



**MAPW** health professionals promoting peace

### **MAPW President's report**

MAPW was in the national news over the past month, with our call for the Australian War Memorial to reject sponsorships from weapons makers, the industry that has a vested interest in countries being at war. Journalist Sally Whyte at The Canberra Times, followed by other Fairfax papers, radio outlets, online media and the ABC TV's The Drum, all reported on MAPW's recent submission to the parliamentary inquiry into Canberra's national institutions. In our submission we called for, among other things, a cessation of weapons' company funding of AWM programs and facilities. See below for more details, and watch for more news on how you can help this campaign.

Meanwhile, our work to get Australia to sign the nuclear weapons ban treaty continues undiminished. Here's a reminder - if you haven't already done them - about 3 *quick* ways you can really help MAPW's activities to achieve this goal:

- For healthcare professionals: sign our statement "*As an Australian Health Care Professional, I want my government to support the nuclear weapons ban treaty*". You can read the statement [here](#) and sign via email [here](#).
- And please show the statement to every health care professional you know – nurse, doctor, physio, OT, dentist, all of them! – and ask them to sign. We want as many signatories as possible.
- Sign the petition urging ALP support for the ban treaty [here](#)

Last but not least, request: if you're a health care professional, please renew your membership, or join up if you're not yet a member. Every member is valuable, even "inactive" ones; your moral and financial support makes a huge difference to what we can achieve. Student membership is free! You can renew by clicking [here](#).

Finally, a huge thanks to Jenny Grounds for so capably and successfully coordinating the recent MAPW / ICAN art show. Great result Jenny!

Thanks, as ever, for sticking with us. Peace is worth striving for.

Sue Wareham  
MAPW President

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David Pope for the Canberra Times, 22 May 2018

### AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

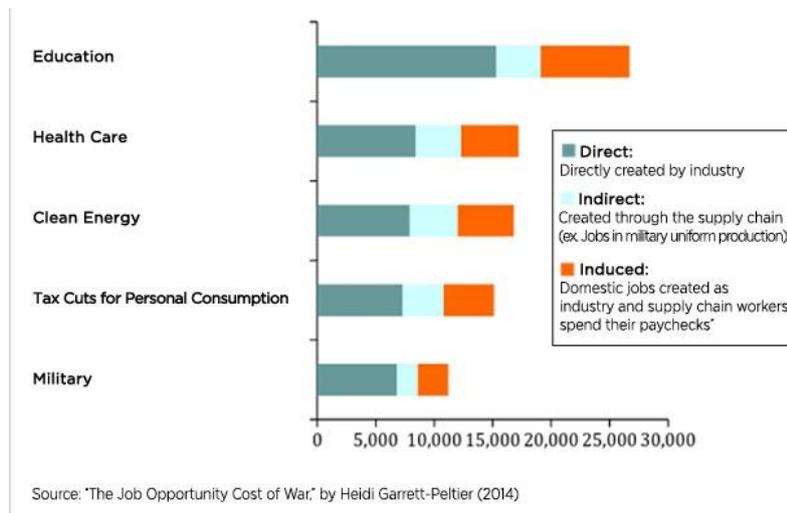
MAPW's recent submission to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories inquiry into Canberra's national institutions made a number of key recommendations in relation to the Australian War Memorial. They reflected the views of many people that the Memorial is becoming more like a "theme park", complete with children's entertainment, rather than a memorial to our war dead. Here are some of MAPW's recommendations:

- The cessation of weapons' company funding for the AWM
- The withdrawal of activities to entertain children about the nature of warfare
- Inclusion of the Frontier Wars, the one set of conflicts in our history that are currently specifically excluded from the AWM galleries
- A greater focus on wars' impacts on civilians, and not only civilians back home in Australia
- A greater display of peace movement activities that have been conducted in relation to Australia's wars
- The adoption of a more modest, less grandiose and militaristic, and more affordable style of commemoration.

You can read our full submission [here](#).

The campaign to get war profiteers and their vested interests out of our war commemoration is continuing. It is a key focus of our new ASAP: Australia Stop Arms Promotion project. Meanwhile our SA branch has written to Premier Marshall and to federal Defence Industry Minister Christopher Pyne, questioning the "jobs" argument for weapons projects, and urging export policies that will promote human progress and prospects for peace.

Stay tuned for ways you can contribute.



### MILITARY SPENDING VERY POOR AT CREATING "JOBS"

Research from the US into the employment benefits of military spending compared to spending in other sectors gives the lie to government claims that it's all about "jobs"

A study undertaken on the employment impacts of US wars, as part of the "Costs of War" project at Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University, Rhode Island, concluded that:

- \$1 billion in military spending creates approximately 11,200 jobs, compared with 26,700 in education, 16,800 in clean energy, and 17,200 in health care.
- If over the years 2001-2014 the US had not been at war but instead had channeled resources into expanding the clean energy industry, broadening health care coverage, and increasing educational opportunities, between 1 and 3 million more jobs would have been created, reducing unemployment significantly.

You can access the report [here](#).

While the study is from the US, MAPW has been unable to find a single economist in Australia who can back up claims that weapons projects here are about jobs.

Please email your local MP with some of the results reported above, and seek their response. Let us know what reply you get!



Members of FLAG (Flinders Local Action Group) with ICAN's Nobel Peace Prize medal

### AUSTRALIA'S NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT - NOT GOOD ENOUGH

MAPW continues to work with communities in South Australia regarding the proposed National Radioactive Waste Management Facility. We met with members of FLAG (the Flinders Local Action

Group) during the Radioactive Exposure tour in April.

