

InUnity online

A publication of the National Council of Churches in Australia

Volume 53 No 2 Winter 2006



Indigenous
MAKE ^ POVERTY HISTORY.

Social Justice Sunday
24 September 2006



NATSIEC



National Council of
Churches in Australia
Social Justice Network

In this edition of *InUnity*...

NCCA President

We welcome the new NCCA President, Bishop Richard Appleby, and give thanks for the dedication and guidance of the Revd Professor James Haire as he retires from the position of NCCA President.

Refugee & Migrant Sunday and Social Justice Sunday

Churches and communities throughout Australia continually support and assist refugees, asylum seekers, new migrants and Australia's Indigenous peoples.

This year as we approach the last Sunday in August (Refugee & Migrant Sunday) and the last Sunday in September (Social Justice Sunday) the NCCA asks you to take the time to reflect on and listen to the stories and use the resources found on the NCCA website. The **Refugee & Migrant Sunday Kit** is also available in hard copy, and the school resources are available on a user friendly CD. The **2006 Social Justice Sunday Kit** engages in the *Make Indigenous Poverty History* campaign. Additional resources for the campaign can be purchased on a multi-media CD-Rom. (see p. 8 for details)

The worship resources and discussion material in the kits can be used at any time. If the dates set for 2006 are not convenient for your church or group save the resources for another time. Using the worship suggestions, reflections, stories and other material throughout the year will provide ongoing reminders of the importance of engaging in social justice in our communities, nationally and around the world.

Christmas Bowl

Please promote the **2006 Christmas Bowl** appeal. Christmas Bowl donations are vital to the development of long-term goals for many communities. See p. 11 for more information.



Debra Porter
 Communications Desk
 August 2006

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WHAT IS OUR SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION?



Recent events around the world and in Australia have pointedly raised serious questions about our future. For good or for ill many of us have a 'gut feeling' that what we do now, how we behave, will have lasting repercussions on the planet, on its life forms, and most particularly on us as human beings. All this will happen within one, or at the most two, generations.

Are we to be the same as our parents and grandparents? Will we continue the cycle of violence? The Middle East seems to be proof that yes, indeed we will. The deterioration in Darfur seems to be sure evidence. Indigenous disadvantage shows that we haven't learnt. For every step forward we are taking a step back, and genuine progress seems to be available to a privileged but decreasing percentage.

Like many who have gone before us, and quite possibly like many who will follow, we believe that if we created the problems we must also solve them. Right thinking people have redoubled their efforts at peacemaking, sustainability, health, economic justice, and social reform. We long deeply to reverse the human propensity to inflict hurt, kill, and carry forward conditions that are meant to dehumanise and demoralise others.

Thrown onto our own resources there is a lot we can and should do. Like the mythical boy who put his finger in the dyke, however, we run the risk of making ourselves indispensable in the process. It's the old human thing, to put ourselves in the centre as though we were gods, and then to watch the whole thing crumble as we fail to achieve our noble goals.

Good theology, and good ecumenism, puts God at the centre. Faith in Christ is founded on trust in him as Saviour. That's the base from which we start, and we shouldn't tackle any issue without Christ being the heart and the hope of our work. It's not a cop out to turn to God for the solution to our problems.

How do we do this? Well, perhaps the first thing we need to do is to make some room in our work, and in our solutions, for God's action in our lives and the lives of others, including those who oppose us. That means openness, dialogue, tempering our action with attentive listening, patience, refusing to accept stereotypes, and that strange, most unworldly attribute of love.

As for the NCCA I keep asking myself, "What is unique about the work we do? What's our special contribution?" It's easy to get caught up in the events of the day and play the power game – lobby politicians about policies we don't like, use arguments that help us get our way, complain about the general state of society, and stand in opposition to those who don't think like us. The only difference when we do it from when others do it is that we think we have right on our side, while they don't. When we do that we betray our purpose. It's easy to lose our flavour, our right to speak as a Church based group, our right to speak to the Churches.

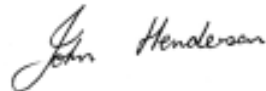
We continue to try, like many others, to bring God's message to the world. We continue to work for the visible expression of the unity of the Church, and that in itself is a task too big for our limited human resources. The NCCA relies entirely on the Spirit and the good will of the Churches. Whatever our success or failure rate, what we cannot afford to lose is our hope in Christ, which is the only thing that renders us valid and gives us a reason for working in the name of the Churches.

