

PLANET THREE DIGEST

AUGUST 2012 EDITION

INCORPORATING U.N.A.A. S.A. NEWSLETTER NO.21

Tuesday 22nd May 2012 is the International Day of Biodiversity.



Biodiversity

Spirit moving in our

midst

Groundswell of

wisdom,

Signs of your love

emerge

In the rising sun and

waning tide,

you grace Earth with

life in all its variety.

Every-thing has

meaning, is blessing;

every one is charged

with care

for the smallest

creature

to the ocean's depth.

Grant us wisdom

to know your ways of love and gentle kindness.

Give us the mind to learn what we do not know

but long to understand

So that we may honor and nurture

all that makes us one with you.

**'We should preserve
every scrap of biodiversity**

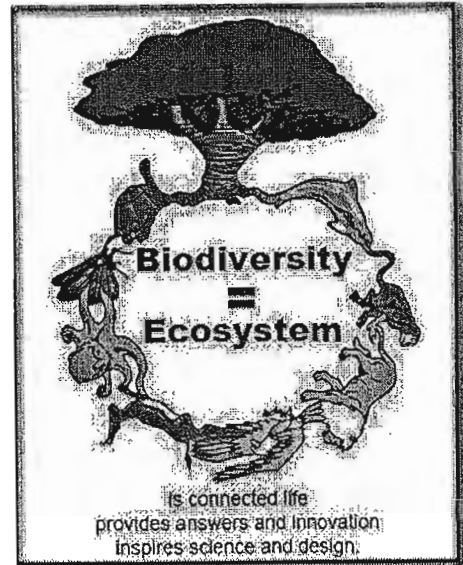
as priceless

while we learn

to use it and come to understand

what it means to humanity'.

E. O. Wilson



mail@unaasa.org.au

www.unaasa.org.au

Telephone: 08 8223 2420

Fax: 08 8223 4710

57/81 Carrington St

Adelaide S.A.
5000

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We wish to thank our skilled and knowledgeable contributors to this edition of Planet Three Digest , aka the AUGUST NEWSLETTER .

Cover Page and Page 7 : Adam Stencil, who did four weeks intensive inservice with us in July.

Page 4 : Articles on Irena Sendler and on Dan Ryan, SA's first UN Youth of the Year . . Rod Scholz

Information on TONY KEVIN (see below) : Rosemary McKay

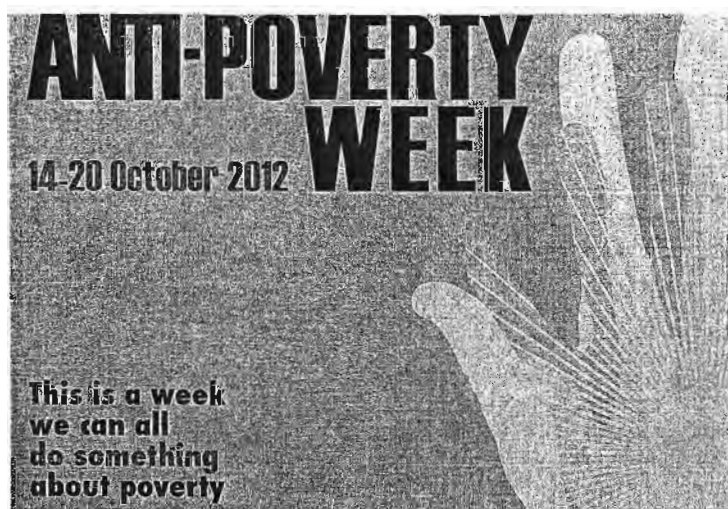
From the UNAA SA President John Crawford - Postscript on page 10

Acknowledgement: *New Internationalist* July / August 2012 Edition for "How CO-OPS are builing a better world" www.newint.com.au

