



MAPW health professionals promoting peace

Ten years ago, MAPW launched ICAN, which proceeded over the ensuing years to play a leading role in this year's achievement of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, a huge accomplishment that was recognised by the campaign's receipt of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize. We must never doubt what ordinary people can do when they are determined. We all know there are big challenges ahead, and we don't underestimate the opposition to ICAN'S work, especially on our home turf, Australia. But we are invigorated and ready to take on all challenges, because we have no choice. As ICAN's director Beatrice Fihn said in the Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, we have a choice between the end of nuclear weapons or the end of us.

MAPW's work is even more challenging than the elimination of nuclear weapons, although that task remains critical and central for us. Our constitution states as one of our purposes that we will also "examine the psychological and social mechanisms by which people come to accept war as a necessity". One can't help thinking that those words were written with current-day Australia in mind, as war and its preparation consume an ever-increasing share of our national identity, our historical commemorations and our economy. Watch for news early next year on how MAPW will be addressing the reality of Australia as a nation constantly at war.

I want to sincerely thank all MAPW members and supporters for being there throughout this year, one that has been both horrifying in its dangers and exciting in its achievements. Without your support, we would achieve very little, quite literally.

Wishing you all peace and health for the festive season, with a good measure of hope for the year to come,

Sue Wareham
President



Berit Reiss-Andersen (left), with Setsuko Thurlow (centre) & Beatrice Fihn (right) receiving the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of ICAN

MAPW Congratulates ICAN

On Sunday 10th December 2017 in Oslo, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, ICAN, received the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize. It was a day of great celebration for everyone who has been working to free the world of the tyranny of nuclear weapons, and further confirmation that the strategy ICAN has implemented, highlighting the unacceptable humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, is the right one.

Accepting the prize on behalf of ICAN, Hiroshima survivor Setsuko Thurlow and ICAN International CEO Beatrice Fihn both delivered impassioned speeches to the assembled audience at the Nobel Hall in

Oslo. Attended by the Royal family and previous Nobel laureates, Beatrice and Setsuko made clear that the work is not over yet, urging everyone to ensure that all countries sign the UN treaty to ban nuclear weapons.

There was a strong contingent of Australians in Oslo to attend the ceremony or associated events, including ICAN founding chair and past president of MAPW Assoc Prof Tilman Ruff, MAPW Secretary Dr Margaret Beavis, ICAN Australia Board members past and present Prof Fred Mendelsohn, Dave Sweeney, Daisy Gardener, Dr Marcus Yip and Dr Ruth Mitchell, ICAN Asia-Pacific Director Tim Wright and aboriginal nuclear test survivor and activist Sue Coleman-Haseldine.



Dave Sweeney, Prof Fred Mendelsohn, Dr Margaret Beavis & Assoc Prof Tilman Ruff with the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo

MAPW branches in Victoria and WA held events on the night, [watching live](#) as the award was presented in Oslo by the chair of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee, Berit Reiss-Andersen. The ACT branch also held an event the following Wednesday.

Australia Celebrates



ICAN Outreach Coordinator Gem Romuld (4th from left) gets in to the party spirit

Melbourne

The Melbourne event was held at Swanston Hall, supported by the City of Melbourne. Hundreds of people attended, with the late stayers sharing the excitement of watching the presentation live from Oslo. Speakers on the night included, Senators Lisa Singh and Richard Di Natale, the Hon Martin Pakula (Attorney General), Cr Rohan Leppert, Flick Ruby, Rose & Katrina Lester, Jono Wilkinson, Aunty Diane Kerr and ICAN Outreach Coordinator Gem Romuld. The Master of Ceremonies, Rod Quantock did a masterful job of keeping everyone entertained. Special thanks to Dimity Hawkins also who - with Flick Ruby, Gem Romuld and others - played a key role in organising the event, along with their key roles in ICAN's development!

The Premier, the Hon Daniel Andrews MP sent a [video message](#) of congratulations to ICAN.



