

Justice and Peace Committee minutes 21/3/21

Present: Maxine Barry, Jo Petrov, Jenni Bond, Peter Jones, Kay Allport,
Apologies: Sam Nolan, Sally McGushin

Correspondence in/out

Re response to letter to Darren Chester on the **refurbishment of the AWM**: Maxine has not written a response to the response yet - Sam has received a copy of our letter and the AWM Director's reply to present to Sen. Lambie at her office. Maxine is waiting for Sen. Lambie before drafting a letter. Sam also has a copy of the excellent article by Dr Sue Wareham (President of MAPW) on the AWM changes to prepare for the conversation with Sen. Lambie.

Letters to Tasmanian politicians including the **10 demands** to mitigate climate change, introduced on March 11 by the "Sacred People Sacred Earth" campaign developed by Greenfaith International for the leadup to the COP26 discussions on climate crisis in November. RM endorsed the 10 demands and it was agreed that letters be sent. Maxine to check if this has taken place yet.

"Raise the Age" campaign: Maxine talked with representatives of Southern Amnesty at the SETAC open day and has written again (on behalf of J&P) to Elise Archer again urging that she support raising the age of incarceration, in view of the damning Ashley Detention Centre report and other abuses in state care, and noting that other states are not waiting for a uniform approach.

On her own behalf Maxine has written to Dr Andrew "Twiggy" Forrest urging him to publicly dissociate the Minderoo Foundation from the **Indue Card**. Reports show it has been a waste of taxpayers' money. She has also written to the senior management of Woolworths objecting to the proposal to build a giant Dan Murphy liquor outlet close to dry indigenous communities in the NT, and declaring her boycott of Woolworths stores. She has also prepared a group letter for members to sign.

Re the **Indue Card**: Maxine has emailed Sen. Lambie urging her to reject the rollout (not answered), and will also send her a letter, also to Andrew Wilkie and Shadow Minister Linda Burney.

Other matters of interest

Maxine tabled several articles and notices:

- Dr Sue Wareham article on **Famine in the 20th Century**, and a response to the **2009 White Paper on Defence**

- Dr Sue Wareham on the AWM alterations
- A paper prepared by Robin Banks on the harms that would attend on the passing of the **Religious Discrimination Bill**. We are urged to call our federal MP's urging them not to support this bill, which would enable religious institutions to discriminate in a manner overriding anti-discrimination legislation.
- That all are urged to comment on a consultation on the "Gas-led Recovery" invited by the Federal Government. JUST SAY NO!
- Group letter to Woolworths to sign
- IPAN: submissions to "A People's Inquiry" into a peaceful and independent Australia are invited online, one of many of the issues. www.independentpeacefulaustralia.com.au
- Recommended: recording of the excellent webinar Maxine attended in which the "**Closing the Gap**" report was presented. Available on the Australia Institute website.
- Articles from Saturday Paper: Bruce Pascoe on indigenous crops, how these could be a way forward for farming in climate change, with respect given to the indigenous skill and knowledge they embody.
- Stephanie Dowrick on **Feminism** needing to reignite.
- Forthcoming: webinar by Australia Institute on **Australian Government Responsibility in War** with panellists Alison Broinowski and Scott Ludlam, 24/3.

Concerns:

Kay explained the campaign to counter the Carence Council's ongoing efforts to severely restrict **dog off lead exercise areas**. She urged us to respond to a **Clarence Council survey** which will continue to 12/4, even though the council has stated that it will not necessarily accept the majority views on this topic. Kay spoke about the importance of dog walking especially for the elderly as a source both of exercise and social interaction.

A Quaker submission to a federal government consultation on the **Voice to Parliament** proposed in the Uluru Statement from the Heart: has QPLC prepared one?

(update: Maxine checked both the QA website but did not find evidence of such. However, emailing both QPLC and the First Nations Concerns Committee, she was sent a copy of an excellent submission sent in on our behalf. Individuals can also put one in, before the end of March)

Women's Climate Protest March 20 March: Dr Clare Smith from Doctors for the Environment spoke powerfully about the health harms of climate change. She also urged people to object to the state government's proposed anti-protest law.

Maxine and Gill Edmiston were there with the Quaker earthcare banner.
(update: the law was vetoed by the Legislative Council)

Next meeting April 18