10 things you can do in Anti-Poverty Week

1. Organise a forum for local groups to discuss poverty issues in your community and plan some action to address them
2. If you are in a community organisation, religious group or sporting association, ask them to think about doing something during the Week
3. Arrange an information stall at a local shopping centre or other gathering place about ways people can get help from local services
4. Organise a meal, concert, game or some other activity to help raise funds for organisations which help disadvantaged people
5. Arrange a speaker on poverty issues for your workplace or a group you are involved with
6. Volunteer to help an organisation working with disadvantaged people (for some ideas, see www.volunteeringaustralia.org)
7. Join in an Anti-Poverty Week activity which someone else is organising (see the calendar of activities at www.antipovertyweek.org.au)
8. Start making regular donations to charities and ask friends and workmates to do the same (or agree to exchange presents in future by making donations on behalf of each other)
9. Write a letter to your local paper or MP about some aspect of poverty or other hardship that concerns you
10. If you are in a business, provide a discount or free offer to people on a low income for some of your products or services during the Week

For more ideas and information, visit www.antipovertyweek.org.au email upw@antipovertyweek.org.au or call 1300 797 290



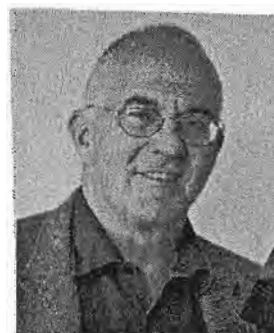
Tony Kevin, author of "A Certain Maritime Incident: the sinking of SIEV-X"
New book: "Reluctant Rescuers"
How the cover-up of one of Australia's worst scandals enabled similar incidents to continue

Reluctant Rescuers

An exploration of the Australian border protection system's safety record in detecting and intercepting asylum-seeker boats, 1998-2011

by

Tony Kevin



Kevin's pen once again pricks the nation's conscience and applies scrutiny to those tempted to place border protection ahead of human life.

— Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO

Tony Kevin exposes the shameful loss of life on the boats bringing refugees to Australia. He appeals to our human duty to the vulnerable.

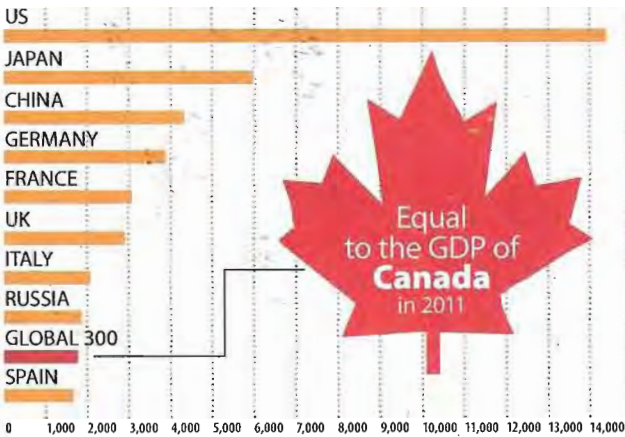
— The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG

How CO-OPS are building a better world

This is the UN International Year of Co-operatives. It couldn't have come at a better time. Co-ops offer an alternative way of doing business where profits are enjoyed collectively, not just by a small group of shareholders. They can be small, local businesses or huge global companies.

THE WORLD'S TOP 300 CO-OPERATIVES

In 2008 the world's largest 300 co-operatives had revenues of **\$1.6 trillion**, about the same as Canada's GDP last year.



The GDP of the world's biggest economies' in \$billion in 2008.

GOOD JOBS

Number of co-op jobs globally:

100 million — **20%** more than multinationals.



MORE MEMBERS

Co-operative members worldwide

1 billion

People are looking to co-ops as an antidote to the insecurity and inequality of free market capitalism.

