



# UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

SOUTH AUSTRALIA DIVISION Inc.

## ANNUAL REPORT

2011 — 2012

- INTERNATIONAL YEAR of COOPERATIVES
- INTERNATIONAL YEAR of SUSTAINABLE ENERGY for ALL

2011—2020	Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism
2011—2020	<u>United Nations Decade on Biodiversity</u>
2011—2020	<u>Decade of Action for Road Safety</u>
2010—2020	<u>United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification</u>
2008—2017	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
2006—2016	Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions (third decade after the Chernobyl Disaster)
2005—2015	<u>International Decade for Action, "Water for Life"</u>
2005—2014	United Nations Decade for Sustainable Development
2005—2014	<u>Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People</u>
2003—2012	United Nations Literacy Decade: Education for All
2013	International Year of Water Cooperation
2013	International Year of Quinoa
2014	International Year of Family Farming

## SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

# UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA SOUTH AUSTRALIA DIVISION INC.

## PATRONS

His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR  
Governor of South Australia

Mr. Hieu Van Le AO. Lieutenant Governor of South Australia and  
Chairman of the SA Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

Sister Patricia Pak Poy RSM

Stephen Yarwood, Lord Mayor of Adelaide

## MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2011 – 2012

**Co-Presidents** Heather Southcott Am & John Crawford

**Vice-Presidents** Sheila Hill AM  
Ron Hall

**Secretary** Sheila Hill

**Treasurer** John Crawford

### **Corporate Members**

Australian West Papua Association	Franciscus Ewing
Baha'i Community	Manijeh Shahzadeh
Catholic Women's League	Virginia Waters
Women's International League For Peace & Freedom	Ruth Russell

### **Individual Members**

Greg Corbett  
Br. Peter Faulkner  
Hallam Gray  
Rosemary McKay  
Lidia Moretti

**UN Youth SA** Matilde Wiese

## **CONTACTS**

UNAA Status of Women	Dr. Sing Ping Ting, President
	Mrs. Kath Smith, Vice President
	Pat Hardy, Secretary

Environment Programme	Br Peter Faulkner
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**VOLUNTEERS** Ron Hall Hallam Gray Peter Faulkner

# **UNAA SA PRESIDENTS' REPORT 2011—2012**

## **John Crawford and Heather Southcott**

It has been a busy year. We have settled in rather well in our new location, and are beginning to see some of the advantages of having a shop front location. We have extended our activities with some exciting initiatives, and look forward to yet more activity during this coming year.

We find that the increase in activities whereby we cooperate with other organisations has been most rewarding. We need to thank the people involved and their organizations for their very significant support over the past year. That must also include thanks for the unceasing effort and commitment of the volunteers involved in our committee work and in staffing our office, and the networking and the way it has kept us in contact with other organizations.

### **OUR PATRONS**

We would like to express our appreciation and thank our four patrons. They are the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR, the Lieutenant Governor of South Australia and Chairman of the SA Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission, Mr. Hieu Van Le AO, Sister Patricia Pak Poy RSM AM, and the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Stephen Yarwood.

### **OUR MAJOR SUPPORTERS**

We acknowledge the financial support for our general operations by the Premier and the South Australian Government through a grant received in early 2011. Due to the generally more difficult financial situation we have been informed that this grant will not be available for this coming year, and as a result we need to be much more careful in looking at our expenditure and recognise that our fundraising activities are going to be more crucial for our financial viability.

As explained in our report last year, our location in the Torrens Building was a long standing arrangement by which the State Government offered a group of Non-Government Organisations space in the Torrens Building that would otherwise have been vacant. With the expansion of the universities occupying the rest of the building we were asked to relocate. We greatly appreciated the great assistance offered to assist us in finding a suitable new location, and the ongoing 5+5 year lease arrangement under which our rent will be subsidized by the State Government for the duration of the lease and this will ensure that it costs us no more than we would have paid if we remained in the Torrens Building.

