MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOR PREVENTION OF WAR

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Celebrating 40 years of action for peace and health 1981–2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

STAFF AND OFFICE BEARERS

President: Dr Sue Wareham Vice President: Dr Amanda Ruler Vice President: Dr Margie Beavis Treasurer: Dr Jenny Grounds Secretary: Dr Michael Keem National Council: Dr Ka Sing Chua, Lynne Saville, Dr Rosie Yuille, Dr Peter Underwood, Dr Peter Shannon, Dr Anne Noonan, Dr Carole Wigg, Dr Sally Attrill. Executive Officer: Elise West Finance Officer: Leila Mutapcic

IN THE MEDIA

In 2021, MAPW's work was quoted, referenced, featured and promoted across a broad range of media:

ABC Radio SBS Television **WIN News** Nine News The Guardian The Saturday Paper The Canberra Times The Mercury The Age **Croakey News** Australian Financial Review **Einancial Standard** Independent Financial Advisor Yahoo News **3CR Radio Melbourne** 4ZZZ Radio Brisbane Independent Australia **Medical Republic** Australian Doctor Pearls and Irritations Consortium News Change Happens Podcast

The year 2021 marked MAPW's 40th year – 40 years of powerful advocacy linking health with peace.

Nuclear weapons abolition remains our number one goal. The entry-into-force in January 2021 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons – an achievement due in significant part to the efforts of ICAN, which MAPW initiated in 2007 – was celebrated globally.

Our Quit Nukes campaign, in conjunction with ICAN, is kicking goals in getting superannuation funds out of the nuclear weapons industry.

We've taken action on the weapons industry in schools, militarisation of our war commemoration, health and human rights violations in many situations, nuclear waste dump plans, AUKUS, and the climate action and peace nexus. And much more.

None of this would be possible without huge dedication to the tasks. It is my honour to be part of the fabulous MAPW team that has provided that dedication and the countless hours of work that flow from it. The team includes not only our brilliant staff who never cease to amaze, and wonderful National Councillors, but – most importantly – all our members and supporters right across the country, without whose efforts MAPW would not exist. Sincere thanks to every one of you for your contributions.

Read on with pride in what we're achieving together.

Dr Sue Wareham, National President





ENTRY INTO FORCE: TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS 22 JANUARY 2021

2021 began with an historic moment: the Entry into Force of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Entry into Force triggered states parties' implementation of the TPNW, making the treaty current international law and setting a powerful new norm against nuclear weapons.

This was a great moment for MAPW: our members launched the international campaign for the treaty, and have worked tirelessly for over fifteen years to advance it. Branches across Australia celebrated the entry into force milestone with marches, parties, and calls to action. In Fremantle, WA, a sundowner co-hosted with Mayors for Peace, Conservation Council WA and ICAN watched the 'sun go down on nukes', with special guests Melissa Parke and, representing the ICRC, Professor Tarun Weeramanthri. In Adelaide, SA, a 'No Safe Hands for Nukes' rally and march was held at state parliament. In Canberra, ACT, a public celebratory event, with politicians and diplomats present, was held.

In Melbourne, MAPW launched an open letter on nuclear abolition, signed by organisations representing over 500 000 medical and other health workers, as well as over 400 individuals, including some of Australia's most eminent medical and health professionals.





THE ABOLITION OF NUCLEAR Weapons is a medical and Public Health Imperative

Dear The Hon Greg Hunt MP,

As the Minister responsible for the health of the Australian people, we urge you to take action on the growing risk of use of illegal nuclear weapons.

There could be no meaningful medical response to any use of nuclear weapons: the health, humanitarian, and environmental consequences are devastating and long lasting.

We urge you to accept our advice, based on compelling and irrefutable evidence, and recognise that:

- Nuclear weapons must never be used, under any circumstances, and;
- It is a medical and public health imperative to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons.

You have the power and obligation to act on the evidence and take preventative action on nuclear weapons. Please use your position to ensure Australia signs and ratifies the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

This letter is signed by over 350 individuals, and endorsed by organisations representing over 500 000 medical and other health professionals.

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Australian College of Nursing









Public Health Association







Doctors for the Environment Australia



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40 YEARS OF ACTION FOR PEACE AND HEALTH 1981 -2021

Since its foundation in 1981, MAPW has been a powerful actor for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, prevention of the harms and war and militarism, and the redirection of resources away from conflict and towards health and justice.