25% of **CANADIANS** are co-op members

33% of **BOLIVIANS** belong to co-operatives

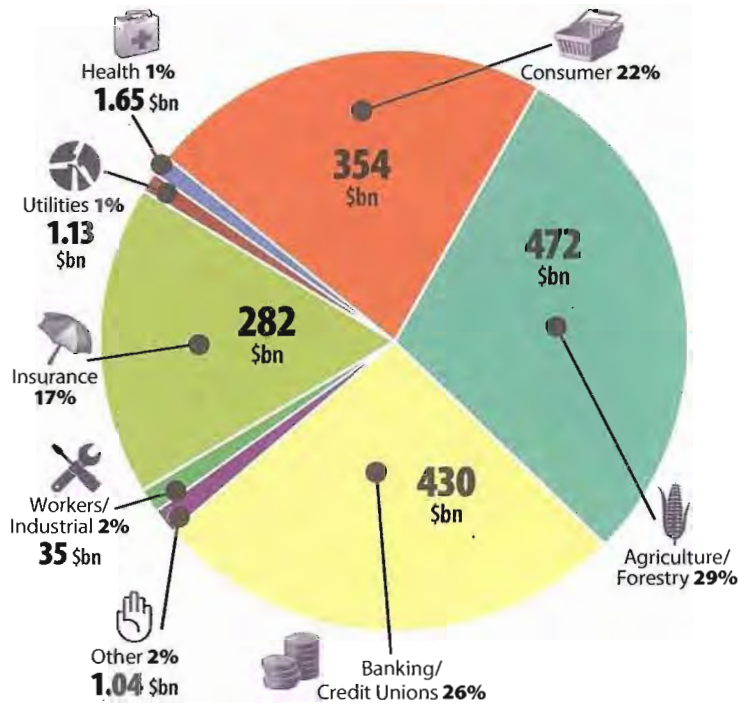
42% of **NORWEGIANS** are co-op members

27% of **MALAYSIANS** are members of co-operatives

40% of **NEW ZEALANDERS** are co-op members

Sources: Global300 Report 2010: global300.coop. See also, statistics from the International Co-operative Alliance: nin.tl/JL1Ywh and Cooperatives Australia: nin.tl/J55N2g

TOP 300 CO-OP'S EARNINGS BY SECTOR



TYPES OF CO-OPERATIVES

PRODUCER Run by people like farmers, taxi drivers and fishers who provide similar goods and services. They can club together to buy supplies or market their businesses.

CONSUMER Provide goods and services to their members/owners. Can be huge or very small; anything from co-op supermarkets, housing co-ops or small-scale food co-ops.

WORKER Fire the boss! Often small businesses like print shops, daycare, or small manufacturing that are owned and managed by their employees.

FINANCIAL SERVICES Entities like credit unions and insurance co-ops offer banking, investment and insurance services to their members.

PURCHASING Owners of private businesses like hotels, hardware stores and grocery shops band together to buy in bulk, combining purchasing to get better prices.

ECONOMIC POWER

A force to be reckoned with: co-ops generate – and reinvest – some serious moolah.

DENMARK – consumer co-ops have **36.4%** of the consumer retail market

JAPAN – production by agricultural co-operatives is more than **\$90 billion** a year

CÔTE D'IVOIRE – co-ops invested **\$26 million** in schools, roads and clinics in 2002

VIETNAM – co-operatives produce **8.6%** of the country's GDP

AUSTRALIA – top 100 co-ops have an annual turnover of **\$14.7 billion**

In the 'World System', the prize does not always go to the most deserving AND THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE GOES TO MR. AL GORE!!!

Irena Sendlerowa was a Polish Catholic social worker who served in the Polish Underground in German-occupied Warsaw during World War II. When Hitler and his Nazis built the Warsaw Ghetto and herded 500,000 Polish Jews behind its walls to await liquidation, many Polish gentiles turned their backs or applauded. Not Irena Sendler. This remarkable woman defied the Nazis and saved 2,500 Jewish children by smuggling them out of the Warsaw Ghetto. She sneaked the children out to safe hiding places and found non-Jewish families to adopt them.



Irena Sendler, Nobel nominee, saved over 2,500 Jewish babies and children from Nazi death camps

In 1939, year-old so-when her during a ty-'I was taught his religion It is a need

when the Nazis invaded Poland, cial worker. An only child, she father, a Catholic doctor, died phus outbreak. But she never that if a man is drowning, it is or nationality,' Sendler has said. of the heart.'

The Gestapo interrogated Sendler but she refused to talk, even when she was beaten until her legs and feet were broken.

Sendler was a 29- had been just 7 after treating Jews forgot his sacrifice. irrelevant what is 'One must help him.

