

SUMMARY NOTES OF IPAN ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING: 1 FEB 2025

10.00 am – 6. 00 pm AEDT

Meeting held via Zoom

Facilitator: Margaret Clark

In Attendance and Apologies:

| Name | Affiliate or State/Territory |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Adrian Glamorgan | Quakers WA |
| Andrew Fullarton | Individual Member Vic |
| Andrew Gaines | IPAN NSW |
| Andrew Irvine | ETU/IPAN QLD |
| Annette Brownlie | Just Peace QLD |
| Barbara Hartley | Just Peace QLD |
| Bevan Ramsden | Volunteer, NSW |
| Bob Makinson | MAAW/SEARCH Foundation, NSW |
| Burt Blackburne | CICD/Unitarian Church, Vic |
| Colin Hughes | IPAN WA |
| Colin Mitchell | IPAN SA |
| David Gray | Individual Member, WA |
| David Higginbottom | Individual Member, Vic |
| David Perkins | IPAN ACT |
| Debra McLoughlin | Union of Aust Women, QLD |
| Derek Burke | IPAN SA |
| Diana Rickard | Top End Peace Alliance, NT |
| Eileen Whitehead | Individual Member, WA |
| Ellen Morrison | IPAN WA |
| Elliot Taylor | Individual, Vic |
| Frances Long | Quakers, ACT |
| James Sinnamon | Individual Member, Vic |
| Janet Baillie | Qld Nurses Midwives Union |
| Jonathan Pilbrow | IPAN/A/S Peace Action, NT |
| Justin Tutty | Basewatch, NT |
| Kathryn Kelly | IPAN ACT |
| Ken Blackman | Individual Member, Vic |

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| Lee Patrick | Community Essence, WA |
| Lyn Forbes | Hunter Peace Group NSW |
| Marg Blackburne | CICD/Unitarian Church, Vic |
| Margaret Clark | Quakers, ACT |
| Michele Smith | Individual Member, ACT |
| Peter Harpas | IPAN SA |
| Renfrey Clarke | IPAN SA |
| Rita Camilleri | Pax Christi/IPAN Vic |
| Ron Beer | IPAN Vic |
| Rosalie Schultz | A/S Peace Action, NT |
| Ross Gwyther | Just Peace QLD |
| Ruth Russell | IPAN SA |
| Shahnaz Martin | IPAN NSW |
| Sheila Newman | Individual Member, Vic |
| Shirley Winton | Spirit of Eureka Vic |
| Apologies | Affiliate or State/Territory |
| Julie Hart | IPAN SW Vic/Geelong, Vic |
| Jim Green | Friends of the Earth |
| Nick Deane | Raising Peace, NSW |
| Romina Beitseen | CICD*, Vic |
| Kisten McAndless | CICD*, Vic |
| Tim Budge | Individual, Vic |
| Sam Galvin | Friends of the Earth, Vic |
| Gill Boehringer | Individual Member, NSW |
| Frank Vavasour | Individual Members, NSW |
| Margaret Beavis | MAPW/ICAN Vic |
| Leonie Lundy | STOP AUKUS WA |
| Gillian Blair | Individual Member, Vic |

*CICD = Campaign for International Co-operation and Disarmament (CICD)

10.00 am Acknowledgement of Country – Annette Brownlie, Chairperson

10.05 am Housekeeping and reinforcement of group rules for the day - based on sample from ETU

10.20 am Introductions *Participants provided name/state/Land meeting on/one word describing feeling re state of the world*

Big actions/Campaigns for 2025

STEP 1 What should IPAN be active on in 2025?

Summary List of ideas from IPAN CC/members provided pre-meeting plus last three added at meeting

1. IPAN campaign for Australian Independence from the US Alliance
2. Election strategy/Campaign at Federal Election for peace/independence issues
3. Campaign(s) to achieve AUKUS Agreement and FPA terminated with one year's notice
4. Stop Israeli occupation and genocide in Palestine
5. Put an end to nuclear weapons and nuclear power and nuclear waste dumps in Australia
6. Promote/work towards Australia adopting a policy of self defence
7. Support partnerships for peace with countries in the pacific
8. Build broad peace movement across Australia (and Pacific)/ engage /collaborate with orgs across country
9. Talisman Sabre – July /Aug 2025
10. Militarisation of Education (MAPW/Teachers for Peace etc working in this space)
11. Peace not war (5 definitions of peace) – heading is a work in progress
12. An independent Australia includes AUKUS Armed neutrality Nonaligned moment (??)
13. Anti-Nuclear Power Risks AUKUS war reform
14. PEACE agenda building partnerships GAZA immorality of War