We are very appreciative of this support, and thank the Premier's Department for making our move so easy. It would otherwise have been traumatic and financially challenging.

We have received many favourable comments about the new location. It is still central, and with the State Government support, affordable. The only disadvantage is that for gatherings of any more than 15 to 20 people it is not large enough. Parking is a little easier as well.

Further financial support has again been provided by the Norman Percy Cole Bequest. This money is given to us through the Public Trustee to support and assist disadvantaged young people. We have again been able to help the SA Children's Week Committee as well as the United Nations Youth Association SA, and through them to offer small scholarship grants to a range of young people who could not otherwise afford to attend the UNYA State Conference and other events because of distance or family circumstances. Support has also been given to disadvantaged young persons for further training.

DFK Gray Perry, Chartered Accountants, through a member of their staff, Brendon Skates, is our pro bono auditor. Our accounting has become much more complex of late, and having this support is so very much appreciated.

Our broadband internet access in the office is provided free of charge by Internode. Their ongoing support and help is also so much appreciated.

Individual donations have also featured as being more generous and more frequent. Deserving of special mention was a donation from a member of the local management of Macquarie Bank whose donation was doubled by the bank's gift through which they give an amount equal to charitable donations made by their staff members.

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS PAST YEAR**

Our fund raising activities are focussed around two events. First is the annual film afternoon which is run by the UNAA(SA) Status of Women Committee, followed later in the year by our UN Day Dinner. Both of these events were a financial success. Again the silent auction donors at the dinner excelled themselves in offering such great items to auction. We must especially mention the award winning chef Camillo Crugnale of Assagio Restaurant who gave a most desirable day of activity in an Italian style home kitchen making tomato sauce and pasta and then enjoying the resulting products over lunch.



Leanne Liddle was our speaker at our 2011 UN Day Dinner at Ming's Palace Restaurant.

The UN Day dinner as usual had a great speaker with Leanne Liddle. She gave us a special insight on the relevance and importance of our indigenous community in preserving our national environmental heritage. Leanne's examples of the work undertaken by the women elders in preserving this knowledge, and the ways by which it benefits the wider Australian community gave us a better understanding of the impact this has on our everyday life.

We further look forward to our anticipated fund raising relationship with Seven Hill Wines with the help of Justin McCarthy of 1882 Wines who donated wine for the dinner.

During the year we were asked if we could host a UN Exhibition commemorating the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda. With substantial help from a wide range of people, including a grant from Multicultural SA, and the offer of the superb Edmund Wright House venue in King William Street by the African Resource Centre, we were delighted to bring this exhibition to Adelaide. It had only been shown previously in Australia in Brisbane and Canberra.



At the Rwanda opening Jane Reilly was our MC, and our speakers included Lynne Arnold AO, Julia Deane from UNIC in Canberra, Hon. Robert Hill our UNAA National President, and Eugenia Tsoulis from the African Resource Centre.

It brought together a wide range of interested visitors, and also provided an opportunity to meet and get to know our local African community. For two weeks in early December we had a real presence close to the centre of town highlighting the recent history of Rwanda, and how the concerns that arose from those happenings in Rwanda have been addressed since by the UN. At the same time it also brought into focus the ongoing issues of civil war, conflict, and famine in other parts of northern Africa. We hope this closer contact with the African community will be ongoing.

### MC Jane Reilly at the opening of the Rwanda Exhibition

Australians for UNHCR to give us an update on the UNHCR work in alleviating the consequences of the famine and conflict in Somalia. We thank Amnesty International for offering their office and meeting space for this most interesting and important update of the work of the UNHCR.

Our AGM speakers offered an interesting focus on youth. Each spoke briefly of different aspects of their involvement in UN and related activity through UN Youth SA.