In 2021, we celebrated our 40th birthday.

With COVID-19 restrictions still in place around the country, we gathered online. We were grateful to have some of our longstanding members present -including lan Maddocks, John Andrews, and Fred Mendelsohn - and to be joined by supporters from around Australia.

Thank you to everyone who has played a role in our success and longevity.

This organisation – and those who dedicate themselves so tirelessly to its principles – has done more than any other to highlight the growing militarisation of Australian culture, politics and history.

MAPW Australia's endless often unheralded work in the promotion of peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons deserves ongoing global acknowledgment and praise.

Paul Daley, Author + Journalist

I want to congratulate MAPW on 40 years of outstanding work as advocates for peace. Their excellent work includes calling for the reduction of militarism and and abolishing the things that threaten human life, like brutal land mines and the proliferation of nuclear weapons. There is no longer any justification for war, if, indeed, there ever was. War has outlived its usefulness and never achieves whatever we think it can achieve. Keep up the essential and courageous work

Tim Costello AO

The self- congratulatory and self-justification narrative, in regards to our involvement in Afghanistan, coming out of defence, immigration and cabinet is shameful. Well beyond time to stop polishing and flogging it to death. Thanks to MAPW for invaluable insights, tireless agitations and contributions to humanitarian work and peace, to break this hollow narrative that delivers a cycle of violence and misery.

Kellie Merritt widow of Flight Lt Paul Pardoel who was killed in Afghanistan

QUITNUKES.ORG QUIT NUKES

Super funds lambasted over nuclear holdings Financial Standard

> Top super funds remain invested in banned nuclear weapons

> > Independent Financial Advisor

Quit Nukes is MAPW's divestment campaign, a collaboration with ICAN Australia.

Divestment is an integral part of progress towards the total abolition of nuclear weapons: divestment decreases financial flows, increases stigma, and reduces the social licence of companies that profit from the production of weapons of mass destruction. In 2021, Quit Nukes produced a **landmark report** into the policy and practice of Australian superannuation funds.

Together with the Australia Institute, the Quit Nukes team assessed 22 funds that hold over 80% of all superannuation funds under management and represent over 80% of all superannuation members in Australia (excluding self-managed super funds).

Key findings included:

- Most Australian super funds have holdings in nuclear weapons producers
- Nine funds highlight their exclusion of controversial weapons, but do not include



In February 2021, Quit Nukes verified U Ethical as a provider of nuclear weapon free finance.

U Ethical is an investment manager originally established in 1985 by the Uniting Church, and is one of the largest ethical investment managers in Australia with over \$1 billion under management.

U Ethical Investors has resolutely excluded companies involved in the production of nuclear weapons from its investable universe. Long cognisant of the risks of both military and civilian use of nuclear technology, a desire to avoid involvement with uranium mining provided the impetus for the creation of our first funds in the late 1970s. I look forward to a world free of from the destructive threat of nuclear weapons. Matthew Browning

Chief Executive Officer, U Ethical

- (cont'd) nuclear weapons in the definition, so continue to invest in nuclear weapons companies
- Three funds exclude nuclear weapons from their "socially or environmentally responsible" options only
- Divestment from nuclear weapons companies is compatible with trustee fiduciary duty as it not expected to have any material impact on super fund returns to members

The report demonstrates clear ethical, legal, reputational and fiduciary reasons for divestment and shows there is no material benefit to members from continued investment in nuclear weapons producers.

The report, along with outreach and engagement by the Quit Nukes team, has been instrumental in several funds' decisions to review holdings and policies, and - in some cases - to make changes in line with Quit Nukes' recommendations.

We are grateful to the Quit Nukes team – MP, MB, RK, GR, JM and JG. Thanks to the Jessie Street Trust, whose seeding grant in 2019 enabled the launch of this campaign. Strong returns from ethical funds show that divesting from nuclear weapons companies is not just the right thing to do - it is also the financially sound thing to do.

> Ben Oquist Executive Director, The Australia Institute





FUTURE SUPER

Christian Super

In June 2021, Quit Nukes coordinated an open letter, signed by Verve Super, Crescent Wealth, Christian Super and Future Super, to the Responsible Investment Association of Australasia (RIAA), calling for an update of Certification Standards for ethical funds.

