

Celebrity Chef &
Australian
Students
celebrate the
**INTERNATIONAL
YEAR OF
PULSES**



#IYP2016
fao.org/pulses-2016



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PULSES – CELEBRATED IN SA

The versatility and ease of preparation of pulses were on display at a school cooking class at Kilkenny Primary School in Adelaide. It was no ordinary class for the 30 students who had the opportunity to cook a range of dishes with the help of celebrity chefs and VIPs.

The event, organized by the South Australian Division of the United Nations Association of Australia, was the culmination of the school's focus on the International Year of Pulses (IYP).

It had been preceded by a short talk on the benefits of pulses at the school assembly by Peter Semmler, from the Australian IYP Committee.

Peter, as well as internationally renowned chef Cheong Liew, and Adelaide chefs Gareth Grierson of The Red Door Bakery and Fatema Ayubi of the Parwana Afghani

Restaurant, were joined by UNIC Director, Christopher Woodthorpe, to each cook a specific dish with a team of students.

With the Adelaide Advertiser on hand to record the event, the pressure was on in the kitchens as knives chopped, pans sizzled and the room was filled with enticing aromas. Having cleaned their stations, composted waste products and set out their dishes, those assembled sat down to a delicious five course meal of soup, frittatas, fritters and fabulous salads as the pulses came into their own in a feast that all will remember.

Kilkenny are famous both for their cooking classes as well as the kitchen garden. During the 2016 UN International Year of pulses they have grasped the opportunity to ensure they miss no chance to learn about these nutritious foods.

UNA SA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*Sunday 17 July 2016, 2.00 to 5.00 pm
At St. Cyprian's Church Hall, 70 Melbourne Street,
North Adelaide*



AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Reports: (a) President
(b) Treasurer
3. Election of Executive Committee
President
Vice Presidents (2)
Secretary, Treasurer
Five individual Committee Members
Five representatives from Organisational
Members
4. Guest Speaker: Nicola Moore.
President UN Youth SA, 2014-2016

Apologies to UNA SA office
Phone 08 8223 2420 or
Email: sec@unaasa.org.au

Nomination forms are available from the
Returning Officer, Mrs Joan Young,
Email: young.joan@bigpond.com or by
Telephone 0419 485 090

**Nominations close on Thursday 30th
June 2016**

Close and shared afternoon tea

DISCUSSION EVENING

Tuesday 19 July 2016, 5.30 to 7.30 pm At the UNA SA Office 57/81 Carrington Street, Adelaide

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

What are they? Why are they important? What should we be doing about them?



2016 presents an unprecedented opportunity to bring the countries and citizens of the world together to embark on new path to improve the lives of people everywhere.

Countries have adopted [a new sustainable development agenda](#) and [global agreement on climate change](#). We will seek to find out more about the efforts of the UN and its partners to build a better world with no one left behind.

During his visit to Adelaide in early June, UNIC Director, Christopher Woodthorpe met with our UNA SA Committee and in telling us about the importance of the SDGs challenged us to help the UN make Australia more aware of these goals and their importance.

Where and when better to begin than at our forthcoming discussion evening in July?

“AND STILL THEY COME” by ALAN SHATTER

This poem was written by former Irish Justice Minister and author Alan Shatter late last year as the Mediterranean refugee crisis began to intensify

And still they come,
The beleaguered, the traumatised, the bereaved,
The detritus of conflict and cruelty,
Lives upended by sectarianists, tribeless and ideologists,
Casualties of fundamentalist religious definitive
And authoritarian dictatorial elitism.

And still they come,
The survivors, the fugitives, the tortured,
The dispossessed, the oppressed, the distressed,
The remnants of what was and what could have been,
Lives disrupted by politics, fanaticisms and fundamentalists,
And God's self-appointed warriors of destitution and destruction.

And still they come,
The brutalised, the capsized, the exploited,
The optimists, the pessimists, the fatalists,
Destinies children craving salvation,
Lives liberated from absolutists, sadists and rapists
And self-appointed promoters of atrocity, war and genocide.
And still they come,

The men, the women, the children,

In search of peace, freedom and prosperity,
To a dehumanised, disunited European horizon,
A porous fortress of moral indifference and hubris,
It's humanity paralysed on an altar of politically stoked
Xenophobic opportunism.