Among all the things that need attention it can become difficult to decide what the NCCA should and should not do. While the purpose and goals of the NCCA are clear (see our Constitution at http://www.ncca.org.au/about_us/how_we_work/constitution) the work plan to achieve those goals needs revisiting. I am keeping that in mind as plans progress for the 2007 National Forum, which is (cont. p. 4)

(What is our special contribution? cont. from p. 3)

mentioned elsewhere in this edition. Under the theme 'Life Together' I hope that we will visit the purpose and goals of the NCCA and set out our priorities for the next period of the Council's life. This will help to focus us, determine where we should spend what money we have, and help the Council remain a buoyant, relevant part of the life of the Churches, and a contributor to Australian society.

Part of this planning will be our ongoing reflection on the 2006 Assembly of the World Council of Churches. As I write this article I am about to attend the first Central Committee meeting of the WCC since that Assembly, where I hope to see what is evolving out of the decisions of the Assembly, and how they might inform our work in Australia.



John Henderson, General Secretary
August 2006

Visitors at the National Council of Churches in Australia

His Eminence Metropolitan Bishop & His Grace Bishop Moussa of the Coptic Orthodox Church

On 6 April the NCCA welcomed His Eminence Metropolitan Bishop, Secretary of the Holy Synod in Cairo, and His Grace Bishop Moussa, Bishop for Youth in Cairo. They were accompanied by Bishop Daniel (Sydney & its Affiliated Regions) and Bishop Suriel (Melbourne). The staff appreciated the time spent with them in conversation and listening to news from the Coptic Orthodox churches in Egypt. It was a great time of building relationships and understanding. We have a long standing partnership with the Coptic Church in Egypt through our support for BLESS (Bishopric of Public, Ecumenical, and Social Services), under the care of Ms Gwen Willis of NCCA Christian World Service.



Photo: Debra Porter

Bernard & Mary Sabella



Photo: NCCA Christian World Service

Long time friends of the NCCA, Bernard & Mary Sabella were in Australia in late June and early July. During that time they paid the Sydney office several visits enabling our staff an opportunity to hear more about the work of the Middle East Council of Churches and the situation that is continuing to unfold in Gaza, Lebanon and Israel.

Bernard expressed his gratitude for the partnership between NCCA Christian World Service (CWS) and the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees/Middle East Council of Churches. To read more from Bernard Sabella regarding the situation in Palestine and Israel

see the latest edition of In Focus p.7, published by NCCA CWS.

The National Council of Churches in Australia extends a warm welcome to Bishop Richard Appleby who became the 5th President of the Council on July 4. Bishop Appleby is a long time supporter of the ecumenical movement. We look forward to working with him during his time in office.

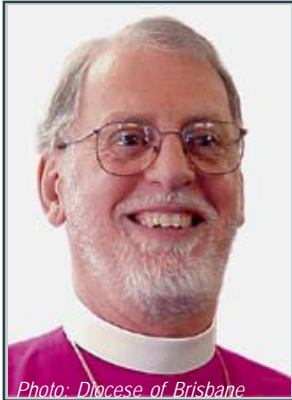


Photo: Diocese of Brisbane

The Rt Revd Richard Appleby

a message from Bishop Appleby ...

Having had a hand in the creation of the NCCA back in 1994, it is a special joy to have been chosen to be the fifth President of the Council. I look forward to this work and assure member Churches that I will serve the NCCA to the very best of my ability. I will value your support and prayers.

My own Anglican Church is not alone in experiencing tensions and differences, especially over issues of human sexuality and the leadership of women. Such tensions are not just between Churches but often within Churches. In such situations the commitment of the NCCA to helping its members to grow in Christian unity is hugely important.

The member Churches of the NCCA bring together a rich diversity of Christian traditions coming out of a whole range of cultural contexts.

I am convinced that one of the special gifts of the NCCA to its members is helping us to grow in our understanding and appreciation of these different Christian traditions. It may well be that through this process we will be helped to discern the mind of Christ in our own situations of difference and disagreement.