Sendler joined Zegota, the code Aid to Jews in Occupied Poland, an underground network founded in December 1942 by psychologist Adolf Berman and six other prominent scholars, religious leaders, and social activists. The secret organization, which forged thousands of birth certificates and other documents to give Jews safe Aryan identities, asked Sendler to head up their operation to smuggle Jewish children out of the Warsaw ghetto.

name for the Coun- member working forged a permit that as a nurse inside organized the effort vents, and private were old enough to prayers and mimic to make the sign of Jewish heritage. Other methods were more inventive. For instance, a trolley driver and Zegota member, when crossing from the ghetto to the Aryan side, hid little ones in trunks, suitcases, or sacks under his back seat, where the Nazi guards could not see. Another supporter, an ambulance driver, kept his dog beside him in the front seat and trained him to bark to camouflage any cries or noises from the babies hidden under stretchers in back. Sendler also arranged for babies and children to be sedated and smuggled out with merchants in potato sacks, under their loads of goods. Sometimes, she even sneaked sedated children out in body bags, telling the guards that

But first she had to get inside. Because the Nazis were on guard against tions, they allowed the delivery of medicine inside the Ghetto. A Zegota Polish disease department Her code name was Jolanta.

She even sneaked sedated children out in body bags, telling the guards they were dead.

of 10 'messenger friends,' she children to orphanages, con-Warsaw region. Children who taught to rattle off Christian gious behavior (such as how they could live safely without arousing suspicion of their Jewish heritage.



'I was quiet as a mouse'

With the help to sneak the homes in the talk were other reli-the cross) so Sendler and Zegota devised several routes for smuggling children out of the ghetto. Other methods were more inventive. For instance, a trolley driver and Zegota member, when crossing from the ghetto to the Aryan side, hid little ones in trunks, suitcases, or sacks under his back seat, where the Nazi guards could not see. Another supporter, an ambulance driver, kept his dog beside him in the front seat and trained him to bark to camouflage any cries or noises from the babies hidden under stretchers in back. Sendler also arranged for babies and children to be sedated and smuggled out with merchants in potato sacks, under their loads of goods. Sometimes, she even sneaked sedated children out in body bags, telling the guards that

long suspected Sendler her messengers had Sendler's name. The refused to talk, even were broken. 'I was have rather died than was taken to Pawiak the day she was to be guard, who allowed on the public bulletin boards as one of the executed rendering her invisible to then went in to hiding in Poland, just like the children she'd saved.

'What I did was not extraordinary. It was a normal thing to do.'

was running a smuggling been caught and tortured Gestapo interrogated when she was beaten until quiet as a mouse,' Sendler disclose anything about our prison to be executed. At executed, Zegota paid a Sendler to escape. Sendler's rendering her invisible to

The Gestapo had operation. One of until she gave up Sendler. But she her legs and feet has said. 'I would operations.' She the last minute on hefty bribe to a name was posted the Nazis. She



Chairman of children section of the Polish underground

In 2007 Irena was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. She lost. President Obama had won one the year before becoming President for his work in ACORN, so it went to Al Gore — for his slide show on Global Warming.

Irena Sendlerowa died on Monday 2008 May 12th in Warsaw, Poland. A film was made depicting her courage and bravery, 'The Courageous Heart' available for hire on DVD. *Well worth watching!*



REFERENCE/S: (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irena_Sendler); (google—images of Irena Sendler); (www.jewishvirtuallibrary); (www.citizenwells.wordpress.com); (www.auchwitz.dk); (www.nytimes.com).

THANK YOU, SIMON!

To: peterf28@bigpond.net.au
Subject: Thank you and farewell from me

From: Simon Sheikh 28 July 2012



Simon Sheikh (right) with incoming National Director, Sam McLean (left).

GetUp : - Some people are suspicious of lobby groups. Those involved in Social Change are in admiration of the work-ethic, the ideals and the sheer dedication to the task of our own home-grown group, **GetUp**.

The unstated Motto - "All of us Working Together" to make a Nation unafraid to aim higher, battling always for fair play, never cowed by fear - this is what we celebrate in GetUp's founding architect, Simon, as he takes a well-earned spell.

PJF (Ed)

Dear friends,

I wanted to let you know that I have decided the time is right to step down as National Director. Of course, GetUp will continue its work, and I can't wait to see what comes next.