MAPW WA members and friends gather to celebrate

Perth

The MAPW WA Branch held dinner event in Perth. Former federal Labor MP Melissa Parke, a long time supporter of ICAN, gave a [rousing speech](#) at the event, as did former Senator Jo Vallentine and former WA MAPW Branch coordinator Peter Underwood. People came ready to enjoy and celebrate the night together. A message from former Senator Scott Ludlam was also shown with cheering from the audience at its conclusion.

Jo Vallentine, Harry Cohen and Judy Blyth were commended for their long involvement along the path to peace and given a bottle of champagne each to continue the celebrations! People were left in no doubt as to the actions they can take to make the treaty become a reality as these were given to them on a sheet to take home along with questions they can ask.

What the future looks like without the nuclear threat was graphically illustrated by the removal of jigsaw pieces of a nuclear Bomb exploding revealing the world we want for future generations underneath - the brainchild of Judy Blyth and John Stace.

Peter Underwood's [article](#) explaining the importance of ICAN's work was published to coincide with the event.



Austrian Ambassador Dr Bernhard Zimburg proposing the toast to ICAN in Canberra

Canberra

About 100 Canberrans gathered to celebrate at the ACT Legislative Assembly on 13 December, at a function hosted by Greens Minister Shane Rattenbury on behalf of the ACT Government. The event was attended by a number of ambassadors and other diplomatic representatives, and addressed by Minister Rattenbury, Labor MLA Tara Cheyne, Tara Gutman from the Australian Red Cross and MC Sue Wareham. Austrian ambassador Dr Bernhard Zimburg gave the final speech and toast to ICAN, with music by Chorus of Women and the band Jarmbis completing the festivities!

A key feature of all these events has been not only the celebration, but – even more importantly – using this opportunity to strengthen active support for ICAN's work.

There was ample media coverage both nationally and internationally including,

- [Winning the Nobel peace prize confirms my life's mission to help end nuclear weapons](#) - Guardian Opinion by Tilman Ruff
- [ICAN established by Australian Doctors](#) - RACGP Magazine December 2017 issue by Margaret Beavis
- [Australian anti-nuke group ICAN to accept Nobel Prize in Norway](#) SBS News
- [Nuclear annihilation 'one tantrum away', Nobel peace prize winner warns](#) The Guardian – Ben Doherty
- [Aussies' Nobel Prize 'straight to the pool room', now give us global nukes ban](#) The Age – Carolyn Webb
- [ICAN presented with Nobel Peace Prize](#) ABC Radio National, Breakfast – Tim Wright
- [My people are still suffering from Australia's secret nuclear testing](#) The Sydney Morning Herald – Sue Coleman-Haseldine

For more media reports and film clips go to the [MAPW FaceBook](#) site



Watch *ICAN's Beginnings*

With a generous donation from MAPW supporter Sue Salthouse, ICAN has launched a new video telling the story of ICAN thus far from its humble beginnings in Melbourne, to winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. In the video, members of the ICAN Board and campaigners explain why ICAN was formed and outline what it has achieved since forming just over a decade ago. [Click here](#) to watch the video.