And still they come,
The relieved, the retrieved and the grieved,
The barely living, rescued from the Mediterranean's coffin ships,
A continuing traffic of human tragedy and nightmarish memories,
Running their race in the desperation stakes
Onto Europe's sandy beaches and rocky shores
And storming its indifferent citadels, walls and barricades.

And still they come
But will their coming become us?



Syrian man carrying a baby along the highway with other refugees, after leaving Budapest, Hungary, heading in the direction of Vienna, Austria. Photo: UNHCR/Mark Henley

PUBLIC FORUM ON WEST PAPUA—BENNY WENDA GUEST SPEAKER

Benny Wenda, an independence leader and international lobbyist for West Papua, has acted as a special representative of the Papua people in the British Parliament, United Nations, and European Parliament. In 2014 he was appointed as the spokesperson of the United Liberation Movement of West Papua. He has been nominated twice for the Nobel Peace Prize.

In breaking the silence at a public forum at Adelaide University on 19th April Benny reminded a packed theatre of the injustices that have occurred to the Indigenous West Papuans over the past 50 years or more. Benny explained that West Papua is made up of 250 tribes “imprisoned” by the Indonesians as West Papua has been occupied since 1963. Despite their island being divided for gold and timber, they are still one people.

Benny’s generation came out onto the streets in 2000 along with some of the elders. A second congress was held in 2002 and Benny as a leader was arrested for peacefully demonstrating with the “morning star” flag. Later Benny gained political asylum in Great Britain. He reflected on the time in 1997 when his family was brutally killed in their village and his mother and aunty were raped before his very own eyes.



While he was in Adelaide Benny Wenda visited the UNAASA office

That was when he returned to the bush. Later groups were formed in Great Britain and the Netherlands to campaign for rights for West Papuans. In their 50 years of struggle 500,000 West Papuans have lost their lives. Today there is a growing awareness around the world of the injustices taking place in West Papua. The restrictions placed on travel to West Papua speak volumes. However, Benny Wenda has faith that people power can change government attitudes.

In an attempt to limit Benny’s effectiveness on the international scene the Indonesian Government had an Interpol red notice placed on him, but when it became obvious that this was an abuse of the system by the Indonesians the notice was lifted.

In question time the issue of the Lombok Treaty was raised whereby Australian has agreed not to criticise the internal workings of the Indonesian government and vice-versa. But at the same time it was pointed out that a treaty cannot justify killing people.

This forum was presented by the Australia West Papua Association, the Australian Institute of International Affairs, the Australia East Timor Association, The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom and the United Nations Association of Australia SA Division.

UN SECRETARY GENERAL—More help needed for Syrian refugees

Ban Ki-moon joined UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi at a one-day conference in Geneva to call for more options for 4.8 million Syrian refugees at the end of March.



United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon joins United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi at a high-level conference in Geneva calling for more options for Syrian refugees. © UNHCR/A-L. Lechat

Addressing a one-day, high-level conference in Geneva on refugees from Syria, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said more needs to be done to provide resettlement and other answers for their plight.

"We are here to address the biggest refugee and displacement crisis of our time ... This demands an exponential increase in global solidarity," he told the gathering at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, attended by the representatives of 92 countries together with governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

Some 4.8 million Syrians have been forced to flee across borders by five years of war, while another 6.6 million are internally displaced. While talks are underway to find lasting peace, the UN chief said more countries need to step up and provide solutions for Syrian refugees.

"The best way to offer hope to Syrians is by

ending the conflict," the Secretary General said. "But until such talks bear fruit, the Syrian people and the region still face a desperate situation. The world must step up, with concrete actions and pledges. All countries can do more."

The March 30 conference was one of several key events in 2016 to do with Syria's refugees. It followed February's London Conference on Syria at which donors pledged US\$12 billion to help those in need in Syria and in the surrounding region along with the needs of communities in host countries.

"Now these pledges must be honoured," the Secretary General said.

