



United Nations  
Association  
of Australia  
SA Division

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

— SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION —





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# THE SDG'S

On 25 September 2015, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, 193 world leaders committed to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (or Global Goals). These are a series of ambitious objectives and targets to end extreme poverty and hunger, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change, by 2030. Achievement of the SDGs is one of the UN's highest priorities. As such, the UNAA is deeply committed to the education, inspiration and engagement of Australians around the SDGs and has a clear mandate to increase the Australian support needed to help create a safer, fairer and more sustainable world.



The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. Learn more and take action.

# UNAASA COMMITTEE

President: Lidia Moretti  
Vice President: Annie Ngo  
Vice President: Kelly Sharp  
Secretary: Robert Dempsey  
Treasurer: Brendon Skates / Wayne Henson

## Committee Members:

Dr Sing Ping Ting  
Thilini Chanu  
Rosallie Cocchiaro  
Mathew Brittingham  
UN Youth President Lou Potter / Vasil Samardzhiev  
Sarah Davies

create

collaborate

commit

## Volunteers:

Denise Aldous  
Jenny Badman  
Delphine De'Salisbury  
Miranda Jelbart  
Janzy Murphy  
Corry Travella  
Catherine Balfour Ogilvy

## UNAASA Advisors:

SDG Advisor: The Hon Rev. Dr Lynn Arnold  
Human Rights Advisor: The Hon Dr Robyn Layton AO QC  
Community Engagement Advisor: Genevieve Haese  
Indigenous Advisors: Pippa and Gavin Wanganeen  
Artistic Advisor: The Artist Andrew Baines

## UNAASA Patrons:

Chief Patron:  
Her Excellency the Honourable  
Frances Adamson AC

## Corporate Members:

The Hawke Centre  
The Migrant Resource Centre  
The Adelaide Institute of Hospitality  
Foodbank SA  
Agrisemm  
The University of Adelaide  
Leo Crasti  
Juliet Tripodi-Rainbow Fresh  
Bullys Meat-Robyn Verral  
Diana Gilbert-Jock Gilbert  
Wicked Lab-Diana Humphreys

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Kurna people, the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we gather on. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of the Kurna people to country and we respect and value their past, present and ongoing connection to the land and cultural beliefs.





# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The United Nations is an intergovernmental organization, founded in 1945 whose stated purposes are to maintain international peace and security, develop friendly relations among nations, achieve international cooperation, and serve as a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations.

The UN has evolved over the years to keep pace with a rapidly changing world.

But one thing has stayed the same: it remains the one place on Earth where all the world's nations can gather together, discuss common problems, and find shared solutions that benefit all of humanity.

**The UN main Pillars for advancement of its agenda are:**



Sustainable  
Development



Human  
Rights &  
Humanitarian  
Issues



Peace &  
Security

The UNAA works to inform, inspire and engage Australians on the work, goals, and values of the United Nations to create a safer, fairer, more sustainable world.

We support UN Youth to promote greater understanding of the UN within Australian schools, particularly through the conduct of Model UN Conferences. We promote the UN's critical role in striving to maintain international peace and security, human rights and sustainable development. In particular we focus on promoting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the issues affecting Australians and Australia, such as climate change, the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, gender equality and refugees.



UNAASA has a busy and successful year.

We enjoy the support of our Local Community and it's leaders and have continued to grow our profile and outreach.

UNAASA has welcomed a new Patron Her Excellency Frances Adamson AC and it's great to see the ease and passion she has in contributing to the SA Community, and in supporting our Division.

The work we undertake each year is directly linked to the UN Goals and we have been fortunate to form new partnerships and engage our community with our events.

Farewelling our previous Patron The Hon Hieu Van Le and Mrs Lan Le was truly a moving affair and the Plaque in their honour at the Migration Museum stands as a testament to the contribution made by well loved individuals

I am appreciative of the wonderful support of a professional Committee whose excellent support maintains diverse projects and events on a continual basis.

I would like to thank our outgoing Treasurer Brendon Skates for his work as treasurer on our Committee.

Brendon has become increasingly busy but he is not leaving us altogether, remaining to take care of the Bookwork and sharing the load with Wayne Henson AO -welcome Wayne!

Many thanks to our team of Volunteers who have developed our Newsletter-particularly Corry Travella and Cate Balfour Ogilvy.

Our Annual UN Day Dinner continues to be a success- thank you to those volunteers who support the many tasks we undertake.

To Our Fantastic Sponsors ,many who have supported us over the years-thank you!

Our Dinner is a very special event enjoying the support of the Community wit our Fundraising efforts-and a lot of fun!

To our Advisors The Rev Dr Lyn Arnold AO, Robyn Layton AO KC ,Genevieve Theseira Haese, Pippa and Gavin Wanganeen and Andrew Baines for saying' Yes ' to our many requests and being involved in all we do.

In Friendship.

**Lidia Moretti**

# EVENTS



30TH OCTOBER 2022

## UNAASA DINNER

On the 30th of October, UNAASA was delighted to host a fund-raising dinner at the National Wine Centre to celebrate UN Day and the formation, goals and achievements of the UN with the UNAASA community, partners, donors and special guests. To begin the night, guests were treated to a food tasting supplied by members of the local food industry. Welcome to Country was given by Aboriginal Elder Uncle Moogy who always manages to create a warm and spiritual aura at our events.

MC Pippa Wanganeen warmly welcomed the first speaker, former Premier and now Sustainable Development Goals Ambassador for UNAASA, the Reverend Dr Lynn Arnold, who delivered a message from UN Secretary General António Guterres which included the words “As we mark UN Day, let us renew our hope and conviction in what humanity can achieve when we work as one, in global solidarity.”