The insanity of nuclear deterrence

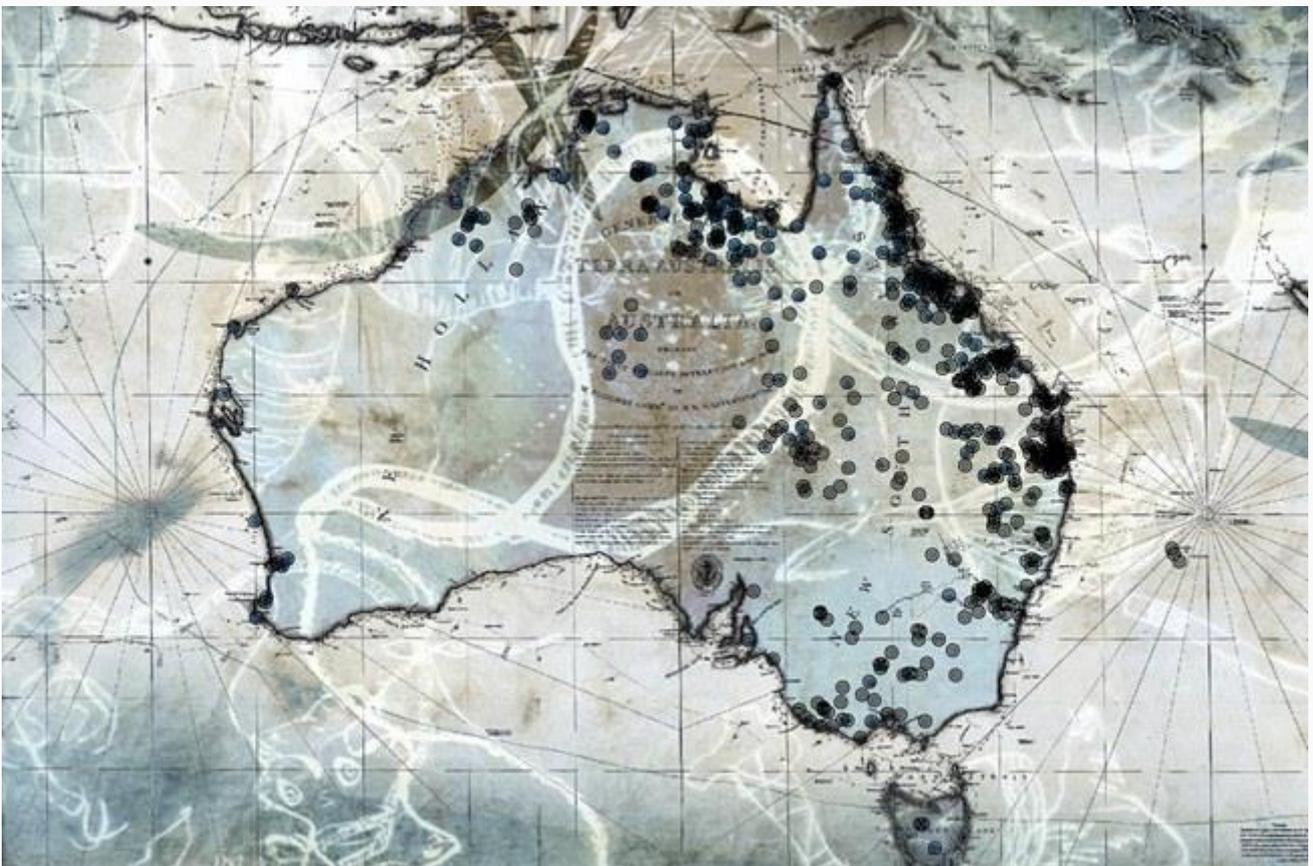
When nuclear-armed nations face off, the threat of mutually assured destruction is expected to keep the worst from happening. But is this a rational strategy? Or is it one that is doomed to failure? [In this eye-opening and powerful talk, Commander Robert Green shares his experience piloting nuclear-armed aircraft](#) -- and his shift to becoming a staunch opponent of nuclear deterrence. Commander Robert Green served for twenty years in the British Royal Navy.

As a bombardier-navigator, he flew in Buccaneer nuclear strike aircraft and anti-submarine helicopters equipped with nuclear depth-bombs. His final appointment was as Staff Officer (Intelligence) to the Commander-in-Chief Fleet during the 1982 Falklands War. He chaired the UK affiliate of the World Court

Project, which led to the International Court of Justice judgment in 1996 that the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be illegal.

Co-Director of the Disarmament & Security Centre in Christchurch since 1998, he is the author of "Security Without Nuclear Deterrence".

Other News



A multimedia project led by the Indigenous Australian artist Judy Watson is among the initiatives seeking to map the numerous sites where colonists massacred Aboriginal people.