With every blessing,

Richard Appleby

NCCA 6th National Forum
13-17 July 2007

“Life Together”

Planning is well underway for the next triennial Forum, which will be held at the Uniting Church's Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Alexandra Headlands, Sunshine Coast, Queensland.

Delegates appointed by the NCCA's 15 member Churches, state ecumenical councils and NATSIEC will meet to share a time of Bible studies, focus sessions and the business of our *Life Together*.

Enquiries regarding the 6th National Forum can be sent to forum2007@ncca.org.au or call (02) 9299 2215.



Uniting Church Conference Centre
at Alexandra Headlands



Photos: Debra Porter

REFUGEE & MIGRANT SUNDAY

What is Refugee & Migrant Sunday

Refugee and Migrant Sunday is a celebration of the contribution refugees have made to Australia that is held every year in churches around Australia.

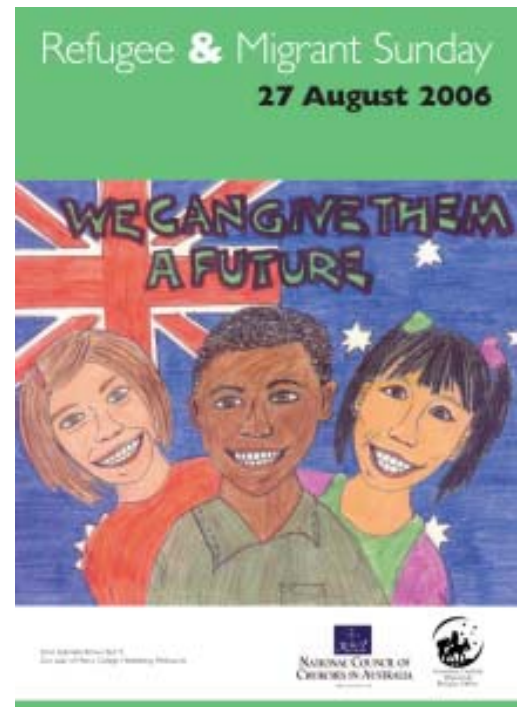
Each year, the NCCA runs a *School Media Competition* and produces a Parish Education Kit and a School Education CD with educational and liturgical resources. [Click here](#) to order a kit or find out more! or call (02) 9299 2215.

What can Parishes do?

- Celebrate the day in your church on 27 August 2006 with a special ecumenical liturgy on refugees.
- Hold a 'welcome the stranger' event in your parish or community.
- Take action in support of refugees - see the kit for ideas.
- Support the National Program on Refugees and Displaced People ([click here](#))

What can Schools do?

- Use the kit to educate your students & enter the School Media Competition
- Write an article for your school newspaper or hold a class debate
- Speak at your school assembly or organise a fundraising event



*Winning Poster Entry: Refugee and Migrant Sunday Media Competition
Gabrielle Brown, Year 9
Our Lady of Mercy College
Heidelberg, Victoria*

James Haire, NCCA President July 2003 - July 2006

At the June meeting of the NCCA Executive, Mike Semmler (President of the Lutheran Church of Australia) gave a formal message of thanks and farewell expressing the appreciation of the Council for James' contribution during his time as President.



Photo: Debra Porter

*The Revd John Henderson and the Revd Professor James Haire
at the June meeting of the NCCA Executive*

promotion of ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, the Uniting Church in Australia and theological education.

We wish James well as he continues in his role as Director of the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture; and congratulate him on having recently been made a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for service to religion and to the community through the

ADELAIDE WOMEN: HOPING TOGETHER

"I learnt so much today," said one lady as she left us.

On Saturday, June 10 there was a wonderful gathering of 28 women and 2 men at the Effective Living Centre at Wayville in Adelaide to consider the ecumenical dimensions of hoping about a future inclusive church where difference doesn't matter. On this day, we planned to explore, then reflect on them and make decisions about how they would influence a future Church that included all of us.

Geraldine Hawkes, Chair of the Council for Australian Catholic Women, and her SA ecumenical committee organised this day amazingly well. Bernice Moore and Alicia Simpfendorfer, Co-convenors of the NCCA Gender Commission, presented the programme – *"The Audacity to Hope – Women Dreaming Together of a Future Church"*.