The Governor of SA and UNAASA Chief Patron, Ms Frances Adamson AC, spoke next, recognising there is no other global organisation like the UN. The heart-warming Bamboo Orchestra from West Java gave stirring renditions of “I still call Australia home” and “Waltzing Matilda”.

Guest speaker for the evening was Enrico Palermo, Head of the Australian Space Agency who spoke about the evolving and leading role of South Australia in the Space Sector in Australia. He spoke about how UN has enacted space treaties whereby space based technology aims to improve life. He went on to say that with more than 100 space-related organisations, the state is attracting the world’s most ambitious space entrepreneurs. Flavia Tata Nardini, a guest on this evening is one such person making a move to South Australia from Rome to set up Fleet Space Technologies.

It was a truly happy evening attended by community leaders and celebrating colourful works from Refugee Week 2022 on display.



24TH OCTOBER 2022

## TURNING BLUE FOR UNITED NATIONS DAY

On the 24th of October, the Parliament of South Australia turned blue for United Nations Day. On this day in 1945, the UN Charter entered into force. The Town Hall, Convention Centre, Festival Centre and the NWC also marked the occasion.





**16TH NOVEMBER 2022**



# GOVERNMENT HOUSE RECEPTION FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Governor and Mr Bunten serve as patrons to more than 150 organisations and community groups to recognise the contribution that they make to South Australia.

Her Excellency and Mr Bunten take an active role by promoting organisations, celebrating volunteers, supporters and staff, attending events, and hosting groups at Government House, including at the annual Patronage Garden Party.

As well as saying a heartfelt thank you, Her Excellency used the opportunity to convey how impressed she and Mr Bunten have been with the drive and commitment displayed by such organisations in building stronger communities.

UNAASA was represented by President Lidia Moretti and Committee members Thilini Chanu and Mathew Brittingham as well as UN Youth President Lou Potter.

While there UNAASA members, as well as our Community Advisor Genevieve Haese, visited the 'Cherry Blossom Tree' donated to Government House several years ago to celebrate World Environment Day and were delighted to note the Tree was in blossom.



19TH NOVEMBER 2022

## SEEDS FOR SNAPPER

Members of UNAASA attended the launch of “Seeds for Snapper” at the Cruising Yacht Club in support of this wonderful project on 19th November. An introduction by Project Manager Rachel Williams was followed by Burka - Senior Cultural Custodian Karl Winda Telfer with his “Greeting to Spirit of Place” and the resonating didgeridoo. Marine Biologist Michael Sierp then addressed the hundred or so gathered, telling them that OZFish had several chapters in SA - in the Barossa, Coorong, Adelaide and Onkaparinga. These groups of mainly recreational anglers are all involved as volunteers in promoting the health of SA waterways and fish habitats. Beginning in 2020 those involved with Seeds for Snapper have dispersed more than 25,000 seagrass seeds. It is estimated that a single hectare of restored seagrass can produce an average of 207 kilograms of fish per year more. Once collected, the fruits are processed in saltwater popup tanks and the resulting seeds sewn into environmentally friendly biodegradable sandbags.

The sandbags of seeds are then dispersed, by boat, at strategic locations identified by marine scientists from the Environment Protection Authority and South Australian Research and Development Institute. Associate Professor Jason Tanner then spoke. He leads the Environmental Assessment and Rehabilitation Sub-program in the Marine Ecosystems Program, in Aquatic Sciences at SARDI, and is an affiliate at Flinders University. His current focus is particularly around seagrass loss and restoration.

Tony Flaherty from “Green Adelaide” (which is part of the Landscape Board SA, once National Resources Board) informed us that a landscape levy raises funds which go to coastal projects such as this. Jack Wise from the BCF Richmond store told the group that BCF asks customers for small donations which BCF then matches to support projects such as this.

Next, Lidia Moretti, President of UNAASA spoke, praising those who are already involved in the program and thanking them for their efforts in promoting Sustainable Goals in line with the aims of United Nations, during this “Decade of Restoration”. Many of the audience were keen to become part of such a project and so were encouraged to become involved as volunteers collecting seagrass fruits as they float or wash up along the shore. All people have to do is register on the OzFish website and then stay tuned, via dedicated channels, for updates on where seagrass fruits have been spotted.

This year, the dispersal effort in Adelaide will be aided by the “ONE AND ALL”, which will be giving day trippers on a special cruise the chance to get involved. The very informative day ended with a welcome sausage sizzle generously provided by OZfish, Rainbow Fresh and Bully Meat.

Story credit: Jenny Badman.







26TH OCTOBER 2022

# TAFE HOSPITALITY SCHOLARSHIPS

UNAASA is delighted each year to award two Scholarships to students from TAFE Hospitality to further their studies.

Iconic Chef and ally of our organization Cheong Liew was on hand to present the Awards to Eunice Anne Hernandez and Georgia Nelson on Graduation night on 26th October.

Always happy to receive feedback from the organisers as to the impact of the Scholarships.

8TH OCTOBER 2022

## AUSTRALIA DONNA SEMINAR - BREAK THE SILENCE ON RADIO ITALIA 531

On 8th October, we presented to twenty-two women the Rompi il Silenzio – No Alla Violenza, Break the Silence – No to Violence. The event was attended by UNAASA President Lidia Moretti.

The seminar was delivered by Andrea Planamente, a noted psychologist and SAPOL Brevet Sergeant Ada Scalzi, who has worked with domestic violence for over eighteen years and is a member of UNAASA.

While it was discussed we cannot change the situation for many women who find themselves in abusive, exploitive or violent situations the response from the women who attended the seminar was very positive and encouraging for us to continue to raise awareness on this issue.

To summarise the presentation, there is a high need to keep women informed and educated about the consequences of remaining silent whether they or others they know of are suffering in silence.

Australia Donna Org will continue to work with other organisations, groups or interested parties in the community, through fund applications to help give back the voice to those silenced by abuse and violence.

