylum seekers deserve to be treated with dignity: bishop

Asylum seekers deserve dignity, seeking a safe and sustainable life, said the Bishop of Wagga Wagga, Gerard Hanna, who is the newly elected delegate for Migrants and Refugees for the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, reported the *Catholic Weekly*.

Holy See named in Amnesty human rights report

The Vatican was included for the first time in an Amnesty International Report on human rights, which found that “the Holy See did not sufficiently comply with its international obligations relating to the protection of children”, reported the *Irish Times*.

Praise for UN official’s visit to NT intervention

A visit by a top UN official to investigate the Federal Government’s Northern Territory Intervention was a “good thing”, an official from the Archdiocese of Sydney’s Aboriginal Catholic Ministry told the *Catholic Leader*.

Caritas calls for fresh focus on justice for Sorry Day

To mark Sorry Day tomorrow, on May 26, Caritas Australia and its partner Stolen Generations Alliance are calling for a fresh focus on truth, justice and healing for Aboriginal people who were removed from the families, the group said in a statement.

Criminal conduct alleged in report on refugee support

Allegations of criminal conduct arising from an investigation into refugee support services in Newcastle would be referred to police, Immigration Minister Chris Bowen said, reported the *Newcastle Herald*.

- For details click on headlines or go to <http://cathnews.com>



Social Justice Calendar

2 Thu	The Ascension	1971:	Aboriginal Flag first flown in Adelaide
3 Fri	Mabo Day - High Court Decision in Mabo Case, 1992 1886: Catholic and Anglican Martyrs of Uganda Day of Prayer for Catholic and Anglican Reconciliation	1988:	Barunga Statement presented to Prime Minister Bob Hawke by Aboriginal leaders
		16 Thu	International Day of the African Child
		17 Fri	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
4 Sat	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression 1989:Tiananmen Square Massacre	19 Sun	Trinity Sunday Refugee Week begins
5 Sun	Seventh Sunday of Easter World Environment Day World Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Theme: <i>One in the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer</i> (Acts 2:42-47)	1945:	birth of Aung San Suu Kyi
		1969:	Equal pay for women in Australia
		20 Mon	UN World Refugee Day
		22 Wed	1989: Destruction of the Berlin Wall
8 Wed	World Oceans Day	23 Thu	UN Public Service Day
10 Fri	1838: Myall Creek Massacre 1935: Alcoholics Anonymous established in New York	26 Sun	Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ) International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking
11 Sat	1971: Neville Bonner first Aboriginal Australian to hold a seat in Federal Parliament (Senate)		International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
		30 Thu	1945: Introduction of unemployment benefits in Australia
12 Sun	Pentecost Sunday World Day Against Child Labour		

Notes on these dates are available in the printed ACSJC's Seasons of Social Justice Diary. The cost is \$6.60. To order go to http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/publications/social_justice_calendar.html, or call 02 8306 3499.

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