The venue was excellent and there was a sense of possibility and hope in the group. It was a truly



Photo: NCCA Gender Commission

l-r: Geraldine Hawkes (host SA Ecumenical Council), Bernice Moore & Alicia Simpfendorfer (Co-convenors Gender Commission), and Bill & Margaret Harris (local hosts, Effective Living Centre)

ecumenical group made up of Quakers, Uniting Church, Anglican, Catholic and Lutheran members. There was a Canadian woman, ordained in the Uniting Church who has chosen to minister in Australia and she brought with her to the Workshop six members of her vibrant community.

It was a great day! At the conclusion, after we had named our hopes and concerns, there was a general sense that this experience should be repeated in other centres in SA. This is, indeed, our hope and commitment. Not only in SA but across this vast continent.

New Publication

An excellently researched and user friendly publication has been launched by *'WomenSpeak'*, prepared and written by YWCA, Canberra.

Why Young Women Get Involved and Stay involved:

A Handbook for Community Organisations on how to Engage Young Women

"'WomenSpeak' is a network of 36 predominantly national women's organisations that come together to focus on the issues of human rights, youth participation and diversity...participate in federal policy issues as they arise...a very useful networking tool for women's community organisations." (Forward p.5)

This booklet offers valuable insights into engaging the interest of young women and keeping it by understanding their needs, interests and ways of thinking today. Training for leadership in various areas is on offer and the emphasis is on volunteer organisations where community and church feature large!

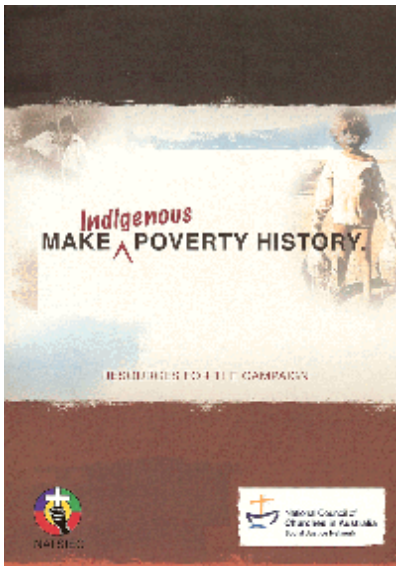
If you'd like to engage young women but don't know how...if you want young women representatives on your boards and committees...if you need help in training young women – whatever your needs, you'll find ideas to help you in this booklet.

Available free of charge and postage from: WomenSpeak, PO Box 1022, Dickson ACT 2602, call (02) 6230 5150 or email womenspeak@ywca.org.au.

Written by Alicia Simpfendorfer & Bernice Moore, NCCA Gender Commission Co-convenors

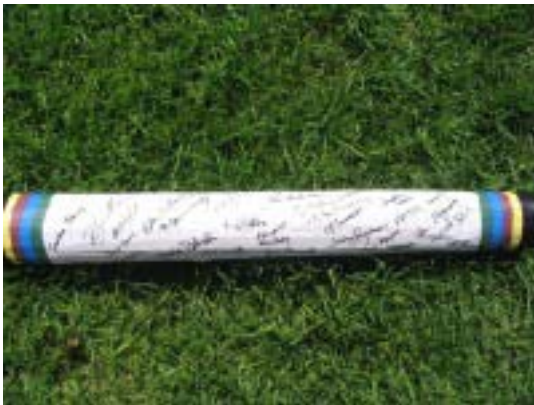
SOCIAL JUSTICE

- BUT NOT JUST FOR ONE SUNDAY!



This year's Social Justice resources are combined in a lively and user-friendly CD-ROM – a joint product of the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission (NATSIEC) and the NCCA Social Justice Network, working together to highlight issues of Indigenous Australian poverty and what we can do to make a difference.

In addition to excellent resources to help the Bible and worship come alive on this year's Social Justice Sunday - Sunday 24 September – a range of other dynamic multi-media materials are available to use on the day or on other occasions.