We say Break the Silence - no to violence in as many ways as possible.

Story credit: Vera Ubaldi. Australian Donna Member







## SEEDS FOR SNAPPER

On the 29th December in glorious sunny weather members of UNAASA gathered at the Cruising Yacht Club to board the “One and All” - a restored tall ship based on the original rig of an 1850’s brigantine. This was a special cruise to enable members and others to get involved in the rehabilitation of the seagrass fields in the Gulf of St Vincent, critical to the regeneration of snapper which feed on them.

The seagrass seeds had already been collected by volunteers and placed in hessian sandbags ready on board for members and others to drop into predetermined areas under the guidance of OzFish who are leading the project.

Rachel Williams from OzFish gave an informative briefing on the purpose of the project, how important rebuilding the seagrass fields were and how there was only a three week window available each year for this sowing of the seeds to be most effective. Then the fun began with members and others positioning themselves carefully in the swell to drop the bags horizontally into the ocean to ensure the seeds had the best chance to survive.

Lidia Moretti, President of UNAASA, thanked OzFish and the mainly volunteer crew of the “One and Only” for a wonderful few hours on board where we had enjoyed afternoon tea and been able to be involved in such an important project that met the aims of the United Nations in this Decade of Restoration.

Written by Denise Aldous



20TH JANUARY 2023

## AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

President of UNAASA Lidia Moretti and UNAASA member and reporter Jenny Badman recently represented the organisation at the Australia Day Awards presented by the Australia Day Council of SA.

The event was held in the grounds of Government House and attended by SA politicians and local dignitaries as well as several hundred family and friends of those nominated.

The awards recognise outstanding South Australians who have selflessly continued to make a difference to the lives of others. These individuals do not seek praise or recognition in generously donating their time and energy to strengthening the community. Australia Day council of SA, Chief Executive officer, Jan Chorley said the Australia Day Awards recognise the commitment of South Australians whose work often goes unnoticed.

Stella Braund of the City of Unley was announced as South Australia's citizen of the Year for 2023. Stella demonstrated outstanding leadership in helping to establish the National Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Helpline-1800 RESPECT which has had a far reaching impact across Australia and in doing so has transformed many lives. Other South Australians were recognised for their work such as assisting countless women find confidence and dignity through work after incarceration, helping the mental health of young Ngarrindjeri people, or generously supporting and advocating for Vietnam veterans.

Guests were entertained by the SA Navy Band adding atmosphere to a unique event.

Written by Jenny Badman.







**28TH JANUARY 2023**

# LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Lunar New Year is a celebration of the arrival of spring and the beginning of a new year on the lunar calendar. It is the most important holiday in China, and it is also widely celebrated in South Korea, Vietnam, and countries with a significant overseas Chinese population. While the official dates encompassing the holiday vary by culture, those celebrating consider it the time of the year to reunite with immediate and extended family.

Commonly known as the Spring Festival in China, Lunar New Year is a fifteen-day celebration marked by many traditions. At home, families decorate windows with red paper cuttings and adorn doors with couplets expressing auspicious wishes for the new year.

In the Chinese zodiac, 2023 is the year of the rabbit. In the Vietnamese and Gurung (Central Nepal) zodiac, the cat replaces the rabbit. In the Malay zodiac, the mousedeer replaces the rabbit. In Adelaide the Multicultural Community celebrated in style with the Street Party a highlight of the many events during this period





28TH JANUARY 2023

## LUTHERAN CARE INSTALLATION

Behind the Guise of Homelessness, by Lutheran Care, brought together several high-profile South Australians in Rundle Mall, although they were disguised as such that passersby may not have recognised them. Each represented a living portrait of some of the many faces of homelessness, challenging stereotypes and reminding viewers that homelessness can, and does, happen to anyone. “Right now, 85 percent of enquiries for homelessness services are from clients seeking services for the first time.”

Some of the true stories of people with lived experience of homelessness and hardship have been collected as part of this project: you can read them via the link below. We thank our clients for generously agreeing to contribute their stories. With Andrew Baines being known internationally for surreal installations featuring politicians, cows and clotheslines in unexpected places, Behind the Guise of Homelessness is a thought-provoking event that will be impossible for people to ignore. This event was televised by the ABC nationwide as well as several other TV Stations on the evening News.

President of UNAASA Lidia Moretti represented the organisation, gladly endorsing this unique event. Andrew Baines is the Artistic Advisor for UNAASA. Participants were well know SA identities:

- Erin Phillips – Port Adelaide AFLW captain, former Opals/WNBA basketball player and media personality
- Mark Soderstrom – Media personality, sports presenter and former SANFL footballer
- Nat Cook – SA Minister for Human Services and anti-violence advocate
- Uncle Mickey O’Brien – Kurna and Narrunga leader
- Bruce Djite – Executive Director of the Property Council of Australia’s SA Division, former CEO of the Committee of Adelaide, former Socceroo and TV soccer analyst
- Heather Croall – Adelaide Fringe CEO, and
- Andrew Kay – Business SA CEO







18TH MARCH 2023

## HARMONY DAY

When more than twenty years ago my colleague and I were tasked with spreading the word about Harmony Day in SA, I could only have hoped that its symbolism would remain with us for decades. Since 1999, the Department of Home Affairs has led national celebrations for Harmony Week to promote diversity and inclusion activities during the week of 21 March, the date coinciding with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The latter signifies a continued call to action for the global community and we all, in our respective professional roles and private lives, have to continue our efforts towards this so important aim whilst also encouraging simultaneously a genuine celebration of diversity. Australia-bound refugees and special humanitarian program entrants, when learning first about Harmony Day in their pre-departure cultural orientation (AUSCO) classes, have been more than excited about the positive approach taken by their new home country and cannot await participating also in onshore celebrations.