The conference, which was also attended by 10 inter-governmental organizations, nine UN agencies and 24 non-government organizations, came in the run up to September's summit on refugees to be held at the General Assembly meeting.

The focus of the gathering was the need for expanded, multi-year programmes of resettlement and other forms of humanitarian admission, including involving countries that till now have not been involved in such initiatives.

Conference host Filippo Grandi, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, emphasized that the responsibility for caring for refugees should not be left to Syria's immediate neighbours alone, but should be more equitably shared.

"The magnitude of this particular crisis shows us unmistakably that it cannot be business as usual, leaving the greatest burden to be carried by the countries closest to the conflict," Grandi told the gathering, also attended by representatives from key refugee-hosting governments.

"Offering alternative avenues for the admission of Syrian refugees must become part of the solution, together with investing in helping the countries in the region," he added.

SEEKING SOLUTIONS

Among solutions identified to end their plight is resettlement to third countries. Grandi highlighted a programme in which UNHCR worked with Canada to screen, select and prepare more than 26,000 refugees to start a new life in just four months.

Grandi said other pathways included more flexible mechanisms for family reunification, including "extended family members, labour mobility schemes, student visas, scholarships, as well as visas for medical reasons."

"Resettlement needs vastly outstrip the places that have been made available so far. Last year, only 12 per cent of the refugees in need of resettlement, who are usually the most vulnerable, were resettled," Grandi said.

UNHCR estimates that at least 10 per cent of the 4.8 million refugees in countries neighbouring Syria will need resettling or

other humanitarian help to safely move elsewhere before the end of 2018. This includes people considered acutely vulnerable, such as survivors of torture, refugees with serious medical conditions or women left alone with several children to care for and without family support.

In closing remarks, Grandi said the conference had achieved "a clear recognition of the need for solidarity and responsibility-sharing for refugees." But he also reminded delegates of the wider global displacement context and the immense challenges ahead, including finding a political settlement for Syria, and dealing with ongoing displacement and secondary flows from conflicts elsewhere.

"I am under no illusion that we are appealing for this at a very difficult time, and within a troubling context," he said. "The solidarity required is a global one at this juncture. The collective effort of many states, and many actors within states, is essential."

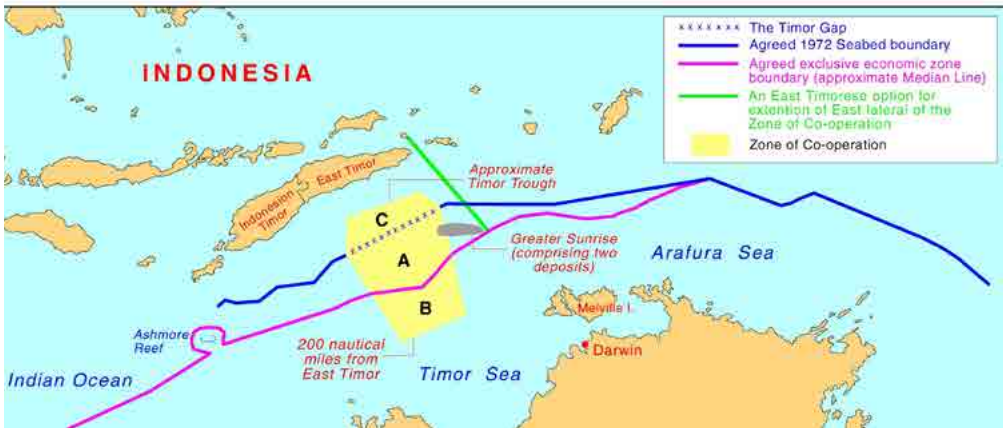
Several countries offered to increase significantly their global resettlement programmes further this year and in the coming years. In addition, the EU committed to resettle further refugees from Turkey.

A number of States affirmed their commitment to family reunification, including willingness to ease procedures. Several Latin American and European countries announced new humanitarian visa programmes or the expansion of existing ones. Thirteen states confirmed scholarships and student visas for Syrian refugees.