Early in 2011 Peter Faulkner received an email from Germany from a young lady, Julia Tenner, asking if UNAA(SA) might accept her for an international internship later in the year. Peter's response was not so much that we had nothing for her to do for three months, but rather that we really could not envisage an appropriate list of jobs that would suit her skills and provide sufficient challenge. Julia's response was simply to say "I will be the judge of that—expect me to arrive in September". So towards the latter part of the year she duly arrived, quickly picked up an understanding of how our office worked, and settled in to edit the final edition for 2011 of our newsletter.



Julia Tenner with Peter Faulkner at the Rwanda Exhibition. Julia was our intern from Germany, and assisted our usual editor, Peter, with the Summer Solstice edition of our newsletter.

She was absolutely right. She did a superb editorial job under Peter's guidance, in spite of English not being her first language, and was helpful with a whole range of other things (like helping on the desk during the Rwanda Exhibition). We thank Julia, and wish her well for her future back in Europe.

One aspect of our work which has always been important is that our Executive Committee members represent a wide range of involvement in other like-minded organisations. This

has been extended by our recent emphasis on working with these organisations in co-sponsoring functions of various kinds.

One example was a meeting arranged by the Australian East Timor Association, the Australian Institute of International Affairs and Kathleen Lumley College to launch the book *At the Scene of the Crime*, by Pat Walsh. Pat Walsh worked tirelessly in East Timor during the nation's first 10 years, and was able to give us an inspiring talk describing the background of the prose, poetry, making up a miscellany of his writings describing this enthralling period.

Another was the reception at Parliament house hosted by Grace Portolesi MP celebrating the UN 'Year of People of African Descent' — a most appropriate event to celebrate the UN Year.

We completed a second free to air video community service TV advertisement that was conceived by our Vice-President Sheila Hill and produced by her son Chris. Called '*The Next Generation*' it is now being shown on SA Commercial TV. It develops the idea embodied in our first community service advertisement entitled '*SA – A United State of Mind*'. For this excellent view of the next generation born to proud parents who have come to SA from overseas Chris Hill was nominated for the Governor's Multicultural Awards in the Media, was a finalist in quite a large field of nominations.

Finally, and possibly more properly part of the annual report for next year, was a meeting we were asked to host to brief people interested in the Rio+20 conference. You will read this report while the Rio+20 Conference is still current news, and relevant to our current situation, it is fitting to mention it here.

At the briefing The Hon. Paul Caica, Minister for Sustainability in SA spoke very effectively, not only as Minister, but also from his personal point of view as a member of the Australian delegation to Rio. Robert Hill introduced Christine Schweizer from the Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Water, Population and Communities who was able to tell us not only about the conference and its goals, but also her personal experience in participating in the drafting of the agreements being put forward in Rio. Chris explained how finding agreement on the final wording is far from an easy task. We were delighted that UNAA(SA) was involved in hosting this presentation.



Hon. Paul Caica, Minister for Sustainability, speaking at the Rio+20 briefing held at Ingkarni Wardli Conference Room in the University of Adelaide.

## **OUR UNPAID VOLUNTEERS**

We are a volunteer organisation with no employees. We depend on voluntary support for all our activities, and we are particularly thankful for the willing support given by all of the members of our executive committee, our sub-committees, and especially for the regular commitment given by our office volunteers. We try to have enough office volunteers to staff our office each day of the working week for the core hours of 10 am to 2 pm.

It has been a great pleasure to welcome back Heather Southcott to our Executive meetings, and while she is still very much constrained by her limited mobility, and the difficulty it presents in her being able to attend any functions where access might present a challenge, her presence at our meetings is much appreciated.

We were sorry to have our Vice-President and Secretary, Sheila Hill, take enforced leave of absence in hospital. We wish her well as she slowly recovers.

We currently have three helpers in the office. On Wednesday Ron Hall looks after the distribution of UN Information through email lists which ensure members who have requested this information are kept informed. Hallam Gray helps on Thursday, and finally Peter Faulkner completes the week on Friday (as well as making frequent calls to fill the gap on Monday or Tuesday).