Existing standards did not require the exclusion of nuclear weapons, despite their illegality and status as disproportionate weapons of mass destruction.

In November 2021, the RIAA committed to update their Responsible Investment Standard. Nuclear weapons will now be included in the definition of 'controversial weapons', meaning nuclear weapons producers must be excluded from all financial products that seek certification by RIAA.

The nuclear weapons proliferation potential of this deal will be significant. A government assurance on the matter is totally inadequate.

Dr Sue Wareham

In September 2021, Australians were surprised by the announcement of a new military pact between Australia, the UK and the US (AUKUS), and the proposed acquisition by Australia of nuclear-powered submarines.

AUKUS

MAPW immediately called for **full and proper scrutiny** of the pact by the parliament and the people, arguing that the full implications of such a major development for Australian security and sovereignty, the nuclear proliferation risks, and the potential for domestic nuclear capability, must be subject to debate and proper decision-making processes. MAPW assessed that nuclear-powered submarines would increase tensions and militarisation across Asia and the Pacific region, fuel an arms race, and risk deepening a new cold war involving China.

While PM Scott Morrison asserted that the AUKUS deal did not mean Australia would acquire nuclear weapons, MAPW called for the PM to build trust in the assertion by immediately committing to sign and ratify the **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**.

MAPW joined with International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War affiliates Medact (UK) and Physicians for Social Responsibility (USA), to express grave concern for AUKUS' implications for human health and global security in a **joint statement** and **briefing paper**.

In December 2021, MAPW **gave evidence** to the parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on Treaties on the Exchange of Naval Nuclear Propulsion Information Agreement (ENNPIA).

MAPW also **conducted an assessment** of existing safety plans and systems in Australian ports approved to receive **nuclear powered warships** and found significant variation in the scope and quality of safety plans, as well as **gaps** in accident modelling to account for the proposed stationing of sovereign nuclear powered ships. Many thanks to **Darcy Lawler** from the University of Sydney, who joined MAPW on an MD elective, for conducting this research.

Throughout 2021, MAPW members took part in numerous public forums on AUKUS, sharing information about the implications for health and human security.



AIMING For prevention

MAPW's Aiming for Prevention (AfP) campaign mobilises the expertise and authority of health professionals to prevent the harms of the global weapons industry.

In 2021, AfP continued to advocate on key issues:

- Weapons industry influence and social licence
- Harms of Australian arms exports

Weapons industry influence and social licence

Partnerships, sponsorships, grants and other forms of financial support are integral to the weapons industry's **social licence** to operate and are intended to obscure the industry's harmful effects. **Influence over young people's attitudes** to the weapons industry is key to its continued operation.

Our 2020 report *Minors & Missiles* demonstrated that global weapons companies have significant influence over Australian STEM education, and seek to **influence primary-aged children** to have a positive view of the arms industry. In 2021, AfP conducted research and advocacy on **state education policies** governing corporate partnerships and protection of children from harmful industries. We presented our work on the issue at the 2021 Disrupt Land Forces action in Brisbane, and were featured on community media.

In 2021, we continued our work to highlight partnerships between the weapons industry and national institutions and charitable organisations.





INFLUENCE FOR PEACE

The global arms industry has a devastating impact on human rights, compounds security challenges, damages economies and environments, and profits from militaristic solutions to global problems.

The industry is a major recruiter of engineers, and seeks to influence engineering students to have positive view of their core business. In 2021, thanks to the support of a generous donor, we launched a pilot partnership with **Engineers Without Borders.** The Influence for Peace program aims to equip students to apply a peacebuilding lens to their careers, and to empower engineers to engage in the prevention of war and promotion of global peace.

MAPW supported three talented students in their final year of education to participate in training and receive professional mentorship. AfP has particularly focused on problematic financial relationships between the Australian War Memorial (AWM) and some of the world's biggest weapons companies.

Since 2019 AfP had been mobilising supporters to call for the end of a partnership between the AWM and global weapons giant **BAE Systems**; in 2021 we received confirmation that this partnership had **not been renewed** and BAE branding had been removed from the memorial.

Harms of Australian arms exports

In 2021, MAPW **continued to lobby** the government on arms exports to the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, who lead a coalition in the war in **Yemen**. Despite repeated and credible reports of civilian harm and allegations of violations of human rights and international law in Yemen, the Australian government has **refused** to halt, pause, or review approvals of arms exports that may be used in Yemen.