Ahead of the conference, the Campaign Director of Avaaz, Alice Jay, handed over a petition to Grandi carrying over 1.2 million signatures in support of refugees. The petition, collected since the summer, calls for increased resettlement and reunification of families alongside financial support to countries on the frontline of the crisis, among other things.

East Timor Update

April discussion evening with Dr Richie Gun AO



The border, originally negotiated by Australia and Indonesia, the former occupier of East Timor, placed the largest share of oil and gas in the Timor Sea within Australia's territorial waters. ATNS.net.au

We were delighted to be able to welcome Dr Richie Gun to update us on progress in East Timor since they achieved independence.

The map of East Timor shows it is the eastern half of the Island of Timor, together with the enclave of Oecussi-Ambeno which is on the northern coast of West (or Indonesian) Timor. At the time of the Second World War war it was a Portuguese colony, and occupied by the Japanese. It was occupied by Indonesia in 1975, and held for 25 years.

In addition on 20th May 2002 East Timor became the first new sovereign state of the 21st Century.

The maritime boundary dispute has been ongoing, arising from the 1972 negotiated seabed boundary agreement between Indonesia and Australia. Royalties from the oil and gas in the disputed area comprise some 95% of Timorese income.

In the 2002 Timor Sea Treaty 90% of the royalties from oil and gas coming from the wells are paid to East Timor. International

maritime border disputes are covered by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which was agreed after 1972. However Australia has withdrawn from this agreement. There have been a number of agreements between East Timor and Australia, with the most recent CMATS 50 agreement signed by Alexander Downer and José Ramos-Horta in 2007 which agreed to give East Timor 50% of the Greater Sunrise field royalties, and to not seek a boundary settlement for 50 years.

An equidistant boundary would give East Timor 100%: so therefore they appealed to the International Court of Arbitration in 2013 noting that during these negotiations it was disclosed that Australian security had been bugging the East Timor cabinet discussions. This was followed by the Australian seizure of documents from a lawyer acting for the East Timor government. A witness passport was also seized.

It was noted that in 2015 the ALP adopted a policy to rejoin UCLoS, and that earlier this year the East Timor President wrote to

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, but did not receive a response.

Dr Gun explained that there are three challenges currently facing East Timor.

- Revenue
- Expenditure
- Fertility

The income is based on oil and gas royalties, aid, and some primary produce (coffee beans). The royalties were supposed to have been invested and for East Timor to live on the income. However, low oil prices have made it necessary to live on the capital.

With investment in US bonds the current interest rates are negligible. It is also important to note that the Bayu-Undan oil field will be depleted in four to five years. Hence the importance of the Greater Sunrise field.

There is a dispute between East Timor and Woodside about whether to pipe the oil ashore in East Timor (or Darwin) or to build an offshore processing plant. This highlights the problem of the extremely deep water between the oil field and East Timor, while the longer path to Darwin is via the shallow continental shelf.

For planned expenditure there are also problems. There is a proposed petrochemical plant for Nova Betano on the South Coast. It is hard to obtain details, and there are economic and environmental questions, apart from the technical challenge of the 3,250 metre deep seas between the oil field and the coast.

There are grand projects planned, without much critical assessment, with no effective opposition in parliament. There are possible political changes that may assist.

A substantial part of the budget is used to pay veteran pensions from the freedom fight with Indonesia. There is concern about what will happen when the oil fund runs out.

While Indonesian fertility has more

than halved between 1962 and 2012, in East Timor it only fell by 20%. However this is an area where Richie is working in the villages, and he said that while there is a good family planning programme in place, there is cultural resistance to be overcome.

Mortality is improving. During the time of the UN peacekeeping activities there were large numbers of Cuban doctors working in East Timor. This has now resulted in a large number of East Timorese medical workers being Cuban trained.

Education presents a challenge, not helped by Portuguese being the official language since independence (it was Indonesian during the occupation). Apart from local languages, the more common spoken language is Tetum

Richie said it is a safe place to visit. When he visited in 2007 there was disagreement and conflict between East and West, but he says it is now much better, and a place well worth visiting.

We thank Richie for an intense talk covering a very complex issue. It was fascinating to hear from a friend of Timor who has been a fairly frequent visitor over so many years.