Harmony Week, as per the Australian Government's website [harmony.gov.au](http://harmony.gov.au) is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values, to celebrate Australian multiculturalism, and the successful integration of migrants into our community. Orange was chosen as the colour to represent Harmony Week. Traditionally, it signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect.

It was apparent that diversity and gratefulness for each other's uniqueness certainly were on the minds of the thirty participants at the UNAA SA commemorative event. Commencing with a heartfelt acknowledgement of country by the Hon Robyn Layton, AO QC, and a very warm welcome and beautiful introduction to the event by Lidia Moretti, President of UNAA SA, the scene was set for a fabulous morning at Glenelg beach. The Hon Stephen Patterson, Member for Morphettvale provided the SA touch, and Clare Lindop, Deputy Mayor for Holdfast Shores welcomed everyone to their council. It was truly amazing to have opportunity to learn from all participants about their background, a fascinating kaleidoscope of experience and positive energies, and all shared by a group of people who had come with the aim of taking A Stand for Peace and Harmony.

With many creative souls present amongst the attendees, Surrealist Artist Andrew Bains took the lead in guiding the Live Installation. His words shall remain with us, as, indeed, whilst we all were trying to stand in an ideal pose under the guidance of Amber Baines and after a wonderful 15 min Yoga warm-up by Elaa De Maria, it was notable that our human abilities (to stay upright on one leg in the sand over a longer time) might be not be as perfectly refined as some of us had assumed and as fragile as achieving and maintaining peace on our planet. Important remained, though, for all present that we would continue to aim for a united approach towards harmony, and that the friendships that were formed and refreshed and the diversity that was appreciated would contribute to celebrating the mutual aim for contributing to a more peaceful world.

Worthwhilw noting the Chief Justice of South Australia Chris Kourakis, Matt Cowdrey MP, Stephen Pattison MP, Tammy Hubizt from DFAT, Lutheran Care, Vision Australia, UNAASA Advisors Robyn Layton AO KC and Genevieve Thesera Haese attended, as well as Sponsors, Members and Friends of UNAASA.

With much appreciation,  
Constanze Voelkel-Hutchison  
AUSCO Global Coordinator, IOM





10TH MARCH 2023

## ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST

Already a popular Adelaide event, the UN International Women's Day Breakfast using the theme "Embrace Equity", was made even more so when US Ambassador to Australia, Caroline Kennedy, was guest speaker at the 31st such event Adelaide has held.

The Adelaide Convention Centre was at near capacity when around 2800 gathered at 7 am on Friday 10th March with Sonia Feldhoff, ABC radio presenter acting as MC, reminding the crowd that the event was the largest in the southern hemisphere and was being live streamed across South Australia.

After the official party, including the governor, The Honourable Frances Adamson and the Premier of South Australia Peter Malinauskas were seated, Rosemary Wanganeen, on behalf of Kurna people, then gave a welcome to Country and shared a few Aboriginal words.

Senator Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs, hosting her 21st Adelaide event, then spoke. In doing so she thanked the IWD committee and pointed out that many students were attending including a group from Murray Bridge High. She said that the event was a chance to reflect on how many women were now in Parliament and those who had gone before them.

The eagerly anticipated, Guest of Honour, Caroline Kennedy then gave her address. She spoke of meeting the family of an Australian who had helped rescue her father in WW2 and how as President he wanted to pass on a more peaceful unjust world. She pointed out that Australia and the US shared fundamental values and how the Biden government is closely aligned with the Australian government in pursuing gender equality. She reflected that while men in her family had attained career heights, the women including her grandmother Rose, were also very strong.

Her message was that none of us should be powerless – we can all change something repeating her father's plea – "ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country".

In closing she noted the words of Mary Church Terrell– the first African American woman to receive a college degree- "And so, lifting as we climb, onward and upward we go, struggling and striving".

Alexis McKay chair of the IWD committee followed, thanking those who had worked hard to make the event happen and revealing that in 2022 \$100,000 had been donated by the International Women's Day South Australia Committee to UN Women. She also urged younger women to "find what you love" and pursue it as a career.









18TH MARCH 2023

# THE GOVERNOR'S MULTICULTURAL AWARDS

The Governor's Multicultural Awards recognise and celebrate outstanding South Australians who promote multiculturalism and increase understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity in our community.

UNAASA President Lidia Moretti represented our organisation at this event which was indeed a happy occasion. Congratulations to these outstanding individuals, teams and organisations who have been recognised for their positive contribution to multiculturalism and intercultural understanding, and for promoting our culturally diverse state. Join us in celebrating this year's winners and finalists – visit [multicultural.sa.gov.au/gma](http://multicultural.sa.gov.au/gma) to find out more.

- Youth Award: Mr Ackim Mulumba
- Private Sector Award: Ms Madeeha Usman
- Public Sector Award: Mr Merv Yazarloo
- Community Sector Award: Ms Jayne Minear, Royal Life Saving SA Governor of South Australia
- Arts and Culture Award: Mr Fahim Hashimy representing Mr Elyas Alavi
- Senior Volunteer Award: Dr Devendra Kumar Kulshrestha
- Outstanding Individual Achievement Award: Mr Volodymyr 'Wally' Tkachuk



27TH MARCH 2023

## LAUNCH OF ROBINSON AEROSPACE

What a night! The RASCube Product Launch Event was a huge success!

Some highlights from the evening: Robinson Aerospace's new Co-founder was officially announced to be Isabella McCulloch!

The first RASCube kit was handed to 11-year-old Jackson Burford, whose payload is going to space inside of RASCube next year. Most of the first users were there to receive their RASCube kits in-person, kicking off our Pilot Program. They come a long way over the past twelve months, but this is just the beginning! It is hoped the cube will be used extensively in Schools and Universities.