The above areas were combined/grouped together leaving the following six main areas

i. IPAN campaign for Australian Independence from the US Alliance (Derek) GOAL

- Campaign(s) to achieve AUKUS Agreement and FPA terminated with one year's notice
 - Promoting independence as a viable positive alternative
 - Promote/work towards Australia adopting a policy of self defence
 - Neutrality/Non-aligned Movement (How do we work with (Stop AUKUS) groups across the country?)
 - 'The US grip on Australia politically, militarily, economically and culturally blocks Australian aspirations for independence – how to break this grip?' (Bevan)
 - No foreign military alliances with any other country/military bases illegal at constitutional level - Can it remain here as an internal thing – *not for public at this stage (it might be a longer term goal/not 2025?)*
 - Put an end to nuclear weapons and nuclear waste dumps in Australia – Link to 1. Re AUKUS
- Election strategy - Federal Election for peace/independence issues/report card**

ii. Peace not war (5 definitions of peace) – heading is a work in progress

- IPAN peace campaign new idea (David Higginbottom) - details below
- Support partnerships for peace with countries in the pacific
- Build broad peace movement across Australia (and Pacific)/ engage /collaborate with orgs across country
- Regional peace and (security) partnership – a vision of an alternative framework to make FPA, AUKUS unnecessary
- Militarisation of Education – campaign underway MAPW/Teachers for Peace etc working in this space
- Stop Israeli occupation and genocide in Palestine –we can expand our role to work with other countries – e.g. Indonesia, Malaysia
- Campaign to the Federal Gov for a Ministry for Peace; increase diplomacy efforts; new branch in DFAT with new funding to pursue diplomatic efforts at the individual country, regional and UN; grant funding to support peace; regional summits for peace etc

iii. **Election strategy at Federal Election for peace/independence issues - report card**

- Link in with the above two areas of campaigning - short term campaign focused on 2025 federal Election to be held in coming months

DECISION: Agreement reached to focus on the first three - with support to continue for the remaining three areas

iv. **Stop Israeli occupation and genocide in Palestine**

Discussion: This is already being well run by others/In solidarity with Palestine associations etc – IPAN can continue to support; and even consider expanding our role to work with other countries – e.g. Indonesia, Malaysia

v. **Put an end to nuclear weapons and nuclear waste dumps in Australia – This also links to 1. Re AUKUS**

Promote Australian policies to prevent nuclear war, including support for the TPNW and for No First Use policies." (maintain focus on nuclear power/link with environment movement/First Nations' Peoples)

Discussion: Again – there is already a very well-coordinated campaign regarding the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons - run by ICAN

vi. **Talisman Sabre – July /Aug 2025**

Discussion: This does not require a separate campaign, Wage Peace (Marg Pistorius) coordinates a response which IPAN supports – and IPAN should keep supporting

STEP 2: Action: Building a Campaign

Discussion of who has been part of campaigns in the past – successful and unsuccessful

Margaret provided a brief overview of steps in building a campaign strategy (page 2 of Agenda)

Video What is successful collective action - Winnifred Lous (4 min video)

[WinnifredLouisSuccessfulCollectiveAction](#)

The three campaign groups went into break out rooms

- 0 Group facilitator and Scribe for each break out room to be identified
- 0 Group worked through the steps in building a campaign

Report backs given by each break out group to the whole group

Summary of focus of campaign groups

1. Campaign to focus on 'Ending the AUKUS Agreement and FPA' (which can be terminated by any of the three parties, with one year's notice). Preliminary work will focus on bringing in other partner organisations who support the campaign. One initial objective being considered is to advocate for a parliamentary review of AUKUS, as a stepping stone towards Australian withdrawing from AUKUS. This will require advocating IPAN's position directly to key politicians and rallying support from constituents around the country.
2. Campaign to focus on 'Peace not War' with a goal focused on elevating peace as a major focus issue for the Australian Government. This campaign seeks to see Australia working Towards Peace within communities, states/territories and nationally and internationally, and seeking strengthening International relationships. One objective being discussed is the creation of an Assistant Minister for the Foreign Minister to promote Australia's

efforts towards peace and provide focus to engage with existing international frameworks, and expand diplomatic efforts to pursue peace.

3. Election strategy Campaign for Federal Election to focus on matters of peace, independence, sovereignty and AUKUS. The campaign will aim

- To educate the public re parties' and candidates policies
- Promote the candidates that have most peaceful policies
- To develop a brand recognition for IPAN and its aims and objectives

It is planned to develop a Election Report Card (focusing on Peace issues) to distribute electronically and in hard copy; and to send questions to federal party leaders, Senators and main independent candidates in selected seats.

ACTION: Three campaign groups to form and actively work on the three campaign areas - and seek partner organisations outside IPAN to join the Campaign Groups

IPAN working groups – discussed and reviewed, especially in light of priority areas for 2025

Qns: Do we need them all? Do they need strengthening? Do we need any more?

- Alternative Defence Policy for Australia
- End the Force Posture Agreement
- Peace & Justice are Union Business
- Utilising the IPAN Inquiry Report
- Merchandise Working Group
- China Working Group
- Networking and Communications Working Group

3.00 pm Thank you's and Close [Margaret Clark]

A huge thanks to Margaret for facilitating this day, and all the preparation work beforehand

Note: There was a lunchtime discussion regarding compiling questions for the Senate – to be forwarded to Senator David Shoebridge's Office

Photo taken late in the afternoon – with a bit of creative editing! (see below)