Our work on the harms of the arms trade was featured in a report by **SBS Dateline** and we contributed to media coverage of the issue throughout the year.

In response to the February 2021 military coup in **Myanmar**, MAPW endorsed calls for a global embargo on sales of arms and military-related equipment to the Tatmadaw.

Students at **Macquarie University** worked with AfP to update information on the known harms of arms exports, and to articulate the public health rationale for action. This work was presented virtually at the **2021 World Peace Congress.** Thank you to Miti, Acille, Jade and Aleksandra.

ELBIT SYSTEMS

Elbit Systems is an Israeli weapons company. The Coalition for Justice and Peace in Palestine, along with Palestinian and human rights groups worldwide, have raised credible concerns about the role of Elbit in the violation of Palestinian rights. In 2021, MAPW joined others to call for greater scrutiny of Australian state and federal government relationships with Elbit Systems. Thank you to the **Australian Centre for International Justice** for leadership on the issue.

MILITARISM + HEALTH

In 2021, **Australian Catholic University** public health students joined MAPW to conduct research on the **opportunity cost to health** of Australia's overinvestment in military defence.

ACU students also provided research support for MAPW's submission to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee's *Inquiry into Australia's engagement in Afghanistan* and contributed to MAPW's submission on the Militarisation of Indigenous Lands to the **United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.** Thank you to Isabella, Dylan, and Meg.

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

MAPW members know that health professionals have the power and obligation to act to uphold the right to life and health, to protect human rights, and stand in solidarity with fellow health workers around the world.

DOCTORS FOR ASSANGE

MAPW called for the immediate end to the torture and medical neglect of Julian Assange, and for charges against him to be dropped. MAPW members were amongst more than 250 medical professionals from 35 countries who called on US President Biden to end the legal persecution of Assange. In August2021, MAPW President Sue Wareham joined an international panel to reiterate a call for the release of Julian Assange from UK's Belmarsh Prison.

ACTION FOR DR SHATHA ODEH

MAPW representatives and members were amongst the signatories of an open letter calling on the WHO to intercede in the case of Dr Shatha Odeh, director of the Palestinian Health Work Committees (HWCs). Dr Odeh was arrested in July 2021 by Israeli forces, not long after a military raid and shutdown of the HWCs headquarters. Dr Odeh's arrest was a blow to the delivery of health care in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

WEST PAPUA

MAPW called on Foreign Minister Marise Payne to take action in recognition of the right of West Papuan people for self-determination, and to rein back Australian military support for Indonesian counterparts.

AFGHANISTAN

In September, we joined over fifty human rights organisations from around the world in a joint appeal to UN Member States to launch a robust investigative mechanism on Afghanistan in order to deliver a credible response to the escalating human rights crisis gripping the country.

PALESTINE: RIGHT TO HEALTH

In May 2021, in response to an escalation of violence with grossly disproportionate impact on Palestinian civilians, MAPW wrote to Foreign Minister Marise Payne to urge action. We provided evidence that destruction of health facilities was further compounding pre-existing health inequities suffered by Palestinians under occupation.

SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

In October, MAPW joined dozens of Australian organisations to condemn the State of Israel's designation of six Palestinian human rights organisations and unions as "terrorist" organisations. We called on the Australian Government to condemn the designations and to demand their reversal.

HOME TO BILO

MAPW President Sue Wareham spoke at the Canberra snap action calling for the release of the Murgappan family from immigration detention, telling the rally: "The forced separation of the Biloela family from the community where they belong, in order to send a message to others, is immoral."

CLIMATE, PEACE AND SECURITY

Peace is the key enabler of the global, cooperative action required to address our climate emergency. Investing in diplomacy and aid, redirecting military spending, and eliminating weapons of mass destruction can reduce militarism, threats, instability and competition, free up resources, and enable the solidarity we need to work effectively together.

Using a peace framework to think about climate action can also mitigate securitised and competitive responses to our crisis, and ensure that solutions are equitable and grounded in justice. Throughout 2021, MAPW collaborated nationally and internationally on climate issues, and on the important nexus between peace and a healthy climate.

HEALTHY FUTURES

In 2021, MAPW joined Healthy Futures and fellow health organisations – plus hundreds of individual health workers – to call on energy giant and Australia's biggest climate polluter, AGL, to end its harmful coal-burning and commit to a rapid transition to 100% renewable energy.