Australian peacekeepers in East Timor, 2002. M113 armoured personnel carrier of 3rd/4th Cavalry Regiment *Photo: Geoffrey C. Gunn*

Deliver Humanitarian Aid

One of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in its Charter, is “to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character.” The UN first did this in the aftermath of the Second World War on the devastated continent of Europe, which it helped to rebuild. The Organization is now relied upon by the international community to coordinate humanitarian relief operations due to natural and man-made disasters in areas beyond the relief capacity of national authorities alone.



A child has a meal at a food distribution centre in the Rwanda camp for internally displaced persons (IDPs), near Tawila, North Darfur. More than 8,000 women and children living in the camp benefit from nutrition programmes run by the World Food Programme (WFP). *UN Photo/Albert González Farran*

OCHA and the UN system

The [Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs](#) (OCHA) of the UN Secretariat is responsible for coordinating responses to emergencies. It does this through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, whose members include the UN system entities

most responsible for providing emergency relief. A coordinated, system-wide approach to humanitarian relief is essential in providing assistance quickly and efficiently to those in need.

The UN [Central Emergency Response Fund \(CERF\)](#), managed by OCHA, is one of the fastest and most effective ways to support

rapid humanitarian response for people affected by natural disasters and armed conflict. CERF receives voluntary contributions year-round to provide immediate funding for life-saving humanitarian action anywhere in the world.

What key UN entities deliver humanitarian aid?

Four UN entities, the [United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#), the [United Nations Refugee Agency \(UNHCR\)](#), the [United Nations Children's Fund \(UNICEF\)](#) and the [World Food Programme \(WFP\)](#) have primary roles in the delivery of relief assistance. UNDP is the agency responsible for operational activities for natural disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness. When emergencies occur, UNDP Resident Coordinators coordinate relief and rehabilitation efforts at the national level.

Helping Refugees

The [UN Refugee Agency \(UNHCR\)](#) emerged in the wake of World War II to help Europeans displaced by that conflict. The agency leads and co-ordinates international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. The General Assembly created the [United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East \(UNRWA\)](#) to provide emergency relief to some 750,000 Palestine refugees, who had lost their homes and livelihoods as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict. Today, some 5 million Palestine refugees are eligible for UNRWA services.

The UN General Assembly will host a high-level meeting 19 September 2016 to [address large movements of refugees and migrants](#), with the aim of bringing countries together behind a more humane and coordinated approach.

Helping Children

Since its beginning, [The United Nations Children's Fund \(UNICEF\)](#) has strived to reach as many children as possible with effective, low-cost solutions to counter the biggest threats to their survival. UNICEF also consistently urges governments and warring parties to act more effectively to protect children.

Feeding the Hungry

The [World Food Programme \(WFP\)](#) provides relief to millions of people, who are victims of disasters. It is responsible for mobilizing food and funds for transport for all large-scale refugee-feeding operations managed by UNHCR.

The [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(FAO\)](#) is often called on to help farmers re-establish production following floods, outbreaks of livestock disease and similar emergencies. The [FAO Global Information and Early Warning System](#) issues monthly reports on the world food situation. Special alerts identify, for Governments and relief organizations, countries threatened by food shortages.

Healing the Sick

The [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) coordinates the international response to humanitarian health emergencies. WHO is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends. In the 21st century, health is a shared responsibility, involving equitable access to essential care and collective defence against transnational threats.



If wildlife crime makes you wild – get wild for life

Unless the science fiction of Michael Crichton's "Jurassic Park" becomes science fact sometime soon, extinction will continue to mean gone forever; and if we want to avoid losing more species, we must start learning from mistakes of the past; unfortunately the evidence suggests that all too often we seem determined to repeat them.

Humans have hunted animals for food since time immemorial and taking "one for the pot" was not sport but quite simply the only way to feed one's family. The artisanal methods using bow and arrow or nets made from home-spun twine and the level of the harvest meant such hunting was entirely sustainable. But how things have changed!