Mapping the Massacres

by Ceridwen Doney for The New Yorker Magazine

From New York to Cape Town to Sydney, the bronze body doubles of the white men of empire—Columbus, Rhodes, Cook—have lately been pelted with feces, sprayed with graffiti, had their hands painted red. Some have been toppled. The fate of these statues—and those representing white men of a different era, [in Charlottesville and elsewhere](#)—has ignited debate about the political act of publicly memorializing historical figures responsible for atrocities. But when the statues come down, how might the atrocities themselves be publicly commemorated, rather than repressed?

In the course of her long career, the historian Lyndall Ryan has thought about little else. In the late nineties and early aughts, Ryan found herself on the front lines of what came to be known, in Australia, as the History Wars: skirmishes fought with words, source by disputed source, often in the national media. At stake was whether the evidence existed to prove—as Ryan and others had argued, and conservative historians and politicians refused to accept—that Indigenous Australians had been massacred in enormous numbers during colonization, from late in the eighteenth century to the middle of the twentieth. Even among those who grudgingly accepted that there had been widespread killings, there were still bitter, and, in some cases, ongoing, fights over the exact number of Indigenous people killed, the strength of their resistance to British settlement, and the reliability of oral versus written history. A truce has never been reached in what the Indigenous writer Alexis Wright calls Australia's entrenched "storytelling war." (In October, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull rejected the core recommendations of [the government-appointed Referendum Council](#), which, after six months of deliberative dialogue across Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, had called for establishing an Indigenous voice to Parliament, and a process of "truth-telling about our history.") [Click here](#) to read the article in full.

Thank you to Anne Noonan (NSW MAPW Branch Co-Convenor) for sending it in.



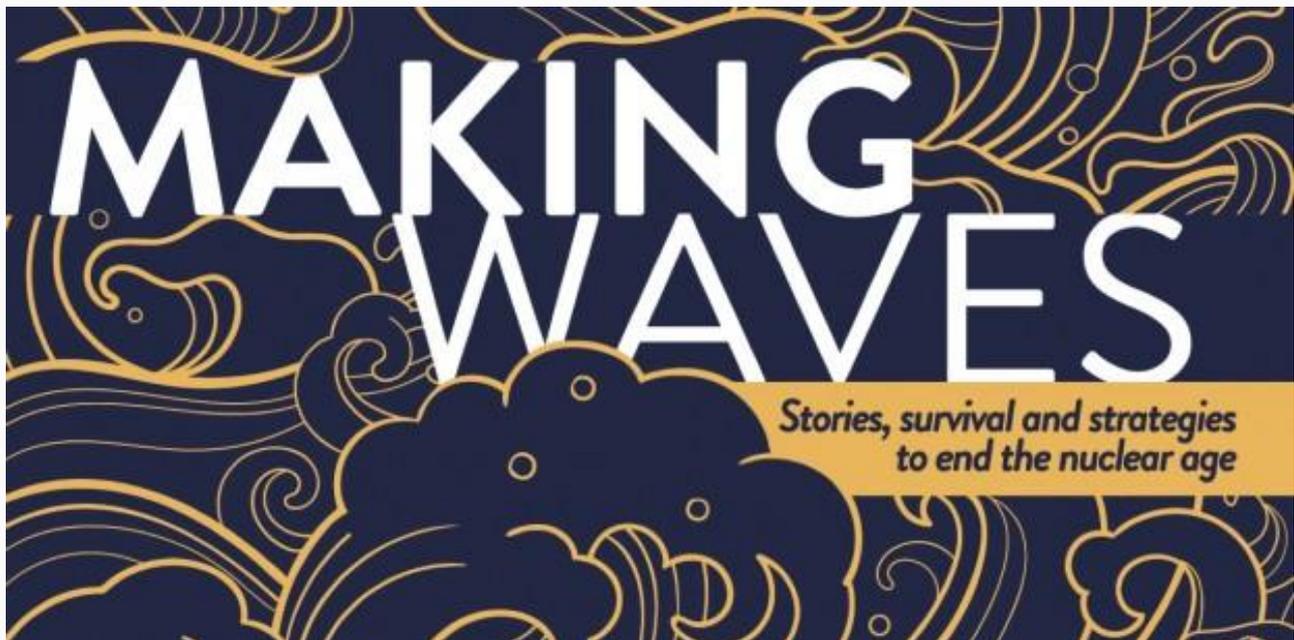
Adverse effects of exposure to armed conflict on pregnancy: a systematic review