When I first took on this role in September 2008, many were still wondering whether this movement of ordinary people could continue to make a difference, or whether it would invariably prove a momentary trend; a flash in the political landscape.

Over the years you have proven that this movement of everyday Australians has the capacity to take on and win tough fights and strengthen democracy in the process.

GetUp is driven by its members. Over and over again we've demonstrated unequivocally that all of us working together can change things for the better. It has been an honour to stand alongside you over these last four years.

While we celebrate what we have won we should remember what we're still campaigning for: a nation that better reflects the generosity of spirit, innate sense of fairness, strong community pride and ever-ready humour of its people. A nation that does not shrink back and buy into fear or division. A nation unafraid to aim higher and to understand its place in the world.

Expressing our belief in these ideals by collectively organising will be even more crucial as we approach the next election, a time when our movement can demonstrate its creativity and passion and make a huge impact along the way.

I'll forever remember walking out of the High Court with two GetUp plaintiffs in a victory that gave over 150,000 Australians the opportunity to vote; standing alongside GetUp members in the Senate gallery the moment the clean energy bills passed; or the night I learned, in a budget lock-down inside the bowels of the Commonwealth Treasury, that, along with our partner organisations, we had won a massive increase in mental health funding. **These moments are your victories: they would not have happened without your passion, actions, contributions and presence at every step. And they are just a taste of what this movement can achieve into the future.**

Thank you.

It is my great honour to formally introduce to you GetUp's new National Director, Sam McLean. Sam walked through GetUp's doors as a volunteer over five years ago, and long-time members will remember the very first initiative he led: 'Oz in 30 seconds,' the ground-breaking competition that gave ordinary Australians the chance to create and air their own political ads during the 2007 federal election. Sam is a person of rare talent, energy and proven commitment to GetUp members and all that we fight for. You will have seen many emails from him, especially in his time as GetUp's Deputy National Director over the last two years. His commitment to serving GetUp's membership makes my decision to leave much easier.

I've suspected for a while now that it's time in my own life for a change of pace. So while I'm fortunate to be back in good health, my next plan is to pack up the car and head out to see more of this remarkable country with my wife Anna, who has offered me so much support during my time at GetUp. After all, there are plenty of extraordinary places our movement has worked hard to protect. Now I'm personally keen to spend some time enjoying them!

GetUp is not, and never will be, the achievement of its small group of staff. It is the alchemy of many people becoming more than the sum of its parts: people united by common values, committed not just to reading the news, but to changing it.

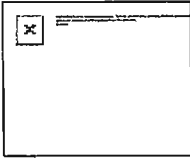
I'm not going anywhere just yet; I'll stick around for a while to ensure a smooth transition. But I wanted to make sure you heard this news from me first. And I wanted to take this chance to pay tribute to you – to thank you for all that you are, and all that you do

Here's to tomorrow,

Simon

P.S. Over the last few years I have been supported by a huge number of volunteers, interns and staff. I wanted to particularly thank our current talented team who continue to drive so much of our work: Sam, Darren, Erin, Paul, Rosie, Rohan, Kieran, Kelsey, Justine, Simon DW, Jarra, Sara, Richard, James, Adri and Jess.

OVER THE PLANET



Chevron to Pay \$19 Billion for Environmental Damage

Chevron has been ordered by an Ecuadorian court to pay more than \$19 billion in environmental damages. Chevron deliberately dumped more than 18 billion gallons of toxic wastewater into the rainforest. The contamination devastated the homes of some 30,000 indigenous people. [Read more.](#)

Thanks for all you've done!

Don't forget to share your own success stories with us at successstories@earth.care2.com

Colleen H.
Care2 Campaigns Team
ThePetitionSite.com

MITT ROMNEY has been to Israel to shore up support. His Key Speech was replete with Inaccuracies, Exaggerations and Hawkish Polemic against the Palestinians .

The more Peace-loving Jews were incensed and set about righting the wrongs as per this E-Mail :

From: Rebecca Vilkomerson [<mailto:info@jewishvoiceforpeace.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, 1 August 2012 4:10 PM

To: PeterF28@bigpond.net.au

Subject: Thank You for Signing Our Petition to Governor Romney

Thank you so much for signing the petition to Mitt Romney. Please spread the word.