In addition to other threats, man-made and natural, such as climate change, habitat loss, collisions with vehicles, power lines and wind turbines, wildlife faces another totally avoidable danger: illegal wildlife trade. Along with trafficking of drugs, arms and people it ranks as one of the most lucrative criminal activities and it is often interlinked with them. Criminal gangs and armed rebels often finance their operations through wildlife crime, exploiting the huge profits

that can be made from ivory and rhino horn, which are as attractive a commodity to deal in as narcotics and weapons.

In 2015 there were reports of macabre tourism in the Balkans, where operators exploiting inconsistencies in Europe's legislation and its porous borders, led hunters on well-organized shooting sprees, using formidable state-of-the-art weaponry. Much of this hunting is legal and the take sustainable where common species are concerned, but endangered and protected species are also being bagged. It is claimed by the perpetrators that hunting birds is a long-established practice and part of rural culture; but having emptied the skies of birds at home, hunters are moving across borders to wreak similar havoc abroad. More recently BirdLife International estimated that 25 million birds were being taken illegally in the Mediterranean alone, some to be consumed by the hunters themselves but others sold to restaurants at home and abroad to be served up as illicit delicacies or made into ornaments. A single raid by Italian customs brought in a haul of over 100,000 dead birds found in one truck from Serbia. With huge profits to be made (the black market mark-

up can reach 3,000 per cent and gram for gram, some animal products can fetch more than heroin or cocaine). The temptation for the less scrupulous elements of society to flout inadequately enforced laws can be irresistible.

Vulture populations in Africa are collapsing. One reason is that farmers lace carcasses with poison bait with the intention of killing predators such as lions or hyenas that take their livestock; vultures are the unintended victims. But more recently poachers have been trying to kill vultures by contaminating dead elephants slaughtered for their ivory, because by circling over the scene of the crime the birds reveal where the poachers are. There is a real risk that Africa will lose not only its iconic elephants but also some of its most important birds of prey, which play a critical role in human health as nature's garbage disposers.

Wildlife crime is not confined to the land. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization is tackling pirate fisheries through the new Port State Measures Agreement, which should prevent vessels from selling their illicit catch and facilitate inspections by the authorities. Illegal fisheries not only take millions of tonnes of fish each year but are also responsible for bycatch, a driver in the decline of species such as the vaquita in the Gulf of California and the harbour porpoise in the Baltic Sea.

Another part of the solution is that UN organizations such as the Conservation of Migratory Species and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species provide an intergovernmental platform to agree coordinated actions and oversee implementation. The two are co-operating closely on the conservation of the Saiga Antelope, a species that hit the headlines last year after

thousands died in the space of a few weeks. The males' horns are traded internationally for use in traditional medicine – that is where CITES comes in. But Saigas are an endangered migratory species, and through CMS, the Range States agree on measures to protect them.

The Conventions promote capacity-building, training on law enforcement, stronger legislation and awareness-raising campaigns to help reduce demand for wildlife products by exposing myths like the one that rhino horn has medicinal properties. They exert pressure on countries that turn a blind eye to corruption that undermines the law. And local communities are engaged, not lectured, and full account taken of people's social, cultural and economic needs.

With 5 June being designated World Environment Day, the UN is highlighting the dangers illegal wildlife trade has for our wellbeing. CMS is playing its part in promoting the campaign's Wild for Life feature where celebrities from sport, the arts and entertainment have voiced their support for concerted action. The invitation is open to everyone to join in to make their stand against wildlife crime.

Bradnee Chambers is the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Environment Programme's Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (UNEP/CMS)

- See more at: <http://www.unep.org/stories>



UNEP

United Nations Environment Programme

2016 Amnesty International Oration



After initiating a one day conference 'Towards 3%' which was held on Thursday 2nd June to challenge workers in the justice system and in the community to work together to reduce the incarceration rates of Aboriginal people, Chris Kourakis has placed, quite centrally on the State's Agenda the rates at which Aboriginal People are incarcerated.

The Chief Justice, Chris Kourakis invited 80 guests to the Port Adelaide Football Club to discuss all possible strategies to set targets to move Aboriginal prison rates from 24% in the adult population towards 3%. In this 2016 Amnesty International Oration, Chris Kourakis will discuss the issues on how to reduce the high level of incarceration and his thoughts on how it can be achieved.