In Addition RASCube is going to SPACE!! In 2024, they will be putting a RASCube educational satellite in the unpressurised cargo of The Exploration Company's space capsule! This space capsule will then launch into orbit on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, before splashing down in the ocean for recovery. Inside of the satellite will be a payload designed by 11-year-old Jackson Burford.

It was amazing to attend this function and note the fabulous achievements of young people in SA. This is of particular interest as Isabella was awarded a Scholarship to further her studies by UNAASA. We will be following this story with great interest as they grow.









25TH MAY 2023

## CELEBRATING MULTICULTURAL HEROES

Two outstanding Multicultural Heroes in South Australia were celebrated with the unveiling of a permanent plaque affixed to the wall of the Migration Museum Chapel on 25 May 2023. The Hon. Hieu van Le and Mrs Lan Le were the heroes honoured by an enthusiastic audience of some 40 invited persons, who were particularly familiar with Hieu and Lan's individual contributions to the cause of human rights, Vietnamese refugees, new arrivals, and promoting our proud multicultural community in Australia.

The conception, construction and the placement of the plaque was the result of a unique collaboration of the United Nations of Australia – South Australian Division (UNAA – SA), the Migration Museum Foundation, and the History Trust of South Australia. Elizabeth Ho OAM on behalf of History Trust, formally welcomed the two heroes and invited guests, many of whom were long-time friends of Hieu and Lan since their arrival in Australia in 1979 after a harrowing boat journey from war-torn Vietnam. Some were fellow Vietnamese refugees. Elizabeth eloquently shared some little-known information about their unique personal attributes and contributions to our multicultural community.

The major inspiration and project partner for the plaque event, UNAA - SA Committee. The SA Secretary Robert Dempsey provided the background to the excellent three - way collaboration.

The Hon Robyn Layton AO KC unveiled the plaque and spoke about how Hieu and Lan amply fulfilled the qualities of being leaders and heroes. She described the plaque as being more than symbolic as it will encourage those who visit, to find out more about their amazing contributions, and be themselves inspired.

The final words were left to Hieu, who was movingly eloquent about their harrowing boat journey from war-torn Vietnam, their joy about the welcome on arrival in Australia, and described what living in Australia had meant to them. He humbly spoke of their work as being a reflection of wanting to give back to the community that had been so generous to them. He spoke of the rich contribution that all refugees from all countries have made to Australia and the privilege of sharing the country of First Nation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Informal drinks and nibbles followed and many renewed friendships and began new ones.

The Hon. Dr Robyn Layton AO KC

Adjunct Professor, Justice & Society, University of South Australia

Judicial Education and Development Consultant, UNAASA Human Rights Advisor.



**3RD JUNE 2023**

# CELEBRATING WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

There cannot be too many ways to not only celebrate World Environment Day but to also help others in need. This is what the UNAASA committee and some members achieved on Saturday 3rd June at the Adelaide Institute of Hospitality under the expert supervision of Ben Sharp, the CEO of the Institute. In a partnership between the Institute, Foodbank SA and the UNAASA the UN team chopped, sliced, stirred and prepared over 200 healthy, tasty meals for Foodbank SA to distribute to those in need. All the ingredients were donations from the community to Foodbank and they were made into Mulligatawny soup and roast chicken meals. Taking leftover food and producing delicious meals showed how easy it is to avoid waste and at the same time produce something worthwhile for others. A great way to spend a productive afternoon and make a difference!

Denise Aldous



21ST AUGUST 2023

## REFUGEE WEEK 2023 LORD MAYOR'S RECEPTION

Refugee week commenced this year with a reception at the Adelaide Town Hall hosted by the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Hon Dr Jane Lomax Smith with approximately 50 guests in attendance including UNAA SA Secretary Rob Dempsey.

Deputy Lord Mayor Phillip Martin Emceed the evening and spoke of the proud history South Australia has in welcoming refugees who have fled conflict or oppression and have made South Australia their home.

The Lord Mayor highlighted the rich cultural diversity that refugees have brought to our state and of the community which has been created by numerous cultural organisations who provide support to refugees many of whom have left family and friends behind often arriving in Australia with few, if any possessions.

Elizabeth Ho OAM introduced two guests to speak of their journey and experiences as refugees. The first was a young man who recounted his story as a boy being caught up in the civil war in the Congo. He spoke of his search for freedom and of his journey which ultimately brought him to South Australia. The second guest was a young woman from Afghanistan who told of her story as an interpreter for the coalition forces. When the coalition forces left Afghanistan and the Taliban took control, she had no choice but to flee for her life, making South Australia her new home. She spoke of leaving her parents and family behind and the impact this has of being disconnected from family.

Robert Dempsey





21ST JUNE 2023

## RECOGNIZING REFUGEE ACHIEVEMENT

As one of the many events taking place as part of the SA Refugee Programme in July, the UNAASA in collaboration with the Hawke Centre and the Australian Migrant Resource Centre celebrated the achievements of a remarkable Tibetan refugee - Bhu Chung – with members and guests on Wednesday 21st June 2023.

After gaining the support of his parents who remained behind in Tibet, Bhu shared with us his dangerous journey from Tibet at age 14 across the Himalayas into India. There he worked hard, completing a degree in political science and eventually moved to Australia. Bhu has found his passion with food and has changed his career in hospitality. He had to start from scratch to learn everything in his new career at the age of 26, because of his determination and resilience, he has accomplished so much within short period of his new career, which has also taken him to work in Japan, and 2019 he has enrolled fulltime study in one of the Michelin star school in France as a part of his professional development.

Bhu is not only a talented chef now but also an expert trainer and he described how much pleasure he gets from sharing his knowledge and expertise with younger generations of chefs in South Australia. He was named South Australian Teacher/Trainer of the Year in 2022, and finalist in the national Teacher/Trainer of the year, and finalist in the Tafe SA honor award 2022 too.