The First Poverty Pole

Photos: NATSIEC



Copeton Dam ACM Banner

The Make *Indigenous* Poverty History CD-ROM includes:

- worship, homily and Bible discussion materials for Social Justice Sunday 2006
- the NCCA Social Justice Statement – calling for Australians to put tackling Indigenous issues at the centre of national life and debate
- PowerPoint resources for use (and adaptation) in worship and discussion
- video interviews with Indigenous Christian leaders
- a case study (with footage from Caritas Australia) highlighting how one remote Aboriginal community is successfully addressing health issues and community development
- background information on each of the Indigenous Australian Millennium Development Goals
- educational worksheets (great for schools and other groups) on each of the Indigenous Australian Millennium Goals – including stories and information, discussion points and ideas for action
- further prayer, discussion and story materials

To order a copy (at \$20 each – a real bargain for the wealth and variety of materials contained!): call the NCCA on (02) 9299 2215 or email natsiec@ncca.org.au

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE *INDIGENOUS* POVERTY HISTORY!

The Campaign Rolls Forward

Recent months have seen some renewed attention given to Indigenous Australian issues. This is encouraging, although all too often media coverage tends to be sensationalist and politicians all too



often simply seem to argue amongst themselves without listening properly or involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The **Make *Indigenous* Poverty History** campaign is intentionally grounded in the experiences and voices of Indigenous Australians themselves and seeks to build up from the grassroots. Vital and necessary support from others continues to grow.

... the NCCA's Social Justice Statement will be released on September 13 at 1pm at Parliament House, Canberra!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE CAMPAIGN: What is happening across Australia?

With the support of Caritas Australia, and other NATSIEC funders such as the NCCA Christian World Service and the Uniting Church NSW, the Make *Indigenous* Poverty History campaign is taking off across Australia.

Recent and forthcoming highlights include:

In Melbourne

Make *Indigenous* Poverty History was successfully launched at a series of well-attended gatherings at Collins Street Baptist Church in July.

In Canberra

Plans are being advanced with leading politicians for a formal media release of the campaign and new CD-ROM resource – this September.

In Sydney

A forum on Make *Indigenous* Poverty History will be held in Anti-Poverty Week (on 17 October) at Parliament House, supported by Milton Orkopolous, the NSW Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, and NSW Governor Marie Bashir.

In Brisbane

Make *Indigenous* Poverty History will be launched at a special forum on Friday 20 October.



Photos on this page are from MPH events, courtesy of NATSIEC

For more information on these and other events – or to share ideas of your own – please contact NATSIEC on 02-92992215 or email natsiec@ncca.org.au.



**Indigenous
MAKE POVERTY HISTORY.**

*Have you bought
a t-shirt or a
wristband?*

**Check out the
NATSIEC
webpages for
more news and
other resources!**

A Visit from the All Africa Council of Churches

Revd Dr Mvume Dandala, General Secretary of the All Africa Council of Churches (AACC), and Mr Bright Mawudor, AACC Director of Finance and Administration met with NCCA staff and other groups during their time in Australia in June. They brought both troubling and encouraging news from the Churches in Africa. The situation in Darfur and in Southern Sudan needs the international communities commitment or the Sudan could descend into total chaos according to Bishop Dandala.



Photo: Debra Porter

Revd Dr Mvume Dandala

There have, however, been huge achievements in laying a sound foundation for growth and development in Africa. Bishop Dandala expressed the AACC's appreciation for the significant contribution of the Churches in Australia.



Photo: Debra Porter

Howard Graham (NCCA Partners4Peace)
and Bright Mawudor at the NCCA

The next step for Africa is the struggle for economic freedom. Bishop Dandala urged the Australian Churches to continue to support the Churches in Africa.

21 September 2006 - International Day of Prayer for Peace

This year the World Council of Churches calls all churches to join faith communities worldwide on Thursday, September 21 in observance of the International Day of Prayer for Peace.



Prayers and resources are available on the Decade to Overcome Violence web site for this year's event, with more to come. The DOV has published a brochure for distribution with a special focus on the Annual Focus in Latin America. This brochure is available on the DOV web site at: <http://overcomingviolence.org/en/about-the-dov/international-day-of-prayer-for-peace.html>.

The International Day of Prayer for Peace will be observed in conjunction with the United Nations International Day of Peace. To learn more about initiatives of the UN go to the International Day of Peace web site at: <http://www.worldpeace.org/peaceday.html>.

And the International Day of Peace Vigil web site at: <http://www.idpvigil.com/>.

The National Council of Churches in Australia is a supporter of the Decade to Overcome Violence.