Delivered by The Hon Chris Kourakis

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of SA

Friday 1 July 2016, 6.00 - 7.15pm

Allan Scott Auditorium, Hawke building, UniSA
City West campus



Register at: <http://e.mybookingmanager.com/E660516100497>

The Wilks Oration 2016

The Effective Living Centre

Effective Living Centre, 26 King William Road, Wayville

Friday 29 July. 7.00 pm start,

6.15 door open and drinks and nibbles.

\$25 adult, \$20 concession, \$15 Friends of ELC. Supper included.

Bookings essential: online at www.effectiveliving.org
or phone 8271 0329.

A project of Christ Church Uniting, Wayville



UNAA New South Wales Conference 2016

Sydney 22-23 July

For more information go to:

[UNAA NSW Conference Flyer](#)

The New South Wales Division of the United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) invites you to be part of its 2016 Conference.

The UN is the only truly international organisation dedicated to addressing 'problems without passports.' Recently the UN has won

At the conference the speakers will be leading us in discussion on the following questions:

- How does the UN system promote the common good and the rule of law globally?
- What are the UN's recent achievements and how can the International community most effectively capitalize on them?
- What aspects of the United Nation system are in need of reform, and how can this occur?
- How can Australia play a positive role in its engagement with the UN?



MAKING THE UNITED NATIONS FIT FOR
PURPOSE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

some notable victories with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. To play a leading role in meeting the challenges of the 21st-Century the UN needs to continue its on-going processes of reform in a number of key areas.

INTERNATIONAL DAYS — July to October 2016

JULY

- 2 July (first Saturday in July) International Day of Cooperatives (A/RES/47/90)
- 11 July World Population Day (UNDP decision 89/46 15, A/RES/45/216)
- 15 July World Youth Skills Day (A/RES/69/145)
- 18 July Nelson Mandela International Day (A/RES/64/13)
- 28 July World Hepatitis Day [WHO]
- 30 July International Day of Friendship (A/RES/65/275)
- 30 July World Day against Trafficking in Persons (A/RES/68/192)

AUGUST

- 9 August International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (A/RES/49/214)
- 12 August International Youth Day (A/RES/54/120)
- 19 August World Humanitarian Day (A/RES/63/139)
- 23 August International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition [UNESCO] (Decision 8.2 of the 150th session of the UNESCO Executive Board)
- 29 August International Day against Nuclear Tests (A/RES/64/35)
- 30 August International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances (A/RES/65/209)

SEPTEMBER

- 5 September International Day of Charity (A/RES/67/105)
- 8 September International Literacy Day [UNESCO] (14 C/Resolution 1.441)
- 12 September United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation (A/RES/58/220)
- 15 September International Day of Democracy (A/RES/62/7)
- 16 September International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (A/RES/49/114)
- 21 September International Day of Peace (A/RES/36/67) (A/RES/55/282)
- 26 September International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (A/RES/68/32)
- 27 September World Tourism Day
- 29 September (last Thursday of September) World Maritime Day (IMCO/C XXXVIII/21)

OCTOBER

- 1 October International Day of Older Persons (A/RES/45/106)
- 2 October International Day of Non-Violence (A/RES/61/271)
- 3 October (first Monday in October) World Habitat Day (A/RES/40/202 A)
- 5 October World Teachers' Day [UNESCO] (27 C/INF.7)
- 9 October World Post Day (UPU/1969/Res.C.11)
- 10 October World Mental Health Day [WHO]
- 11 October International Day of the Girl Child (A/RES/66/170)
- 13 October International Day for Disaster Reduction (A/

- RES/64/200)
- 15 October International Day of Rural Women (A/RES/62/136)
- 16 October World Food Day [FAO] (A/RES/35/70)
- 17 October International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (A/RES/47/196)
- 20 October World Statistics Day (A/RES/69/282)
- 24 October United Nations Day (A/RES/168 (II); A/RES/2782 (XXVI))
- 24 October World Development Information Day (A/RES/3038 (XXVII))
- 27 October World Day for Audiovisual Heritage (UNESCO 33/C/Resolution 53)
- 31 October World Cities Day (A/RES/68/239)