Ben Sharp GM of the Adelaide Institute of Hospitality who spoke eloquently of Bhu's work across a range of activities, including teaching in prisons, the Migrant Resource Center and Foodbank, helping his students gain confidence in pursuing Hospitality as a career.

And what better way to share after a wonderful story than food. Bhu prepared three delicious examples of Tibetan cuisine starting with Dresil -a sweet rice serves as a first course in their food culture to welcome the guest and symbolise the purity from the host, followed by second course Momo, Tibetan dumplings traditionally stuffed with Yak mince, but here in Australia he has substituted with beef mince and finally, Chura baklap -meaning cheese bread as a vegetarian option.

From such humble and difficult beginnings Bhu's story of courage, tenacity and a willingness to continually learn and share was a lesson to us all on the tremendous value we all get from the myriad of refugees who call Australia home.

28TH AUGUST 2023

# EXPLORATION IN SPACE: EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH INNOVATION AND EDUCATION

Over 70 people registered for our collaborative event with the United Nations Association (SA Division) on Monday 28th of August, at the Australian Space Discovery Centre (Lot Fourteen, Adelaide). Our plan was to provide an engaging panel with highly respected people who would talk about the impact of space on education, the growth of Australia's space sector and where the sector is headed in the future. This would be followed by networking, with drinks and nibbles provided.

Our event started on time, with many people eagerly arriving early. Attendees started by looking at Robinson Aerospace product displays and touring the Australian Space Discovery Centre's many engaging exhibits. At exactly 6:00pm, attendees were seated in the theatrette, where Robinson Aerospace CEO Edward Robinson introduced who Robinson Aerospace is, the progress that had been made and the direction the start-up is headed. Some highlights include the large progress made with just \$35K funding and the 11-year-old who is designing an experiment to go into orbit. This was followed by Lou from the UNAA SA Youth, who introduced the UN's SDGs and its relevance to space, as well as the importance of fostering innovation and ambition in school students.

Our panel then began; Robinson Aerospace's COO Isabella McCulloch moderated this. This included Sybilla Wilson (Australian Space Agency), Darcey Watson (Andy Thomas Space Foundation) and Andreas Antoniadis (Saber Astronautics). Over 30 minutes, the panellists answered many questions about the growth of Australia's space sector and the opportunity this provides for our youth. Overall the event was a huge success, and all attendees were very engaged and learnt a lot from our panel and speakers.

Edward Robinson







## INDUSTRY CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2023

The South Australian Government brought together business and industry to discuss emission reduction at the inaugural Industry Climate Change Conference 2023. This two-day conference supported the state government's commitment to reduce South Australia's greenhouse gas emissions by more than 50% by 2030, and achieve zero net emissions by 2050.

This was indeed a highly successful event, chaired by Martin Haese, Chair of the Premier's Climate Change Commission. Notable speakers among others were the Premier, Peter Malinauskas and Deputy Premier Susan Close, Federal Minister Chris Bowen, and keynote Speaker John Dee.

950 enthusiastic attendees were captivated by the information presented in:

- how you can factor climate risk into business decisions
- how industry sectors are decarbonising
- how the agricultural industry is aiming for low emissions
- the pivotal role of technology in delivering climate change solutions

# UN YOUTH

UN Youth South Australia is navigating a unique set of challenges, and opportunities, this year.

Having passed the difficult pandemic period, the organisation has seen an increased intake of new volunteers and a return to in-person volunteer events and gatherings. Transparency with the way the executive committee works and makes decisions has been a priority for multiple years, and this year the new recruits have been particularly engaged with the organisation, judging by the increased attendance of non-voting members to executive meetings, as well as monthly social gatherings. A highlight for our facilitator base was our Volunteer Retreat in May, which gathered our facilitator base for a weekend of bonding activities and strategic discussions. We are pleased with the level of dedication that our volunteers have exhibited this year, and the feeling of fulfilment that volunteering continues to bring to all of us.

This year marks a significant generational shift in our leadership. This is especially evident in the many new faces of this year's executive committee, which have brought fresh perspectives to our operations. The importance of such perspectives cannot be overstated.

UN Youth South Australia finds itself growing rapidly in an ever-changing youth advocacy sector, which values organisations that are adaptable to the needs of youth and bring innovative programs to address those needs.

As a result, we have begun introducing new offerings to our established and successful events like State Conference and the Evatt Competition. Our Sustainability Summit was a highlight of our adaptability. Held in both the northern and southern suburbs of Adelaide, it provided an accessible avenue for students to engage in important policy discussions about the role of industrial development in addressing global sustainability targets. Collaborating with our partners from the University of Adelaide Environmental Institute and the New Venture Institute allowed delegates access to the tools they need to make a change on these issues on a local level, and feel empowered to voice their views.

We also understand the need of young people to just have fun, without the stress of a competition or educational event, which is why we ran our first ever Fun Model United Nations debate. By getting delegates to step into the shoes of a Barbie diplomat who is trying to resolve a nuclear crisis, we were able to engage delegates in the educational experience of a MUN in a safe and "silly" environment, which proved extremely successful with high attendance and positive feedback.

As we move towards a new phase for this organisation, we strive to continuously update our suite of events, and utilise our increased level of recruitment to provide programs that address specific gaps in the youth sector. We will continue to strengthen our relationships with our partners. In particular, we see the value in working alongside local councils on educational programs that support their efforts in engaging youth in their communities. We are also paying close attention to our strategic priorities, and are continuously refining the structure of our portfolios to more effectively achieve them.