CLIMATE + HEALTH ALLIANCE

MAPW endorsed the Climate and Health Alliance's *Healthy, Regenerative and Just: Framework for a national strategy on climate, health and wellbeing for Australia.* The framework is a comprehensive suite of recommendations for tackling the climate and biodiversity crisis while delivering significant public health, economic, and environmental benefits.

MILITARY EMISSIONS

Ahead of COP26 in Glasgow, MAPW endorsed the **Conflict and Environment Observatory**'s proposal on cuts to military emissions.

Militaries are huge energy users and contribute significant emissions, as well as causing wider environmental impacts from training, activities and operations. Militaries are typically the largest energy consumers among government agencies but historically there has been a reluctance to disclose data on their emissions.

MAPW endorses concrete action to record, report and reduce military emissions, and government commitments to address how **reducing military expenditure**, activities and deployments, and increasing efforts towards peace and stability can reduce emissions and prevent environmental degradation.

66 Temporary storage is not world's best practice. It is just kicking the radioactive can down the road.

Dr Margie Beavis

NUCLEAR WASTE

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL SOLID WASTE STORAGE FACILITY

In July 2021, MAPW made a submission in support of the construction of a new Intermediate Level Solid Waste Storage Facility at Lucas Heights, NSW. In evidence to the **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works**, we gave our endorsement based on the minimal expected impact on the community, and existing security and safety arrangements. MAPW urged the committee to progress a shift to **cyclotron** rather than reactor-based production of isotopes for nuclear medicine as rapidly as feasible. In 2021 MAPW continued to play a central role in work to oppose the selection of Kimba, South Australia, as the site for an **intermediate radioactive waste dump**. The dump is not supported by the Traditional Owners, the Barngarla people, and consultation processes have been **flawed**, misleading and divisive.

In August 2021, MAPW made a **formal submission** regarding the Ministerial declaration of the dump site. Our submission highlighted the fact that transferring waste to regional South Australia markedly increases risk, and is a waste of public money. We reiterated our call for an **open and independent review** of nuclear waste production and disposal in Australia.

In November, as the Kimba site was confirmed as the dump location, MAPW released a **public statement** and a **briefing paper** highlighting the gross overstatement of the role of nuclear medicine in the production of nuclear waste and other flaws in the process.

MAPW has been actively engaging with the Australian Medical Association (South Australia) to build medical consensus around the issue.

FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Medical Association for Prevention of War - Australia Inc.

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
Income		
Membership Fees	48,671	59,803
Donations Received	18,177	24,714
Total Income	66,848	84,517
Other Income		
Fundraising Income	11,260	10,692
Reimbursements (ICAN & PF)	8,328	11,505
Interest Income	1,901	2,739
Other Revenue	83,136	22,000
Total Other Income	104,625	46,936
Total Income	171,473	131,453
Expenditure		
Advertising	508	851
Affiliate Fees	5,696	
Annual Leave	944	123
Bank Fees	1,050	1,198
Computer Expenses	3,947	2,833
Depreciation	213	407
Filing Fees	185	
Insurance	2,931	2,836
Other Expenses	400	
Postage	542	939
Printing & Stationery	187	159
Project Costs	2,520	7,839
Rent	13,627	13,627
Repairs and Maintenance	200	935
Subscriptions	158	200
Telephone & Internet	1,771	1,827
Travel		1,377
Wages and Salaries	71,896	73,347
Superannuation	5,537	6,323
Work Cover	571	776
Total Expenditure	112,885	115,598
Surplus/(Loss) for the year	58,588	15,855

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Medical Association for Prevention of War - Australia Inc. As at 30 June 2021

	30 JUN 2021	30 JUN 2020
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	278,686	222,648
Trade and Other Receivables	2,043	681
Total Current Assets	280,729	223,329
Non-Current Assets		
Plant and Equipment and Vehicles	292	505
Total Non-Current Assets	292	505
Total Assets	281,022	223,834
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	8,250	6,444
Employee Entitlements	2,480	5,686
Total Current Liabilities	10,730	12,130
Total Liabilities	10,730	12,130
Net Assets	270,292	211,704
Members' Funds		
Current Year Earnings	58,588	15,855
Retained Earnings	211,704	195,849
Total Members' Funds	270,292	211,704