You can help make this important work possible by making a much appreciated donation to Jewish Voice for Peace.

Rebecca Vilkomerson, Executive Director
Jewish Voice for Peace

Tomgram: David Vine, U.S. Empire of Bases Grows

It was January 15, 2004, and TomDispatch had only been in existence for a year when Chalmers Johnson, author of the prophetic book *Blowback* (published in 2000 and a bestseller after the 9/11 attacks), did a piece for this site entitled "[America's Empire of Bases.](#)" He wrote then: "Due to government secrecy, our citizens are often ignorant of the fact that our garrisons encircle the planet. This vast network of American bases on every continent except Antarctica actually constitutes a new form of empire -- an empire of bases with its own geography not likely to be taught in any high school geography class. Without grasping the dimensions of this globe-girdling Baseworld, one can't begin to understand the size and nature of our imperial aspirations or the degree to which a new kind of militarism is undermining our constitutional order."

The True Cost of an Iphone

- **The Iphone is a wonderful piece of modern technology!** It provides us with many applications and wonderful features in order to communicate effectively in a very globalised and fast paced world. Have you ever stopped and wondered at what cost we pay for the Iphone to come into existence?
- In 2007: 1,389,000 people purchased Iphones.
- In 2011 this figure jumped dramatically to 72,300,000, that's 52 xs as many as when it was launched.
- That year also saw Apple's highest revenue in history a whopping \$108.25 billion.
- But before it can start bringing in the money, the Iphone travels a long road to reach the happy hands of Apple aficionados, and it starts with the elements.
- Coltan contains a heat resistant substance that can hold a high electrical charge, and is a staple component of every Iphone. Up to 80% of the world's Coltan reserves are located in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Over 18 months of bloody warfare, the Rwandan army made over \$250 million stealing Coltan for the DR Congo.
- As they're being produced little phones have a big impact on the environment, and it's starting to show.
- In 2011, Apple conducted 229 audits amongst its 158 global suppliers.
- 58 did not monitor and control air emissions.
- 69 did not recycle or dispose of hazardous waste as required by law.
- 112 had not properly stored or handled hazardous chemicals.
- 43.2% of China's state-monitored rivers are classified as unsuitable for human contact.
- Each year 750,000 Chinese citizens die from air pollution.
- By the year 2030, China's carbon dioxide emissions could equal the entire world's CO2 production today.
- **Pricey products come from cheap labour. But what's the real cost?**
- One of Apple's most notorious supplier plants is manufacturing titan Foxconn.
- At a single factory in Shenzhen, China, 90 Iphones are produced every minute.
- That's \$17,910 worth of Iphones, 11 times what a Foxconn factory worker makes in a year.
- **2007: 18 workers attempted suicide at a Foxconn plant.**
- **One year later 50 workers threatened to do the same.**
- There are over 5 million Iphone Apps available.
- About 1 billion Apps purchased each month. At an average cost of \$1.37 per App, that's about \$16.4 billion in Apps each year.
- From 2007 to the release of 2011's 4S, Apple's Iphone profits have grown by over 137%.
- This growth is expected to continue with the release of the Iphone 5 in 2012.
- As Iphones have gained popularity, over half the population has developed Nomophobia: fear of being without a cell phone.
- When a new Iphone appears, old models fall into disuse.
- With Iphone generations appearing, it's estimated that in the U.S. in 2011, as many as 36,750,000 Iphones were discarded in favour of the newer model.
- Up to 80% of recycled Iphones are shipped to places like Guiyu, China, where they're stripped of valuable parts.
- **Because of the waste in Guiyu, pregnant women there are six times more likely to miscarry.**
- **Guiyu has the highest levels of cancer causing dioxins in the world.**
- **7 out of 10 children have too much lead in their blood.**
- **What can you do to be a responsible consumer?**
- Reuse instead of recycle.
- Reusing your old Iphone by selling to a friend or to a used electronics shop extends the life of your Iphone and maximises its usage.
- If you're going to recycle your phone, ask questions. Get in touch with your local electronics recycler and inquire into their methods.
- In its first weekend alone, 1.7 million Iphone 4S were sold, but the 4S model was released only 16 months later.
- **We all truly have to power to impact on the negative effects of the industry!**
- You can also email Apple with your own questions or comments at supplierresponsibility@apple.com
- **Source**
MBAonline.com.
- **Adam Stencil**

The Magna Carta Shredded Before Our Eyes

By Noam Chomsky

Editor's note: This column is adapted from an address by Noam Chomsky on June 19 at the University of St. Andrews in Fife, Scotland, as part of its 600th anniversary celebration.