I am grateful to the 2023 Executive Committee (Lara, Ilya, Aryan, Ellie, Megan, Ella, Max) for their work and undying belief in our ambitious vision. I would also like to extend these thanks to our partners and collaborators, and in particular the UNAA SA, for continuing to support our operations and helping us do what we do best.

- Vasil Samardzhiev  
President  
UN Youth South Australia







# 2022/2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

## UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (SA DIV) INC. INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF UNAA (SA DIV) INC.

### Committee Report

In accordance with section 35(5) of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985, the Committee of United Nations Assoc. of Aust. (SA Div) Inc. hereby state that during the financial year ended 30 June 2023:

- (a) (i) no officer of the association; or
  - (ii) no firm of which an officer is a member; and
  - (iii) no body corporate in which an officer has a substantial financial interest, has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm or corporate and the association.
- (b) no officer of the association has received directly or indirectly from the Association any payment or other benefit of a pecuniary value.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed by two members of the Committee.



President – Lidia Moretti



Treasurer – Wayne Henson

Dated this 4<sup>th</sup> day of Sep<sup>r</sup>, September

2023





**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (SA DIV) INC. INDEPENDENT  
AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF UNAA (SA DIV) INC.**

**Statement by Members of the Committee**

The Committee have determined the Association is not a reporting entity. The Committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the members of the Committee of United Nations Assoc of Aust (SA Div) Inc. in compliance with Section 35(2)(c) of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985;

- (1) The attached accounts present fairly the results of the operation of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2023 and the state of affairs of the Association as at the end of that year.
- (2) The Committee has reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed by two members of the Committee.

  
.....  
President - Lidia Moretti

  
.....  
Treasurer - Wayne Henson

Dated this 4th day of Sept 2023

**United Nations Assoc of Aust (SA Div)  
Summarised Income & Expenditure  
01/07/22 through 30/06/23**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
Subscriptions	2,631	1,931
Donations Grants & Bequests	200	2,500
Functions and Fund-Raising	19,729	-
Sundry	97	251
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>22,657</b>	<b>4,683</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Office Expenses	3,484	4,587
Rent and Outgoings (Net)	-	-
Events & Fund-raising	15,315	4,180
UNAASA Activities	3,635	9,000
Sundry	220	661
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>22,654</b>	<b>18,428</b>
<b>Net Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(13,745)</b>

**United Nations Assoc of Aust (SA Div)  
Summarised Balance Sheet  
As of 30 June 2023**

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
Current Assets		
Cash and Equivalents	39,281	39,272
Sundry Debtors	-	-
Total Current Assets	39,281	39,272
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>39,281</b>	<b>39,272</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Sundry Creditors/GST	(41)	(48)
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>39,322</b>	<b>39,319</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained Earnings	39,319	53,064
Current Year Surplus/Deficit	3	(13,745)
Total Equity	39,322	39,319

**United Nations Assoc of Aust (SA Div)  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year ended 30th June 2023**

**1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

This financial report has been prepared for use by the members of the association and is a special purpose financial report . It has been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act of (SA). The committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 1031 Materiality

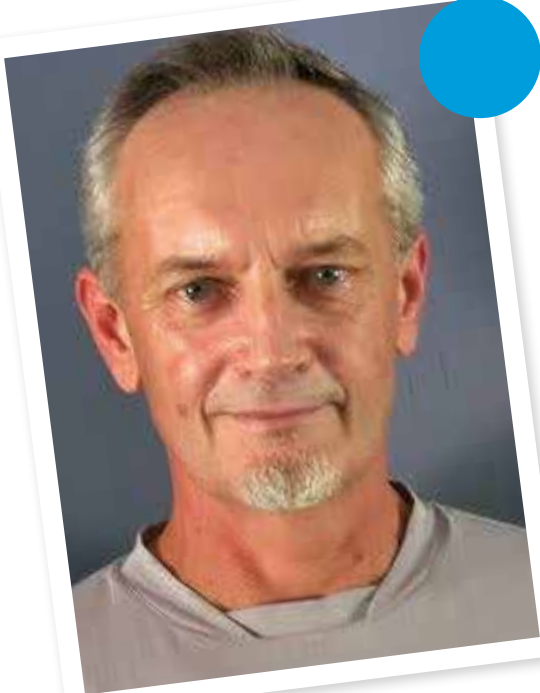
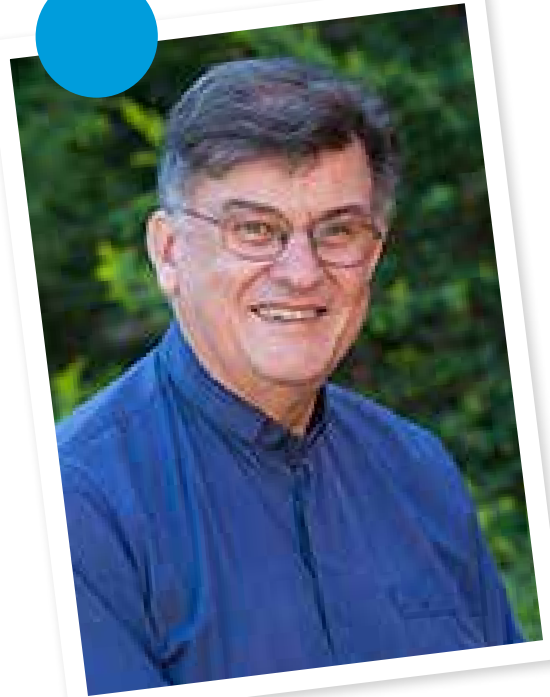
No other applicable Accounting Standards or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.