Our volunteers keep our membership files up to date, as well as maintaining lists of friends and people who appreciate receiving our information. We facilitate the circulation by email of two regular email UN updates, UNity and UNWire. Other information and publicity material from other bodies is also forwarded via email to those who have indicated their interest.

Peter Faulkner has continued his superb role as editor of our newsletter. While he would like some help and support to allow him to take a rare holiday, or more accurately to maintain his involvement in other issues that call on his time, assistance with editing will also add a little more diversity of style and subject. He has continued to make it a most interesting read, and something very much relevant to our members.

While we are more than happy to print and post the newsletter to our members, email delivery saves in printing and postage. However its purpose is to try to give people something interesting to read, and if the paper copy facilitates it actually being read more carefully, then distribution on paper is more than justified. Some of us still have a strong preference to see a document on paper, and don't enjoy reading documents in the electronic form. When we look at the investment we have to make to create an interesting newsletter (albeit largely provided by volunteers), the final cost of paper and postage are well worthwhile if that helps see people actually read it.



## **NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT – FEDERAL UNAA**

Lidia Moretti represents SA as one of the state UNAA Vice-Presidents. She has continued to be active in representing our point of view. The work of the Federal Executive is very important to us. The planning of the Federal Conference each year and close cooperation with UNYA at a national level are especially significant Federal activities. Hopefully we will again have good representation at the forthcoming 2012 Federal Conference.

## **OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

As always we owe a strong vote of thanks to our executive committee and through them to their wide range of contacts. As we said at the start of this report we are increasing feeling that the networking; involvement our committee members offer with other organisations provides such a wide range of events at which UNAA(SA) has been represented by members of our Committee and other friends. These include Children's Week events, Baha'i group events, Volunteers Day, a number of conferences, dinners and significant talks.

This is largely through our Executive Committee where we have representative positions from a number of other organisations as well as individual committee members.

- Franciscus Ewing represents the Australian West Papua Committee, and highlights to us the ongoing issues of the indigenous people of this region facing an overwhelming Indonesian takeover.
- Ron Hall has close contacts with the Aboriginal Advancement League as well as being our Wednesday office volunteer. As our immediate past president he has a wide range of contacts.
- Manijeh Shahzadeh comes from the Baha'i Community, and facilitates our active communication with this significant body active in seeking world peace.
- The Catholic Women's League was represented by Tess Donellan until her resignation in November and her replacement has been Virginia Waters. Welcome to our committee Virginia. WILPF is represented by Ruth Russell. Their networking and involvement in the wider community in a wide range of issues relating to the peace movement is invaluable.
- Heather Southcott has been active with the Children's Week Committee.
- Heather's great knowledge of the NGO scene in Adelaide is invaluable with her contacts and experience.
- Lidia works with Oz Harvest, 5RPH (Radio for the Print Handicapped), the UN Women (previously UNIFEM) Breakfast, the Italian Community and Slow Food International. Her annual attendance at the Terra Madre Conference in Turin, Italy, provides a great international connection.
- Hal Gray has assisted by auditing the UNYA and Status of Women's Committee accounts as well as being our Thursday office volunteer
- Rosemary McKay continues with her involvement with a wide range of bodies including the Australian Institute of International Affairs, together with a fascinating connection with the progress of the project to bring the City of Adelaide clipper from Scotland to its proposed new home at Port Adelaide.

- Greg Corbett has made an amazing difference to our website, as well as helping with publicity materials for a number of functions. His deep interest in Japan also gives us an insight into this fascinating culture.
- Peter Faulkner through his special interest in environmental issues makes sure we are kept up to date with items of current interest and concern as is evident in his work with our newsletter.
- John Crawford has an ongoing contact with Amnesty International, and following the Rwanda exhibition has been talking with the new committee supporting human rights in the new state of South Sudan (HURIDOSS) as well as maintaining contact with representatives of the three areas still facing problems in Sudan—that is ongoing difficulties in Darfur, the Nuba Mountains, and the Blue Nile province.