Thank you to Rosalie Schultz, MAPW member from the NT Branch for sending in this article recently

published in the British Medical Journal.

Exposure to armed conflict has manifold implications for both military and civilian populations. Prenatal stress has detrimental effects on both obstetric outcomes, fetal development and the development of an individual later in life. As well as causing stress to the mother, armed conflicts can decimate local infrastructures making it increasingly difficult to access antenatal and general healthcare. The present review is particularly salient in light of the many ongoing current conflicts. It examines the impacts of exposure to armed conflicts on the pregnancy outcomes. [Click here](#) to read the article in full

What's On



Speaking Tour 2018

Making Waves is a speaking tour featuring nuclear survivors from Japan and Australia, travelling aboard Peace Boat's voyage to Australia from 24 January – 6 February 2018.

The people of Japan and Australia have experienced the impacts of the nuclear fuel chain, from the tragic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, to nuclear testing on Aboriginal land in Western and South Australia, uranium mining and radioactive contamination following the Fukushima reactor melt-down.

The Japanese and Australian Governments have not yet signed the new Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, claiming instead to be protected by the nuclear weapons of the United States. In both nations, powerful civil society movements are demanding their leaders reject these weapons of mass destruction and abide by the new international legal norm.

Public events, meetings and media opportunities will take place in five cities. The Tour is a collaboration between Peace Boat and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, in connection with local organisations in each city.

Program

Fremantle

Thursday 25 January 12-2pm

Foley Hall, Notre Dame University

Free event, bookings essential: <https://www.trybooking.com/TMIJ>

Adelaide

Monday 29 January 6-7:30pm

The Sailing Club, Birkenhead

Melbourne

Thursday 1 February 6-8pm

The Cube, ACMI

Free event, bookings essential: <https://www.trybooking.com/TMIL>

Hobart

Friday 2 February 12:30-2pm

Parliament Lawns, Salamanca Place. In the event of wet weather, we will move the event into Parliament House.

Sydney

Monday 5 February 6-8pm

Redfern Community Centre, Redfern

Free event, bookings essential: <https://www.trybooking.com/TMLE>

Making Waves will explore:

- The devastating humanitarian consequences of the use and testing of nuclear weapons, particularly on Indigenous people
- The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
- The role of Japanese and Australian civil society in building momentum for their Governments to reject nuclear weapons and join the treaty
- The impact of Australian uranium exports on the people of Fukushima in the wake of the 2011 nuclear disaster

Speakers

The following speakers will travel aboard Peace Boat and participate in *Making Waves*. The agenda will vary in each city with the addition of local speakers.

- Miyake Nobuo, survivor of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima
- Hasegawa Hanako and Hasegawa Kenichi, former dairy farmers evacuated from Itate village, Fukushima
- Karina Lester, Yankunytjatjara-Anangu second-generation nuclear test survivor
- Scott Ludlam, former federal Senator and ICAN Ambassador
- Akira Kawasaki, Peace Boat Executive Committee
- Gem Romuld, Outreach Coordinator, ICAN Australia

About Peace Boat

Peace Boat is a Japan-based international non-governmental and non-profit organization that works to promote peace, human rights, equal and sustainable development and respect for the environment.

Peace Boat carries out its main activities through a chartered passenger ship that travels the world on peace voyages. The ship creates a neutral, mobile space and enables people to engage across borders in dialogue and mutual cooperation at sea, and in the ports that it visits.

More information and how to book details will be available in January 2018





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