# ADVISORS

## HON REV DR LYNN ARNOLD AO

Hon Rev Dr Lynn Arnold AO, is currently an assistant priest at St Peter's Anglican Cathedral and a Reader [Public Theology & Ethics] at St Barnabas Theological College. Previously, Lynn had senior leadership roles in World Vision [CEO WV Australia 1997-2003; Reg'l VP [Asia/Pacific] 2003-2006; International Director of Board Development & Peer Review, 2006-2008] and Anglicare SA [2008-2012]. Prior to this involvement in community service organisations, Lynn served in the South Australian parliament for fifteen years including over eleven years as a member of Cabinet (with a fifteen month stint as Premier). He chaired the Dunstan Foundation from 2010-20 and the Public Affairs Commission of the Anglican Church of Australia from 2014-18. Lynn is a Reconciliation Ambassador for Reconciliation SA, Goodwill Ambassador for Sustainable Development Goals for the United Nations Association of Australia, an Australia Day Ambassador and Justice Advocate for Second Chances. Lynn is married to Elaine; they have five children and, at most recent count, seven grandchildren.



## ANDREW BAINES

A full-time artist since 1997, Andrew exhibits his paintings internationally. He has gained considerable international recognition for his trademark surreal installations & inspired paintings, where he puts politicians, orchestras, live cows, Hills hoists, Archbishops and hundreds of suited volunteers in the sea for photo shoots. A finalist in over 20 art prizes, most notably three times in the Doug Moran National Portrait prize. Baines has a swift and accurate eye, a quirky sense of humour, the ability to rapidly define a moment from which we can create a narrative surrounding the event. His is a unique view, executed with considerable accomplishment and appreciated by a rapidly widening international audience, via exhibitions in the USA, UK and Europe.

## THE HON. DR. ROBYN LAYTON AO QC

Robyn Layton is a former Supreme Court Judge of South Australia. Currently Justice Layton is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Law, University of South Australia and is a Judicial Education and Program Development Consultant. At the international level, Robyn was a Member and later the Chair of the Committee of Experts on Application of Conventions of the ILO, Geneva, from 1993 to 2008. She is currently a consultant for the Asia Development Bank (ADB) on gender issues such as Legal Literacy for Women in Pakistan and Afghanistan (developing and delivering training programs for judges and prosecutors and setting up Gender Based Violence Courts throughout Pakistan); Strengthening Women's Resilience to Climate and Disaster Risks in Mongolia, Lao PDR and Fiji (undertaking gender assessment of laws and policies, consultations and delivering national and regional capacity building workshops). Previously she was Team Leader for an ADB Gender Development Poverty Reduction Project for Women in Kazakhstan, Cambodia and the Philippines. In addition Robyn is a consultant for the ILO and delivers training for judges and lawyers on labour law and human rights standards internationally as well as at the International Labour Centre in Turin Italy.

Prior to her Supreme Court appointment Robyn worked as a barrister and a Queens Counsel across broad areas of law, many of which intersected with social justice and human rights, such as the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, children, women and refugees. Robyn still works closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in many capacities, including as Chair of Justice Reinvestment SA that works with a community driven Aboriginal group Tiraapindi Wodli at Port Adelaide.

Robyn has received a number of awards as a result of her human rights work: Member of the Order of Australia (AO) (2012); The South Australian, Australian of the Year (2012); Justice Award Law Society of South Australia (2013) and Australian Woman Lawyer Award (2016).

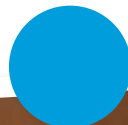


## PIPPA WANGANEEN

After completing Bachelor degrees in Arts and Law, Pippa relocated to South Africa where she worked on a suite of projects including a national children's music and dance competition with a focus on driving social change. Pippa volunteered with a number of aid organisations in the South African townships, worked as a model and assisted with the successful role out rollout? of a major Australian retail brand. Returning to Australia with a great commitment to philanthropic causes, Pippa is currently an Ambassador for Foodbank SA among other organisations. She is Managing Director of Gavin Wanganeen Art, collaborates with a number of local and international charities, fashion and lifestyle brands via her instagram account @ pippawanganeen and is mother to four little girls, who she shares with her husband Gavin Wanganeen.







# GENEVIEVE THESEIRA-HAESE

Genevieve was born and raised in Singapore to Eurasian parents. Her early years were largely influenced by her parents and her father’s library.

Inspired by the potential to positively influence people to action through storytelling and imagery, she moved to Los Angeles where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) in Communication.

Genevieve moved to London in 1986 where she lived and worked in the advertising industry for 10 years. In 2000 her father passed away at age 59, so Genevieve moved back to Singapore to be with her family. She was very close to her father and his death led her on a more spiritual journey, a world away from the world of advertising. Genevieve’s passion for helping others saw her join the Board of the Home Nursing Foundation in Singapore and develop a number of holistic healing retreats across Asia.

Genevieve is the founder and owner of the holistic healing arts portal ‘BreathingSpace Inc’, a healing arts portal designed to promote the healing arts to corporate executives globally.

Genevieve first met Martin Haese in 2000 at a Global Entrepreneur’s Organisation event and they were married in Melbourne in January 2010 before moving to Adelaide, South Australia.



# GAVIN WANGANEEN

Gavin Wanganeen is an Australian Football League (AFL) legend, acclaimed contemporary Indigenous artist and Aboriginal activist. Gavin’s AFL career spanned 300 senior games at the Essendon and Port Adelaide Football Clubs, earning him countless accolades, including the dedication of a grandstand at Adelaide Oval in 2015, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the game. He was the first Indigenous player to win a Brownlow Medal at the age of 20, and the first Indigenous player to reach 300 AFL games. Having retired from the AFL over a decade ago, he continues to inspire and break new ground through his work as a contemporary Indigenous artist, is the first Aboriginal past player to be elected on to the board of an AFL club, and is committed to improving the lives of Aboriginal people.





**United  
Nations  
Association  
of Australia**

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South Australian Division**  
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**Support and donate at [unaasouthaustralia.org.au](http://unaasouthaustralia.org.au)**