Lynn Arnold was our keynote speaker at the Lessons From Rwanda Exhibition.

- Also represented on our committee is Matilde Weise from the United Nations Youth Association of South Australia (UNYA SA). Although technically a UNAA(SA) sub-committee, UNYA SA operates as much as possible as a fully independent body. They offer a superb example of how an effective organisation can be totally run by young people. The UNYA SA activities are covered in a separate report.
- Another UNAA(SA) subcommittee, the UNAA Status of Women Committee is covered in separate report.

As can be seen from the wide range of involvement in other areas by our committee members, it becomes clear that this networking and wide range of contacts is really our



Hon. Robert Hill speaking at the Lessons from Rwanda Exhibition at Edmind Wright House, with John Crawford co-President UNAA(SA)

core activity. It is important that we continue to seek to extend the range of these activities and do our best so that through these contacts we can extend the reach of our activities in seeking to promote our firmly held belief in the United Nations, its agencies, declarations and its protocols. We so strongly believe the UN to be the best hope for a peaceful future for all people.



**UN**  
youth  
australia

**SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA**

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## UN YOUTH SA ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012

*MATILDE WIESE, PRESIDENT*

The past year for UN Youth SA has been one of innovation and, against all odds, outstanding growth. Concluding the 2010-2011 year hosting the UNYA National Youth Conference (UNYC) and National Council in Adelaide, our small division had completed a mammoth task that, for most divisions, creates a massive slump for the year that follows. However, UN Youth SA did not succumb to the typical burnout. Instead, we engaged in a variety of new activities, such the Young Diplomats Schools' Day Forum, launched the Take a Seat campaign which was then adopted nationally, relaunched old events such as the Kofi Trophy Tertiary Model UN Debating Competition, and continued to expand and improve our much loved annual events, State Conference and the Evatt Trophy. It is no doubt for these reasons that UN Youth South Australia has been awarded the Kate Longhurst Award for Best Division, 2011-2012. The following report details some of the key new initiatives and successes that UN Youth SA has had over the past year.

### The Evatt Trophy

The South Australian rounds of the Evatt Trophy Schools' Model United Nations Security Council Debating Competition ran in September 2011 with the great success that we have come to expect from it. Attracting just fewer than fifty delegates, the competition offered two days of outstanding debate after which our judging panel were faced with the challenge of selecting three teams to represent South Australia at the Evatt Trophy Australia in Hobart in December. The winning teams, from St Peters' Boys College, Blackfriars and Unley High School, all performed outstandingly well in the Australian finals, with the Saint Peters team making it into the Grand Finals. The Evatt Trophy SA 2011 once again proved to be a popular event within schools, and has paved the way for the expansion of Evatt in 2012 by Co-Convenors Matt Traeger and Maxim Paksalutsa.

### Schools' Day Forum

On UN Day, October 24, in 2011, UN Youth SA ran the 'Young Diplomats' Schools' Day Forum. Huge congratulations must go to Gia-Yen Luong, who put together the event in just over four weeks. The event welcomed a total of 54 delegates (the most delegates SA has ever had at a divisional event) and also achieved a record 25 registrations within four days. The day was a great way to create a relationship with the schools who attended as well as to expose the students who attended to UN Youth with minimal strains placed on time and finances.

## Tertiary Engagement

UN Youth Australia as a whole has typically performed poorly within the tertiary sector. However, I am pleased to say that UN Youth SA has managed to turn this around over the past year, with significantly increased activity through activities such as workshops at tertiary conventions, and a presence at O'Week at all three South Australian Universities. The jewel in the crown of our tertiary achievements was of course the relaunch of the Kofi Trophy Tertiary Model UN Security Council Debating Competition. Having been run last over five years ago, it was a pleasure to run the Kofi Trophy again. Taking place over five Wednesdays in May, the event was a huge success and paved the way for future competitions. It developed and expanded UN Youth's relationship with tertiary students in South Australia. Most competitors had not previously been involved with UN Youth or had not been involved for many years and Kofi was an excellent opportunities to engage with these new members. Full credit must go to our Tertiary Officer Indi Wishart for these successes.