Commission Members of the NCCA Christian World Service

NCCA CWS recently elected a new Chair, the Revd John Gilmore. John is the Director of Mission and Ministry in the Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania.

The Revd Elenie Poulos, National Director of UnitingJustice Australia, is the new Deputy Chair.

The Revd Gregor Henderson resigned as Chair of the Commission. Gregor recently took up the position

of President of the Uniting Church in Australia. Gregor's committed leadership during the past four years is gratefully acknowledged by all in CWS - and he has our good wishes and prayers for his new and challenging ministry.

act for the christmas bowl is the theme for the 2006 program - act meaning action by churches together. Resources will be available in September - on CD, hard copy and from our website <http://www.ncca.org.au/cws/christmasbowl> or phone freecall 1800 025 101 or 02 9299 2215.

Two sided corflutes, as pictured, are also available state ecumenical councils. (see p.14 for contact details)

In 2005 \$ 4,046,505 was sent to overseas AID projects - see our Annual Report at www.ncca.org.au/cws/annual_report.



STOP PRESS

From Constantine Dabbagh, Executive Secretary, DSPR* Programs, Gaza

"The situation here is very bad as it is in the region at large. We appreciate very much keeping us in your thoughts and for all the efforts to create awareness amongst your constituency. God bless your endeavour. Sincerely, Constantine"

CWS is receiving gifts for emergency assistance for the Palestinian population in Gaza, Lebanon and the West Bank. DSPR is providing supplementary food support, health and education services to the most vulnerable families in Gaza and the West Bank. In Lebanon the most urgent needs of the displaced and stranded people are mattresses and bedding, water, cleaning and kitchen supplies, first aid kits, medicine for chronic diseases, food and milk for infants. More details are at http://www.actintl.org/appeals/appeals_2006/. You can support our Palestinian partners by sending your gifts to NCCA Christian World Service, Locked Bag 199 Sydney NSW 1230 - via our secure site at http://www.ncca.org.au/give/christian_world_service or by phoning 02 9299 2215 or freecall 1800 025 101.

Reprinted with permission from In Focus, NCCA Christian World Service Newsletter p. 7, Winter 2006

* DSPR is the Department of Services to Palestinian Refugees, Middle East Council of Churches.



Partners4Peace* has grown to over 800 supporters in its first year. We have received gifts of almost \$250,000 to the end of June 2006. 80% of the gifts received are committed to projects.

Many Partners4Peace are committed to regular monthly giving. This enables commitment with project partners overseas, giving them great confidence in their peace-building work. Partners are now being challenged to find another Partner so that the difference we make is that much greater. Don't be surprised if a friend mentions this regular giving opportunity to you.

If you are persuaded, and we hope you will be, you will receive a monthly report, called Peace Mail, describing supported projects.

You don't need to wait for a challenge, you can become a Partner4Peace today by calling 1800 025 101 and talking to Howard or Colleen, or e-mail: partners4peace@ncca.org.au. A brochure with a form is available in PDF format at <http://www.ncca.org.au/cws/partners4peace>.

* Partners4Peace is a regular giving opportunity of NCCA CWS. It supports ecumenical projects in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and Middle East.

In Memoriam

In the past few months several significant contributors to the life of the ecumenical movement have died. We remember them as we pray to God for the continuation of the work in which they have been involved.

Dr Laszlo Benyei was a former Director of Resettlement in the Division of Inter Church Aid, Refugee and World Service of the Australian Council of Churches Ecumenical Refugee Service. He worked with with the International Refugee Organisation before migrating to Australia in 1950. Later he worked with the World Council of Churches and the Australian Council of Churches assisting many refugees and displaced persons to resettle in Australia. Died May.

The Revd Dr Peter Cross was a founding member of the NCCA Commission on Faith & Unity; and a Roman Catholic observer on the Faith and Order Commission of the former Australian Council of Churches. Peter was a Roman Catholic member of the Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission. Died during the weekend of the 17-18 June.

Dr Masao Takenaka was well know to the ecumenism, especially throughout Asia. In 1978, he helped to found the Asian Christian Art Association. His support of indigenous arts in Asia will be remembered. He wrote a number of books relating indigeneous culture to artistic expression of Christian faith and ethics. Died 17 August.