There is still no plan for long term disposal of the waste, while in Sydney ANSTO's plans to massively increase nuclear waste production go unscrutinised. This is well below world's best practice.

The government must be very concerned that communities may vote against having nuclear waste, as the promised jobs have blown out from 8 to 15 and now astonishingly to 45. This is not credible.

Here are excerpts from a letter from MAPW secretary Margie Beavis, sent to South Australian media outlets:

*"For twenty years the government have tried to foist this second rate "100 year store" on a community, when this highly toxic radioactive waste lasts 10-100,000 years.*

*There is no transparency. No accountability. No guarantees of these magically appearing new jobs being local or even existing at all. No real plan for long term disposal of this incredibly toxic material.*

*At Woomera drums are leaking, and several Maralinga clean-ups have still left a poisoned land.*

*We urgently need an independent inquiry into nuclear waste production and storage".*

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#### **ART SHOW UPDATE**

MAPW and ICAN's art exhibition and sale "Never Again War" opened on May 19th at Steps Gallery Carlton, with a huge crowd of people having a great time and buying the wonderful artworks. Rod Quantock opened the proceedings with a combination of wicked wit and informed commentary on the subject of nuclear weapons and all aspects of war.

There were fabulous works by Arthur Boyd, Polly Boyd and Michael Leunig which sold to some very lucky people, and in all we sold about two thirds of the works.

The exhibition, some of which was "on message" art and some just beautiful things, (many were both!) continued to attract visitors and buyers for the next five days.

Funds to the tune of \$10,500 each to MAPW and ICAN were raised, which was a great result.

I would like to thank, from the bottom of my heart, the many artists and donors who so generously contributed their work. Special thanks to Daisy Gardener for stepping up and running the auction wonderfully well.

We also relied on a number of very hardworking and dependable helpers with transport, collection, hanging, setting up and taking down the exhibition. Without all of these people contributions, we would not be able to raise funds in such a spectacular way which allows people to get together, enjoy themselves and share in our antiwar and antinuclear weapons campaigning as well.

Jenny Grounds,  
Exhibition Coordinator.

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Dimity Hawkins, one of the founders of ICAN, with a picture of Bill

### **BILL WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP LAUNCHED**

On Saturday 26th of May a gathering was held to launch the Dr Bill Williams Tjungurrayi Scholarships fund at Geelong College. Several very moving speeches were made about Bill, including by Bill's widow Gisela and his daughter Daisy. The Nobel Peace Prize medal and diploma were on display, which was very appropriate given the enormous role Bill played in founding and supporting ICAN.

This scholarship fund will be used to support indigenous students to attend Geelong College, with an endowment fund to exist in perpetuity. Preference will be given to students from the Western desert area, given Bill and Gisela's very strong links with the Kintore region. Please consider donating to this fund. Donations are tax deductible.

Donations can be posted to Geelong College, PO Box 5 GEELONG 3220, made by calling (03) 5226 3779 or online at [www.geelongcollege.vic.edu.au/community/foundation](http://www.geelongcollege.vic.edu.au/community/foundation)

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### **MAPW & IPPNW in the News**

[War Memorial should ditch weapons manufacturers: Anti war organisation](#) - article quoting Sue Wareham - Canberra Times 25 May 2018.

[If fighting spirit is best we offer young then we are truly astray](#) - letter by Sue Wareham - Canberra Times 27 May 2018.

[Should the Australian War Memorial take sponsorship money from weapons manufacturers?](#) Brendon Nelson on RN Breakfast

[Trump's reckless Iran decision increases nuclear danger](#) - Statement by IPPNW

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### **MAPW Annual National Council Meeting**

Members Day Saturday 25 August 2018 at 9.30am to 5.00pm, followed by a dinner with speaker (details tbc) Meeting Room 1, Trades Hall Council, 54 Victoria Street, CARLTON, Vic. 3053

All members are invited to the MAPW National Council Meeting members' day. This gives the opportunity to meet and talk with others from around Australia who are working for a more peaceful and nuclear-free future. "Active" and "inactive" members are all very welcome! You can find out more about MAPW's work in 2018 and discuss the direction of the organisation in 2019 and beyond.

If you would like to attend or know more, please email your rsvp to [eo@mapw.org.au](mailto:eo@mapw.org.au) or phone the office on 03 9023 1958, so we can send you the agenda when it is finalised.

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## WHAT'S ON

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### NEW SOUTH WALES

**What:** Special screening of **Border Politics, including a live Q&A with Julian Burnside**  
**When:** Monday 2 July, 2014 at 6.00pm  
**Where:** Ritz Cinema 45 Saint Pauls Street Randwick Randwick 2031 Australia

Hosted by the Sydney Peace Foundation, Border Politics follows Burnside as he travels the globe examining the harsh treatment of refugees at the hands of western democracies. This contemporary story is about the threat to human rights, the loss of democratic values and our increasingly heartless treatment of 'the other'.

[Click here](#) to book tickets

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### Have you renewed your MAPW membership for 2018/19?

MAPW is successful because of the support we receive from you, our members and supporters. Thank you to all our members who have already renewed their membership. If you haven't done so already, please renew today by clicking [here](#). Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

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Thank you to all our contributors for sharing their articles and reports with MAPW. If you would like to write an article for enews or have information about events in your area you think would be of interest to MAPW members, please email Phyllis at [eo@mapw.org.au](mailto:eo@mapw.org.au)