## Take a Seat

Tying in with the UNAA's campaign on Australia's bid for a seat on the Security Council, UN Youth SA launched the Take a Seat campaign, asking young Australians what our government needs to do to take up such a seat. The campaign in SA comprised such events as O'Week stalls, our Take a Seat Speaker's Forum and a focus on the topic at our State Conference. On a national scale, South Australia's brainchild provided the basis for the UN Youth Australia Essay and Multimedia Competition, various workshops at UNYC and was even adopted as the theme of a number of State and Territory Conferences. While limited resources meant that the campaign could not reach the full potential foreseen, it was by no means a great success and has provided a blueprint for future focused campaigns to be run by UN Youth Australia.

## State Conference

State Conference 2012, themed saw forty delegates from Years 10 to 12 converge on Nunyara Conference Centre for three days of intense debate, workshops and speaker sessions focussing on the theme of 'Asylum Seekers and Refugees: A Human Perspective'. Students were inspired by the keynote address delivered by Hieu Van Le, and participated enthusiastically in workshops and discussions throughout the week. Despite initial disappointment at significantly decreased delegate numbers due to the failure to attend the conference by a number of delegates sent by Multicultural SA, the Conference ran smoothly and delegates found the weekend to be both exciting and inspiring. Congratulations must go to the 2012 State Conference Convenor Priya Pavri for her efforts in organising the event.

## Marketing UN Youth SA

During this term, UN Youth SA has done particularly well at improving our marketing. Particular mention must go to our Media Officer Matt Traeger for his efforts in this sphere.

The 2011-2012 year has seen UN Youth SA gain professional merchandise and marketing materials, effectively and professionally adopt the new UN Youth Australia brand, and increase our visibility through a number of media outlets such as newspaper articles and radio interviews, as well as through different channels such as as an official partner of the world music and sustainability festival WOMADelaide Earth Station.

### An Outstanding Executive

This report details the successes of individual initiatives of UN Youth SA, which of course are those elements of our organisation that constitute tangible evidence of our accomplishments. However, such successes would not have been possible if it were not for our 2011-2012 Executive Committee. Given the nature of various portfolios, some members may not have tangible results or events at they can hold forward as illustrations of their successes. However, they too have been working tirelessly and with endless commitment in order to ensure that UN Youth SA operates at the highest attainable standard. I would therefore like to acknowledge every member of the Executive Committee for their hard work and enthusiasm over the past year: Vice-President (Policy) Alice Bitmead; Vice-President (Administration) Darcy Shepherdson; Education Officers Idris Martin (2011) and Maddie Piochaud (2012); Education Assistant Tessa Price-Brooks; Media Officer Matt Traeger; Tertiary Officer Indi Wishart; Regional Officer Fiona Bailey; Social Officers Anthony Mysak and Priya Pavri; and Youth Representation Officer Gia-Yen Luong (2011). It has been a pleasure to work with this outstanding group of young people over the past year and each one of them must be congratulated for their invaluable contributions to UN Youth SA.

# UNAA(SA)—STATUS OF WOMEN COMMITTEE (SA)

## Annual Report 2011-2012

In the year, June 2011 to June 2012, UNAA SOWC held 10 meetings.

1. On 24th June, 2011, 5 members met up with Sandra Russell, General Manager of both Men's and women's prisons at Northfield. We had a session packed with lots of information on the present condition on Women prisoners.