Monsignor John Hoare rejoiced in the inter-church cooperation involved in his chaplain ministry at RMC Duntroon. Considered an ecumenical pioneer, he was one of the "founding fathers" of the Joint Commission for Church Development (JCCD). The JCCD was the forerunner of the ACT Churches Council. Died 11 July. <http://www.cathnews.com/news/607/87.html>



Revd Dr Frank Engle arrived in Australia at age 14. He studied for the Presbyterian ministry and later the Uniting Church. He served within the Australian Student Christian Movement and was part of the World Student Christian Federation. Frank was on the National Missionary Council of the Australian Council of Churches. He was a great supporter of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights, a member of the WCC Central Committee and the Christian Conference of Asia. Died 12 July.

Dr Kang Won Yong was an active advocate of ecumenism. Dr Kang believed in the wider and contextual meaning of ecumenism that is rooted on the life and struggle of the people of Asia. Died August.

World News Summaries

August 24 2006 - Philippine churches to file complaints on killings before UN, by Maurice Malanes

Manila, 24 August (ENI) - Philippine churches are documenting all killings of clerics and church lay workers, and other human rights violations, so they can file these before the United Nations and other international human rights' bodies, says a church-based human rights group.

"We are professionally documenting cases of killings, threats and harassments of church people so we can file complaints before the United Nations, Human Rights Watch, and the Permanent People's Tribunal," Lei Garcia, Executive Director of the Church Office for International Network in the Philippines, or CONTAK Philippines, told Ecumenical News International.

August 23 2006 - Bollywood, AIDS and the Catholic Church, by Hilary Roxe

Toronto, 23 August (ENI) - It is clear from the beginning that "Aisa Kyon Hota Hai?" is not a typical film on HIV and AIDS, even by the standards of India's flamboyant Bollywood industry, where it was created.

"Aisa Kyon Hota Hai?" or "Why Does it Happen?" is a feature-length Bollywood film focused on religious tolerance and India's growing problem of HIV and AIDS. The Rev. Dominic Emmanuel, a Catholic priest who works in communication for the Delhi Catholic Archdiocese, said the film was developed as a way of reaching a mass audience in India.

August 22 2006 - Sudanese church leaders want UN peace-keeping force for Darfur, by Fredrick Nzwilli

Nairobi, 22 August (ENI) - Church leaders have urged the Sudanese government to accept a UN peace-keeping force for Darfur, the country's western region the size of France, where about two million people have been displaced in a three-year-conflict over resources.

17 August 2006 - Churches in Sri Lanka call for immediate cease-fire, by Anto Akkara

New Delhi, 17 August (ENI) - Churches in Sri Lanka have called for an immediate halt to an upsurge of violence between government forces and rebels seeking autonomy for Tamil-majority areas in the predominantly Buddhist island nation of mainly Sinhalese speakers.

The call by the churches follows three weeks of intense fighting between government forces and the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in their strongholds in the north and the east of the country.

If you would like to receive regular free news summaries via email from ENI (Ecumenical News International) subscribe at <http://www.eni.ch>; or from WCC e-news subscribe at <http://onlineservices.wcc-coe.org/>.

Count me in ... (online? click here)

Yes! I would like to be involved in the work of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr/Revd _____ First name(s) _____ Surname _____

Address _____ Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Telephone (____) _____ Email _____

Denomination _____ Home Parish _____

NCCA Resources

- I would like to be added to the *InUnity* email list
(complete email address above or email inunity@ncca.org.au)
- I don't have Internet access, please send me a hard copy of *InUnity*
- I would like to be added to the Ecumenical Friends mailing list
- I would like to receive a Simply Sharing kit
- I would like to receive Christmas Bowl resources

Financial Support

I would like to support the work of:

- The National Council of Churches in Australia (CDAD)
 - National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission (CDKC)
 - Christmas Bowl (CB) *Partners4Peace*
 - Lebanon Appeal Gaza Appeal
- My gift: \$20 \$50 \$100 \$200 Other \$ _____

Payment method:

- Cheque/money order enclosed Credit card – Please charge my Bankcard Visa Mastercard Diners Amex

Name on card _____ Card no _____ Expiry date __/__/____ Signature _____

- This is a *non-tax deductible* gift This is a *tax deductible* gift

The NCCA has a privacy policy that complies with the requirements of the Privacy Act 1988, to be read in conjunction with the National Privacy Principles (NPPs) set out in Schedule 3 to the Act. To read our privacy policy please go to <http://www.ncca.org.au> or contact the NCCA office (02) 9299 2215.