July 19, 2012 "[Information Clearing House](#)" -- Recent events trace a threatening trajectory, sufficiently so that it may be worthwhile to look ahead a few generations to the millennium anniversary of one of the great events in the establishment of civil and human rights: the issuance of Magna Carta, the charter of English liberties imposed on King John in 1215.

What we do right now, or fail to do, will determine what kind of world will greet that anniversary. It is not an attractive prospect – not least because the Great Charter is being shredded before our eyes.

The first scholarly edition of the Magna Carta was published in 1759 by the English jurist William Blackstone, whose work was a source for U.S. constitutional law. It was entitled “The Great Charter and the Charter of the Forest,” following earlier practice. Both charters are highly significant today.

The first, the Charter of Liberties, is widely recognized to be the cornerstone of the fundamental rights of the English-speaking peoples – or as Winston Churchill put it more expansively, “the charter of every self-respecting man at any time in any land.”

In 1679 the Charter was enriched by the Habeas Corpus Act, formally titled “an Act for the better securing the liberty of the subject, and for prevention of imprisonment beyond the seas.” The modern harsher version is called “rendition” – imprisonment for the purpose of torture.

Along with much of English law, the Act was incorporated into the U.S. Constitution, which affirms that “the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended” except in case of rebellion or invasion. In 1961, the U.S. Supreme Court held that the rights guaranteed by this Act were “(c)onsidered by the Founders as the highest safeguard of liberty.”

More specifically, the Constitution provides that no “person (shall) be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law (and) a speedy and public trial” by peers.

The Department of Justice has recently explained that these guarantees are satisfied by internal deliberations in the executive branch, as Jo Becker and Scott Shane reported in *The New York Times* on May 29. Barack Obama, the constitutional lawyer in the White House, agreed. King John would have nodded with satisfaction.

The underlying principle of “presumption of innocence” has also been given an original interpretation. In the calculus of the president’s “kill list” of terrorists, “all military-age males in a strike zone” are in effect counted as combatants “unless there is explicit

intelligence posthumously proving them innocent,” Becker and Shane summarized. Thus post-assassination determination of innocence now suffices to maintain the sacred principle.

This is the merest sample of the dismantling of “the charter of every self-respecting man.”

Graduate becomes SA's first UN Youth Representative

by Abigail Khoo

The United Nations Youth Representative for Australia is a little closer to home this year after Bachelor of Management (Marketing) graduate, Dan Ryan (pictured right), became the first South Australian to be appointed to the role.



Ryan's role involves a national listening tour of all states and territories to consult with Australian youth and run workshops, before giving a speech in the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in New York in September. He will then report back on another tour around the country.

Ryan says his vision is to empower and engage the youth of Australia by bringing his five years of professional experience and his skill set in marketing and social media to the role.

"More than 6000 people will have direct, face-to-face interaction with someone who will represent them at the UN General Assembly," he says.

"They are going to have the opportunity to present what's important to them directly to someone who's outside the sphere of government, politics and policy."

And he has opened the communication channels to organisations and young people all across Australia through his distinctive website, <http://www.unyouthrep.com>.

The platform offers young people the opportunity to identify and share solutions that are working in their local community.

"It takes them five minutes to enter a solution to a problem, which populates a map to show where it's happening," Ryan says.

"The vision is to be able to create synergies right across Australia.

"People can write, like, rate, discuss, tweet and share it. If a solution is working in Meningie, why can't it work in Melbourne?"

From graffiti removal to healthy lunch schemes, from addressing minority disadvantage to refugee issues, contributions and discussions will go into reports which will be sent to MPs and senators in local areas, calling for action and change on the issues that matter to young Australians across the country.