INTERNATIONAL WEEKS

- 1–7 February (first week of February) World Interfaith Harmony Week (A/RES/65/5)
- 21–27 March Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination (A/RES/34/24)
- 19–23 April Global Soil Week
- 24–30 April World Immunization Week [WHO]
- 4–10 May UN Global Road Safety Week [WHO]
- 25–31 May Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/RES/54/91)
- 1–7 August World Breastfeeding Week [WHO]
- 4–10 October World Space Week (A/RES/54/68)
- 24–30 October Disarmament Week (A/RES/S-10/2 (p. 102))
- 9–15 November (the week in which 11 November falls) International Week of Science and Peace (A/RES/43/61)

INTERNATIONAL YEARS

- 2016** International Year of Pulses (A/RES/68/231)
- 2017** International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development (A/RES/70/193; draft A/C.2/70/L.5)

INTERNATIONAL DECADES

- 2015–2024 International Decade for People of African Descent A/RES/68/237
- 2014–2024 United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All A/RES/67/215
- 2011–2020 Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism A/RES/65/119
- United Nations Decade on Biodiversity A/RES/65/161
- Decade of Action for Road Safety A/RES/64/255
- 2010–2020 United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification A/RES/62/195
- 2008–2017 Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty A/RES/62/205
- 2006–2016 Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions (third decade after the Chernobyl disaster) A/RES/62/9
- 2005–2015 International Decade for Action, "Water for Life" A/RES/58/217

From <http://www.un.org/en/events/observances/index.shtml>

POSTSCRIPT

Membership renewal

If we have not yet received your membership renewal we will again include a renewal form with your newsletter.

Please consider becoming a member of UNAA SA and supporting our efforts in keeping people informed about the UN and its wide range of essential services around the world.

Newsletter

This edition is printed as an A5 booklet.

I have been delighted for a couple of years to be able to provide a colour printed newsletter to all our members who have expressed a preference to receive a newsletter on paper. Recent cost increases, not helped at all by the substantial increase in postage, have meant that we have sought to circulate as many as possible by email.

However, current members who prefer a printed newsletter will still receive their posted copy.

I would like to thank Grandparents for Grandchildren and especially John Langton (who was until recently GFG's CEO, and is one of our two Vice-Presidents) for enabling us to provide a printed copy of our newsletter in colour.

AGM Notice

We gave notice of the AGM in our last newsletter, and you will receive a copy of the notice including an agenda, together with a nomination form for the election of the Committee.

It will be on Sunday 17 July, 2.00 to 5.00 pm at Saint Cyprian's Church hall, 72 Melbourne Street. Parking is available alongside the hall with access via 43 Sussex Street.

We wish to welcome all our members to this important meeting.

Discussion Evening 19 July

Christopher Woodthorpe met with our Execu-

tive committee early in June, and brought to our attention the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We will look at these goals, and discuss what we might do to highlight their importance over the coming time. As Christopher said, "The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next 15 years in areas of critical importance: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership." He challenged us to discover what we might be able to do.

Recent Events

As UNIC Director, and the UN representative in Australia, Christopher came to Adelaide to celebrate World Oceans Day. His presentations at Kilkenny and Fulham North Primary Schools were brilliant, made even more exciting by the pulse cooking class with the Kilkenny children and notable chefs.

Benny Wenda

With the AIIA and other NGO bodies, West Papuan refugee Benny Wenda visited Adelaide to tell us about his work in London to recognise the rights of the West Papuan people.

He also paid a brief visit to our UNAA SA office on the following day to write a Peace Message for placement in our Peace Bottle.

Tasting Australia

During the Tasting Australia week, Town Square in Adelaide included a stand celebrating Pulses. Our UN flag was part of the display.

I will not be seeking re-election as President at the AGM, although I still intend to be involved with helping and supporting UNAA SA and the UN. I wish UNAA SA and all our great members well for the future, it has been a real pleasure serving as President.

John Crawford

President UNAA SA

57/81 Carrington Street Adelaide 5000

ph 8344 4978

email: pres@unaasa.org.au