What's On?

August

- 27 Refugee & Migrant Sunday p.5
27 5th International Interreligious Abraham Conference

September

- 1-8 Season of Creation
10 Coptic New Year - Feast of Martyrs
21 International Day of Prayer for Peace p.10
<http://overcomingviolence.org/en/about-the-dov/international-day-of-prayer-for-peace.html>
24 Social Justice Sunday p. 8-9

October

- 15-22 Anti-Poverty Week
<http://www.antipovertyweek.org.au>
or call 1300 797 290
24 United Nations Day
25-31 International Week Without Violence

November

- 1 All Saints Day (Gregorian Calendar)
11 Remembrance Day
25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women <http://www.unifem.org.au/>
26 Last Sunday of the Church Year (Gregorian Calendar)

December

- 1 World AIDS Day
<http://www.worldaidsday.org.au/>
3 Advent Sunday - First Sunday of the Church Year (Gregorian Calendar)
10 Human Rights Day
http://www.hreoc.gov.au/info_for_teachers/hr_day/commemorating.html
25 Christmas Day (Gregorian Calendar)

What's On? dates and information are collected by the NCCA website editors. The latest list of events can be found at http://www.ncca.org.au/whats_on. To submit entries to What's On? please email inunity@ncca.org.au or write to *InUnity*, NCCA, Locked Bag 199, Sydney NSW 1230. Inclusion in What's On? is at the discretion of the Editors.

National Council of Churches in Australia

Commissions

The National Council of Churches in Australia has four commissions that take responsibility for the various programs:

- Commission for Christian World Service
 - International Programs
 - Refugees and Displaced People
 - Simply Sharing Week (joint venture with Caritas)
 - Strathfield Home for the Aged
 - Education and Communications

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission

Commission on Faith and Unity

Gender Commission

Networks & Working Groups

The National Council of Churches in Australia has also established a number of networks to help the wider church explore issues of particular interest:

- Safe as Churches Working Group
- Social Justice Network
- Working Group on the Decade to Overcome Violence
- Youth Network



National Office

379 Kent Street, Sydney NSW
Postal Address: Locked Bag 199, Sydney NSW 1230
Tel: +61 (0)2 9299 2215 Fax: +61 (0)2 9262 4514
Email: secretariat@ncca.org.au

NCCA Christian World Service (Victoria)

Tel: (03) 9650 6811 Email: cwsvic@ncca.org.au

State Ecumenical Offices

If you need to order resources or require a speaker on ecumenical issues please contact your state ecumenical office:

New South Wales Ecumenical Council

– Sydney

Locked Bag 199, Sydney NSW 1230
Tel: (02) 9299 2215 Email: nswec@ncca.org.au

– Canberra

GPO Box 1526, Canberra ACT 2601
Tel: (02) 6273 8805 Email: rocorrigan@csu.edu.au

Northern Territory Council of Churches

PO Box 39818, Winnellie NT 0821
Tel: Bishop Phillip Frier (Pres) (08) 8941 7440 or
Tel: Fr Stephen Hacket (Sec) (08) 8941 1244
Email: ntccdarwin@gmail.com

Queensland Churches Together

PO Box 2045, Milton BC QLD 4064
Tel: (07) 3369 6792 Email: qctgsec@tpg.com.au

South Australian Council of Churches

GPO Box 2106, Adelaide SA 5001
Tel: (08) 8221 6633 Email: sacc@picknowl.com.au

Tasmanian Council of Churches

163 Macquarie Street, Hobart TAS 7000
Tel: (03) 6234 2543 Email: tcctas@bigpond.net.au

Victorian Council of Churches

Level 4, Causeway House,
306 Little Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
Tel: (03) 9650 4511 Email: vcc@vcc.org.au

Council of Churches of Western Australia

PO Box 831, Scarborough WA 6922
Tel: (08) 9385 5477 Email: eclapton@churcheswa.com.au

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Layout – Debra Porter

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