The official capacity was 148 female prisoners, ranging from "overnight" to "life sentence". 20% were Aboriginal women, then the next highest number was from the Vietnamese community and the rest were of mixed racial origin. Occasionally there were Muslim women. Most of the Vietnamese women were in prison as the result of gambling. Most of the women had an addiction problem—to drugs, alcohol, and gambling. A large percentage had suffered abuse, physical or psychological, in childhood or later in life. Addiction is often an "escape" from such experiences.

The prison has improved health care provisions for physical, mental and dental issues.

Educational programme in prison is focussed on literacy and numeracy. Other programmes on anger/violence management, cooking, gardening drug related issues and gambling are available and these are carried out with the help of "external" community based groups e.g. Relationships Australia.

"Employment with pay" is available for the women, with 75% taking up this opportunity.

Video conferencing for court appearances helped to reduce "strip searching".

However there are problems that need to be addressed. There needs to be a separate area for women on remand, a "Step Down" in the Mental Health Programme, and facilities for mothers and babies.

2. Plans are in place for setting up a steering committee on Women prisons, with the aim of making improvements to the present system and thus better support the women involved. This would take into consideration the questions raised by Justice Peggy Hora's report on "Smart Justice", and those from "Correctional Services—Rehabilitation or Revolving Door Forum" held in Adelaide on 10th May, 2012.

3. We had a short talk from Sister Kate Conley who was a Catholic chaplain with the Women's Prison. She continued on an unpaid basis to support the women who had left the prison. We gave her \$156 from funds put aside for a swimming programme for the women prisoners which was not going to take place, and \$150 raised from a "Moroccan night" at one of our meetings.

4. Ruth Russell represented us at the Federal UNAA Round Table in Perth in August, 2012. Not much of the programme was on women in prisons.

5. In our May meeting we welcomed special guests, Margaret Hess from Beautiful Mind Beautiful World, and Mrs. Epiphania Mfundo, a community development worker from Tanzania. She has also worked in East Timor and the Caribbean on human rights. Mrs. Mfundo raised many issues facing her country. These included poverty, unemployment, female circumcision, HIV/AIDS, malaria as a major killer, shortage of safe drinking water, girl child and albino children. Women make up to 30% of members of Parliament, though not many in powerful portfolios. However women still struggle in silence against violence, and there is no law against rape in marriage and a girl under 14 years old can be given in marriage with parental approval.

6. On the "Film Night" in July, 2011, we made a profit of \$1031 for UNAA (SA).

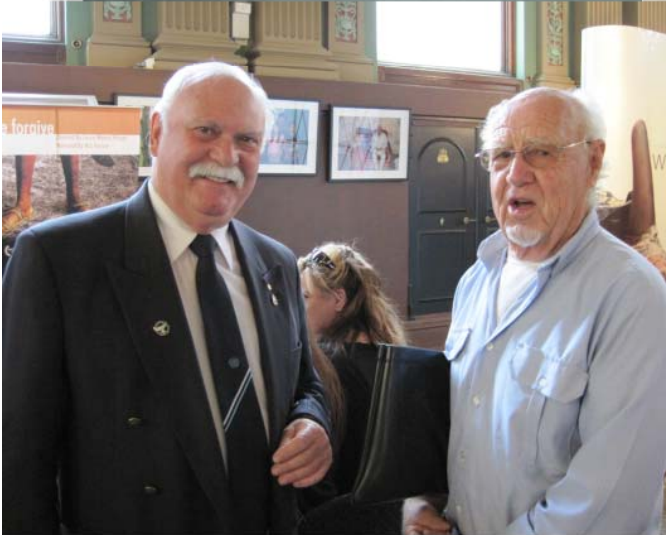
*Sing Ping Ting, President, UNAA SOWC (SA), 7/6/2012*



Robert Hill introducing Christine Schweizer at the Rio+20 briefing.



Christine Schweizer assisted by Renee McHale from the Rio+20 Taskforce in the Department of Sustainability in Canberra at our Adelaide briefing explaining the issues involved in preparing for the Rio+20 Conference.



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