



## Email Notice Board of the Social Action Office

5 August 2008 - Number 175



Welcome to **SAO BYTES 175**

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### Open Australia

[OpenAustralia.org](#) is a non-partisan website run by a group of volunteers which aims to make it easy for people to keep tabs on their representatives in Parliament. The site currently posts Federal House of Representatives Hansard, with the Senate to follow soon. Find out more about your local member's performance in Parliament. Let them know when you agree/disagree with them.



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### Make Poverty History

**Take action now** - Write to Professor Garnaut, the Government's key Advisor on climate change.

On **Sunday 13 July** Make Poverty History released a report "See the bigger picture. Act on climate change" in response to the draft **Garnaut Climate Change Review** released in early July. The review by Professor Garnaut will be used by the Government to help develop Australia's response to climate change. The policies that wealthy countries like Australia adopt in the future will have profound ramifications for everyone, including the poorest people in the poorest countries who are the most affected and the least responsible for causing climate change. The final Garnaut report will be released on 30 September. Between now and then we have the opportunity to **submit comments on this crucial report**. Make Poverty History has provided a letter to assist us to have a say and influence the final report. Print copies of this letter, share it with your



friends and post it to the Garnaut Review Secretariat: - Garnaut Review Secretariat, Level 3, 3 Treasury Place, Melbourne 3002 VIC.

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### From Violence to Wholeness Workshop

From Violence to Wholeness is a program that invites individuals and small groups to **explore, experiment with and practice the vision and dynamics of creative nonviolence in their lives.**

When: **Saturday 6 September** from 9.00am-5.00pm

Venue: Uniting Church Centre, **60 Bayliss St Auchenflower**, Brisbane (within walking distance of Auchenflower Station).

Facilitator: **Carole Powell** from [Pace e Bene Australia](#)

Cost: \$75.00 (includes morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea)

Registration Rev Rob Ros, Pilgrim Learning Community, Uniting Church Centre, GPO Box 674, and Brisbane 4001 Phone: 3377 9724 email: [pilgrim@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:pilgrim@ucaqld.com.au)



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### Remembering Asylum Seekers

The Commission and the Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care invite you to a **special night when we will remember the asylum seekers** helped by Catholics in the Archdiocese over the last six years.

If you have signed a petition or written a letter in support of asylum seekers come along and meet some of the people you've helped. Find out what they're doing now and learn what still needs to be done to make Australia's refugee policy fair and compassionate.

When - **Thursday 28 August at 7.00 p.m.**

Where - the **Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care**, 333 Given Terrace, Paddington.

Refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP for catering purposes to Alana on 3336 9351 or [em.fl@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:em.fl@bne.catholic.net.au).



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### Building Communities Not Prisons Campaign

**Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation** (ANTaR) will launch their [Building Communities Not Prisons Campaign](#) featuring **Professor Ross Homel**, Professor of Criminology at Griffith University and Aboriginal activist **Sam Watson** on:

Thursday **14th August at 6.15** for 7.00 p.m.

at QCU Building, 16 Peel Street, Corner Grey Street, South Brisbane.

The campaign will focus on reducing the rate of incarceration for Indigenous Queenslanders.



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### Interfaith Understanding and Dialogue Events

**Sikhism, core Beliefs and Practices and Role in the Contemporary World**

is the next topic in the series of introductory sessions on various religious traditions. This session will be held on **August 14, 7.00 - 9.15pm** at the Multi-Faith Centre, Griffith University, Nathan Campus. The speaker will be **Gurjeet Singh from the Brisbane Sikh Temple**. Registration is free. Gold coin donation for refreshments.



For more information contact Virginia Cawagas at 3735 7051 or [v.cawagas@griffith.edu.au](mailto:v.cawagas@griffith.edu.au)

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### World as Sacrament

**Ann Boyd - editor of Earth Song** - is leading a day of reflection

Where: **Mt Archer, Woodford,**

**68 Myleema Rd, Villeneuve via Woodford.**

When: Saturday **23 August** 9.30am – 4pm

Cost: \$50 Morning Tea provided. BYO lunch.

Contact: Elaine Smith rsj / Tony Hempenstall cfc

07 5496 3539 (H) 07 5406 3537 (W) 0410 481 246 (M).



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### Opening of Sustainable Homes

Another home is opening as part of the Smart and Sustainable Homes program. The **Sustainable Home Doonella, Noosa**, will be opened on **4 September** by the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology. The Minister will also be launching the new version of the Smart and Sustainable Homes Design Objectives.

Some interesting research on water, energy and thermal comfort is being carried out in the **Sustainable Home Currumbin – Living Laboratory**, located at the Ecovillage at Currumbin. The home is being officially **opened by the Minister on 20 August**. Currently there are three homes open for display at Caboolture, Toowoomba and Hervey Bay. More information can be found on the [website](#).



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### That's it for this SAO Bytes!

Please post your news on this Notice Board.

Just email details to [janiehow@dodo.com.au](mailto:janiehow@dodo.com.au).

### Stay tuned for the next SAO Bytes on 19 Aug.

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[SAO Website](#)

**SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE**  
Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, Queensland

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