Ryan was working on social development programs with Austraining International before he accepted the role in early May. Austraining provided principal sponsorship and he is continuing to raise supporting sponsorship for his role, which is a voluntary position.

Ryan is no stranger to the voluntary world. He volunteered for about two months in Cambodia, was the promotions manager for the Live Below the Line campaign and the state coordinator for the Global Poverty Project.

He also has extensive skills developed through his professional and public speaking experience.

At 19, Ryan became marketing coordinator at Harris Scarfe, finishing his marketing degree with three years of work experience.

"My passion is simply connecting with people and making a difference," he said.

"It's motivated by my personal faith, what I believe the purpose of life is about and on an experience base.

"Out of over a billion that live in extreme poverty, some of those are friends from overseas or even Australia, so when I see those types of numbers, faces, names and personalities come to mind.

"That's going to motivate me to use these skills in the best possible way."

For more information and to support Ryan on his journey, visit www.unyouthrep.com.

REFERENCE: (<http://w3.unisa.edu.au/unisanews/2012/June/story4.asp>) accessed 2012/08/12 at 0852am. Copyright permission granted by Catherine Daniel.

POSTSCRIPT

I wish to acknowledging the long service offered to UNAA(SA) by our retiring President, Heather Southcott. She joined our Executive Committee in 1983, becoming President in 1984. She has been such a tower of strength over these many years, demonstrating her commitment and support in our role of publicising the core ideals of the United Nations and its many agencies. Standing down because of health and mobility considerations, she is still as committed as ever to our work.

I also acknowledge the effort of the members of our Executive Committee who have recently resigned. Hallam Gray has been such a help not only as our Thursday volunteer, but also in the support he has given by looking after the UN Youth SA and the Status of Women Committee audits, together with his wide experience and sound advice on tax and constitutional issues. Greg Corbett has been very helpful with our web page, but has found his involvement with the local Japanese community, his studies and new family leaves him insufficient time to continue with UNAA(SA). For 8 years Manijeh Shahzadeh has been the representative on our committee from the SA Baha'I Council. We are going to miss the contribution so willingly offered by Hal, Greg and Manijeh.

We wish them all good health, and hopefully ongoing interest and participation in our activities. Thank you.

We would also like to thank the outgoing UN Youth SA president Matilde Weise and all their committee members for this past year). And congratulate Matthew Traeger as the new President, and welcome the new committee, and look forward to working with them for the coming year.

UN DAY DINNER 4th NOVEMBER

Enclosed with this newsletter there is an invitation to the 2012 UN Day Dinner. Our speaker will be Robyn Layton AO QC. This is our main fund raising event each year. Book early—last year all seats were pre-booked. It will be at Mings Palace Restaurant at 7.00 pm. 4th November 2012.

WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY

The UNAA has planned an Australia-wide round of activities to celebrate the World Humanitarian Day on 19th August. World Humanitarian Day especially honours the aid workers who risk their lives to help others during times of disaster. It also aims to highlight the importance of humanitarian efforts around the world.

For example, over the past year Australian aid has supported United Nations agencies working to help over 300,000 people fleeing the most severe drought in decades in Somalia, and some 90,000 Syrian refugees crossing the border to avoid conflict.

To celebrate World Humanitarian Day 2012 the United Nations Association of Australia SA in conjunction with their charity partners Anglicare-Magdalene Centre and Foodbarn will be providing lunch for 80 homeless and disadvantaged people on Tuesday 28th August. Lunch will be prepared by Staff and Students of Regency Park Hospitality School ,in conjunction with Executive Chef Tze Khaw and Staff of the Adelaide Convention.

There will also be a screening of the 2012 World Humanitarian Day Film on the big screen in Rundle Mall.

UNAA AND SEVENHILL WINE OFFER

We have arranged with Sevenhill winery in the Clare Valley an offer of premium wines as a fundraiser for UNAA Australia wide. Sevenhill was established by the Jesuits in 1851.

You will shortly receive information about this offer. We commend this to all our members and friends. Note that while orders are for carton quantities you can choose a variety of the different wines on offer in a carton.

John Crawford, President.